

Dear colleague in ministry,

This year's General Assembly will take place June 22–25 at Second Presbyterian Church in Memphis, Tennessee. We are providing a virtual participation option via Zoom for those who prefer to not (or cannot) travel to Memphis.

Please make note of these important details about our 41st GA:

- Our theme is *God will Restore*, based on Joel 2:25-27, "I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten ... You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you ..."
- Ligon Duncan, Chancellor and CEO of Reformed Theological Seminary, is our Leadership Institute speaker on Tuesday. His topic is "Combating biblical anemia in the study of Scripture, discipleship, worship, and preaching."
- Our plenary speakers on Wednesday are host pastor George Robertson and Rufus Smith, pastor of Hope Church in Memphis. George will address "Soul Care for Pastors" in the morning. After lunch, Rufus will discuss the work of the Revelation 7:9 Task Force. Each session will include Q-and-A.
- Our worship service speakers include D.A. Carson, Emeritus Professor of New Testament at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School; Phil Linton, Director of EPC World Outreach; George Robertson, Pastor of Second Presbyterian Church in Memphis; and Glenn Meyers, Moderator of the 40th GA who will lead our annual communion and prayer service on Friday morning. I will preach in the Wednesday evening worship service.
- Assembly business convenes on Wednesday afternoon, June 23.
- Business concludes on Friday, June 25.

Our permanent and interim committees and boards will report on their work over the past year, as well as present their recommendations for discussion and vote.

Election and Certification of Commissioners—Now Through May

Ruling Elders must be elected and endorsed by the Session of a congregation to serve as Commissioners to the General Assembly. If you have not yet done so, please elect and endorse your Ruling Elder Commissioners as soon as possible. The

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5850 T.G. Lee Blvd., Suite 510 Orlando, FL 32822 407.930.4239 407.930.4247 fax www.epc.org deadline for submitting your Commissioner Certification Form to the Office of the General Assembly is May 15.

You may elect the same number of Ruling Elder Commissioners to the Assembly as you do to the Presbytery. Once your Commissioners are elected, the Clerk of Session must notify the General Assembly *no later than May 15* by using the Commissioner Certification Form available at <u>www.epc.org/ga2021#certification</u>. Without this certification, a Ruling Elder will not receive voting credentials at the Assembly.

All Teaching Elders who are active members of their presbyteries are eligible to vote and need no additional certification. However, they need to register, which opens April 15.

Program Registration—April/May

Beginning April 15, Commissioners can register online and pay for fees and meals. All registration fees double on June 1, so be sure to register by May 31.

There are no official General Assembly hotels this year. Commissioners are encouraged to use a hotel aggregate site, such as Expedia, Hotels.com, Kayak, Priceline, TripAdvisor, etc., to make hotel reservations. Second Presbyterian Church is located at 4055 Poplar Avenue in Memphis; numerous hotels are in the vicinity.

Memorials—Now Through May

A special moment at each Assembly is when we give voice to our belief in the "communion of the saints" and honor those Ruling and Teaching Elders who have gone home to be with the Lord since our 2019 Assembly. To facilitate accuracy, please use the Memorials Form available at <u>www.epc.org/ga2021#memorials</u>.

God bless you! We're looking forward to a great "hybrid" meeting in Memphis.

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Jeff Jeremiak EPC Stated Clerk