

Gymea Baptist Church Ministry Role Description

Elder

Overview of the role of elders

Elders are committed members of the church whose lives reflect the biblical qualifications of character (1 Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9) and who exhibit strong pastoral giftedness who are appointed to assist the pastoral team and provide spiritual leadership to the church through pastoral care. The appointment is for five years.

Elders are members of the pastoral team and their appointment process reflects that of pastoral staff (see below). Those taking up the role of an elder at GBC should do so, therefore, from a sense of God's call to serve in this way. The selection process is, in part, to help nominees discern their call.

Primary Tasks and Responsibilities of Elders

1. To be committed to the vision and mission of Gymea Baptist Church. This commitment would be expressed in a life of personal discipleship and evangelism as well as attendance services, participation in a life group, and other key church events.
2. To participate actively, but informally, in welcoming people and showing hospitality.
3. Be available to serve in Sunday services through praying in the service and being part of the prayer team afterwards.
4. To meet with the senior pastor regularly throughout the year to discuss pastoral concerns.
5. Be available to do visitation of members of the congregation and to contact those who need follow-up as part of the wider care network at GBC.
6. To serve as mandatory reporters for concerns relating to children.
7. To take responsibility for the pastoral oversight of the church; seek to be aware of the pastoral concerns and needs of those in their circles of influence and represent those concerns to the pastoral team.
8. To contribute to and seek to assess the overall spiritual health of GBC.

Process of Appointment

According to our constitution, nominees for eldership at GBC are recommended to the church membership by the Pastoral Selection Committee. To be appointed, nominees must receive 75% approval of a 50% quorum of a members' meeting.

The constitution also stipulates that approximately one half of the elders will be eligible for reappointment at consecutive two or three-year intervals.