



News in Brief

Thursday | July 2, 2026

GA227 picks up where it left off Tuesday night

Picking up where the left off Tuesday night, commissioners and advisory delegates to the 227th General Assembly amended and then approved the substitute motion to RIW-01, the Call to Review the Restructuring of the PC(USA) World Mission. The final tally was 369-98.

The approved measure directs the Co-Moderators to appoint a commission of seven members to review the decision-making processes and actions taken by various boards and commissions that resulted in the elimination of World Mission and the termination of most mission co-worker positions.

Under amendments approved Wednesday morning, the work of the commission "shall be restorative rather than punitive, focused on truth-telling, institutional learning, transparency, repair of relationships and recommendations for future decision-making processes. It shall not function as a disciplinary proceeding, and any credible concerns



*Muskan John and Taylor Silvestri offer a prayer at the opening of Plenary 10 of the GA227 of the PC(USA)
(Photo by Kristen Gaydos)*

regarding misconduct shall be referred to the appropriate existing personnel, legal, ecclesial or governance process."

The commission will report on its findings to the 229th General Assembly (2030) "and recommend how transparency, accountability, and value/ dignity for God's beloved could be incorporated into employment termination processes moving forward."

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TODAY'S SCHEDULE | All events are listed in Central Daylight Time (CDT)

8:30 A.M.
PLENARY 13 - ELECTION OF THE CO-MODERATORS

12 NOON
CLOSING WORSHIP

1:30 P.M.
GA DAILY W/ FRED TANGEMAN

***WATCH ON THE GA227 HOMEPAGE**

Assembly contends with question of BOP deliverance

With the intense work of RIW-01 finally behind it, the assembly turned its attention Wednesday to another weighty matter in GAR-03, which concerns the relationship between the General Assembly and the Board of Pensions. The BOP is the national agency responsible for administering benefits for PC(USA) pastors and employees, including healthcare and retirement.

After the assembly voted on RIW-01, the Moderator and Vice Moderator of Financial Stewardship and Witness, the Rev. Joanna Dunn and the Rev. Kari Olson, returned to the stage to re-introduce FIN-12, On the Faithful Stewardship of Restricted World Mission Funds. Earlier in the week, the assembly had voted to postpone consideration of FIN-12, until after voting on RIW-



The Rev. CeCe Armstrong, Co-Moderator of the 226th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), leads morning plenary on Wednesday, July 1, 2026.

01, which proposed a similar but farther-reaching review process into the restructuring of world mission with Presbyterian Life & Witness. With the RIW-01 proposed review process approved, the assembly voted to answer FIN-12 by the action on RIW-01, understanding that the goal of FIN-12 would be met during that review.

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General Assembly votes for fully in-person GA in 2030

Commissioners to the 227th General Assembly voted Wednesday to return to a full, in-person assembly format in 2030, but the frequency of such gatherings and other details won't be determined until after research by Presbyterian Life & Witness.

By a vote of 389-83, the General Assembly approved GAO-02, which commits the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to an in-person Assembly, with an abbreviated, three-day exhibit hall in four years.

GAO-02, which passed in an amended form,



Commissioners and advisory delegates gather for the 11th plenary on July 1. Photo by Jim Deweese.

also states that robust financial support will be provided for in-person childcare for commissioners, and it directs leadership of Presbyterian Life & Witness to study other details, such as "frequency, financial implications, Book of Order changes, use of technology and in-person/hybrid formats," so that it can report back to the next General Assembly in 2028.

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GA resolutions embolden national and global advocacy

The Rev. Jimmie Hawkins told viewers of “GA Daily” on Wednesday that actions taken by the 227th General Assembly are giving Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) national advocacy offices new clarity and urgency on issues ranging from Christian nationalism to Gaza, gun violence and poverty.

Hawkins, advocacy director for Presbyterian Life & Witness which includes the Office of Public Witness and the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations, spoke with host Fred Tangeman about how recent assembly decisions will shape the church’s public voice in Washington, D.C., New York City and on the world stage.



The Rev. Jimmie Hawkins, director of advocacy in PL&W, was the guest on “GA Daily” on Wednesday. (Photo by Randy Hobson)

On Christian nationalism, Hawkins said a newly adopted assembly stance in RUS-01 and RUS-07 will strengthen the church’s ability to collaborate with ecumenical partners who have been out front on the issue.

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Flags wave and spirits soar as Wednesday evening business concludes

Toward the end of another lengthy day of Assembly business — punctuated only by meal breaks and a GA Moderator candidate meet-and-greet — the opening prayer by Theological Student Advisory Delegates Bee Wang and Katie Reome was timely.

And almost prescient.

“Celebrate with hymn and joyous dance,” they prayed, “as we come closer to the end.”

And indeed, dancing, applause and loud cheers filled the plenary hall following the vote on the one action of the Wednesday night plenary, GAO-



Following the announcement that GA228 will be held in Puerto Rico, commissioners celebrate with cheers and hugs. (Photo by Kristen Gaydos)

01, the recommendation to hold the 228th General Assembly (2028) in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The motion, as amended and with comment, was overwhelmingly approved by a vote of 467-5.

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Four teams of Moderator candidates had an opportunity to talk with GA227 commissioners on Wednesday evening. (Photos by Rich Copley).

Four pairs standing for Moderators make their case at the Baird Center

Four pairs of candidates standing for Moderators of the 227th General Assembly — the Rev. Dr. Barbara Barkley and the Rev. Dr. Bill Myers, the Rev. Rebecca Luter and the Rev. Chris Peters, the Rev. Marta Pumroy-Cordero and the Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer and the Rev. Dr. Frances Lin and the Rev. Dr. Sean Chow — spent 90 minutes on Wednesday getting to know their fellow commissioners to the 227th General Assembly. The election is set for 10:30 a.m. Central time on Thursday.

Despite serving on separate coasts, Barkley and Myers each serve in ministry contexts that center on reconciliation, intercultural partnership and small-church vitality. Barkley summarized the team's platform simply:

"How do we stay at the table with one another across our differences?" she said. "One of the gifts that I feel Bill and I bring is that we don't agree on everything, which allows us to model how do you stay at the table even when you don't have the same opinion."

Her call to stand for Moderator grew out of repeated nudges from people who saw her gifts for cross-cultural ministry, including her participation in a Spanish-speaking pastoral group in the Presbytery of San Francisco. There she heard leaders name the pain of not being fully seen or engaged because of the language barrier, an experience that continues to shape her commitment to equity and presence.

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