

National Capital Presbytery

Elder Commissioner to 2012 General Assembly

Nomination Form

Revised June 2011

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: September 9, 2011		
Name: Janis L. Summers		
Street Address: 1341 Carlsbad Drive		
City, State, ZIP: Gaithersburg, MD 20879		
Local Church: Darnestown PC		Member Since: 1988
Phone: Home: 301-330-5337	Work: 202-205-2605	Cell: 240-472-4685
Email: janis.summers@usitc.gov		
Year of Ordination: 1998	Year your church was represented by a Commissioner at GA: 1995	
Previous Commissioner To GA? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If Yes, what year?	What Presbytery?

Age Range:

26-35
 36-64
 65+

Gender: F M

Racial Ethnic Identity:

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

Do you require special accommodations of any type? Y N If Yes, what kind

<p>In the past two years, how often have you attended Presbytery meetings? **I have attended all meetings during that time period as an elder commissioner for DPC.</p>
<p>Local Church Responsibilities (Past and Present) **Deacon (ordained 1992; served 2 terms) and Elder (now in 4th term on Session); serving as Clerk of Session and Chair of Worship and Music Committee; have served as organist and currently as secondary organist; serving again on church nominating committee; member of transformation team (known at DPC as "discovery team"); member of chancel choir since 1986; active in our PW in several capacities; chaired team that restored our stained glass windows (completed 2010); DPC lay board member on Reformed Institute of Metropolitan Washington</p>
<p>Presbytery Responsibilities (Past and Present) **Serving on Bills & Overtures Committee (class of 2012) and helped facilitate discussions of GA 2010 overtures in our presbytery; designated elder commissioner to presbytery for DPC for last 5 years; have agreed to be nominated for Permanent Judicial Commission</p>
<p>Other Governing Body Responsibilities (Past and Present) ** Member of presbytery PW coordinating team</p>

Special skills, knowledge, expertise in relevant areas and computer competency **Serving as attorney-advisor, U.S. International Trade Commission, since 1981 with responsibilities for drafting and analyzing federal legislation on international trade and tariff preference programs, preparing Presidential proclamations to take trade-related actions, and drafting language for international agreements and U.S. customs tariff schedule; good knowledge of WordPerfect (used daily) and working knowledge of Word plus related mail packages, plus some knowledge of Excel and Lotus spreadsheets and Access; work on Bills & Overtures Committee and on state and federal legislation

Community Involvement (Name no more than three)**Mission project involvement through DPC and PW; served on neighborhood homeowners association board and am on neighborhood watch; worked for animal rescue group

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

NCP selects its delegates to represent the diversity of theological opinion present among us. Recognizing that each of the statements in the couplets below may be true, please place two numbers within each of the 4 sets of statements: Place a 1 before the statement in each section with which you most agree. Assign a 2 or 3 or 4 before the statement with which you least agree, with 4 indicating the least agreement. Add comments if necessary.

Rating Number	Theological Statement
1	The Kingdom of God is realized as individuals develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
2	The realm of God is most often realized in the believing community's witness to and participation in the advancement of social justice in the world.
	Comments:**In fact, I would say that to me these are both requisites for my own spiritual formation and that of the faith community. A natural outgrowth of such a personal relationship with Jesus is the desire to try to carry out his teachings in the world, working through the entire community of believers and grounded at all times in Scripture, and seeking to apply our deepening knowledge of Jesus' words and example in the present age.
3	It is vitally important to affirm that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.
1	To follow the teachings of Jesus is the most important witness to faith.
	Comments:**Seeking to live my life under the example of Jesus can illuminate the hearts and minds of those I meet or touch. I affirm my belief that Jesus is the Son of God by doing so, yet at times I also seek to explain to others in words why I have entered into a personal relationship with him and to describe his role in my life. Jesus' words of reconciliation, love, and peace must be shared with the world by believers as our own life's goal; however, we share that world with many who may not be reached by an initial affirmation of Jesus as God's Son.
1	The Scriptures, given under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, are nevertheless the words of humans, conditioned by the cultural and historical context in which they were written. The Spirit continually reforms our understanding of them.
4	The Scriptures, given under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, are definitive for how we should live, and we ignore their explicit instructions at our peril.
	Comments:**The Scriptures are authoritative in their guidance and yet must be read as a whole and within the context of the time and place in which they were recorded, knowing that our understanding today need not be that of those who recorded or spoke these words. We are called to pray and study within the guidance of the community of believers and the work of the Spirit, finding meaning that can be used to direct our lives in the current age and that can bring others to faith and achieve God's kingdom, both here and in the age to come.
4	The goal of evangelism is to save people from eternal punishment.
1	The goal of evangelism is to offer individuals a place/role in the believing community, which exemplifies God's reconciling love and acceptance.
	Comments:**I am called to share the love of God through Christ with all persons, as we are each children of God created in God's image and loved by God, and each deserving of the embrace and peace of Christ; I do so in the knowledge that God is sovereign in all things and that in God's plan for creation God wishes us only our good. God can choose to bring all people into his kingdom, as his grace is never-ending and all-sufficient. I strive to view others as I believe Jesus would likely do, and to work on his behalf.

Share with the committee what you believe are the key theological issues currently facing the church and society, and how they shape your experience in the church.**Focusing on and sharing the love of Christ, both in the church and beyond it, and as the world changes around us, yet retaining our identity as Reformed Christians who seek to live into our calling in the face of relativism, materialism, and misplaced priorities, are huge challenges for each of us, for the denomination and for the whole church. Emphasizing Christ's priorities for us (particularly social justice and discipleship) and the grace of God can establish what the church stands for to those who have no faith background or who may focus on what they hear about denominational disputes, and to those of other faiths who may have very different perspectives. Those priorities can also help us within the faith community as we interpret and apply God's word for us today.

Please share why you want to represent National Capital Presbytery at the General Assembly** I think it is vitally important for elders to share in the responsibility of church governance and to convey the ideas of lay persons in this diverse presbytery to the church at large. It would be both the ultimate challenge and a great privilege to do so, and to share the views and strengths of our presbytery to other Presbyterians. Last, I hope to grow in faith through the experience in ways that can benefit the presbytery and my own congregation as we move forward.

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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 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) Janis L. Summers

Signature of Moderator or Clerk of Session: (Elders must be nominated by the Session of their church)
(Type name if submitting electronically) Rev. David R. McNeilly

Date of Session Action: August 29, 2011

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

Please provide your picture either digitally or by hard copy

Nomination Deadline: September 30, 2011

Date Received