

March 13, 2002

Greater Atlanta Presbytery Triennial Visit Guidelines

1. Each Session will receive a letter asking them to indicate the best time for a team to visit. The COM Triennial Visit team will consist of a minister and an elder.
2. Times will be matched with members of COM available and the COM member will be contacted to make the visit. Minister COM members recruit an elder to complete the team; and elder COM members recruit a minister to complete the team.
3. Team contacts pastor or clerk to (1) schedule the exact time for meeting, and (2) request any items that give the team a sense of the church – bulletins, newsletters, annual report, brief history, etc.
4. During the visit, listen (see attached) and take notes (or ask Clerk to take notes for you). When sharing the joys and challenges of our mission and ministry in the presbytery, consider the following:

Joys:

- Goals and Priorities are shaping the presbytery's work to enable 110 congregations to be the best they can be.
- New presbytery structure in place with 100 new persons participating on committees of presbytery.
- 70 of 110 congregations have committed to the Capital Campaign.

Challenges:

- Respect for each other within a rich diversity - evidenced by the 285/235 amendment vote.
- Clergy shortage in applications for parish positions.
- How to live with our size (third largest presbytery in PC(USA))

5. After the Triennial Visit, the COM member:
 - Writes a thank you note to the Session.
 - Completes the evaluation and return it to the presbytery office.
 - Talks to Ed or Ruth at the Presbytery office if the team feels the presbytery needs to follow up with Session on a specific issue (in addition to the evaluation).