

**YOUR SUGGESTIONS ARE REQUESTED
FOR
*ELDERS and DEACONS***

The 2012 Officer Nominating Committee (ONC) is authorized to accept suggestions from church members to serve as Elders and Deacons for the class of 2014.

From the names you suggest, and dependent upon the work of the Holy Spirit, the ONC will move a slate of five people for your approval as Elders as well as a slate of four people for your approval as Deacons. In accordance with the Book of Order, a congregational meeting to elect officers has been called by the Session for Sunday, November 13th at the close of 11:00 am worship.

The deadline for returning your suggestions is noon on Monday, November 1st. Please print the following page of this message (one copy for each active member of your household who wishes to submit suggestions) and then return all suggestions to the church office or place in the offering plate on any remaining Sunday in October. You may submit more than ten suggestions for each office, if desired. A printable list of active members eligible for election is also included in this email for your reference.

Important Information About the Offices

First Presbyterian Church will have 15 **Elders** in 2012 who ordinarily serve three-year terms, but who may be re-elected to consecutive terms totaling no more than six years service. An elder is ordained to assume responsibility for the spiritual life of the congregation and to manage the governance of the church. The Book of Order suggests Elders be “persons of faith, dedication and good judgment. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel, both within the church and in the world.” Elders currently serve on one of ten ministry teams currently in place at FPC. All active members on the accompanying list are eligible to be elected.

There are 12 **Deacons** serving three-year terms, most visibly as ushers during worship on Sunday mornings but also in the areas of congregational care and mission. *The office of Deacon is not a steppingstone to the office of Elder*; the two offices are entirely different from one another in call and scope. The Book of Order suggests Deacons be “persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, warm sympathies and sound judgment.” It is their duty first of all is to visit and minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith. All active members on the accompanying list are eligible to be elected.

----continued----

FOR ELDER:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

FOR DEACON:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

You may make more than ten suggestions per office if you desire.