

## A COVENANT FOR COMMUNICATIONS IN THE PRESBYTERY OF HUDSON RIVER

*The one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new."  
Also he said, "Write this..." -- Revelation 21:5*

The story of faith is a story that must be told, written, sung, danced, shared—communicated. It is an ongoing story that we live out day by day. As communicators in the Church of Jesus Christ, our first role is to share the Good News.

As we live and work together in the context of the Presbytery, our communications shape and support our Gospel work. We communicate our joys and our needs in order that we may support each other in prayer. We communicate news and events in order that our community life may be full and our imaginations may be sparked. We communicate with each other that we may be honest, open, and present to one another. We communicate with the world around us in order to extend the Good News, to invite one and all to the Table of God's Grace, and to speak truth to power.

So that our efforts may be coordinated, expedient, and carried out with all decency and order, we covenant to the following:

1. *Communications within the Presbytery*
  - a. Prayer concerns and other pastoral issues shall be communicated through the General Presbyter. In the absence of the GP, pastoral communications will be coordinated by the Stated Clerk in cooperation with the Congregational Connections Presbyter.
  - b. Polity concerns and other issues relating to the business of the Presbytery shall be communicated through the Stated Clerk.
  - c. Announcements, articles, event updates, and other information shall be communicated through the Congregational Connections Presbyter. In the absence of the Connectional Presbyter, such communications will be coordinated by the presbytery's Administrative Assistant in conversation with the General Presbyter.
  - d. Communications generated through the Committees and Ministry areas of Presbytery that are addressed to other committees, congregations, and individuals throughout the presbytery may be sent out through the appropriate Staff communicator, as listed above.
  - e. Presbytery email lists shall be maintained by the Administrative Assistant. These lists are intended for use by Staff and Officers of Presbytery only and shall not be given out. Staff and Officers shall make use of "blind complimentary copy" to ensure the privacy of those on each list.
2. *Communications outside the Presbytery*
  - a. Communications that are addressed to outside organizations and that establish the position of the Presbytery or state a policy of the Presbytery shall be administered through the Stated Clerk in cooperation with the General Presbyter.
  - b. Press Releases, announcements, and other news for public distribution shall be coordinated through the Congregational Connections Presbyter.