

Bylaws of the Presbytery of Northeast New Jersey

The Boundaries of the Presbytery

The boundaries of the presbytery shall be the following counties of the State of New Jersey: Bergen, Hudson, Essex, Union, and the following municipalities in the County of Passaic: Clifton, Haledon, Little Falls, North Haledon, Paterson, Passaic, Prospect Park, Totowa, and West Paterson; and North Plainfield in the County of Somerset.

The Membership of the Presbytery

All congregations of the PCUSA in the identified bounds, except those which are members of Eastern Korean American Presbytery. Membership also includes Teaching elders who live or work in the bounds of the presbytery or who have been received into membership of the presbytery. Additionally, the Presbytery maintains a roll of Certified Christian Educators and Certified Church Professionals (APA.) The Presbytery may enroll Ruling Elders as members for the term of their service to the presbytery or when commissioned to limited pastoral service.

The Officers of the Presbytery

Moderator (1 year term), Vice-Moderator (1 year term), Stated Clerk (3 year term), Treasurer (3 year term), President of the Corporation (1 year term), Vice-President of the Corporation (1 year term). The Stated Clerk shall serve as Secretary of the Corporation if eligible. If not, the corporation shall elect a Secretary to a 1 year term. The Moderator and Vice-Moderator shall be elected in March; other officers shall be elected in June.

The Meetings of the Presbytery

The presbytery shall meet quarterly in ordinarily February, May, September, and November. Provision made for on-line meetings of presbytery and all its entities.

The presbytery shall celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at least once a year. Presbytery meetings shall always be opened and closed with prayer and include a time of worship. A motion to pray led by the Moderator or a presbyter of the Moderator's choosing shall always be in order.

Notice: the dates and times and locations of Stated Meetings shall be published annually no later than December for the following calendar year. All Docketed business shall ordinarily be published 7 days prior to any meeting of the presbytery; the presbytery may adjust its Docket for Stated Meetings. Notice for Special Meetings shall ordinarily be 10 days when practicable. Quorum: 10 presbyters, including 5 teaching elders and elders from different churches of the presbytery.

Special meetings: called by 10 presbyters, including 5 teaching elders and 5 ruling elders from different churches of the presbytery.

Membership: all minister members of the presbytery in good standing, and the following ruling elders: 1 commissioner from each session; churches with active membership over 500 get an additional elder commissioner; churches with active membership over 1000 get 2 additional elder commissioners; churches with 15% or more non-Anglo active membership get 1 additional

elder commissioner; former Moderators of the presbytery who are members of churches in the presbytery; ruling elders who serve as chairs of committees and teams of the presbytery; and ruling elders who serve on the Vision Team. The membership of the presbytery shall have equal ministers and ruling elders; the Stated Clerk shall present to the presbytery a plan for maintaining parity annually at the March Stated Meeting.

Terms

The program year of the presbytery shall begin at the June Stated Meeting with the Installation of the Moderator. All terms of presbyters elected to serve on entities of the presbytery begin and end at that time. Presbyters serve on presbytery entities until the end of their terms and no longer. No presbyter shall serve longer than 6 successive years on the same presbytery entity. The Vice-Moderator shall preside in the absence, or at the invitation, of the Moderator; if neither the Moderator nor the Vice-Moderator are available, former Moderators in reverse order of service shall preside at presbytery meetings, ordinations, and installations.

Amending the Administrative Manual

The By-Laws shall be amendable with prior notice and a 2/3 majority vote of the presbytery.

The Standing Rules shall be amendable by a 50%+1 majority vote of the presbytery.

The Policies and Procedures shall be amendable with prior notice and a 50%+1 majority of the presbytery or the group which created them.