

Time to Move Forward

A Statement by the Board of Directors of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians
September 29, 2004

The Covenant Network of Presbyterians has been committed since its founding to the full participation of lesbian and gay Presbyterians in the life and ordained leadership of the church. We will support efforts in presbyteries and at the 217th General Assembly in 2006 that advance this goal.

The church – particularly its faithful gay and lesbian members – has waited too long for change on this issue. Now is the time to move forward by removing G-6.0106b and any other impediments to ordination. We will work with others who share this vision of the church – many of whom have been engaged in this struggle much longer than we have.

The Covenant Network reaffirms its long-standing commitment to work for the unity of the church. We eagerly await the final report of the Theological Task Force on the Peace, Unity, and Purity of the Church. We hope and pray that it will help Presbyterians unite in ministry and mission.

As we have from our inception, the Covenant Network will continue to engage in dialogue with those in the church with whom we disagree. We encourage such conversations across the church. We also reiterate our support for those who may be subject to charges in the courts of the church.

Finally, the Covenant Network urges all Presbyterians to trust that the Holy Spirit is at work among us, moving the church in a direction “as generous and just as God’s grace.”

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