

## Clerks' Tip of the Month

### The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Website



I always encourage people to become familiar with National Capital Presbytery's website, [www.thepresbytery.org](http://www.thepresbytery.org). There is quite a bit of information to be found there. But, by virtue of my job, I also get a lot of email that points me to useful resources for churches on the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) website. The other day, I got a link to what appears to be a very useful guide for church treasurers: [http://oga.pcusa.org/site\\_media/media/uploads/oga/pdf/mid\\_council\\_ministries\\_treasurers\\_manual\\_pcusa.pdf](http://oga.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/oga/pdf/mid_council_ministries_treasurers_manual_pcusa.pdf). Clerks, you might want to pass this link along to your Finance Ministries.

There are also a lot of program helps on the PCUSA website. On the home page, [www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org), at the bottom you will see links to components of the Office of the General Assembly and to Mid Councils. The Presbyterian History link under the Office of the General Assembly will take you to the website for the Presbyterian Historical Society. The PHS website is interesting in itself—but it also has information on records maintenance—what records should a church keep, and for how long. Under Mid Councils (not a place that a church would normally think to look) there is a page on ruling elders-- <http://oga.pcusa.org/section/mid-council-ministries/ruling-elders/> -- that contains a periodical publication ruling elders can subscribe to (for free) and elder training helps, among other things.

Also at the bottom of the home page are a list of departments in the Presbyterian Mission Agency. There is lots to be found. For instance, under "Compassion, Peace & Justice" you will find lots of resources on human trafficking if your church has an interest in that. Or information on places looking for disaster assistance if that is of interest. Under "Racial Ethnic & Women's Ministries" there are resources on Racial & Intercultural Justice ministries and information on getting Mission Program Grants.

One caveat about the PCUSA website—the search engine is not very good. I got a tip from someone who works in the Office of General Assembly—it is usually better to use Google to find something rather than rely on the PCUSA search engine. I have found that to be true.

If you find you have a spare half hour, it might be productive to look around on the PCUSA website. I have often been pleasantly surprised at what's available.

If you have a tip you think others could use or a question you would like me to answer, please email it to me at [scoe@thepresbytery.org](mailto:scoe@thepresbytery.org).

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