GA-2348

General Nominating Committee Report for Election of Officers of the General Assembly and Members of the General Board

In accordance with the Design of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the General Nominating Committee presents the following candidates for election as officers of the General Assembly.

For Moderator Elect: Cindy Kim-Hengst

Cindy is a Korean-American lay leader hailing originally from Indiana, but currently residing in Elmhurst, IL. She has been a Disciple for just over 30 years and a charter member of the first Korean Disciples congregation in Indianapolis. She is a member at Chicago Christian Church, the oldest Korean Disciples congregation in IL, where she serves on both the senior leadership and worship teams. During her time as a Disciple, she has served and experienced the Church in a variety of ways including: camp counselor in Indiana, Disciples Women, DOM/Global Ministries, NAPAD, NBA, and WOC. Cindy’s experience with the variety of ministries in the church has led her to appreciate and gain an understanding for the need of all aspects of church work from congregational ministries impacting the local community to those ministries in the Church that make a difference in the lives of brothers and sisters on the other side of the globe.

Professionally, Cindy worked in healthcare, specifically Radiation Oncology, for 13 years. She was originally led to this field due to close family experience with cancer and Radiation Oncology, but she continued to pursue this field because she wanted to care for and connect with people in a meaningful way. Her skills and proficiency led her to managing a Cancer Center for the last 6 years of her career before stepping away for family. During her time in oncology services, Cindy found a deep appreciation for the daily reminders of gratitude and has continued this practice even after leaving the world of healthcare. Currently, Cindy works as a Public Adjuster with a roofing contractor where she continues to make connections with clients.

Cindy’s experience, both professionally and in the church, have provided her with a broad range of leadership, communication, and people skills. She hopes to be able to continue to use those experiences along with the gifts provided by God to serve the church in this season as Moderator-elect.

Cindy resides with her spouse and daughter and in her spare time, enjoys reading and downtime with family. When the weather is decent, the family can be found outdoors honing volleyball skills for her daughter. Cindy also enjoys taking her daughter to live theater for music and shows. Cindy also enjoys food and particularly trying new foods over fellowship.
For First Vice Moderator: Liza Miranda

Rev. Liza L. Miranda is a loving and devoted wife, mother, and follower of Christ with a passion for music, worship, equipping leaders, and serving God and the Church. Born and raised in Bayamón, Puerto Rico, Rev. Miranda has roots in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Puerto Rico since she was a child.

After graduating high school, Liza migrated to the mainland to study. Currently a doctoral candidate at the Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies in Jacksonville, FL, Rev. Miranda has a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Chapman University, Orange, CA., and a Master of Arts in Church Music from Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, IN.

Rev. Miranda is an associate pastor at Conéctame Church/Discípulos de Cristo in Miami, Florida, and serves as minister of worship, women, and youth.

Over the last fifteen-plus years, Liza has committed to teaching Hispanic leaders at Wesley Seminary in Marion, IN, Lexington Theological Seminary, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, and Disciples Seminary Foundation as adjunct faculty in their master and certificate programs.

With experience at the national and international levels, Liza traveled as a soloist, preacher, and keynote speaker, served as Quadrennial band director, and coached various music ministry teams. For those that know her, Rev. Miranda is a leader who loves God deeply and serves with an open heart.

For Second Vice Moderator: Erik Free

Erik Free is the pastor of Keizer Christian Church in Keizer, Oregon. He has been an active member of a Disciples congregation in the Oregon and SW Idaho region since he was 15.

During that time, he has served in many capacities and with many congregations in the areas of youth ministry, directing youth camps, hospital chaplaincy at the VA hospital in Portland, pastoral ministry and serving on the regional board as moderator and co-chair of the commission on ministry.

Erik and his wife, Kim, also spent time with Global Ministries as co-workers in Mozambique. He loves being with people and helping them grow in their faith and grow closer with God and each other. He is committed to connecting with the local and wider community as well, spending time volunteering with and supporting refugee resettlement programs and local feeding ministries among others.
Erik is a lifelong Oregonian who loves the outdoors, fishing, camping, and canoeing. He is excited at the opportunity to serve the wider church as a member of the General Board.

