Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop

Term of office: 3 years + (some work required following the election)

Number to be elected: Five (5) lay persons and five (5) clergy persons, one of whom must be a deacon, elected by the House of Deputies; Five (5) bishops elected by the House of Bishops. Total persons to be elected: 15

Total persons on the committee: 20 (2 youth reps. to be appointed, 3 other members to be appointed to ensure diversity)

Position Description:

The Nominating Committee shall:

- design a process to solicit and identify qualified nominees for the office of the Presiding Bishop;
- inform the wider Church of the process and timeline
- prepare and publish a profile for the election of the next Presiding Bishop;
- select a slate of not fewer than three (3) members of the House of Bishops;
- establish a petition process for additional nominees;
- provide for pastoral care for the nominees, their families, and their diocesan staffs;
- present to a Joint Session of the House of Deputies and House of Bishops the names of the nominees to be considered by the two (2) Houses; and
- report its actions, expenditures, challenges, and recommendations to Executive Council within three (3) months after the election.

Qualities and Competencies a nominee should have:

Members of the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of a Presiding Bishop should have the ability to listen well, in order to hear from a wide representation of the church what gifts, abilities, and characteristics it discerns it needs in the next presiding bishop, and to hear from nominees what they discern about the direction of their own ministries. They should also have the ability to consolidate and clearly communicate the resulting vision to the wider church.

Members should have some understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the presiding bishop and the scope of the work.

Committee members must understand that they are nominating candidates for the whole church and not leverage their role in the nominations process or their proximity to the candidates to advance personal agendas.

It would be helpful if the following skills and experience were represented among the membership, though not every member need have them: logistics, event planning, project management, pastoral care, human resources management, interviewing, public relations/communications/ journalism, and data collection or survey design.
It is helpful to have familiarity with conference call technology such as Adobe Connect or Zoom. It is vital that nominees have computer literacy and internet access.

Committee members must have the ability to keep information confidential.

Duties of this Office:

Number of meetings: 5 in-person meetings, including an organizing meeting in the first year, a planning meeting in the second year, and meetings for an initial screening, a discernment retreat, and a final screen in the year of the election. Other meetings are held via conference call, email and other collaborative work platforms.

Committees: Sub-committees are formed as needed; sub-committees have included Communications, Profile, Process, Budget, Education, Pastoral Care, and Transition.

Meeting expenses: Paid

Travel expenses:

Attendance policy:

Other Information:

Election of Deacon: The clergy nominees will include a minimum of two (2) deacons. One deacon must be elected as a member of the Nominating Committee. Other deacon nominees may be elected as clerical members, in accordance with election procedures.