

Report of the Committee on Representation and Participation (CORP)
Mission Presbytery Report
Stated Meeting, March 6, 2021

Report on Representation

After specific training in January 2020, and discussion in February 2021, CORP has reworded parts of our Handbook to make clear our commitment to representation and diversity in our presbytery, and to ensure that we are in line with the *Book of Order*. Those Handbook changes will be placed before General Council at its next meeting.

In the meantime, CORP works hard to balance, in particular, TEs to REs and males to females. We also strive to ensure that geographic regions are fairly represented, noting that Zoom has made it easier for us to ensure geographic representation without creating a hardship for members in the outlying regions of the presbytery. We have created a new worksheet (see below) to equip and enable presbytery committee chairs to keep track of their members, as well as see a balance sheet of how diverse the committee actually is, in *all* the ways identified in the *Book of Order*. Chair feedback on this worksheet is a vital part of our process of calling nominees who will bring many different gifts to their service, and it helps our Stated Clerk keep track of who is where—and why.

FYI Only

We will bring to the summer presbytery meeting a process for determining nominees for GA Commissioners. As part of that process, we will be putting limits on the frequency that commissioners can serve—applicants must not have served within the past 10 years, e.g. However, because of COVID, our last GA's commissioners did not get the full experience of being a commissioner, and some have petitioned us for another chance to serve. We will ask presbytery to consider an exemption that will allow them to re-apply to be commissioners to the 2022 GA. This exemption will not guarantee them a nomination, but it will allow them to re-apply. Please be considering this ahead of our summer meeting.

