

Moving Forward Commission

Membership: 12 members; ruling elders and teaching elders in equal number:

4 members of the 2016 Way Forward Commission

4 members of the 2016 All-Agency Review Committee, and

4 members – 3 commissioners 1 young adult advisory delegate to the 223rd General Assembly

Key for demographic information

Mariana Pardo (D) (YA) HFR 26-35 Milwaukee LAK
 ⑤ ④ ② ① ⑤ ⑥ ⑦

means

Mariana Pardo (person living with a disability) (Young Adult) Hispanic/Latina, Female, Ruling Elder, 26-35 years old, Milwaukee Presbytery, Synod of Lakes and Prairies

① Gender and Ordination designation:

FT—Female Teaching, Minister of the Word and Sacrament
FR—Female Ruling Elder
FL—Female Church Member
FD—Female Deacon
MT—Male Teaching Elder, Minister of the Word and Sacrament
MR—Male Ruling Elder
ML—Male Church Member
MD—Male Deacon

② Racial Ethnic designation:

A—Asian American
B—African American
H—Hispanic/Latina/Latino
M—Middle Eastern
N—Native American
O—Other
W—White

Combination of letter codes may be used when applicant indicates more than one racial/ethnic category (bi-racial or multi-racial) i.e. B/N = African American and Native American.

③ Person living with disability designation:

D—Disability (persons with self-identified disability)

④ Youth/Young Adult designation:

YA—Young Adult (35 years and younger when appointed)

⑤ Age Range:

25- (25 years old and younger); **26+** =26–35 years old; **36+** =36–45 years old; **46+** =46–55 years old; **56+** =56–65 years old; **66+** = 66–75 years old; and **75+** = over 75 years old

⑥ Presbytery

⑦ Synod:

ANW—Alaska Northwest; **BPR**—Borinquen en Puerto Rico | Puerto Rico; **COV**—Covenant; **LAK**—Lakes and Prairies; **LIN**—Lincoln Trails; **LW**—Living Waters; **MAM**—Mid-America; **MAT**—Mid-Atlantic; **NE**—Northeast; **PAC**—Pacific; **ROC**—Rocky Mountains; **SA**—South Atlantic; **SCH**—Southern California and Hawaii; **SUN**—Sun; **SW**—Southwest; **TRI**—Trinity

Class of 2020

1. Madeline Alvarez *	HFT (D)	56-65	Noroeste	BPR	223 rd GA Commissioner
2. Jacqueline Cummings	BFR	36-45	South Louisiana	SUN	223 rd GA Commissioner
3. Laryetta Ellis	BFT	66-75	West Virginia	TRI	223 rd GA Commissioner
4. Rachel Sutphin	WFR (YA)	25-	The Peaks	MAT	223 rd GA YAAD
5. Debra Avery	WFT	56-65	San Francisco	PAC	All Agency Review Comm
6. Eric Beene	WMT	36-45	Savannah	SA	All Agency Review Comm
7. Marco Grimaldo *	HMR	46-55	National Capital	MAT	All Agency Review Comm
8. James Tse	AMR	56-65	New York City	NE	All Agency Review Comm
9. Mathew Eardley	WMR (YA)	26-35	Boise	PAC	Way Forward Commission
10. Cliff Lyda	WMT	56-65	St. Augustine	SA	Way Forward Commission
11. Adan Mairena	HMT	36-45	Philadelphia	TRI	Way Forward Commission
12. Jo Stewart	WFR	56-65	Charlotte	MAT	Way Forward Commission

Class	FR	MR	FT	MT	A	B	H	M	N	O	W	Multi	D	YA
2020	3	3	3	3	1	2	3	0	0	0	6	0	1	2
Total	3	3	3	3	1	2	3	0	0	0	6	0	1	2

*Co-Moderators

Short Biographical Information

Madeline Alvarez (Presbiterio Del Noroeste) is one of the Co-Moderators of the Moving Forward Implementation Commission. Madeline was born in Brooklyn, New York and moved to Puerto Rico with her family in her early teens. She holds a Master of Divinity degree from the Evangelical Seminary in Puerto Rico and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Human Resources from

the University of Puerto Rico. Madeline served as part time Pastor in the Iglesia Presbiteriana en Espinar, in Aguada, Puerto Rico for five years. She worked at Hewlett Packard Puerto Rico's Manufacturing Site for twenty years in the Supply Chain Department procuring key commodities for Puerto Rico and the Czech Republic operations. She currently serves on the Committee for Preparation for Ministry, is the Coordinator for the Theological School José Aracelio Cardona and is the Spiritual Director of the Presbyterian Women in the Northwest Presbytery. Madeline enjoys baking, gardening and cultivating succulents.

