



January 15, 2023

## Necessary Endings... When Does Closure Become an Option Workshop



Since 2014, one PSEC congregation has closed, on average, every six months. This isn't often talked about — partly because that news is filled with feelings of profound loss and grief. It's the source of uncomfortable shame — that somehow church members failed to do all they could to maintain their sacred space. It provokes questions about the power and/or presence of God. Taken together, these things make it difficult to say what sometimes needs to be said: "It's time for our church to close."

A workshop will be held Feb. 4, from 9:00 am—12:00 noon at St. James UCC in Limerick to create a safe space where difficult questions can be asked and information shared with congregations facing decline and potential closure. You will receive resources and hear about church closure experiences.

For more information and a link to the free registration, go to [psec.org](http://psec.org) and click on the Events & News tab and then the calendar. Go to Feb. 4th on the calendar.

## General Synod Summer 2023 Transportation Option

Every two years, General Synod brings together thousands of faithful members of the United Church of Christ for formal church witness, inspirational worship, and fellowship with friends (new and old).

This year, General Synod 34 will take place in Indianapolis, IN from June 30 – July 4. This year's theme is "Making all things New"



The PSEC delegation is contemplating taking a bus to and from Indianapolis. Travel dates would be June 29 and July 5. If you are planning to attend General Synod and would be interested in traveling on the PSEC bus, please reach out to Susan Creswell at the PSEC office at [susan@psec.org](mailto:susan@psec.org) or 484-949-8774 x 312.

For more information on General Synod 34, go to [generalsynod.org](http://generalsynod.org).



## PSEC 2022 Giving Cut-Off TOMORROW

**Books of the PSEC will close Jan. 16.** All OCWM contributions for 2022 must be in our office by that date or they will be counted towards 2023 contributions.

**Please mail your contributions as soon as possible due to possible mail delays.**