

Midwestern District Council Summer Council 2026 Voting Committee Procedures

1. Election Schedule

The Midwestern District Council Election shall begin on Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at 12:00 noon.

Pastor Cheryl Oliver shall serve as Chairperson of the Voting Committee and shall oversee all election activities, appoint committee members, supervise voting operations, and certify the election results.

Clarification

- The Voting Committee shall remain impartial throughout the election process.
- Committee members shall not campaign while serving in their official capacity.

2. Ballot Boxes

Ten (10) ballot boxes shall be prepared and clearly labeled for the following auxiliaries:

1. Christian Education
2. Executive Board
3. Health Professionals
4. International Missions
5. Men's Ministry
6. Ministers' Wives & Widows
7. Missionary & Christian Women
8. Singles Ministry
9. Ushers Auxiliary
10. Young People's Union



The ballot boxes shall be placed in a secure, visible location in the lobby of Greater Grace Church.

Clarification

- Ballot boxes shall remain under the supervision of the Voting Committee.
- Ballot boxes shall remain locked except during authorized ballot removal.
- Each ballot box shall be clearly identified.

3. Voting Hours

Wednesday–Thursday: 12:00 noon–8:00 p.m.

Friday: 12:00 noon – 5:00 p.m.

No ballots shall be accepted after the official closing time.

4. Securing the Ballot Boxes

At the close of voting each day:

- Ballot boxes shall be sealed.
- The seals shall be inspected before reopening the following day.
- Ballot boxes shall be stored in a secure location accessible only to authorized Voting Committee personnel.

Clarification

At least two Voting Committee members should be present whenever ballot boxes are opened or sealed.

5. Eligible Voters

According to the 2017 Midwestern District Council Constitution, an eligible voter must:

- Be a member in good standing of the Council.
- Be present to cast his or her own ballot.
- No proxy voting shall be permitted.
- Have registered in two (2) of the previous three (3) Council sessions.

Questions regarding eligibility shall be resolved using the official registration records.

6. Verification of Eligibility

The Registration Desk shall maintain the Official Eligibility Roster.

Before receiving a ballot:

- The voter's name shall be verified.
- The voter shall sign or initial the voter register.
- Identification may be requested if necessary.

Persons whose names do not appear on the Eligibility Roster shall not receive a ballot unless authorized by the Election Chair after verification.

7. Voting Committee Schedule

Suggested staffing:

- 2:00–4:00 p.m.
- 4:00–6:00 p.m.
- 6:00–8:00 p.m.

Committee responsibilities:

1. Verify voter eligibility.
2. Issue ballots.
3. Monitor ballot boxes.
4. Maintain election records.
5. Secure ballots daily.
6. Count ballots.
7. Resolve procedural questions.
8. Maintain confidentiality.
9. Report irregularities.
10. Certify vote totals.

8. Daily Collection and Counting of Ballots

At the close of voting each day:

- Ballots shall be removed by at least two committee members.
- Ballots shall be counted.
- Vote totals shall be recorded.
- Ballots shall be secured.
- Daily tally sheets shall be signed.

No ballots shall be discarded until the election has been officially certified.

9. Ballot Distribution and Voting Procedures

Eligible voters shall obtain ballots only from the Registration Desk.

Each voter shall:

- Verify eligibility.
- Receive one ballot.
- Print and sign his or her name if required by Council policy.
- Complete the ballot.
- Personally deposit the ballot into the appropriate ballot box.

Clarification

- No person may cast a ballot for another.

- Spoiled ballots must be surrendered before a replacement ballot is issued.
- Only one replacement ballot may be issued.

10. Closing of the Election and Certification

At the official close of voting:

- No additional ballots shall be accepted.
- All ballots shall be counted.
- Vote totals shall be verified by at least two committee members.
- Results shall be certified by the Chairperson.
- Results shall be presented during the Friday evening business session.

Ballots shall be retained according to Council policy. Election challenges must be submitted in writing in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws.

Voting Committee Checklist

- Ballot boxes labeled
- Ballot boxes empty before voting
- Ballots prepared
- Eligibility roster available
- Pens and supplies ready
- Daily tally sheets prepared
- Security seals available
- Shift assignments completed
- Counting teams assigned
- Results forms prepared

Approved By:

Suffragan Bishop Ron E. Stephens
Chairman, Midwestern District Council