Debra Avery (San Francisco Presbytery) is a cradle Presbyterian, born in Steamboat Rock, Iowa, and prior to her ordination, lived in San Francisco, Tokyo, Milwaukee, Mexico City, and Hagerstown, MD. She is fluent in Spanish and has a BA in Theater and Spanish; MS in Curriculum and Instruction Administration, and an M.Div. She has served as a 2nd career pastor at Good Shepherd (Yonkers, NY 2001-2004), Hope (Springfield, IL 2004-2008), Palo Cristi (Phoenix, AZ 2008-2012), and First (Oakland, CA 2012-2017). She has led vision and strategy work in the presbyteries of Great Rivers and Grand Canyon and nationally on the Presbyterian Mission Agency Review Committee (2014-2016) and the All Agency Review Committee (2016-2018). She was Moderator of the Presbytery of San Francisco (2017); and currently serves as a member of the Presbytery's Mission and Vision Leadership Team. In addition, she is the co-founder of two grassroots organizations which focus on racial equity. Her experience has shaped her current call to be part of 1001 New Worshipping Communities initiative, forming Justice House in Oakland, CA which seeks to engage activists who fight at the intersections where multiple oppressions are felt, offering safe space and sabbath time for rest and reflection, and ultimately for organizing for action. She lives in Oakland with her husband, Peter and (as near as an empty nest parent can) daughter Caleilia. Taylor lives in Brooklyn (not close enough).

Eric Beene (Savannah Presbytery) has served as Pastor of White Bluff Presbyterian Church, which is located in an older, inner-ring suburban community in Savannah, Georgia, since 2006. Previously, he served as the Pastor of Hyde Park Presbyterian Church, a small, multicultural, urban congregation in Boston, Massachusetts. Prior to attending seminary, he worked for a non-profit community development organization in Northeast Portland, Oregon, providing community organizing and staff support for a neighborhood economic revitalization project. In addition to service on several non-profit and community boards as well as Presbytery committees, Eric served the General Assembly on the Committee to Review the Presbyterian Mission Agency from 2014-16 and the All-Agency Review Committee from 2016-2018. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Communication from Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon, in 1995, and his Master of Divinity Degree from Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 2001. His wife, Mary, is also an ordained PC(USA) minister in private practice as a spiritual director and strategic planning and facilitation consultant for church-related and secular non-profit organizations. Their son, Isaac, is twelve years old, and loves dance, chorus, and soccer.

Jacqueline Barnett Cummings (Presbytery of South Louisiana) is a ruling elder at Church of the Way Presbyterian in Baton Rouge where she serves on several committees and sings in the choir. She serves as the Treasurer for the Presbytery of South Louisiana where she is also the Chair of the Finance Committee. She is a member of the Board of Directors and elected to the position of Secretary/Treasurer of the Feliciana Retreat and Conference Center. She is the Deputy Director of the Office of State Examiner, Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service for the State of Louisiana. She received a B.S in Psychology, a Master of Public Administration, and is currently pursuing (all but dissertation) a Ph.D. in Public Policy. She married husband, Tory, in 2009 and they have a 3-year-old son Mason. She is the youngest of six children and is currently the primary caretaker for her parents who reside with her and her family in Baton Rouge.

Mathew Eardley (Boise Presbytery) was born and raised in Boise Idaho and has a degree in Accounting from Whitworth University. Mathew is on the Sales Team at Jitasa, company that provides bookkeeping and accounting services to non-profit organizations across the United States. He is a member of First Presbyterian church in Boise, having served on session, chaired an APNC, and currently co-chairs a \$1M capital campaign. At the Presbytery of Boise he has served on the Committee on Ministry and Financial Review Team. Mathew also enjoys working with youth and chairing the Youth Ministry Team.

Larryetta Ellis (West Virginia Presbytery) is a native of South Georgia who ventured out of her comfort zone to answer the call of God. Larryetta currently serves as Pastor of Edgewood Presbyterian Church in Lewisburg, WV. She is active in the West Virginia Presbytery and currently serves on the Missions Committee. Larryetta's training as pastor began in her first career as a Social Worker in Georgia. She also taught training classes for newly hired social workers. She is a graduate of Louisville Theological Presbyterian Seminary where she received her MDiv. While there she also received the Dr. George D. Carter, Jr Pastoral Ministry Award. When not reading reports, serving on committees and teaching classes - locally and on the Presbytery level, Larryetta likes to curl up with a cup of tea and a good murder mystery.

