

GA update

Warm greetings!

The Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa usually gathers in General Assembly every 2 years. It is a significant identity forming event in the life of our church.

Because of COVID it has been 3 years since we last met! We are overdue. So, God willing, we are planning to meet as the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church 29th September – 3rd October 2021 at St Andrew's College in Christchurch.

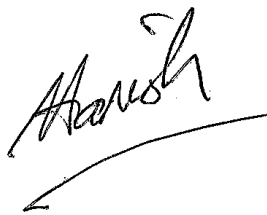
The Book of Order states that the primary purposes and functions of GA are to

- Worship God
- Resource our life, worship and spirituality
- Attend to judicial, administrative and legislative matters

The theme of GA21 is Empowering Generations. It is our goal to thread this theme through our being together. We would like to share a vision whereby the older generation is empowered to effectively connect with the younger generation so that they in turn are empowered in their faith, life and impact in our nation.

The Local Arrangements Committee want to deliver all of this in a loving way. We have a vision for General Assembly that is accessible, inclusive and enjoyable.

Yours in Christ



Hamish Galloway
Moderator Designate



For more from Hamish
about the GA you can watch a short video by using the following link:
<https://vimeo.com/566296119>

GA Update Newsletter # 1

This is the first of a regular series of GA21 updates sharing information about this year's General Assembly, September 29 – October 3 in Christchurch.

Please circulate this email in your newsletters and in any other way to members of your parish, Presbytery or Synod. You can download this email in letter format from "GA Updates" here (ga2021.nz/assembly-updates)

General Assembly Website

The General Assembly website (ga2021.nz) is now live and we are ready to take registrations. Here you will find information on the venue, registration costs, accommodation and more. More information and the programme, keynote speakers and events during assembly will be added to the site as the details become available.

How you can participate

Ministers Training Day: Assembly will again include a Ministers Training Day immediately prior to the start of the Assembly, on Wednesday September 29. This is a day for ministers only, facilitated by the Moderator Designate and Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership (KCML). Information about the programme and how to register is here (ga2021.nz/ministers-resourcing-day)

For Commissioners: As a Commissioner or Young Adult Commissioner you have an important role – to discern, deliberate and decide on the business of our church. It won't be all business though; you can listen to our keynote speakers and attend evening events. And some community time is scheduled for Saturday afternoon.

For all church members: Non-business parts of the Assembly – like the opening worship service, which includes the induction of the Moderator, and the closing service – are open to all. You are warmly invited to attend these parts of the Assembly. More information about the parts of the Assembly programme that are open to all will be available in the coming weeks.

Registration Fees: Information about registration fees can be found here (ga2021.nz/fees).

Meals Information - Please Note:

Registration for all commissioners includes lunch and dinner on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and lunch on Sunday. There is no lunch provided on Wednesday. You are required to indicate your intention to have dinner on Wednesday evening - this is indicated in the registration process. Breakfast is only provided for those who book onsite accommodation at St. Andrews College.

Accommodation: You are advised to book your accommodation early. See the information about onsite accommodation at St. Andrews College here (ga2021.nz/accomodation). If you are looking for alternative accommodation options nearby they can be found at the link above.

We are looking forward to having you with us in Christchurch this year. General Assembly is a key gathering for us as a church and the Moderator Designate Rev. Hamish Galloway and the Local Arrangements Committee value your prayers and support as the preparations for GA21 proceed.

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