

REPRESENTATION/NOMINATING MINISTRY TEAM

Representation Report to Presbytery, November 4-5, 2022

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

There are 6 Moderator/Co-Moderator/Vice-Moderator roles currently filled. Of these, there are:

3 men, 3 women

3 ruling elders, 3 ministers of Word and sacrament

This balance of gender and ecclesiastical status is ideal, so whomever the Leadership Cabinet nominates for moderator of the Rep/Nom Team will keep an acceptable balance in leadership roles.

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 only ministry team which includes only one gender (women) is the Representation/Nominating Team. Several of the ministers of Word and sacrament in our small presbytery are serving on two ministry teams.

We recommend that the Leadership Cabinet seek male representation on the Rep/Nom Team when there is a vacancy.

Geographical representation:

8 are from the eastern region of Yellowstone Presbytery (8 churches)

18 are from the central region of Yellowstone Presbytery (7 churches)

16 are from the western region of Yellowstone Presbytery (7 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 region.

Age representation:

25 are 60+ years of age

11 are 40-59 years of age

6 are under 40 years of age

(Many of these ages are guesses!) This distribution is slightly less skewed towards those who are 60+ than the analysis of 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 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,
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