



John Knox Presbytery Ordination Decision Challenged Other presbyteries urged to join

March 8, 2010

Dear Friend,

You have probably heard that John Knox Presbytery voted on February 20 to approve the ordination of a candidate who decidedly fails to meet PC(USA) constitutional requirements. But that action has been challenged by faithful Presbyterians.

A group of members and sessions within John Knox Presbytery filed a remedial complaint in church courts on March 4 that seeks to correct the ordination decision. The complaint argues that ordinand Scott Anderson admits that he is in a sexual relationship outside the bounds of marriage.

The complainants' press release deems the presbytery's action "a serious breach of the standards for ordination set by the whole Church." It further contends that the action "damages and, if not corrected by the Church courts, will continue to damage the peace, unity and purity of the PC(USA)."

Complainants urge other presbyteries to join

The *Book of Order* says, "Ordination for the office of minister of the Word and Sacrament is an act of the whole church carried out by the presbytery. . ." (G0in0480). Thus, other presbyteries, which are part of "the whole church," are affected by the action of John Knox Presbytery and have standing to join in the complaint or to initiate their own. In their press release, the complainants "urge other presbyteries, and other members and sessions of John Knox Presbytery, to join them in seeking redress."

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Yours in Christ,

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