



Presbytery of Alaska

Angoon • Craig/Klawock • Haines • Hoonah • Hydaburg • Juneau • Kake • Ketchikan
Metlakatla • Petersburg • Sitka • Skagway • Wrangell • Yakutat

September 3, 2010

Dear Presbyter:

It is time for our Fall Presbytery meeting. The meeting will be held at Petersburg Presbyterian Church on October 15-17. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 4:30 PM Friday afternoon (or as quickly as we can following the arrival of the Alaska Airlines flight from Juneau) and will conclude after worship on Sunday morning.

If you have not already made your travel plans **please make your travel plans now and be good stewards of the Presbytery's resources and get the best fares possible.** We ask that you travel by the least expensive means available. If you fly, please purchase one of the discount fare tickets. If you take the ferry, you might note that the schedule is not particularly convenient and remember that the Presbytery will not ordinarily pay for your vehicle. You may contact the Presbytery office who can coordinate the payment of your travel expenses. For those booking travel on Alaska Airlines and want the Presbytery to pay for your air fare up front, you will need to let Cyndi Gleason in the Presbytery office know. The office will need to know the dates of your travel and the city you will be travelling from.

A registration form will be available on the Presbytery web site (www.presbofak.org). If you have not completed your form and sent it in, please do so now. It would help those in Petersburg planning our housing and our meals if you could get your housing registration forms in as soon as possible. Please contact the Presbytery office if you have any need for housing at a layover location.

The travel costs to and from Juneau for ministers and elder delegates will be reimbursed. For all expenses you pay yourself, you must keep all receipts for later reimbursement. We will attempt to make reimbursements at the meeting, but they will be made by a Presbytery check which you may not be able to cash until you return. We suggest that you bring enough money to pay for your meals home. Housing will be provided by families in Petersburg, but we do understand that some may choose to stay in a local hotel. If you do, you will have to pay for the room yourself.

The docket for this meeting is very busy. We will consider the 2011 Presbytery Budget, elect individuals to serve on Presbytery Committees, and have a workshop offered by the Presbytery's Leadership Equipping Center.

In addition to this, the General Assembly has prepared a number of items revising the Book of Order and a proposed addition to the Book of Confessions. All of these items must be considered and voted on by the Presbytery. In order to permit this to be done at a face-to-face session, the Council is hopeful that these matters can be considered by the Presbytery at this meeting.

To do this and still permit the churches and sessions of the Presbytery to review these proposals before the meeting, the booklets containing these changes can be found on the Office of the General Assembly's website at:

<http://oga.pcusa.org/constitution.htm>

The document is divided into three pieces and the first piece is divided into two pieces, so you will wind up with a total of 4 items to download. These are fairly large documents and you may have problems downloading them if you have a slow internet connection. If this is your situation, please let me know as soon as possible and we will arrange to have the documents sent to in the mail on a CD-ROM. We will also include a single copy of the hardcopy document so as to minimize the need for printing.

Additional copies of the document will be made available at the Presbytery meeting, but due to their length and the limited time available to us, you will not have time to read them all at the meeting. Additional information concerning these changes will be transmitted to the churches on the Presbytery's web site as soon as possible.

Please submit written elders' reports to the Presbytery office. These written reports will not replace the normal elders' reports, but will allow you to give more of the story of your church than can be given during the brief oral reports. With all of the items to come before the Presbytery we will be strictly limiting each oral Elder's Report to no more than 5 minutes.

I would also note that this will be my last Presbytery meeting as Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Alaska. I have been blessed to serve you, the Church and the Lord as Stated Clerk. I will miss my time with you and I am looking forward to saying good bye to all of you at this meeting.

In Christ,

Guy Warren