

PART 2 – Representation Report for 2024-2025

Our analysis of those serving in elected positions in Yellowstone Presbytery follows. Recommendations are highlighted in red.

There are 5 Moderator roles currently filled. Of these, there are:

3 men, 2 women

1 ruling elders, 4 ministers of Word and Sacrament

We are still in the process of filling leadership roles, with 2 additional roles to be filled.

We recommend that the vice-moderator of the Presbytery should be a male, preferably a Minister of Word and Sacrament as this rotation has been our Presbytery's tradition, to balance these leadership roles and bring greater balance to the Leadership Cabinet.

There are 42 elected positions filled at this time. Of these, there are:

15 men, 27 women

24 ruling elders, 18 ministers of Word and sacrament

These balances tip towards women (as does the balance in most congregations) and toward ruling elders.

The 2025 Representation/Nominating Team will be;

2 men, 2 women

2 MWS and 2 Elders.

Several of the ministers of Word and sacrament in our small presbytery are serving on two ministry teams.

Geographical representation:

7 are from the eastern region of Yellowstone Presbytery (4 churches)

18 are from the central region of Yellowstone Presbytery (6 churches)

9 are from the western region of Yellowstone Presbytery (3 churches)

Leadership (MWS and Ruling Elders) come from 13 of our 22 churches.

(The boundaries between these regions could be drawn differently, yielding a different count. The central region includes the largest congregations.) We recommend seeking more representation from the eastern and western regions, as well as encouraging participation of the 9 churches not currently represented in presbytery roles.

Age representation:

27 are 60+ years of age

7 are 40-59 years of age

8 are under 40 years of age

(Many of these ages are guesses!) This distribution is similar to one year ago. We have younger minister members who are taking on more roles in the presbytery. The time demands of presbytery service are more easily met by ruling elders who are retired than those who are younger and working full-time.

We recommend paying attention to this imbalance and encouraging young leadership, making accommodations in our time expectations, perhaps meeting times as much as possible.

Race/ethnicity/culture

To our knowledge, only one person serving Yellowstone Presbytery checks a “non-White” box. This is reflective of most of the membership of our congregations, but also a reminder that our congregations do not represent the growing diversity in the state of Montana.

We recommend increased awareness and openness to the gifts of God’s diverse people in our communities.

Respectfully submitted by the Representation/Nominating Ministry Team for 2024,

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