

# **INTRODUCTION TO THE ELDER SELECTION PROCESS**

Our elder selection process is a worthwhile endeavor in many ways. In addition to being the mechanism by which we select additional servant-leaders for the congregation, it offers several other benefits:

- ♣ It involves the entire congregation.
- ♣ It prompts deep introspection by elder nominees, presently serving elders, and their spouses.
- ♣ It encourages thought about future congregational directions.
- ♣ It promotes the healthy resolution of differences between individuals, and
- ♣ It provides visible support for our leadership.

While often the technical aspects of the selection process are emphasized, the potency of this endeavor really comes from above. It is God's active presence in our lives through each member's prayers, learning from Scripture, and willingness to follow Jesus' leadership that makes this an up-building effort.

## **THE ELDERS SELECTION PROCESS COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

Please call upon any of these regarding any phase of the selection process:

Keith Feather – 501-323-4657  
Chris Kauffman – 501-726-3790  
Elvis Vaughn – 742-3419

## **OVERVIEW OF THE PROCESS**

There are four general phases in the selection process:

Nomination, Introspection, Objection/Resolution, and Confirmation

### **NOMINATION PHASE**

**February 14-21 (Sunday through Sunday)**

The purpose of the NOMINATION PHASE is to encourage the congregation to personally seek out leaders at Cloverdale. Therefore, on Sunday morning, February 14, elder nomination forms will be distributed to our members. Forms are also available for download on our website, [www.cloverdalefamily.org](http://www.cloverdalefamily.org).

You may nominate as many qualified individuals as you wish to serve as an elder. The deadline for returning these forms will be at 12:00 noon on Sunday, February 21. You may give your elder nomination forms to any member of the Coordinating Committee at any time during this phase, or leave them in a designated box in the foyer. Nominations also can be made by e-mail to: [Cloverdale@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Cloverdale@sbcglobal.net). It will not be necessary at this time to re-nominate men currently serving as elders.

A minimum number of nominations for elder must be received for someone to be considered further in the process. Thus, it is very important that you nominate every person you wish to be considered — even if you know that others will be nominating a particular individual. Also, please do not assume that even if someone has previously declined a nomination, he would do so again.

As an aid in identifying potential nominees, updated directories are available. As a help to those who may not know the names of our current elders, they are: David Burt, Shawn Daggett, Larry Ford, Ken Graves, Harry Lisle and Ed Mosby.

### **INTROSPECTION PHASE**

**February 24 through March 14**

**(Prospective elders must return introspective questionnaire by Sunday, March 14 at 12:00 noon)**

During this time all qualified individuals are notified of their nomination, are given an introspective questionnaire, and asked whether they will accept the nomination.

### **OBJECTION / RESOLUTION PHASE**

**March 28 – April 4 (Sunday through Sunday – Objection)**

**April 4 - 11 (Sunday through Sunday – Resolution)**

On Sunday, March 28, the Coordinating Committee will provide the congregation with a list of men who have accepted nomination. This is a time of tremendous vulnerability on the part of everyone, but also a time of great potential benefit. Those who have any scriptural objection to a nominee serving as an elder will be asked to prayerfully submit a completed and signed objection form by 12:00 noon on Sunday, April 4.

***The committee will not process unsigned objections.*** Objections should be scriptural (rather than personal) and as objective as possible. Some examples of valid scriptural objections could be:

- ♣ Unscriptural marriage or marital unfaithfulness
- ♣ Displays physical or verbal abuse or violence
- ♣ Spiritual status and circumstances of children
- ♣ Refuses to teach or teaches false doctrine
- ♣ Exhibits difficulty in self-control
- ♣ Not respected by outsiders
- ♣ Not willing to help others
- ♣ A greedy man, a cheat
- ♣ Not a good leader of his family
- ♣ A recent convert
- ♣ An arrogant man
- ♣ Uncertain about the Word or his faith

All objections will be held in strict confidence.

In the spirit of Christ's teaching in Matthew 18:15-17, the elders encourage an objector to speak with the person against whom he/she is objecting. An elder will be willing to accompany the objector if requested.

