
Minutes

7th General Assembly

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

June 15-18, 1987

Rome, Georgia

OFFICERS OF THE 7TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

MODERATOR: E. PERRY MOBLEY
Trinity Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 3865
Florence, SC 29502-3865

STATED CLERK: L. EDWARD DAVIS
Evangelical Presbyterian Church
26049 Five Mile Road
Detroit, MI 48239

**INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE NUMBER
for the
EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
38-2329622**

PLEASE ADDRESS OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

The Reverend Mr. L. Edward Davis
26049 Five Mile Road
Detroit, MI 48239

Minutes

7th General Assembly

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Moderator, 6th General Assembly



ROGER VONDER BRUEGGE
Moderator, 6th General Assembly

Elected as Moderator of the 6th General Assembly (1986) was Ruling Elder, Roger Vonder Bruegge of Central Presbyterian, St. Louis, MO.

Mr. Vonder Bruegge is vice-president of Vonder Bruegge Corporation, an architectural and engineering firm begun by his father in 1946. He graduated first in his class from the University of Kansas School of Architecture and Urban Design, and holds membership in the American Institute of Architects and the Missouri Council of Architects. He has served in the Kirkwood City Council and is extensively involved in local community affairs and government.

Past member and vice-chairman of the Assembly's World Outreach Committee, Mr. Vonder Bruegge has traveled to Brazil and Argentina as part of official EPC delegations. His involvement in world missions at Central Church include past missionary trips to Haiti and India, as well as chairing the church's \$500,000 Benevolent Outreach Division.

He and his wife, Linda, are the parents of two sons, Scott and John. Mrs. Vonder Bruegge is a former Spanish teacher and currently works with Lay Renewal Ministries.

Moderator, 7th General Assembly



PERRY MOBLEY

Moderator, 7th General Assembly

Dr. E. Perry Mobley, pastor of Trinity Presbyterian Church, Florence, SC is 7th General Assembly Moderator.

Reared in Albany, Georgia, Dr. Mobley is a graduate of Presbyterian College, Clinton, SC, and received his Bachelor of Divinity from Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, GA. He received his Doctor of Divinity from King College, Bristol, TN. Dr. Mobley served with the US Navy during World War II.

Ordained in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.), Dr. Mobley joined the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in 1984. At that time he became organizing pastor of Trinity Church. Prior to that time, he was pastor at First Presbyterian, Florence for five years, and pastor of Reynolda Presbyterian (EPC) in Winston-Salem, NC from 1965-79.

Active on both Presbytery and General Assembly levels, Dr. Mobley becomes chairman of the Administration Committee this year and is also active on his Presbytery Church Development Commission.

He is married to the former Jeane Duke, who is a representative on the Assembly's Women's Ministries Committee. They have four children and four grandchildren. Dr. Mobley has several hobbies, including tin smithing, rug hooking, fishing and hunting, tennis, and acting as a football official.

SUCCESSION OF MODERATORS

ASSEMBLY YEAR	NAME	PRESBYTERY	PLACE OF ASSEMBLY
1st	1981 Calvin Gray, TE	Midwest	Livonia, MI
2nd	1982 Irvin Rinehart, RE	West	Aurora, CO
3rd	1983 James Van Dyke, TE	Southeast	St. Louis, MO
4th	1984 Donald Harms, RE	Midwest	Jackson, MS
5th	1985 James Morrison, TE	East	Aurora, CO
6th	1986 Roger Vonder Bruegge, RE	Central South	Livonia, MI
7th	1987 E. Perry Mobley, TE	Southeast	Rome, GA

SUCCESSION OF STATED CLERK

YEARS	ORIGINAL PRESBYTERY
1981 Rev. L. Edward Davis	Midwest

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Journal

MINUTES - MONDAY AFTERNOON

First Session
Monday, June 15, 1987

7-1 Assembly Convened

The 7th General Assembly was called to order at 1:30 p.m. on Monday afternoon, June 15, 1987 in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church, Rome, Georgia. Moderator Roger Vonder Bruegge presided.

7-2 Calling of the Roll of Churches

Stated Clerk Edward Davis called the roll by church. Commissioners from each church present stood to be counted. The Clerk declared a quorum was present.

THE ROLL OF THE ASSEMBLY

CHURCH	RULING ELDERS	MINISTERS
Allegheny Presbytery		
Calvary (Butler, PA)	1. Blaine Wilson, Sr. 2.	1. Ron DiNunzio
EP Fellowship (Wickliffe, OH) . .	1. 2.	1. Hugh Gowman
Faith EPC (Richmond, OH) . . .	1. 2.	1. David Massimi
New Hope EPC (Steubenville, OH)	1. 2.	1. (Pulpit Vacant)
North Park (Wexford, PA)	1. Thomas Jones 2. Charles Stauffer	1. Dan Lacich, AP
Oakwood (State College, PA) . . .	1. 2.	1. Ed Solomon, Jr.
Tabernacle (Youngstown, OH) . .	1. 2.	1. (Pulpit Vacant)
Other Ministers on Roll		
Central South Presbytery		
Calvin (Houston, TX)	1. Pete Colvin 2. W.G. Dunkum, III	1. (Pulpit Vacant)
Central (St. Louis, MO)	1. Jerry Alpert 2. Kenneth Breckner 3. Gordon Lindenblad 4. Alex Miltenberger 5. Charles Moore 6. Vern Schneider 7. Horace Tubbesing 8. Roger Vonder Bruegge	1. Bill Flannagan 2. Don Fortson 3. Andrew Jumper 4. Austin McCaskill 5. John Splinter

CHURCH	RULING ELDERS	MINISTERS
EPC, (Anna, IL)	1. J.D. Meller 2.	1. Tommy Shields
EPC (Austin, TX)	1. 2.	1. Frank Costenbader
EPC (Marshall, TX)	1.	1. Phil Mathis 2. Rhett Payne
Faith (Fayetteville, AR)	1. Paul Lawrence 2.	1.
First (Atmore, AL)	1. 2.	1. Lanier Ellis
First (Houma, LA)	1. Jim Fuglaar 2. Paul Mackin	1. Bill Lindner
Louisville (Louisville, MS)	1. James Raven 2. David Woodward	1. Bill McCaskill
Overland Park (KS)	1. 2.	1. Craig McElvain
Sutter (St. Louis, MO)	1. Charles Ming 2.	1. Michael Glodo 2. Bill McConkey
Westminster (Laurel, MS)	1. Graham Christian 2. William Ford 3. Dale Lambert	1. (Pulpit Vacant)
Westminster (Shreveport, LA) .	1. Marcel Boutin 2. R. Glen Moon	1. (Pulpit Vacant)
Zachary (Zachary, LA)	1. Russell Bankston 2. Steve Caldwell	1. David Hicks
Other Ministers on Roll		1. Steve Barrett 2. Larry Bein 3. Robert Balnick 4. Ronald Pierce 5. Charles Skinner 6. George Scotchmer 7. Don Van Dyke 8. Robert Wilbur

East Presbytery

Ashland (Voorhees, NJ)	1. 2.	1.
Christ Church (Burke, VA)	1. 2.	1. Mike Winship
Christian Covenant (Rockville, MD)	1. Byron Lord 2.	1.
Dundalk (Baltimore, MD)	1. Ralston Willis 2.	1. (Pulpit Vacant)

CHURCH

First Love (Babylon, NY)

Fourth (Bethesda, MD)

Goodwill (Montgomery, NY)

Other Ministers on Roll

RULING ELDERS

1. Robert Goodrich

2.

1. Alcott Larssen

2.

1.

2.

MINISTERS

1.

1. Jeffrey Jeremiah

2. Robert Norris

1. Stewart Pohlman

1. David Bucci

2. Kent Bull

3. Robert Shaffer

Far West PresbyteryCarmel Valley EPC
(Del Mar, CA)

1.

2.

Christ's Presbyterian
(Chandler, AZ)

1.

2.

Hemet Valley EPC
(Hemet, CA)

1.

2.

New Covenant (Tucson, AZ)

1.

2.

Santa Maria Community
(Santa Maria, CA)

1. Marlene Dickinson

2. Nettie Graham

Other Ministers on Roll

1. Robert Stauffer

1. Doug Van Gaalen

1.

1. Stephen Jennings

1. James Brown, Jr.

1. Rocky McElveen

Midwest Presbytery

Calvary (Flint, MI)

1. Marvin Carlson

2. Ted Gundlach

3. Dick Heidtman

4. Larry Lee

1. Harold K. Polk, Jr.

2. Phillip Burch

Cornerstone (Brighton, MI)

1.

2.

1. Timothy Brewer

Central Northwest (Detroit, MI)

1.

2.

1.

Community EPC (Owosso, MI)

1. Michael Farrand

2.

1. Donald Galardi

Covenant (Ann Arbor, MI)

1. Philip Tiews

2.

1. Malcolm Brown

EPC (Lake City, MI)

1. Dick Young

2.

1. Paul Brown

Faith EPC (Rochester, MI)

1. John Grewell

2. John McIntyre

3. Tom Woodside

1. Steve Andrews

2. Wally Hostetter

Fellowship EPC (S. Lyon, MI)

1. Walter Lobdell

2.

