

# Life Church Elder Selection Process

## Nomination process

1. **Nomination:** Any regular attender of the Life Church congregation can submit a Nomination Form online at: [lifechurchnc.com/eldernomination](http://lifechurchnc.com/eldernomination). They should give prayerful consideration to the individual's character and Biblical qualifications before nominating that person. It is not necessary to receive the permission of or consult with the candidate before nominating that person.
2. **Screening:** All nominees will be initially screened to ensure they meet requirements for nomination. If the nominee appears to consistently meet qualifications, they will be contacted by a member of Elder Selection Team\* informing them of their nomination and of the subsequent process they can expect. If they choose to accept the nomination and proceed, they will be asked to do the following:
  1. Complete and return the **Application/Questionnaire** (to be provided) to the Elder Selection Team.\*
  2. Give permission for the Elder Selection Team\* to perform a **background check**. (If one is not already on file)
  3. Provide **3 references** that attest to the person's spiritual maturity, leadership, and character.  
  
*\*The Elder Selection Team will be appointed by the Elders, and will consist of both Elders and members, and will be diverse in gender, age & ethnicity*
3. **Interview Process:** Once all information is received and reviewed, the Elder Selection Team\* will determine whether to continue consideration of the nominee. If so, a personal interview will be conducted with the Elder Selection Team\* to further examine each candidate.
4. **Affirmation Process:** Candidates chosen by the Elder Selection Team will then be presented back to the church for consideration, at which time the congregation will be given 7 days to communicate any reasonable concerns to the Elder Selection Team concerning Elder candidates. All concerns will be investigated and must be fully resolved before continuing with consideration of the candidate.  
  
If, after 7 days, there are no objections raised or further concerns that would disqualify the candidate from serving as an Elder, the Elder Selection Team will extend an invitation to the candidate to accept the role of Elder. Following the candidate's acceptance, the new Elder will be presented before the church as final affirmation and for ordination.
5. **Training and Equipping:** Elders will be trained and equipped to meet responsibilities.

## Elder Qualifications

All elder nominees should be men who reflect and meet the biblical qualifications for elders outlined in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9. Before nominating someone or accepting a nomination to be considered as an elder, please prayerfully consider the following qualifications from 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1:

- Above reproach (blameless)
- Husband of one wife
- Lives wisely (sober-minded)
- Self-controlled, self-restrained, disciplined (temperate)
- Good reputation, well-respected BOTH within and outside the church
- Hospitable, enjoys having people in the home
- Able to teach
- Not given to drunkenness
- Not violent or quick-tempered, but gentle
- Not quarrelsome or divisive, but peaceable
- Not a lover of money or dishonest gain
- Manages family well, children are respectful > ability to care for the church
- Not a new believer
- Sincere, full of integrity
- Loves what is good, upright and holy

The following qualifications for deacons (1 Timothy 3:8-13) would also apply to elders:

- A clear conscience
- Tested
- A wife worthy of respect, not a slanderer, self-controlled and faithful

In addition, candidates for elders should also meet the following requirements:

- A member of Life Church who has been a regular attender for at least 1-year, fully embracing the vision/mission of the church
- Ability to work in unity with others
- NO immediate relation to a current staff member or elder
- Availability to devote necessary time to serve as an elder
- Faithful in attendance, consistently serves, gives financially regularly and is involved in gospel-centered community
- A consistent devotional and prayer life and knows the Scriptures

## Responsibilities of Elders

*To lead, shepherd and protect the flock of God at Life Church*

1. **Lead under the authority of Christ:** Faithfully oversee and support the spiritual life, effectiveness and fulfillment of the mission and values at Life Church alongside other elders. Wisely steward the resources of the Life Church community. (financial, legal, people)
2. **Shepherd the body of Christ:** (Acts 20:28-32; 1 Peter 5:1-4) Faithfully provide spiritual oversight that supports the care and nurturing of believers (as well as non-believers) toward spiritual growth and health.
3. **Teach God's Word:** Faithfully and prayerfully study, discern and communicate God's Will for the church, especially as it relates to key decisions, initiatives, beliefs, values and the mission and vision of Life Church.
4. **Model the Character of Christ:** Faithfully set an example that others can imitate as they grow to become faithfully committed followers of Jesus.

### Additional Responsibilities:

- Approve the budget and any fiscal activities beyond the budget
- Evaluate the Lead Pastor annually
- Plan annual church-wide goals and objectives
- Oversee church policies as initiated by the staff
- Handle church discipline as referred by the pastors, according to Matthew 18
- Affirm new ministries and positions as recommended by the pastoral staff
- Monitor adherence to the Church Constitution and By-Laws and make amendments as necessary

### Additional Details

**Number of Elders\*:** The Elder Team will consist of approximately SEVEN members, in addition to the Lead Pastor (who serves as a non-voting, ex-officio member).

**Terms of Elders\*:** Elders will serve a two year (min.) to four year (max.) term.

## Life Church Elder Nomination

To nominate a candidate, please complete the information below or online at [lifechurchnc.com/eldernomination](http://lifechurchnc.com/eldernomination). We ask you to prayerfully consider the *Elder Qualifications* before nominating. If you would like to nominate more than one candidate, please fill out a separate form for each person. **The deadline for receiving all nominations is September 16, 2018.**

**Your name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of the person you are nominating:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**How do you know this person?**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Why are you recommending this person for elder?** What characteristics do you believe would make this person an effective servant-leader?

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please fold this form in half and return in one of the following ways:**

- Information Center outside the Auditorium
- Church Office mailbox (during the week)
- An Elder, Staff member, or member of the Elder Selection Team