

**Valley Community Baptist Church**  
**Elected Leadership Roles and Responsibilities**

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**Title:** Elder

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**Ministry:** Elder

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**Purpose of Ministry:** To provide oversight of the entire congregation.

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**Purpose of Position:** Scripture commands Elders to be shepherds of the local church of God, over which the Holy Spirit has made them overseers (Acts 20:28; Ezekiel 34, 1 Peter 5:1-3). Jesus models this role as the Chief Shepherd of His Church (I Peter 5:4; John 10:1-18; Psalm 23; Ezekiel 34:11-16). The term “Elder” has the same Greek root as “pastor.”

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**Qualifications:** As a growing committed disciple of Jesus Christ who will:

1. Model Christlike behavior to the congregation: 1 Peter 5:3; 1 Timothy 4:7, 16. It is unlikely that the congregation will progress any further in spiritual maturity than its leaders have progressed. Paul says, “Follow my example as I follow the example of Christ.” (1 Cor. 11:1)
2. Love the people under their care: I Corinthians 13. Prior involvement in a deacon-like ministry preferred. Demonstration of prior ministry involvement is required.
3. Meet the qualifications of Timothy 3:2-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the Word: This includes successful completion of a doctrinal study of key biblical truths.
5. Demonstrate godly wisdom.
6. Involvement in a teaching ministry: this can take a number of forms, for example leading a Community, small group or mid-week course, or one-to-one discipleship.
7. Participate in an accountable, life-on-life relationship.
8. Regularly attend worship, be involved in the body life of the church.

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**Key Working Relationships:**

- The Elders report to the Congregation.
- The Elders are responsible to oversee the ministry of the church and work directly with the Senior Pastor and Executive Pastor.

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**Ministry Responsibilities:**

- To know the congregation
- To protect the congregation
- To feed the congregation by teaching God’s Word
- To lead the congregation (also rule, govern)
- To pray for the congregation

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**Estimated Time Commitment:** 4-8 hours per week

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**Term of Office**      Three Years  
                                 Term begins July 1

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