1. Carlton Baker

First (Trenton, MI)

1. Furman Crout

2. Ray Sawmiller

3. Gordon Sheill

1. Art Hunt (AP)

2. Ian Leslie (AP)

CHURCH	RULING ELDERS	MINISTERS
Grace Chapel (Farmington Hills, MI)	1.	1. Anthony De Orio 2. Douglas Klein
Knox (Mt. Clemens, MI)	1. Palmer Heenan 2. Hugh Rennie	1. George Woodcock
Military Avenue (Detroit, MI) . . .	1. Ruth Schlessner 2.	1. (Pulpit Vacant)
Mt. Pleasant (Mt. Pleasant, MI) . .	1. John Ahrens 2. Ed McCallum	1. (Pulpit Vacant)
Oakland Avenue (Pontiac, MI) . .	1. 2.	1.
Trinity (Columbia City, IN) . . .	1. 2.	1. Larry Schmoekel
Trinity (Plymouth, MI)	1.	1. Bill Branham, Jr. 2. Bill Moore
Ward (Livonia, MI)	1. Elden Brieschke 2. Eugene Jordan 3. Dick Oestreicher 4. Judy Teachworth 5. Tom Thompson	1. Thomas Burbridge 2. Willard Davis 3. Bartlett Hess 4. James Killgore
Westkirk (Des Moines, IA)	1. Ken Day 2. Mary Lu Younkin	1. Wayne Hoffman
Other Ministers on Roll		1. L. Edward Davis 2. Ellis Deibler 3. Edwin Randal
Southeast Presbytery		
Asheville EPC (Asheville, NC) . .	1. 2.	1. Howard Shockley
Bethesda (Florence, SC)	1. T.F. Brasington 2. James Ramey 3. Oliver Summerlin	1. Ronald Glover
Brainerd (Chattanooga, TN) . . .	1. Denson Broadfoot 2. Edward Cobleigh 3. James Daniels 4. Bill Johnson 5. Rick Scarborough 6. Cord Sump	1. Ronald Ragon 2. Frederick Kirms 3.
Christ Church (Anderson, SC) . . .	1. 2.	1. William Hyer, IV
Christ Community (Augusta, GA)	1. 2.	1. Robert Taylor
Christ Covenant (Tampa, FL) . . .	1. Winn P. Rash 2.	1. W. Woodland Johnson, Jr.
Community Bible (Highlands, NC)	1. Gregory Smith 2.	1. Robert Bryan
Cornerstone (Franklin, NC) . . .	1. John Gordon 2. Jane Riddle	1. Ronald Odum

CHURCH	RULING ELDERS	MINISTERS
Cramerton (Cramerton, NC)...	1. Rufus J. Davis 2.	1.
Eastside (Orlando, FL)	1. 2.	1.
EPC (Burlington, NC)	1. 2.	1. Michael Brown
EPC (Elkton, VA)	1. Larry Dickerson 2.	1. James B. Martin
Fairview (Fairview, NC)	1. Steve White 2.	1. (Pulpit Vacant)
Faith EPC (Roanoke, VA)	1. Llew Fischer 2. John Purdy	1. Sam Harris
First EPC (Gastonia, NC)	1. Durell Sorrels 2.	1. John Jennings
First EPC (Rock Hill, SC)	1. Nancy Gaston 2. Mantha Peeler	1.
First (Rome, GA)	1. Will Bethel 2. Gregory Garrett 3. Ellen Jervis 4. Bob McCanz	1. James Van Dyke 2. Steve Wilkinson
Grace (Franklin, NC)	1. Donald Dewhurst 2. John Sill	1. David Craig
Lebanon (Greenwood, VA)	1. 2.	1. Alex Koval
New Covenant (Atlanta, GA)	1. Leonard Pilgrim 2.	1. Ronald Crews
Plumtree (Plumtree, NC)	1. 2.	1.
Prince of Peace (Knoxville, TN).	1. Robert Johnson 2. Charles Kalthoff	1. G. Turner Howard
Redeemer (Statesboro, GA) ...	1. 2.	1. Michael Chastain
Trinity (Florence, SC)	1. James Hawthorne 2. James F. Muhlig, III	1. Perry Mobley
Trinity (Ft. Pierce, FL)	1. Rexford Pike 2.	1. Robert Garment
Winchester (Winchester, KY) .	1. 2.	1. (Pulpit Vacant)
Other Ministers on Roll		1. Roger Bush 2. Donald Giesmann 3. Charles Hammett 4. James C. Hicks 5. Jimmie Hollandsworth 6. David Hughes 7. James H. Mills, Jr. 8. Lee P. O'Hare

CHURCH**RULING ELDERS****MINISTERS****St. Andrews Presbytery (Buenos Aires, Argentina)**

Belgrano	1.	1.
	2.	
Centro	1.	1.
	2.	2.
	3.	
	4.	
Olivos	1. Freddie Berk	1. Kenneth Murray
	2.	
Quilmes	1.	1.
	2.	
Temperley	1.	1.
	2.	

West Presbytery

Bear Creek (Denver, CO)	1. Clinton Hess	1. Calvin Gray
	2.	2. William Vogler
Cherry Creek EPC	1. Jan Bole	1. Clifton King
(Englewood, CO)	2. Robert Bole	2. Gary Reddish
	3. Dodie Hampton	3. Gary Wooley
	4. Al McLaughlin	4. Bradley Yorton
	5. Irvin Rinehart	
	6. Ken Roberts	
Cherry Hills Community	1. Richard Elrod	1. James Dixon
(Englewood, CO)	2. Michael Sadler	
Christ Fellowship	1.	1.
(Ft. Collins, CO)	2.	
Covenant Community	1. Albert Stancliff	1. Craig Babb
(Aurora, CO)	2.	2. Darryl Sparling
	3.	
EPC (Amarillo, TX)	1.	1.
	2.	
EP Communion	1.	1.
(Albuquerque, NM)	2.	
Faith (Aurora, CO)	1. Bill Barker	1. Lester Felker
	2. Lee Etter	2. James Morrison
	3. Harold French	3. Robert Ralston
	4. Norm Huebl	4. Fred Stifel
	5. Armin Remke	
	6. Maryon Remke	
	7. Claude Russell	
	8. Dale Williamson	
	9. Vern Winkel	
Faith Evangelical	1. Bill Sommer	1. James Murphy
(Loveland, CO)	2. Joe Weatherill	
Family of Faith (Littleton, CO) ..	1. Marj Westwood	2. George Kirsten
	2. Wallace Westwood	

CHURCH**RULING ELDERS****MINISTERS**

First EPC (Renton, WA)	1. Vern Robinson 2. Dwight Van Zanen	1. Paul Johnson
Freedom (Tulsa, OK)	1. Joe Evans 2. Jack Stone	1.
Parker (Parker, CO)	1. 2.	1. Ronald Ross
Trinity EPC (Littleton, CO) . . .	1. 2.	1. Fred Lian
Other Ministers on Roll		1. Robert Mossman 2. Philip Muir 3. Jerry Van Curler

7-3 Cable Received

The Moderator read a cable received from Edesio Chequer, Sao Paulo Brazil. He is the Moderator of the Supreme Council of the IPB.

"In light of the serious state of illness of my father-in-law, and other problems arising from this illness, it is impossible for us to attend the 7th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. My wife and I regret this deeply. Please give the distinguished Assembly our sincere wish and richest blessings. Fraternally, Edesio Chequer"

7-4 Adoption of the Docket

The Stated Clerk reminded the Assembly that all items of new business should come to the Clerk's table by Tuesday night in order to be considered by the Assembly (**Rules for Assembly**, §10-2).

ON MOTION the docket as presented on the salmon colored paper was adopted.

Docket	
Monday, June 15, 1987	
First Session 1:30 p.m.	ASSEMBLY CONVENES (Business session) (Sanctuary) * Opening Session. Constituting prayer. Calling the roll. * Presenting and adoption of General Assembly Docket. Approving Assistants to the Stated Clerk. * Election of 7th General Assembly Moderator. * State of the Church address by retiring Moderator. * Local arrangements. * Introduction of fraternal observers and guests. * Communications. * Report of the Stated Clerk. * Introduction of new churches. * Reference of Matters Received. * Introduction of committee chairmen. * Nominating Committee and report on standing committees.
5:00 p.m.	Adjournment REGISTRATION continues until 7:30 p.m.

Second Session

7:00 p.m.	Pre-worship Concert (Sanctuary)
7:45 p.m.	WORSHIP SERVICE (Dr. Robert Norris, key-noter) (Nursery to be provided only for worship services, not for entire Assembly)
9:30 p.m.	Orientation of Committee Chairmen

7-5 Election of Recording Clerk

ON MOTION Rev. Howard Shockley, Asheville EPC (NC), was elected Recording Clerk.

The Assembly was asked to permit a General Assembly staff member, Marilyn Bartel (Administrative Assistant in the General Assembly Office), to act as recording secretary to assist both the Recording and Stated Clerk. It was noted that this is **not** an elected office. The Assembly so concurred.

7-6 Moderator Elected

On behalf of the Committee on Administration, the Rev. James Morrison placed in nomination the name of Rev. E. Perry Mobley for Moderator of the 7th General Assembly. Rev. Mobley is pastor of Trinity Presbyterian, Florence, SC. No further nominations were forthcoming from the floor.