If the elders believe that an objection is not a scriptural one, but rather one of a personal nature, they will notify the objector of their judgment regarding his/her objection and inform them that they can still vote "No" for that elder nominee on the final evaluation form.

All objections should be delivered to one of the Coordinating Committee members or an elder. The deadline for receiving objections will be 12:00 noon on Sunday, April 4.

### **CONFIRMATION PHASE**

#### **April 11 through April 14 (Sunday through Wednesday)**

On Sunday, April 11, the form for final evaluation of all elder nominees and reconfirmation of present elders will be given to the congregation. In order to ensure participation by all members, final evaluation forms will be accepted by the Coordinating Committee from Sunday, April 11, until 7:15 p.m. Wednesday, April 14. Final evaluation forms may be given to any member of the Coordinating Committee or left in the designated box.

Any member who will be out of town during this time may secure final evaluation forms ahead of time by contacting one of the Coordinating Committee members or the church office.

Your confirmation response **must** be signed. **It is important that every member of the congregation participate in this portion of the process.**

If any of you have concerns about the process, please notify a Coordinating Committee member.

The Cloverdale church family is earnestly called to a season of prayer to seek God's guidance and blessing on the congregation, the present elders, the Coordinating Committee, and this process.

### **ELDER DEDICATION SERVICE**

#### **April 18 (Sunday)**

# Nomination Form for Elder 2010

## Cloverdale Church of Christ

3000 East Park Ave. - Searcy, AR 72143

[www.cloverdalefamily.org](http://www.cloverdalefamily.org)

“Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to much wine, 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 with proper respect . . . He must not be a recent convert. . . He must also have a good reputation with outsiders. . . In the same way, their wives are to be women worthy of respect, not malicious talkers, but temperate and trustworthy in everything.”

*(I Timothy 3:2-7 & 11 - NIV).*

“An elder must be blameless, the husband of but one wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. Since an overseer is entrusted with God’s work, he must be blameless—not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to too much wine, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. Rather, he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.” *(Titus 1:6-9 – NIV)*

*Additional Scriptures: Acts 20:28 (NIV); Hebrews 13:7 (NIV); I Peter 5:1-3 (NIV); I Timothy 5:17 (NIV); I Thessalonians 5:12-13 (NIV); Ezekiel 34:11-16 (NIV).*

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**After prayerful consideration, I believe that the following men possess the qualifications set forth above, and are therefore worthy of consideration as an elder of the Cloverdale Church of Christ.**

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**(Please Print) – (Use back of form, if necessary)**

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Printed Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**♣ Unsigned forms will not be considered.**

Each member should fill out a separate form. Please do not combine husband and wife on one form.

***Please note: the deadline for receipt of completed Nomination Forms is 12:00 noon on Sunday, February 21.***

**Cloverdale Church of Christ  
Schedule of Elder Selection Process  
2010**

- February 14  
Sunday**      **Congregational Preparation – a.m. service – announcement of selection process after lesson; presentation of process and hand out nomination forms.**
- February 21  
Sunday**      **Deadline for receiving nominations – 12:00 noon.  
Coordinating Committee meets and tallies nominations, then meets with elders to give their report.**
- February 24  
Wednesday**      **Nominees are given introspection questionnaire forms and meet with the elders.**
- March 14  
Sunday**      **Deadline for nominees to return questionnaires**
- March 21  
Sunday**      **Elder nominees meet with elders. (or one night during the week)**
- March 28  
Sunday**      **Elder nominees announced – objection forms are available – members given time to submit signed objections – deadline for receiving objections, 12:00 noon Sunday, April 4.**
- April 4  
Sunday**      **Elders will meet and decide the action needed to resolve the objections, if any.**
- April 11  
Sunday**      **Elder Final Evaluation Forms handed out to congregation to evaluate all nominees and present elders. All forms to be returned by 7:15 p.m., Wednesday, April 14.**
- April 18  
Sunday**      **Elder Dedication Service**