

National Capital Presbytery Elder Commissioner to General Assembly Nomination Form

revised May 2009

This form has been developed following G-4.0400 Diversity and Inclusiveness, to help the Nominating Committee give full expression to the rich diversity within our presbytery.

Date .August 26, 2009

Name: Cynthia Bolbach		
Street Address: 1823 N. Uhle Street		
City, State, ZIP: Arlington, VA 22201		
Local Church: First, Arlington		Member Since:
Phone: Home: 703-243-4250	Work: 703-341-3482	Cell: 202-360-3956
Email: cbolbach@bna.com		
Year of Ordination: approx. 1980 (ordained at New York Avenue PC)	Year Church was last represented at GA by an Elder: 2006	
Previous Commissioner to GA? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	If Yes, what year? 1997	What Presbytery? NCP

Age Range:

- 25 and under (youth)
 26-35 (young adults)
 36-64 (adult)
 65+ (older adult)

Racial Ethnic Identity:

- Asian-American (AA)
 African-American (AfrA)
 Hispanic/Latino (H/L)
 Middle Eastern (ME)
 Native American (NA)
 Caucasian (C)
 Other (O)

Gender F M

Disability? Y N Is building accessibility a concern? Y N

In the past two years, how often did you attend Presbytery meetings? ** As chair of Council (2007) I attended all Presbytery meetings. In 2008, I intentionally did not attend several meetings, believing that former officers should absent themselves for a while so as to allow some space for the new officers.
Local Church Responsibilities (Past and Present) ** Clerk of Session, New York Avenue Pres. Church; Clerk of Session, First Arlington
Presbytery Responsibilities (Past and Present) ** Chair, Committee on Ministry; Interim General Presbyter; Moderator; Chair of Council
Other Governing Body Responsibilities (Past and Present) ** Co-Moderator, Form of Government Task Force
Special skills, knowledge, expertise in relevant areas and computer competency ** Experienced in leading groups to make decisions; knowledgeable about Presbyterian polity and

church structure

Community Involvement (Name no more than three)

** Foster parent, Arlington County

**If filling out form manually, use extra pages where necessary.

General Assembly 2010

Elder Commissioner Nomination Form

G-4.0403 "...Persons of all racial ethnic groups, different ages, both sexes, various disabilities, diverse geographical areas, different theological positions consistent with the Reformed tradition...shall be guaranteed full participation and access to representation..."

**To help the Nominating Committee further understand you, briefly describe your theology.

I will use the Statement of Faith I wrote when installed as an elder:

I believe in God, the creator and sustainer of all things visible and invisible. God seeks us out, God calls each of us by name, and God redeems us through God's son, Jesus Christ. The cross of Jesus, "towering o'er the wrecks of time," cuts through and across human history. That cross tells the world of both the Jesus of history and the Christ of faith: the Jesus who was born like us, suffered like us, and died just as we will die; the Christ, the son of the living God, whose unmerited gift of grace promises us eternal salvation. As individuals and as the group of believers called the church, acting as the Holy Spirit moves in, around, and through us, and sustained by the sacramental bonds of baptism and the Lord's Supper, we seek to worship, witness to, and serve God, who we are confident is active in human history and moving toward the ultimate victory that comes not in our time but in God's time. God spoke the first word: "Let there be light." And God will speak the last word: "Let my kingdom come." Thanks be to God.

**Please share why you want to represent National Capital Presbytery at the General Assembly.

I am seeking nomination as an elder-commissioner in order to stand for Moderator of the 219th General Assembly. The Moderator's most important job is to help the Assembly discern God's will for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and I believe I have the experience and temperament to help the Assembly make decisions effectively. As a candidate for Moderator, I would like to help lead a discussion within the church on how we as a denomination can most effectively proclaim God's Word in a time and place where Christianity is no longer the predominant cultural force.

**If filling out form manually, use extra pages where necessary.

A commissioner to the General Assembly recognizes the importance of the following responsibilities and is willing to accept each.

- Attendance at preparatory meetings and briefings. (yes)
- Attendance and participation in the General Assembly in its entirety (yes)
- Report to and be a resource within the Presbytery following the General Assembly, and be available for two years thereafter for the purpose of interpreting and assisting in the implementation of actions taken at the General Assembly. (yes)
- Serve for two years on the NCP Bills and Overtures Committee. (yes)
- Able to use computer before and during GA. (yes)

Signature of Nominee: (Type name if submitting electronically)

Cynthia J. Bolbach

Signature of Moderator or Clerk of Session: (Elders must be nominated by the Session of their church)

(Type name if submitting electronically)

Charlotte H. Lohrenz

Date of Session Action: September 24, 2009

Please return to Nominating Committee Chair, **Betty Douglass**, ebdouglass@verizon.net or
313 W. Columbia Street
Falls Church, VA 22046

Please provide a Letter of Reference for Cynthia Bolbach
Elder Commissioner Nominee for General Assembly

As part of the reference, please address the following:

- In what ways has the Nominee demonstrated fairness and willingness to listen to a diversity of views and to learn?

I have known Cindy Bolbach in a number of the capacities in which she has served the Presbyterian Church - as chairperson of COM, interim general presbyter, clerk of Session, member of a congregation and co-moderator of the Forms of Government Task Force. In those positions I have seen Elder Bolbach confronted with people with widely differing views - on polity, on practice, on theology and on particular church situations. I have always experienced her as being scrupulously fair - clear of her own opinion, but listening carefully to others. I have seen her go out of her way to be in conversation with those with whom she disagreed - or with those who were convinced that she was wrong!

During her time on FOG Task Force, I have heard her learn - and have learned from her - of the value of a broad spectrum of congregations.

It is fair to say that Elder Bolbach has had exposure to and communication with a wider variety of congregations and viewpoints than most people who attend GA. She has used that experience to create a fresh, and vibrant understanding of the denomination, not only as it is, but as it can be.

- In your opinion, will Nominee be willing and able to spend the time and energy to study the materials and understand the issues, both before and during the General Assembly?

Elder Bolbach is one of the great elder theologian of the Presbyterian church, who has devoted time, effort and energy to local congregations, to the presbytery and to the national church. She already devotes considerable time to the denomination, and has presented a clear and coherent plan about how she would undertake service as moderator. It seems to me that it is extraordinarily rare to find an elder who is as capable to serve as a commissioner (and hopefully, as moderator of the denomination), and uniquely positioned to serve.

- In your opinion, will the Nominee be able to effectively communicate what took place at GA?

Elder Bolbach is an extremely effective communicator. She uses her considerable intelligence, wide knowledge, great speaking skills, excellent writing ability and (blessedly) her sense of humor to deliver messages. She would relay fairly, and accurately, and with priority, what occurs at GA.

Signature Charlotte H. Lohrenz
(Type name if submitting electronically)

**Please send completed recommendation to the NCP Nominating Committee Chair
Betty Douglass, ebdouglass@verizon.net or
313 W. Columbia Street
Falls Church, VA 22046**

Deadline: September 30, 2009