

Governing Elder Nomination Form

(1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:3-9)

A Biblical Overview of an Elder: Elder, Overseer, Bishop, Pastor – All these words are used interchangeably throughout scripture. The best description is “Overseer” or “Shepherd”. The mere fact that someone has these qualities does not automatically make him a candidate for the Office of Elder.

1 Timothy states that if a man desires or has a heart for this position it is a good thing. Such a man - with this desire and these qualifications - is already giving of himself to serve the body of Christ, before he is ever called an Elder! Another indication of his readiness is that he already has an influence in peoples’ lives as a leader or shepherd. Notice, the scripture talks of having a desire - indicating he does not strive for this position. Elders are then appointed based on these observations. (*Acts 20:17-31, 1 Peter 5:1-5, Titus 1:5, Acts 14:21-23, Numbers 11:16-17*).

Elders must lead in his own house first (1 Timothy 3:4). He must shepherd and serve as an overseer of the flock, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock (1 Peter 5:2-4). An Elder will establish and keep order in the church (Titus 1:5). He must be able to teach and preach sound Biblical doctrine or truth from God’s Word (Titus 1:9). He must sustain a spiritually healthy church (Titus 2:1-15). Elders are to rule and rule well (Hebrews 13:7, Hebrews 13:17, 1 Timothy 5:17), give Godly counsel (Numbers 11:16-17), instruct (1 Timothy 4:6), and to structure and provide decisions for the church (Acts 15). Scripture indicates he must be blameless, above reproach, a one woman man, and able to manage his household well. He must be temperate, sober-minded, hospitable, gentle, not a drunkard, not violent or quarrelsome, not greedy, not covetous and not a new convert. He must be qualified in the Word of God, able to teach the Word and give good Biblical counsel (1 Timothy 3: 1-7, Titus 1:3-9).

Practical Functions of the Governing Elder: Overseer of church members and staff, shepherd, financial oversight, serve communion, teach and give Godly counsel, set direction for the body, keep order, settle disputes, carries out church discipline, exhort, edify, encourage, lead, protect, direct and represent the body according to the Word.

Nominations for Elder: Only those who have been members of East Hills Community Church for at least one year can be nominated for this office and all nominees must be male in order to be considered. Please prayerfully consider the men at East Hills and nominate according to the above information as God leads you. Please remember... no one is perfect. ***All nominations are due into the office on/by September 19th, 2021!***