

Rev. Dr. Richard Bott

Ordained Minister

Nominated by Vancouver South Presbytery (British Columbia Conference)

Question: “What priorities would you name for your time as Moderator and how do you envision offering leadership in these areas?”

Statement About Priorities and Leadership

In times of structural transition, it becomes even more important for us to keep focused on our primary tasks. With every action they take, the priority of General Council and Regions is to ask themselves, "How will this (policy, decision, or action) help Communities of Faith to live out their ministry?" I believe that is the central role of the wider councils of the church. As Communities of Faith, I think our priority needs to be releasing ourselves from "survival mode," and redirecting our energies into living into our individual and communal calls as Jesus' disciples.

In all of this time, we're going to have to carefully listen to each other, and be honest and open in our concerns and disagreements. We're going to have to work against the cynicism and fear that sometimes threatens to overwhelm, and assume each other's goodwill for the ministry in which we share.

In short, our priorities are: overcome whatever fear we have; look to the good of one another; help everybody live out their Call!