

June 5, 2020



Since the fall, the Governing Commission, the Budget and Finance Advisory Team, and your Synod staff have been engaged in conversations about our building at 3040 Market Street in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania! The ministry springing from this location has been a gift to the church, and there are memories of people and ministry dreamed and grown here since the 1960s.

As we consider a big picture about current and future regional ministry, we believe the time has come to move from this building, sell it, and find a smaller office to serve our current needs without having to be landlords! It is a question of faithfulness and good stewardship.

What prompts this decision?

1. The size of the building is much larger than we and the Presbytery of Carlisle can use well – even together. Our staff is much smaller than when this center was created, and there are many empty rooms!
2. The pending capital needs of the building are significant, and while we have kept the building and the property up well, monies to replace roofs and HVAC, etc. are not part of an annual budget and so must come out of a corpus that we would prefer to access for regional ministry and mission.
3. Ministry has changed, and we do not need the space for staff, nor do we often use the meeting spaces that are so wonderfully a part of this space. Gathered meetings are usually offsite and located in varied places, and as we had been learning long before these last few months, many more and regular meetings are taking place online.

We believe that good stewardship of current and future financial resources challenges us to take this big step and downsize that we might focus even more clearly on our call to serve presbyteries as they minister to and with congregations.

The funds from the sale of the building will help to continue this ministry in whatever shape and form is needed for the church in the months and years to come.

Renting space will allow us to stay nimble as we go, and should there be a need down the road to move or become completely virtual, the process to do so will not be bogged down by all that is involved in a sale.

And so we go – prayerfully and watchfully into this *next step!*

Blessings!

Susan Wonderland
Transitional Executive