

My Recommendations for Church Officers

I recommend _____

to be considered as (circle the office): Elder Deacon

I believe this person models the Christian faith and exhibits qualities of Christian leadership in the following ways:

I recommend _____

to be considered as (circle the office): Elder Deacon

I believe this person models the Christian faith and exhibits qualities of Christian leadership in the following ways:

I recommend _____

to be considered as (circle the office): Elder Deacon

I believe this person models the Christian faith and exhibits qualities of Christian leadership in the following ways:

Submitted by: _____

Form must be signed in order to be considered.

Recommendations must be received in the church office by December 15, 2017.

From *Book of Order 2015-2017, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

G-2.02 DEACONS: THE MINISTRY OF COMPASSION AND SERVICE

G-2.0201 Deacon Defined

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-2.03 RULING ELDERS: THE MINISTRY OF DISCERNMENT AND GOVERNANCE

G-2.0301 Ruling Elder Defined

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.