

FROM YOUR INTERIM GENERAL PRESBYTER

I just returned from my second Presbytery Leader Formation. This is a denominational training event for all new presbytery leaders; it is five days each year for the first three years. It is led by experienced presbytery leaders from across the country. It is an awesome experience and provides such helpful training and knowledge. A clear additional benefit is that you meet all the new presbytery leaders from around the country, giving an opportunity to learn from each other best practices and new initiatives as well as what not to do. I will share a bit more during my report at next week's presbytery meeting, but suffice it to say, when your new General Presbyter arrives, if they are new to this work and ministry, they, and HRP, will benefit significantly by their participation!

Just a quick reminder that at our presbytery meeting this coming Tuesday at Goshen, I will be presenting a Community Conversation on the work and discernment of a nominating committee for church officers. I will share a process of prayer and spiritual discernment that I have developed over time in working with church nominating committees; the foundational piece of that discernment process comes from the Quakers. During the recent officer training, one concern that was shared more than a few times concerned the training and orientation of church nominating committees, the committee tasked with presenting slates for deacons and/or ruling elders. I would encourage you to let this be known to your folks who serve on that committee, in particular the pastor and nominating committee chair, so that together we can share best practices. If you have any questions, please contact me.

As I have shared previously, the March Community Conversation presented by the Transition Team confirmed what was suspected all along... namely that those who gathered... a good cross section of HPR... overwhelmingly prefer a full-time General Presbyter. More about that and the next steps will be shared at our presbytery meeting.

Your Interim General Presbyter
Gavin

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