



**EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERY**

Synod of the Covenant-Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

On February 4, 2009, the State Court of Appeals rejected Eastminster Presbytery's objections to the rulings of the Summit County Court of Common Pleas relating to the disposition of the Hudson Church property. The decision of the court runs counter to the PC(USA) Book of Order which clearly states that "all property held by or for a particular church...is held in trust...for the use and benefit of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)."

In light of the court's recent ruling, Pittsburgh Presbytery's upcoming webinar is both timely and relevant. ***Our Freedom of Religion at Risk: A Presbyterian Crisis*** is intended to address the following question: "Is evolving civil law eroding constitutional protection of religious freedom under the First Amendment? Is our historically rooted Presbyterian system of church governance at risk when courts interfere with Presbyteries exercising their ecclesiastical obligations under our *Book of Order*?"

Presentation topics followed by on-line group discussions are:

- *The Westminster Assembly* by Dr. Joseph Small
- *Covenant and Freedom of Conscience* by Dr. Beau Weston and R. Euan Cameron
- *Religious Liberty: A Legal History* by attorneys Mark Tamman, Esq. and The Rev. Jeff Tindall.

The webinar will take place on **February 19 from 2:00 – 5:30 p.m.** at the **Kent Presbyterian Church**. The event is free and open to all. I hope the presbytery will take advantage of this opportunity.

In Christ's service together,  
Dan Schomer