

2012 Alternate GA Candidates

General Assembly Commissioner
Nomination Form for Ministers

Name: JAMES S. CURRIE

Church: FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Member of New Covenant Presbytery since 1994

Give a brief a statement of faith:

I believe in Jesus Christ as Lord + Savior. I believe he has ~~call~~ claimed us and called us into the church not to judge others, but to proclaim + live the good news that we are forgiven and freed to serve him by serving others. We do that, in part, by knowing that we are beggars + pointing others to where they may find bread.

I believe in the Trinity -- Father, Son, + Holy Spirit -- one God. I believe that our word is only penultimate. The final word always belongs to God -- and it is a good word.

List title and responsibilities in your congregation:

Pastor -- preach weekly, teach weekly, provide pastoral care daily, lead worship weekly, be involved in the community to the extent possible.

List service in New Covenant Presbytery and/or previous presbyteries:

2008 - Present: Committee on Examinations

2007-2010: Permanent Judicial Commission

1997-2005: Member, Vietnamese NCD (Thien An)

1999 - Present: Workshop leader at FOCUS + Church of Peace Training events

2002 - Present: Executive Secretary,
Presbyterian Historical Society
of the Southwest

Have you been a Commissioner to General Assembly before? YES When? 1987

Are you willing to become aware of the issues to be discussed at the next General Assembly? YES

Are you willing to attend the full-time the General Assembly is in session? YES

Will you be available and willing to report on the General Assembly, including a report to an appropriate meeting of Presbytery and speaking upon request to congregations/sessions? YES

Because this will be an "electronic" General Assembly, are you comfortable using a laptop computer? YES

What unique perspectives or concerns, if any, do you bring to the General Assembly if elected?

I don't know that my perspective is unique, but I have passionate concern for the unity of the church and, almost at any cost, to avoid schismatic movements.

Why would you like to be a Minister Commissioner to the General Assembly?

I would like to be a representative of this presbytery to the GA.

**General Assembly Commissioner
Nomination Form for Ministers**

Name: Jacqueline Hannan

Church: Atascocita Presbyterian Church

Member of New Covenant Presbytery since 1994

Give a brief a statement of faith:

I believe in a Triune God, who alone I worship and serve, and is everywhere the giver and renewer of life; this God seeks at every turn to call us into communion. This God never turns away but always walks along side of us even if we are not willing to feel the presence; this God is eternally offering grace and forgiveness.

God, the creator is a loving, forgiving God. I believe that scripture is the authoritative Word of God and it informs who we are as Christians and what we do. It is through the words of the Old and New Testament that the church finds its answers for how to live and relate to one another.

I believe in the Lordship and grace of Jesus Christ, fully human and fully God. Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ my life takes on hope for eternal life; I am redeemed from the depths of my own sinful nature. I am unworthy and sometimes not grateful but loved and cared for all the same. It is by the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ that I live renewed and justified ready to serve and share the Good news of abundant love and joy which is the message of salvation offered in Gospel.

I believe in the sustaining power of the Holy Spirit which empowers all believers. It is this power that gives us the strength and conviction to live out our faith in the daily comings and goings of life. The Holy Spirit catches hold of our lives and when we accept its transformation we are never the same person again.

Salvation is ours through faith and by grace and comes to us as we believe and accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. We are infallible human beings, we live in a flawed world, but we are loved and sustained by the grace of God.

My call in life is to worship and praise the triune God with my whole life. If asked what the most important words of scripture are I would offer John 3:16-17 with John 13:34-35.

List title and responsibilities in your congregation:

I am the Senior Pastor with Spiritual and Pastor Leadership Responsibilities.

List service in New Covenant Presbytery and/or previous presbyteries:

Associate Pastor First Presbyterian Lufkin Texas

Interim Pastor First Presbyterian Lufkin

Committee on Ministry

Nominating Committee

Evangelism and Renewal Committee of Presbytery

Liaison to Livingston, Crockett, and Nacogdoches Pastoral Nominating Committees

Have you been a Commissioner to General Assembly before? No When?

Are you willing to become aware of the issues to be discussed at the next General Assembly?
Yes!

