

THE PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT

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May 1, 2019

To: Pastors and Clerks of
Session Presbytery of
Detroit

From: Committee on Nominations

Subject: **Your Recommendation of Commissioners and Young Adult Advisory Delegates to 224th (2020) General Assembly in Baltimore, Maryland.**

Please find forms enclosed for Session Endorsement for nomination of Teaching Elder commissioner, Ruling Elder commissioner, and Young Adult Advisory Delegate to General Assembly.

From our Presbytery, three Teaching Elder commissioners, three Ruling Elder commissioners, one Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD) and alternates will be elected in November 2019 to the Assembly to be held in Baltimore, Maryland from June 20-27, 2020. Commissioners to General Assembly should be individuals of faith and commitment to Christ who are willing to study pertinent issues facing the church and society. They need to be willing and able to discern for themselves and vote their conscience on the issues before the Assembly. They are not elected to represent a particular viewpoint, but to be open to hear many ideas and then prayerfully act upon their own best decisions. For elected commissioners and the YAAD, expenses for the General Assembly are paid by Presbytery.

Although Teaching Elder selection criteria are shown in the Guidelines, the Committee on Nominations invites teaching elders to let us know if they are interested in serving as Commissioner. A Teaching Elder application form is enclosed.

For Commissioners and the YAAD our committee needs your recommendation forms along with the Questions form completed and returned to the Presbytery Office postmarked no later than **Sept 1, 2019**. This will allow processing time for the nominees to be elected at the November Presbytery meeting. Nominations may also be submitted by FAX or email to the Presbytery Office.

Although unexpected conditions sometimes occur, please make certain that at the time of applying, all recommended individuals will commit to attend the General Assembly in Baltimore on **June 20 - 27, 2020**.

Sincerely,
Steve Benton, Chair
Committee on Nominations

Enclosures:

- Questions for Applicants (pink)
- Ruling Elder Commissioner Application Form (blue)
- Teaching Elder Commissioner Application Form (green)
- Young Adult Advisory Delegate Application Form (yellow)
- Guidelines (white)

**Committee on Nominations
Presbytery of Detroit
Guidelines for General Assembly Representation (Adopted May 28, 2002)**

Commissioners to each General Assembly shall be nominated at the November stated meeting prior to the assembly according to the guidelines approved by the Presbytery. The Moderator of Presbytery shall be one of these nominees and when elected, shall serve as coordinator of the General Assembly Commissioners. The Moderator shall also serve as liaison for the Presbytery with all persons serving from this Presbytery on General Assembly units. Should the Moderator not be elected a Commissioner, the elected Commissioners shall elect a Coordinator from among themselves to fulfill the above responsibilities.

Ordained Minister Guidelines for Nomination:

1. Committee on Nominations will solicit applications from clergy, but will not be limited to only those who apply.
2. Ministers are representatives of their own membership in Presbytery, not the place of service. Generally, only one G. A. Commissioner is sent from any church.
3. A balanced mix based on age, sex, race, ethnicity and theology.
4. Active in life of Presbytery.
5. Regular attendance at Presbytery stated meetings.
6. Member of Presbytery at least one year.
7. Not transferring out of the Presbytery by Assembly time.
8. Longest time elapsed since having been a commissioner.

Elder Guidelines for Nomination:

1. Session takes initiative in submitting name to Committee on Nominations and providing application completed by elder and session.
2. A balanced mix based on age, sex, race, ethnicity, theology and church; city, rural, suburban, large, small
3. Commissioners active in the life of Presbytery: meetings and/or structure.
4. Church never having had a commissioner or, longest time elapsed since church sent a commissioner.

Youth Advisory Delegate Guidelines for Nomination:

1. Session takes initiative in submitting name to Committee on Nominations and providing application completed by youth and session.
2. Not over 23 years of age.
3. Not under 17 years of age.
4. Active in the life of church.
5. Church never having had a Youth Advisory Delegate or, longest time elapsed since church sent a Youth Advisory Delegate.

Emergency Appointment of G. A. Commissioners:

The Moderator, when at General Assembly and when the Presbytery slate of commissioners falls below our quota, may appoint members of Presbytery staff who are present to fill out the term or terms as required. This provision will be voted on annually by Presbytery in order for it to take effect that particular year.

Questions

for GA Teaching Elder, Ruling Elder and Young Adult Advisory Delegate Nominees

(Please forward to the nominee and then return with recommendation of Session)

1. What has been your most meaningful experience in the life of your congregation?
2. What has been your most meaningful experience in the Presbytery of Detroit?
3. How have you been involved in our Presbytery?
4. How would you approach interpreting the General Assembly experience upon your return home?
5. What do you see as the most important function of the Presbytery?
6. Why do you want to go to General Assembly?
7. What do you see as a major issue confronting our denomination at this time?
8. What does it mean to you to be a Presbyterian?
9. What would guide your voting decisions?

(name)

(church)

Please return by September 1, 2019 to:
Committee on Nominations
Presbytery of Detroit
17575 Hubbell
Detroit MI 48235
FAX: (313) 345-7250
Email: dawn@detroitpresbytery.org

Clergy Application Form
Teaching Elder Commissioner to 224th General Assembly
Baltimore, Maryland – June 20 to June 27, 2020

The Committee on Nominations is charged with the responsibility of nominating commissioners to the biennial General Assembly. Ruling Elders are asked to fill out a form to apply to be commissioners. We want to be sure that we have not missed those who have not had the opportunity to be a commissioner to a General Assembly.

We look at many different criteria in selecting nominees. If you apply but are not asked to serve, it may be because you have been a commissioner recently, or your church is being represented by another commissioner, or because we are seeking to balance our slate. The Committee on Nominations is not limited to select those who apply, but we are grateful for those who fill in the information listed below. Thank you.

Name: _____ Date of Ordination _____

Place of Service: _____

Home telephone: _____ Work telephone: _____

Email: _____

Age group: _____ 25-35; _____ 36-45; _____ 46-55; _____ 56-65; _____ 65+

Health: _____ Gender: _____ Ethnicity: _____

Are you able to tolerate the long hours the GA workload demands? _____

Attendance at Presbytery meetings: _____ Regular; _____ Occasional; _____ Almost never

Past service to the Presbytery: _____

Current service to the Presbytery: _____

How long have you been in the Presbytery of Detroit? _____

When was the last time you were a commissioner to a General Assembly? _____

Is there any reason you could not serve as a commissioner, if elected? _____

Comments: _____

Submitted by: _____ Church _____

Clerk of Session

Date: _____

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Committee on Nominations

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