

Nominating/Representation Committee Report. 10.21.21

Chair: TE Deborah McEachran (Hunting Ridge)

We recommend:

For the Nominating Committee, Class of 2022: RE Lynn Carlson (Highland)

For the Commission on Preparation for Ministry, Class of 2024: TE Richard Jones (Annapolis)

For the Thriving Congregations Commission, Class of 2023: RE Tina Coleman (Harundale)

As 225th General Assembly Commissioners:

RULING ELDERS

Keith Reagan (Christ our King):

I am honored to be considered as a nominee for the position of ruling elder commissioner to the 2022 General Assembly. Our family moved to Bel Air from Germany in 2014, becoming members of Christ Our King PC(USA) shortly after arriving. I was asked in late 2017 to consider serving on the Session of Christ Our King and started my term in January of 2018. I was elected to serve as Clerk of Session in April of that year. As Christ Our King had no procedure for projecting income, I established an annual pledge-based stewardship campaign and remained campaign chair for four years. I have served in the Session ministries of Finance, Facilities, Missions, and Personnel. Such an opportunity as this to serve at the highest levels of the denomination is rare indeed and it is important that Christ Our King continues to learn of the importance of being part of a connectional denomination in which we undergo ministry and decision making together as a unified Presbyterian body. Having been offered this opportunity to participate in this process, I consider this service an important and necessary duty to serve my church, my presbytery, and my denomination.

Audrey Trapp (Faith):

A life-long Presbyterian, I have been an active member and RE at Faith Presbyterian Church for almost 40 years. I am the immediate past Moderator of the Presbytery of Baltimore and the current Chair of the Steering Cabinet. I served on the Commission on Reconciliation and Co-chaired the Hospitality Committee of the Committee on Local Arrangements for the 2020 General Assembly. Involved with the Cuba Partnership for many years, I currently serve on the Steering Committee of the national Cuba Partners Network.

An advocate for equity and justice, I believe that the PC(USA) has important work to do to ensure that our denomination welcomes and affirms all people and atones for our past failures to treat all as our sisters and brothers in Christ.

I look forward to serving as a commissioner to the 225th General Assembly and, if elected, I will be a faithful and dedicated Commissioner, with your prayers and God's help.

TEACHING ELDERS

Barbara A. Renton, Honorably Retired (Catonsville)

A graduate of Princeton Seminary, I served churches of all sizes in Long Island and Southern New England presbyteries and have served as Executive Presbyter in Susquehanna Valley Presbytery. After retirement, I continued to do interim and temporary supply service in congregations there until moving to Baltimore Presbytery where I have served on one short-term committee and am now on the Reconciliation Commission.

Why do I want to serve? I find that events long felt in the local congregations have strongly impacted the service and organization of the national offices in Louisville. As a founding member of the Czech Mission Network and a participant in the Ethiopian Mission Network, I have struggled with the seemingly constant changes in support services. A new structure and style of support for mission has been proposed – I want to offer my support and/or ask the questions that need to be asked on behalf of presbyteries and congregations.

TE Billy Kluttz (Govans)

Rev. Billy Kluttz works as associate pastor at Govans Presbyterian Church and serves on the Thriving Congregations Commission for the Presbytery of Baltimore. Prior to his current call, Billy served calls at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Church of the Covenant, and The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in National Capital Presbytery. While in National Capital Presbytery, Billy served on the presbytery's Worship and Theology Committee (2017-2020) and as a board member of the DC Young Adult Volunteer Program (2019-2020). Billy holds a Master of Public Administration degree from Syracuse University, a Master of Divinity degree from Wesley Theological Seminary, and is currently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry degree from Wesley Theological Seminary with a focus in church leadership. He and his husband, Steven, live in Baltimore City with their dog, Banjo.

Alternate: TE Jacob Snowden (Woods Memorial)

Jacob Snowden serves as the Associate Pastor for Education and Mission at Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church. Jacob came to Baltimore Presbytery from Palo Duro Presbytery in 2019. Jacob has served as the DCE at First Central Presbyterian Church, Summer Camp Chaplain and Director at Buffalo Gap Presbyterian Encampment, President of the Abilene Interfaith Council, and Adjunct Professor at McMurray University, teaching World Religions and Ethics. He now serves on the Synod Nominating Committee, Spiritual Leader Development Commission, Presbytery Anti-Racism Team, and the Strategy Team of Anne Arundel Connecting Together (ACT).

YAAD: Gayelle Sama (St. John's United)

At 20 years old, Gayelle is described as “incredibly spiritual, brilliant and mature beyond her years”. She is a frequent liturgist during worship and serves on the Church Council (a hybrid between a PCUSA Session and UMC Council). Daughter of a Cameroonian immigrant, she is a full-time student at Howard County Community College and works part time at CVS. She is excited to be able to serve the church in this way!