

Southeastern Jurisdiction Committee on Episcopacy

THE 2012 PRE-ELECTION PROCESS

The Southeastern Jurisdiction Committee on Episcopacy (2008-2012) has adopted the following process to precede the 2012 episcopal election in the jurisdiction. This process will be conducted by an Election Process Team to be appointed by the chairperson of the committee:

1. The document "The Election of Bishops" (see attached) has been approved by the committee and will be distributed to all delegates (through the delegation leaders) and to other persons and groups expressing interest in the process.
2. Three criteria must be met in order for an eligible elder to participate in the official pre-election process:
 - a. The elder shall have been officially nominated by an annual or missionary conference of the jurisdiction, by the delegation from an annual or missionary conference of the jurisdiction, or by another group in the life of The United Methodist Church, with this action to be communicated in writing to the secretary of the jurisdictional conference no later than July 1, 2012.
 - b. The elder shall, by signing the document "Principles Agreement for The Election of Bishops," express his or her intention to abide by the provisions contained in that document.
 - c. The nominating body shall, as witnessed by the signature of its chairperson or other designated officer on the document "Principles Agreement for The Election of Bishops," express the intention of the group to abide by the provisions contained in that document.
3. Nominees, who have met the criteria in number two above prior to General Conference, will be presented to the delegations at General Conference during a lunch break, without food, with brief statements by nominees, with opportunity for conversation with nominees, and, if possible, with chairs for those who need to sit.
4. Each nominee and nominating body shall be permitted to distribute one biographical statement (Rule 17), submitted to the SEJ secretary and posted on the SEJ website and printed in the Advance DCA; one video (either taped or on DVD or both); and two general mailings (brochures, cards, etc.). Each nominee and nominating body may also develop a website.
5. Nominees will be presented to the delegations at Lake Junaluska on Tuesday, July 17, 2012 with a speech of no more than 10 minutes by each nominee. Following these presentations, interviews of nominees by individual delegation (or delegations in combination, as seems best), will be held.

Although they refer, not to the pre-election process, but to the election itself, the following items have also been adopted:

6. Any eligible elder, who is not a nominee in this process and who receives 10 or more votes on any ballot, will be permitted to address the conference for no more than 10 minutes and, as provided in Rule 17, submit a biographical statement to the SEJ secretary for publication.

Adopted