

## COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS: G.A. Commissioner Nomination Process

In consultation with Council, the Committee on Nominations has reflected on the process for nominating elder and clergy commissioners to General Assembly. We acknowledge that the current process has lacked clarity and perhaps the confidence of presbyters. We hope to remedy this by a process that is more objective, transparent and consistently applied. Other presbyteries apply similar methods and criteria effectively. The G.A. Council also uses a presbytery rotation model to receive nominees for G.A. committees. We acknowledge that this proposal sacrifices some things in order to achieve others. Our primary goal is to put a clear process in place so that all presbyters and congregations can understand the expectations and eligibility involved in G.A. commissioner nominations. We are grateful that the Spirit will be at work in our clarity, even as in our chaos.

### **Clergy (New Castle Presbytery is allotted 2 clergy commissioners)**

Objective starting point: List based on date of ordination

Beginning with those ordained earliest, eligibility will be based on the following:

1. Previous service as GA commissioner  
If clergy has been a GA commissioner before (even from another presbytery) he/she is NOT ELIGIBLE, until others have had a chance to be nominated.
2. New Castle Presbytery activity/service  
Clergy must have actively served in New Castle Presbytery for at least the last 3 consecutive years. Activity is reflected in BOTH attendance at NCP meetings and service on NCP committee, commission, council, task force or work group.
3. Nomination decline  
If eligible clergyperson declines the nomination, it is to be determined whether this is a “not this year” or a “not at all, thank you” response. Eligible clergy may get one “pass”, and would be revisited at the next GA commissioner opportunity.

### **Elders (New Castle Presbytery is allotted 2 elder commissioners)**

Objective starting point: List of churches, generated randomly. If a congregation has had an elder commissioner to GA within the past 15 years, that church would be moved to the end of the list to afford other congregations the opportunity.

Eligibility for nomination will be based on the following:

1. Previous service as GA commissioner  
If elder has been a GA commissioner before (even from another presbytery), that elder is NOT ELIGIBLE. The congregation may submit another eligible elder.
2. New Castle Presbytery activity/service  
Elder must have actively served in New Castle Presbytery for at least the last 3 consecutive years. Activity is reflected in attendance as commissioner to NCP meetings (more than once) and/or service on Presbytery committees, units, task forces, or same of a higher governing body.
3. Nomination decline  
If eligible elder declines the nomination, and the congregation does not have another willing and eligible elder, it can get one “pass”, and will be revisited for nomination possibilities at the next GA commissioner opportunity.