



First Presbyterian Church of Kingwood

Actions of the 219th General Assembly (2010) of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America (PCUSA)

Results of DRST Attitude Survey On Four Recommendations from GA 219:

Do you support (agree) with the changes proposed by GA219?						
	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Undecided	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Totals
Ordination Standards Change <i>% of surveys</i>	18 <i>6%</i>	9 <i>4%</i>	9 <i>3%</i>	21 <i>8%</i>	209 <i>79%</i>	266 <i>100%</i>
Marriage Standards Change <i>% of surveys</i>	11 <i>4%</i>	9 <i>3%</i>	5 <i>2%</i>	12 <i>5%</i>	229 <i>86%</i>	266 <i>100%</i>
New Form of Government (nFOG) <i>% of surveys</i>	5 <i>2%</i>	9 <i>3%</i>	25 <i>9%</i>	33 <i>12%</i>	194 <i>73%</i>	266 <i>100%</i>
Adding Belhar to <i>Book of Confessions</i> <i>% of surveys</i>	6 <i>2%</i>	9 <i>3%</i>	35 <i>13%</i>	39 <i>15%</i>	177 <i>67%</i>	266 <i>100%</i>

Status of Presbytery Voting on Three Recommendations from GA 219 out for Approval

Voting amongst the 173 PCUSA Presbyteries has moved along in parallel to the DRST's survey. As of the posting date of this report, the denomination-wide outcome on the three issues out for approval votes are as follows (with the votes from the Houston-area Presbytery of New Covenant also shown below):

Status of GA219 Recommended Changes			
	Votes In Favor	Votes Against	Comments
Ordination Standards Change <i>(87 votes to pass)</i>	96	74	Change Approved - Change to take effect by July 10, 2011.
New Form of Government (nFOG) <i>(87 votes to pass)</i>	87	81	Change Approved
Addition of Belhar Confession <i>(116 votes to pass)</i>	87	58	Measure Failed - 28 Presbyteries yet to vote; impossible to meet 116 vote requirement to pass.
<i>Note: Voting tallies are from the Presbyterian Layman website updated as of 6/16/2011.</i>			

Votes by Presbytery of New Covenant (Houston-area, including Kingwood)			
	Votes In Favor	Votes Against	Comments
Ordination Standards Change	144	156	Change Not Approved by New Covenant Presbytery
New Form of Government (nFOG)	44	186	Change Not Approved by New Covenant Presbytery
Addition of Belhar Confession	54	134	Change Not Approved by New Covenant Presbytery
<i>Note: Voting tallies are from the Presbyterian Layman website updated as of 6/16/2011 for Ordination and nFOG; Belhar vote tally from the Presbyterian Coalition website.</i>			

Next Steps to be Undertaken by FPCK Session

Now that the DRST survey results have been reported and the outcomes on the three measures are known, FPCK's Session has commenced a deliberative process to determine how our church should respond to these pending changes in PCUSA. The following options will be thoroughly evaluated:

- Accept changes as new PCUSA polity (governance)
- "Hide in place" (sometimes called "defect in place") and ignore PCUSA changes that are contradictory to FPCK values
- Commence a discernment and departure process to leave the PCUSA and join another Presbyterian denomination
- Work within PCUSA to establish a conservative safe haven of like-minded (theologically conservative) churches (i.e. the Tall Steeples initiative)

Stay tuned for communications from the Session over the summer on details of this deliberation process.

Respectfully submitted:

The Denominational Relations Study Team (DRST)

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