ON MOTION a unanimous ballot to elect was cast.

7-7 State of the Church Address

Retiring Moderator Roger Vonder Bruegge addressed the Assembly on "the state of the church." Through God's grace, love and patience we survive and with the help of biblically based pastors, we become grounded in His love, blooming and bearing fruit where He has planted us. As a people we will continue to succeed only as we respond to His call remaining strong at the foundation. He urged everyone to remain faithful and support the pastors and leadership of our church.

7-8 Local Arrangements

Host Pastor, Rev. James Van Dyke, welcomed the commissioners to First Presbyterian, and introduced Elder Keith Finley, chairman of the Local Arrangements Committee. Mr. Finley made several announcements relative to the week's activities.

7-9 Guests Introduced

Rev. David Massimi, chairman of the Fraternal Relations Committee introduced Mr. Wayne Frazier, Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, to the Assembly. Greetings will be brought later in the Assembly.

Tom Lockhart, representative of King College, Bristol, TN was recognized. Rev. James Killgore introduced Jim and Dolly Brien, missionaries in France.

The Stated Clerk introduced representatives from the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Mr. Freddie Berk, Stated Clerk and Rev. Kenneth Murray, Moderator of the Presbytery of Buenos Aires were invited to come forward, bring greetings and briefly address the Assembly. In doing so, they also brought greetings from Rev. Juan Carlos Ortiz, member of the Central South Presbytery, currently in Argentina. At the Moderator's request, Mrs. Berk (Sheila) stood to be recognized.

7-10 Recess

The Assembly recessed for a 20 minute break, after singing "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name."

7-11 Report of the Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk Rev. Davis noted 17 new churches this year, recognizing each by name. Of special interest is the forthcoming reception of the 100th EPC church, Reynolda Presbyterian, Winston-Salem, NC, on Sunday, June 23 by the Southeast Presbytery. Mr. Davis explained the statistical information included in his report, noting particularly the 18% growth in active membership in 1986.

The Clerk introduced the military chaplains of the denomination who were greeted with applause. They are Steven Barrett (USAF, active); Ronald Case, Stephen Jennings, Thomas Musselman, Robert Ralston, Ronald Crews (US Army, Reserves); Bradley Yorton (USN, active); Robert Shaffer (US Army, retired). Joy Charity O'Halloran is completing requirements for Air Force placement. Mark Ingles is a candidate for the USAF Reserves. Chaplain Barrett is the first EPC Chaplain to be assigned overseas duty, and spoke briefly to the Assembly about his upcoming move to the Azores.

Of particular interest is the development of the **Church Loan Fund** which now has over \$90,000. Thanksgiving Offering (1986) netted \$24,000, while one EPC church contributed the remainder. The operational goal of CLF is \$300,000. The **Ministerial Endowment Fund** currently has a principal of over \$12,500. The MEF exists as a diaconal fund for extraordinary need among active EPC workers. An EPC ministerial family in need was chosen last year by the Fund's trustees to receive the \$1,000 income.

Rev. Davis concluded his report by calling attention to the **Acts of the Assembly**, a document first published this year itemizing chronologically actions of the Assembly providing the assembly definitive guidance in various areas.

ON MOTION to adopt the Report of the Stated Clerk. (Report on p. 164)

7-12 Matters Received and Referred

A. Communications:

1. #87-1, Mr. J.F. Berk, Iglesia Presbiteriana San Andres, May 20, 1987
(p. 93)

... *Referred to Fraternal Relations*

2. #87-2, Dexter A. Kuhlman, Central Presbyterian Church, May 5, 1987
(p. 94)

... *Referred to Administration*

B. Ascending Overtures:

OVERTURE 87-A: ON CENTRAL SOUTH PRESBYTERY BOUNDS

WHEREAS, the state of Kansas lies within the bounds of the Presbytery of the West, and the state of Missouri lies within the bounds of the Presbytery of the Central South, and

WHEREAS, the metropolitan area of Kansas City is located in both states with contiguous suburbs in both states, and

WHEREAS, the Presbytery of the Central South has organized a mission church in one of these contiguous counties, Overland Park, KS, which has members from both states,

BE IT RESOLVED that the metropolitan area of Kansas City and those contiguous counties of that city be included within the bounds of the Presbytery of the Central South.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Lawrence, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of the Central South

... Referred to Church Development

OVERTURE 87-B: ON OFFICER TRAINING PROGRAM

The Presbytery of the East respectfully overtures the 7th General Assembly to approve development of an officer training program for the purposes of

1. continued resourcing of current officers;
2. resourcing new officers.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Kent Bull, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of the East

... Referred to Christian Education & Publications

OVERTURE 87-C: ON FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ADOPTION

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church has taken the position, "Both individual Christians and the Church should oppose abortion and do everything in their power to provide supportive communities and alternatives to abortion." (EPC Position Paper on Abortion); and

WHEREAS, adoption is one of the key alternatives to abortion; and

WHEREAS, the average cost of adoption puts a financial hardship on all but the well-to-do; and

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church's own health insurance plan covers the medical cost of giving birth to a child (procreation) but does not cover any expenses for adoption, and in effect, creates a significant financial deterrent to adoption within our own church; and

WHEREAS, Presbyterians have never believed in separating faith from practice; and

WHEREAS, Scripture teaches we first examine ourselves and become obedient before we point out the sin of others;

THEREFORE, we overture the 7th General Assembly to establish a plan to bring about an equality of financial assistance for those participants of that plan so that there would be financial freedom to choose for adoption as well as for procreation.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Schmoekel, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of the Midwest

... Referred to Overtures

OVERTURE 87-D: ON SEMINARY ENDORSEMENTS

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church requires of Teaching Elders that they believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, totally trustworthy, fully inspired by the Holy Spirit, the supreme, final, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice; and

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church requires its Teaching Elders to be diligent, zealous, and faithful in proclaiming the truths of the Gospel, and

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church requires subscription to the **Essentials of the Faith** that are fundamental, and

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church requires literate and theologically articulate persons to fill the office of Teaching Elder, and

WHEREAS, we require candidates for ministry to have completed seminary training;

THEREFORE, the Presbytery of the East overtures the 7th General Assembly to draw up and circulate to the Presbyteries of the denomination a list of approved seminaries, whose standards and teaching adhere to our confessional standards.

FURTHER, that each Presbytery committee shall ensure that candidates for the ministry be urged to attend these evangelical and Reformed seminaries.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Kent Bull, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of the East

... Referred to Ministerial Vocation

OVERTURE 87-E: ON ENDORSING REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

WHEREAS, theological education of ministerial candidates is of central importance in developing effective ministers; and

WHEREAS, there is currently no denominational seminary of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church; and

WHEREAS, Presbyteries as well as ministerial candidates need guidance in determining a proper place for theological education; and

WHEREAS, it is of paramount importance for candidates in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church to be adequately educated within the Reformed tradition of our faith; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that Reformed Theological Seminary of Jackson, MS has a heritage in keeping with ours, a theology compatible with ours, and is sympathetic to the goals, the ministry, and the growth of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Presbytery of the Central South does hereby humbly overture the General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church for the reasons cited above, to give denominational approval and endorsement of Reformed Theological Seminary. Further, to recommend it as an approved seminary to the Presbyteries of our denomination as a most appropriate institution within the Reformed tradition for the instruction and training of ministerial candidates of the various Presbyteries.

FURTHER, that each Presbytery committee having the oversight of candidates shall be requested to encourage such candidates to attend Reformed Theological Seminary, or such other seminaries that may have denominational approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Lawrence, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of the Central South

... Referred to Ministerial Vocation

OVERTURE 87-F: ON SPECIAL CALLED MEETINGS OF PRESBYTERY

WHEREAS, in our tradition, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church has endeavored to have two Ruling Elders for each Minister in the decision making process; and

WHEREAS, a special called meeting of the Presbytery is a very serious portion of the decision making process, and a quorum ought also to reflect our tradition; and

WHEREAS, a special meeting, therefore, should not be called by a single congregation nor a quorum come from a single congregation, but should involve at least two congregations; and

WHEREAS, the **Book of Order** should give clear direction to this end;

THEREFORE, the Presbytery of the Midwest does hereby respectfully overture the 7th General Assembly to send to the Presbyteries for their affirmative or negative vote the following changes to the **Book of Government**, § 16-17 and 16-18:

Section 16-17:

Present Wording

“ . . . When requested in writing by two Ministers and three Ruling Elders, the Moderator shall convene the court . . . ”

Proposed Wording

“When requested in writing by two Ministers and four Ruling Elders from at least two congregations, the Moderator shall convene the court . . . ”

Section 16-18

Present Wording

“Quorum: Two Ministers and three Ruling Elders shall constitute a quorum. However, a Presbytery may fix its own quorum provided it is not less than that stated above.”

Proposed Wording

“Two Ministers and four Ruling Elders from at least two congregations shall constitute a quorum. However, a Presbytery may fix its own quorum, provided it is not less than that stated above.”

