



Dear members and friends of CPC,

As many of you know, the recent General Assembly of our denomination took action on numerous issues. Two of the more controversial and publicized overtures focused on marriage and on Israel /Palestine. In the broad swath of the PC (USA), these actions caused some to rejoice and others to weep.

Despite our denomination's willingness to contradict Scripture and its inclination to engage in non-Biblically based political activism, the session of Centreville Presbyterian Church wants to confirm that we remain a Christ Centered church. As ignited, growing, and active disciples of Jesus Christ, we are committed to the following:

-- We seek God's direction, as we explore all options for responding to these actions by the denomination, and recognize that while we may strenuously disagree with the trajectory set by the leaders of our denomination and their apparent intransigence towards Biblical truths, Jesus Christ has called us to minister, lead, teach, serve, and disciple in our church, our community, and the world. Therefore, any action that we take collectively must further our mission, our discipleship, and our ability to reach out to God's people and pass on the Good News.

-- We recognize that some in our church family hold the view that we should react promptly, taking the actions necessary to leave the denomination. But others have expressed support for the General Assembly's recent actions. Still others find themselves somewhere in between the two opposing views. We welcome, and seek to understand, the views of all of our brothers and sisters in Christ, and we remain in prayer on how to proceed moving forward.

-- All of this said, we are a loving, caring and Biblically based congregation. We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and believe that the Holy Bible is inspired by God. And we believe in God's abundant Grace and Truth and hold ourselves and our brothers and sisters in Christ accountable for living in accordance with His will. Our faith in Jesus Christ is our strength; it is our guiding principle; and it is what serves best, as we endeavor to be a light unto this community and the world in the name of Jesus Christ.

In the weeks ahead we will continue to have a conversation with our church family through various functions, and also engage with like-minded congregations within our denomination as we seek to understand God's will for our church family in the face of these challenges. In addition session has committed to enter into a season (remainder of July and August) of prayer and fasting to discern God's leading related to these matters. And as always, we will remain fully committed to God's Word, and to serving you, the members of our church family.

In His Name – The Teaching and Ruling Elders of Session