



# COVENANT BRETHREN CHURCH

503 Morgantown Avenue, Suite 125  
Fairmont, West Virginia 26554  
304-534-8010

[contactcbc@covenantbrethren.org](mailto:contactcbc@covenantbrethren.org)

## Regional Elder

At the beginning of the Covenant Brethren Church, we desired to have a church that made a Covenant Agreement to follow the Bible as the inerrant Word of God in belief and practice. The leaders recognized from the beginning of the CBC that keeping the Covenant Agreement will require accountability. Accountability is meant to be an act of Love. That we may stir up one another to love and good deeds, so that one day we will hear the words “well done my good and faithful servant”.

We began with a minimal amount of structure and decided to add structure as needed in the future if that structure had a purpose. This position is recommended to add structure to strengthen the church and increase accountability as an act of Love and care for each other at the Regional Level.

In the CBC accountability and authority are the responsibility of the Executive Board. As the church grows, the Executive Board sees the need to extend its effectiveness.

### Jethro Principle:

**Exodus 18: 8-9** *Moses told his father-in-law all that the LORD had done to Pharaoh and to the Egyptians for Israel's sake, all the hardship that had befallen them on the journey, and how the LORD had delivered them. <sup>9</sup> Jethro rejoiced over all the goodness which the LORD had done to Israel, <sup>[a]</sup> in delivering <sup>[b]</sup> them from the hand of the Egyptians.*

- **Just Like Moses CBC is Rejoicing over all that God has done for us !**

**Vs 14-16** *Now when Moses' father-in-law saw all that he was doing for the people, he said, “What is this thing that you are doing for the people? Why do you alone sit as judge and all the people stand about you from morning until evening?” <sup>15</sup> Moses said to his father-in-law, “Because the people come to me to inquire of God. <sup>16</sup> When they have a <sup>[c]</sup> dispute, it comes to me, and I judge between a man and his neighbor and make known the statutes of God and His laws.”*

- **Now Comes the Jethro Principle... (I Use this in My Business)**

**VS 17-23** *Moses' father-in-law said to him, “The thing that you are doing is not good. <sup>18</sup> You will surely wear out, both yourself and <sup>[d]</sup> these people who are with you, for the <sup>[e]</sup> task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone. <sup>19</sup> Now listen to <sup>[f]</sup> me: I will give you counsel, and God be with you. <sup>[g]</sup> You be the people's representative before God, and you bring the <sup>[h]</sup> disputes to God, <sup>20</sup> then **teach them** the statutes and the laws, and make known to them the way in which they are to walk and the work they are to do. <sup>21</sup> Furthermore, you shall <sup>[i]</sup> select out of all the people able men who fear God, men of truth, those who hate dishonest gain; and you shall place these over them as leaders of thousands, <sup>[j]</sup> of hundreds, <sup>[k]</sup> of fifties and <sup>[l]</sup> of tens. <sup>22</sup> Let them judge the people at all times; and let it be that every major <sup>[m]</sup> dispute they will bring to you, but every minor <sup>[n]</sup> dispute they themselves will judge. So it will be easier for you,*



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*and they will bear the burden with you. <sup>23</sup> If you do this thing and God so commands you, then you will be able to <sup>[a]</sup>endure, and all <sup>[b]</sup>these people also will go to <sup>[c]</sup>their place in peace.”*

*Jethro Principle:*

- **We Must Teach our Regional Leadership**
- **We Must select Men of integrity to lead our Regions.**
- **The Executive Board must only deal with major issues.**

**Moses is Told.... Vs 23** *“If you do this thing and God so commands you, then you will be able to <sup>[a]</sup>endure, and all <sup>[b]</sup>these people also will go to <sup>[c]</sup>their place in peace.”*

- **1 Peter 5:1-3** ***Therefore, I exhort the elders among you, as your fellow elder and witness** of the sufferings of Christ, and a partaker also of the glory that is to be revealed, <sup>2</sup> shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; <sup>3</sup> nor yet as lording it over <sup>[a]</sup>those allotted to your charge, but <sup>[b]</sup>proving to be examples to the flock.*
  - Peter was addressing to the needs of multiple Church Elders but still referred to himself as an Elder....
- **2 John 1:1** ***The elder** to the chosen lady and her children, whom I love in truth; and not only I, but also all who know the truth,*
  - As John gives instruction and warning and refers to himself as “Elder”
- **3 John 1:1** ***The elder** to the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth.*
  - **Vs 3-4** *For I was very glad when brethren came and testified to your truth, that is, how you are walking in truth. <sup>4</sup> I have no greater joy than <sup>[a]</sup>this, to hear of my children walking in the truth.*
  - John offers up praise for Gaius and the work and life he is living, relayed to him by other brothers’ testimony.
- **Vs 9-10** *I wrote something to the church; but Diotrephes, who loves to be first among them, does not accept <sup>[a]</sup>what we say. <sup>10</sup> For this reason, if I come, I will call attention to his deeds which he does, unjustly accusing us with wicked words; and not satisfied with this, he himself does not receive the brethren, either, and he forbids those who desire to do so and puts them out of the church.*
  - **John** calls out the troublemakers in the church and not ashamed to give their names and their deeds.
  - **John** goes on to tell Gaius what a good Man Demetrius is by the testimony of others... **Vs12** *Demetrius has received a good testimony from everyone, and from the truth itself; and we add our testimony, and you know that our testimony is true.*



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We therefore recommend that each Regional Board of the Covenant Brethren Church work toward calling a Regional Elder. This position could be full time, part time, or non-salaried depending on the size of the Region.

## **Qualifications:**

- Ordained Minister in the Covenant Brethren Church
- Recommend 10 years or more serving as an Ordained Minister
- Employed by and accountable to the Regional Board
- Approved by the Executive Board

## **Skills:**

- Fully Committed to the Statement of Faith and the Bible.
- Gifted in preaching and teaching.
- Good listening skills
- Good administrative/organizational skills

## **Responsibilities:**

- Gives Support to the pastors and congregations in their Region.
  - Regularly meets with Pastors (at least twice per year).
  - Regularly meets with Church Boards without the Pastor present (at least once per year).
- Assists Churches in finding new pastors.
- Regularly reports to the Executive Board.
- Meets with new groups requesting information on CBC within their Regions.
- Perform Ordination services for new Ministers within their Region.
- Meets and coordinates with Elders from other Regions.
- Works with congregations & ministers that are having problems.
  - Make recommendations to the Regional Boards
  - Regional Boards can decide when to involve the Executive Board
- Educates and carries out decisions of the Regional Boards and Executive Boards
- Uses additional Leadership from the Regional Board to assist in their work when necessary.