

1 A005: Of the Presiding Bishop in a Unicameral General Convention

2  
3 Title I.2

4  
5 Sec. 1 (a) At each General Convention the ~~House of Deputies shall elect one Clerical and~~  
6 ~~one Lay Deputy~~ Clergy and Lay Orders, voting separately by order, shall each elect one  
7 person from its order from each Province as members of the ~~Joint~~ Nominating Committee  
8 for the Election of the Presiding Bishop. ~~A Deputy from a particular Province may be~~  
9 nominated only by another Deputy from the same Province, but the election of each  
10 member of the Committee shall be by the entire membership of the House of Deputies,  
11 with a majority of those voting necessary for election. Prior to the election, the Clerical  
12 and Lay Deputies from each Province shall hold a caucus, at which two Clerical Deputies  
13 and two Lay Deputies as nominees shall be ~~selected by the caucus, and these shall be the~~  
14 ~~only nominees upon which the House of Deputies Clerical and Lay Orders shall vote in~~  
15 ~~electing the members of the Joint Nominating Committee. The election of each such~~  
16 ~~member of the Committee shall be by the entire membership of the Clerical and Lay~~  
17 ~~Orders, with a majority of those voting necessary for election. The President of the~~  
18 ~~House of Deputies, Co-Chairs of General Convention, acting jointly and after~~  
19 consultation with representatives of youth, shall appoint two persons, age 16-21, as  
20 members of the ~~Joint~~ Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop.

21  
22 (b) At each General Convention the House Order of Bishops shall elect one Bishop from  
23 each Province as a member of the ~~Joint~~ Nominating Committee for the Election of the  
24 Presiding Bishop. A Bishop from a particular Province may be nominated only by  
25 another Bishop from the same Province, but the election of each such member of the  
26 Committee shall be by the entire membership of the House Order of Bishops, with a  
27 majority of those voting necessary for election. Prior to the election, the Bishops from  
28 each Province shall hold a caucus, at which the caucus shall select two Bishops as  
29 ~~nominees shall be selected by the caucus, and these shall be the only nominees upon~~  
30 ~~which the House Order of Bishops shall vote in electing the members of the Joint~~  
31 ~~Nominating Committee.~~

32  
33 (c) In the event vacancies shall occur in the ~~Joint~~ Nominating Committee after the  
34 election of its members due to death, disability, resignation, or other cause within one  
35 year of the next General Convention, the vacancies shall not be filled and the remaining  
36 members shall constitute the ~~Joint~~ Nominating Committee. In the event such vacancies  
37 shall occur more than one year prior to the next General Convention, the Presiding  
38 ~~Officer of the House of Bishops~~ Bishop shall appoint replacemens for Bishops and the  
39 ~~President of the House of Deputies~~ Chief Lay and Clergy Officer shall appoint  
40 replacements for Clerical and Lay ~~Deputies~~ members, in all cases from the same  
41 Provinces as those Bishops or Lay and Clergy Deputies whose positions are being filled.  
42 An elected or appointed member who shall not be a Deputy to the next General  
43 Convention shall continue as a member of the ~~Joint~~ Nominating Committee until the  
44 adjournment of such next General Convention. A member of the Committee who

45 transfers from one Province to another or a Lay Deputy who is ordained Presbyter or  
 46 Deacon, or a Presbyter or Deacon who is consecrated a Bishop, shall not thereby become  
 47 ineligible to continue to serve on the ~~Joint~~-Nominating Committee through the  
 48 next succeeding General Convention.

49

50 (d) The ~~Joint~~ Nominating Committee shall remain in office until the adjournment of the  
 51 next General Convention, at which time a new ~~Joint~~ Nominating Committee shall be  
 52 elected. Members of the Committee are eligible for reelection.

