

Annual Report to Presbytery
Nominating Committee
May 3, 2008

The committee works very hard to keep Presbytery Committees going. We work year round filling vacancies that occur during the year and in the spring we work to fill all vacancies on all committees whose members are either eligible to do another three year term or whose term has expired and they must be replaced with someone new. Within this working structure we also take care to try to keep the committees' structure in balance between men and women, clergy and elder, and where allowed, lay people, and among the three areas of our Presbytery; east, west and north.

We are also responsible for the election of Commissioners, Alternate Commissioners and YADs to General Assembly in the years when it is necessary, such as this.

And finally we find a chair for every committee and we find people to serve in other capacities, such as Treasurer, and fill Synod vacancies such as Commissioners, members to Representations and Nominations and Synod Council.

As one can see this is a lot of work which we do for the sake of all of us in order that we may do God's work. We thank everyone who has said "yes" this year. It has been many of you. And if you are someone yet to be asked, consider volunteering where your interest is; it would be a nice thank you to us and would save us some work and you'd make God's work that much easier. The work the committees do is described in brief on the page following this.

As Chair, I want to thank those on my committee who work so diligently and with such good nature. They are wonderful. I also want to thank Pam Garner who rides to the rescue when we need help and Dana Lindsley, whose wise advice has often shown us direction. The members of the committee are: Rev. Carl Dudley, Elder Herb Smith, Rev. Mary Thies, Elder Pat Wales and Rev. Jud Wiley.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Brackett, Chair
Presbytery Nominating Committee, 2007-2008

The Presbytery of Southern New England Committee Structure

Much of the actual work of ministry and mission being done by The Presbytery of Southern New England (as distinct from its member congregations and clergy) is carried out through its committees. The Committee on Nominations seeks to assure that these committees represent both the talents and the diversity of the congregations and clergy within the Presbytery. To that end the Committee is constantly seeking individuals willing to serve on Presbytery committees, and to match, to the best of its ability, the interests/skills/talents of volunteers with the responsibilities and requirements of the committees. The normal term on a Presbytery committee is three years. Below is a brief description of each committee. More details can be found in the [Presbytery by-laws](#) and by consulting with the current committee chairpersons. On the back is an application form the Nominating Committee uses in considering its nominations.

Presbytery Council

Supervises and coordinates the work of Presbytery. Consists of at-large members as well as Presbytery officers and committee chairs. Meets 5 times a year; each meeting is 4-5 hours.

Personnel Committee

Deals with personnel policies, procedures, and matters related to Presbytery staff, 5 members. Meets quarterly for 2-3 hours.

Committee on Ministry

Has general oversight of clergy and congregations. Develops policy and deals with individual cases. 18 members. Generally meets in Old Saybrook monthly on 2nd Weds. for about 6 hours (in slack time, they meet via short conference calls).

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

Academic and spiritual preparation for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament. Committee members have personal involvement with several individual candidates and/or inquirers. 9 members. Meets 10x year on 4th Tues. for approx. 5-6 hours.

Board of Trustees

Deals with the Presbytery's property, budget, legal and financial matters. 9 members. Meets 5 times a year for 3 hours.

Permanent Judicial Commission

Deals with disciplinary cases as they arise. 7 members; 5-year term.

Committee on Church Development

CDC has a double focus: developing new churches and helping present churches in redevelopment/revitalization. Active committee, each person having specific areas of responsibility. Meets bi-monthly for 3-4 hours. 9 members. Very busy committee.

Committee on Congregational Resources

Provides program resources and consultative services to churches in the areas of Christian education, officer training, evangelism, and worship. 7 members. Meets as needed.

Committee on Ecclesiastical Relations

Oversees relations with Synod, General Assembly and ecumenical bodies as well as reviews Session records. 9 members. Meets 4 times a year; members review session records on their own.

Committee on Social Justice

Identifies social justice issues, develops programs and resources and makes recommendations on appropriate social justice actions to Presbytery. 9 members. Meets as necessary.

Committee on Stewardship & Mission

Provides guidance on local, national, and global mission efforts. Interprets how time/money for mission is being spent; small grants; dispensing Synod campus ministry monies; creates written resources to increase response to mission needs; creative ways to encourage mission efforts in Presbytery; partnering with other presbyteries to increase impact; organizing exposure for itinerant missionaries. 9 members. Meets quarterly for about 3 hours.

Committee on Nominations

Nominates persons for all Presbytery responsibilities except the Nominating Committee itself. 9 members. Meets 4-5 times a year (sometimes by conf. Call) for 2-3 hours. Most work outside of meetings is done by members by email or phone from home.

Committee on Representation

Advises Presbytery bodies on implementing the principles of inclusiveness and participation to ensure fair representation of racial ethnic minorities, women, various age groups and the disabled in the decision-making bodies of the Presbytery. 9 members. Meets as needed.

Committee on Youth Ministries

Provides resources and materials for youth ministry and plans presbytery-wide events for youth (and for the Youth Triennium). Discerns ways to involve youth from multiple PCUSA churches. Youth blog site available. Meets primarily by electronic means. 7 members.

Moderator

Serves on Presbytery Council. Participates in ordination and installations of Presbytery's behalf. After meetings the Moderator thanks the church/session on behalf of PSNE. Moderator appoints Task Forces and Review Teams as requested by Council.

Vice-Moderator

Serves on Presbytery Council. In absence of Moderator, Vice-Moderator participates in ordinations and installations. Listens/discerns and considers one's leadership style for the coming year (assuming the Vice-Moderator becomes Moderator), especially in terms of setting the tone at meetings. Attends Presbytery meetings and shares the duties of moderating these meetings including behind the scenes prep individually and via conf. calls.