Are you willing to attend the full-time the General Assembly is in session? Yes

Will you be available and willing to report on the General Assembly, including a report to an appropriate meeting of Presbytery and speaking upon request to congregations/sessions? Yes

Because this will be an "electronic" General Assembly, are you comfortable using a laptop computer? Yes

What unique perspectives or concerns, if any, do you bring to the General Assembly if elected?
These are interesting and challenging time in the life of the PCUSA and as a Minister in this domination I believe that I bring the perspective of a pastor of a mid-size growing church community.

Why would you like to be a Minister Commissioner to the General Assembly?

If feel that the experience of going to General Assembly is one that all pastors should have in order to emphasize the connectedness of the church. What we do is bigger than any one congregation.

What else would you like for the Nominating Committee to know?

**General Assembly Commissioner
Nomination Form for Ministers**

Name: Sam Sungsoo Jun

Church: Pines Presbyterian
Church

Member of New Covenant Presbytery since 2003

Give a brief a statement of faith:

I believe in the triune God who is Creator, Reconciler, and Redeemer, and, yet, who is neither isolated nor independent selves, but who is one in personal relationship. God, who has created the universe including humanity, still shapes and reshapes all God's creation. Human disobedience to God has brought sin to the world. Nevertheless, God reigns all over God's creation, and through God's grace and covenant, humanity is called to respond to God and to be good stewards for God's creation.

I believe that God is also revealed and known in and through Jesus Christ, fully divine and fully human, God incarnate, who suffered, died, and resurrected from the dead for all humanity and for the entire world, and God's self-revelation through and in Christ shows us God's unfailing grace and love that have reconciled a broken relationship between God and humanity.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, God also invites us to confess our sins and receive God's forgiveness in the name of Jesus Christ, and through the Spirit, God's redemption or saving work graciously continues to be present in humanity in a way of calling and equipping human beings to become all that are meant to be. The Holy Spirit binds and sustains all believers in the body of Jesus Christ, the Church, and the Spirit is present to each believer, especially, through reading and hearing of the Word, and through the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper in our services of worship.

By the work of the Holy Spirit, God's grace and love are spoken to us through Scripture and sacraments of baptism and Lord's Supper. Scripture

witnesses the unique witness to the liberating and reconciling activity of God in the history of Israel and above all in Jesus Christ. The sacraments signify the forgiving, renewing, and promising love of God in Jesus Christ and enfold us in faith, hope, and love. Through baptism we participate in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ, and we begin a new life in Christ. Continuously, through Lord's Supper, we are nourished with God's grace and love, forming a new community in Christ and uniting the world with Christ.

I believe in the triune God who is one, but the unity of God not differentiated. In other words, God exists in community and is the source and power of having inclusive community. Likewise, each member of the Church is called to have communion and fellowship with one another and to extend God's communal love to all.

I contend that the Church is united and grounded not primarily in structures, offices, doctrines, or ethical lives, but in new fellowship with God through Christ in the Spirit, and the unity of the church extends its relationship to all. Just as Jesus was present with the poor, the hungry, the sick and the imprisoned, the church is not only the church of the eye or the ear, but also the church of the outstretched. That is to say, the church is a missional church for those who are isolated, ignored, discriminated, helpless, or hopeless in the world.

I uphold the Book of Order and the Book of Confession through which Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) affirms the faith and theology of the Reformed tradition. I join voice with "the Historic Principles of the Church Order," which Book of Order sets forth form of government, worship, and discipline. I believe that Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is established as a confessional church under one Church of Christ, in which the grace and love of the triune God can be revealed and witnessed and can further the kingdom of God on earth.

List title and responsibilities in your congregation:

Associate Pastor and Youth and Family; responsible for all ministries regarding the youth and college age students, and assist the head pastor in all areas of the church's ministries and missions

List service in New Covenant Presbytery and/or previous presbyteries:

NCD (2004-2011; liaison to Pathway Church of Houston) in New Covenant Presbytery
COM (2006-8; chair of Care of Congregation) in New Covenant Presbytery

Have you been a Commissioner to General Assembly before? No When?

