

Serving the church as men and as women – part 2

1. Introduction & recap...

Men and women: “complementary”

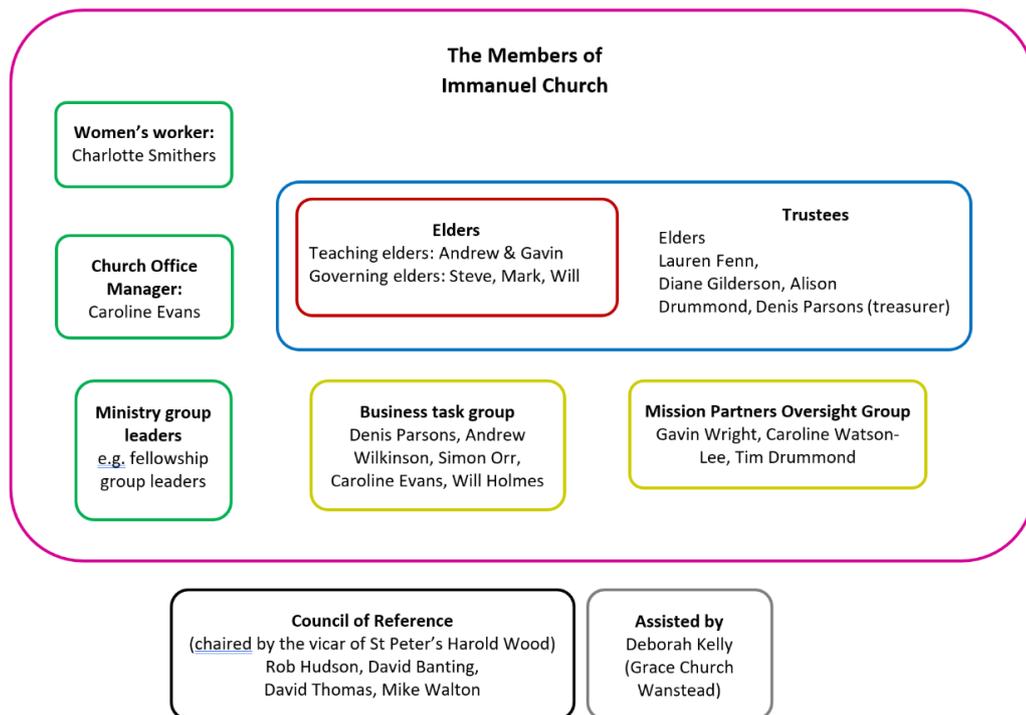
- Man: like God... guard and protect... as a father (Genesis 1:27, 2:15, 3:17-19)
- Woman: like God... help and give life... like a mother (Genesis 1:27, 2:18, 3:20)
- e.g. see 1 Timothy 5:1-2 = who we are... how we relate...

→ Application: grateful to the Lord... for one another

The church: what does she need?

- Members committed to the Bible, to growth, to one another (e.g. Ephesians 4:11-16)

→ Application: much work! many activities! rotas! e.g.



→ Application: relationships... not like a business/corporation... but a family

Our aim: that we each...

serve the Lord and his church not serving ourselves...

together because we're all part of a family...

as either a man or woman because this a deep part of who we are...

grateful for how we're made though remembering that we all battle sin and weakness

2. What does a local church need from its men?

All men seeking to grow... as spiritual fathers... who seek to provide and protect

= godly character... love of Scripture = e.g. 1 Timothy 3:1-7

And... fighting characteristic sins: = discontent / envy expressed as...

Failing to provide and protect

Abdicate – e.g. Genesis 3:6,

Anger and abuse – e.g. Genesis 3:16, 1 Timothy 2:8, 1 Peter 3:7

Some: set apart as elders and preachers – e.g. 1 Timothy 2:8-15

= Fits into the whole Bible's pattern:

"To deny that women can be elders will sound like the equivalent of denying that women can be CEOs, but it is more like the equivalent of denying that women can be *fathers*, and that men can be *mothers*." (Andrew Wilson)

3. What does a local church need from its women?

All women seeking to grow... as spiritual mothers... who seek to nurture and give life

= godly character... love of Scripture = e.g. 1 Timothy 2:11, 3:8-11, Titus 2:3-5, Romans 16:13

And... fighting characteristic sins: = discontent / envy expressed as...

Failing to nurture/give life

Resentful – e.g. Genesis 3:16

False beauty, ungodly speech – e.g. 1 Timothy 2:9, 1 Timothy 3:11

4. In practice at Immanuel: being who we are... different roles... equally valuable

5. Discussion & feedback