

## 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:

*Ruling Elders should be persons who exhibit wisdom and maturity of faith. They should show both leadership qualities and compassion in spirit. Their lives should demonstrate the highest standards of faithfulness and integrity and be a model of Christian behavior in the church and in the world. It is the duty of the Ruling Elders, individually and jointly, to strengthen, nurture, and govern the life of the congregation. These Ruling Elders should be chosen by the congregation to discern and measure its fidelity to the word of God and to strengthen and nurture its faith and life. (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-2.0401)*

## ALL OFFICERS

Attendance at, and participation in, 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.

After service for three years, outgoing officers are not eligible for re-appointment to the same office until after one year has elapsed.

Based on past years' experience, 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.

Officers are required to attend Officer Training.