Are you willing to become aware of the issues to be discussed at the next General Assembly? Yes

Are you willing to attend the full-time the General Assembly is in session? Yes

Will you be available and willing to report on the General Assembly, including a report to an appropriate meeting of Presbytery and speaking upon request to congregations/sessions? Yes

Because this will be an "electronic" General Assembly, are you comfortable using a laptop computer? Yes

What unique perspectives or concerns, if any, do you bring to the General Assembly if elected?

I grew up in an ethnic (Korean) culture up till my high school years, and my father was a presbytery pastor in Korea for more than 40 years who taught me some basic Christian beliefs. After I moved to the States about 20 years ago, my faith has still firmly grounded in Presbyterian beliefs and practices. I do have a moderate view regarding the church politics and always like to be inclusive and diverse in any decision-making process of the church government through prayer and study. As a young minister, I'm concerned about the future of our denomination that we're losing young people and their families, and I'll seek to discern for our denominational directions for every member, especially for young generations, for how they might be welcome and belong to the church.

Why would you like to be a Minister Commissioner to the General Assembly?

I'd like to be faithful to my calling as a pastor of my church and the church universal. I believe that serving as a minister commissioner will open up a great opportunity to see and experience how God works in and through the church and to understand better we all belong to the bigger church, the church of Jesus Christ, as one body. I'd like to listen and speak to the purpose of that one universal church that Christ has established, and try to discern my individual calling as a minister as well as a collective calling of the church as a whole, at least, the our denomination.

What else would you like for the Nominating Committee to know?

Thanks for considering me as a commissioner! I hope I can represent and embrace many different views of the New Covenant Presbytery.

**General Assembly Commissioner
Nomination Form for Elders**

Name: John S. Hathaway

Church: The Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church Member of this church since 1981

Give a brief statement of faith:

My faith has been, and remains, a journey, not a destination. Like the Presbyterian Church's openness to the reform of its standards of doctrine and governance, my understanding of my faith is "reformed, always to be reformed according to the Word of God". While God's presence in my life and in the world may remain mysterious at times, I hold fast to the good news of the Gospel, as stated in the new Foundations of Presbyterian Polity, that the triune God creates, redeems, sustains, rules, and transforms all things and all people (*emphasis added*).

List service in your congregation: Charter Member; Ruling Elder; Treasurer (17 years); Nominating Committee; Associate Pastor Nominating Committee; Finance Committee; Stewardship Committee; Building Construction Committee; Mission Outreach Committee (Moderator); Africa Partnership Group (Moderator); Mission Trips to Southern Mexico, New Orleans and Golden Triangle; Lead 4 Mission Trips & 2 additional trips representing the Congregation to Zambia; Represented Congregation in developing Long Term Partnerships with 3 Entities in Zambia; Taught 8th Grade Confirmation Class several years.

List service in New Covenant Presbytery: Served on Extension Committee for several years. In PCUSA organized and served as Convener of Zambia, Zimbabwe & Mozambique Mission Network. Attended several PCUSA Mission Conferences.

Have you been a Commissioner to General Assembly before? No When? _____

Are you willing to become aware of the issues to be discussed at the next General Assembly by attending the presbytery's commissioner training, studying the materials for your assigned committee, taking an active part in GA committee deliberations and voting on all overtures and elections during GA Plenary session when you become a GA commissioner?
Yes

Are you willing to attend the full time the General Assembly is in session? Yes

Will you be available and willing to report on the General Assembly, including a report to an appropriate meeting of Presbytery and speaking upon request to congregations/sessions? Yes

Because this will be an "electronic" General Assembly, are you comfortable using a laptop computer? Yes

What unique perspectives or concerns, if any, do you bring to the General Assembly if elected?

- Legal Training.
- Openness to ideas, beliefs and understandings which may differ from my own.
- Working knowledge of all aspects of local congregation.
- Strong Mission orientation including significant international experience.
- Desire to preserve the Presbyterian Church as a unified body during these times of polarization.

Why would you like to be a Elder Commissioner to the General Assembly?

If possible, I would like to serve my Church at the highest governmental level by understanding the problems facing it and using my God given gifts, training and experiences to help find solutions to those problems.

What else would you like for the Nominating Committee to know?

If selected I would like to attend the 2012 GA (at my expense) as the alternate Commissioner so as to be better prepared to serve as Commissioner at the 2014 GA.