Marco A. Grimaldo (National Capital Presbytery) is one of the Co-Moderators of the Moving Forward Implementation Commission. Marco grew up in the Spanish speaking Presbyterian churches of central and South Texas. As a boy, he would often attend the church conventions every summer and his service to the church stems from that commitment that he saw in his parents and grandparents. Marco has worked mostly with Churches and charitable groups and now works for Bread for the World, a collective Christian voice to end hunger. Marco has served on numerous boards of directors and leadership teams including More Light Presbyterians, the Presbyterian AIDS Network and more recently the All Agency Review Committee. He currently serves on the board of the Virginia Coalition for Immigrant Rights. Originally from New Braunfels, Texas, Marco now lives in Washington, D.C. where he Marco is a ruling elder in National Capitol Presbytery and is a member of Church of the Pilgrims.

Cliff Lyda (St. Augustine Presbytery) is a retired teaching elder living in Gainesville, FL, currently serving as interim pastor at the First Presbyterian Church in Palatka, FL. He was a member of the Way Forward Commission. Prior to retirement he was pastor of Elmhurst Presbyterian Church, serving the Presbytery of Chicago in a variety of roles, including moderator. A three-time commissioner to the General Assembly, he was moderator of the Mid Council Committee of the 219th GA, and of the Review Committee on the Office of the General Assembly that reported to the 222nd GA. He has been part of the PCUSA since its birth in 1983, and considers it a great joy to be part of the process of rebirth taking place in the church. He is married to Martha Halsey-Lyda, a family nurse practitioner.

Adan A. Mairena (Philadelphia Presbytery) was born in Honduras but has lived his entire life in the United States. Both Adan's parents are PCUSA ordained ministers and as a result Adan grew up in Chicago, Texas, and New Mexico. Ordained by the Presbytery of Philadelphia in 2005, Adan currently is Pastor of the West Kensington Ministry at Norris Square and the Yeadon Presbyterian Church. Adan is a graduate of the University of New Mexico and Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Adan was a Lilly Resident in Ministry at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church before his current call and has served the denomination as Director of the Board for the Board of Pensions, was a contributing writer of a denominational study guide that called for the comprehensive legalization of immigrants and is a member of the General Assembly Urban Ministry Leadership/Organizing Team.

Adan partners with grass-root community-based organizations, interfaith groups, law enforcement, elected officials and others in Philadelphia as they address the issues that effect the quality of life of its citizens, especially those who are marginal.

Jo Stewart (Presbytery of Charlotte) is a member of Myers Park Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, North Carolina, where she has served in numerous roles over the years—including chair of the Global Relations Team. She ended a four-year term on the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board (PMAB) in 2106 where she served as vice-chair for the years 2015-2016; as vice-chair, she was the PMAB representative to the Committee on the Office of the General Assembly (COGA). Jo has also served as a Director of the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program, Inc. Most recently, Jo served on the PMAB Governance Task Force and was a member of the Way Forward Commission. She is retired from Towers Perrin (now Willis Towers Watson) where she was a principal and senior consultant.

Rachel Sutphin (Presbytery of The Peaks) is a student at Columbia Theological Seminary where she is studying for a Master of Divinity and a Master of Arts of Practical Theology with a specialization in pastoral care. At CTS, she is exploring whether her call is to parish ministry or chaplaincy. Currently, she is a Christian Educator at a local PC(USA) church, as well as, serving on the Activist Council with the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship. Prior to beginning her seminary studies, she lived in Blacksburg, Virginia and studied at Virginia Tech. She graduated summa cum laude in 2018 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religion and Culture and a Bachelor of Science in Human Development. Rachel is a Ruling Elder and an Inquirer with the Presbytery of the Peaks.

James Tse (New York City Presbytery) is a ruling elder at the Queens Chinese Presbyterian Church in Rego Park, Queens, where he serves as the Treasurer, Clerk of Session and the church pianist. Professionally, he is the Financial Controller of the Presbytery of New York City but has also served the Presbytery in various volunteer capacities including service as Chair of the Audit Committee, Treasurer and Moderator. He has also served the Synod of the Northeast as Treasurer and Moderator. James has also been active at the General Assembly level having served on the General Assembly Council, including service as Chair of the Audit Committee and Vice-Chair of the General Assembly Council, as well as various other General Assembly Committees.