

To the Westminster Presbytery of the RPCGA
December 9, 2005

Dear Sirs,

I and my family would like to express our thanks to you and the Presbytery of the RPCGA.

With what my family was experiencing at Saint Peter Presbyterian Church, I was unaware that there was a Presbytery that would be willing to step in, allow me to communicate difficulties, be willing to advise me, and take action to help in my family's situation, as well as caring for others still in membership at Saint Peter.

You have shown me a very positive side to having a Presbytery as a guiding oversight in church matters, instead of what I had assumed was a rigidly structured hierarchy, as seen in the Catholic Church. I had wrongly assumed that you would view things the same way as the session at Saint Peter and that you would automatically side with whatever they told you.

It has caused me to now to be studying this issue in scripture in greater detail, as I have seen first hand the benefits of this type of accountability.

If it had not been for Dr. Ken Talbot, the Moderator of Westminster Presbytery, of the RPCGA and Peter Kershaw, we would still be viewing Presbyterianism as something negative. The warped view we had of it from Saint Peter Presbyterian Church had left us shell-shocked. But we are now worshiping weekly at Abingdon Presbyterian Church, PCA. Though we still have differences, those differences are not nearly as large as we had thought.

We appreciate knowing that your Presbytery does not believe in, nor endorse the Federal Vision, presumptive regeneration, nor paedocommunion and that you do not believe in vestments as a means of visual hierarchy in the church. Since all of these are taught and practiced at Saint Peter Presbyterian Church, we had assumed it was also believed and endorsed by the Presbytery.

Thank you for contacting me and for treating me in a Christian and loving manner. Thank you for taking action and looking into the matters going on at St. Peter Presbyterian Church. I have seen your love for Christ and His church, and it has been a blessing to myself and my entire family. I am very grateful.

Thank you.

In the love of Christ,

John Austin