**Homestead Presbytery**

**Process for Nominating and Electing General Assembly (GA) Commissioners and Young Adult Advisory Delegates (YAADs)**

PREAMBLE

Homestead Presbytery is fully committed to our participation in the meetings of the GA. We seek to prayerfully elect Commissioners who will serve with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love.

PRINCIPLES

1. Applications for GA Commissioners shall be reviewed by the Steering the Ship team and nominees for Commissioners and Alternatives shall be presented for consideration at the November meeting of the Presbytery that occurs in the year immediately preceding the GA meeting.
2. Applications shall be widely available, including accessibility from the Presbytery website, through the Homesteader at least once, and shall be sent electronically to each pastor and clerk of session. The Presbytery office may also electronically send the application form upon request.
3. Only those Teaching and Ruling Elders who are active in the life of Homestead Presbytery and its member churches as defined below shall be nominated.
4. All GA Commissioners are expected to be fully engaged in learning how the GA process works, reading advance materials, and actively participating in your assigned committee and all plenary sessions.
5. Commissioners shall interpret and communicate the actions of the GA back to the Presbytery at a regularly stated meeting of the Presbytery and be available for interpretation to individual congregations.
6. Alternates for Teaching Elder and Ruling Elder Commissioners will not be guaranteed to be the primary commissioner to the next GA, but will be eligible to re-apply to be considered in the next nominating process.

TEACHING ELDER COMMISSIONER

1. Teaching Elders seeking to serve as a Commissioner from Homestead Presbytery to GA shall submit an application to the Steering the Ship team. The application shall indicate:
	1. The length of time the applicant has been a member of Homestead Presbytery.
	2. The date of his or her ordination or acceptance into Presbyterian Church (USA).
	3. The length of time since he or she served as a GA Commissioner for any presbytery.
2. An application to be Teaching Elder Commissioner to GA can be submitted, provided that the following criteria are met:
	1. The applicant is a member in good standing of Homestead Presbytery.
	2. The applicant has been a member of Homestead Presbytery for a minimum of one (1) year at the date of application.
	3. The applicant has not been a Teaching Elder Commissioner to GA from either Homestead Presbytery or another presbytery in the two (2) previous meetings of the GA.
	4. The applicant can demonstrate active membership in the Presbytery, preferably including attendance at six (6) of the last eight (8) stated meetings of the Presbytery that occurred before June 30th of the year prior to the next GA.
	5. The applicant has been endorsed by either the session they moderate, or any session if the Teaching Elder member does not moderate a session, or by any standing committee of the Presbytery.
	6. The applicant completes the application provided by the Steering the Ship team and submits the application by September 1st of the year prior to the GA.
3. The Steering the Ship team shall consider the information provided on the applications and select one (1) Teaching Elder to be designated nominees for Commissioner and one (1) Teaching Elder to be designated nominees for Alternate Commissioner. At least one of the Teaching Elders nominated for Commissioner and Alternate Commissioner will preferably be serving in an installed pastoral position.
4. The individuals who submitted applications shall be notified of the recommendation of the Steering the Ship team by October 31st of the year prior to the GA.
5. At the November stated meeting of the Presbytery which occurs in the year immediately preceding the GA meeting, the Steering the Ship team shall submit nominations for Teaching Elder Commissioner and Alternate Commissioner for election.

RULING ELDER COMMISSIONER

1. Ruling Elders seeking to serve as a Commissioner from Homestead Presbytery to GA shall submit an application to the Steering the Ship team. The application shall indicate:
	1. The length of time the applicant has been a member of their Presbyterian Church (USA) congregation.
	2. The date of his or her ordination as a Ruling Elder.
	3. The length of time since he or she served as a GA Commissioner for any presbytery.
2. An application to be Teaching Elder Commissioner to GA can be submitted, provided that the following criteria are met:
	1. The applicant has been an active member of a congregation in Homestead Presbytery for a minimum of one (1) year at the date of application.
	2. The congregation to which the applicant belongs has not sent a Ruling Elder Commissioner to GA in the two (2) previous meetings. If there is an insufficient quantity of applicants as of September 30th of the year prior to GA, the Steering the Ship team may consider applicants from any congregation in the Presbytery.
	3. The applicant can demonstrate active membership in the Presbytery, preferably including attendance at two (2) of the last eight (8) stated meetings of the Presbytery that occurred before June 30th of the year prior to the next GA.
	4. The church where they are an active member preferably must have been represented by at least one (1) Ruling Elder Commissioner at six (6) of the last (8) stated meetings of the Presbytery that occurred before June 30th of the year prior to the next GA.
	5. The applicant has been endorsed by their session.
	6. The applicant completes the application provided by the Steering the Ship team and submits the application by September 1st of the year prior to the GA.
3. The Steering the Ship team shall consider the information provided on the applications and select one (1) Ruling Elder to be designated nominees for Commissioner and one (1) Ruling Elder to be designated nominees for Alternate Commissioner.
4. The individuals who submitted applications shall be notified of the recommendation of the Steering the Ship team by October 31st of the year prior to the GA.
5. At the November stated meeting of the Presbytery which occurs in the year immediately preceding the GA meeting, the Steering the Ship team shall submit nominations for Teaching Elder Commissioner and Alternate Commissioner for election.

