

ELDERS

TEACHING | GUIDING | SERVING

As I introduce you to the Elders of Sharon Church I am reminded of the commercial where this cute little girl is telling us how her mother washes the dishes before she places them in the dishwasher. With a puzzled look on her face the little girl says something like, “my mother washes the dishes before she places them in the dishwasher. So what does the dishwasher do?” You might be asking the same question. What do the Elders do?

The Seventh-Day Adventist Elder’s Handbook states in both the New Testament usage and current understanding, the word “Elder” in reference to a church position means “leader” or “ambassador”; spiritual guardian of the congregation (*1 Peter 5:1-3*). The term “Elder” was used more frequently in the Old Testament. Two of my favorite examples are found in Exodus 18 where Moses’ father-in-law, Jethro, tells Moses he will wear himself out if he continues to provide leadership for the Children of Israel. The other example is where God instructs Moses to select seventy Elders (*found in Numbers 11:16-17*). In Acts 14:23, we read about Paul and Barnabas appointing Elders in each church. These biblical references demonstrate the importance of the role of Elder’s in our church. Elder’s are called by God and elected by their congregation.

Although the role of an Elder may vary depending on the size of the church membership and whether or not the church has a Pastor, the following responsibilities are fairly consistent for the role of an Elder. The ministry (role) of an Elder is to provide:

- Spiritual Leadership/Spiritual Mentoring- lead church members to seek a deeper spiritual experience as demonstrated in their own life. (*1 John 1:3, 1 Corinthians 11:1*)
- Visitation and Nurturing- visiting members for prayer, encouragement and during times of sickness and other concerns. (*Matthew 25:36-40, James 5:14*)
- Church Administration- serves as an advisor to various ministries, committees and projects. Under the guidance of the Pastor, elders provide church visioning, counsel regarding church matters, oversight and leadership in our worship services.

“The elders who are among you I exhort, ... Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away” (*1 Peter 5:1-4*)

Submitted by Head Elder, Chantay Reid



*Elders: John Olive, Harvey Rice, George Mitchell, Zelma Johnson, Japhena Hall, Pam Proudfit, Chantay Reid (Head). Not pictured: Lucien Loiseau, Troy Price and Joyce Southall
Photo by: Elwood Reid*

URGENT PRAYER

- Matthews Family, death of beloved mother
- Drexall Larry, health
- Daisy Hunt, surgery recovery
- Cindy Cobbs, recovery
- Pascal Habineza, recovery

CONTACT THE SHARON COMMUNICATION TEAM at office@sharonchurch.comcastbiz.net or 503.287.7649



LET'S CHAT!

with Pastor D

SHARON SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

June 8, 2019



Across the nation, there is a rising decline in people who see a need for churches. However, there are many positives in being with a faith community. I will continue this week by sharing a few more:

1. **The fellowship or Gatherings**
2. **Genuine friendships**
3. **Clean Fun**
4. **Counseling and support groups**
5. **Children programs**
6. **Community involvement**
7. **Tax write-off** -- With the recent IRS changes, the deductions may not be much, but every little bit helps. The Bible says; "give back to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's" Matthew 22:21. That means we must pay our taxes, but we could add "and nothing more" to the quote. Every tax deduction that you can possibly get is beneficial and should be utilized. Many people who don't support the church, miss out on this blessing.
8. **Encouragement and support** — Funerals, weddings and life celebrations as; birthdays and anniversaries are all part of life. Have you realized that Funeral homes started building chapels to capitalize on the large number of families without a church home? Many end up paying more for the use of these facilities, than they would for the use of a church building. Banquet halls were also built to accommodate the need to host receptions and large parties. However, all these events were once held at church. Life events like birthday parties and anniversary's also brought the church community together. Certainly times have changed, but the church still remains the best place to find the support and care needed even after these events have finished.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

JUNE

JULY

- 9 Elders Meeting 10:30a
- 9 **PAA Graduation 2p**
- 10 Bible Study 12p
- 12 Mid-week Prayer Meeting 7p
- 13 **PAES Last Day of School 12:30p**
- 13 **PAES 8th Grade Graduation 7p**
- 15 Sabbath School 9:45a
- 15 Divine Worship—Father's Day 10:45a
- 15 Fellowship Lunch 1:30p
- 15 Reflecting Inner Beauty RIB 3p
- 16 Church Board Meeting 10:30a
- 16 **FATHER'S DAY HOLIDAY**
- 16 **WWU Graduation**
- 17 Bible Study 12p

- 19 Mid-week Prayer Meeting 7p
- 21 **First Day of Summer**
- 22 Sabbath School/Divine Worship 9:45a
- 22 Community Service Food Pantry 2p
- 22 Bible Study 2:15p
- 22 Reflecting Inner Beauty 3p
- 24 Bible Study 12p
- 26 Mid-week Prayer Meeting 7p
- 29 Sabbath School 9:45a
- 29 Divine Worship Deacon/Deaconess Day 10:45a
- 29 Community Service Food Pantry 2p
- 29 Reflecting Inner Beauty 3p
- 29 Adventist Youth (AY) 5:30p
- 1 Bible Study 12p

Items that appear in red are at partner locations, additional information on Sharon church bulletin board.