# General Assembly 2018 information

The 2018 General Assembly will meet in Belfast from Monday evening, 4th June to the afternoon of Friday, 8th June, however, this year will see a number of significant changes to the times that it meets and its composition.

To make meetings more accessible, following last year’s General Assembly resolution, changes were agreed to the times that future Assemblies would meet. This year it has enabled additional business sessions to be scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday evenings, with business on Thursday starting in the afternoon.

It is hoped the new format will enable more ministers and ruling elders to participate. Following a separate resolution, congregations will be entitled to send one additional communicate member, aged 30 or under, to sit and deliberate – a move designed to enable younger voices to be heard at the General Assembly.

The General Assembly itself will open, as is traditional, on the Monday evening at 7pm, when Presbyterians from across Ireland, along with guests and members of the public, will have an opportunity to hear the Moderator, Dr. Noble McNeely, reflect on his year in office. Having been formally elected and installed as Moderator for 2018/2019, Rev. Charles McMullen of West Church, Bangor in County Down, will then give his opening address.

Tickets are not required for the opening night, or for any of the business sessions throughout the week.

Business will commence at 10.30am on Tuesday. Those who are non-voting members or visiting delegates are welcome to attend the public sessions (apart from the private session on Friday morning).

Once again there will be three one-hour alternative presentations. The Council for Social Witness will hold the first on Tuesday at 7pm, the Council for Training and Ministry have theirs at 1.45pm on Thursday. Listening to the Global Church will take place at 2pm on Wednesday.

Also on Wednesday is the Evening Celebration, which starts at 7.45pm. This year’s keynote speaker is Rico Tice and this will be a time of praise, worship and teaching.

The Youth Assembly will host a Fringe Event on Wednesday from 5.45-7.15pm in the new downstairs conference facility.

The theme will be ‘Together: Young people and the Church’. A light tea will be served at the event. Booking is essential and can be done by emailing *clw@presbyterianireland.org*

Daily minutes will be posted on *www.presbyterianireland.org*.

Proceedings will be streamed live and can be followed on Twitter @pciassembly using the hashtag #pciga18. You can also catch up on Facebook.





# #pciga18 highlights

**Opening Meeting**

Monday, 4th June at 7pm

Outgoing remarks – Dr. Noble McNeely

Installation of the Moderator – Rev. Charles McMullen

All welcome – no tickets required.

**Wednesday Evening Celebration**

7.45pm – Assembly Hall

**Building Relationships**

Speaker: Rico Tice

No tickets required.

**Worship**

Tuesday

11.45am – Communion service

Wednesday

12.15pm to 1pm – in the Assembly Hall

Thursday

2.45pm to 3.30pm – in the Assembly Hall

**Youth Night**

This year’s Youth Night takes place in Assembly Buildings, Belfast on Saturday, 9th June. With the theme ’40 years from now’, the event will look at living faithfully for God in a hostile and challenging culture. Johnny Bell, youth worker at Saintfield Road Presbyterian, Belfast, is the speaker.

Tickets for Youth Night cost £4 (euro equivalent).

An Unplugged Event, which will take place after Youth Night, will feature acoustic music, food and conversations. Tickets for Youth Night and Unplugged Event combined cost £5 (euro equivalent).

All tickets are available online at[*www.presbyterianireland.org*](http://www.presbyterianireland.org) or from the CLW office at *clw@presbyterianireland.org*

**Further information**

www.presbyterianireland.org/generalassembly2018

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# Business timetable

**Tuesday, 5th**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 10.30am | Business Committee |
|  | Presbytery reportsMemorial recordReception of delegates  |
| 2pm | Trustees report |
| 2.30pm | General Council |
| 4pm | Council for Public Affairs |
| 7pm | Alternative presentation(Social Witness) |
| 8pm | Linkage Commission |

**Wednesday, 6th**

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| --- | --- |
| 9.30am | Council for Congregational Life and Witness |
| 11.15am | Council for Training and Ministry |
| 2pm | Listening to the Global Church |
| 3.30pm | General Council |
| 4.30pm | General Council |

**Thursday, 7th**

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| --- | --- |
| 1.45pm | Alternative presentation(Training and Ministry) |
| 4pm | Council for Global Mission |
| 7pm | Council for Mission in Ireland |
| 8pm | General Council |

**Friday, 8th**

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| --- | --- |
| 9.30am | Judicial Commission(Private session) |
|  | General Council |
| 11.30am | Council for Social Witness |
| 1pm | Business Committee |
|  | Close of Assembly |