

**Presbytery of Tampa Bay
2021 Plan for Parity of Ministers of Word and Sacrament
and Ruling Elder Commissioners**

<u>City</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Membership 12/31/2019</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Auburndale	First	73	1						1
Bartow	McLeod Memorial	62	1						1
Brandon	First	309	1						1
Brandon	PC of Bloomingdale	54	1						1
Brandon	Springwater	49	1		1				2
Brooksville	First	50	1						1
Clearwater	Church of the Reconciler	31	1		1				2
Clearwater	Hope	118	1						1
Clearwater	Northwood	910	2	2					4
Clearwater	Peace Memorial	238	1	2					3
Clearwater	Trinity	168	1	2					3
Crystal River	Life Tree	37	1						1
Dade City	First	68	1						1
Dunedin	First	287	1						1
Dunedin	St Andrews	326	1						1
Fort Meade	First	27	1						1
Gulfport	Gulfport	20	1						1
Hudson	St Marks	113	1						1
Inverness	First	472	1						1
Lake Alfred	First	23	1						1
Lake Hamilton	Lake Hamilton	10	1						1
Lakeland	Beacon Hill Fellowship	30	1						1
Lakeland	Chapel in the Grove	100	1						1
Lakeland	First	1132	3	2					5
Lakeland	Hope Community	78	1						1
Lakeland	PC in the Highlands	104	1						1
Largo	Christ	86	1						1
Lutz	Lutz Community	157	1						1
New Pt Richey	Trinity PC Seven Springs	378	1						1
Palm Harbor	Palm Harbor	243	1						1
Pinellas Park	Good Samaritan	34	1						1
Pinellas Park	Korean	77	1		1				2
Safety Harbor	First	19	1						1
Saint Petersburg	First	426	1						1
Saint Petersburg	Lakeview	35	1		1				2

Saint Petersburg	Maximo	155	1		1				2
Saint Petersburg	Northeast	187	1						1
Saint Petersburg	Northwest	33	1						1
Saint Petersburg	Trinity	56	1		1				2
Saint Petersburg	Woodlawn	50	1						1
Seffner	Seffner	152	1						1
Seminole	Lake Seminole	92	1						1
Spring Hill	Grace	213	1	2					3
Sun City Center	St Andrew	208	1						1
Tampa	Bayshore	40	1						1
Tampa	Chapel in the Pines	25	1						1
Tampa	First	418	1	2					3
Tampa	First Hispanic	72	1		1				2
Tampa	Forest Hills	291	1	2					3
Tampa	Hyde Park	129	1						1
Tampa	Korean	93	1		1				2
Tampa	Palma Ceia	2115	5	2					7
Tampa	St Andrew	83	1						1
Tampa	St John	36	1		1				2
Tampa	Village	210	1						1
Tarpon Springs	Church on the Bayou	36	1						1
Temple Terrace	Temple Terrace	89	1						1
Winter Haven	First	1046	3	2					5
Winter Haven	Hope	307	1						1
Yankeetown	Parsons Memorial	31	1						1
Zephyrhills	First	103	1						1
<i>At Large</i>	<i>Various</i>					10	2	5	17
Totals		12614	70	18	9	10	2	5	114

Notes:

The Form of Government requires each presbytery to “adopt and communicate to the sessions a plan for determining how many ruling elders each session should elect as commissioners to presbytery, with a goal of numerical parity of ministers of the Word and Sacrament and ruling elders” (G-3.0301) when it convenes as a council of the church.

Allocation of ruling elder commissioners is based on the official membership statistics reported as of December 31, 2019. Similarly, the number of ministers of Word and Sacrament used in computing parity is taken from the roll of ministers published at the end of 2019.

At the end of 2019, the Presbytery of Tampa Bay had 189 ministers of Word and Sacrament on the roll in the three membership categories defined in G-2.0503: Engaged in a Validated Ministry (88), Member-at-large (6), and Honorably Retired (95).

The presbytery bylaws provide that, for the purposes of determining parity between ministers of Word and Sacrament and elder commissioners, Honorably Retired (HR) ministers “shall be counted based on the average of total [HR] attendance over the past two years.” Average HR attendance in 2018 and 2019 was 16. Added to the ministers engaged in validated ministry in a congregation or other setting and the members-at-large, the goal for numerical parity is 110 elder commissioners.

The proposed plan for parity at meetings of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay in 2021 described in the chart above achieves that goal by allocating up to 114 elder commissioners according to these criteria, some of which are included in the presbytery bylaws:

- A. Elder commissioners are allocated first to churches according to G-3.0301 in the current Form of Government and the formula in G-11.0101 in the 2009-2011 Book of Order (the “old” Form of Government). Each session elects at least one elder commissioner, with an additional elder commissioner allocated at 501, 1001, 1501, and 2001 (up to a limit of five elder commissioners). Following these guidelines gives us a baseline of 70 elder commissioners.
NOTE: Three churches reported changes in membership at the end of 2019 that changed the number of ruling elder commissioners their sessions may elect.
- B. Two additional elder commissioners are allocated to churches employing two or more pastors, co-pastors, associate pastors or validated ministers at the end of 2019; this adds 18 more.
- C. Following the principles of unity and diversity in F-1.0403 and of participation and representation in G-3.0103, the representation of people of color is strengthened by allocating one additional elder to Church of the Reconciler, First Hispanic, Korean (Pinellas Park), Korean (Tampa), Lakeview, Maximo, Springwater, St. John, and Trinity (St. Petersburg), for a total of 9 additional elder commissioners.
- D. Ruling elders on the Coordinating Team, Presbytery staff, and Permanent Judicial Commission, along with former moderators of this presbytery, and elder commissioners to the most recent General Assembly, average about 10.
- E. Commissioned Pastors serving churches at the end of 2019 adds 2.
- F. Certified Christian Educators who are Ruling Elders reported at the end of 2019 adds 5 more.
- G. *A seventh category used in recent years to add up to 20 more elders from churches between 120 and 499 members that do not already have 2 commissioners was again not needed this year.*