

RULING ELDERS

The Session is the governing body of the congregation. It consists of 15 Ruling Elders who serve for a three-year term and one Youth Ruling Elder who serves a one-year term. The qualities of a Ruling Elder are as follows:

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 ministers of the Word and Sacrament, 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 ministers of the Word and Sacrament, and they are eligible for any office.

(Book of Order, G-2.0301)

DEACONS

The Board of Deacons comprises 24 members who serve for a three-year term and two Youth Deacons who serve a one-year term. Deacons undertake ministries of care and compassion within and beyond the congregation. Deacons should demonstrate spiritual character, honest reputation, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, and warm sympathies. The qualities of Deacon as follows:

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. (Book of Order, G-2.0201)

TRUSTEES

Kirk in the Hills has a board of 18 Trustees, elected for a three-year term. Trustees have major responsibilities in the areas of budget and finance, endowments and investments, property maintenance and insurance, personnel and legal affairs. Trustees shall be members of the church who demonstrate qualities of honesty and integrity, energy and business acumen, incorporating both Christian dedication and responsibility. The Book of Order defines Trustees as follows:

The corporation so formed, or the individual trustees, shall have the following powers: to receive, hold, encumber, manage, and transfer property, real or personal, for the

congregation, provided that in buying, selling, and mortgaging real property, the trustees shall act only after the approval of the congregation, granted in a duly constituted meeting; to accept and execute deeds of title to such property; to hold and defend title to such property; to manage any permanent special funds for the furtherance of the purposes of the congregation, all subject to the authority of the session and under the provisions of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The powers and duties of the trustees shall not infringe upon the powers and duties of the session or the board of deacons.

(Book of Order, G-4.101)

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The committee will be comprised of 9 members of integrity who are:

- Knowledgeable about the church and community about Presbyterian theology and government.
- Spiritual leaders within the congregation and are active in the life and work of the congregation.
- Able to make a significant commitment of their time, energy, and very best wisdom.
- Willing to accept this as a task of spiritual discernment, not being easily influenced by personal desire or congregational politics, but rather listening for the voice of God.
- Able to honor confidentiality.

ALL OFFICERS

Attendance at, and participation in orientation and the various boards and committees, and co-operation with other officers are primary requirements. At present, meetings of the boards are ordinarily held as follows:

Ruling Elders	third Tuesday evening of each month;
Deacons	second Monday evening of each month;
Trustees	second Tuesday evening of each month.

Committee meetings are usually held to meet the availability and convenience of most of the members.

The Church Officer Nominating Committee may receive more suggestions than there are available positions. It is the Committee's hope that the congregation will submit names for consideration. Members should understand that, inevitably, many fine suggestions may not lead to nomination or appointment.