

WOMEN'S ADVISORY BOARD Qualifications, Duties, & Ordination

The Women's Advisory Board has two main functions. 1) They support the Northstar staff by carrying out specific ministry projects and providing care. 2) They come alongside the Northstar Elders to provide advice, discernment, and feedback on all elder topics. Therefore, their qualifications mirror those of a Northstar Elder.

1. QUALIFICATIONS OF A WOMEN'S ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER

- 1) Above reproach - nothing sinful in her life for which to accuse her
- 2) Devoted Wife – if married, totally devoted to her husband and not flirtatious or polygamous
- 3) Temperate - sober in judgement
- 4) Prudent - discreet, sound-minded
- 5) Respectable - well balanced, not abrasive
- 6) Hospitable - loves and hosts strangers
- 7) Not addicted to wine - would apply equally to other substances, drugs, etc...
- 8) Not pugnacious - not given to physical violence
- 9) Gentle - reasonable and under control
- 10) Uncontentious - avoids fighting
- 11) No lover of money - not greedy or irresponsible concerning money
- 12) Managing her own household - attends to own family in such a way that they are believers and orderly
- 13) Not a new convert - the emphasis is on spiritual maturity not just years since conversion
- 14) Good reputation with unbelievers - respected in the community at large

2. DUTIES OF A WOMEN'S ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER

See the paragraph before the qualification for Women's Advisory Board's two main duties. They also serve the flock by regular prayer for the members and by seeking to develop nurturing relationships based upon mutual submission to God and His Word. They will exemplify and promote the core values and beliefs of the church. They will hold each other accountable to live lives characterized by the qualities listed above. They will exemplify and promote the importance of strong family relationships and responsibility to train our children in the ways of the Lord.

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3. ORDINATION OF A WOMEN'S ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER

Steps for Becoming a Northstar Women's Advisory Board Member.

1. *Nomination process:* There are at least three avenues for nomination to this board.

A. Women's Advisory Board member: based on personal interactions or recommendations from others; typically someone who's already leading.

B. Other mature believers: regular attenders of Northstar who have demonstrated a life of spiritual maturity and are knowledgeable of the Biblical criteria for this board; the person needs to let any active Women's Advisory Board member know who they would like to nominate.

C. Self: a woman who is persuaded that God has called her to serve in this way may nominate herself to the board.

Although the Elders and Women's Advisory Board may pray about and discuss the addition of new members at any time, there should be a defined period during which the prayer team and the congregation should join the Elders and Women's Advisory Board in praying about and nominating candidates.

2. *Review process:* For each accepted candidate a Woman's Advisory Board member should be assigned to carry-out the first two checks below.

A. Meet qualification criteria: see above.

B. Informal meetings with candidate: each Women's Advisory Board member should arrange an informal one-on-one meeting with candidates that desire to go through the nomination process and who pass the first step above.

C. Formal meeting with all current Women's Advisory Board Members: after the completion of B. and with the agreement of all current Women's Advisory Board members, a formal meeting with the board will be scheduled. This meeting will be used to bring up any new questions and to explain the duties of the Women's Advisory Board in more detail for the candidate so that he can ask questions.

D. Elder Approval: the Women's Advisory Board will receive Elder approval as final step before inviting new member on their board.

3. *Ordination process:* this process may or may not happen before the approved new member begins to meet with the rest of the board.

A. Church leaders informed: the candidate and the church staff will be informed as soon as a decision is made; ministry leaders will be informed at the earliest convenience.

B. Church body informed, ordination date set, ordination service: the entire body will be informed during a celebration at a time when the entire church body can participate.