

First Presbyterian Church of Houston

Trustee Recommendation Form

2017

Recommendations Due August 28 | fpchouston.org/trustee

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”

1 Peter 4:10



Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is elected by the congregation and has responsibility for managing FPC's real property and the special permanent funds related to the real property.

The Board of Trustees has nine members serving three-year staggered terms. We elect three new Trustees each year to three-year terms.

The current standing Officer Nominating Committee selects nominees for Trustees from recommendations submitted by the congregation using the same procedure as that for nominating and electing members of the Session. Information and forms for recommending nominees follow.

Seeking God's Servants

Trustee Recommendation Checklist

The Officer Nominating Committee seeks the names of individuals who love Jesus Christ, who have a strong faith and who are committed to him as their Lord and Savior to serve as Trustees. Persons who are recommended must be willing to devote substantial amounts of time, energy and talent to the ministry of First Presbyterian Church of Houston. Toward that end, we encourage you to use the following checklist:

- Prayerfully consider recommending several individuals for nomination
- Read 1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9 and 1 Peter 5:1-4
- Read the Statement of Faith
- Confirm that, if selected, the individual(s) you wish to nominate are willing to serve
- Submit your recommendation(s) by August 28, 2017
To SUBMIT ONLINE, visit fpchouston.org/trustee/
To SUBMIT HARDCOPY, complete pages 3 and 4 for EACH nominee, one nominee per booklet, and either:
 1. Leave in the drop-off box at the Welcome Center or
 2. Mail to:
First Presbyterian Church of Houston
Attention: Lisa Psillas
Officer Nominating Committee
5300 Main Street, Houston, Texas 77004

If you need more information please contact Cindy Marion at 713.826.6477 or cindy@mmihouston.com.

FPC Trustee Nomination Form (1 of 2)

The information on this form is solely for the use of the Officer Nominating Committee of First Presbyterian Church, Houston.

As a member of First Presbyterian Church of Houston and following prayerful consideration, I recommend the following member to serve on the Board of Trustees. I believe this candidate possesses the spiritual maturity and leadership qualities to serve as a Trustee. My specific reasons for proposing this member for the office of Trustee are set forth in this form. These reasons include a demonstrated commitment to Christ and service to this church, along with knowledge and experiences that equip the nominee to serve as a Trustee.

Person recommended information:

Print name: _____

Phone number: _____

Home address: _____

E-mail address: _____

Qualifications for Trustees

- The character traits and spiritual gifts that evidence a person's call to serve in the office of Trustee are described in three New Testament passages: 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9; and 1 Peter 5:1-4.
- Just as Christ did not come to be served, but to serve (Matthew 20:28), Trustees are called to be servant leaders as they oversee and shepherd important administrative activities on behalf of the entire congregation.
- Trustees shall be persons of strong faith, dedicated discipleship and good judgment, and above all shall have a love for the Lord, Jesus Christ.
- Trustees shall reflect and model the mission statement of First Presbyterian, Houston: Compelled by the love of Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we carry the Gospel to Houston and to the world.
- Trustees shall affirm the Statement of Faith of First Presbyterian, Houston as the shared theology of the Board of Trustees.
- Those nominated should attend worship regularly, participate in church programs and support the church financially.
- Nominees should have experience with or a working knowledge related to real property and permanent funds, e.g. finance/budgeting, property management, facility operations and maintenance.

Responsibilities of Trustees

Manage real property belonging to First Presbyterian Church of Houston. This would include:

- Preparing annual budgets for capital improvements, additions and maintenance of the land, buildings and facilities of FPC
- Managing the land lease and facilities lease with Presbyterian School
- Managing the facilities sharing arrangements with MFAH
- Executing FPC's property acquisition strategy, subject to Session oversight and, where required, congregational approval

Manage permanent funds related to real property of First Presbyterian Church of Houston. This would include:

- Managing the disposition and investment of identified permanent funds dedicated in whole or in part to the acquisition, maintenance and improvement of the real property, buildings and facilities of FPC, subject to Session oversight.

