THE
FOURSQUARE
CHURCH

Understanding Co-Pastor Appointment

The Foursquare Church provides for a dual-leadership structure allowing pastoral leaders to interrelate together as ministers. Foursquare recognizes that **Jesus Christ is the true Head of the Church.** With this belief in mind, the positions of Senior Pastor and Co-Pastor exist to provide an integrated leadership function and capacity for Foursquare congregations. The chart below is to provide guidance and distinction between the Co-Pastor and Assistant Pastor role.

Co-Pastor	Assistant Pastor
Co-Pastors agree with and adhere to the qualifications, selection, guidelines, and duties as listed in 14.1 to describe "The Senior Pastor*" within the Handbook of Operations for the Foursquare Church.	Assisting ministers generally serve as an assistant pastor overseeing youth, children, visitation, administration, worship ministries or hold another ministry title assigned by the senior pastor.
Responsibility Co-Pastors **share an equal distribution of responsibility** and congregational leadership authority.	Assisting ministers are sought and selected by the Co-Pastors*. Assisting ministers report to and serve under the authority of the Co-Pastors*.
Decision Making Co-Pastors **share decision-making processes and legal responsibilities** with the senior pastor such as check signing authority and sponsorship of applicants for ministry credentials.	All major plans, programs, and policies under the guidance of an assistant pastor should be discussed with the Co-Pastors and should not be implemented without their approval.
Church Council Co-Pastors **share oversight of congregational decisions.** Co-Pastors collaborate with church councils. One Co-Pastor* serves as the chairperson of the council.	Assisting ministers meet with the council and serve the congregation under the Co-Pastor's* leadership.
Salary & Benefits Co-Pastors are **entitled to commensurate salary and benefits** traditionally ascribed to a senior pastor.	Assisting ministers often receive smaller salaries than Co-Pastors, and sometimes they serve without compensation.

*Denotes the role described in the Foursquare Bylaws as "Senior Pastor"