N.B. If you are selected by the Nominations Committee to stand for election at the October 2011 Presbytery meeting, the above information will be provided to all delegates to the presbytery meeting in advance of the election.

General Assembly Commissioner Nomination Form for Elders

Name: Forbes Baker _____

Church: Westminster – Houston,

Member of this church since 2003 _____

Give a brief statement of faith:

I believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God
I believe in God the Father
I believe in the Holy Spirit
I believe that God sent his Son, Jesus, to die for our sins
I believe in the resurrection of Jesus
I believe that God gave us the "freedom of choice" but if we listen carefully we will know what God wants us to do
I believe in prayer

List service in your congregation:

Ruling Elder on Session for 2nd time

Treasurer

Adult Sunday School Teacher and Choir Member

List service in New Covenant Presbytery:

Director of Business Affairs and Finance

Member Outreach Committee

Member Finance Committee

Member Stewardship Committee

Member Adm. Division Steering Committee

Member Seafarers Presbyterian Board

Have you been a Commissioner to General Assembly before? ___NO___ When? _____

Are you willing to become aware of the issues to be discussed at the next General Assembly by attending the presbytery's commissioner training, studying the materials for your assigned committee, taking an active part in GA committee deliberations and voting on all overtures and elections during GA Plenary session when you become a GA commissioner?

___Yes___

Are you willing to attend the full time the General Assembly is in session? ___Yes___

Will you be available and willing to report on the General Assembly, including a report to an appropriate meeting of Presbytery and speaking upon request to congregations/sessions? ___Yes:___

Because this will be an "electronic" General Assembly, are you comfortable using a laptop computer? Yes___

What unique perspectives or concerns, if any, do you bring to the General Assembly if elected?

I have an analytical and very inquisitive mind.

I look at all the facts before I vote and will keep an open mind until I have heard all of the discussion on any matter brought before GA.

The next few years will be very challenging for the denomination and I feel that I am being called by God to participate to the best of my ability.

Why would you like to be a Elder Commissioner to the General Assembly?

I would like to learn more about how the denomination operates on a national level.

N.B. If you are selected by the Nominations Committee to stand for election at the October 2011 Presbytery meeting, the above information will be provided to all delegates to the presbytery meeting in advance of the election.

What else would you like for the Nominating Committee to know? I am a retired Certified Public Accountant in Texas and a Life Member of Financial Executives International. I am also a member of the National Assoc. of Church Business Administrators. This is my 23rd Year in the Kairos Prison Ministry & I attended TEC #84 in 1986.

N.B. If you are selected by the Nominations Committee to stand for election at the October 2011 Presbytery meeting, the above information will be provided to all delegates to the presbytery meeting in advance of the election.

General Assembly Commissioner Nomination Form for Ministers

Name: Stephen Oglesbee_____

Church: _____ Clear Lake _____

Member of New Covenant Presbytery since 2008

Give a brief a statement of faith:

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior. I trust him. I daily strive to obey his Word and show his love. God is one in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Christ's death on the cross and resurrection from the grave reconciles creation to God. The church is called to represent the reign of God on earth. The sacraments of baptism and communion identify and nourish the members of Christ's church with and for this call. The Holy Spirit witnesses to God's grace, empowers the believer for a life of selfless obedience to Christ, and radical love for all humanity.

List title and responsibilities in your congregation:

- Lead Pastor of Clear Lake Presbyterian Church since 2004.

List service in New Covenant Presbytery and/or previous presbyteries:

- New Covenant, Committee on Ministry
- New Covenant, Ike Recovery Task Force
- New Covenant, Investigating Committee
- Whitewater Valley, Committee on Ministry
- Whitewater Valley, Church Planting Partnership with Presbytery of Northern Quintana Roo, Mexico
- 217th General Assembly, observer
- Western Colorado Committee on Nominations, moderator
- Western Colorado Council, member

Have you been a Commissioner to General Assembly before? NO When? _____

Are you willing to become aware of the issues to be discussed at the next General Assembly? YES

Are you willing to attend the full-time the General Assembly is in session? YES

Will you be available and willing to report on the General Assembly, including a report to an appropriate meeting of Presbytery and speaking upon request to congregations/sessions? YES

Because this will be an "electronic" General Assembly, are you comfortable using a laptop computer? YES

What unique perspectives or concerns, if any, do you bring to the General Assembly if elected?

