



News in Brief

Friday | July 3, 2026



The Rev. Marta Pumroy-Cordero and the Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer will officiate at GA228 in 2028.

(Photo by Kristen Gaydos)

Pumroy-Cordero and Schondelmeyer are elected Moderators on first ballot

GA227 Moderator the Rev. CeCe Armstrong announced Thursday that the 227th General Assembly elected the Rev. Marta Pumroy-Cordero and the Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer as its new Moderators. The pair received 250 commissioner votes, securing the majority needed on the first ballot and making additional rounds of voting unnecessary.

The election concluded a season of discernment that both candidates described as years in the making. During their presentation to commissioners, Pumroy-Cordero shared a Spanish proverb that became a guiding image for their candidacy.

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GA227 closing sermon gives audacious reckoning of church harms

The 227th General Assembly of the PC(USA) concluded Thursday afternoon with worship. The service included the installation of the newly elected Moderators of the Assembly, the Rev. Marta Pumroy-Cordero and the Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer, and an emotional charge and blessing from the outgoing Moderators, the Rev. CeCe Armstrong and the Rev. Tony Larson.

While these cornerstone traditions brought a meaningful tone of gratitude and excitement to



The Rev. Laura Mariko Cheifetz delivers the sermon during closing worship at the 227th General Assembly on July 2. (Photo by Rich Copley)

the Assembly's conclusion, it was the sermon that seemed to stir the exhausted hearts and minds of those gathered.

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GA227 commissioners approve a unified budget for 2027 and 2028

By a margin of 386-15, commissioners to the 227th General Assembly approved FIN-01, the unified budget for 2027 and 2028 for Presbyterian Life & Witness and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), A Corporation, which includes the Administrative Services Group.

The approved amounts for the balanced budget are \$90,454,606 for 2027 and \$97,921,505 for 2028.

With the actions taken by the Assembly this week, the General Assembly portion of per-capita giving will be \$13.04 in 2027 and \$12.72 in 2028. More information on the approved unified budget is [here](#).



The Rev. CeCe Armstrong and the Rev. Tony Larson lead the last GA227 plenary session on July 2. (Photo by Kristen Gaydos)

Ian Hall, A Corporation president, said that commissioners to the last Assembly approved per capita increases of 10.6% for 2025 and 3.9% for 2026. Increases for 2027 and 2028 will be 15.8% and 2.5%, respectively, Hall noted.

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Back to where we started

GA Daily, a half-hour program that has allowed host Fred Tangeman to interview newsmakers at the 227th General Assembly, completed a circle of sorts when Tangeman booked a return engagement Thursday with the guest who started it all last week — Kate Trigger Duffert, the director of GA Planning.

Watch their conversation here. The two discussed the just-concluded Assembly even as staff packed up production gear backstage in the Baird Center in downtown Milwaukee.

Tangeman asked Trigger Duffert about standout moments during GA227, and she immediately



Kate Trigger Duffert talked with Fred Tangeman on the last episode of GA Daily for GA227 on July 2. Photo by Randy Hobson.

flashed on Baird Center internet issues on Sunday evening. The GA production team sprang into action to find a workaround.

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Hosts from Puerto Rico are eager to welcome fellow Presbyterians to the 228th General Assembly in 2028

When delegates and guests to the 228th General Assembly arrive at Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport in the summer of 2028, they already will know: This is no ordinary Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Assembly.

The predominantly white denomination will send its elected commissioners to San Juan, Puerto Rico, the first time the Assembly will be held outside the continental United States.

“There is great excitement about this,” said Ruling Elder Rosa Colón Rodríguez, who had just left the



GA227 commissioners have approved San Juan, Puerto Rico, as host for the 228th General Assembly in 2028. (Photo by Kristen Gaydos)

stage of the 227th Assembly with her daughter, Veronica Acosta Colón, a Young Adult Advisory Delegate.

Colón Rodríguez is moderator of el Presbiterio de San Juan, which will host the Assembly. “But I am more excited for when I return to Puerto Rico.”

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Global partners bring insights and broaden the vision for the work of the General Assembly

Among those offering input on business to commissioners at the 227th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) were 17 Partner Advisory Delegates (PADs) from around the world.

Dr. Dianna Wright leads the Office of Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations within Presbyterian Life & Witness. Last year, she and others began inviting global partners to participate.

The PADs have listened carefully throughout the proceedings, many of them without English



The Rev. Jihyun Oh and the Rev. Dr. Kevin Vandiver at the ecumenical dinner hosted by Presbyterian Life & Witness. (Photo by Jim Deweese)

as their first language, Wright said. They each participated in committees in which advisory delegates can speak and vote. In plenary, they can speak to business but offer only advisory votes.

Out of the nearly 20 partners invited to participate in the plenary portion of General Assembly, two were not allowed to enter the U.S.

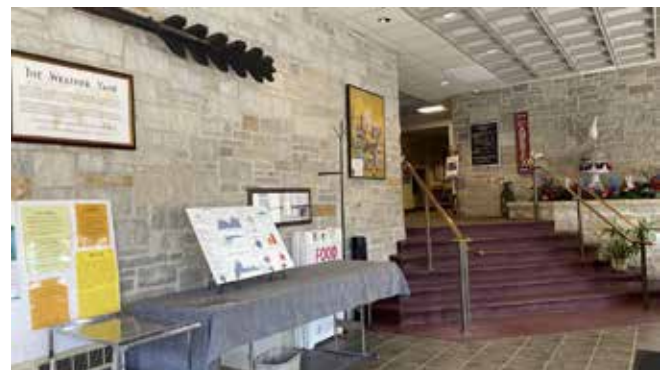
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What lies beneath

The tidy entryway of First Presbyterian Church of Racine, Wisconsin, belies the dusty passageways underneath that run the length of its historic sanctuary.

Passageways where certain artifacts — a pair of shoes from the 1800s, a hat, pieces of broken plates — were discovered, and stand as compelling evidence that the congregation was a former stop on the escape route for enslaved people seeking freedom, namely the Underground Railroad.

Today those items that were found in the crawlspace under the sanctuary are verified and on exhibit at the Racine Heritage Museum, as First



The entryway to First Presbyterian Church of Racine, Wisconsin. (Photo by Emily Enders Odom)

Presbyterian Church continues to partner with area historians to tell its story and live out its vision as “a church centered on God’s salvation, which embodies liberation from all that dehumanizes and wholeness which is being the people God calls us to be.”

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