

# 2026 General Assembly BEYOND: Love Surpassing (Ephesians 3:14–21)

## Inaugural Registration and Hub Hosting Information

Dear Pastors, friends, and congregations,

Thank you so much for agreeing to host or considering hosting one of our Mid-America gathering hubs. Our new annual General Assembly model provides access to all Disciples to experience our wider church – without the expensive travel, hotels, meals and time commitments. While one can or will need to experience GA at home on their computer, gathering in hubs allows for the same dynamic of being in the plenary hall, meal function, or workshop where folks can visit and exchange thoughts and ideas. GA will be interactive meaning that real votes are taking place and one may address the assembly from any hub or screen. Instead of divisive Sense-of-the-Assembly resolutions, extended time will be given to share with neighbors on important matters that affect them and congregations.

Below is a link to an excellent information sheet. Here are key highlights:

- The Assembly is Friday evening and Saturday – July 10-11. A congregation is free to host both days or just one – depending on your schedules. A day's exposure is "mission accomplished" and folks can enjoy more at "house parties." Covenant building! Please invite your cluster and nearby congregations to come.
- You can register your congregation as a Hub directly on a link below and it will be listed on a map for all Disciples to choose among. Please let Paul know though.
- Speaking of "house parties," that phrase encapsulates the anticipated feel of what a hub experience could be. Have fun! You are providing a lifeline to people who don't have computers at home too.
- GA Registration is \$30. Whether intending to stream at home or attend a hub, every person needs to register and this is essential to be considered a delegate and receive prior and subsequent communications. Hubs might have a laptop handy for people to register as they show up. Why registration? The platform, Big Marker, is used by top Fortune 500 companies and is heavily discounting it for our church use, but it is still expensive. Any support is greatly appreciated. *[Pastors: I do hope you issue a y'all come during church on the prior Sunday. The goal is for people to Come and See! If registration is not ideal for the church or individual, passing the offering plate, accepting checks etc. could work and the church can send the monies via your mission giving remittance form.]*

- Hub hosts do not need to provide an extravagant lunch spread. Decide what will support your church fellowship goals – you can ask in advance for folks to bring a covered dish, take RSVPs and provide box lunches or simple sandwiches, have a collection basket, directly charge for a box lunch or catered meal, send folks out to a nearby restaurant or fast food. Please don't let the Saturday meal be an obstacle.
- The tech video should explain all that you will need to know and it is likely there will be additional trainings. I am hearing that a microphone set up in an adjacent room will help with ambient quality for the speaker. If you can stream a channel on your sanctuary system, you can host GA.
- There is a virtual exhibit hall for participants to browse through. Again, a laptop will be handy for individuals or a group to experience at a hub.
- In our new structure, every congregation is awarded three voting delegates to GA. Each church can decide what this means for staggering terms etc. You can now identify and submit the delegates' names on ALEX. All ministers with standing are automatic voting delegates as before.
- Did you know that the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is the only denomination whose polity allows and invites every congregation and minister to have a voice and vote in their governance? We can be proud of that! Very Disciple!
- Pilot hub congregations in Virginia are discovering that the technology that will remain with your church creates an inner network of connection, such as having bible studies and Sunday schools at various locations together. Possibilities!
- Please let Paul Koch know if you have any questions or concerns!

THANK YOU!!!

Paul Koch, Regional Minister and President

Links to register and learn more:

[2026 General Assembly BEYOND: Love Surpassing - Christian Church \(Disciples of Christ\)](#)

[General Assembly 2026 - Local Gathering Site Sign-up - Intellistack](#)

[2026 General Assembly Schedule - Christian Church \(Disciples of Christ\)](#)

[GA Tech Training - Christian Church \(Disciples of Christ\)](#)