- I bring the perspective and concern of one who wants the PCUSA to grapple with what it means to be a connectional church with a relevant gospel message of Jesus Christ in an increasingly theologically diverse and post-denominational context.

Why would you like to be a Minister Commissioner to the General Assembly?

- I am pleased to serve as a Commissioner to General Assembly in fulfillment of my ordination vows.

What else would you like for the Nominating Committee to know?

General Assembly Commissioner
Nomination Form for Elders

Name: JODU HARRINGTON

Church: MDPC, Houston Member of this church since 2007

Give a brief statement of faith:

see attached page

List service in your congregation: BSD leader 2009, 2010; Elder Class of 2011; Senior Administrative Officer 2009-10; Clerk of Session, 2011; Sanctuary Choir Member; numerous committee service

List service in New Covenant Presbytery: Moderator 2008; Administrative Commission Heights PC; served on PJC and several Investigative Committees

Have you been a Commissioner to General Assembly before? NO When? _____

Are you willing to become aware of the issues to be discussed at the next General Assembly by attending the presbytery's commissioner training, studying the materials for your assigned committee, taking an active part in GA committee deliberations and voting on all overtures and elections during GA Plenary session when you become a GA commissioner?
Yes

Are you willing to attend the full time the General Assembly is in session? Yes

Will you be available and willing to report on the General Assembly, including a report to an appropriate meeting of Presbytery and speaking upon request to congregations/sessions? Yes

Because this will be an "electronic" General Assembly, are you comfortable using a laptop computer? Yes

What unique perspectives or concerns, if any, do you bring to the General Assembly if elected?

see attached page

Why would you like to be a Elder Commissioner to the General Assembly?

see attached page

What else would you like for the Nominating Committee to know? Member of 1st Pres. (Houston) 1979-1989; member, elder and Director of Christian Education at Southminster PC (Missouri City) 1989-2006, served on many committees there and chaired the PNC for Associate Pastor.

N.B. If you are selected by the Nominations Committee to stand for election at the October 2011 Presbytery meeting, the above information will be provided to all delegates to the presbytery meeting in advance of the election.

Brief Statement of Faith

I believe that scripture alone is the authority on knowing God and His plan for salvation; that I come to salvation through faith alone; that I have faith by God's grace alone; that the object of my faith is Christ alone, and this is all for God's glory alone. I believe that God invites us to participate in his saving work through development of a personal relationship with Christ, fellowship with other believers and reaching out to a broken and hurting world with the good news of Jesus Christ.

Unique perspectives

As Past Moderator of Presbytery and current Clerk of Session for MDPC, I have experience with our polity at the presbytery, synod and GA levels. I have also followed denominational issues for years and written about them on my blog, Quotidian Grace. Through blogging I have developed relationships with Presbyterians across the theological spectrum. As a former Director of Christian Education I believe that Christian education of children and adults is very important.

Why would you like to be an Elder commissioner?

As one who grew up in the Presbyterian church, I am grateful for all the saints who nurtured my faith which has sustained me throughout my life, and I am very concerned about the future of the denomination. I am honored and humbled to have been nominated by the MDPC session and I believe that my experiences in the church have equipped me to make a positive contribution as an Elder commissioner.

General Assembly Commissioner
Nomination Form for Elders

Name: Ann S. Hardy

Church: St. John's, Houston Member of this church since 1990

Give a brief statement of faith: I grew up in a Christian home with Bible stories being read to me and then read myself. Sunday was sacred time - you did not make plans that would interfere with church!

I learned I could not imagine anything as wonderful as God's love demonstrated thru the sacrifice of Jesus' life for my sins. I did/can not earn this gift of God thru grace which provides the guide of the Holy Spirit and the promise of life eternal in God's kingdom.

List service in your congregation: Past: Chair of Evangelism, Chair Personnel, Committee for Admin and Personnel, ~~Sign~~ Liturgist, Church school teacher, hand bell choir; founding member of "Partners in Ed. Advocacy."

