

Elder Ministry

The term "elder" in scripture is a word that is synonymous with an overseer. At West Highland the Elders oversee the congregation by setting and the establishing the vision and setting goals to protect the body while empowering staff and ministry teams to implement the vision. An Elder is *first* and *foremost* a spiritual leader. The New Testament provides fundamental guidelines every church is to follow - they are:

MODELING CHRIST-LIKE BEHAVIOR - 1 Thessalonians 2:10

As overseers and managers of God's church we take seriously:

- Meeting the biblical qualifications for Elders in the New Testament and serving faithfully and prayerfully in the Elder role
- Providing accountability to one another, as Elders
- Supporting and encouraging staff and congregation

PROTECTING THE PURPOSE & VISION - Titus 1:5

The New Testament is clear that Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church. Elders are stewards of the body. Elders are to protect the purpose and vision God has given. We do this through:

- Regularly praying for God to direct the church towards His objectives
- Establishing long ranged strategic planning and evaluating progress towards the goals that have been set
- Providing continuity of vision in the event of any changes in staff
- Watch over the health/ spiritual vitality of church staff

OVERSEEING FINANCIAL MATTERS - Acts 11:29-30

How we handle money is vital to the health of the congregation. Misuse puts the integrity of the body at stake. As Elders we:

- Review the annual budget and financial statements
- Determine the compensation and benefits of the Lead Pastor and staff

PRESERVING SOUND DOCTRINE - Titus 1:9

Elders preserve sound doctrine by:

- Ensuring the church's teachings and practices reflect accurate biblical theology
- Providing accountability and yearly review of the Lead Pastor as a means to ensure the vision and values determined by the Elders are carried out
- Review those nominated for leadership positions

MINISTERING THROUGH PRAYER - James 5:14

The Elders minister through prayer by:

- Maintaining a personal devotional and prayer life and praying together regularly for the needs of the church and for those who are sick and request prayer.



FAITH

The aforementioned are a part of our responsibility. We covet your prayers as we seek to follow Christ's purpose for His Church.

*For God's Glory - The Elders -
Tom Roberts, Bill Grant, Tracy Tomlins, Jeff Smith, Jim Schepper*