

Young Adult Advisory Delegate Report
227th General Assembly
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Being able to attend the PCUSA's General Assembly in Milwaukee, Wisconsin was truly an honor. I am very grateful to have been chosen to attend and to represent the Youth within our Presbytery. I was joined by Rev. Dr. John G. Ruehl(Teaching Elder), Marti Stein (Ruling Elder), and Rev. Deanie Strength (Stated Clerk). Each of them brought their gifts and had an impact on me. We formed a beautiful bond during our time in Milwaukee, even though we didn't know each other very well at first. A bond which I was very thankful to be a part of and one that I will remember forever.

Before attending the in-person session of the General Assembly, I was assigned to the "Reformed Identity Around the World Committee". This committee dealt with a lot of heavy topics that surround our world today. I honestly was very grateful to have been placed here because I like to know where our church stands with these instances, and knowing that I have a say in what happens and how we deal with it means a lot to me. During my time in this Committee, I was able to vote on the item, but when it came to the General Assembly, my vote was a form of advisement to the Commissioners.

I left for the General Assembly a day before the Commissioners because the YAAD's were having a dinner that Thursday and an orientation the day after. I definitely gained a lot of friendships, but I had three in particular that were closer to me than the rest. Something I was told during my time there was, "When are you going to make friends from different parts of the country in one place?" This was very true because those friends were from Delaware, Illinois, and Puerto Rico. We were able to form friendships that I know are going to last a lifetime. During our orientation, we participated in presentations that gave us more information about the Assembly and what role we play.

The General Assembly really taught me so much. I felt that I didn't know a lot going in, but as the days went by, I felt that I learned a lot more than I imagined I would. There were moments when we were going through the items in the assembly, and we, as a Presbytery, would talk about our points of view and what we felt was right. Knowing that what we voted on truly makes an impact not only on us but on the rest of the people truly made me think and discern that what I was advising my vote with was right.

I am very thankful to have been able to attend the 227th General Assembly, and if there's any way I could attend again or be able to be more involved, that would be great!