



THE UNITING  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
IN SOUTHERN  
AFRICA

21 May 2015.

Dear Commissioners,

Warm greetings from Tlo Sopa House.

Kindly note the below details for your attention and action.

1. The **General Assembly** is a formal gathering of Presbyterians Commissioned by their Presbyteries (and representing all sections of the UPCSA).
  2. The **Four Services of the General Assembly this year will be formal Services.** (a) **Saturday 20th June** is a formal Service to induct the new Moderator of the General Assembly. (b) **Sunday 21st June** is a formal Service for the gathering of all Presbyterians as they prepare for the week's assignments of the General Assembly. (c) **Wednesday 2nd July** is a formal service to celebrate the retiring Ministers and welcoming Fraternal delegates. (d) **Thursday 3rd July** is a formal service to close the General Assembly and to be commissioned for service.
  3. For all these formal services, all **ordained Ministers are requested to come with your clerical vestments.** For the colours or robes/cassocks and stoles to be worn at all four formal services, Ministers are advised to come with what you wear at ordination services (black robes or black cassocks and red stoles) This is regardless of whether you will be on the procession or not.
  4. To save time, we require only **Seniors and Presbytery Moderators** (and may be Presbytery Clerks who are seniors) to **join the Four General Assembly Moderators** on the Procession for Saturday Induction and Sunday worship service. For the Wednesday and Thursday Services, we shall have the **GS, Clerk of GA, AGM secretary and our hosting Synod and Presbytery Moderators join the procession.**
  5. All Ministers would be seated in the designated front section of the Auditorium for all the four services.
  6. Retiring Ministers will be told what to do for their retiring service. They should all come in their clerical attire (and necessarily Robes and Cassocks, but clerical shirt and jacket or suit. It is a special service for them which will be done in the presence of our Fraternal delegates.
  7. For the rest of the week commissioners can relax as you meet in your House Groups. Monday and Tuesday are open days.
- We would like this General Assembly to showcase who we are as Presbyterians. Since Covid-19, we have had a lot of confusion on what constitutes a formal attire for Assembly Services. We will have young people (youth) attending the General Assembly services and we would like to show that we are particular about our brand as the UPCSA. This is not enforcing tradition, but it is taking those good aspects of tradition that have distinguished us as Presbyterians. We have experienced in the past years some people attending the General Assembly services in their pajamas. We are intentional this year to create an atmosphere of