

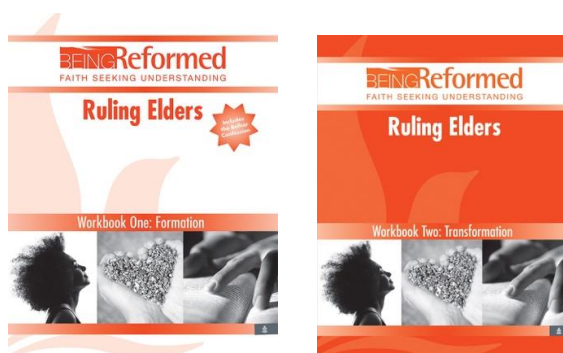
## REPORT OF THE PASTORAL PRESBYTER

# Elder Training

According to *The Book of Order (G-3.0201)*, sessions have the responsibility and power to arrange “**training**, examining, ordaining, and installing those elected by the congregation as ruling elders and deacons.” There are almost as many ways to accomplish this as there are sessions! Some sessions begin their year with a training retreat. Some devote a portion of each meeting to training. We’re to be lifelong learners. Serving on session or not, we’re called to study and learn. Here are several possibilities:

### From the national church

At [pcusastore.com](http://pcusastore.com) are two workbooks with leader helps.



If you’re looking for something more ethereal, consider a study of the Confessions, or *The Great Ends of the Church*, also available from [pcusastore.com](http://pcusastore.com).

A variety of free training materials are located at [www.pcusa.org/rulingelders](http://www.pcusa.org/rulingelders). Current and archived issues of the series *Regarding Ruling Elders: A Monthly Series for Spiritual Leaders*, are available at <http://equip.pcusa.org>.

The study **Coming Alive in Christ**, delivered through <http://equip.pcusa.org>, is based on the theological principles of the constitutional questions asked and answered in ordination; questions for discussion and reflection are included. Leader Guides are provided; one using a monthly format of one question per lesson and the other using a three-lesson format.

### From the Presbytery

Especially when the pandemic has abated more, I am available to provide elder training to your session. We can design a custom experience to fit the needs of your session.

Thanks for your service in our presbytery!  
Malinda Spencer, Pastoral Presbyter