

Clerk's Tip Session Records Review



Dear National Capital Presbytery Clerks of Session:

Thank you! We finished the fourth and final session records review of the 2016-2017 cycle. As you know, Presbyterian polity requires the presbytery to review session records every year, the synod to review presbytery records, and so on. And an overwhelming number of you participated in this. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

I was inspired by the dedication of the clerks to what can seem like a tedious, yet daunting task. I was happy to see clerks connect with each other, exchanging tips, and soliciting advice sometimes on church matters far afield from the records review. Often clerks stayed after their review was complete just to exchange ideas. Clerks learned how other churches handle various matters providing a cross-fertilization that makes our presbytery and our churches stronger. The reviews also provided an opportunity me to get to meet or reconnect with you and for you to ask questions of me.

Some clerks were there for the first time; one had come nine (!) times. Many of you didn't have everything perfect—and that is just fine. You came anyway, with an open heart and an open mind to learn and to share. And most thrilling, like the lost sheep, were those who came back after missing a session records review for a year (or two).

Which brings me to this. I invite you clerks that didn't make it this year, or for multiple years, to give me a call. I am happy to find a time to do your review and help you get back on track for next year. My phone is 240-514-5352. I would love to hear from you.

Your grateful stated clerk,

Sara