



August 2024

To: All Ruling Elders, Teaching Elders, Deacons, and Church Staff of the Presbytery of Des Moines
From: The Leadership Council of the Des Moines Presbytery

Please forward this message to all church leaders in your congregation.

Friends,

Your Leadership Council has been meeting frequently and seeking to prayerfully discern who God is calling us to be as a Presbytery in this ever-changing world. What does it mean to be a Presbytery in this time and place? How can we as a Presbytery best serve the churches and the communities that make up this part of God's kingdom?

Our Book of Order states:

"The Presbytery is responsible for the government of the church throughout its district, and for assisting and supporting the witness of congregations to the sovereign activity of God in the world, so that all congregations become communities of faith, hope, love and witness."

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But what does that look like in our unique settings? These are difficult questions to answer and we need your help. The link below will connect you to an online survey that will take about 20 minutes to answer. Your confidential answers will help us to understand your local church and the communities that you serve. In turn, your answers will be invaluable in helping us to better serve you.

presbyteries.org/dm-congregational-survey

Please share this link with other congregational leaders in your communities of faith. If you are need of hard copy of the survey, please email office@presbyteries.org.

We would ask that you complete this survey by September 9 so that we can review this information and make recommendations. After the information has been compiled, it will be available to anyone who wishes to study the results.

Our prayer is that of the apostle:

That God may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:14-21

Serving Together,

Your Leadership Council