

# **Mount Zion Baptist Church of Greensboro, Inc.**

## **MINISTRY DESCRIPTION**

Ministry Title: Elders Council  
Reports To: Congregation  
Staff Advisor: Senior Pastor  
Date Prepared/Revised:

## **Ministry Purpose Statement**

As churches were established in the faith, and when more than one person became qualified, elders were appointed to continue the pastor-teaching ministry in each local church. To the elders was given the ultimate responsibility for the oversight of that particular church body, and the shepherding of its members. Plurality of leadership is required in scripture (Philippians 1:1; Titus 1:5). Qualifications must be followed in the selection of elders (I Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9).

## **Specific List of Responsibilities**

- **Shepherd the Flock**

Serving in all humility, elders are to guide, direct, guard and protect the members of the body, seeking to meet their needs and assist in any way possible, warning against harmful influences and guarding against false teachers. (Acts 20:35)

- **Lead Through Example**

Elders are to provide a Scriptural role model and are to set a pattern before the flock of a rightly ordered life - with a single purpose, to glorify God. (I Timothy 3:4-5; 5:17)

- **Teach and Exhort**

Elders are to see that the flock is fed through insightful and accurate Biblical instruction and admonition. Teaching will be centered on equipping the members of the body to perform works of ministry. (I Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:9-16; John 21:17)

- **Refute Those Who Contradict Truth**

Elders are to confront those who are teaching what they should not teach or who are continuing in a pattern of behavior contradictory to Biblical truth. Thus, elders are to keep closing potential entrances for Satan, so that the truth of Christ will remain credible to both the congregation and the community. (Acts 20:17, 28-31; I Thessalonians 5:12)

- **Manage the Church of God**

Elders are to oversee the life of the church with the assistance of other godly leaders. They must be people who can "rule well". Deacon qualified men and women will be selected to assist the elders in the management and ministry of the church (I Timothy 5:17). The Ministries and Executive Council will give direct oversight to the ministry teams and committees of Mount Zion Baptist Church.

Additional governing responsibilities are as follows.

- Cast ministry vision and maintain the church's mission and purpose statements
- Guard the church's values and ministry distinctives
- Support the Senior Pastor, staff and the church's annual ministry plan
- Select corporate officers
- Ensure that church resources are adequate and are being used effectively
- Approve major policy issues while leaving minor policy issues to the Executive Council
- Lead in quality strategic ministry planning
- Keep members adequately informed on key management issues of the church

- **Pray for the Sick**

Elders are to pray for the spiritual and physical well-being of members of the congregation. (James 5:14-15)

**NOTE** - Refer to the Bylaws for additional Elders Council information, such as: qualifications, term of service, means of nomination, etc.