

August 19, 2019

Dear Presbytery,

Today, I'm asking **for multiple leaders of each congregation to attend the 884th Gathering of the Presbytery of Baltimore, beginning at 9:00am on Thursday, September 12, 2019 at the Wilde Lake Interfaith Center in Columbia.** There, we will explore the place and extent of our collective ministry through the work of The Center. We need pastors, elders, deacons, and other leaders of each congregation to be there as we break into small groups to discuss The Center and its impact on the Presbytery, both now and going forward. **We need all congregations represented by multiple leaders at this Gathering. Please don't sit this one out.** If you are unable to make the entire Gathering and are not a voting commissioner, you can still be part of The Center discussion if you arrive by 11:00 am. The Center discussion will end by 2:30 pm.

As we decide how The Center fits into our charge to go from institution to movement, we will be making important decisions about our witness as a collective body of Christ. We need to hear from many voices as we move toward an important overture about how we will prioritize spending. How might we invest in The Center and what are our other priorities?

Maybe you have worked directly with The Center, only know of its mission, or have little or no knowledge of it at all. Regardless, please take a few minutes to read the attached Center Annual Report . Visit their website at <https://www.thecenterbaltimore.org/>. Prayerfully consider where God is calling us, and come to the 884th Gathering, prepared for this important discussion. If you have questions about the upcoming Gathering or The Center, feel free to contact me at moodys@comcast.net or you can contact Rev. Kate Foster Connors, Center Director at kfosterconnors@baltimorepresbytery.org , or Rev. Tim Hughes-Williams, Chair of The Center Steering Committee at tim@lightstreetchurch.org.

Yours in Christ,

Guy Moody

Moderator, Presbytery of Baltimore