



Presbytery of Lake Michigan

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

There is a wide variety of ways in which ruling and teaching elders can serve beyond their local congregation and support the overall mission of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan.

Anyone interested in being nominated and elected to one of the roles listed below should fill out the nomination form found on the documents page at www.lakemichiganpresbytery.org. A member of the Nominating & Representation Committee will contact you, or the person you nominate, to discuss the available opportunities.

There are four individuals nominated for election to officer positions within the presbytery. These positions include the:

- **Moderator** – A volunteer elected to serve a one-year term, generally after serving a term as the presbytery vice moderator. The N&R Committee generally tries to rotate nominations to this position between ordained teaching and ruling elders, and male and female.
- **Vice Moderator** – A volunteer elected to serve a one-year term, generally before serving a term as the presbytery moderator. The N&R Committee generally tries to rotate nominations to this position between ordained teaching and ruling elders, and male and female.
- **Stated Clerk** – A paid staff member who is an ordained teaching or ruling elder elected to serve a one-year renewable term. The candidate for this position is nominated by the Leadership Team.
- **Treasurer** – A paid staff member who is an ordained teaching or ruling elder elected to serve a three-year renewable term.

As the presbytery continues to transition into the new organizational structure adopted in December 2018, there are two Transitional Co-leaders elected by the presbytery and supervised by the Leadership Team. A search for an Executive Presbyter/ Stated Clerk and Associate Presbyter is being led currently by the Leadership Team.

Members of the N&R Committee also recruit and nominate ruling and teaching elders to serve on many of the teams, commissions and committees that handle specific tasks in the presbytery. NOTE: Nominations for those who serve on the N&R Committee and those to be elected to some key leadership positions are made by the Leadership Team.

See the document “PLM – An overview of our structure” for a graphic showing the presbytery’s current structure and definitions of what teams, commissions, committees and groups do.

There are some groups within the presbytery that include volunteers who volunteer to serve in those roles. These cohorts are often focused on specific programs or initiatives, like Youth Strategies and missions work in other countries.

The following table identifies many of the positions available on the teams, commissions and committees that function within the presbytery. Most individuals serving in these roles are nominated by the N&R Committee and elected by presbytery members while a few individuals are appointed. There are other groups that include individuals who volunteer to serve in those roles.

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| | Focus | Positions Available | Gifts Needed |
|---|--|--|--|
| <p>Leadership Team (LT)</p> <p>Meets the first Thursday of each month. Gathers at 12:30 p.m. to share lunch and fellowship followed by business from 1 to 4 p.m.</p> | <p>To seek God’s leading as the team holds before the presbytery its core values and communicates these values to the other ministry team for implementation; assists, enables, supports and encourages churches in their work; deals with or delegates <i>Book of Order</i> responsibilities assigned to the presbytery; bears responsibility for funding decisions, and other tasks defined in the presbytery’s operations manual.</p> | <p>Appointed positions on the team include the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LT Moderator – immediate past presbytery moderator • PLM moderator • PLM vice moderator • B&F Committee Moderator • N&R Committee Moderator <p>Elected three-year positions include the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congregational Support Team facilitator • Dynamic Leaders Team facilitator • Mission & Outreach Team facilitator • Administration & Support Team facilitator • (3) members at large <p>The transitional co-leaders also are members with voice only.</p> <p>Efforts are made to have equal numbers of TE and RE, men and women, and representatives from the north, east and southwest regions of the presbytery.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to think critically and with discernment, especially as the presbytery lives into its core values. • Able to apply theological and organizational perspectives that align with the presbytery’s value. • Able to see the big picture with optimism, hope and collaboration. • Able to be open and flexible to change. • Works well with a diverse team. • Demonstrates the ability to listen attentively and communicate articulately. • Shows attention to details and follow-through activity. • Demonstrates knowledge of organizational structures, financial management and/or administrative skills. |

