

THE ELDER AS SERVANT

MICHIGAN DISTRICT LCMS

WEBINAR FOR THE BOARD OF ELDERS

February 20, 2013

I. LIFE AS AN ELDER – ELDERS SERVING GOD

A. Five typical functions of elders:

1. Provide _____
2. Show _____ in stressful situations
3. Provide _____ and _____ for the pastor(s)
4. _____ of members
5. Initiate programs of _____ growth

B. Elder considerations:

1. Provide _____
2. Filled with the _____
3. Strong spiritual _____
4. _____ “in the Word”
5. _____ , not volunteer
6. Basic _____
7. Concern for _____ of ministry
8. _____ ministry _____
9. Grasp of _____ worthiness

II. ELDER / PASTOR / STAFF RELATIONSHIPS – ELDERS SERVING PASTOR

A. Help the man

1. Be a _____
2. Be a _____ for personal / family needs
 - a. Develop a _____ relationship
 - b. Develop a _____ relationship
 - c. Develop personnel _____ (vacation, days off, etc.)
 - d. Develop _____ guidelines
 - e. _____ for pastor and family

B. Help the leader

1. Support the _____
2. Communicate ministry to _____
3. Communicate _____ and _____
4. Welcome and encourage _____ but _____ to unity and purpose
 - a. Test with _____
 - b. Inform and invite _____
 - c. Be faithful with _____
 - d. _____ support pastor

C. Help the preacher

1. Test with _____
2. Test for proper _____ balance
 - a. _____ and be _____ to Scripture
 - b. _____ and be _____ to Lutheran doctrine (Confessions)

D. Help the congregation

1. Meet _____ to carry out responsibilities
2. Share _____ of goals and expectations
3. _____ regularly for better service
4. Be an _____
5. Serve _____ pastor as appropriate

III. ELDER SPIRITUAL CARE – ELDERS SERVING CONGREGATION

A. The elder as a man of _____

1. Matthew 6:5-14

- a. Not outward _____ (v. 5)
- b. Not validated by specific _____ (v. 7)
- c. No lack of _____ (v. 8)
- d. Mark of a _____ disciple (v. 9)
- e. _____ needs in mind (v. 9)
- f. _____ -centered (v. 9)
- g. _____ to God's will (v. 10)
- h. _____ focus (v. 11)
- i. _____ attitude (v. 12)
- j. Combat the _____ (v. 13)

2. Factors impacting prayer:

- a. _____ (Hebrews 4:14-16)
- b. _____ language (Galatians 4:6)
- c. _____ (Psalm 27:8)
- d. Blocked by _____ sin (Psalm 66:18)
- e. _____ -driven (Matthew 21:22)
- f. _____ in Christ and the Word (John 15:7)
- g. Ask in _____ name (John 16:24)
- h. _____ to God's will (1 John 5:14-15)
- i. Brings _____ to God (John 14:13)
- j. _____ in God's power (James 5:16)

B. Elders serve

1. As an _____
 - a. _____ in worship
 - b. _____ at the Lord's Table
 - c. _____ in Bible study
 - i. Personal
 - ii. Group
 - d. _____ -leader
 - e. _____ the priesthood of all believers
 - f. With _____
 - g. As _____
 - h. In _____
 - i. In _____
 - j. In _____
 - i. Don't " _____ it over them"
 - ii. Provide _____ care
 - iii. Be aware of _____ and situations
 - iv. Share _____
 - v. _____ active and inactive