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Schmoekel, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of the Midwest

. . . Referred to Overtures

OVERTURE 87-G: ON GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATION

WHEREAS, in the **Book of Government**, § 2-3, it states that “The Presbytery shall be composed of all Ministers belonging to it, and two Ruling Elders from each particular church, or two Ruling Elders for each Minister from each particular church within its bounds. The basis of representation to the General Assembly shall be the same as representation to Presbytery;” and

WHEREAS, a provision has been added to § 2-3 and 16-14 to provide for establishing parity within the Presbytery where there is a disproportionate ratio of Ruling Elders to Ministers;

RESOLVED, that § 2-3 and 16-20 be amended to add the following paragraph to establish parity at the meeting of the General Assembly:

“When a disproportionate ratio of Ruling Elders to Teaching Elders occurs in the General Assembly, the General Assembly will move, through the Office of the Stated Clerk to correct the ratio by suggesting to member churches equally divided among the Presbyteries on a yearly alphabetical rotation basis that they have the right to appoint an additional Ruling Elder to the meeting of the General Assembly. The General Assembly shall on this basis invite churches to add one additional Ruling Elder until this disparity is corrected.”

Respectfully submitted,

Howard Shockley, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of the Southeast

. . . Referred to Overtures

OVERTURE 87-H: CONCERNING PRESBYTERY STATUS OF RETIRED MINISTERS

WHEREAS, retired Ministers should be allowed to continue to participate in the activities, ministries, and fellowship of a Presbytery; and

WHEREAS, every Presbytery should be actively involved in ministering to retired ministers, especially those who reside within the geographical bounds of that Presbytery; and

WHEREAS, both ministry by the retired minister and ministry to the retired minister could be substantially changed if the retired minister moved out of the geographical bounds of Presbytery; and

WHEREAS, the **Book of Government**, § 15-8, states concerning retired ministers: "A Minister who is so retired remains a full member of Presbytery. Membership may not be transferred to another Presbytery;" and

WHEREAS, this prohibition against seeking to transfer to another Presbytery forces the retired minister to choose between continued involvement with Presbytery and (if a move outside the bounds of Presbytery were desired) freedom to move;

THEREFORE, the Presbytery of the Southeast respectfully overtures the 7th General Assembly to amend the **Book of Government**, § 15-8, by deleting the word "not" from the sentence "Membership may not be transferred to another Presbytery."

Respectfully submitted,

Howard Shockley, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of the Southeast

... Referred to Ministerial Vocation

OVERTURE 87-I: ON CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, the **Book of Government**, § 17-3 concerning amendments to the Confession of Faith and Catechisms, says in paragraph B, "Approval by three-fourths of the Presbyteries is required;" and

WHEREAS, the **Book of Government**, § 17-4, concerning union with another ecclesiastical body, says in paragraph B, "Approval by three-fourths of the Presbyteries is required." and

WHEREAS, the **Book of Government**, § 17-2, concerning amendments to the **Book of Order** says in paragraph C, "Approval by a majority of the Presbyteries is required." and

WHEREAS, in the history of precedent bodies, e.g., PCUS, divisive and diluting actions were enacted by changes in the **Book of Order** (or **Book of Church Order**) by majority votes; and

WHEREAS, by this tactic, even such vital points as ordination vows were changed; and

WHEREAS, such close votes created tension within such precedent bodies; and

WHEREAS, a good amendment should be agreeable to more than a simple majority of Presbyteries; and

WHEREAS, any amendment not receiving at least a three-fourths approval by Presbyteries could well profit from more church-wide discussion, prayer, and refining; and

WHEREAS, the unity now experienced in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church is so precious and glorifying to the Lord of the Church that it is to be desired above changes in polity - changes which do not reflect more of the mind of the Church than a majority;

THEREFORE, the Presbytery of the Southeast respectfully overtures the 7th General Assembly to amend the **Book of Government**, § 17-2.C by substituting "three-fourths" for "a majority" so that § 17-2.C would then read, "Approval by three-fourths of the Presbyteries is required."

Respectfully submitted,

Howard Shockley, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of the Southeast

... Referred to Overtures

C. Recommendations:

From the Committee on Administration:

R-4 That persons otherwise required to be covered by the denominational insurance plan be exempted from such mandatory coverage when they have coverage under the Civilian Health and Medical Programs of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS).

... Referred to Administration

R-5 That the restriction of 6 months waiting period for coverage of pre-existing conditions for an employee coming in from another denominational plan be eliminated, and that the 12 month waiting period for coverage of pre-existing conditions of the dependents of the employees be eliminated.

... Referred to Administration

R-6 That the group insurance plan of the General Assembly be amended to exclude coverage for radial keratotomy, a new procedure to correct nearsightedness.

... Referred to Administration

- R-7 That the 7th General Assembly establish a permanent Pension Fund Committee, composed of 3 classes of 2 each, with each person able to succeed himself for one term. A member may be reelected for additional terms after an interim of one year. The committee shall be nominated to the Assembly by the Nominating Committee, with the chairman to be nominated at the Assembly by the outgoing Moderator.

The duties of the committee shall be:

1. to establish a pension plan in accord with the mandate of the Assembly.
2. to serve as trustees under such a plan.
3. to administer the proceeds of the "Gratitude Gift."
4. to make annual reports of its proceedings to the Assembly.

To initiate this committee, the Nominating Committee shall nominate to this Assembly, the six persons, established in three classes of two each. Each person shall be eligible to succeed himself for one full term.

... Referred to Administration

- R-8 That the Assembly establish an annual offering in connection with the Christmas season which shall be used by the Pension Committee of the Assembly to supplement the income of our retired ministers and missionaries who participate in the denominational program. This program each year shall be known as the "Gratitude Gift," and each congregation is urged through all of its special offerings to support this fund.

Further, the Assembly Office shall be instructed to produce materials promoting this special offering, and shall be authorized to take appropriate actions to encourage the participation of every congregation in the "Gratitude Gift." Promotional costs shall be borne by the receipts for the fund. The Pension Committee shall be authorized to determine individual supplements needed for retired ministers and missionaries.

... Referred to Administration

- R-9 That the denomination establish an employer sponsored tax sheltered annuity (TSA) program for the required minimum 10% of gross effective salary for retirement for each minister and missionary; that each congregation be urged to participate in the denominational program; that the Pension Committee present an IRS approved program to the next Assembly for adoption and activation.

A congregation may elect to use this TSA program for its employees, and all approved missionaries of the denomination shall be eligible to participate.

... Referred to Administration

- R-10 That the 7th General Assembly adopt the Proposed 1988 Administration Budget for \$285,155

... Referred to Administration

- R-11 That the 7th General Assembly adopt the Proposed 1988 Benevolence Askings for \$752,750

... Referred to Administration

- R-12 That the General Assembly establish an Assembly suggested per member benevolence goal for each local congregation, such goal to be determined by the total benevolences approved by the Assembly. Each committee shall indicate the suggested per member goal for each congregation.

That the Assembly Office provide to each session and congregation information on the approved benevolences along with the suggested per member goal by the first of September, following the meeting of the General Assembly, along with the per member contribution for the Assembly's Administration Budget.

Further, that each session and congregation be assured that such per member goal is not an assessment but only a suggestion. Further, that each session and congregation be assured that contribution to approved Assembly benevolences may be designated for specific causes and those contributions shall be used only for such designated causes.

Further, the Assembly Office shall submit to each congregation a quarterly report on its giving to the Assembly, for both per member contributions and per member goal for benevolences.

Further, in order to provide a realistic guide to the Assembly for budgeting and spending, that each congregation be urged to notify the Assembly Office no later than February of each year, its intended giving goal for that year to approved Assembly benevolences, with the understanding that such local church goal is not a pledge, but only a goal for which the local church will strive.

Further, that the Assembly urge each Session and Congregation to participate in this voluntary funding of the approved benevolences of the Assembly.

... Referred to Administration

- R-13 That the 7th General Assembly adopt **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE Rules for Assembly.** (p. 68)

... Referred to Administration

- R-14 That the invitation from Central Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, MO to host the 9th General Assembly be accepted.

... Referred to Administration

- R-15 That the boundaries of the West Presbytery be extended to include the states of Washington and Idaho.

... Referred to Church Development

From the Committee on Ministerial Vocation

- R-16 That the chairman of the Ministerial Vocation Committee be given five minutes to emphasize 8.1 of the "Goals for Pastoral Care" and to distribute an article by Eugene Peterson.

... Referred to Ministerial Vocation

- R-17 That the 7th General Assembly endorse the "Denominational Goals for Pastoral Care (p. 124).

... *Referred to Ministerial Vocation*

- R-18 That the **Book of Government**, §13-5, be amended by adding to the present statement, "Presbytery shall not ordinarily receive a minister seeking to transfer from another denomination while either discipline, inquiry, or charges are pending against the minister. Presbytery may, however, by $\frac{3}{4}$'s vote, following careful review of the case, declare pending charges insufficient for refusal of membership."

... *Referred to Ministerial Vocation*

- R-19 That the **Book of Government**, be amended by adding a new §13-6 as follows: "Persons previously ordained in another Reformed denomination, but who, for reasons other than disciplinary action, lack current ordination credentials, shall be examined by the Presbytery on views of those subjects set forth for ordination. Those persons shall, upon approval, become immediately eligible for ordination and to receive a call approved by the Presbytery."

