



The Mission Coordinating Team is proposing that we work with the Center for Parish Development on a Transformation process for a few select congregations in the Presbytery. More information will be coming your way soon, but to help understand what we mean by "Missional Church" in the Transformation process, we are running a series of FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) for the next few weeks.
 REV. RICHARD FRANCIS • MODERATOR • MISSION COORDINATING TEAM

What do you mean MISSIONAL CHURCH?

Frequently asked questions ~ week 3/10



Is "missional" a real word?

Yes. It may not be in every dictionary. But the Oxford English Dictionary says the word has been around for almost 100 years. Missional is an adjective that describes the way in which we do all of our activities, rather than identifying any one particular activity. Within the last few years, it has come into more common use. To be missional is to align all of the program, function and activities of the church around the mission of God in the world.



GOD HAS A MISSION...
 ...AND GOD'S MISSION NEEDS A CHURCH!

www.missionalchurch.org 1448 EAST 53RD STREET CHICAGO, IL 60615 PHONE: 773.752.1596 cpd@missionalchurch.org



Come All- Come Near! Hip Hooray-Camp is HERE! Summer is off to a great start at the Presbyterian Camp on Okoboji! Staff training is almost finished and I have been continually impressed with the high school and college-aged staff we have for this summer. They all have such genuine hearts for the Lord and for serving the children that will come to camp! So far, the staff gets to work with 418 campers that have registered for a variety of camps. Night Owls camp has been full for a few weeks now! Kids must be excited to stay up late and sleep in! We still have spots open for many other fun and exciting camps! If you know of a child who is not signed up for camp but would love to go, send them our way and we will make it happen! Also, if you know of an adult who is not signed up for camp, send them our way too! Camp is for all ages! We have adult Grand's Camp, Sheep & Shepherds, and the brand new Summer Sing! Check out our website at www.presbycamp.org to check out which camp would suit your fancy! Camp has held such a special place in many hearts and I hope you can experience what so many have before! See you this summer!

HEATHER STANEK Presbyterian Camp on Okoboji Program Director

<http://www.pcusa.org/ga219/>

219TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY (2010)

TWIN CITIES AREA / MINNEAPOLIS



Occasionally, the question comes up surrounding a minister's time spent away from the local congregation directing a camp or going on a mission trip, or even being a commissioner to General Assembly. Is this vacation time, or is it "church" time? The short answer is: these are all church related activities and therefore are to be considered "church" time.

The Book of Order, G-6.0201 states regarding Ministers of the Word and Sacrament: "They shall be responsible for participation in the larger ministry of the church in addition to the duties to which they are called and designated by the presbytery." This statement means ministers are not only expected to serve on committees at the presbytery, synod, and General Assembly levels, but also to be involved in the mission of the church on these levels as well.

This expectation includes a willingness to serve as a camp director/counselor for a week, participate in denominationally related mission trips and activities, and be willing to be elected a commissioner to Synod and General Assembly (as members of the presbytery, ministers are already expected to attend presbytery meetings). While in one sense, this work is time away from the local congregation, it is also an extension of the local congregation's ministry. It also benefits the ministry of the larger church. For example, by serving as a week-long director or counselor at a summer camp, money is saved as a camping expense. If people think church camps are getting expensive now, imagine what it would be if ministers and others did not volunteer to fill many of these positions! (Just look at the costs for privately operated camps operated only by paid staff for a comparison. Many such camps now run \$700 or more for a week. Private horse camps are often double that)

Some may feel this gives ministers an advantage, because if lay people volunteer to fill some of these positions, they must take a week of vacation from their work. However, we need to remember this is a minister's calling. If an employee in a company is sent by the company to "fill in" for a short time at another plant, that is all considered company time. No employee would be expected to give up vacation time while still working for the same company in another location.

There are, of course, common sense limits to time ministers can be away from the local congregation. A minister can't expect a congregation to grant him or her time to spend six weeks during the summer as a counselor at the Okoboji Camp while being compensated by the church.

On the other hand, congregations should encourage their pastors to spend a week or two (some mission trips are longer than a week) serving the larger church in such capacities. I believe it really benefits a congregation's ministry to have their pastors involved in Christ's ministry and ministry on these other levels. I hope this is helpful and answers question by both pastors and congregations.



Grace Notes

Synod School 2010

<http://www.lakesandprairies.org/school.html>

JULY 1ST REGISTRATION DEADLINE

July 25-30 at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa

MODERATOR/MCT TEAM	JUNE 17	PRESBYTERY OFFICE	11:00AM
GENERAL ASSEMBLY	JULY 3-10	MINNEAPOLIS, MN	
INDEPENDENCE DAY	JULY 5	PRESBYTERY OFFICE	CLOSED
DEADLINE FOR MC APPLICATIONS	JULY 6	SUBMITTED TO SYNOD	
COM	JULY 13	PRESBYTERY OFFICE	10:00AM
TRIENNIUM	JULY 20-24	PURDUE, INDIANA	
SYNOD SCHOOL	JULY 25-30	BUENA VISTA UNIVERSITY	

