HOPE Network
Empowering Leaders and Churches with HOPE

FOR ELDERS & SHEPHERDS
HOPE NETWORK YEAR-END CAMPAIGN

The best time to call is *before* you need us.

Most elder teams reach out after a conflict, a resignation, or a breach of trust. But healthy elder teams help build healthy churches, and we'd love to connect before a crisis brings us together.

A five-minute self-assessment for your elder team

- ☐ We spend more time shepherding people than managing details.
- ☐ Our elders work well together and trust one another.
- ☐ We have a clear, agreed way of making decisions with our minister.
- ☐ We have hard conversations early, before they turn into crises.
- ☐ We stay steady and clear when the congregation is anxious.
- ☐ We know who our next elders will be and how we'll prepare them.
- ☐ We have a plan for when our minister retires or moves on.
- ☐ Our minister has a mentor or coach outside our congregation.
- ☐ Our vision, mission, and values are clear and current.

Fewer than six checked? Call us at **214-586-0375** or email **info@hopenetworkministries.org**. One conversation can set your elder team on a healthier path.

Proactive ways we help

Elder team health. Building trust and working well together, like a fitness coach, not a 911 call.

Elder selection. A prayerful process for raising up new elders.

Elder training. Orientation for new elders and proven best practices for seasoned ones, ending with a practical plan.

Elder–minister teams. Clear roles and expectations, set early.

Crucial conversations. Facilitated, ideally before they're urgent.

Transition planning. Getting ready for a minister's retirement or move.

Vision, mission & values. Time to refresh your church's calling together.

Mentor your minister. Sponsor them in our six-month cohort.

"They are not afraid to challenge you in love."
Lewis Stephenson, Elder · Mansfield Church of Christ

Make HOPE Network part of your domestic missions budget

Strengthening ministers and elder teams is mission work: every healthy leader multiplies a church's witness. Fees cover only about half of what it costs to serve most churches, so mission partners keep this help within reach of smaller congregations. As you set your 2027 budget, would your elder team consider:

A line in your 2027 domestic missions budget

Monthly or annual. Ongoing support lets us plan ahead and say yes when churches call.

A year-end missions gift

From this year's missions or benevolence funds, before the campaign closes Jan 15. Suggested: $1,000, $2,500, or $5,000.

Sponsor your minister · $650

Six months of mentoring in the Ministry Leaders Cohort, for ministers in their first ten years.

Give at **hopenetworkministries.org/donate** or mail to PO Box 274, Keller, TX 76244 · EIN 75-2684368
Start a conversation: **214-586-0375** · **info@hopenetworkministries.org** · or call any HOPE Network Partner you know