



PEAKS POSTINGS

JULY 14, 2020

GA224 is a technological success, says Committee on the Office of the General Assembly

Committee members say more work needs to be done to make future assemblies more inclusive

Rick Jones | Office of the General Assembly - July 7, 2020



With the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)’s first online General Assembly in the history books, members of the Committee on the Office of the General Assembly (COGA) say they are pleased with how the complex technical setup came together. But if this is a sign of things to come for future gatherings, some improvements will need to be made, leaders say.

COGA met last week before the holiday weekend to assess the assembly and hear from Office of the General Assembly (OGA) staff.

Julia Henderson, interim director of assembly operations with OGA, reviewed analytics from the livestream broadcast of the 224th General Assembly (2020).

“Our strongest engagement online was during the Co-Moderator election and the Youth Rising presentation,” she said. “We also had as many visitors to the General Assembly website during this shortened assembly as we did for the entire 223rd General Assembly in 2018.”

Henderson specifically lifted up the technical support for the 224th General Assembly (2020).

“Technical support was phenomenal. We actively reached out to commissioners as much as 10 times to make sure they were ready to participate and it paid off with high engagement,” she said.

The Reverend Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the PC (USA), says it was “all hands on deck” to make this online assembly come together.

[Click here to continue reading this article...](#)



If you missed the Webinar on Facebook Ads, you can check it out on You Tube.

<https://youtu.be/apGXnPy-nPU>



CLERKS OF SESSION

Presbytery Directories have been mailed to you. Please share these with your church.

A Message for Church Treasurer's Revised Employer Quarterly 941 Report

The IRS has revised Form 941 Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return to reflect the implementation of the Employer Retention Credit. This credit allows employers to receive 50% of the taxable social security wages paid beginning March 13, 2020 provided that income for the quarter is 50% less than in the same quarter for 2019. The other requirement is that the organization was closed due to government mandate (applicable to churches in Virginia during Phase 1). The taxable wages **do not** include minister salaries and housing allowances. **The credit cannot be applied if your church received a Small Business Paycheck Protection Program loan.**

The revised form is three pages long and the revised instructions are 19 pages long. If your church is interested in applying the Retention Credit and would like assistance in completing the forms, contact Robin Padgett at the Presbytery office (robin@peaks-presbytery.org or 1-888-557-3257).

Isaiah 55:12 - "You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands."





Pastors, Session Clerks, Treasurers, Finance and Personnel Committees



Board of Pensions Benefits Update for 2021

The Board of Pensions is putting in place several exciting new benefits for 2021. It may seem early, but the time for churches to consider staff benefit offerings for next year is approaching.

So what's new? Who's eligible? How can my church and I take advantage of these new offerings and packages?

The Presbytery of the Peaks is sponsoring a Zoom conference session with our BOP Church Consultant, Martha Reisner, for a brief presentation and Q&A opportunity. This time is designed for pastors and members of sessions, personnel and finance committees, but anyone is welcome. Please invite the appropriate people in your congregation who might be involved in benefits decisions.

WHEN? Tuesday, July 14, either 10 am or 7 pm. The same information will be presented at both sessions.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



RADFORD
UNIVERSITY

Radford University is about to start its fall semester and it is as important as ever that college students have sources of spiritual support. For those that have grown up in our churches, we have all taken baptismal vows to support one another in faith and that does not stop when they go off to college.

As one of the co-pastors of the Presbyterian Church of Radford and the campus minister for UKirk at Radford University, I would like help us live up to those baptismal vows to support one another and I need your help. If you know of students who are attending Radford University who might be interested in getting involved in our campus ministry or just might appreciate having a socially distanced lunch with a pastor, please let me know how to get in contact with them! You can reach me at pastorpeterhf@gmail.com

Grace and peace,
Rev. Peter Hawisher-Faul



PRESBYTERY CALENDAR

Date	Time	Event	Location
7/14/20	10:00 a.m./7:00 p.m.	Webinar: Board of Pensions	Zoom
7/15/20	9:30 a.m.	Examinations Committee	Zoom
7/15/20	10:00 a.m.	Committee on Administration	Zoom
7/15/20	2:00 p.m.	CP Workgroup	Zoom
7/16/20	9:30 a.m.	Stated Clerk Search Committee	Zoom
7/16/20	1:00 p.m.	Reading in Reformed Theology	Zoom
7/20/20	1:00 p.m.	Reading Greek in NT	Zoom
7/21/20	9:30 a.m.	Stated Clerk Search Committee	Zoom

Next Presbytery Meeting:
August 15, 2020, Zoom

[On-Line Calendar](#)

Peaks Postings is published each week on Tuesday. Please submit news, events, or prayer requests **by noon on Mondays** to Julie Dyke at julie.dyke@peakspresbytery.org for inclusion in the following issue.

Guidelines for announcements or news items to be featured in Peaks Postings:

- Keep the information to one page or less.
- Use links to web sites rather than including lots of details.
- Please obtain permission from the people pictured in your photos before submitting them to *Peaks Postings*.

Peaks Postings Editors reserve the right to

- feature or not feature an article. Our first priority is to feature activities within POP churches and the Presbytery.
- edit submitted articles/announcements.
- limit the number of weeks an article/announcement is featured.

Past issues of Peaks Postings are archived for about six months on our website, [Presbytery of the Peaks](#).

Presbytery of the Peaks
 108 Melinda Dr.
 Lynchburg, VA 24502
 Phone: 434-845-1754
 Toll Free: 1-888-557-3257
 Fax: 434-845-7829
 e-mail: office@peakspresbytery.org
 Web Site: peakspresbytery.org

Julie Dyke, *Administrative Support*
Robin Padgett, *Office Manager*
Denise Pillow, *Hunger Action Advocate*
John Wiederholt, *Stated Clerk*
Carl Utley, *Transitional General Presbyter*
Rachel Shepherd, *Transitional Associate Presbyter for Discipleship*

“Building partnerships in Christ, to empower communities of faith to be the
 Body of Christ for the world.”