

**Nominating Committee Annual Report
To the Presbytery of Southern New England
May 2019**

Members of the Nominating Committee:

Art Riihimaki (artsdomain2@me.com); Tom Taylor (twtay37@gmail.com);

Rev. Anne Fuhrmeister (pastor.crossroads@att.net); Pat Wales (patwales@att.net)

The committee's responsibilities include finding members to serve on Committee on Ministry, Committee for the Preparation for Ministry, Trustees, Personnel, Representation, and Permanent Judicial Commission. We also nominate officers of the Presbytery and Corporation, chairs of committees, commissioners to General Assembly and Synod of the Northeast Assembly and Mission and Ministry Committee, and members-at-large to Roundtable.

While we have a directory of teaching elders, we have no such list for ruling elders. This makes it harder to recruit lay leaders for service. Help from pastors, clerks, and others is appreciated in finding appropriate people to ask to serve. Of course, self-nomination is also acceptable. A proposal to expand the committee to include one or two members from each area of the Presbytery has been presented to Roundtable. If that can be implemented, it might make it easier to find suitable people.

We continue to be concerned about diversity in the leadership and we are working with the Committee on Representation to become a more diverse leadership regarding ethnicity, gender, age, and clergy vs. lay.

The Rev. Ned Castner served on the committee faithfully for many years. We are grateful for his service as we remember his life among us. Also, thanks to Tom Taylor who has served two terms on the committee.

The committee now meets by Zoom as needed.

We are grateful to many who have responded positively to the call to serve this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Elder Art Riihimaki, Nominations Committee Chair