

Hillcrest Church of Christ
Elder Nominee Information Form

General Information

Personal:

Name: Robert Kern
Address: 3134 Osage Road
Abilene, Texas
79601
Email: rkacmesign@gmail.com
Occupation: Retired
Employer: _____
Age: 63 Christian Since: 1978



Family:

Wife: Melody Christian Since: 1977
Child: Justin Age: 38
Child: Travis Age: 32
Child: Bradley Age: 28
Child: _____ Age: _____
Child: _____ Age: _____

Church:

How long have you been a member at Hillcrest Church of Christ? 32 years

In what capacities or leadership roles have you served at this or other congregations? Where and when?

Deacon at Hillcrest (Deacon at Southern Hills prior to Hillcrest)

Biography:

Give us a brief biography.

I am one of 4 children raised north of San Antonio by my parents, Robert and Ethel Kern. I have attended the Church of Christ since I was born. Enjoyed participating in my youth group and was baptized at church camp. I attended ACU and graduated with a degree in Education

in 1984. Married Melody in 1985. We enjoyed raising our 3 sons at Hillcrest and I have always had a passion for children's ministry and youth ministry.

Please give a few examples of spiritual disciplines you practice in an effort to grow in the image of Jesus.

Prayer: Prayer is important to me. When you talk to someone, you form a bond. Talking to God connects me to Him. I try to live by Micah 6:8. Kindness and goodness overcomes so many of life's obstacles. I try to encourage others, especially the youth, by word and example.

Bible Study: God reveals a new message every time we study His word.

Fellowship with Christians: We need a strong community to support one another not only during trials, but also to feed each other in times of joy.

Time Alone: Spending time alone, in solitude, allows me time to talk to God and meditate on his will. It is also a time of reflection on all of the blessings in my life.

Teaching: While I occasionally teach an adult class, Melody and I have taught in the nursery for 25 years and have hosted a high school Huddles group for approximately 16 years. My ministry passion is young people and their families.

The questions on the rest of the Information Form were designed to stimulate the introspection of nominees and to provide information to members of the Hillcrest congregation. Therefore, we ask you to give your thoughtful and prayerful attention to the questions that follow.

Please respond in the spaces below to each question. Feel free to use additional paper, numbering each answer to correspond to the question being considered, if necessary.

Section 1: Introspection Related to Self and Family

1. Are you willing to serve to the best of your ability? What motivates you to serve the Lord as an elder at Hillcrest?

I am willing to serve. I feel called to help those around me, strengthen their faith, and help them in their walk with God. I cannot save them, but I can guide them to the One who can.

2. After a study of 1 Timothy 3:1-16 and Titus 1:5-9, do you and your family concur that you qualify scripturally to serve as an elder? Yes No

3. Please describe the special circumstances, if any, that you considered in making your determination to question 2 above.

The elder qualifications are the values that I have been raised with. Every man should use them as a standard for his life. That is what I try to impress on the young men of Hillcrest.

4. After a study of Hebrews 13:17 and 1 Peter 5:1-3, are you and your family willing to give the time it will require you to fulfill the duties of an elder? Yes No

Section 2: Introspection Related to your Vision for Hillcrest

5. Describe the Hillcrest congregation as you see it now.

We are a growing congregation. Hillcrest works to fill the spiritual needs of those in our congregation. I see Hillcrest as a more nurturing church than it was 5-10 years ago. I also see Hillcrest as a church that reaches out to the needs of those in our community to offer not only physical support, but also spiritual healing.

6. Describe the Hillcrest congregation as you would like to see it in five years.

I want to see Hillcrest as a church of involvement. I want to see members that are eager to serve. I want us to continue to attract young families and the energy they bring.

7. What activities would you pursue, or encourage others to pursue, so that the Hillcrest congregation (individually and collectively) can make a greater impact for Jesus Christ in our neighborhood and the city of Abilene?

Our youth are the future of the church. Our support of them is an investment in our future as well. Whether we work with the young people or not, our actions and deeds must provide an example and a foundation for them. Outreach, benevolence, prayer, fellowship, evangelism, etc., are our responsibility. As we help build our community, we must also teach those actions and values to those that come behind us.

Section 3: Introspection Related to the Spiritual and Congregational Health of Hillcrest

8. What do you view as the single most important task of an elder at Hillcrest?

Number one is being a shepherd. Someone to guide, nurture, instruct, and protect the flock. A shepherd must be approachable and available in order to be effective.

9. How would you relate the following scriptures to yourself and to the Hillcrest congregation?

Ephesians 4:11-16

As parts of the body, we each have a role to play. We each have talents to share, and together, we stand strong against evil. I see my gift as being one that can relate to others and listen with an open heart.

Acts 20:25-31

As an elder for Hillcrest, the scriptures must be the guide for leadership. The burden of protecting our church family falls upon the shoulders of the elders.

John 10:2-5

I refer back to question #8. The primary role of an elder is to be a shepherd. You must be involved, active, and available to the flock in order to effectively lead them. "Elder" is not a title, it is a responsibility.

Hebrews 13:17

Someone cannot be forced to obey, but as a leader, an elder must be an example of someone that others wish to emulate. The responsibility of being the one to guide and instruct others is something I will be held accountable for. I do not take this responsibility lightly.

10. What are the greatest challenges facing the Hillcrest congregation in the coming days?

Meeting the needs of such a large and diverse congregation is a challenge and will continue to be a challenge as we grow and serve. We have people from all walks of life, new Christians, lifetime Christians, young, old, different cultures, etc. It is important to connect with and involve everyone on this faith journey.

11. How do you view modern culture's impact on today's Church (for example, in the areas of personal morality, sexual identity and behavior, gender issues, racial bias, politics, etc.) and how should the Church respond?

For me, the only proper response is scripture. Ecclesiastes tell us there is nothing new under the sun. All of the issues we face today are addressed in the Bible

12. I have read the beliefs document (expanded version) posted on the Hillcrest website and the Hillcrest policy manual. Yes No

I can serve as an Elder at Hillcrest in support of these beliefs and policies. Yes No

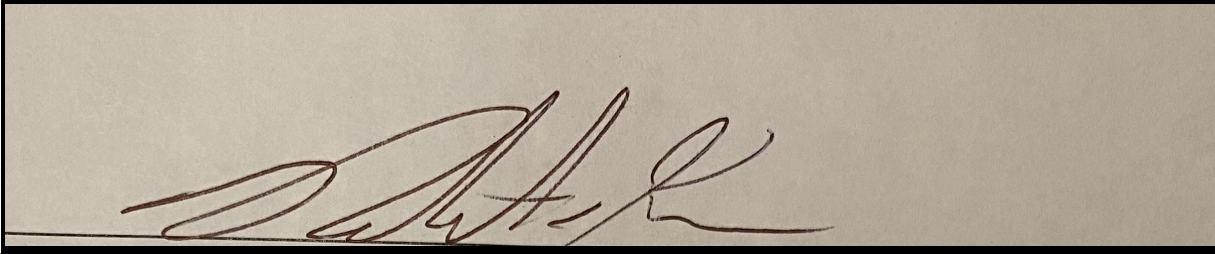
If you have any reservations about serving in support of either document, please describe your reservations:

13. This space is for further comment on any subject. If in reference to a question above, please begin your comments with the number of the question being discussed.

Name (please print)

Robert Kern

Name (signature)



Date. 2/09/25
