

Item

The Theological Task Force on Peace, Unity, and Purity of the Church recommends that the 216th General Assembly (2004) encourage every presbytery to create intentional gatherings of Presbyterians of varied theological views to covenant together to discuss the affirmations in the task force's preliminary report, utilizing the resources being developed by the task force; and that sessions be encouraged to do the same.

Rationale

The Theological Task Force on Peace, Unity, and Purity, whose members were selected to reflect the diversity within the church, would like to share with the whole church a process that has enabled us to build community and deepen our faith. The task force is discovering that the appropriation of Christ's peace, unity, and purity in the church can be realized only as fellow Presbyterians engage in a process of studying together, learning together, and working together toward such a reality. In order to invite the whole church to engage in this process, the task force has developed, and will continue to develop, video and written materials that aim to capture both the content and methodology being employed by the task force. Presbyteries and sessions are encouraged to organize study groups, each of which should reflect a broad diversity of theological perspectives, as well as other categories of diversity (as possible), and that each of the groups study (1) the covenant written and adopted by the task force; (2) the two videos produced; and (3) the preliminary report that has resulted from our work so far. As other materials are produced, the study groups are encouraged to utilize them as well.