

## **OPP 7.6 – ELDERS MINISTRY**

**PURPOSE:** To outline the purpose, responsibilities, and oversight mechanisms for the Elders Ministry.

**MINISTRY PURPOSE:** The Elders Ministry provides leadership and oversight of the spiritual needs and concerns of the congregation’s core value of “growing spiritually.”

### **MINISTRY RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Elders Ministry encourages and empowers the servants who provide support to the congregation, clergy and staff in the following areas:

- Integration of new members into the congregation
- Shepherd groups
- Communion to shut-ins
- Prayer group(s)
- Counsel and support resource for the clergy
- Spiritual growth
- Bereavement
- Baptism sponsorship
- Support to the programming and services of the Worship and Christian Education Ministries
- Other areas as identified by the Ministry of Elders in coordination with the ministerial staff and Guiding Board.

### **DEFINITION OF ELDERS**

The Elders are church members who are active in worship, study and witness, and are devoted to spiritual growth.

### **SELECTION OF ELDERS**

The Ministry of Elders is comprised of 9-12 members nominated by the Development Team for three-year rotating terms. The slate is presented for a vote of approval at a duly called meeting of the congregation.

The Guiding Board may fill the unexpired term of an Elder who resigns and seek confirmation of that selection at the next scheduled congregational meeting.

### **MINISTRY SUPPORT AND OVERSIGHT**

#### ***Chair of the Elders***

The members of the Elders Ministry annually elect a chair from within the group. The Chair of the Elders Ministry serves on the Guiding Board as a voting member with the purpose of representing the spiritual needs of the congregation. The chair serves a one year term.

#### ***Senior Minister***

The senior minister partners with the Elders Ministry chairperson who shares a concern/need with its members and in addition attends regularly scheduled meetings.

***Administrative Team***

The Administrative Team will be consulted for any necessary financial, facilities or personnel support for programs or activities of the Elders Ministry.

***Development Team***

In addition to its role in nominating members to serve on the Ministry of Elders, the Development Team will help identify members whose spiritual gifts may call them to serve in areas overseen by the Elders.

***AUTHORITY: Section IX of the Bylaws of Round Rock Christian Church and RRCC OPP 1.4 – Ministry Designations. The Guiding Board designates and establishes ministries to carry out the mission of the congregation.***

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

January 1, 2010

**LAST REVIEW DATE**

January 1, 2010