



WILLIE McGRADY

Willie McGrady, who has spent a lifetime in education, was born in Troy, Alabama, about 50 miles south of Montgomery. He was added to the church there in 1979. As a former principal of Redan High School in DeKalb County, Georgia and now an assistant superintendent in Dayton, Ohio, leadership has been his middle name.

Elder McGrady says acting as a shepherd of the flock has been fulfilling for him.

Though his job assignment has taken him away from the daily activities of the congregation temporarily, he says he anticipates a return soon, where he can be more hands-on as a leader.

An elder since 1995, McGrady says an essential role of the office, now more important than ever, is

protecting the flock from wayward doctrines that can divide the church.

"You have to be alert and ready to act forcefully," he said, "because Bible error can seep in, almost unnoticed by many."

McGrady lists athletics as a part of his favorite past time partly as an outgrowth of his long experience in the school system. "I enjoy all of the sports, including baseball and track and field," he says. Truly devoted, McGrady follows the major league careers of former Redan athletes, like Brandon Phillips, second baseman for the Cincinnati Reds.

"Did you see, Brandon got a homerun last night?" he said during an interview.

Willie and Olivia McGrady are parents of an adult son, Trevor.