

## COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY

---

### **Description:**

- To support the bishop in the oversight of the spiritual and temporal affairs of the Church, with special reference to the work of the annual conference.
- To be available to the bishop for counsel.
- To assist in the determination of the Episcopal needs of the area and to make recommendations to appropriate bodies.
- To keep the bishop advised concerning conditions within the conference as they affect relationships between the bishop and the people of the conference agencies.
- To interpret to the people of the area and to conference agencies the nature and function of the Episcopal office.
- To engage in annual consultation and appraisal of the balance of the bishop's relationship and responsibilities to the annual conference, the jurisdiction, general Church boards and agencies and other areas of specialized ministry, including at all levels the inclusiveness of the Church and its ministry with respect to sex, race, and national origin, and understanding and implementation of the consultation process in appointment-making.
- To report needs for Episcopal leadership to the jurisdictional committee on episcopacy through the duly elected conference members of that committee.

### **Book of Discipline:** BOD 637

**Conference Rules:** The Committee's membership shall number at least seven, but no more than seventeen.

- One-fifth of the committee's members shall be appointed by the bishop.
- It is recommended that the committee be one-third laywomen, one-third laymen, and one-third clergypersons with special attention given to inclusiveness.
- Conference staff members and members of their immediate family cannot serve as members.
- However, in the Texas Conference, we have found that it is helpful to have the following serve as Ex-Officio members:
  - Assistant to the Bishop,
  - Conference Treasurer, and
  - Members of the Jurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy.
  -

**Expectations:** The Committee shall meet at least annually and shall elect a chairperson, a vice chairperson, and a secretary. The bishop and/or the chairperson may call additional meetings as needed.