

To: NCP Leadership Council

From: Rev. Rachel Landers Vaagenes, Chair of Nominating Committee

Date: October 28, 2021

**Annual NCP Nominating Committee Report to Leadership Council**

a. How does your committee support the presbytery mission?

Nominating Committee helps facilitate the mission of the presbytery by seeking and accepting nominations of Teaching and Ruling Elders (and others) to serve on the committees of NCP and represent NCP at the synod and national level. At a bare-bones level, we “staff committees” and “fill vacancies,” but at our best, we are a community-building clearing house helping match people with the mid-council ministries into which they are called.

b. What were the significant events (positive or negative) for your committee last year?

This past year was much more stable for Nominating, and now we are able to do some better training and deeper strategic thinking about the nomination system. It was not without transition though, and we mourn the loss of Judi Wenig who died only weeks after completing her sixth year on Nominating. Stalwart NomCom secretary Becca Messman also completed her second term; and Laura Hollister declined to reup, which was a loss.

With the great work of Dina, Jan, LaJuan, and the rest of the staff, we have finally gotten consistent and relatively correct committee rosters. This has been invaluable!

We continued to miss the face-to-face of presbytery meetings which was a great way of making potential connections. However, a new strategy has emerged from Rev. Molina-Moore, who is working with Nominating to transition from seeking nominations to receiving more nominations from churches and individuals. Emphasizing the question of “where are you called?” and encouraging elders and churches to put forth names in a short nominating season. In my last year on Nominating, I hope that we can make this great idea work!

c. What issues are most pressing on your committee’s docket right now? -  
-Update the nominating form. Genders, age groups, “theological stance” all need tweaking.  
--Working with John on the new NomCom philosophy.  
--Training up our new addition

d. What direction do you see your committee’s work going over the next three-five years?

With Leadership Council and Rev. Molina-Moore's support and with the excellent work of the staff, Nominating can move towards a self-nomination model. This would make the work of nominating one of discernment and prayer, and paying closer attention to getting different churches and demographics represented in presbytery work.

e. How can the Leadership Council be of help to your committee?

Leadership is charged with electing Nominating Committee members. We are doing better, but we are still in need of four capable members. **Because we have had these vacancies for so long, I am asking my committee to stop work on filling their assigned committees and work exclusively to fill our own vacancies.** We need people who have networks, who are unafraid to make cold calls and emails to churches, and who are excited about recruiting for the presbytery.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Rachel Landers Vaagenes, NomCom Chair