



MODERATOR OF THE 2022 GENERAL ASSEMBLY
The Rev. Dr. Robert N. Faris, B.A., M.Div., M.Th., Ph.D.

August 3, 2022

TO: Clerks of Presbytery

FROM: The Rev. Victor S.J. Kim, Clerk of Assembly

RE: Nominations for Moderator of the 2023 General Assembly

See: Regulations, A&P, 1973, p. 407–08

Recommendation No. 4, A&P, 1977, p. 216

Recommendation No. 4, A&P, 1979, p. 217 and 86

Dear Friends in Christ,

The deadline for presbyteries to submit nominations for Moderator of the 2023 General Assembly is November 30, 2022. Each presbytery may make up to two nominations. A biographical sketch of not more than 100 words should be submitted for each nominee.

Please note: Since the advent of elders serving as Moderator, it is important to note that elder candidates for the office of Moderator must be acting members of a session, since their eligibility to be a commissioner to the General Assembly depends on their being a member of a session (see sections 278.5, 258.3).

The 2021 General Assembly adopted Recommendation CLK-019, authorizing the Clerks of Assembly and the Committee to Advise the Moderator to facilitate online voting for the nominee for Moderator of the 2023 General Assembly. Therefore, the Clerks of Assembly will distribute ballots, biographical sketches, etc., both electronically and in paper format, to presbyteries before December 31, 2022. The deadline for returning the ballots, attested by the Presbytery Clerk, is March 31, 2023. Those received after 11:59 p.m. on that day will not be counted. Your assistance in returning the ballots before the deadline will be greatly appreciated.

Your attention is directed to the decision of the 111th General Assembly: that presbyteries be instructed not to forward nominations for positions within boards, committees, colleges and other agencies of the church, without informing the persons being nominated (A&P 1985, Clerks of Assembly Recommendation No. 16, as amended, p. 52). While this does not specifically mention Moderator, I am sure those being nominated would appreciate this courtesy.

An overture submitted to the 74th General Assembly (1948) requested that presbyteries not correspond with each other in order to not influence other presbyteries in the nomination of moderators. Subsequent Assemblies have not changed the position taken by the 74th Assembly, and so I draw this concern to your attention.

The current voting procedures were established in 1973 when the method was changed from “vote for one and count to see who has the most votes” to “the counting shall proceed until one nominee receives an overall majority, with the low nominee being dropped and his (sic) votes distributed according to the preference indicated.” (A&P 1973, p. 407)

The Assembly Council will meet this fall to confirm the dates and format of the 2023 General Assembly. Any updates will be immediately communicated to all presbyteries.

Thank you for your partnership in ministry and may God’s blessing be with you.

The Rev. Victor S.J. Kim
Principal Clerk

Clerks of Assembly: The Rev. Victor S.J. Kim and The Rev. Donald G.A. Muir