



***WORSHIP AND WORK OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
(USA) IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY COUNCIL***

Prelude to the 222nd General Assembly

"The Hope in our Calling" Ephesians 1:18

UPDATES AND REFLECTIONS



Getting started-

In this beautiful city(*many may not know that I attended college here a "few" years back*), Presbyterians have descended upon the Oregon Convention Center and downtown hotels. On this day before everything gets "started," exhibitors, commissioners, executives and clerks have begun arriving. Volunteers, clad with black vests representing the Committee on Local Arrangements are scattered on every corner providing directions, insights and helpful encouragement.

By tomorrow, all of the 594 commissioners, the 198 advisory delegates and a host of other participants, observes and friends from around the country and around the world will gather to join in the "worship and work" of the Presbyterian Church(U.S.A.). If you would like to observe some or all of the General Assembly gathering in plenary, I would encourage you to connect to the "live stream"(particularly for the opening worship on Saturday @11:00 a.m.(2:00 p.m. Eastern time zone)). See the link below:

<http://oga.pcusa.org/section/ga/222nd-general-assembly-2016/>

Besides the commissioners and myself, some of the other "Redstone people" sighted at this year's General Assembly include:

- Rev. Sylvia Carlson(Recording Clerk)

- Rev. Michael Shepard(Fayette City; Little Redstone)
- Rev. Bill King(First, Murrysville)

On the weekend, Rev. Sue Washburn(Reunion, Mt. Pleasant;
Presbyterians Today)

If you desire to "track" the ongoing process of overtures, you are able to follow it through the PC-Biz website(www.pc-biz.org). Yet, each and every day over the General Assembly, I will offer to you some reflections on some of the people, events and actions of the day. It is my hope that through my lens and words that you receive a glimpse into what God is doing during this gathering of God's people who are the Presbyterian Church(U.S.A.). Such perspective may not be sensational or make the headlines, but it will be my honest and candid description of God's work among and with us in its context.

Through this General Assembly council, we ask for your prayers and support for all of us from Redstone Presbytery in order that we might know and testify to the hope of Christ. This year's assembly theme draws upon that first prayer offered in the Ephesians epistle and expresses our own prayer for you, for each other and hopefully you for us.

"So that, with the eyes of your enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which God has called you, what are the riches of God's glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe. .."(NRSV)

Particularly, please remember in prayer your commissioners from the Presbytery of Redstone:

- **Ruling Elder Bernice Adams**(Westmont)
- **Teaching Elder Colleen Molinaro**(Third, Uniontown)
- **Young Adult Advisory Delegate Mandi Pascarella**(First, Greensburg)
- **Teaching Elder Curtis Paul**(Newlonsburg)
- **Ruling Elder Tom Shipley**(First, Irwin)

Just as was prayed in that epistle, may we also pray together for hope, for riches, for power that only comes from our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you in advance for your intercession with our God. Accordingly, we anticipate and will expect God's blessing upon us

resulting from your faithful prayers.

"A Picture (or video) is Worth a Thousand Words" (select link below or for more pictures, see Presbytery of Redstone Facebook page)

[Sylvia @ the "Voices for Justice" booth](#)
[Commissioners\(at least Colleen, Curtis and Bernice\) are Here](#)
[Just some of the many volunteers helping us along](#)
[Mike and ?? in the Exhibit Hall](#)
[No delay would keep our YAAD from arriving](#)
[What better place for Bill to shop than GA?](#)



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