



## Recommendations for Church Officers, Class of 2021

The Officer Nominating Committee is soliciting recommendations from the members of First Presbyterian Church for persons to be considered to serve in the offices of Ruling Elder and Deacon for the Class of 2021. Please prayerfully consider submitting a recommendation for this important and vital service for your church.

Consider in your recommendation references from the Presbyterian *Book of Order*.

“To those called to exercise special functions in the church — deacons, ruling elders, and teaching elders — God gives suitable gifts for their various duties. In addition to possessing the necessary gifts and abilities, those who undertake particular ministries should be persons of strong faith, dedicated discipleship, and love of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel in the church and in the world. They must have the approval of God’s people and the concurring judgment of a council of the church.” (G-2.0104a)

### **Deacons: The Ministry of Compassion and Service**

“The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this ministry.” (G-2.0201)

“Deacons may be individually commissioned or organized as a board of deacons. In either case, their ministry is under the supervision and authority of the session. Deacons may also be given special assignments in the congregation, such as caring for members in need, handling educational tasks, cultivating liberality in giving, collecting and disbursing monies to specific persons or causes, or overseeing the buildings and property of the congregation. Deacons shall assume other duties as may be delegated to them by the session, including assisting with the Lord’s Supper.” (G-2.0202)

### **Ruling Elders: The Ministry of Discernment and Governance**

“As there were in Old Testament times elders for the government of the people, so the New Testament church provided persons with particular gifts to share in discernment of God’s Spirit and governance of God’s people. Accordingly, congregations should elect persons of wisdom and maturity of faith, having demonstrated skills in leadership and being compassionate in spirit. Ruling elders are so named not because they “lord it over” the congregation (Matt. 20:25), but because they are chosen by the congregation to discern and measure its fidelity to the Word of God, and to strengthen and nurture its faith and life. Ruling elders, together with teaching elders, exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline and have responsibilities for the life of a congregation as well as the whole church, including ecumenical relationships. When elected by the congregation, they shall serve faithfully as members of the session. When elected as commissioners to higher councils, ruling elders participate and vote with the same authority as teaching elders, and they are eligible for any office.” (G-2.0301)

*(To submit a recommendation, please complete the form on the reverse.)*



## Officer Nomination Form for Class of 2021

I wish to endorse \_\_\_\_\_ as a candidate for:  Elder  Deacon

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Officer Nominee Information:

Nominee Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Please tell us what you know about this person's involvement in First Presbyterian Church, Nashville, in another ministry or church, or in the community at large.

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***The deadline for recommending nominees is June 30, 2018.***

Return this form to any member of the Officer Nominating Committee or to the church office.

#### OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Stuart Campbell, Chair

Hal Sauer, Vice Chair

Ken Crews

Missy Eason

Nancy Eason

Anne Gernert

Steele Yancey

Adam DeVries, Staff Liaison

Todd Jones, Staff Liaison