... *Referred to Ministerial Vocation*

- R-20 That the **Book of Government** be amended in Chapter 13 (pending approval of R-13), so that the present §13-6 becomes §13-7; the present §13-7 becomes §13-8 and the present §13-8 becomes §13-9.

... *Referred to Ministerial Vocation*

From the Committee on Fraternal Relations:

- R-21 That the Evangelical Presbyterian Church contribute \$500 to the World Evangelical Fellowship, of which \$75 shall be considered the annual (1987) denominational membership fee.

... *Referred to Fraternal Relations*

- R-22 That the Evangelical Presbyterian Church enter into fraternal relationship with the Christian Reformed Church and that such relationship shall include the following and be mutual:

1. exchange of fraternal delegates at major assemblies;
2. occasional pulpit fellowship (pulpit exchanges);
3. intercommunion;
4. joint action in areas of common responsibility;
5. communication on major issues of joint concern;
6. exercise of mutual concern and admonition with a view to promoting the fundamentals of Christian unity.

... *Referred to Fraternal Relations*

- R-23 That the 7th General Assembly approve postponement of consideration of application for membership in North American Presbyterian & Reformed Churches (NAPARC).

... *Referred to Fraternal Relations*

- R-24 That the Assembly approve the proposed pastoral letter (from the 7th General Assembly to NAPARC explaining reasons for postponement (cf. R-23).

... *Referred to Fraternal Relations*

From the Committee on Theology

- R-25 That the 7th General Assembly adopt the **POSITION PAPER ON PORNOGRAPHY** (p. 168).
... *Referred to Theology*
- R-26 That the 7th General Assembly adopt as its position paper, the Preliminary Position Paper on the Value and Respect for Life with the addition of the word "human" before "life." (p. 170)
... *Referred to Theology*
- R-27 That the **Westminster Confession of Faith** be printed in loose-leaf form for insertion together with the **Book of Order**.
... *Referred to Theology*
- R-28 That the 7th General Assembly adopt the paper **RULING ELDERS AND THE SACRAMENTS**. (p. 172)
... *Referred to Theology*

From the Committee on World Outreach

- R-29 That the proposed Part IV of **Mission Manual** be adopted (p. 177).
... *Referred to World Outreach*
- R-33 That the **Missions Manual**, § 100.2, be amended by substituting for the second sentence the following statement:
"That the global mission of the EPC shall be to plant, develop, and nurture the Church of Jesus Christ in those cultures and people groups where particular opportunity and our ability to respond most closely coincide. For this purpose World Outreach exists."
... *Referred to World Outreach*
- R-34 That for purposes of project cooperation, the EPC approve the following definition of an approved mission agency:
"An approved mission agency is defined as a 'mission organization created to serve the Church of Jesus Christ and identified by the following:
* authentic evangelical confessional identity;
* historical integrity and explicit mission statement;
* mission objectives compatible with the EPC mission statement;
* financial credibility as measured by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability or by comparable standards;
* membership in the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association, or meet comparable standards.'"
... *Referred to World Outreach*
- R-35 That approved mission agency status be granted the Middle East Reformed Fellowship (MERF) (p. 184).
... *Referred to World Outreach*

- R-36 That the General Assembly approved the CWO request to place on hold for one year the appointment of any new missionaries under cooperative agreements with other agencies while the CWO develops a 'master plan' for world outreach, including priorities and an operational plan for consideration by the 8th General Assembly (1988).

... Referred to World Outreach

From the Committee on Church Development

- R-30 That the **Book of Government**, Chapter 5, be amended by adding the following as §5-2 and renumbering the subsequent sections:

§5-2 **The development of a mission church:** A mission church consists of a number of professing Christians, with their children, associated together for divine worship and godly living, agreeable to the Scriptures, and submitting to the lawful government and discipline of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

The mission church, because of its transitional nature, requires a temporary system of government. Depending on the circumstances and at its own discretion, Presbytery shall provide for such government in one of several ways:

- A. Appoint an Evangelist as prescribed in 10-3C of the **Book of Government** and entrust appropriate powers to that person.
- B. Cooperate with the session of a particular church in arranging a mother-daughter relationship with a mission church. The session may then serve as the temporary governing body of the mission church.
- C. Appoint a commission to serve as a temporary session of the mission church.

At the discretion of the temporary governing body, members may be received into the mission church as prescribed in Chapter 9. These persons then become confirmed or baptized members of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. Mission churches shall maintain membership rolls in the same manner as, but separate from, other particular churches.

Mission churches and their members shall have the right of judicial process to the court having oversight of their temporary governing body. It is the further intention of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church that mission churches enjoy the same status as particular churches in relation to civil government.

... Referred to Church Development

- R-31 That consideration of the **Provisional Master Plan for Church Development**, be postponed until the 8th General Assembly (1988). (p. 86)

... Referred to Church Development

From the Committee on Christian Education and Publications

- R-32 That the position description be approved for a Director of Christian Growth and Nurture, and such person sought to fill that position. (p. 80)

... Referred to Christian Education and Publications

From the Permanent Judicial Commission

- R-37 That the General Assembly reject Overture 87-G, ON GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATION (see p. 13).

... Referred to Assembly

- R-38 That the General Assembly reject Overture 87-I, ON CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE REQUIREMENTS (see p. 14).

... Referred to Assembly

- R-39 That the General Assembly approve the opinion of the Stated Clerk and the PJC to the effect that church sessions have the authority to invite anyone to attend a session meeting and to extend to them the privilege of the floor, but that session voting privileges are limited to those ministers and elders in active service and elected by the congregation. (Opinion #856-1)

... Referred to Assembly

- R-40 That the General Assembly approve the opinion of the Stated Clerk and the PJC that the **Book of Government**, § 11-7, be understood by the church as "A person serving as Assistant Pastor on the same church staff at the time the pastor position becomes vacant shall not be called to fill that position in the same church, by any means." (Opinion #867-1)

... Referred to Assembly

- R-41 That the General Assembly grant an exception to the opinion in R-40 (opinion #867-1) to North Park EPC, Wexford, PA, which began its pastoral search under the ambiguity and confusion in understanding **BG**, § 11-7; and that this exception be understood to be pastoral in nature and unique in our legislative history.

... Referred to Assembly

- R-42 That the **Book of Government**, § 11-7 be amended by substituting for the last sentence, "A person serving as Assistant Pastor on the same church staff at the time the pastor position becomes vacant shall not be called to fill that position in the same church, by any means."

... Referred to Assembly

- R-43 That the **Book of Government**, § 9-3, be amended in the second sentence as follows:

PRESENT WORDING: "However, affiliate members are not eligible to vote or hold office in the church."

PROPOSED WORDING: "However, affiliate members are not eligible to vote or hold ~~elected~~ office in the church."

... Referred to Assembly

R-44 That the **Book of Government**, § 15-6, be amended as follows:

PRESENT WORDING: "... Presbytery. Also, Presbytery may elect that person as a commissioner to the General Assembly. In either case the person so elected shall make diligent report to the electing court."

PROPOSED WORDING: "... Presbytery. The person so elected shall make diligent report to the electing court."

... *Referred to Assembly*

R-45 That the **Book of Government**, § 16-7E and 16-7F, be amended as follows:

PRESENT WORDING: (16-7E) "... It shall meet at the call of the Chairman, or when ordered to convene by the Church Session. When requested in writing by one-fourth of the Board, the Chairman ..."

PRESENT WORDING: (16-7F) "... The Board must approve its minutes and they shall be signed upon approval by the Chairman and the Recording Clerk."

PROPOSED WORDING: Substitute the word "Moderator" for the word "Chairman" in both sections.

... *Referred to Assembly*

R-46 That the **Book of Government**, § 16-9, be amended as follows:

PRESENT WORDING: (third sentence) "If there is no Pastor, the Church Session may elect one of its members to serve in that capacity."

PROPOSED WORDING: Delete the above sentence.

PRESENT WORDING: (fourth sentence) "Also, Presbytery, at its discretion, may appoint a Minister of the Presbytery to serve as Moderator when a church has no Pastor."

PROPOSED WORDING: "Presbytery shall appoint a Minister of the Presbytery to serve as Moderator when a church has no Pastor."

... *Referred to Assembly*

R-47 That the **Book of Government**, § 16-10, be amended as follows:

PRESENT WORDING: "To dismiss, restore, grant affiliation, or remove members in accordance with § 9-6."

PROPOSED WORDING: "To dismiss, restore, grant affiliation, remove members in accordance with § 9-3, 9-4, 9-5 and 9-6."

... *Referred to Assembly*

- R-48 That the **Book of Government**, § 16-27B, be amended by deleting present paragraph and substituting the following:

"The Permanent Judicial Commission: The General Assembly shall establish a Permanent Judicial Commission. The Commission shall consist of a minimum of six persons in three classes of two each. In each class, there shall be one Teaching Elder and one Ruling Elder. Terms of service shall be for no less than three years, except to initiate the system or to fill vacancies. There must be at least three classes, and an officer who has served all or part of two consecutive full terms shall be ineligible for reelection for one year. Efforts shall be made to give fair representation to the various Presbyteries. During service on this Commission, no member may hold office or employment in the court. Its quorum shall be two-thirds of its membership. It shall elect its own Moderator and Clerk from among its members, and a careful and accurate record shall be kept of its deliberations and actions, with a permanent record of these minutes filed with the Office of the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly. The duties of the Commission shall be:"

... Referred to Assembly

ON MOTION the above matters were referred as stated.

