

EBC Women's Ministry

1. Mission

- To inspire, encourage and facilitate women's worship of Jesus Christ in the outworking of authentic, biblical femininity
- To encourage and equip women to minister in a way that displays the glory of God's creative design in the complementary manner by which he intends men and women to minister together as the family of God
- To counteract culture's attack on God's design for women by purposefully providing Biblical instruction on Christian womanhood, equipping women to confront culture instead of being conformed to or intimidated by it

2. Objectives

- To introduce every woman not only to the helper design, but to the Designer himself for the purpose of loving Him with all her heart, soul, mind, and strength
- To pursue, encourage and nurture spiritual life in God's household, emphasizing heart-level edification and a shepherding-oriented culture among women as well as the utilization of spiritual gifts for the benefit of the body of Christ
- To protect and nurture physical life within God's household by promoting God-ordained priority of husband and family responsibilities along with the compassionate care of all life within the family of God
- To honor, support, and encourage the spiritual leadership and initiatory function Christ has called men to render within the family of God and to purposely instruct the next generation in these truths
- To provide feminine perspective and skill in the outworking of the church's mission, adding color, warmth, beauty, efficiency, and industry to the life and mission of the church family
- To minister compassion to the hurting, friendship to the isolated, support to the needy, protection to the vulnerable, and, as his body, to extend Christ's love to all people
- To assist leadership with ongoing counseling and/or discipleship of women

3. Organization

- Organizational Meetings
 - ◆ A general assembly of women will be held several times a year as indicated on the annual church calendar.
 - ◆ The overarching purpose of each meeting is to provide a forum for women to partner together in addressing the practical outworking of the objectives stated above. The agenda of each meeting will vary, but will generally emphasize:
 - Corporate prayer, biblical instruction, group discussion, mutual edification and accountability in the interest of clarifying and applying principles of authentic womanhood to the glory of God and the advance of the gospel
 - Organizational planning, strategizing, and facilitation of upcoming ministry events

- Discussion relative to various ministries and practices with a view to generating ideas and pursuing answers that will encourage the health and prosperity of the church
- Initiating and fostering relationships for the purpose of encouraging each other in obedience and faithfulness to God-ordained roles, both in the church and home, as well as bringing the gospel to the unreached

➤ Annual Events

- Women's Retreat = Friday/Saturday overnight held each March
- Christmas Dinner = held early December on a Friday night
- Women's Bible Study = 2 sessions yearly; Fall (Sept – Nov) and Winter (Feb-Apr)
- Ladies' Gatherings = 3 Friday night + 1 Saturday morning events, held in homes

➤ Stewards

- ◆ Overseer = Elaine Pratt
 - Present vision, communicate ministry direction and facilitate efficient organization of programs related to women's ministry
 - Support, assist and oversee all stewards and their areas of ministry
 - Create and facilitate format and agenda of women's meetings
 - Attend assigned staff meetings as scheduled and function as regular liaison* with final accountability to elders in all matters
 - Communicate on philosophy and ministry direction
 - Communicate on practical needs, ministry changes and future plans
 - Note: Any of the stewards listed below may serve as liaisons as matters arise pertaining to their stewardship, as may any woman called to do so in the outworking of her responsibilities.
- ◆ Meetings Secretary = Shelly Lassahn
 - Record details of regular meetings including assignments made
 - Submit a report of the details of each meeting to the moderator
- ◆ Budget = Becky Brister
 - Approve, oversee and keep account of all expenses related to Women's ministry in consultation with the Overseer
- ◆ Education = Elaine Pratt
 - Oversee all teaching that takes place in the context of women's ministries, determining curriculum, topics, and speakers in consultation with the elders
 - Tues Studies – Joanne Ranch (curriculum) + Pan Burrill (secretary)
- ◆ Compassionate Outreach = Beth Miller
 - Oversee support of people in need per "Policy on Home Support"

- Flowers and Showers = Diane Wiebe
 - Plan, organize and facilitate wedding and baby showers per “Baby Showers” and “Wedding Showers” policy specifications
 - Facilitate church-wide expressions of sympathy/congratulations per “Flowers and Cards” policy”
- ◆ Hospitality = Donna Stresnak
 - Oversee EBC hospitality teams which provide the planning, preparation & serving at church events, per “Church Meals” policy
 - Oversee upkeep and condition of church kitchen
 - Give input and insight on issues related to church-wide hospitality venues, as requested.
- ◆ Activities = Beth Breezley
 - Christmas Dinner
 - Ladies’ Retreat
- ◆ Discipleship and Mentoring = Elaine Pratt
 - Provide vision for and oversight of a mentoring-oriented ministry based on the “older women teaching the younger” from Titus 2:3-5
 - Provide vision, facilitate teaching and suggest structure for woman-to- woman discipleship relationships, both formal and informal, taking place within the body of Christ
 - *Woman2Woman* = Nadine Kuntz
 - This 10-month program provides opportunity and encouragement for women to establish godly mentoring relationships to support and equip them to live out the principles of Biblical womanhood in all of life
 - Coordinator will organize with the Overseer the initial, annual assignments of women as well as facilitate the ongoing program
- Policies = Written Policy Statements currently exist for:
 - ◆ Home Support
 - ◆ Flowers and Cards
 - ◆ Baby Showers
 - ◆ Wedding Showers
 - ◆ Church Meals