53

54 (e) The ~~Joint~~ Nominating Committee shall develop and manage a process for soliciting  
 55 and identifying qualified nominees for the office of Presiding Bishop and for providing  
 56 the nominees to the General Convention at which a Presiding Bishop is to be elected.  
 57 The process shall include (1) providing the names of not fewer than three members of the  
 58 House Order of Bishops for consideration by the ~~House of Bishops and the House of~~  
 59 ~~Deputies~~ General Convention in the choice of a Presiding Bishop; (2) establishing a  
 60 timely process for any bishop or deputy to express the intent to nominate any other  
 61 member of the House Order of Bishops from the floor at the time the ~~Joint~~ Nominating  
 62 Committee presents its nominees to the ~~joint session of the two Houses~~ General  
 63 Convention, and for each Bishop so nominated to be included in the information  
 64 distributed about the nominees; (3) providing pastoral care for each nominee bishop and  
 65 his or her family and diocese; and (4) determining and providing for transition assistance  
 66 to the Presiding Bishop and the Presiding Bishop-elect.

67

68 (f) At the General Convention at which a Presiding Bishop is to be elected, the ~~Joint~~  
 69 Nominating Committee shall present to the ~~House of Bishops and the House of Deputies~~  
 70 ~~in Joint Session~~ General Convention the names of not fewer than three members of the  
 71 House Order of Bishops for the consideration of the ~~two Houses~~ General Convention in  
 72 the choice of a Presiding Bishop. At the ~~Joint Ssession to~~ at which the ~~Joint~~ Nominating  
 73 Committee ~~shall~~ presents its report, any Bishop or Deputy may nominate any other  
 74 member of the House Order of Bishops for the consideration of the ~~two Houses~~ General  
 75 Convention in the choice of a Presiding Bishop. Election of a Presiding Bishop shall be  
 76 by concurrent vote of each Order, deliberating and voting separately, from among all  
 77 such nominees. The affirmative vote of a majority of the Deputies of each Order shall be  
 78 required for the election of a Presiding Bishop. ~~and~~ ~~†~~ There may be discussion of all  
 79 nominees. ~~Commencing on the day following the Joint Session, election shall be by the~~  
 80 ~~House of Bishops from among such nominees. If the House of Bishops~~ General  
 81 Convention shall find itself unable to elect a Presiding Bishop ~~from among such~~  
 82 ~~nominees~~, another ~~Joint Session~~ election process shall be held, at which additional  
 83 nominations may be received, and on the following day, election shall be by the ~~House of~~  
 84 ~~Bishops~~ General Convention from among all of the nominees- including those previously  
 85 nominated. After the election by the House of Bishops, report of the result thereof,  
 86 including the number of votes cast for each nominee on each ballot, shall be made to the  
 87 ~~House of Deputies which shall vote to confirm or not to confirm such choice of Presiding~~  
 88 ~~Bishop.~~

89

90 (g) In the event a vacancy in the office of Presiding Bishop shall occur in the interim  
 91 between meetings of the General Convention, ~~as specified in the second paragraph of~~  
 92 ~~Article I, Section 3 of the Constitution, the Joint~~ the Nominating Committee shall, subject  
 93 ~~to the said Article, shall~~ within forty-five days of the occurrence of the vacancy, submit  
 94 ~~to the Secretary of the House of Bishops the names of not fewer than three members of~~  
 95 ~~the House Convocation of Bishops for the~~ its consideration, the names of not fewer than  
 96 three members of the Convocatin of Bishops for consideration by that House in the  
 97 choice of a Presiding Bishop to fill the vacancy; and simultaneously therewith shall  
 98 ~~transmit a copy of such report to the Secretary of the House of Deputies for mailing to all~~  
 99 ~~Deputies~~ notify the Presiding Deputy, who shall in turn notify all Lay and Clergy  
 100 Deputies. Such report shall also be released to the Church and secular press. Thereafter,  
 101 the House Convocation of Bishops shall hold a special meeting for the purpose of  
 102 electing to elect a Presiding Bishop to fill the vacancy, and; in such election, the vote  
 103 shall be upon the nominees of the Joint Nominating Committee and any further  
 104 nominations made by any voting member of the House Convocation of Bishops. At the  
 105 special meeting the Convocation of Bishops shall, by the affirmative vote of a majority of  
 106 its members, elect a Presiding Bishop to serve until the next General Convention.  
 107 Immediately following the election by the House Convocation of Bishops, the Presiding  
 108 Bishop-Elect shall certify to Secretary of the House of Bishops General Convention, in  
 109 writing, the results of the election. The Secretary of the General Convention shall then  
 110 promptly inform the President and Secretary of each Diocesan Standing Committee,  
 111 requesting a meeting at the earliest possible date to consider approval of the Presiding  
 112 Bishop elected by the Convocation of Bishops. The Presiding Bishop-Elect  
 113 of the General Convention shall also notify the Presiding Deputy, who shall notify all  
 114 Lay and Clergy Delegates of the results of the election. Upon receipt of the approval of a  
 115 majority of the Standing Committees of the Dioceses, the Presiding Bishop Elect shall be  
 116 declared elected.

