

2011-2012 Nominating Committee Report

Members: Carol Benner-Chaffinch, Chair (2012) (Eastern)
Matthew Alwine (2012) (Johnstown)
Roveen Yoder (2013) (Casselman)
Jane Rittenhouse (2014) (Western)

The nominating committee (NC) began its work preparing the 2012 slate at our August, 2011 delegate assembly at Laurelville. Initially it seemed that it might be simpler this year, as we only needed to fill three slots: Johnstown and Casselman regional representatives and Moderator-elect, but it seemed to take about as many calls and as much time as other years.

We reviewed the nomination forms contributed by the delegates for their treasured suggestions, making a master list of all nominations for each position to be filled. **Thank you** to all delegates who submitted names—we cannot emphasize enough how important the nomination forms are to our work. The more names we have, the more balanced and representative the ballot will be.

We decided to continue the practice of offering a two-person slate, agreeing it allows the delegates greater voice in choosing their leaders, while also acknowledging a painful awareness that for each position a well-qualified, respected individual would not be elected to serve.

In deciding whom to call first for regional representatives, we consider giftedness as well seeking balance in gender, age and ethnicity as much as possible. If someone is nominated that no one on the NC knows well, or if we're having trouble deciding whom to call first, we call pastors or other trusted individuals for recommendations. In deciding whom to call for moderator-elect slate, we look at the Leadership Council as a whole as well as who has served in the past, and called for recommendations from a variety of pastors, delegates and others who may have wisdom to share.

Each NC member accepted responsibility to call the names for one position and to keep each other informed of progress. When needed we communicated by email and phone to report progress and make decisions and changes as needed. We are so grateful to each person who agreed to serve on the ballot, as well as those who prayerfully considered but could not accept the call to serve at this time. We were pleased with the final ballot of gifted and respected individuals. More than one person noted that the slate of high-quality candidates made voting a difficult choice.

Thank you to all who prayed for and/or participated in this process in any way.

Carol Benner-Chaffinch, *Chair*