

# ON THE ROAD TO



ISSUE 4 | NOVEMBER 2023

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## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE 226TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY



There would be no General Assembly without the support of our volunteers, who give of their time, talents, and enthusiasm to pull together this incredible event. We are seeking a diverse group of individuals who can support the remote and onsite portions of the assembly, which includes zoom and help desk support, parliamentary support, and more. Whether you are an experienced volunteers or newly interested in supporting the assembly as a volunteer we hope that you will take time to review the listing of the various support roles linked in the volunteer interest form.

We hope that you are willing to be considered for service as a volunteer. If so, please submit [the volunteer interest form](#) no later than January 2.

Thank you for your consideration!

### IMPORTANT DATES

December 28, 2023

[180 Day Deadline](#)

All commissioner & advisory delegate names submitted.

February 26, 2024

[120 Day Deadline](#)

All agency, special committee, and standing committee reports submitted. Overtures with constitutional implications submitted & first concurrence received.

April 26, 2024

[60 Day Deadline](#)

Overtures with financial implications submitted, and first concurrence received.

May 11, 2024

[45 Day Deadline](#)

All overtures and concurrences submitted.

<https://ga-pcusa.org>





## GIVING THANKS FOR DISCERNMENT AND SERVICE

# THANK YOU

*In this time of gratitude for harvest and community, I want to offer a note of thanks for those across the church who have opened themselves to considering national service to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) through the General Assembly.*

**To those who have discerned a call to serve as a commissioner or advisory delegate:** thank you for dedicating your time and talents to this work. Your voice and insights are an essential part of how we believe God is calling us to make decisions as Presbyterians. It is my hope that you feel honored throughout the whole of the assembly process for both the gifts you bring to this work and for the wholeness of your personhood.

**To those who have discerned that this is not the year to serve:** thank you for your attention to boundaries and to listening to where the Spirit is drawing you. Your attentiveness to your own needs and recognition of the importance of all service to the church is a testimony to the ways in which each of us is called to share in ministry.

**To those who have helped others find their way to the assembly:** thank you for embodying the support and guidance of a connectional church. The nurturing of call and ability to connect others with important information is essential to making the assembly possible. We could not make this happen without you.

**To those volunteering and staffing the assembly:** thank you for bringing your unique gifts into service to the church. The discernment that happens at the assembly can only occur with the support of many people who help with technology, process, and countless other facets of being in community with one another. In all places, your work makes it possible for the assembly to focus on listening to God's voice—a faithful and important ministry.)

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## GIVING THANKS FOR DISCERNMENT AND SERVICE

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**To those who have developed and ushered along business:** thank you for your willingness to listen to the needs of community and church. The generosity of your time in writing and researching overtures and reports serves as the foundation for all conversation at the assembly. Without you, we would begin with a blank slate—and we all know how much easier it is to discern and be in conversation when something is already down on metaphorical paper. Your work helps to create the path for the future of the denomination.

**To those who are advocates and resource providers:** thank you for the preparation you provide to the assembly. Your wisdom helps the assembly to better discern and consider how we are called into action. Whether serving in an official advocacy role or through the work of groups throughout the Presbyterian family, your insights are an integral part of seeing the fullness of the assembly's call and impact. I am immensely grateful for the ways in which you continue to show up and do the hard work.

**To those in the Presbytery of Utah:** thank you for the hospitality you have shown and will continue to show as the assembly gathers in Salt Lake City. From a desire to show expansive and inclusive welcome, to your openness to share local ministries through Sunday morning worship, the assembly will be indelibly shaped by the location of plenaries. I hope that this proves to strengthen the connectional relationships of the church and bring together partners from across the denomination beyond the assembly.

**To all Presbyterians:** thank you for being a part of this denomination and for supporting this way of being church. Our polity is built on a foundation of shared governance, of all in the church being called to service, and of the centrality of communal discernment as a way to see the diverse revelations of God in the world. Because we are many in one community, we can seek to live out the ministry of the Three-in-One. We are bound together in that work. Thank you for answering your call.

*Kate Trigger Duffert*

*Director, General Assembly Planning*



## GENERAL ASSEMBLY FROM A YAAD'S PERSPECTIVE

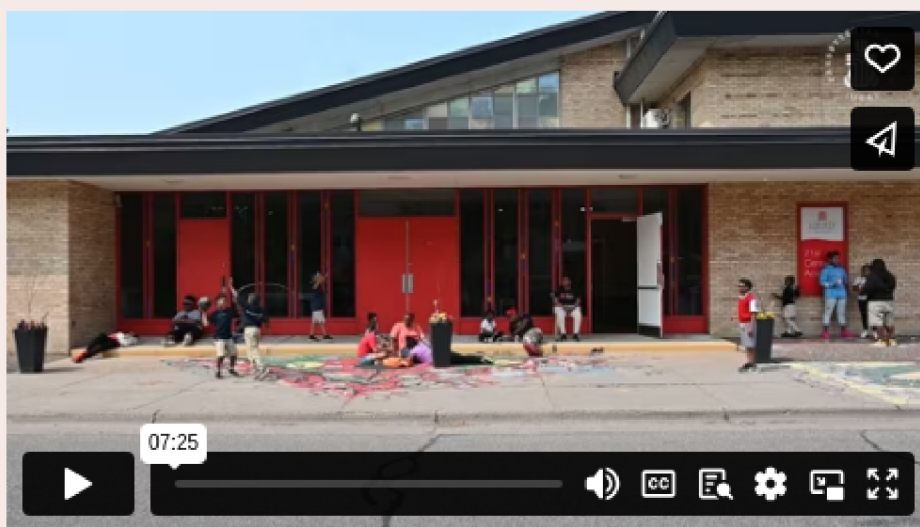
Daniel Presa is a third-year undergraduate at Davidson College, majoring in political science and government. He is also an active leader in the UKirk chapter at the school. Last year, he served as a Young Adult Advisory Delegate at the 225th General Assembly in Louisville, Kentucky. It was his first time serving in this role on the national stage. He offers some good advice to other young people who are considering taking that first major step as an active assembly participant.



[Click here to open video in Vimeo](#)

## FROM DECISION TO ACTION

Liberty Community Church, the only African American-led PC(USA) church in the state of Minnesota, is located in North Minneapolis in one of the city's poorest ZIP codes. Situated between major interstates, the area is a prime spot for sex trafficking and the illegal drug trade. The congregation revitalized the spaces of two Presbyterian churches that closed in the last 30 years and transformed them into healing spaces for the neighborhood. The congregation and the charitable organizations it has launched lead the generational work of addressing structural racism and systemic poverty.



[Click here to open video in Vimeo](#)

In 2022, the 225th General Assembly approved the 2023-2024 Mission Work Plan for the Presbyterian Mission Agency and its Matthew 25 movement, which responds to the assembly call to build congregational vitality, dismantle structural racism, and eradicate systemic poverty. Liberty Community Church is living out that call through its ministry.