117  
 118 Sec. 2. The term of office of the Presiding Bishop, when elected according to the  
 119 provisions of Article I, Section 3 of the Constitution, shall be nine years, beginning the  
 120 first day of the month of November following the close of the Convention at which the  
 121 Presiding Bishop is elected, unless attaining the age of seventy-two years before the term  
 122 shall have been completed; in that case the Presiding Bishop shall resign the office to the  
 123 General Convention ~~which that~~ occurs nearest to the date of attaining such age. At that  
 124 Convention a successor shall be elected, and shall assume office on the first day of the  
 125 month of November following the close of that Convention or immediately upon the  
 126 death, retirement, or disability of the Presiding Bishop. ; except that w When a Presiding  
 127 Bishop has been elected by the House Convocation of Bishops to fill a vacancy, as  
 128 provided for in the second paragraph of Article I, Section 3 of the Constitution, the  
 129 Presiding Bishop so elected shall take office immediately.

130  
 131 Sec. 3 (a) Upon the expiration of the term of office of the Presiding Bishop, the Bishop  
 132 who is elected successor shall tender to the ~~House of Bishops~~ General Convention a  
 133 resignation from the Bishop's previous jurisdiction to take effect upon the date of  
 134 assuming the office of Presiding Bishop, or, upon good cause with the advice and consent

135 of the Advisory Committee established under the Rules of Order of the ~~House~~  
 136 Convocation of Bishops, not later than six months thereafter.

137  
 138 (b) Such resignation shall be acted upon immediately by the ~~House~~ Order of Bishops.

139  
 140 Sec. 4 (a) The Presiding Bishop shall be the Chief Pastor and Primate of the Church; ~~and~~  
 141 The Presiding Bishop shall also:

142 (1)(a) Be charged with responsibility for leadership in initiating  
 143 and developing the policy and strategy in the Church and  
 144 speaking for the Church as to the policies, strategies and  
 145 programs authorized by the General Convention; The Presiding  
 146 Bishop shall have primary responsibility for the execution of the program and  
 147 policies  
 148 adopted by the General Convention and the coordination, development, and  
 149 implementation of the ministry and mission of the Church.

150 (b) The Presiding Bishop may, if he or she deems it appropriate to carry out the  
 151 ministry and mission of the Church between sessions of General Convention,  
 152 carry  
 153 out new initiatives, with the approval of the Executive Committee.

154 (c) The Presiding Bishop and the Church General Manager, assisted by their  
 155 respective staffs, shall be responsible for generating drafts of reports to General  
 156 Convention for review and approval by the Executive Council and for providing  
 157 information requested by Executive Council in order to discharge its  
 158 responsibilities.

159 (d) The Presiding Bishop shall serve as the President of the Domestic and Foreign  
 160 Missionary Society.

161 (e) In consultation with the Executive Council, the Presiding Bishop and the  
 162 Presiding  
 163 Deputy may appoint ad hoc task forces that include or consist solely of persons  
 164 outside the staff of DFMS, if they deem that advisable in order to best implement  
 165 the Resolutions or the work of the Church. The members of the Task Forces shall  
 166 be proposed by the Presiding Bishop and the Presiding Deputy and be approved  
 167 by Executive Council. The term of the appointments to the Task Forces shall be  
 168 no longer than three years, unless members of the Task Forces are reappointed at  
 169 the end of their term.