Eligibility Requirements for Trustees

- Members of the Officer Nominating Committee, FPC staff members, elders serving on Session, and persons nominated for the incoming Session class or their spouses are not eligible to serve as Trustees.
- Those nominated for Trustee must be members of First Presbyterian Church of Houston with membership duration of at least three years at the time of election.

Statement of Faith *(To be affirmed by all nominees)*

God. God has revealed himself to be the creator and sustainer of the universe and the living and true God, perfect in love and righteousness in all his ways, one in essence, existing eternally in the three persons of the Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Jesus Christ. God, who discloses himself to humankind through his creation, has spoken in the words and events of history — seeking to redeem creation and to establish the kingdom of God. This “redemptive history” is fulfilled in Jesus Christ, God’s eternal son, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, the incarnate Word, fully human and fully divine, who is made known to us by the Holy Spirit through Scripture.

The Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit — as the third member of the Trinity — inspired the writing of the Bible and enables the believer to read and hear the Bible as God’s Word. The Spirit also bears witness to Jesus Christ as he is attested in Scripture and works to both transform and restore all creation. The Spirit, through the proclamation of the gospel, renews our hearts, persuading us to repent of our sins and confess Jesus as Lord. By the same Spirit we are led to trust in God’s mercy, receive forgiveness for all our sins, are justified by our faith and granted the free gift of eternal life in God’s present and eternal kingdom.

The Authority and Interpretation of Scripture. Scripture is an essential and trustworthy record of God’s self-revelation. All the books of the Old and New Testaments, given by divine inspiration, are the written word of God.

- The Bible, as God’s word, is infallible in all that it teaches concerning the redemptive history of God’s people and in matters of theology, faith, ethics and the practice of day to day living as a disciple of Jesus Christ.
- All Scripture is to be interpreted in light of Christ’s centrality in God’s plan for the salvation and redemption of all creation.
- Priority should be given to gaining the most “plain” (simplest or most direct) interpretation of a text within its narrative, grammatical, cultural and historical contexts.
- All Scripture is to be interpreted by other Scripture; searching the whole of Scripture when studying a particular issue or text and evaluating all texts within the larger context of the centrality of Jesus Christ.

- Scripture has precedence over all other authorities, including church tradition, human reason and experience, and culture. At the same time, the interpretation of Scripture is to be done in humility, with a deep understanding of the potential fallibility of human interpretation.

Sin. God, by his word and for his glory, freely created the world out of nothing. God made man and woman in his own image, as the crown of creation, that we might live in fellowship with him. Tempted by Satan, all have rebelled against God, consistently refusing to honor God or to give him our gratitude. In doing so, we became separated from God, inwardly broken, falling short of God's intended best for us and worshiping all manner of idols. Apart from grace, we are incapable of restoring our relationship with God.

Salvation. The only and exclusive mediator of God's grace — and the exclusive means by which we are saved — is Jesus Christ our Lord. By his voluntary death on our behalf, he revealed God's divine love while also upholding God's justice. In so doing, he removed our guilt, reconciled us to God and instituted God's Kingdom on Earth now, although not yet in its fullness. Having redeemed us from our sin, he rose bodily from the grave, victorious over death and evil, and ascended into heaven where, at God's right hand, he intercedes for his people and rules as Lord over all creation.

Sanctification. God graciously adopts us into his family and enables us to call him Father. As we are led by the Spirit, we grow in the knowledge of the Lord, freely keeping his commandments and endeavoring so to live in the world that all may see our good works and glorify our Father who is in heaven.

God's Redemptive Purpose. God's purpose in history will be consummated by the return of Christ to raise the dead, to judge all people according to their acts of faith, and to establish his glorious kingdom. Those who have declined God's saving grace — will be separated from God's presence, but those made righteous by God's grace through Christ shall live and reign with him forever.

Mission Statement

Compelled by the love of Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we carry the gospel to Houston and to the world.

Missional Strategy

Gather in Worship
Grow in Community
Go on Mission

Officer Nominating Committee

Mary Alford
Martha Barnes
Peter Bruell
Matt Corbett
Mikki Edwards
Mark Grady
Michael Harada
Cindy Marion
Townes Pressler
Brian Robertson
Sarah Beth Seifert



First Presbyterian Church of Houston

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