

Deacon Nomination Process

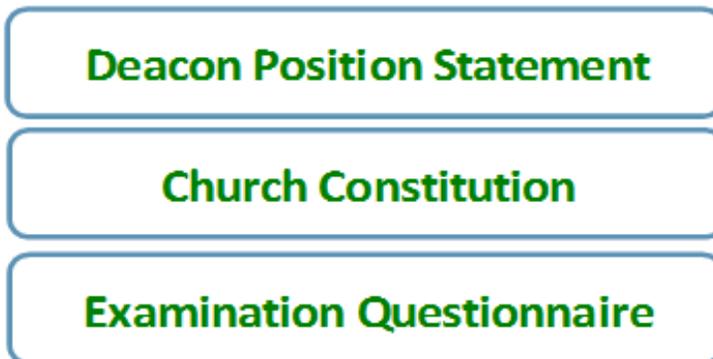
The deacon nomination process begins with requirements as stipulated by the church constitution and supplements with a review process established by and followed by the Deacon Screening Committee. Each of the committee review periods identified below requires a unanimous vote of the Deacon Screening Committee to proceed with a particular nominee.

Nominations for deacon are accepted from the church body during a time advertised to the church by the deacon body. In addition, an electronic nomination may be submitted at any time during the year through the church website. All nominations, whether collected during the nomination time specified or through the website are all considered at the same time.

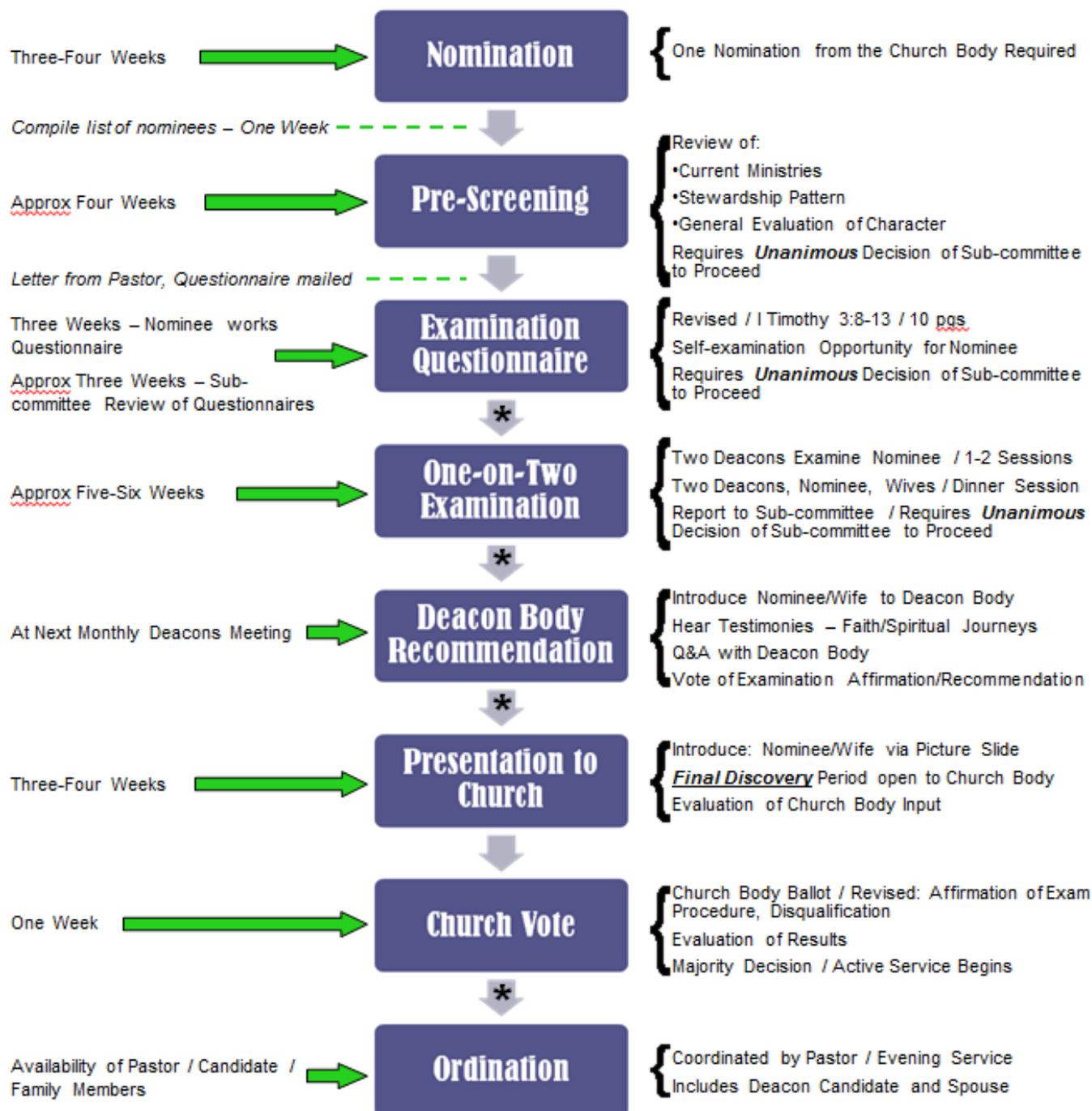
The Screening Committee process is shown on the figure on the following page, which begins with a review of each nominee to verify he meets constitutional requirements, has been faithful in financial stewardship, has demonstrated an active role of service in the church, and is known to the committee or the pastor for his spiritual maturity. Those nominees identified by the committee after the initial review to be good candidates for deacon are sent a Deacon Questionnaire and asked to fill it out and return it or to decline nomination. Returned questionnaires are reviewed individually by committee members and discussed by the committee as a whole. The committee votes on whether to continue the nomination process for each candidate. At the conclusion of this review period the committee chairman (or his designee) contacts each nominee to advise him of his nomination status. Those nominees voted on by the committee to continue in the nomination process are assigned deacons (typically two) for follow-up interviews of both the nominee and his wife. During this time a background check is conducted on each nominee. Following the interview sessions, reports are made back to the screening committee for a decision to proceed with each nominee or not. At the conclusion of this review period the committee chairman (or his designee – likely one of the interviewing deacons) contacts each nominee to advise him of his nomination status and the next step in the process, as appropriate. For those chosen to proceed, they are presented to the deacon body for review. After an affirming vote from the deacon body, the candidates are then presented to the church for a church vote to become a deacon. Both at the conclusion of the deacon body review and then again after the vote by the church, the committee chairman (or his designee) communicates the results of each vote to the deacon candidate.

For newly-elected deacons who have never been ordained, the Pastor's office will set a date for them to be ordained. An ordination council will be convened to allow verbal examination of the deacon, which will be followed by an ordination service. The newly-elected deacons are expected to begin regular attendance of deacon meetings whether ordination is required or not.

Supporting Documents



TIMELINE - Approx 6 Months



* Denotes Points At Which The Results Of The Decision On Candidacy Are Communicated Back To The Candidate