

ELDERS HELP FULFILL THE MISSION OF NAPC BY:

Leading its members towards faithfulness to the Word of God [1 Tim 5:17; Titus 1:7; 1 Peter 5:1–2];

Protecting NAPC from false teachers and false doctrine [Acts 20:17, 28–3; Acts 15:6]

Encouraging and **disciplining** its members in sound doctrine [1 Timothy 4:13; 2 Timothy 3:13–17; Titus 1:9; 1 Peter 5:1–2]

Praying for the church and its members [James 5:14; Acts 6:4]

Teaching and **preaching** the Word in both word and deed [1 Timothy 3:2; 2 Timothy 4:2; Titus 1:9]

Elders accomplish this by fulfilling the following responsibilities and requirements:

ELDER RESPONSIBILITIES

Personal Spiritual Growth-Sanctification

- Regular, ongoing personal and family prayer and Bible study
- Regular worship attendance
- Regular prayer service attendance
- Generously give to NAPC
- Small group participation during church-wide small group studies in the Spring and Fall
- Grow into a “missionary lifestyle:” Increasingly live out your faith and share your faith where you live and work

Leadership

- A commitment to “Shepherd the Flock” at NAPC. Keeping the flock together in unity. Caring for the most vulnerable of the flock, and pursuing those sheep that are lost.
- Accountability to each other, to scripture, to prayers, to the flock, and more.
- Wisdom to apply spiritual truth effectively to meet needs in specific situations.
- Discernment to distinguish between truth and error. Differentiating between good and evil, right and wrong.
- Teaching to clearly explain, and apply the Word of God, causing greater Christ-likeness in the lives of listeners.
- To envision the future of the church coupled with a humble heart to serve others.

Requirements of an elder:

- Attend and contribute to each Session meeting, typically on the first Wednesday of the month
Note: if you are unable to attend at least 9 out of 11 meetings during the year, you should not agree to serve as an elder
- Participate in a minimum of 1 New Member Class and subsequent 1:1 interviews with potential new members annually.
- Attend the annual leader’s retreat
- Lead an area/committee of ministry, develop a team to help you, and meet monthly to complete the work of the committee
- Affirm and serve as a resource on the NAPC Belief Statement

- Support, encourage and hold the pastor accountable to leading the congregation in the mission and vision established by the Session
- Learn and practice the EOS way of leading meetings, setting goals, raising issues, etc.
- Assist in new officer examinations
- Assist in leading worship
- Serve communion every other month
- By God's grace, conform to the character description listed below in the Scriptures.

If you have concerns about these descriptions, please be candid about this during the nomination process.

THE CHARACTER AND CALLING OF AN ELDER:

Titus 1:7-9

For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, ⁸but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. ⁹He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

1 Timothy 3:4-5

He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive,⁵ for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church?

APPROXIMATE TIME COMMITMENT: WHILE THE CALLING OF ELDER IS A LIFESTYLE. AN AVERAGE OF 25-30 HOURS PER MONTH IS ANTICIPATED.