

# Seymour Christian Reformed Church

## BOARD MANDATE

# SHEPHERD BOARD

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 *Shepherd Board* exists to advance this purpose of Seymour Church by providing pastoral care to the congregation and community.

### MEMBERSHIP

Seven (7) shepherd elders and seven (7) shepherd deacons, together with assigned *Shepherd Assistants*, and the *Pastor of Congregational Life*, will serve on the *Shepherd Board*. The elders and deacons will be selected through the approved nomination process and serve a three-year term.

- The *Pastor of Administration and/or Pastor of Congregational Life* will serve as the facilitator of the *Shepherd Board*.
- The elders and deacons on the *Shepherd Board* may appoint gifted members of the congregation to join them on the board as part of the care team. Each zone can be assigned up to four (4) *Shepherding Assistants* from the congregation.
- The congregational members of the *Shepherd Board* will serve for one-year renewable terms.
- Each shepherd elder -- assisted by a shepherd deacon and appointed shepherding assistants -- will be responsible for the pastoral care of one zone.
- Seven (7) zones will be established for the pastoral care of the congregation.

### MEETINGS

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

Meetings of the *Shepherd Board* will be divided into two parts. The first half of the meeting (from 7:00 to 8:00 PM) will be spent with instruction in, and encouragement of, pastoral care skills. The *Pastor of Congregational Life* will

(with the assistance of others) facilitate the instruction. The second half of the meeting (from 8:00 to 9:00 PM) will be spent in small group zone discussions. The zone meetings will be led by the shepherd elder. The elder will receive visitation reports and make visitation assignments to the deacon and shepherding assistants on the zone team.

## **ACCOUNTABILITY**

The *Shepherd Board* is directly accountable to the *Pastor of Administration and/or Pastor of Congregational Life* of Seymour Church to whom the members of the *Shepherd Board* will provide written "Zone Contact Report Forms" and "Zone Contact Plan Forms" on a bi-monthly basis.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The responsibilities of the *Shepherd Board* include the following:

- Pray for the congregation and community of Seymour Church.
- Conduct its work according to the *Church Order* of the Christian Reformed Church.
- Provide individual and family visitations.
- Provide pastoral care to the congregation and community in the seven (7) zones.
- Promote healthy zone interaction and fellowship.
- Report and coordinate any elder concern to the *Elder Board*.
- Report and coordinate any deacon concern to the *Deacon Board*.
- Facilitate the assimilation of new members in the congregation.