



Information for Sessions for Young Adult Advisory Delegates (YAAD) 227th General Assembly from June 22 – July 2, 2026, in Milwaukee, WI

Donegal Presbytery is looking for a young adult (ages 18-23) to join our delegation to next summer's General Assembly. Our Young Adult Advisory Delegate will join the elder and minister commissioners from our Presbytery to speak and make decisions at the General Assembly, the national governing body of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

The schedule for the 227th General Assembly will include committee meetings held online before travel to Milwaukee, WI, where the Assembly will meet in person. Here is the schedule:

- **June 22 – 24:** Assembly committee meetings, conducted online using Zoom and MyGA. Most commissioners and advisory delegates will participate remotely from their homes, offices, or other locations with reliable internet service. Participation is required as a prerequisite to participating in the plenary.
- **June 25 & 26:** Travel days for most commissioners and advisory delegates, with an orientation for YAADs on Friday, June 26.
- **June 27:** NEW! Community Day, to include opportunities for public witness around the issue of gun violence; luncheons for assembly committee members; a Town Square with PC(USA) agencies and organizations available to equip attendees with resources and connections; and a welcome reception.
- **June 28, morning:** Worship and lunch with Milwaukee area congregations.
- **June 28 – July 2:** Plenary business meetings, concluding with the election of the moderators on Thursday. These sessions are held in person at the Baird Center in downtown Milwaukee. Commissioners and advisory delegates must be present in person in the plenary hall to participate. There will not be an option for commissioners and advisory delegates to join the deliberations or vote remotely.

YAADs serve as full members of a General Assembly committee and have the right to speak during plenary (or whole group) meetings. They also have a great deal of material to go through before the meeting. The General Assembly pays all expenses for travel, housing, and meals. Only personal expenses will need to be covered by the YAAD.

What is it?

Young adult advisory delegates are not attending a youth conference. YAADs are full participants in the General Assembly meeting, responsible for becoming familiar with the business before it and

participating in the deliberations. They are seated with the presbytery commissioners in the plenary sessions and are assigned to assembly committees. YAADs have a voice in plenary sessions and vote in their committee. The Stated Clerk assigns assembly assistants to serve as YAAD advisors; they provide guidance for the YAADs, but there is limited adult supervision. YAADs are housed in one of the assembly hotels and generally share a room with another YAAD. YAADS must be self-motivated, mature, and highly self-aware to have the best experience.

Who are We Looking for?

- The potential young adult advisory delegate should be active in their local congregation, presbytery, or campus ministry.
- The young adult advisory delegate should be mature. The demands of the assembly require responsible decision-making, and the delegate must be away from home for a week and manage their time and work with limited adult assistance.
- Reference checks will be made with their pastor, campus minister, chaplain, or local congregational leaders.
- The potential young adult advisory delegate should be able to attend the full General Assembly Meeting.
- The YAAD must have valid medical insurance.

Process for the Election of Young Adult Advisory Commissioners

The method for the election of Young Adult Advisory Delegates to the General Assembly shall be as follows:

- A young adult member of a church in the Presbytery of Donegal is eligible for election as a Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD) to the General Assembly after completion of one full year of membership in their congregation. The YAAD must be no younger than 18 and no older than 23 on the day the Assembly commences.
- When a YAAD has served at a General Assembly, they shall be ineligible for election as a YAAD to the next General Assembly.
- Young adults who wish to be considered for election as commissioners shall submit to the Discerning Gifts & Passions an application that shall include a biography/faith journey, a picture, and a statement on why the person believes God is calling her/him to service as a GA Commissioner. The due date for this application is November 1, 2025, for election at the November 18, 2025, Presbytery Gathering.
- A young adult shall be designated as an alternate commissioner. The alternate shall be the one with the next highest vote total after those who have been elected.
- The function of the Discerning Gifts and Passions Committee shall be to determine the eligibility of young adult applicants and to send the slate to the Leader Team for review prior to submission to the Presbytery.