List service in New Covenant Presbytery: member of Personnel, Chair Personnel, Vice Chair of ADSC, Chair ADSC, served on 2 Investigative Committees

Have you been a Commissioner to General Assembly before? No When? _____

Are you willing to become aware of the issues to be discussed at the next General Assembly by attending the presbytery's commissioner training, studying the materials for your assigned committee, taking an active part in GA committee deliberations and voting on all overtures and elections during GA Plenary session when you become a GA commissioner?

yes

Are you willing to attend the full time the General Assembly is in session? yes

Will you be available and willing to report on the General Assembly, including a report to an appropriate meeting of Presbytery and speaking upon request to congregations/sessions? yes

Because this will be an "electronic" General Assembly, are you comfortable using a laptop computer? yes

What unique perspectives or concerns, if any, do you bring to the General Assembly if elected?
I have watched the slow decline in our church and in others, the similar decline in the PBY the decline in revenues, the tough decisions to reduce staff + services. Have become more & more concerned about where we are going.

Why would you like to be a Elder Commissioner to the General Assembly?
As an alternative, I would like to see the GA process in action & be better able to understand it. I have learned so much at the PBY level. How can I make a difference

What else would you like for the Nominating Committee to know? Brief Statement of Faith Com
** knowing I may never see the harvest of my planting, but may reap someone else's harvest (John 4:37). I don't have to do it all! What the Holy Spirit calls me to do, God has prepared me, even when it takes a "2x4" to get my attention

N.B. If you are selected by the Nominations Committee to stand for election at the October 2011 Presbytery meeting, the above information will be provided to all delegates to the presbytery meeting in advance of the election.

Turn in to church office as pastor when finished.
mgH

**General Assembly Commissioner
Nomination Form for Elders**

Name: Nancy Penney

Church: First Presbyterian Church of Conroe

Member of this church since Fall of 1992

Give a brief statement of faith:

I believe in Jesus Christ as one of the "persons" in the Christian Trinity. I accept Christ as my Savior and model for behavior, and the Holy Spirit as the source of my life and spiritual relationship with the Sovereign, Creator God. I believe life in Christ offers the most abundant life for any human to live, giving hope and peace in all circumstances, in life and in death. I accept the Old and New Testament as God's authoritative word for me.

List service in your congregation: Elder, Mission Chair & member,
Adult S.S. teacher, Moderator of P.W. Circle, Small Group leader.

List service in New Covenant Presbytery: Mission Coordinator on PWPCT-6 yrs., General Council – 3 yrs.

Have you been a Commissioner to General Assembly before? No _____

Are you willing to become aware of the issues to be discussed at the next General Assembly by attending the presbytery's commissioner training, studying the materials for your assigned committee, taking an active part in GA committee deliberations and voting on all overtures and elections during GA Plenary session when you become a GA commissioner? Yes _____

Are you willing to attend the full time the General Assembly is in session? Yes_____

Will you be available and willing to report on the General Assembly, including a report to an appropriate meeting of Presbytery and speaking upon request to congregations/sessions? Yes_____

Because this will be an "electronic" General Assembly, are you comfortable using a laptop computer? Yes __

What unique perspectives or concerns, if any, do you bring to the General Assembly if elected? I was a PCUS Educational Missionary to Brazil in 1963-1971.

I was a member of the P.W. Global Exchange to Brazil in 2005 and shared the experience around the Synod in 2006.

I have been on Presbytery led trips to Guatemala & Cuba.

Since retirement from public school teaching, I have made short mission trips to teach English as a Foreign Language to university students and to work in visual clinics.

Why would you like to be a Elder Commissioner to the General Assembly? I have been to P.W. Churchwide Gatherings and would like to experience the General Assembly.

N.B. If you are selected by the Nominations Committee to stand for election at the October 2011 Presbytery meeting, the above information will be provided to all delegates to the presbytery meeting in advance of the election.

What else would you like for the Nominating Committee to know?

As an educational missionary, I attended Austin Seminary on our 1966-67 furlough year.

N.B. If you are selected by the Nominations Committee to stand for election at the October 2011 Presbytery meeting, the above information will be provided to all delegates to the presbytery meeting in advance of the election.