

Letter in the Akron Beacon Journal
by The Rev. Dr. Harry W. Eberts, Jr.
on 21 Nov., 2006

I am surprised that the Beacon Journal permitted itself to be used as a vehicle to cast aspersions on the quality of faithfulness to Christ of Presbyterian people in the Akron area, ("Two area churches leave Presbyterians," Nov. 14). There are more than a thousand people in this area who – as ministers, elders and deacons – give leadership to the Presbyterian Church (USA). Each has been ordained to office by the church, having taken a vow "to be obedient to Christ, under the authority of Scripture". At the heart of our creed is this declaration "Jesus Christ, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God which we have to hear and which we have to trust and obey in life and death."

We have each taken this vow, and we each daily, in every way, try to be faithful to this vow and this creed.

The two men quoted have decided within the last six weeks and for their own reasons to demit the ministry of this church. I am sure you will agree with me that they are not therefore objective observers as to the quality of the faith that they have just abandoned.

I have read the Beacon Journal since I moved into Akron almost 30 years ago. I have found it usually to be fair in its reporting. To give voice to the disgruntled through your account demeans the faith of all of us who humbly give our allegiance to Christ through this time-honoured church.

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