

## OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

*(From The Design of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) rev. July 2017)*

47. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) shall have two kinds of officers: non-salaried officers of the General Assembly and salaried general officers of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

48. *Non-salaried officers of the General Assembly.* The non-salaried officers of the General Assembly shall be a Moderator, a Moderator-Elect, a First Vice Moderator, a Second Vice Moderator, and such other officers as the General Assembly may from time to time determine. These officers shall be nominated by the General Nominating Committee and elected by the General Assembly for terms of two years, unless otherwise noted.

a. The Moderator shall preside at the sessions of the General Assembly, the General Board, and the Administrative Committee, and shall assume such other responsibilities as may be assigned by these bodies.

b. The Vice Moderators shall assist the Moderator in presiding at the sessions of the General Assembly, the General Board, and the Administrative Committee, and shall assume such other responsibilities as may be assigned by these bodies.

c. The Moderator-Elect shall serve for two years and then serve as Moderator for two years. The Moderator-Elect shall assume other responsibilities as may be assigned by the General Board or Administrative Committee.

d. The Moderator, Vice Moderators and Moderator-Elect shall be active members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and shall include at least one woman, one man, one lay leader and one minister with standing in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The moderators shall include persons from different racial or ethnic backgrounds. These officers shall take office upon the adjournment of the regular meeting of the General Assembly in which they are elected, and shall hold office through the next regular meeting or until their successors have been elected and installed.

## **THE GENERAL BOARD**

***(From The Design of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) rev. July 2017)***

54. The General Assembly shall establish a smaller deliberative body responsible to the General Assembly that shall be called the General Board. Under broad policies determined by the General Assembly, the General Board shall:

- a. Receive, review, and refer to the General Assembly with appropriate recommendations all items of business presented, as provided in paragraph 41.
- b. Establish the procedures whereby the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) may engage in planning its total program of work and witness.
- c. Receive, review, and approve the financial objective of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).
- d. Review and evaluate the program of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in accordance with its recognized mission, and make appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly.
- e. Receive and initiate proposed policy to be referred with recommendation to the General Assembly for action.
- f. Establish procedures for continual renewal and structural reform.
- g. Consult and confer with staff members in consideration of matters under review and evaluation.
- h. Elect or confirm the governing bodies of general ministries for which it is responsible.
- i. Elect the committees of the General Assembly.
- j. Assume and discharge such other responsibilities as may be assigned to it by the General Assembly.

55. Between meetings of the General Assembly, the General Board may take interim action within established policy of the General Assembly on behalf of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), subject in all matters to a review of its action by the subsequent General Assembly.

56. The General Board shall consist of members elected for terms of four years. Such elected members shall include laymen, laywomen, and ministers with standing in the Christian

Church (Disciples of Christ), not more than one-half nor less than one-third of whom shall be ministers. They shall be elected in the following manner:

- a. The General Nominating Committee shall nominate, with attention to the full diversity of the church, and the General Assembly shall elect 17 members representing congregations, at least two of whom are between the ages of 18 and 23 at the time of election.
- b. The governing body of each Region shall elect one of its members to serve on the General Board.
- c. The governing body of each General Ministry shall elect one if its members to serve on the General Board.
- d. The governing bodies of the National Bi-Lingual Hispanic Fellowship, North American Pacific Asian Disciples and the National Convocation shall each elect one of its members to serve on the General Board.

The following shall be members *ex officio*: the Moderators; General Minister and President; two ecumenical members, each from a different North American communion; and the former General Minister and Presidents. The following shall be members *ex officio* without vote: the Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, the Chief Administrative Officer of each general ministry; each regional minister; two Chief Administrative Officers of institutions of higher education designated by Higher Education and Leadership Ministries as representatives of liberal arts education and seminary education.

57. Terms on the General Board begin and end at the close of the General Assembly. Elected members of the General Board who have served two full consecutive terms shall not be eligible for re-election until one biennium has elapsed.

58. Regular meeting of the General Board shall ordinarily be held annually at a time and place to be fixed by the General Board, except that the meeting in the year in which the General Assembly shall convene shall be held not more than 90 days nor less than 60 days

prior to the beginning of the regular meeting of the General Assembly. One-half of the voting membership of the General Board shall constitute a quorum. The meeting of the full General Board in a year in which a General Assembly is not held may be canceled by majority vote of the General Board, being secured by mail ballot, online form, or other appropriate communication means by which a reply can be verified. The Moderator may call special meetings of the General Board under extraordinary circumstances.

59. The General Board shall appoint committees as necessary to facilitate the work of the General Board. General Board committees, when used, will be assigned to reinforce the wholeness of the General Board's job and so as never to interfere with interaction between the General Board and its constituencies.

- a. General Board committees ordinarily will assist the board by preparing policy alternatives and implications for board deliberation.
- b. General Board committees may not speak or act for the General Board except when formally given such authority for specific and time-limited purposes.
- c. The General Board shall maintain Standing Rules that guide and govern its work as assigned in *The Design*.