

Guidelines for Electing General Assembly Representatives **Presbytery of Middle Tennessee**

The following text quotes the *Mission Handbook of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee* (version in effect in 2015).

Commissioners to the General Assembly and Synod of Living Waters are to be elected at the Fall meeting each year prior to the year of service. The Nominations and Representation Committee shall nominate a slate of seven principal candidates (three Teaching Elders, three Ruling Elders, and one Young Adult Advisory Delegate) and seven alternates for General Assembly, and a slate of two commissioners (one Teaching Elder and one Ruling Elder) and two alternates for Synod Assembly, in consultation with the Executive Presbyter and Stated Clerk. The Committee shall utilize the following criteria for selection for nominees to the General Assembly and the Synod of Living Waters.

Teaching and Ruling Elders and Young Adults will ordinarily only be elected once to serve as Commissioners to General Assembly or Synod from the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee.

- *Teaching Elders who have been members of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee for at least five years.*
- *Teaching and Ruling Elders who have a history of active involvement in the work of the presbytery.*
- *Ruling Elders from churches who have not sent a representative as a Commissioner to General Assembly or Synod in four years or more.*
- *A balance between Teaching and Ruling Elders and Young Adults from churches outside the Nashville area and those within the Metro Nashville area.*
- *Prior General Assembly and Synod alternates, and presbytery moderators, will be given consideration as Commissioners.*
- *Ability to work effectively with technology and materials from the General Assembly and Synod committees and plenary sessions.*
- *Ability to understand and communicate the work of the General Assembly and Synod to the presbytery and the ability to understand and communicate the work of the presbytery to the General Assembly and Synod.*

It is the responsibility of the Nominations and Representation Committee to interpret the rationale for nominating individuals for elected offices and the Coordinating Committee. The presbytery office shall keep a cumulative list of the Commissioners to General Assembly and Synod, for the use of the Nominations and Representation Committee, in order to insure compliance with the criteria.

[note: A Young Adult Advisory Delegate is defined by the Standing Rules of the General Assembly as a member of the PCUSA, between the ages of 17-23. Each presbytery elects one YAAD to General Assembly]