

November 2013

Dear Colleagues in Ministry,

"The call of Christ is to willing, dedicated discipleship...Discipleship is a gift and a commitment, an offering and a responsibility." Commissioning service from the <u>Book</u> of Occasional Services

Grace to you and peace! I am writing on behalf of the General Assembly Nominating Committee (GANC). The GANC is charged with nominating persons to thirty boards, commissions, committees, and councils. As we move forward with this cycle of the nomination process we hope that you will assist us in identifying one or more persons in your congregation or presbytery who might be open to a call to discipleship through service on a General Assembly entity.

The Book of Order, G-1.0304, reminds us that "membership in the Church of Jesus Christ is a joy and a privilege" as well as a commitment to participate in Christ's mission. Members are called to be involved in a variety of ways including sharing their time and talents in support of the ministry of the whole church and participating in the governing responsibilities of the church.

We need your help in developing a deep pool of faithful, competent Presbyterians who can serve the whole church with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love. The General Assembly Nominating Committee can only consider persons whose names have been submitted to us and who provide us with needed information. As we increase the number of persons with capacities for service, we become better prepared to make the best possible nominations to the General Assembly.

I have attached a list of the vacancies that the GA Nominating Committee will fill in this cycle. Most of these positions require a general knowledge of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and an understanding of and concern for the church. Some require specialized interests and skills in areas such as business, communications, finance, health care and medical, law, publishing, investments, and benefits administration. These are skills that many members of your congregation and presbytery may use in their every day lives and would be willing to share in service to the larger church.

The website for the General Assembly Nominating Committee is – **pcusa.org/nominations**. Here you will find information about the entities to which the Committee makes nominations, a description of skills and expertise needed as well as time requirements for each entity. You will also be able to learn more about the nominations process.

I have also included with this email, a copy of the application form (as well as a copy of the reference form) so that you may share it with those who might be willing to be considered for service. The deadline for forms to be considered for nomination to the upcoming General Assembly is January 2, 2014. However, applications received after this date will be kept on file for two General Assemblies.

Please feel free to be in touch with the member of the GA Nominating Committee who resides in your synod or me if you have questions or need additional information. You will find contact information attached to this email as well.

Thank you for your service in assisting the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) "to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the full stature of Christ" (Ephesians 4:12,13).

Grace be with you,

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