

GUIDELINES FOR THE SELECTION OF COMMISSIONERS TO SYNOD AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Commissioners and Youth Advisory Delegates (YAD's) to General Assembly and Synod of the Sun shall be elected by the Presbytery, normally at the September stated meeting. Persons may be nominated by their congregations, by others, or by themselves. In each case, the Nominating Committee must receive a nominations form and (in the case of elders and youth) a Session endorsement letter in order to verify the person's eligibility to serve. Nomination forms will be included in the March and June Presbytery mailings. While nominations from the floor will be allowed, the election of persons nominated from the floor is contingent upon verification of that person's eligibility to serve (and will require the nomination form and endorsement letter to be completed in advance of the Presbytery meeting).

Terms of service:

Terms of service for elders and ministers to the **Synod of the Sun** are two years (with reelection to a second term possible). Terms for YAD's are one year and rotate throughout the eleven presbyteries (three of the eleven elect YAD's for any given year). Currently, Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery elects two ministers and two elders, in staggered terms. [**One elder and one minister will be elected each year.**] The Synod normally meets in May and November, but some committee assignments on occasion might include additional meetings during the year.

Terms of service for elders, ministers and YAD's to the **General Assembly** are from the convening of one General Assembly to the convening of the next (currently two years of service). This includes one stated meeting and the possibility of being recalled for any specially called meeting prior to the next stated meeting. [**Commissioners will be elected in odd years for service beginning in even years.**] The stated meeting of the General Assembly is typically an eight-day meeting in June, but requires significant reading and preparation prior to that meeting, as well as the availability for interpretation within Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery after returning. **Beginning in 2008, Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery will elect two ministers, two elders, one YAD, plus alternates for each of those positions for each General Assembly.**

Eligibility:

1. In order to be eligible for nomination, a MINISTER shall:
 - be available to attend the meeting(s) in its (their) entirety
 - have been a member of Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery for at least two years
 - have attended at least three of the last four stated meeting of the Presbytery (the only exception shall be a legitimate excused absence)
 - be known by the Nominating Committee to be active in the life of the Presbytery and to be aware of denominational affairs
 - be available to report to the presbytery on the experience of attending Synod or General Assembly

2. Other factors which will be considered:
 - number of years since ordination
 - number of years as a member of Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery
 - number of years since last serving as a commissioner to Synod or General Assembly
 - number of times having served as a commissioner to Synod or General Assembly

3. In order to be eligible for nominations, an ELDER shall:
 - be available to attend the meeting(s) in its (their) entirety
 - have been a member of one of the congregations in Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery for at least two years and have been active in the life of that congregation
 - be a member of one of the congregations in Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery which has sent a commissioner to at least three of the last four stated meeting of the Presbytery (the only exception shall be a legitimate excused absence)
 - be available to report to the presbytery on the experience of attending Synod or General Assembly

4. Other factors which will be considered:
 - number of years since that congregation last had a commissioner to Synod or General Assembly
 - number of times having served as a commissioner to Synod or General Assembly
 - previous or current service within Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery

5. In order to be eligible for nomination, a YOUTH ADVISORY DELEGATE shall:
 - (for General Assembly) be between the ages of 17 and 23 on the date of the Assembly
 - be available to attend the meeting(s) in its (their) entirety
 - have been a member of one of the congregations in Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery for at least two years and have been active in the life of that congregation
 - be a member of one of the congregations in Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery which has sent a commissioner to at least three of the last four stated meeting of the Presbytery (the only exception shall be a legitimate excused absence)
 - be available to report to the presbytery on the experience of attending Synod or General Assembly

6. Other factors which will be considered:
 - number of years since that congregation last had a commissioner to Synod or General Assembly
 - number of times having served as a commissioner to Synod or General Assembly
 - previous or current service within own congregation and Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery (including Youth Council)