

227th General Assembly (2026) Proposed Location

Recommend the Approval of the following action to be referred to the 226th General Assembly (2024):

The Committee on the Office General Assembly recommends that the 226th General Assembly (2024) accept the invitation from the Presbytery of Milwaukee to hold the 227th General Assembly (2026) in Milwaukee, WI from June 23, 2026 to July 2, 2026.

Background:

When considering the location for an upcoming General Assembly, staff engage the following considerations:

- Standing Rules parameters regarding location
- Meeting date availability and preference
- Stewardship of per capita funds
- Meeting space availability and function
- Availability of AV and meeting space provisions
- Accessibility of technology
- Number of hotels and proximity to meeting locations
- Availability and ease of flights and accessibility of airport to meeting location
- Food and beverage availability and costs
- Environmental impact (carbon footprint, public transportation, energy use, etc.)
- Coordination opportunities with local presbyteries, convention bureaus, etc.
- Ability to accommodate method of meeting
- Safety of undocumented and DACA participants

As recently as last Thursday, February 8th, the Office of the General Assembly was considering two locations based on successful site visits in December. However, one of the possible host presbyteries shared with us that they would prefer not to be considered at this time. While this limits options, we are grateful that the remaining site was already a wonderful option we were eager to pursue. **Below is information on the proposed site for the 227th General Assembly (2026): Milwaukee, WI.**

Location: Milwaukee, WI

Online Committees: Tuesday, June 23- Thursday, June 25, 2026

In-Person Plenaries: Sunday, June 28- Thursday, July 2, 2026

Cost Estimate: \$1,137,277

Cost Breakdown:	\$249,823	Airfare for Commissioners and Advisory Delegates
	\$754,626	Hotel for Commissioners, Ad. Del., 50 volunteers
	\$10,000	Net Convention Center Rent
	\$122,828	Food and Beverage for group meals

Note: this does not reflect the entire costs of the assembly, but those which are impacted primarily by the selection of a site for the assembly.

Meeting Space: Milwaukee’s Convention Center will have new addition with construction finished in 2024. It will be used as the site for the Republican National Convention in 2024, therefore has been equipped for large groups, security concerns, and accessibility. While most of the General Assembly will occur in the existing Convention Center building, we would benefit from increased public spaces and refreshed carpet/paint in meeting rooms.

Plenary would occur in a large ballroom with meeting rooms and office around the other side of the existing convention center.

Technology: In-house and local AV/technology supports are available.

Accessibility: ADA compliant, free trolley system within downtown districts, many direct flight options from major cities/hubs, several hotels in close proximity.

Environmental Impact: Convention Center is committed to mitigating the environmental impact of construction and is making accommodations to the renovation of the space that will enable further sustainability moving forward.

Local Support: Presbytery of Milwaukee has shared an enthusiastic willingness to host. The downtown districts across Milwaukee have recently undergone major transition to expand community spaces and local businesses. It was noted during the site visit that downtown is filled with local restaurants rather than chains, which is an exciting opportunity for impact on the local economy through our presence. The city has expressed a deep commitment to reclaiming downtown as a thriving local community and tourist attraction.

Last Assembly: 1993

Comments: Staff were impressed and encouraged by the site visit to Milwaukee. There was a sense that it is the right-size for our upcoming assembly without sacrificing the many accommodations and perks of larger cities. There is a clear connection between the convention center, the local businesses, and community members. In hosting the assembly in Milwaukee, WI we would have the chance to impact local growth and businesses in a positive way, while also providing for an assembly that is impactful for all participants.