

The Vision of the Presbytery and Work Plan - Aug 2016 Council Meeting

I. Connections

³⁷ He said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Matthew 22:37-40

- Creating, strengthening and facilitating connections through presbytery-wide activities and ministries, in our worship, advocacy, support and mission activities
- Connecting all ages from all churches
- Connecting congregations, presbytery, synod and General Assembly, as well as ecumenical and Interfaith networks

II. Resources

¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Isaiah 43:19

- Sharing information about presbytery, synod and GA resources
- Connect churches to resources that are available
- Training - fellowship, stewardship, education, youth ministry, outreach, evangelism, mission, elder training, lay leadership
- Assist pastor nominating committees
- Provide pastoral care for congregations
- Provide administrative support for the presbytery

III. Ministries

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.^[a]

¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Romans 12:9-13

¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Philippians 2:13

- Community for ministers, empowerment and support for congregations
- Seek to involve ministers from churches of all sizes
- Encourage and support Honorably Retired ministers
- Build relationships among pastors through social, educational events
- Encourage and support Ruling Elders and Deacons
- Encourage and develop new and existing congregations

IV. Hope - This category is more aspirational and inspirational

¹¹ For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

Jeremiah 29:11

- Be creative
- Think outside the box
- New ideas
- New directions
- Refocus what we are about
- Risk
- Trust
- Dream