



Hosting GA227 in 2026

April 10, 2024

Lisa Heckman

Last month while in Louisville, I had lunch with Kate Trigger Duffert, Director of General Assembly Planning. She answered many of the questions we've had about what it means to host a GA. Here's what I learned.

GA227 will be same format as GA226: Online committee meetings for 3 days; 1 day for "break" for committee moderators to write their reports; 1 travel day (in 2024 there will be a huge welcome celebration in the evening of the travel day); and in-person plenary for about 1 week.

There are **not** high expectations of financial costs to the presbytery. In fact OGA (Office of the General Assembly) offers a grant of \$35,000-40,000 for us to use however we need. That could be to hire someone to coordinate our work leading the Committee on Local Arrangements (CLA) or to give extra money to staff if they are working overtime supporting the CLA or for special events we host (if we want to do any), or whatever else we think of or need.

The main question OGA asks of us is **"How do we want to be a part of things?"**

OGA will work with us to incorporate what is important to our presbytery into the Assembly. That includes:

- Our local Land Acknowledgement.
- Mission projects or issues that are important to us.
 - In 2022, attendees were invited to bring personal care products for missions in mid-Kentucky.
 - In 2024, attendees are invited to bring socks for homeless initiatives in Salt Lake City.
- A Report (verbal and written) to the Assembly highlighting our current work .

Volunteers will be needed:

- At the airport to get folks on shuttles to their hotels.
- At the convention center to provide hospitality.
- During worship as ushers and greeters, collecting offering, etc.
- As communion servers; past GAs have done communion by intinction.

Beyond that, it is up to us how else we want to be involved. The bottom line is, hosting GA227 is very doable! Get excited – this will be a great opportunity to connect with the larger church and for them to experience the blessings we have here in Wisconsin!

Grace and Peace.

Lisa

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Rev. Lisa S. Heckman

Transitional Executive Presbyter

[lisa@pbymilwaukee.org](mailto:lisa@pbymilwaukee.org)

work: 414.292.2743

cell: 607.321.4581