

WESTMINSTER COMMISSIONS

Vision:

To be a Leader in Embracing Dynamic Traditions for a New World

What is a commission?

In a Presbyterian Church, the Session is the governing body responsible for the total life and ministry of the church. To fulfill its responsibility, the Session has divided its work among eight commissions: Building and Grounds, Congregational Life, Education, Finance, Leadership, Music and Worship, Preschool and Stateline. These eight commissions have been given the responsibility to carry out essential tasks and report back to Session.

Who serves on a commission?

A commission is generally made up of 1 or 2 elders from the Session and 9 or 10 at-large members from the congregation. These 10-12 members may or may not break down into additional task teams (or ministry teams) to accomplish their work. Members not serving on the commission are added to these teams. After three 1-year terms of service, a person is asked to take one year off from their particular commission.

When do Commissions meet?

Most commissions (and the Deacons) meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm. Everyone meets in the sanctuary for 15 minutes to clarify items relevant to all commissions and to pray together. The commissions then meet separately in assigned meeting rooms. Stateline Commission usually meets on the second Tuesday at the Stateline Campus.

How is business conducted?

Each commission provides the Session with an updated description. On a given meeting night, an agenda should be presented by the moderator to accomplish the commission's listed tasks. Meetings are conducted by the presentation of information, the making of motions and discussion. The accomplishment of the many tasks depends on the participation of commission members outside the confines of the meeting. It is very important that each commission submit a report for Session one week prior to each Session Meeting. The report should follow the prescribed format, listing action items and information. (Deadline for that report is the Tuesday after Commission Night)

Staff/Budget

Each commission will have at least one staff resource person. Each commission will be responsible to develop a budget for the next year. It is assumed that if a commission is spending within its accepted budget it is not necessary to have Session approval unless the amount exceeds \$1,000.00.