

# Seymour Christian Reformed Church

## BOARD MANDATE

# COUNCIL

Revised May 2018

### PURPOSE

Seymour Church gives glory to God by following the Father's call to become mature through Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. The *Council* exists to advance this purpose of Seymour Church by exercising leadership over the boards, staff, ministries, and mission of the congregation.

### MEMBERSHIP

Elders, deacons, and full-time pastor(s) are members of *Council*. Elders and deacons will be selected through the approved nomination process and serve a three-year term.

- An administrative elder will be selected as the chairperson of the *Council* and serve for a one-year renewable term. The chairperson of the *Council* will also serve as the chairperson of the *Elder Board*.
- An administrative elder will be selected as the clerk of *Council* and serve for a one-year renewable term. The clerk of *Council* will also serve as the clerk of the *Elder Board* and the clerk of the *Administrative Board*.
- An administrative elder will be selected as the vicar of Council and serve for a one-year renewable term. The vicar of *Council* will also serve as the vicar of the *Elder Board* and the vicar of the *Administrative Board*.
- *The Pastor of Administration* will serve as the pastoral advisor to the *Council*.

### MEETINGS

The *Council* will ordinarily meet on the second Monday in the months of February, April, June, August, October, and December. The meetings will begin at 7 PM.

## **ACCOUNTABILITY**

The *Council* is directly accountable to the Lord of the Church and through denominational covenant to Classis Grand Rapids East and the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The responsibilities of the *Council* include the following:

- Pray for the boards, staff, ministries and purpose of Seymour Church.
- Conduct its work according to the *Church Order* of the Christian Reformed Church.
- Exercise servant authority over the work of the four *Council* Boards and the *Ministry Staff*:
  - The *Elder Board*
  - The *Deacon Board*
  - The *Shepherd Board*
  - The *Administrative Board*
  - The *Ministry Staff*
- Approve nominations for elder and deacon.
- Set the agenda and schedule for Congregational Meetings
- Issue calls to pastoral staff.
- Exercise mutual censure.
- Attend to the training and spiritual formation of the elders and deacons.
- Meet with *Church Visitors* of Classis Grand Rapids East.
- Approve the annual budget as processed through the Administrative Board.
- Discuss, deliberate, and discern concerns such as the health of the congregation, and the mission, vision, & strategic ministry plan for Seymour Church.