

Call to Accountability 2026

For nearly five decades the Standing Committee has called the denomination to accountability for seeking equality of representation on Annual Conference ballots. As we seek nominations for denominational leadership roles for 2026, we are reminded of this necessity. Your help in calling forth a wide spectrum of gender, age, geographical, vocational, theological, racial and ethnic representation is vital to the health of the denomination.

In the words of the 1979 Statement on Annual Conference Elections:

... it is incumbent on the church to ensure that the nomination and election process is fair and equitable and that all persons within our denomination have an equal opportunity of receiving that call for service (1979 Annual Conference Minutes).

The *Call to Accountability for Equality of Representation on Annual Conference Ballots* has been reaffirmed seven times since it was originally adopted. Any member of the Church of the Brethren may make nominations and we ask that you do so. Please encourage your congregational delegates to prayerfully cast their ballots with the goal of making full use of all the gifts and skills available to us. All of our spiritual gifts are needed if we function well together within the Body of Christ.

Statistics have been provided the past five years to show the election results and our progress toward this goal:

2022	Standing Comm. Ballot		Annual Conference Ballot		Elected	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Moderator-Elect	3	1	2	0	1	0
	(1 racial/ethnic)		(1 racial/ethnic)		(1 racial/ethnic)	
Annual Conf. Secretary	3	1	1	1	0	1
Program & Arrangements	2	2	1	1	0	1
Mission & Ministry Board Area 1	2	2	1	1	0	1
Mission & Ministry Board Area 2	4	0	2	0	1	0
Bethany Seminary (Brethren Colleges)	2	2	1	1	0	1
	(1 racial/ethnic)		(1 racial/ethnic)		(0 racial/ethnic)	
Bethany Seminary (Clergy)	2	2	2	0	1	0
Brethren Benefit Trust	0	3	0	2	0	1
On Earth Peace	1	3	0	2	0	1
Pastoral Comp & Benefits	2	2	2	0	1	0
Totals	21	18	12	8	4	6
	(2 racial/ethnic)		(2 racial/ethnic)		(1 racial/ethnic)	

2023	Standing Comm. Ballot		Annual Conference Ballot		Elected	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Moderator-Elect	1	3	1	1	1	0
Program and Arrangements	4	0	2	0	1	0
	(1 racial/ethnic)		(0 racial/ethnic)		(0 racial/ethnic)	
Mission/Ministry Board Area 2	3	1	1	1	1	0
Mission/Ministry Board Area 3	3	1	2	0	1	0
	(1 racial/ethnic)		(1 racial/ethnic)		(1 racial/ethnic)	
Bethany Seminary (Clergy)	1	3	2	0	1	0
Bethany Seminary (Laity)	1	3	0	2	0	1
Brethren Benefit Trust	0	4	0	2	0	1
On Earth Peace	4	0	2	0	1	0
Pastoral Comp & Benefits	3	1	1	1	1	0
Totals	20	16	11	7	7	2
	(2 racial/ethnic)		(2 racial/ethnic)		(1 racial/ethnic)	

2024	Standing Comm. Ballot		Annual Conference Ballot		Elected	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Moderator-Elect	1	3	0	2	0	1
Program & Arrangements	4	0	2	0	1	0
Mission/Ministry Board Area 4	4	0	2	0	1	0
Mission/Ministry Board Area 5	1	3	0	2	0	1
	(1 racial/ethnic)		(1 racial/ethnic)		(0 racial/ethnic)	
Bethany Seminary	2	2	0	2	0	1
On Earth Peace	1	3	1	1	1	0
Totals	13	11	5	7	3	3
	(1 racial/ethnic)		(1 racial/ethnic)		(0 racial/ethnic)	

2025	Standing Comm. Ballot		Annual Conference Ballot		Elected	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Moderator-Elect	1	3	0	2		1
Program & Arrangements	1	3	1	1	1	
Mission/Ministry Board Area 1	2	2	1	1		1
	(1 racial/ethnic)		(1 racial/ethnic)		(1- racial/ethnic)	
Mission/Ministry Board Area 4	2	2	1	1	1	
Pastoral Compensation & Benefits Advisory Comm.	2	2	0	2		1
Review and Evaluation Committee	10	10	6	4	3	2
	(3 racial/ethnic)		(2 racial/ethnic)		(2- racial/ethnic)	
Totals	18	22	9	11	5	5
	(4 racial/ethnic)		(3 racial/ethnic)		(2 racial/ethnic)	

2026	Standing Comm. Ballot		Annual Conference Ballot		Elected	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Moderator-Elect	1	3	1	1		
	(1 racial/ethnic)		(1 racial/ethnic)			
Program & Arrangements	4	0	2	0		
	(1 racial/ethnic)		(1 racial/ethnic)			
Mission & Ministry Board Area 3	3	1	2	0		
Mission & Ministry Board Area 5	3	1	1	1		
Pastoral Comp & Benefits	0	2	0	2		
Totals	11	7	6	4		
	(2 racial/ethnic)		(2 racial/ethnic)			