

Governing Documents for the Local Church:
Underlying Principles and Concepts
The Structure of Leadership

A. Article V of the Bylaws –Leadership Structure

5.1.1 The leadership of the Church consists of two offices: Elders and Deacons (aka Ministry Directors). This two-office structure is taught by the Apostle Paul in 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and intimated in Acts 6:1-6 and in other passages (cf. Phil. 1:1).

1. The principles governing leadership structure at CBC.
 - a. The structure of two offices (Acts 6:1-6; 1 Timothy 3; Philippians 1:1).
 - b. The purpose of two offices.
 - i. The purpose of elders (Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:1-3).
 - ii. The purpose of deacons (Acts 6:1-3).
 - c. The purpose of titles.
 - i. Elder (1 Timothy 3:1; Titus 1:5)
 - ii. Pastor (Ephesians 4:11)
 - iii. Ministry Director (Acts 6:3)
2. The practice of leadership at CBC.
 - a. What do elders do at CBC?
 - i. Individually
 - ii. As a Board
 - b. What do ministry directors do at CBC?
3. The appointment of leaders at CBC.
 - a. The appointment of elders (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-11).
 - b. The appointment of pastors (1 Timothy 5:17-18).
 - c. The appointment of Ministry Directors (1 Timothy 3:8-12; cf. Acts 6:1-3).
 - d. The appointment of staff (“oversight”).

B. Article VI: Elder Board

6.1 The Elder Board is the governing body of the Church and consists of all Elders and pastors duly appointed by the Church. The Elder Board should have no fewer than four (4) Elders and will consist of as many Elders as are called to the office and affirmed by the Church.

1. The makeup and duty of the Board.
 - a. Elders and pastors appointed by the church.
 - b. The Board is the governing body.

6.2 The Elder Board has authority to make rules and regulations consistent with Scripture, the CBC Constitution, these Bylaws, and the laws of the State of Nebraska. The Board promotes the spiritual growth and evangelistic witness of the Church, oversees member discipline and the conduct of public worship, supervises the Ministry Directors and all other organizations of the congregation, manages the business affairs of the corporation, and has final authority over the use of church property.

2. The authority of the Board (Hebrews 13:17).
 - a. In matters of spiritual growth.
 - b. In matters of corporate worship.
 - c. In matters of specific ministries.
 - d. In matters of general management.
 - e. In matters of business.

6.3 On matters of doctrine or discipline, the Elder Board acts only upon unanimity of attending Elders and Pastors after prayerful consideration, in a spirit of humility, each regarding one another before himself.

3. The unity of the Board.
 - a. The Board acts in unanimity on matters of doctrine or discipline.
 - i. The meaning of unanimity.
 - ii. The process of unanimity.