

Shenandoah Presbytery

A Community of Christ for Worship, Nurture and Mission

December 2009

Shenandoah 2010

Greetings to the Sessions of Congregations in Shenandoah Presbytery:

Shenandoah 2010 is the Mission Study Committee of our presbytery, as appointed by the Presbytery Council. With the departure of Tom Hay, General Presbyter in January 2009, it is time to truly “think” about who we are as a presbytery, and more importantly, where we need to focus our energies in the future.

The presbytery, after all, is you, your session and the gracious congregation you represent. Since you are the elected leaders of your churches, you are partners in the life of the presbytery. We need to hear from you! Included in this mailing is the “*List of Questions for Sessions*”.

Please return your responses to the questions by March 15, 2010.

We have sought to include the spirit of relationships and communications in these questions. We are seeking to be complete and honest in who we are, and where we need to go in the future. Together, we can accomplish this task. When the Mission Study is completed we hope we will be able to discern an inclusive pathway towards our future for Shenandoah Presbytery.

Please distribute a copy of the questions to each elder. Ask each elder to answer, for themselves, the questions. You may want to include elders who have just rotated off your session. Then share the individual thoughts and compile your answers as the session. Link the themes and make note of the differences. Your responses will be the good news of this presbytery and the areas of improvement necessary to reflect, honestly, the life and times of the presbytery with you, your session and your church. Your responses will help Shenandoah 2010 to give a picture of the who, what, where, when and how of this presbytery and how it will grow into the future.

Please accept our thankfulness to you for completing this important task.

Sincerely,

Rev. Kerry Foster - Chair, Shenandoah 2010
Pastor, Bridgewater Presbyterian Church

**Shenandoah 2010 (Mission Study)
Questions for Sessions**

1. When and how has Shenandoah Presbytery related to your congregation?
What has been the most important encounter?
What has been your most valuable experience?
2. When the presbytery is at its best, what is the single most important value that makes this presbytery unique and important to your congregation?
3. Give three examples when you have experienced presbytery at its best.
4. How have you been involved in the life of the presbytery?
5. There are various aspects of life and work in the presbytery:
Presbytery meetings Communications
Presbyterian Women Committee on Ministry
Mission communities Committee on Church Development
Resource Center and others

Which mean the most to your congregation and why?
6. How has the Mission Community experience enhanced your congregation's ministry?
Share how your congregation has been involved.
7. What has been the most spiritually profitable part of your relationship with the presbytery?
8. If you had three wishes for the presbytery, what would they be?
9. Suppose you could transform this presbytery in any way you wanted, what would you change?
10. What are your expectations of the next General Presbyter?
11. What else do you want to share with the Shenandoah 2010 Committee?

***PLEASE attach this form with your answers and return
by March 15, 2010 to the Presbytery Office.***

Church _____ Size _____

Session Moderator _____

Clerk of Session _____

Size of Session _____ How many were present _____