

GA NEWS

Brief



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AFTER SIGNIFICANT DEBATE, ASSEMBLY APPROVES BOTH PARTS OF SPLIT 'OLYMPIA OVERTURE'

While the 10th plenary session of the 226th General Assembly focused most of its time discussing the so-called "[Olympia Overture](#)," the Wednesday morning plenary began with thoughtful wisdom in both word and action from leadership and other speakers that set the tone for later debate. [Doug Tilton](#), World Mission's regional liaison to Southern Africa, opened the gathering with a prayer that recognized our call to be "one beloved community" even if "we're not always sure we're cut out to be followers of Christ." Tilton asked God to bless the Assembly with patience and compassion for the work ahead.



After opening in prayer, the Assembly heard from the Rev. Sandra Reis Oliveira of the Presbyterian Church of Portugal. Oliveira spoke of the small size, but great faith of her denomination, which consists of only a few thousand members and a handful of clergy, but which remains the oldest Protestant denomination in Portugal. [Read more](#)

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

All times listed in Mountain Daylight Time

8:30 a.m.
Assembly Worship

9:00 a.m.
Plenary 13

12:00 Noon
Closing Worship

1:00 p.m.
GA Daily
w/ Fred Tangeman





226TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONFIRMS MILWAUKEE AS NEXT ASSEMBLY LOCATION AND REJECTS MOVING TO ALL IN-PERSON FORMAT

The 226th General Assembly voted Wednesday to accept the Presbytery of Milwaukee's invitation to host the next General Assembly and rejected an effort to get the whole event to be held in-person.

Commissioners voted 413-3 to have the 227th General Assembly in Milwaukee, with online committees taking place from June 23-25, and in-person plenaries happening June 28-July 2.

[Read more.](#)



THE END OF GA226 IS NIGH



It took portions of two plenary sessions for commissioners and advisory delegates to the 226th General Assembly to get through [GAP-03](#), sweeping changes to the Standing Rules of the General Assembly. On Wednesday night, commissioners voted 368-34 to approve the changes proposed by the [Special Committee on Standing Rules](#), which toiled for about 18 months to bring the item first to the [General Assembly Procedures Committee](#) and then to the Assembly itself.

Commissioners approved one amendment to the proposal, agreeing to cover the transportation expenses of each Partner Advisory Delegate to attend the General Assembly. [Read more.](#)

NEW CO-MODERATORS APPEAR ON GA DAILY

In Wednesday's episode of GA Daily, Fred Tangeman sat down with the 226th General Assembly Co-Moderators, the Revs. CeCe Armstrong and Tony Larson. Both Armstrong and Larson are deeply moved by the opportunity to serve the greater church in this way. It is evident in the way they each take the time to center themselves with a feeling of humility and a contrite spirit, which shows up as they not only moderate the business of the church, but also serve as a pastoral voice in this hard, discerning work. [Read more](#)



UTAH'S INTERFAITH PARTNERSHIPS MAKE IMPACT ON COMMUNITY NEEDS

When one usually thinks of the State of Utah, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints often comes to mind. But Presbyterians and other faith groups have been in the state for decades and have found ways to collaborate on important challenges such as hunger and poverty. In the fifth and final part of our series on Utah's Presbyterian ministry, church leaders share their experiences of partnership with the LDS church.



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



'PROCLAIMING THE END OF GREED AND THE ROLE OF HOPE'

Morning worship on Wednesday at the 226th General Assembly focused on how greed affects our capacity to embody hope. Associate dean for the [Graduate School of Theology, University of the Redlands](#), the Rev. Ruth T. West, took her inspiration from the assembly theme's "Live into Hope" and the similarly titled hymn's (Glory to God, #772) verse: "Live into hope of captors freed of sight regained, the end of greed." West's sermon, titled "Fearless Insight," considered [John 9:35-41](#) and the story of the man whose sight Jesus restored that precedes it.

[Read more](#)



RACIAL EQUITY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MEMBERS CELEBRATE THE PASSAGE OF RSG-05



Members of the [Racial Equity Advocacy Committee](#) and others were celebrating this week the passage of [RSG-05](#), a resolution addressing diversity, equity, inclusion and the realities of Hispanic Latino-a-é ministry.

The resolution, approved by commissioners to the 226th General Assembly Monday by a 373-31 margin, calls for a re-imagining of Hispanic Latino ministry in the PC(USA) in these ways...

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‘DREAM BIG BECAUSE GOD IS BIG’

If anything can succeed in generating a solid crowd at 6:45 a.m. during the already rigorous demands of a General Assembly, it’s the promise that God is doing a new thing.

And, just maybe, a speaker like the Rev. Mark Elsdon.

Elsdon, a Presbyterian pastor and [author](#), energized the early morning gathering not only through his remarks but also as moderator of a panel whose powerful stories of using church property to advance their mission was punctuated with frequent applause. [Read more.](#)



NEW WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY LEADERS SERVE AS GA COMMISSIONERS



“I often say if you’re not around the table, you are ON the table,” said Martin Osae, a ruling elder commissioner at the 226th General Assembly from [Grace Presbytery](#). Osae is glad to give voice to the growing immigrant fellowships and churches. On Sunday evening, he spoke up during the assembly’s interviews of the co-moderator candidates.

“I wanted to be sure the co-moderators knew and understood the growth that is happening,” said Osae. He asked how each would support the “growth trajectory that is happening in [immigrant congregations](#) and new worshipping communities.” [Read more](#)