**They will join Moderator Clyde Hunt, who has served as Moderator-Elect since 2019.**

Clyde E. Hunt, Jr. is a lay leader from Memphis, Tennessee and is retired after a long career as a civil engineer. He is a 30-year Disciple and is an active member of Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church, Memphis, Tennessee. He has served in various leadership capacities including Chair of the Diaconate Ministry, Elder Board Chair, and has contributed his gifts in several committees and Boards of the church, community, and Christian Church (DOC) Tennessee Region.

In addition, the General Nominating Committee presents the following candidates for election to the General Board:

For a two-year term ending in 2025*:

- Sage Appleby (White, Lay, Female, OK, 40-49)
- Jessica Braxton (Hispanic, Clergy, Female, NC, 19-23)
- Stephanie Crowder (Black, Clergy, Female, IL-WI, 50-59)
- Calvin Curry (Black, Clergy, Male, VA, 50-59)
- Amanda Groves (White, Clergy, Female, IL-WI, 50-59)
- Cecelia Johnson (White, Lay, Female, AZ, 60+)
- Adria Patterson (Black, Lay, Female, KC, 40-49)
- Beau Underwood (White, Clergy, Male, IN, 30-39)
- Kikuo Yerem (Asian/Pacific Islander, Clergy, Male, OR-SI, 40-49)

For a four-year term, ending in 2027**:

- Judy Alston (Black, Clergy, Female, OH, 50-59)
- Toni Colbert (Black, Clergy, Female, IN 60+)
- Miseon Choi (Asian/Pacific Islander, Clergy, Female, PSWR, 30-39)
- Isaac Elizarraras (Hispanic, Lay, Male, SW, 30-39)
Steven Gower (White, Clergy, Male, OH, 30-39)
Rich Lubbers (White, Lay, Male, OK 30-39)
Janet Maykus (White, Clergy, Female, TN, 60+)
Kathryn Tovar (White, Lay, Female, SC, 23-29)

*When the 2021 General Assembly was cancelled, the terms of General Board members were extended such that all the members of the General Board nominated by the General Nominating Committee are ending at the 2023 General Assembly. These nominees are being elected for a two-year term in order to reestablish staggered terms.

**These terms may be adjusted if the proposed changes to the Design are implemented as indicated in GA-2343. The General Assembly would be asked to ratify all changes to terms of the General Assembly Officers and the General Board members at the 2025 General Assembly.

New Members for the General Nominating Committee

For election to a four-year term:

Jeff Champeau (L, W, M, 40-49, OK)
Brian Irwin (L, W, M, 40-49, KAN)
Pedro Ramos-Goycolea (C, H, M, 40-49, AZ)
Gabriel Trie-Pfefer (C, W, M 40-49, IN)
Beau Underwood (C, W, M, 30-39, IN)

They will join the following members of the General Nominating Committee, who are continuing their service:

Kevin McNeil (C, B, M, 40-49, VA)
Linda Necker (L, W, F, 40-49 AZ)
Candyce Black-Wells (L, B, F, 30-39, IL/WI)
Lydia Charlebois (L, W, F, 18-22, CAN)
Miseon Choi (C, API, F, 30-39, PSWR)
In keeping with the Design of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the members of the Corporation of the Division of Disciples Home Missions and the Corporation of the Division of Overseas Ministries were elected by the General Board at its April 2023 meeting. They are reported here to comply with the bylaws of the two ministries:

Disciples Home Missions
*The General Board elected the following persons:*
  
  Beverly Bell  
  Charles Tatlock  
  Chimiste Doriscar  
  Chrissy Stonebraker-Martinez  
  Daniel Lyvers  
  Darlene Brewer  
  Derrick Perkins  
  Eronica King  
  Jeanne Thompson  
  Jennifer Larson  
  Lynette Li  
  Nadine Burton  
  Reuben Sancken-Marx  
  Ryan Moreno

Division of Overseas Ministries
*The General Board elected the following persons:*
  
  Antonio Rodriguez  
  Baek Hee Kim  
  Bernice Rivera  
  Carla Aday  
  Cyndy Twedell  
  Dale Braxton  
  Dara Cobb Lewis  
  Jeremy Gillett  
  LaVerne Thorpe  
  Matthew Fehse  
  Megan Lowe  
  Merillat Flowers  
  Nestor Gomez Morales  
  Selena Reyes Martinez  
  Tyler Reeve

*Note: These rosters may have changed since the time of their submission to the General Nominating Committee.*