Procedural recommendations:

- R-1 That the **Rules for Assembly** be suspended to allow Dr. Jerry Kirk, National Coalition Against Pornography, to speak one hour to the Assembly on Wednesday, June 17 at 11:00 a.m.

____ Adopted

- R-2 That the **Rules for Assembly** be suspended to allow for a 10 minute presentation during the Assembly by the Subcommittee on the Process of Aging.

____ Adopted

- R-3 That the **Rules for Assembly** be suspended to permit a 15 minute presentation by Rev. Edwin Randal, Director of World Outreach, on the development of EPC missions.

____ Adopted

7-13 Introduction of Committee Chairmen

The following chairmen of the standing committees were asked to stand and be recognized:

Administration Committee	Elder Charles Moore
Christian Education & Publications Committee	Elder Maryon Remke
Church Development Committee	Rev. William Flannagan
Fraternal Relations Committee	Rev. Ronald Ragon
Memorials & Appreciation Committee	Elder Judy Teachworth
Ministerial Vocation Committee	Rev. Darryl Sparling
Nominations Committee	Rev. Lester Felker
Overtures & Resolutions Committee	Elder Richard Heidtman

Presbytery Review Committee.....	<i>Rev. Tommy Shields</i>
Theology Committee	<i>Elder Philip Tiews</i>
Women's Ministries Committee.....	<i>Elder Dodie Hampton</i>
World Outreach Committee	<i>Rev. Hugh Gowman</i>

7-14 **Announcement**

Rev. George Kirsten announced that the film "A Winnable War," by James Dobson will be shown in the Youth Room at 4:00, 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday afternoon. He reiterated that Dr. Jerry Kirk will speak to the Assembly at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 17, followed by a box lunch "question and answer" time with Dr. Kirk. George also asked the Presbytery Moderators to meet with him to appoint people to serve on a task force on pornography.

7-15 **Absences Excused**

ON MOTION the following persons were excused from the Assembly.

1. Rev. Robert Bayley, Central Presbyterian (Central South)
2. Rev. Mark Brewer, Cherry Creek Presbyterian (West)
3. Elder Rick Elam, Christ Covenant (Southeast)
4. Rev. James Emery (Midwest)
5. Rev. Kurt Gebhard, Clarkston EPC (Midwest)
6. Rev. Dan Hiatt, Trinity Presbyterian (West)
7. Rev. Mark Moore (West)
8. Rev. Juan Carlos Ortiz (Central South)
9. Elder Jim Reagan, Louisville Presbyterian (Central South)
10. Rev. Gary Record, Brainerd Presbyterian (Southeast)
11. Rev. Chris Smith (West)
12. Elder Herb Stephens, Brainerd Presbyterian (Southeast)
13. Rev. Eddy Swieson, Christian Covenant Church (East)
14. Rev. Calvin Vermeire, Eastside Presbyterian (Southeast)
15. Rev. Roger Wiles (Southeast)

7-16 **Letter from Juan Carlos Ortiz Read**

"Dear Ed Davis: We are having a wonderful time in the Lord here in Buenos Aires. I have been in four services this weekend and in every one of them there is a mark of renewal, faith, vision and planning. It's like a resurrection. I sense that in the downtown church where I have seen the most. I'm very sorry not to come to General Assembly but at the same time I'll be coveting a little bit the presence of Kenneth and Freddie. Love and prayers for you and the decisions of the General Assembly."

Signed, Juan Carlos Ortiz

7-17 **Committee on Nominations Report**

Rev. Dan Lacich, Secretary of the Nominations Committee, read the list of commissioner assignments for the standing committees. Those whose names were not read were asked to see Rev. Lester Felker, chairman of Nominations Committee.

Assembly Committee Assignments

Administration Committee

Elder John Ahrens	Rev. John Jennings
Elder Bill Barker	Elder Tom Jones
Rev. Bob Bryan	Rev. Doug Klein
Rev. Kent Bull	Elder Charles Ming
Elder Ed Cobleigh	Elder Charles Moore, <i>Chmn.</i>
Elder Furman Crout	Elder Armin Remke
Rev. Ron Crews	Elder Bill Sommer
Rev. Tony De Orio	Elder Herbert Stephens
Elder Lee Etter	Elder Horace Tubbesing
Elder Michael Farrand	Elder Dale Williamson
Elder John Grewell	Rev. Brad Yorton

Christian Education Committee

Rev. Steve Andrews	Rev. Clifton King
Rev. Craig Babb	Elder Charles Marvin
Elder Bob Bole	Rev. Rhett Payne
Rev. Phil Burch	Elder Maryon Remke, <i>Chmn.</i>
Rev. Roger Bush	Elder Ray Sawmiller
Elder Steve Caldwell	Elder Rick Scarborough
Elder Larry Dickerson	Elder Gregory Smith
Rev. Sam Harris	Elder Cord Sump
Elder James Hawthorne	Rev. Doug Van Gaalen
Elder Clint Hess	Elder Joe Weatherill
Rev. James Hicks	Rev. Steve Wilkinson

Church Development Committee

Rev. William Flannagan, <i>Chmn.</i>	Elder Woody Johnson
Elder T.F. Brasington	Rev. Craig McElveen
Elder Graham Christian	Rev. James Martin
Rev. David Craig	Elder J.D. Meller
Elder Llew Fischer	Rev. Bob Mossman
Elder Jim Fuglaar	Rev. Jim Murphy
Rev. Charles Hammett	Elder Winn Rash
Rev. Bill Hyer	Elder Jack Stone
Rev. John Jennings	Elder Oliver Summerlin
Rev. Jeffrey Jeremiah	Rev. Bob Wilbur

Fraternal Relations Committee

Rev. Ron Ragon, <i>Chmn.</i>	Rev. Paul Johnson
Rev. Bob Balnicky	Elder Gene Jordan
Rev. Thom Burbridge	Rev. Rocky McElveen
Rev. Willard Davis	Rev. Rob Norris
Rev. Don Giesmann	Elder Jane Riddle
Elder John Gordon	Elder Vern Winkel
Rev. Calvin Gray	Rev. Mike Winship

Memorials and Appreciation Committee

Elder Dale Lambert	Elder Judy Teachworth, <i>Chmn.</i>
Elder Alex Miltenberger	Elder Richard Yount
Elder John Purdy	

Ministerial Vocation Committee

Rev. Carlton Baker	Rev. Ian Leslie
Rev. Steve Barrett	Elder James Muhlig, III

Rev. Jerry Van Curler
 Rev. Ron DiNunzio
 Rev. Lanier Ellis
 Rev. Don Galardi
 Rev. Ron Glover
 Rev. David Hicks
 Rev. Wallace Hostetter
 Rev. Art Hunt
 Elder Larry Lee

Rev. Bud Sparling, *Chmn.*
 Rev. John Splinter
 Rev. Charles Stauffer
 Rev. Fred Stifel
 Rev. Don Van Dyke
 Rev. Bill Vogler
 Elder Ralston Willis
 Rev. George Woodcock
 Elder Ed McCallum

Overtures Committee

Rev. Bill Branham
 Rev. Larry Bein
 Elder Elden Brieschke
 Rev. Michael Brown
 Elder Marvin Carlson
 Elder James Daniels
 Elder Donald Dewhurst
 Rev. Turner Howard
 Elder Richard Heidtman, *Chmn.*

Rev. Bob Garment
 Rev. Ron Ross
 Elder Paul Mackin
 Elder Ken Roberts
 Elder John Sill
 Elder Gordon Sheill
 Rev. Gary Wooley
 Elder Dwight Van Zanen

Presbytery Review Committee

Rev. Tommy Shields, *Chmn.*
 Rev. Don Fortson
 Elder Byron Lord

Elder Hugh Rennie
 Elder Stan Stancliff
 Elder Tom Woodside

Theology Committee

Elder Phil Tiews, *Chmn.*
 Rev. Mike Glodo
 Elder Ted Gundlach
 Rev. Andy Jumper
 Rev. Bill Lindner
 Rev. Austin McCaskill
 Rev. Bill McCaskill
 Elder Al McLaughlin

Elder Dick Oestreicher
 Elder Rex Pike
 Rev. Stew Pohlman
 Rev. Gary Reddish
 Elder Vern Schneider
 Rev. George Scotchmer
 Rev. Bob Stauffer
 Rev. Howard Shockley

7-18 Special Luncheons and Lay Renewal Ministries Breakfast Announced

Stated Clerk Ed Davis announced that the Observers' Luncheon will be held Tuesday at noon for those people **not currently a part of the EPC** but who are interested in learning more about the life and work of the denomination. Twenty-four persons expressed interest in attending.

The host church is providing a complimentary lunch Tuesday at noon for all others, commissioners and observers, at the Civic Center.

Lay Renewal Ministries is holding a special breakfast at the Holiday Inn Downtown Tuesday morning for interested people. Reformed Theological Seminary is holding a breakfast for its alumni Tuesday morning at the Holiday Inn Downtown also.

