



Dear Central Family,

My name is Lawson Primm, and I am honored to serve as this year's Chairman of the ONCC, the Officer Nominating Committee of the Congregation. The purpose of this email is to encourage you to prayerfully consider who you might nominate for the office of elder and deacon at Central this year. To aid your consideration, you might find the following information regarding elders and deacons to be helpful:

The role of an officer at Central Presbyterian Church is a high calling directed by scripture.

1 Timothy 3:1-4 (1-13) – “Here is a trustworthy saying. Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task. Now the overseer is to be above reproach, faithful to his wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full respect”.

As Pastor Clay said recently, “At Central when we look for Elders, we look for men who are caring for others in some way already. The church recognizes the shepherding gifts they already have and elects them.” Our vision is that Central be a place to connect and grow. A significant part of the elder role is to shepherd the flock...to connect and engage with members, provide spiritual guidance, and develop relationships with them, along with being a loving resource for prayer, information, and concern. In addition, elders on Session attend regular meetings (5 stated meetings per year) and have oversight responsibility for the well-being of the church. They serve the church in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Deacons are servant leaders, primarily focused on compassion, concern for needs, and serving others. They are men of high Christian character providing valuable services to many in the congregation. These include every aspect of “The Sunday Experience” including parking, greeting, ushering, transportation, and assisting in the kitchen and elsewhere in our facilities. In addition, they oversee and provide support to the vital mercy and compassion ministries of the church including the Ministry to Widows and Widowers, CareerCare, DivorceCare, GriefShare, Mental Wellness Ministry, Access Ministry (Disability Ministry), and the Benevolence Fund, among others.

To summarize:

We look for servant leaders with traits of character, competence and compatibility as described in 1 Timothy 3:1-13. We also look for shepherd leaders to connect and develop relationships with their flock and who accept responsibility for the well-being of the church body.

And so we seek your active and prayerful participation in the process. I ask each of you to



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prayerfully consider men that you believe are qualified for the role of officer (Elders and Deacons) and men and women who can serve as ONCC Members at large. As soon as possible, please submit the names online at centralpres.com/nominations, or to the ONCC by emailing Tina Duke (tduke@centralpres.com). Our deadline is the end of August, and once candidates are interviewed and approved by the ONCC, officer training begins.

The Congregation will vote on prospective officers who have completed officer training and are ready to stand for election along with ONCC members in mid-December.

I am appreciative for your partnership and participation in selecting our future leaders. Please reach out to me (primmeugene@gmail.com or 314-308-4742) if you have any questions.

Thank you!

In Christ,
E. Lawson Primm
Ruling Elder
Chairman of the ONCC