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## Homesteader - June 2, 2015

### Clarity Request Elicits Response

*In the article in the March 31 of The Homesteader, I attempted to clarify some questions concerning the affect of the new wording in our Book of Order concerning the definition of marriage and its affect on Teaching Elder (Pastor) ordination vows.*

Friends,

I hope these remarks may provide additional clarity:

1. The Directory for Worship is not a confession that we need to either subscribe to or be guided in faith by.
2. One who is ordained may disagree with the definition of marriage used in the W-4.9001, and continue to have the liberty to exercise his/her faith convictions. This freedom of conscience is specifically protected.
3. To be "governed by our church's polity" is to conform our actions, not our beliefs.
4. To abide by our church's discipline is to conform to the Rules of Discipline.
5. To be governed by our church polity does not in any way constrain belief of marriage being between a woman and a man.

I appreciate the confusion that has arisen since the approval of the change in W-4.9001 and hope that I have in some way helped so that you can better understand and explain the situation.

Grace and Peace,  
Doc

### Synod School: 6 days, 70 classes, 600-plus people

Keeping in Touch readers who take a look inside this year's Synod School catalog will find there are 70 classes. Stodgy? None. There's "Soccer: An Introduction to the World's Most Popular Sport." And there's the "The Civil War, Slavery and the Bible."

### Letter to the Editor

*In Reference to the March 31, 2015 Article referenced in Clarity Request Article*

Presbytery is made up of teaching elders (like me) and ruling elders from each church. Ours is a representative form of government.

Commissioners to the General Assembly come from the presbyteries, and commissioners to Synod, likewise come from the presbyteries, are both teaching elders & ruling elders. All are seeking the will of the Holy Spirit

The matter deals with interpretation of Scripture not denying Jesus, as I see it. I have friends and family on both sides of this issue. We agree to disagree.

I like this presbytery and our denomination. Sometimes I agree with some decisions and disagree with others, as you do.

Take care, Rev. Duncan Nichol  
Tekamah First Presbyterian Church

### JOB OPENING

Homestead Presbytery has an opening for a part-time (20 hrs/wk) secretary/bookkeeper. Office hours have been Monday - Thursday 9 AM - 3 PM with 1 hour lunch. Please let people you know who might be interested.

Interested people should call Doc at 402-613-7565.

### GA Commissioner Nomination Forms

GA - General Assembly - Commissioner Nomination Forms are available on the presbytery website under the Presbytery



There's also "Sheldon Cooper Joined My Church." Really. There is. Synod School runs July 26-31 at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa, and draws more than 600 participants each year. Theresa Cho, co-pastor of St. John's Presbyterian Church in San Francisco and renowned author and speaker, is this year's adult convocation

speaker. You can find it all at "[Synod School](#)."

Office tab - click Forms (<http://homesteadpres.org/forms.html>) Submissions must be received by June 30, 2015. If you have any questions, contact Rev Jon Ashley, Nominations Moderator [jon@presbyterianfremont.org](mailto:jon@presbyterianfremont.org)

## Blessing Opportunity *2 Corinthians 9:7-8*



GIVE...

Camp Scholarship. Send a youngster to camp this summer.

## Keep Thinking...

There are two types of thinkers: 1. Abundance Thinkers. 2. Scarcity Thinkers. 2Cor. 25:9

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