7-19 Chairmen Orientation

Orientation for committee chairmen will be held in Room 58 at 9:00 p.m., or immediately following evening worship. The Stated Clerk will brief the chairmen on their responsibilities and provide guidelines for reporting committee proceedings to the Assembly.

Minutes

Second Session
Monday Evening, June 15, 1987

7-20 Evening Worship Service

The Assembly gathered at 7:00 p.m. for a concert of praise, directed by Music Director of First Church, Betty Doss. The Chancel Choir, joined by percussion and brass instruments, led the Assembly in the singing of gospel hymns, followed by the choir's presentation of several beautiful anthems.

At 7:50 p.m., Rev. James Van Dyke, host church pastor, welcomed commissioners, observers and guests. The service of investiture of Dr. Mobley as the 7th General Assembly Moderator was conducted, with former Moderators present participating. Immediate Past Moderator Roger Vonder Bruegge led the Assembly in prayer. Rev. Mobley's wife, Jeane, was introduced to the Assembly following the service of investiture.

It was announced that offerings taken during the public services of General Assembly will be used to defray the costs of the Assembly. Special public music was provided by Teresa Hamm.

Rev. Bartlett Hess introduced the keynote speaker, Dr. Robert Norris, pastor of Fourth Presbyterian, Bethesda, MD. Dr. Norris referred to I Peter 2:1-10 as his scripture text, and spoke on the topic of standing on God's Word and speaking the truth in love.

Assembly adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

WORSHIP SERVICE Monday Evening, June 15, 1987

PRE-WORSHIP CONCERT		7:00 p.m.
CALL TO WORSHIP		7:45 p.m.
INTROIT	"Come Praise the Lord"	Peterson
HYMN OF PRAISE #14 (Hymnal)	"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"	
WORDS OF WELCOME	James Van Dyke, Host Pastor First Presbyterian Church	
ANTHEM	"Blessed Assurance" The Chancel Choir	Arr. Wertsch
INVESTITURE OF 7TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY MODERATOR		
SCRIPTURE READING AND PRAYER		L. Edward Davis
OFFERING		
OFFERTORY	"Amazing Grace" Teresa Hamm	Arr. Terrell
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER		Bartlett Hess
MESSAGE		Dr. Robert Norris Pastor, Fourth Presbyterian Church
HYMN #437 (Hymnal)	"The Church's One Foundation"	
BENEDICTION	Roger Vonder Bruegge	
CHORAL BENEDICTION	"To Him Who Loved Us"	Pettke

Minutes

Third Session
Tuesday Morning, June 16, 1987

Docket	
Tuesday, June 16, 1987	
Third Session	
9:00 a.m.	Moderator's Communion Service (Sanctuary)
10:15 a.m.	Assembly Committees
12 Noon	Adjournment * Observer's Luncheon * Host Church Luncheon for Commissioners (Civic Center)
1:30 p.m.	Assembly reconvenes in committee meetings
5:00 p.m.	Adjournment
Fourth Session	
7:30 p.m.	WORSHIP SERVICE (Dr. R.C. Sproul, keynoter) (Sanctuary)
Post-service	Assembly Committees reconvene if necessary

The Assembled worshipped in the Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m. for the Moderator's Communion Service. The meditation was given by retiring Moderator Roger Vonder Bruegge. Past Moderators Calvin Gray, Irvin Rinehart, James Van Dyke, James Morrison, Stated Clerk Edward Davis, and Moderator Perry Mobley participated, along with elders of the session of First Presbyterian.

MODERATOR'S COMMUNION SERVICE

Tuesday Morning, June 16, 1987

CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER	<i>Moderator</i>
HYMN #193 (Songs of Praise)	<i>"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"</i>
SCRIPTURE READING	<i>L. Edward Davis Stated Clerk</i>
MODERATOR'S MEDITATION	<i>Roger Vonder Bruegge Moderator, 6th General Assembly</i>
PRAYER OF CONFESSION	<i>James Morrison Moderator, 5th General Assembly</i>
SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER	<i>James Van Dyke Moderator, 3rd General Assembly</i>
HYMN #143 (Songs of Praise)	<i>"O Lord My God (How Great Thou Art)"</i>
CLOSING BENEDICTION	<i>Moderator</i>

COMMUNION STEWARDS

Calvin Gray, Moderator, 1st General Assembly
Irvin Rinehart, Moderator, 2nd General Assembly
The Session, First Presbyterian Church, Rome, GA

7-22 Assembly Committees Meet

Standing committees of the General Assembly convened immediately following the Moderator's Communion Service.

7-23 Adjournment for Lunch

Following the morning session, the committees adjourned for complimentary lunch hosted by First Presbyterian. Busses transported commissioners and observers to the Rome Civic Center for this event.

Minutes

Fourth Session
Tuesday Afternoon, June 16, 1987

7-24 Committees Reconvened

Standing committees of the General Assembly reconvened for the afternoon session.

Minutes

Fifth Session
Tuesday Evening, June 16, 1987

7-25 Evening Worship Service

The Assembly gathered at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian for worship. Moderator Perry Mobley gave the invocation. Also participating in the service was Elder Nelson Bates, Moderator of the host Presbytery of the Southeast. Special music was provided by Gerald Atkins, soloist, and the Chancel Choir of First Church.

Rev. James Van Dyke introduced keynote speaker, Dr. R.C. Sproul, president of Ligonier Ministries, Altamonte Springs, FL. His message was entitled "Speaking the Lie in Hostility," addressing the opposite side of the topic on which Dr. Norris spoke Monday evening. Dr. Sproul was warmly welcomed by the Assembly.

Worship service concluded at 9:30 p.m. Assembly to reconvene at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 17, 1987.

WORSHIP SERVICE Tuesday Evening, June 16, 1987

CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION		Moderator 7th General Assembly
INTROIT	"Almighty God of Our Fathers" The Chancel Choir	James
HYMN OF PRAISE #479 (Hymnal)	"In Christ There is No East or West"	
SCRIPTURE READING & PRAYER		Moderator Southeast Presbytery
ANTHEM	"Holy Lord God of Sabaoth" Gerald Atkins, Soloist The Chancel Choir	Gounod
PRESENTATIONS		L. Edward Davis
OFFERING		
OFFERTORY ANTHEM	"Mt Eternal King"	Marshall
MESSAGE		R.C. Sproul President, Ligonier Ministries

HYMN #48
(Songs of Praise)
BENEDICTION
CHORAL BENEDICTION

"Great Is Your Faithfulness"
Moderator, 7th General Assembly
"The Lord Bless You and Keep You"
Lutkin

Minutes

Sixth Session
Wednesday Morning, June 17, 1987

7-26 Assembly Reconvened

Docket	
Wednesday, June 17, 1987	
Sixth Session	
8:30 a.m.	Morning Worship: Dr. Andrew Jumper, speaker (Sanctuary)
8:30 a.m.	Women's Ministries continental breakfast (Program for the women to follow all morning at First Methodist Church, next door to First Presby- terian) Elizabeth Hicks, workshop leader
9:00 a.m.	Assembly convenes for business session (Sanctuary) * Report of Permanent Judicial Commission * Report of World Outreach Committee * Report of World Outreach Executive Director
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon	Special Order: Dr. Jerry Kirk, speaker National Coalition Against Pornography
11:30 a.m.	Women's Luncheon (Coosa CC) * Kay Arthur, speaker
12:00 Noon	LUNCH * Box lunch discussion with Dr. Kirk (Youth Room)
Seventh Session	
2:00 p.m.	Assembly reconvenes for business session (Sanctuary) * Report of Committee on Theology * Report of Christian Education Committee * First Reading of Nominations * Report of Administration Committee * Report of Fraternal Relations Committee * Report of Church Development Committee.
5:00 p.m.	Adjournment
Eighth Session	
7:00 p.m.	Pre-presbytery worship (Sanctuary)
7:45 p.m.	Presbytery meetings

The General Assembly convened for worship at 8:30 a.m. in the sanctuary. Moderator Perry Mobley opened with prayer. Following the singing of "Holy, Holy, Holy," the Moderator introduced the speaker, Dr. Andrew Jumper, pastor of Central Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, MO. Dr. Jumper brought a moving testimony of God's grace through his recent serious illness. The Moderator gave the benediction.

7-27 **Face to Face**

Following a brief recess, the Stated Clerk asked representatives of churches seeking pastors to stand and be recognized. He then encouraged men who are actively seeking a call to be in touch with such representatives for personal conversation this week.

7-28 **Docket Amended**

The Assembly amended the docket so that the report of the Standing Committee on Church Development would be added to the afternoon session, following the report of the Standing Committee on Fraternal Relations. The morning session was amended to allow for the reading of the synopsis of Monday, June 15 proceedings. Synopsis was approved with correction that Reynolda Presbyterian's date of reception in the Southeast Presbytery is June 20, not June 19.

7-29 **Report of the Permanent Judicial Commission**

Prayer was offered by Chairman, Rev. Hal Polk, Calvary Presbyterian, Flint, MI. Members of the Commission present were introduced and recognized. They are Elder Kenneth Breckner, Elder Leonard Pilgrim, Rev. Hal Polk (Class of 1987); Elder Homer Graham, Rev. Robert Ralston, Elder Claude Russell (Class of 1988); Elder Palmer Heenan, Elder Prevost Marshall, and Rev. Darryl Sparling (Class of 1989). Rev. Ralston was introduced as new chairman of the Commission.

