

## Dear Friends in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. As we continue to discern the future of our shared ministry, we invite you to engage in conversation about the proposal for restructuring our regional governance: **"In This Together for Good: The Upstate New York Middle Assembly."**

At our May 2024 Regional Synod meeting, we affirmed that **we must restructure** regardless of any broader denominational decisions. Now, we are moving forward with a proposal that seeks to honor our covenantal commitments, strengthen our churches, and position us for faithful ministry in a changing world.

This restructuring plan introduces a new **Middle Assembly** to replace our current six Classes. We recognize that this proposal will raise important questions, and we want to hear from you. Your input is crucial as we shape the future of our collective ministry. We encourage you to **ask questions, share concerns, and engage in thoughtful discussion.**

Here's how you can participate:

- **Review the Proposal:** The full proposal is available for your consideration.
- **Join a Discussion:** We ask that Classes make space at spring meetings to gather questions and feedback. We ask that either your Classis rep to ASEC or your Classis clerk gather these questions and submit it to ASEC (noreenfargione@gmail.com) no later than March 31, 2025.
- **Reach Out:** If you would like to have a one-on-one conversation or schedule a meeting with someone from ASEC, please contact us.

As we move forward, let us do so prayerfully, trusting that God's Spirit is leading us in this time of transition. Our hope is that this new structure will enable us to **flourish in ministry together, for the good of our churches and the world.**

We look forward to your insights and prayers as we walk this journey together.

## In Christ's Service,

Noreen Fargione, President  
Dirk Gieser, Vice President  
Rebecca Town, Past President 2024  
Matthew van Maastricht, Past Pres 2023  
Nancy Ryan, Chair OJB  
Heather Kramer, Chair SMB  
Will Ryan, Chair Personnel

Paige Convis, Albany  
Gary Smith, Columbia Greene  
Betsy Westman, Montgomery  
Sharon Hann, Rochester  
Jim Pettis, Schenectady  
Linda Gold, Schoharie