

**Martins Mennonite Church  
Elders**

Original Draft: 07/17/98

Membership: Pastor(s) and three elected Congregational Members

Term: Three (3) year term

Selection Process: One Elder elected annually. Elder selection is done by the Leadership Commission as part of the selection of all offices. Those ineligible for nomination would include the Pastor(s), Pastor(s)'s spouse, and the current Elders. (It is recommended that the retiring Elder have one year off before being considered for another term.) The "lead" Elder will be determined annually by internal organization. This "lead" Elder [not the Pastor(s)] will chair all Elder meetings and serve on Church Council.

Function/Objective: The Elder team is responsible for the spiritual welfare of the Congregation and discerning its direction and mission.

Responsibilities to the congregation:

- serving and growing with the congregation in the areas of teaching and worshipping
- praying for the congregation
- utilizing their gifts to address specific needs in MMC (i.e. the elderly, education, outreach, etc.
- listening and helping to discern the spiritual needs of the congregation
- discerning physical needs and disbursing compassion funds
- administrating the Ministerial Scholarship Assistance (MSA) and the Central Christian School funds

Responsibilities to the Pastor(s)

- planning and assisting in communions, baptisms, anointings, etc.
- assisting the Pastor(s) with persons needing specialized attention
- reviewing applications for membership
- granting letters of transfer
- preserving the purity of the church by the faithful exercise of discipline
- providing a supply minister in the event of the incapacity of the Pastor(s)
- providing pastoral leadership for the congregation in case of vacancy in the pulpit
- initiating steps toward the choice of another Pastor(s) when that situation arises by contacting the Pastor Congregation Relations Committee (PCRC) even if the vacating Pastor(s) has already communicated with the PCRC
- offering the Pastor(s) care and help for their spiritual health including listening, counseling and accountability

Accountability : To God, to the Congregation, to the Ohio Conference of the Mennonite Church, to the PCRC, to the Pastor(s), and to each other.

Annual Report: Required

-----  
Revision Process: By Approval Method A (per Page iii)

Revision Dates: Aug. 2006, January 2008, March 2011

EL