



Dear Presbyters,

The 225th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) will convene over a three-week period, from Friday, June 17-Saturday, July 9, 2022.

Is God calling you to apply to be a commissioner to the General Assembly from Carlisle Presbytery?

This is a unique opportunity to participate in discerning the will of Christ for our denomination at this time of immense change and uncertainty. Those who serve as commissioners will engage with Presbyterians from across our nation (and around the world) to contemplate, converse, and comment on topics central to the life and witness of the PCUSA!

Building on the all on-line General Assembly of 2020, the format of the assembly in 2022 will be hybrid. Commissioners will attend in-person committee meetings, held at the Presbyterian Center in Louisville, on a rotating schedule. The worship and plenary sessions of the General Assembly will take place entirely on-line, (July 5-9) with commissioners and advisory delegates attending from home.

Those elected by their presbyteries to serve as commissioners are asked to place a tentative hold on their calendars from June 17-July 9, 2022, until committee assignments are made (by late February 2022). Once assignments are made, participants may clear any days their assigned committee will not be meeting. All commissioners and advisory delegates are expected to attend the worship and plenary sessions scheduled during the week of July 5-9. See the full docket [here](#).

Yes, this is a very different General Assembly experience. It reflects the calling of our denomination to live into the fullness of being the church in the 21st century. As the assembly convenes around the theme, ***From Lament to Hope***, commissioners will be guided by values integral to our identity and embrace creativity and openness, so that the PCUSA may be more fully inclusive, flexible and faithful.

The Nominating Committee of the Presbytery of Carlisle is seeking to identify two Ministers of Word and Sacrament, two Ruling Elders, and one Young Adult Advisory

Delegate (between the ages of 18 and 23) to serve with energy, intelligence, imagination and love! These nominees will be brought to the presbytery for election at the December 7 Stated meeting of the presbytery. Two Ministers of Words and Sacrament and two ruling elders will be nominated as commissioners, and one of each will be nominated as alternates. We ask that pastors prayerfully consider this opportunity and that Sessions spread the word among those who are ordained ruling elders in your congregation (they do not have to be actively serving on the Session).

Nominees are identified through an application process. Click [here](#) for an application form. Those who wish to be considered must submit their application to the Nominating Committee by October 15, 2021. Applications may be emailed to office@carlislepby.org or mailed to 2601 N. Front St., Suite 107, Harrisburg PA 17110. Please note that the application must be endorsed by your Session or (in the case of ministers at-large or serving in a validated ministry) by a committee of the Presbytery.

In addition to the time parameters described above, commissioners and advisory delegates are expected to engage in preparation, including learning how the GA process works, attending orientation sessions, becoming familiar with the technology to be used, and reading advance materials, in order to be able to actively participate in all assembly responsibilities. After the assembly, commissioners are asked to communicate and interpret the actions of the General Assembly back to the presbytery.

To learn more about the application process or if you have questions about the plans for the forthcoming General Assembly, please contact Cheryl Galan, Interim Executive Presbyter or Donna Wenger, chair of the Nominating Committee. Our emails are listed below.

This is both an exciting and an unsettling time to be a Presbyterian. As we live into God's future, the General Assembly needs the prayerful, Spirit-filled participation of commissioners who love Jesus Christ and are dedicated to the flourishing of the gospel in every time and place. ***Could that be you?*** Please consider applying to serve as a commissioner. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

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from
 Lament ^{to} Hope 
Hebrews 11:1