

Presbytery Community Reflections

July 2009

Devotion for Sessions, Commissions and Committees

Presbytery of the Western Reserve

Presented by *Future Directions Task Force*

Even as the Father has sent me, so I send you. (John 20:21)

In *We Are Here Now*, Patrick Keifer writes that the “Apostolic Age was characterized by local churches understanding themselves to be mission outposts within the mission of God; communities, called gathered and sent in God’s mission, the very movement of God toward the world.”¹

He continues; “They found themselves caught up into God’s movement and life. They did not imagine mission as something or somewhere other than their primal activity as a called, gathered, centered and sent people of God. This is the core characteristic of a missional church: being, not just doing, mission”

Most of us Presbyterians probably understand the called, gathered, and centered part, but continue to wrestle with the *sent* part. If being missional includes being *sent*, the question is: to whom are we sent?

You are invited to explore and discuss these questions in your ministry, committee, congregation, and small groups.

What biblical images, stories or instructions come to mind to help with the idea of being a “sent” people?

To whom are you SENT?

¹ Keifert, Patrick R., *We Are Here Now*, Allelon Publishing, 2006