



ICCJ Philadelphia Conference 2016

**“The Dynamics of Religious Pluralism in a Changing World:
The Philadelphia, United States and International Contexts”**

PLENARY SESSIONS

AN AFTERNOON OF DIALOGUE: NEW DOCUMENTS ON CHRISTIAN-JEWISH RELATIONS

MONDAY, JULY 11, 2016 - SAINT JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY – DOYLE BANQUET HALL NORTH

Authors' Roundtable:

1. Presbytery of Chicago, Presbyterian Church (USA),

“...In Our Time...’ A statement on relations between the Presbytery of Chicago and the Jewish community in metropolitan Chicago”

Rev. Joyce Shin

Inspired by and in the spirit of the publication of *Nostra Aetate*, “In Our Time,” published fifty years ago by the Roman Catholic Church, the Ecumenical and Interreligious Work Group of Chicago Presbytery composed a document *for our time* in 2015. This document is intended to be a resource for congregations, institutions, and leaders in the Chicago Presbytery who desire to deepen our relations with Jews, Jewish leaders, congregations, and institutions in Chicago.

The process by which this document was composed and refined reflects the relationship that has arisen from years of dialogue between Presbyterian and Jewish leaders in Chicago. It reflects constructive critique with leaders from the Jewish United Federation of Chicago, the American Jewish Committee, and the Chicago Board of Rabbis, persons with whom we have been in dialogue for over a decade. A draft was also shared with the Christian Scholars Group for Christian-Jewish Relations, an ecumenical group founded by the National Council of Churches.

The Presbytery of Chicago had the opportunity to discuss a draft of the document. Questions and comments were welcomed. Furthermore, we invited other Presbyterian Church (USA) presbyteries to share their comments on our draft. We believe that our document was strengthened by this process. When we brought the document to the Chicago Presbytery Assembly on November 21, 2015, it was unanimously adopted.

The purpose of the document is to provide a theological and relational framework for the Presbytery of Chicago to pursue an engaged and constructive relationship with the Jewish community in metropolitan Chicago. Its intent is to encourage the ongoing dialogue and relationship between these communities.