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| <p>Budget & Finance Committee (B&F)</p> <p>Meets the second Tuesday of each month at 12:30 p.m.</p> | <p>To manage the financial resources of the presbytery, budget the income and expenses, develop financial planning recommendations, serve as the Board of Trustees, and approve specific types of real estate transactions.</p> | <p>Six (6) members nominated by the N&R Committee and elected by the presbytery for three-year terms, not to exceed six (6) consecutive years.</p> <p>The committee elects its own moderator.</p> <p>Efforts are made to have equal numbers of TE and RE, men and women, and representatives from the north, east and southwest regions of the presbytery.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates financial acumen and comfort in dealing with financial data, transactions and budgets. • Demonstrates basic management and organizational skills. • Able to make sound judgments. • Able to see the big picture with optimism, hope and collaboration. • Able to be open and flexible to change. • Works well with a diverse team. • Demonstrates the ability to listen attentively and communicate articulately. • Shows attention to details and follow-through activity. |
| <p>Commission on Ministry (COM)</p> | <p>To develop and maintain mechanisms and processes to serve as pastor counselor to teaching elders, ruling elders commissioned to pastoral service, and certified Christian educators of the</p> | <p>(24) members nominated by the N&R Committee and elected by the presbytery for three-year terms, not to exceed six (6) consecutive years. There will be</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to understand various policies and procedures established by the COM as it supports and oversees TEs, CREs and CCEs, and the |

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| <p>Plenary meets the fourth Tuesday of the month before each Stated Meeting of the Presbytery. Gather at 12:30 p.m. to share lunch and fellowship followed by business from 1 to 4 p.m.</p> <p>Each region meets monthly based on members' schedules.</p> | <p>presbytery; to facilitate the relations between the presbytery and its congregations, teaching elders, ruling elders commissioned to pastoral service, and certified Christian educators; and to settle difficulties on behalf of the presbytery where possible and expedient.</p> | <p>(8) members each from the north, east and southwest regions of the presbytery.</p> <p>The commission elects its own moderator. And each region names one member to serve on the COM Executive board that meets routinely, usually once a month.</p> <p>Efforts are made to have equal numbers of TE and RE, men and women, and representatives from the north, east and southwest regions of the presbytery.</p> | <p>congregations within the presbytery.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates the skills to gather and apply information about specific situations that involve the TEs, CREs and CCEs, and the congregations within the presbytery. • Exhibits strong pastoral care skills. • Demonstrates the ability to listen attentively and communicate articulately. • Maintains confidentiality. • Demonstrates mutual forbearance. • Demonstrates strong interpersonal skills. • Works well with a diverse team. • Shows attention to details and follow-through activity. |
| <p>Commission on the Preparation for Ministry (CPM)</p> | <p>To oversee the process for those seeking God's call to ministry as Ministers of Word and Sacrament, Commissioned Ruling Elders and Certified Christian Educators.</p> | <p>Twelve (12) members nominated by the N&R Committee and elected by the presbytery for three-year terms, not to exceed six (6) years.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to understand various policies and procedures established by the CPM to support and oversee inquirers and candidates seeking |

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| Meets the fourth Tuesday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to noon. | | <p>The commission elects its own moderator. The commission also assigns its members to serve as a liaison to one or more inquirer or candidate moving through the discernment process and preparation for ministry.</p> <p>Efforts are made to have equal numbers of TE and RE, men and women, and representatives from the north, east and southwest regions of the presbytery.</p> | <p>God's call to ministry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates the ability to listen attentively and communicate articulately, especially when interviewing those seeking to enter and continue the discernment process. • Able to give support and encouragement – as well as guidance and instruction – to inquirers and candidates. • Exhibits concern for the spiritual and mental health of the inquirers and candidates, and able to provide appropriate direction. • Maintains confidentiality. • Works well with a diverse team. • Shows attention to details and follow-through activity |
| Mediation Committee | To use various skills and training to help congregations solve problems, resolve dispute and manage conflict. | <p>Members are recommended by the N&R Committee but appointed by the COM. M</p> <p>Members are not elected and</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates the skills to gather and evaluate information about specific situations. • Able to identify and |

