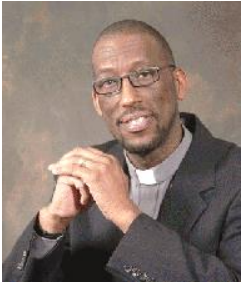


For all Pastors, Ruling Elders, Deacons, CRE/CLPs and other PCUSA Members
2021 – 2022 Classes *Held the 2nd weekend of each month*

PSUSA Church Polity – Reformed and Always Reforming



Reverend Kamal Hassan, MDiv, San Francisco Theological Seminary

Kamal has 31 year of ministry experience in the African Methodist Episcopal Church and the Presbyterian Church USA. He is the pastor of Sojourner Truth PC. Kamal is a community organizer and Christian educator whose message is rooted in African-American prophetic tradition.

When: **Thursday and Friday, June 10 and 11 – 7:00 to 9:00 pm**
 Saturday, June 12 – 9:00 to 11:30 am; 1:00 to 3:30 pm

Where: **Zoom Class – Register on the links below:**

Thursday https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYlfumoqiltG9I5el_CcCwV8BfszLDqPIUI

Friday https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcpcOqvqDljHdVn8322C_7QP8okqcz4f7PC

Saturday <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAucOyurT8tHtR6VJ8A5NMmniJ5xWcwGGsV>

Cost: **\$100 for credit** for Commissioned Ruling Elder Candidates
 \$40 to audit and open to all

Class Description: This is a course on the basics of Presbyterian governance and the guiding principles that inform how congregations in the PCUSA do mission and ministry. It will address contemporary concerns in Church and society. You will also learn how Presbyterian governance is similar to and different from how other Christian denominations are governed.

Pre-class Readings:

“Presbyterian Polity and white privilege: A denomination out of order,” Magdalena I Garcia, February 7, 2017 by The Presbyterian Outlook

<https://pres-outlook.org/2017/02/presbyterian-polity-white-privilege-denomination-order/>

Gray, Joan, *Spiritual Leadership for Church Officers, A Handbook*, Louisville: Geneva Press 2009

Book of Confessions, The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church Part I, Office of the General

Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, Louisville, KY, 2016

Book of Order 2017-2019, The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church Part II, Office of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, Louisville, KY, 2015

Questions: Contact Phil Arzino, CRE/CLP Coordinator, pkarzino@comcast.net, 510-828-5596

PSUSA Church Polity – Why we choose to be Presbyterian

Further information for CRE/CLP Students

Required Readings:

“Presbyterian Polity and white privilege: A denomination out of order,” Magdalena I Garcia, February 7, 2017
by The Presbyterian Outlook

<https://pres-outlook.org/2017/02/presbyterian-polity-white-privilege-denomination-order/>

Gray, Joan, *Spiritual Leadership for Church Officers, A Handbook*, Louisville: Geneva Press 2009

Book of Confessions, The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church Part I, Office of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, Louisville, KY, 2016

Book of Order 2017-2019, The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church Part II, Office of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, Louisville, KY, 2015

Recommended Reading:

Small, Joseph, *The Great Ends of the Church, Short Term Study Course for Adults*, Louisville, KY, Witherspoon Press 2003. www.pcusa.org/witherspoonpress

Gray, Joan S. and Tucker, Joyce C., *Presbyterian Polity for Church Leaders*, 4th ed. Louisville KY, Geneva Press, 2012

Pre-course Assignment:

Read the Garcia article and the Confessions of 1967 and Belhar in the Book of Confessions before class. As you read these texts, record what are—for you—10 key insights that illumine, deepen, or challenge your knowledge and understanding of how the congregation that you are a member of can best embody the PCUSA core identity of being “Reformed but always Reforming” in the post insurrection environment in Church and society in the United States. In addition, list 5 questions that remain for you to use—for further study or to be answered in class. This assignment will be discussed on Thursday or Friday evening and shape the instruction for the Saturday class and the nature for your final assignment.

Course Requirements

1. Attendance at all classes
2. Completion of all required readings
3. A final assignment TBA.