

General Description

The senior pastor is the spiritual leader of the congregation who has the responsibility to direct the ministries of the church. The role of teaching elder and pastor as described in the New Testament are guides for conduct. This role includes, but is not limited to leading, coordinating, advising, directing and administering the total program. He will be responsible to lead impactful family-oriented ministries, utilize multiple worship styles in the worship services, oversee effective church-wide communication, and oversee ministry to leverage our location in the community and our close proximity to Shippensburg University. He will supervise the church staff, manage the church office, and submit to the authority of the church council.

Qualifications

1. Have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, be a role model, and live a consistent Christian life that is sustained by prayer.
2. Have a passion for families and a desire to help them grow in their faith.
3. Must honor confidentiality and not share official or inappropriate information.
4. Must demonstrate a positive and teaching attitude.
5. Must be ordained or meet the requirements to be ordained by the Eastern Regional Conference.

Responsibilities**A. Preaching and Teaching**

1. Give priority to prayer, study, and preparation for the preaching and teaching ministries of the church.
2. Preach in all services as requested and be responsible for the approval of guest speakers in agreement with the elders.
3. Plan the worship services in a meaningful and orderly way.
4. Lead the worship service or delegate to another worship leader.
5. Supervise or teach church membership classes.

B. Planning and Leading

1. Lead the church in developing an effective discipleship ministry.
2. Guide the church council in establishing short- and long-range goals and the strategies for meeting those goals.
3. Equip people in developing spiritual gifts.
4. Disciple others by providing training, encouragement, support and challenge.

C. Administration

1. Establish and maintain procedures for church office.
2. Supervise the church staff and annually review their performance and report the same to the elders.
3. Conduct regular church staff meetings.
4. Schedule and plan various programs/events to include communion, feet-washing, baptism (and instruction), anointing with oil, and membership classes.

5. Recommend the acceptance of new members, either by letter of transfer or after participation in a church membership class, and confession of faith.

D. Counseling and Visitation

1. Provide pastoral care in counseling members and friends of the church.
2. Provide pre-marital counseling prior to conducting weddings.
3. Visit those who are sick, shut-in or bereaved as requested.

E. Professional Development and Personal Growth

1. Participate in professional development and spiritual growth by attending seminars, training sessions, workshops and retreats as approved by the elders.
2. Include time for prayer and Bible study and other reading for personal and professional enrichment.

F. Other Duties

1. Conduct all services including funerals, weddings, dedications, etc. Any person other than the senior pastor must have his permission to conduct any service in the church.
2. Provide pastoral guidance for the church.
3. Attend the council and elder meetings.
4. Maintain awareness of the activities of all committees of the church.
5. Represent the church in appropriate community services and attend local ministerium meetings.
6. Lead in adherence with Eastern Regional Conference and General Conference Churches of God guidelines and church discipline.
7. Provide pastoral support to missionaries of the denomination either locally or on the field as opportunities permit.
8. Fulfill other duties as the elders determine.

Accountability

1. The senior pastor is accountable to the elders of the church and to the Eastern Regional Conference of the Churches of God.
2. At each regular meeting of the church council, a written report will be given describing the senior pastor's activities of the previous month, immediate concerns and recommendations, and short-range goals.

Termination

Termination shall be in accordance with the prescribed rules of the Commission on Credentialing and Placement of the Eastern Regional Conference of the Churches of God. "All resignations and/or requests for change shall, if at all possible, be submitted to the Commission by the pastor or congregation at least 60 days in advance of the effective date."