

**CONGREGATIONAL ISSUES COMMISSION
REPORT TO PRESBYTERY
MARCH 1, 2025**

Annual Ministry Reviews – The Congregational Issues Commission (CIC) encourages all congregations to make it an annual practice to engage a “ministry review” with your pastoral leaders. Ministry reviews are intended to promote collegiality and mutual conversation to strengthen congregational life and ministry, as well as prevent misunderstanding and conflict that can arise when congregational goals are not clear or shared. For more information and resources regarding ministry reviews, visit the Congregational Issues Commission page (<https://transyby.org/congregational-issues/>) on the presbytery website.

Recovering after Financial Misconduct – While we’re inclined to think it won’t happen in our congregation, the truth is that situations of financial misconduct do happen, causing financial loss to congregations as well as injury to relationships within congregations. The CIC is gathering information and resources to assist congregations in recovering from situations of financial misconduct, particularly focusing on spiritual and relational recovery. If you have had experience with such a situation in your congregation and would be willing to share insights arising from that experience with the CIC, please contact Mike Ward.

Talking Together about Congregational Issues – The CIC is planning an informal conversation at the May presbytery meeting to discuss the sorts of situations that can affect congregational life and ministry and how the CIC might be helpful in such situations. Watch for more details.

Help Wanted - The Congregational Issues Commission is looking to fill a vacancy for the Class of 2027. We are particularly looking for a Ruling Elder from outside the Lexington area. This position requires election by the presbytery. If you have interest in serving, please contact Mike Ward or Mary Reed (Commission on Representation).

The Congregational Issues Commission’s primary purpose is to assist congregations in working through difficult situations affecting their congregational life and ministry. Please feel free to contact commission chair, Mike Ward, or General Presbyter, Philip Lotspeich, if your congregation is experiencing an issue that is negatively affecting your congregational life and ministry. We would be honored to come alongside your congregation and its leadership to encourage and provide resources as we are able.

Respectfully Submitted,

Congregational Issues Commission
Mike Ward, Chair
Candace Purdom
Katherine Redmond
Roger Dermody