

Co-Moderators Change Selection for Book Study

Our two General Assembly co-moderators have issued this statement:

It has recently come to our attention that the author of the book we chose for the “One Church, One Book” initiative has resigned from his position amid allegations of creating a hostile and abusive work environment. We followed up on the story, and according to unverified information available to the public online, there are allegations that this apparent pattern of bad behavior has been present for over twelve years and has also been ignored or enabled by the board.

For this reason, we will no longer be recommending “Where the Cross Meets the Street” to the Presbyterian Church. Toxic leadership that abuses power and authority has no place within the church, and is anathema to the body of Christ.

More information will be in a press release on Monday. We are working to choose a new book that calls the church to the faithful work of evangelism and justice, and hope to announce that choice in the next few weeks.

For this conference, we did not offer the workshops introducing the content of the book. Instead, we, along with a few other pastors, held conversation during the workshop hour.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause those of you who have planned to use the book or who have already introduced the book to your Presbyteries and Synods. We are even more deeply sorry that cultures of abuse towards women and those with less privilege are allowed to continue in any institution, and especially in the church.

Vilmarie Cintrón-Olivieri and Cindy Kohlmann, PC(USA) Co-Moderators