

I PREAMBLE

THE PRESBYTERY OF NORTHERN WATERS, (hereinafter referred to as Presbytery) is a governing body of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), hereinafter referred to as the PC (U.S.A.). Within that denominational structure and its geographical boundaries, it is the seat of original authority. As that Presbytery, we find our origin, sustenance, and purpose in the one church of Jesus Christ, truly catholic, truly apostolic, truly reformed, and truly evangelical. We shall be governed in our proceedings by the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Presbytery consists of all member churches and all member ministers. We express our purpose in relation to these two, seeking to be pastor to both. Our purpose is reflected in the Presbytery Mission Statement, which is reviewed yearly.

To achieve our Mission Statement, we structure and order our life as a Presbytery, recognizing that structure and order are derivative and instrumental in nature, whereas the mission of the church is primary. Since structure and order are provisional, they may be modified or abandoned by orderly process when they no longer serve the Presbytery's mission.