YOUNG ADULT ADVISORY DELEGATES

1. Young Adults (between the ages of 18 and 23 on the day GA convenes) seeking to serve as a Young Adult Advisory Delegate from Homestead Presbytery to GA shall submit an application to the Steering the Ship team. The application shall indicate:
	1. The length of time the applicant has been a member of their Presbyterian Church (USA) congregation.
	2. The length of time since they have served as a YAAD from any presbytery.
2. Application for YAADs to GA can be submitted provided that the following criteria are met:
	1. The applicant has been an active member of a congregation in Homestead Prebytery for a minimum of one (1) year at the date of application.
	2. The congregation to which the applicant belongs has not sent a YAAD to GA in the two (2) previous meetings. If there are an insufficient quantity of applicants as of September 30th of the year prior to GA, the Steering the Ship team may consider applicants from any congregation in the presbytery.
	3. The applicant has been endorsed by their session.
	4. The applicant completes the applicant provided by the Steering the Ship team and submits the application by September 30th of the year prior to the GA.

**General Assembly (GA) Commissioner Application**

Teaching Elder

Return by September 1 to: Homestead Presbytery – Steering the Ship Team

 2110 Sheridan Blvd.

 Lincoln, NE 68502

 Email: hpoffice@homesteadpres.org

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Congregation \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The date you became a member of Homestead Presbytery \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Minimum of 1 year at date of application)

The date of your ordination as a Teaching Elder \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The year a Teaching Elder from your congregation previously served

as a GA Commissioner (Minimum of 4 years) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please answer using a separate attached sheet:

1. Tell us about yourself.
2. What excites you and/or concerns you about the church today?
3. What issues are important in the church today?
4. What gifts/abilities will you bring to your role as Commission to the GA?

Signature of applicant \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Endorsement by Session**

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Attested by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Signature and Title)

**General Assembly (GA) Commissioner Application**

Ruling Elder

Return by September 1 to: Homestead Presbytery – Steering the Ship Team

 2110 Sheridan Blvd.

 Lincoln, NE 68502

 Email: hpoffice@homesteadpres.org

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Congregation \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The date you became a member of a PC(USA) congregation \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Minimum of 1 year at date of application)

The date of your ordination as a Ruling Elder \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The year a Ruling Elder from your congregation previously served

as a GA Commissioner (Minimum of 4 years) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please answer using a separate attached sheet:

1. Tell us about yourself.
2. What excites you and/or concerns you about the church today?
3. What issues are important in the church today?
4. What gifts/abilities will you bring to your role as Commission to the GA?

Signature of applicant \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Endorsement by Session**

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Attested by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Signature and Title)

**General Assembly (GA) Commissioner Application**

Young Adult Advisory Delegate

Return by September 1 to: Homestead Presbytery – Steering the Ship Team

 2110 Sheridan Blvd.

 Lincoln, NE 68502

 Email: hpoffice@homesteadpres.org

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Congregation \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The date you became a member of a PC(USA) congregation \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Minimum of 1 year at date of application)

The year a member from your congregation previously served

as a GA YAAD (Minimum of 4 years) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please answer using a separate attached sheet:

1. Tell us about yourself.
2. What excites you and/or concerns you about the church today?
3. What issues are important in the church today?
4. What gifts/abilities will you bring to your role as a YAAD to the GA?

Signature of applicant \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Endorsement by Session**

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Attested by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Signature and Title)