

## NOMINATION: RULING ELDERS

1. Iron Works Church is a church plant of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), and does not have its own Session, i.e., a governing and shepherding body of elders that is composed of at least 1 teaching elder (a pastor) and 2 ruling elders (biblically qualified lay persons selected by the congregation). As such, it is under the oversight of the provisional Session of Reformed Presbyterian Church of West Chester, until such time as God raises up godly men from within Iron Works congregation to serve as ruling elders. By God's grace, we are prepared to nominate men to serve in this office.

2. As for the nomination process, only those men who are communing members of Iron Works Church are eligible to be nominated by communing members of Iron Works Church. Just because a man is nominated does not necessarily mean that they will actually become ruling elders. Rather, it simply asserts that as far as you are able to discern, the man (or men) you nominate exhibits and seems to fulfill the biblical qualifications of an elder as found in 1 Tim 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9. What follows is an excerpt drawn from chapter 8 of the PCA Book of Church Order (BCO) that describes the nature and requirements of the office of elder:

**8-2.** He that fills this office should possess a competency of human learning and be blameless in life, sound in the faith and apt to teach. He should exhibit a sobriety and holiness of life becoming the Gospel. He should rule his own house well and should have a good report of them that are outside the Church.

**8-3.** It belongs to those in the office of elder...to watch diligently over the flock committed to his charge, that no corruption of doctrine or of morals enter therein. They must exercise government and discipline, and take oversight not only of the spiritual interests of the particular church, but also the Church generally when called thereunto. They should visit the people at their homes, especially the sick. They should instruct the ignorant, comfort the mourner, nourish and guard the children of the Church. They should set a worthy example to the flock entrusted to their care by their zeal to evangelize the unconverted and make disciples. All those duties which private Christians are bound to discharge by the law of love are especially incumbent upon them by divine vocation, and are to be discharged as official duties. They should pray with and for the people, being careful and diligent in seeking the fruit of the preached Word among the flock.

3. We ask that you prayerfully consider nominating men that you believe may meet the biblical qualifications for the office of elder outlined in Scripture and described above in the BCO:

a. Name of man/men that I am nominating for consideration to be a ruling elder:

b. Signature of nominee(s): \_\_\_\_\_

c. Signature of nominating member: \_\_\_\_\_

## NOMINATION: DEACONS

1. Iron Works Church is a church plant of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), and does not have anyone serving in the office of deacon at this time, i.e., men who are part of the Deacon Board that are tasked not with the governance and shepherding of the church, but with ministering primarily to the needs of congregants and providing care for church property and resources. By God's grace, we are prepared now to nominate men to serve in this office.

2. As for the nomination process, only those men who are communing members of Iron Works Church are eligible to be nominated by communing members of Iron Works Church. Just because a man is nominated does not necessarily mean that they will actually become a deacon. Rather, it simply asserts that as far as you are able to discern, the man (or men) you nominate exhibits and seems to fulfill the biblical qualifications of a deacon as found in 1 Tim 3:8-13. What follows is an excerpt drawn from chapter 9 of the PCA Book of Church Order (BCO) that describes the nature and requirements of the office of deacon:

**9-1.** The office of deacon...is one of sympathy and service, after the example of the Lord Jesus; it expresses also the communion of saints, especially in their helping one another in time of need.

**9-2.** It is the duty of the deacons to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress. It is their duty also to develop the grace of liberality in the members of the church, to devise effective methods of collecting the gifts of the people, and to distribute these gifts among the objects to which they are contributed. They shall have the care of the property of the congregation, both real and personal, and shall keep in proper repair the church edifice and other buildings belonging to the congregation. In matters of special importance affecting the property of the church, they cannot take final action without the approval of the Session and consent of the congregation. In the discharge of their duties the deacons are under the supervision and authority of the Session...

**9-3.** To the office of deacon, which is spiritual in nature, shall be chosen men of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly spirit, warm sympathies, and sound judgment.

3. We ask that you prayerfully consider nominating men that you believe may meet the biblical qualifications for the office of deacon outlined in Scripture and described above in the BCO:

a. Name of man/men that I am nominating for consideration to be a deacon:

b. Signature of nominee(s): \_\_\_\_\_

c. Signature of nominating member: \_\_\_\_\_