

OPEN MEETING POLICY
for STATED PRESBYTERY MEETINGS
and ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION MEETINGS
(adopted by the Presbytery of Cincinnati on November 14, 2000)

1. The work of the church is strengthened when it is done in a spirit of openness and trust. Church members have a basic right to know about the work done and the decisions made by entities within the church. Church leaders have a basic responsibility to honor that right by conducting their business with a spirit of openness and vulnerability to public scrutiny. Therefore, open meetings shall be the norm for all such entities.
2. It is the policy of the Presbytery of Cincinnati that all those present at its meetings should register under the following categories and wear their name tags throughout the meeting:
 - Minister Members
 - Elder Commissioners
 - Former Moderators
 - Commissioned Lay Pastors
 - Elder Chairs of Committees
 - Elder Members of Council
 - Focus Ministry Members
 - Corresponding Members
 - Christian Educators
 - Presbytery Staff
 - Media
 - Visitors
3. The provisions of the policy shall apply to representatives of both church and public media, including print, electronic, and photographic journalists.
4. All the provisions of this policy are to be applied equitably to all persons and groups.
5. Closed meetings may be authorized after serious consideration and by a majority vote of the members present. Such closure must be limited in time and scope. Examples of appropriate situations for closing meetings include, but are not limited to, personnel matters and matters pertaining to the purchase and sale of real estate.
6. In closed meetings, only voting members and other persons invited by the group to serve it are to be present.