

3.400 COMMITTEES OF PRESBYTERY: NOMINATING COMMITTEE

3.402 Commissioners and Alternates to General Assembly and Synod Assembly

- A. Since all commissioners to General Assembly and Synod Assembly meetings represent the Presbytery rather than local churches, they shall be nominated by a process which reflects their active participation in the life and mission of the Presbytery. This is NOT to suggest that participation at the local church level is unimportant.
- B. Selection as commissioners and alternates will require Presbytery's Nominating Committee to assess capability and responsibility as demonstrated through service to this Presbytery, seniority, and service to the local church.
- C. The criteria and selection process shall include the following:
 - 1. Ability—Nominees should:
 - a. Be knowledgeable and competent with respect to specific issues known to be on the meeting agenda.
 - b. Be informed on issues confronting church and society.
 - c. Be able to provide theological insights for present life situations.
 - 2. Service—Evaluation of nominees by Nominating Committee shall be made on the basis of:
 - a. Information form submitted.
 - b. Service
 - i. At General Assembly level;
 - ii. On Synod level;
 - iii. As Moderator of Presbytery;
 - iv. As Presbytery Council member;
 - v. As Presbytery Committee chair;
 - vi. As Presbytery Committee member;
 - vii. As Presbytery participant.
 - c. Service is evaluated since the nominee last attended the governing body for which nominated.
 - d. A person who has served as Synod Commissioner should have preference as a General Assembly nominee.
 - 3. Residency: Normally no person should be permitted to serve as commissioner to either General Assembly or Synod if she/he moves out of the geographical bounds of Presbytery prior to the meeting, or if she/he plans to move out of Presbytery's bounds before October 1st.
 - 4. Selection:
 - a. Local churches will be invited to submit names of elders to serve as commissioners to General Assembly and Synod, as well as names of Youth Advisory Delegate nominees. The Presbytery's Program Strategy Committee shall also submit names of YAD nominees.

- b. Presbytery's Council and committees may also submit names to the Nominating Committee for commissioners and YADs, as well as elders submitting their own names.
- c. Only one person shall be nominated for each commissioner and each alternate position to be elected
- d. First alternates for General Assembly minister and elder commissioners will be given preference in the selection of nominees to the next scheduled meeting of General Assembly.
- e. Preference shall be given to both ministers and elders who have been active in the Presbytery of Northern Waters during the last five years.
- f. Normally only one commissioner and/or YAD will be elected from the same church or parish in the same year.
- g. Care should be taken to see that after twenty years of service in the Presbyterian Church with the last five in The Presbytery of Northern Waters, each minister has the opportunity to represent his/her presbytery as a commissioner to General Assembly.
- h. Limited consideration will be given to elders/clergy from churches that do not support financially the Mission of the General Assembly.

5. Provisos:

- a. Nominees shall be informed of the obligation to participate in an orientation program, and to report to presbytery at the first stated meeting following service as commissioners. They shall also be informed of their obligation to visit churches upon invitation to bring directly to local congregations reports of Synod and General Assembly meetings.
- b. Upon selection of commissioners, the Stated Clerk and Nominating Committee shall consult regarding recommendations of commissioners for service at General Assembly or Synod as moderators, vice-moderators or secretaries of committees.
- c. The Nominating Committee and the Committee on Representation will consult during the process of nomination to ensure that the church's commitment to inclusive representation is honored (BOO G4.0403).
- d. Normally, no church should have an elder as commissioner more often than once in six years. Exception is permitted if the commissioner is to be nominated as Synod or General Assembly moderator or vice-moderator.