

## **DEACON NOMINATION AND ELECTION PROCESS 2021 and Forward**

1. The Board's Leadership Deacons will facilitate the Deacon Nomination and Election process.
2. The 3-person Life Deacon slate and 6-person Deacon slate of candidates will be determined as follows:
  - A. During the first week of September, the Leadership Deacons will make the Nomination and Election Process schedule and form available to the Life Deacons electronically, by email, or USPS mail (for those without an email address in our system).
  - B. Life Deacon self-nominates if willing to serve for 1 year by returning the self-election schedule *within ten (10) days*.
  - C. The Leadership Deacons will mail the Life Deacon ballot to Life Deacons to vote for 3 returning their ballot *within 5 days* to the address on the ballot.
  - D. At the same time the Leadership Deacons will make the Deacon Nomination and Election Process schedule and form available to Members electronically, by email, or USPS mail (for those without an email address in our system).
  - E. Each Member nominates up to 6 candidates on the Nomination form and returns to the address included on the form *within 8 days*.
  - F. All paper Nomination forms will be signed.
  - G. No person will be eligible for election as a Deacon unless a Member has nominated them.
  - H. Members may nominate themselves.
  - I. Should spouses/partners be nominated for the same election, only one may be elected.
  - J. Spouses/Partners of MPBC Senior Staff (the Senior Minister and the Senior Minister's direct reports) are not eligible to be nominated or elected to serve as Deacon.
  - K. Staff members are not eligible to serve as Deacons.
  - L. Life Deacons serving a 3-year term on the Board must have been off 2 years before eligible to serve another term. Life Deacons serving a 1-year term must have been off the Board for 1 year before eligible to serve another term.
  - M. An individual elected to serve as Chair-Elect could serve as many as five consecutive years (three years in a Board class, one year as Chair-Elect and one year as Chair). At the conclusion of Chair term, the Deacon becomes a Life Deacon.
  - N. During the first week of October, the top three nominees from the Nomination and Election Process, on agreeing to serve, will automatically be placed on the 6-person slate after ensuring they meet the Deacon criteria and guidelines of consistent pledging and giving to the Church and possessing the skills to fill a seat on the Board.
  - O. The Leadership Deacons will contact potential nominees to ensure willingness to serve.
  - P. The Leadership Deacons will use the Deacon criteria and guidelines to identify the remaining nominees from those who have been nominated. Additionally, it will consider the tally of nominations, diversity, leadership skills and experience, level of participation in Church activities, readiness to listen, maturity of judgment, and open to new challenges.
3. The slate of 6 Deacon nominees, who have been approved by the Leadership Deacons and affirmed by The Board of Deacons, will be distributed to the Congregation with each nominee's information and picture prior to a congregational affirmation vote. That vote will take place on the third or fourth Sunday in October.
4. All Church members will be eligible to vote for the Deacon slate regardless of age.