Technology & Recordkeeping for Clerks

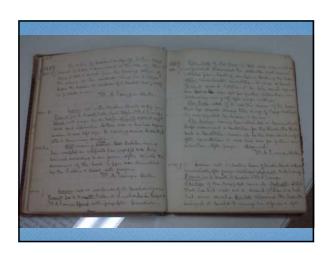
Value of church records...

- Document the mission and ministry of a particular congregation
- Document aspects of the presbytery's mission and ministry not found in other records
- Document life history of members
 - Records baptisms, marriages, deaths, and service to the church as ordained officers
 - Proof of birth for passports or Social Security

Therefore,
it is vital that these records
be preserved
for future generations

Best practices...

- Use of acid-free paper
- Maintenance of environment
 - Temperature
 - Safe from water or fire
 - Limited exposure to sunlight
- Limited handling
 - Oil on hands
- No staples, paper clips, post-it notes, etc.
- Secure, safe storage











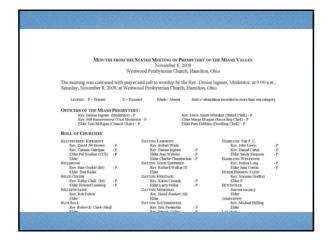
Limitations of electronic forms...

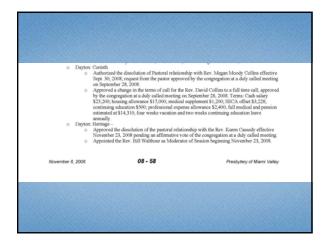
- Storage can be easily damaged or corrupted
 - Physical damage to computer or storage disks
 - Virus contamination
 - Exposure to magnets
- Software changes rapidly and not compatible with older forms

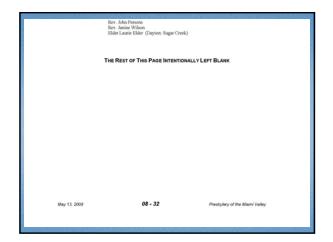


So how can we use technology?

- Microfilm
- Word processing
 - Maintains routine format
 - Adds page numbers
- Spreadsheets
- Membership databases









Regist	er of B	aptism	s - page 1		
	Check One				
No.					
	Adult	Infant	Name	Parent's Names	Date of Birth
1		×	Lydia Phoebe Knox	John and Louisa Knox	25-Oct-09
2		_^	Cydia i nocac raiox	John and Course Ninox	25 001 05
3					_
4					_
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16	_	_			
17	-	-			
18	-	-			_
19 20	-	_			_

Register of Baptisms - page 2					
No.	Place of birth	Date of Baptism	Place of Baptism	Administering Minister	Remarks
1	Dayton, Ohio	15-Nov-09	Dayton, Ohio	Doris Arnett Whitaker	
2	adjusting attitud	25 1101 05			
3					
4					
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14	_	_			
15	_				
16					
17					
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20					



Don't forget...

- Regular and frequent back-up
- Print to acid-free paper and put in Westminster binders

