

Dear Colleagues in Ministry,

I am writing to encourage you to apply to serve as a Beaver-Butler Minister Commissioner, Ruling Elder Commissioner, or a Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD—age 17-24) to the 224th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The General Assembly will be held next June 20-27, 2020 in Baltimore, MD. All expenses are covered by the General Assembly (per capita in action).

Attached are the eligibility requirements and the application form. If you are interested or have any questions, please call me. We would like to know of your interest by July 31. We would then like to have the application form completed and returned by September 30. The selection committee is made up of three most recent Commissioners to former General Assemblies: Rev. Dena Roy, Elder Allen Kitchen, and myself.

Beaver-Butler is eligible to send one Minister Commissioner, one Elder Commissioner and one Young Adult Advisory Delegate. We will also be selecting alternates to serve in the event that one of the elected Commissioners cannot attend.

Each Commissioner/Delegate is assigned to a General Assembly Committee where he or she serves for the first part of the week. Committees are randomly assigned and vary in responsibility as business is delegated. The Commissioners and Advisory Delegates then report their Committee decisions to the plenary sessions during the latter part of the week where the Assembly acts on the recommendations of each committee. Commissioners have voice and vote. Advisory Delegates have voice only and are polled for their opinions before each vote is taken by the Commissioners. Voting is done electronically.

We hope you will pray about applying to become one of our Commissioners or YAAD Delegate. This is a wonderful way to experience the wider denomination, to serve on a committee of the General Assembly, to hear and participate in the discussions of the issues facing the Church. There are many persons to assist with any questions you may have and to especially help with computers or tablets, as the General Assembly is paperless. We will also help with your orientation.

Being a Commissioner to the General Assembly is a wonderful experience and an important one in which you participate in the wider PC(USA) and contribute to the future decisions and directions of the denomination.

Please let us hear of your interest.

Blessings,

Rev. Dr. Judy A. Angleberger

judy.angleberger@comcast.net

724-728-1158 (home)

412-638-4448 (cell)

PROCEDURE FOR NOMINATING & ELECTING GA COMMISSIONERS & YAADS

Eligibility:

In order to be eligible for nomination, a Teaching Elder must:

- have been a member of Beaver-Butler Presbytery for at least three years;
- have session endorsement, if the teaching elder is serving a congregation;
- have attended at least half of the Presbytery meetings for the previous three years prior to October 1 of the year before General Assembly meets; and
- be able to demonstrate active service in the Presbytery through its committees and/or units.

In order to be eligible for nomination, a Ruling Elder must:

- have been a member of a congregation within the bounds of Beaver-Butler Presbytery for at least three years;
- have the endorsement of his or her session;
- have attended at least two Presbytery meetings in the previous three years prior to October 1 of the year before General Assembly meets; and
- be a member of a church which has sent a ruling elder commissioner to at least half of the Presbytery meetings for the previous three years.

In order to be eligible for nomination as a Young Adult Advisory Delegate, a person must:

- have been a member of a congregation within the bounds of Beaver-Butler Presbytery for at least one year;
- be within the age range (17-23) specified by the General Assembly for eligibility as a YAAD; and
- have the endorsement of his or her session.

Ruling and teaching elders may be elected as commissioners to two consecutive assemblies. A commissioner who has served at two consecutive assemblies shall be ineligible for election as a commissioner to the next General Assembly.

Timeline and Procedure:

The nomination process for GA commissioners and YAADs will be the responsibility of a task force composed of three former commissioners (elder and minister), beginning with the most recent assembly and continuing until all four positions are filled (elder Commissioner, Minister Commissioner, Alternate Commissioner and YAAD [if possible]). The timeline will be as *follows in the year before a General Assembly meeting*:

- Task Force Selection - The Coordinating Team will identify the task force members and select the convener from its members by **March**.
- Search for Candidates - The task force will begin actively publicizing the opportunity for to apply for nomination no later than the **May** Presbytery meeting.
- Deadline for Candidates to express interest - Those seeking to be nominated are asked to express their interest to the task force by **July 31**.
- Deadline for Submission of Questionnaire - Candidates for nomination will complete and submit a questionnaire to the task force by **September 30**.
- Review & Interviews - The task force will convene in **October** to review the candidates' information and determine if interviews with the candidates are necessary. This determination will be made by, among other things, the number of candidates under consideration, familiarity of the candidates to the task force members, and clarity of the candidates' responses to the questionnaire. If the task force determines that interviews are necessary, these interviews will include all applicants.
- Presentation of Nominations - After prayerful consideration, the task force will present its nominations to the Presbytery at its **November** meeting, so that the elected commissioners and

YAAD may be reported to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly at least 180 days prior to the Assembly, as required by the Standing Rules of the General Assembly.

The General Assembly commissioner nominating task force will present one nomination for each commissioner position and one alternate position. These nominations will serve as the recommendations from the task force, based upon their diligent and prayerful consideration of the candidates. Any former commissioner serving on the task force who has applied to be nominated for the next consecutive G.A. shall recuse his/herself from his/her own consideration.

The report of the task force will be made available before the November Presbytery meeting and will include the names and questionnaire responses of the nominees, as well as the names of all those who were considered.

Nominations from the floor, including candidates considered but not recommended by the task force and others who were not part of the selection process, may be made with the consent of the nominee and on the condition that the nominee meets the eligibility requirements of this policy.

If there are more nominations than positions available, a secret paper ballot will be conducted. Nominees must receive a majority vote in order to be elected. Separate votes will be conducted for the ruling elder, teaching elder, and YAAD nominees.

**QUESTIONNAIRE FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONER
AND YAAD NOMINEE CANDIDATES**

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

_____ Ruling Elder _____ Teaching Elder _____ YAAD

Congregation: _____

1. Have you been a GA Commissioner/YADD before? Where? When?

2. Describe your sense of call to serve as a Commissioner or YADD?

3. Describe your involvement and activities in Christian service beyond the local congregation?

4. What factors will guide you as you make decisions at General Assembly?

5. What do you believe are the most important issues facing the church today?

6. Provide the name and phone number of your church's clerk of session, and the date when the session acted to endorse your candidacy (if applicable).

Use Back or Additional Sheet of Paper as Needed.