



OFFICER TRAINING DEACONS & ELDERS

FALL 2016

SESSION 3) OCTOBER 9, 2016

8:00 A.M IN THE LEWIS ROOM

How We Organize Ourselves, Give Leadership & Make Decisions:
Presbyterian Principles of Church Polity

Leader: Rev. Daniel Ervin

Homework to do before October 9th

1. Watch: Theoacademy: Elders & Deacons
Lesson Eight: Principles of Order and Government
Lesson Nine: The Councils of the Church

<http://www.theoacademy.com/lessons-for-ruling-elders-and-deacons>

2. Read The Book of Order:

- a. THE FOUNDATIONS OF PRESBYTERIAN POLITY
 - i. Chapter One: The Mission of the Church, F-1.01—F-1.04
 - ii. Chapter Two: The Church and Its Confessions, F-2.01-2.05
 - iii. Chapter Three: Principles of Order and Government, F-3.01—3.04
- b. Scan the rest of the Book of Order, and the Table of Contents & the Index
- c. If the Presbyterian Church has a “Mission Statement” it might be “The Great Ends of the Church.” F-1.0304. They are:
 - i. the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind;
 - ii. the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God;
 - iii. the maintenance of divine worship;
 - iv. the preservation of the truth;
 - v. the promotion of social righteousness; and
 - vi. the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world. F-1.0304

3. News for New Officers

1. Your officer photos will be taken on Sunday, October 9 & 16, in the Social Hall during our class sessions. These photos appear in the Welcome Center & in various media so please dress appropriately. Meet in the Lewis Room and our photographers will call you from class to the photo session.
2. You can find links, resources and schedule information here:
<http://firstpresbyterian.org/about/staff-leadership/new-officers-training>
3. You will need a copy of two documents, the Book of Confessions and the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Please check our First Pres website, Officer Training Page for the links to these documents. Or you may order a paper copy at your expense, \$20.00 for the set. Please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church.
4. Please complete an Officer Information Form to make certain we have your most up-to-date contact information. Go to
<https://firstpresbyterian.wufoo.com/forms/officer-training-2016-information-sheet/>
5. Please register NOW for the Church Officer Retreat, Friday and Saturday, November 11 & 12, 2016 at Maumee Bay, Ohio. **Registration and payment are due Sunday, October 9, 2016.**
<https://firstpresbyterian.wufoo.com/forms/officers-retreat-2016/>
6. Coffee and tea will be provided! New Officers will have the chance to sign up to bring breakfast snacks for one Sunday morning for this Officer Training.