



## ***Announcing the 2023 -2024 Commissioned Ruling Elder Course Offering***

We're excited to offer this foundational curriculum for the preparation of our next class of Commissioned Ruling Elders (CREs) for Particular Pastoral Service, AKA Commissioned Pastors (CPs). The individual classes are open to auditing and recommended for any and all church leaders for personal growth and development. The formal program for commissioning is open to ordained elders in the PCUSA. Candidates for commissioning must come under the care of a minister of word and sacrament, complete a minimum of 12 of the course offerings (three from each area of study), as well as any experiential learning requirements deemed necessary for the particular pastoral service that is being pursued.

### ***What are the course offerings? \*Required for all CRE candidates. Dates subject to change***

#### **Introduction for New Students** *Individually*

##### **Theology**

*Reformed Theology	<i>May 11-13, 2023</i>
Soteriology	<i>Jun 08-10, 2023</i>
Theological Diversity	<i>Sep 07-09, 2023</i>
Missional Ecclesiology	<i>Jul 11-13, 2024</i>

##### **Practical Ministry**

Community-Based Mission	<i>Apr 13-15, 2023</i>
*Leading a Multi-Cultural Church	<i>Feb 16-17, 2024</i>
Organizational Leadership	<i>Mar 07-09, 2024</i>
Liturgy Development	<i>Jun 13-15, 2024</i>

#### **Pastoral Care and Ministry**

*PCUSA Church Polity	<i>Mar 16-18, 2023</i>
Pastoral Counseling	<i>Jul 14-15, 2023</i>
Pastoral Self-Care	<i>Aug 10-12, 2023</i>
Peacemaking	<i>Dec 07-09, 2023</i>
Homiletics	<i>Jan 11-13, 2024</i>

#### **Biblical Studies and Comparative Religion**

Comparative Religions	<i>Apr 11-13, 2024</i>
Overview of the Bible	<i>Oct 12-14, 2023</i>
Biblical Exegesis	<i>Nov 16-18, 2023</i>
*Hermeneutics	<i>May 09-11, 2024</i>

## ***Commissioned Ruling Elder Applicants***

Contact CRE/CP Phil Arzino ([pkarzino@comcast.net](mailto:pkarzino@comcast.net)) or Reverend Dr. Karl Shadley ([revshad@gmail.com](mailto:revshad@gmail.com)).

## ***For more information***

[Commissioned Ruling Elder/ Commissioned Pastor \(CRE/CLP\) Program – Presbytery of San Francisco \(presbyteryofsf.org\)](https://presbyteryofsf.org)

*...to equip God's people for works of service  
so that the body of Christ may be built up.*

*Ephesians 4:12*



PRESBYTERY of  
**SAN FRANCISCO**

*Education Working Group*

## ***Questions and Answers for the 2023 -2024 CRE/CP Program***

**Who is eligible to attend the classes?** Any church leader interested in furthering his or her understanding of the Christian faith may attend any and all classes by pre-registration as long as space allows. Only ordained elders in the Presbyterian Church may apply for consideration as Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) for Particular Pastoral Service, AKA Commissioned Pastor (CP).

**What is the cost of each class and what are the requirements?** For individuals auditing the course, the cost is \$40/class and there are no class requirements, though there will be highly recommended readings before each class. For CREs, the cost is \$100/class and there will be pre- and post-reading and writing assignments. CREs are required to attend and complete all assignments for at least 12 of the 16 classes offered. Pre-registration is required for all classes.

**What is the level of commitment for CRE/CP Candidates?** Approximately 15-30 hours/month for 12-16 months. This includes 5-10 hours of class preparation (usually readings), 10 hours of instruction, and 5-10 hours of post-class written and/or practicum assignment. CRE candidates come under the care of their local Session, must be supervised by a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbytery in which they will serve, and may be required to participate in directed experiential learning that further prepares the candidate for a specific ministry area.

**When and where are classes offered?** Classes are offered monthly, usually on the second weekend but with some exceptions. Most classes will be offered by Zoom from 7PM-9PM on Thursday and Friday evenings and in-person (available on-line for long distance participants) 9:00AM-4:30PM on Saturdays unless otherwise stated. In-person classes will be held at the Presbytery of San Francisco Education Center at 545 Ashbury Ave, El Cerrito and at other locations in the San Francisco Bay Area as determined by the needs of the class members and instructors.

**Where do I get more information?** Registration, updated class schedule, application forms, instructor bios, and more can be found at [Commissioned Ruling Elders \(CRE/CP\) Program – Presbytery of San Francisco \(presbyteryofsfs.org\)](https://www.presbyteryofsfs.org). Contact Phil or Karl for more information.

CRE/CP Phil Arzino ([pkarzino@comcast.net](mailto:pkarzino@comcast.net)) or Rev. Dr. Karl Shadley ([revshad@gmail.com](mailto:revshad@gmail.com)).