



On Sunday, the 226th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) shifted its work to the plenary sessions in Salt Lake City. The commissioners, observers, staff, and visitors started the day by worshipping in Presbyterian churches throughout the city. I attended the Cottonwood Presbyterian Church, who warmly welcomed us. The Spirit of God was present throughout the service as we were welcomed by the children, listened to anthems from the choir and bell choir, and led in song by the praise band. The pastor, Rev. Nathan Sautter, preached on Mark 5: 21-43, focusing on Jesus allowing himself to be interrupted in order to see desperate people in need, offering a moment of grace, hope, and healing – witnessing that death is not the end of the story. Worship was followed by a delicious lunch and a visit to the church's large community garden that both gathers their community together and also raises money to assist with hunger programs in that community.

The first plenary session began in the afternoon with reports from the Co-Moderators of the 225th General Assembly, Ruth Santana-Grace and Shavon Sterling-Louis, Acting Stated Clerk Bronwen Boswell, and a financial report. You can view the [video report](#) of the Co-Moderators.

More than 600 commissioners and guests gathered for a dinner celebrating the work of J. Herbert Nelson, who served as the Stated Clerk until June of 2023. Many who worked with Rev. Dr. Nelson throughout his career spoke of his witness to Jesus Christ and his impact on the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

The highlight of the day was the election of Co-Moderators. The election began with words from those standing for Co-Moderator: Rev. CeCe Armstrong and Rev. Tony Larson as well as Rev. Danny Morales and Rev. Dr. Marian McClure Taylor. The opening statements were followed by 30 minutes of questions from commissioners and advisory delegates. The candidates were asked to define church vitality, how they would respond to those harmed by the Church, and what they loved about the person standing with them for Co-Moderator – what gifts this person had to serve the church. Rev. CeCe Armstrong and Rev. Tony Larson were elected Co-Moderators for the 226th General Assembly in one vote. The newly elected Co-Moderators entered the hall surrounded by their families and Presbytery leaders. They received gifts from the Rev. Ruth Santana-Grace and Rev. Shavon Sterling-Louis, as well as Stated Clerk Boswell and the hosts from the Presbytery of Utah.

On Saturday, before the plenaries began, the Young Adult Advisory Delegates held an orientation. The Presbytery of West Virginia's Em Rau was interviewed for an [article](#) describing the event.

If you would like to follow Monday's plenary sessions, a full schedule of events may be found [here](#). The committees and the plenary sessions of the General Assembly can be livestreamed at <https://ga-pcusa.org/>. Interested persons can still register free as an [online observer](#), which allows access to MyGA. A MyGA account provides online observers with access to many of the same resources available to commissioners and other official participants. You can also [sign up](#) for a Daily News GA Update.

