

Hudson River Presbytery
Resources for Shared Space and Ministry
May 2013

The following packet contains resources for congregations who currently share or are considering sharing space in their buildings with other worshipping congregations. Fruitful relationships are built on clear expectations, open communication, and a willingness to explore shared ministry. These resources are provided by the Committee on Ministry, the Cross-Cultural Network, and the Budget, Finance and Property Committee to help inspire such fruitful relationships between Hudson River Presbyterians and our sisters and brothers who share space in our buildings.

For further information contact Rev. Sarah Henkel, Cross-Cultural Network Coordinator, or Rev. Rhonda Kruse, Connections & Change Presbyter.

Contents

- A. *A Presbyterian Policy on Immigration*—the 220th General Assembly (2012) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) adopted policies and statements on a variety of immigration issues, including active exploration in communities on how to be church together with immigrant communities.
- B. *Challenges Facing Immigrant Pastors & Congregations Meeting in English Speaking Churches*—this article provides the observations of two immigrant pastors whose congregations worship in rented space.
- C. *Sharing Spaces: A Winning Strategy for Cooperative Facilities Use*—a helpful manual produced by the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church
- D. *Managing Church Facility Use*—a resource developed by ChurchSafety.com, an online safety service for churches and related ministries, co-sponsored by Christianity Today International and Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company.
- E. Books you can borrow from the presbytery office:
 - a. “The Church as Landlord,” Chapter 6 in *Generous Saints—Congregations Rethinking Ethics and Money*, by James Hudnut-Beumler, Alban Institute, 1999
 - b. “Outside Use of Your Buildings, Chapter 5 in *Remember the Future—Financial Leadership and Asset Management of Congregations*, by Gerald W. Keucher, Church Publishing, 2006
 - c. *The Business of the Church—The Uncomfortable Truth that Faithful Ministry Requires Effective Management*, by John W. Wimberly, Jr., Alban Institute, 2010
- F. Sample lease agreements—samples of a license agreement and a memorandum of understanding between congregations.
- G. *When One Congregation Hosts Another in its Building: A Policy of the Presbytery of Northern New York*—helpful guidelines for developing a written agreement between congregations.

- H. *The Rental or Using of Church Facilities by Outside Groups*—guidelines about obtaining Certificates of Insurance by Heffernan Insurance, 2003.
- I. *Shared Building Usage Survey*—a document to submit to the Presbytery office if your church engages in shared space and ministry.
- J. *A List of Hudson River Presbytery Churches Engaged in Shared Space & Ministry*, May 2013 – Contact other churches engaged in sharing space with other worshipping congregations. We can be resources for one another!