170 (2) Speak God's words to the Church and to the world, as the representative of  
 171 this Church and its episcopate in its corporate capacity;

172 (3) In the event of an Episcopal vacancy within a Diocese, consult with the  
 173 Ecclesiastical Authority to ensure that adequate interim Episcopal Services are  
 174 provided;

175 (4) Take order for the consecration of Bishops, when duly elected; and, from time  
 176 to time, assemble the Bishops of this Church to meet, either as the ~~House~~  
 177 Convocation of Bishops or as a Council of Bishops otherwise, and set the time  
 178 and place of such meetings;

179 (5) Preside over meetings of the ~~House~~ Order or Convocation of Bishops; and,  
 180 ~~when the two Houses of the General Convention meet in Joint Session,~~ have the

181 right of calling for a meeting of General Convention ~~presiding over such Session,~~  
 182 ~~of calling for such Joint Session,~~ of recommending legislation to either House the  
 183 General Convention; and, upon due notification, of appearing before and  
 184 ~~addressing the House of Deputies;~~ and whenever addressing the General  
 185 Convention upon the state of the Church, it shall be incumbent upon ~~both Houses~~  
 186 the General Convention thereof to consider ~~and act upon~~ any recommendations  
 187 contained in such address;

188 (6) Visit every Diocese of this Church for the purpose of: (i) Holding pastoral  
 189 consultations with the Bishop or Bishops thereof and, with their advice, with the  
 190 Lay and Clerical leaders of the jurisdiction; (ii) Preaching the Word; and (iii)  
 191 Celebrating the Holy Eucharist.

192  
 193 (b) The Presiding Bishop shall report annually to the Church, and may, from time to time,  
 194 issue Pastoral Letters.

195  
 196 (c) The Presiding Bishop shall perform such other functions as shall be prescribed in  
 197 these Canons; ~~and, to be enabled better to perform such duties and responsibilities, the~~  
 198 ~~Presiding Bishop may appoint, to positions established by the Executive Council of~~  
 199 ~~General Convention, officers, responsible to the Presiding Bishop, who may delegate~~  
 200 ~~such authority as shall seem appropriate.~~

201  
 202 ~~Sec. 5. The Presiding Bishop may appoint, as Chancellor to the Presiding Bishop, a~~  
 203 ~~confirmed adult communicant of the Church in good standing who is learned in both~~  
 204 ~~ecclesiastical and secular law, to serve so long as the Presiding Bishop may desire, as~~  
 205 ~~counselor in matters relating to the office and the discharge of the responsibilities~~  
 206 ~~of that office.~~

207  
 208 Sec. 65. The stipends of the Presiding Bishop and such personal assistants as may be  
 209 necessary during the Presiding Bishop's term of office for the effective performance of  
 210 the duties, and the necessary expenses of that office, shall be fixed by the General  
 211 Convention and shall be provided for in the budget to be submitted by the  
 212 Treasurer, as provided in the Canon entitled, "Of the General Convention."

213  
 214 Sec. 7 6. In the event of the disability of the Presiding Bishop, the Bishop who, according  
 215 to the Rules of the House Order of Bishops, becomes its Presiding Officer, shall be  
 216 substituted for the Presiding Bishop for all the purposes of these Canons, except the  
 217 Canons entitled, "Of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society," and  
 218 "Of the Executive Council."

219  
 220 Sec. 8 7. Upon the acceptance of the Presiding Bishop's resignation for reasons of  
 221 disability prior to the expiration of the term of office, the Presiding Bishop may be  
 222 granted, in addition to whatever allowance may be received from The Church Pension  
 223 Fund, a disability allowance to be paid by the Treasurer of the General Convention in an  
 224 amount to be fixed by the ~~Joint~~ Standing Committee on Program, Budget, and Finance,  
 225 and ratified at the next regular meeting of the General Convention.