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| Meets at 9 a.m. the first Monday of odd numbered months. | | <p>serve at will.</p> <p>Generally, two-member teams are assigned to respond to any mediation requests.</p> | <p>recommend specific actions to solve problems, resolve disputes and manage conflicts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exhibits strong pastoral care skills. • Demonstrates the ability to listen attentively and communicate articulately. • Maintains confidentiality. • Demonstrates mutual forbearance. • Demonstrates strong interpersonal skills. • Works well with a diverse team. • Shows attention to details and follow-through activity. |
| <p>Nominating & Representation Committee (N&R)</p> <p>Meets the fourth Monday of each month from 9:30 a.m.</p> | To identify people to serve in the presbytery as it carries out its mission, and to encourage equitable representation within those serving. | <p>Six members nominated by the Leadership Team and elected by the presbytery with three classes, each serving three-year terms not to exceed six (6) consecutive years.</p> <p>The committee elects its own moderator and vice moderator.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to understand the leadership roles and needs within the presbytery. • Able to network, identifying individuals who have the gifts and skills needed to lead the presbytery as it lives into its core values. • Relates easily with people in |

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| to noon. | | Efforts are made to have equal numbers of TE and RE, men and women, and representatives from the north, east and southwest regions of the presbytery. | <p>person and on the phone.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates persistence in seeking candidates willing to accept leadership roles within the presbytery. • Able to evaluate the gifts and skills individuals have to offer the presbytery and identify related leadership roles. • Demonstrates commitment to inclusiveness and diversity of races, cultures, genders and congregations. • Demonstrates the ability to listen attentively and communicate articulately. • Shows attention to details and follow-through activity. |
| <p>Permanent Judicial Committee</p> <p>Meets as needed.</p> | To hear and give judgment on those cases which are duly brought before it. | <p>No less than seven (7) members with no more than one (1) ruling elder from any of the constituent churches. The term for each member shall be six (6) years.</p> <p>The committee elects its own moderator and clerk.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates commitment to justice, fairness, grace and restoring trust in the church. • Informed (or willing to learn) about ecclesiastical law. • Demonstrates the ability to listen attentively and communicate articulately. |

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| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shows attention to details and follow-through activity. Legal skills and knowledge helpful but not necessary. |
| <p>General Assembly Commissioners and Young Adult Advisory Delegate</p> <p>Participates in training and orientation meetings before the General Assembly then attends the proceedings and, after the meetings end, shares information within the PLM</p> | <p>To represent the PLM during the biannual PC(USA) General Assembly as it reviews the work of synods, resolves controversies in the church, is responsible for matters of common concern for the whole church, and serves as a symbol of unity for the church.</p> | <p>PLM elects five (5) individuals to attend the biannual General Assembly, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (2) teaching elders commissioners, (2) ruling elders to serve as commissioners, and Young Adult Advisory Delegate. <p>Alternates for each position also may be elected.</p> <p>Interested individuals are asked to complete an application. N&R Committee members review the applications and recommend candidates for election.</p> <p>Efforts are made to have equal numbers of men and women, and representatives from the north, east and southwest regions of the presbytery.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates knowledge of, or willingness to learn, about the work and issues being set before the GA. Able to attend the GA, whether in-person or via a virtual platform, and participate in the voting sessions. Demonstrates the ability to listen attentively and communicate articulately. Demonstrates a past and/or current service to the presbytery and its congregations. Commits to continued service to the presbytery and its congregations after attending the GA. |

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| <p>Synod of the Covenant Commissioners</p> <p>Meets regularly through year as determined right now by the Administrative Commission.</p> | <p>To represent the PLM as the Synod of the Covenant conducts its business</p> | <p>PLM elects three (3) individuals to represent the PLM, each for three-year terms. Two (2) of the commissioners must be either a TE or RE and the third person must be a Young Adult between 17 and 23 years old. All are elected in September to begin serving the next year.</p> <p>Efforts are made to have equal numbers of men and women, and representatives from the north, east and southwest regions of the presbytery.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to attend the Synod meetings, and prepare for those meetings by reading provided packet materials. • Able to report back to the PLM about information shared and decisions made by the Synod and its assembly. • Able to be open and flexible to change. • Works well with a diverse team. • Demonstrates the ability to listen attentively and communicate articulately. • Shows attention to details and follow-through activity. • |
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