The PJC reviewed overtures submitted to the General Assembly (A, B, C, D, E, F and H) along with provisional opinions from the Stated Clerk (#856-1, #867-1 and #856-2). It also introduced a proposed new **Book of Discipline** to study for possible adoption, and recommended several changes in the **Book of Order**.

ON MOTION Provisional Opinion #856-1 (Recommendation #39, p. 21) on the question of who may attend session meetings was approved. The Clerk noted that the original question addressed the appropriateness of attendance of assistant pastors and staff members who were not members of the congregation.

— Adopted

ON MOTION Provisional Opinion #867-1 (Recommendation #42, p. 21) was sustained that the **Book of Government**, § 11-7, be amended by substituting for the last sentence the following sentence: "A person serving as assistant pastor on the same church at the time the pastor position becomes vacant shall not be called to fill that position in the same church, by any means."

— Adopted

ON MOTION to approve Recommendation #40 that the General Assembly approve the opinion of the Stated Clerk and PJC that the **Book of Government**, § 11-7, be understood by the church as "A person serving as Assistant Pastor on the same church staff at the time the Pastor position becomes vacant shall not be called to fill that position in the same church, by any means."

ON MOTION to approve Recommendation #41 that the 7th General Assembly grant an exception from the restriction on pastoral succession imposed by § 11-7, **Book of Government**, to the North Park Church of Pittsburgh, PA, and that this action be understood to be pastoral in nature and unique in our legislative history.

____ Adopted

Rev. Polk referred to the proposed **Book of Discipline** which was distributed to commissioners. He noted that the document is still imperfect, and solicited commissioners to study it and send recommendations to the Commission to improve and refine the document.

Several recommendations to amend the **Book of Government** were considered by the Assembly.

ON MOTION to adopt Recommendation #43 to amend § 9-3 in the second sentence as follows:

PRESENT WORDING: "However, affiliate members are not eligible to vote or hold office in the church."

PROPOSED WORDING: "However, affiliate members are not eligible to vote or hold **elected** office in the church."

____ Adopted

ON MOTION to adopt Recommendation #44 to amend § 15-6 as follows:

PRESENT WORDING: "... Presbytery. Also, Presbytery may elect that person as a commissioner to General Assembly. In either case, the person so elected shall make report to the electing court."

PROPOSED WORDING: "... Presbytery. The person so elected shall make diligent report to the electing court."

____ Adopted

ON MOTION to adopt Recommendation #45 to amend § 16-7E and 16-7F as follows:

PRESENT WORDING (16-7E): "... It shall meet at the call of the Chairman, or when ordered to convene by the Church Session. When requested in writing by one-fourth of the Board, the Chairman. . ."

PRESENT WORDING (16-7F): "... The Board must approve its minutes and they shall be signed upon approval by the Chairman and the Recording Clerk."

PROPOSED WORDING: Substitute the word "Moderator" for the word "Chairman" in both sections.

____ Adopted

ON MOTION to adopt Recommendation #46 to amend § 16-9 as follows:

PRESENT WORDING: (third sentence) "If there is no Pastor, the Church Session may elect one of its members to serve in that capacity."

PROPOSED WORDING: Delete the above sentence.

PRESENT WORDING: (fourth sentence) "Also, Presbytery, at its discretion, may appoint a Minister of the Presbytery to serve as Moderator when a church has no Pastor."

PROPOSED WORDING: "Presbytery shall appoint a Minister of the Presbytery to serve as Moderator when a church has no Pastor."

____ Adopted

ON MOTION to adopt Recommendation #47 to amend §16-10 as follows:

PRESENT WORDING: "To dismiss, restore, grant affiliation, or remove members in accordance with §9-6."

PROPOSED WORDING: "To dismiss, restore, grant affiliation, or remove members in accordance with §9-3, 9-4, 9-5, and 9-6."

____ Adopted

Motion was made to adopt Recommendation #48 to amend §16-27.B by deleting the present paragraph and substituting the following:

"The Permanent Judicial Commission: The General Assembly shall establish a Permanent Judicial Commission. The Commission shall consist of a minimum of six persons in three classes of two each. In each class, there shall be one Teaching Elder and one Ruling Elder. Terms of service shall be for no less than three years except to initiate the system or to fill vacancies. There must be at least three classes, and an officer who has served all or part of two consecutive full terms shall be ineligible for reelection for one year. Efforts shall be made to give fair representation to the various Presbyteries. During service on this Commission, no member may hold office or employment in the court. Its quorum shall be two-thirds of its membership. It shall elect its own moderator and clerk from among its members and a careful and accurate record shall be kept of its deliberations and actions, with a permanent record of these minutes filed with the Office of the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly. The duties of the Commission shall be:"

Discussion followed. Motion was made to amend the above recommendation to the effect that the reductions in capacity be limited to a 3 year period after which time the previous standards will be upheld. Amendment defeated.

ON MOTION Recommendation #48 above was defeated.

____ Not Adopted

ON MOTION Recommendation #49, to approve Provisional Opinion #856-2.

____ Adopted

ON MOTION the Report of the Permanent Judicial Commission was adopted.

7-30 Report of the Standing Committee on World Outreach

Chairman, Rev. Hugh Gowman, Evangelical Presbyterian Fellowship, Wickliffe, OH, offered prayer and presented his committee's report.

A. Business Referred to Committee:

1. Recommendation #29
2. Recommendation #34
3. Recommendation #35
4. Recommendation #36

B. Recommendations:

1. That Recommendation #29 that the Proposed Part IV of the **Missions Manual** (p. 177) be adopted with the following changes:
 - a. In § 4.1.4, delete words "anniversary of" and "accordingly." Add the phrase "and will adjust the remittance to assure the monthly payments as expressed in the foreign currency remain constant as funds are available." Thus, **§ 4.1.4 would read:** "The World Outreach Office will monitor exchange rates one day prior to the monthly payment date and will adjust the remittance to assure the monthly payments as expressed in the foreign currency remain constant as funds are available."
 - b. In § 4.1.6, after the word "made" insert "as required and at least once annually" so that § 4.2.6 would read: "A field adjustment will be made **as required and at least once annually** to compensate for the varying cost of living and purchasing power on various fields. It will be based on the missionary's salary excluding funds allowed for housing and utilities and will be computed using current field cost of living information." (added section in bold type).
 - c. In § 4.4, correct typographical error reading "4.1.1" to be "4.4.1."

— Adopted

2. That Recommendation #34 be adopted that for the purposes of project cooperation, the General Assembly approve the following definition of an approved mission agency to be inserted in **Missions Manual** as § 103.4J.

"An approved mission agency is defined as a 'mission organization created to serve the Church of Jesus Christ and identified by the following' "

- * authentic evangelical confessional identity;
- * historical integrity and explicit mission statement;
- * mission objectives compatible with the EPC mission statement;
- * clarity in ministry goals and objectives;
- * financial credibility as measured by the Evangelical Council of Financial Accountability or by comparable standards;
- * membership in the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association, or meet comparable standards.' "

— Adopted

3. That Recommendation #35 be adopted that approved mission agency status be granted to the Middle East Reformed Fellowship (MERF) (p. 184).

— Adopted

4. That Recommendation #36 be adopted that the General Assembly approve the Committee on World Outreach request to place "on hold" for one year the appointment of any new EPC missionaries under cooperative agreements with other agencies while the CWO develops a "master plan" for World Outreach, including priorities and an operational plan for consideration by the 8th General Assembly (1988).

____ Adopted

ON MOTION to adopt the Report of the Standing Committee on World Outreach.

7-31 Recess

The Assembly recessed from 10:30 a.m. until 10:55 a.m.

7-32 Dr. Jerry Kirk on Pornography

At 11:00 a.m. Dr. Jerry Kirk of the National Coalition Against Pornography, Cincinnati, OH, addressed the Assembly. He was introduced by Rev. George Kirsten, chairman of the Task Force on Pornography. His stirring message challenged the Assembly to become an active part of the battle to stop pornography in this country. Dr. Kirk spoke on the subject for an hour, after which the Assembly adjourned for lunch.

7-33 Special Luncheons

The women of the Assembly met at noon at the Coosa Country Club in Rome for the annual Women's Luncheon. Keynote speaker for that event was Kay Arthur of Precepts Ministries, Chattanooga, TN.

Jerry Kirk met with interested commissioners over box lunches provided by the host church to continue the discussion on pornography, begun in the morning session. Many commissioners participated in that discussion.

Minutes

Seventh Session
Wednesday Afternoon, June 17, 1987

7-34 Assembly Reconvened

The Assembly reconvened in the sanctuary at 2:00 p.m. for the afternoon business session. Rev. John Jennings, Gastonia, NC, led the commissioners in the opening prayer.

7-35 Report of the Director of World Outreach

Rev. Ed. Randal, Director of World Outreach, gave a 15 minute presentation, including slides, on the work of World Outreach during the past year. He focused attention on the work going on in Brazil, shared by the EPC and the Presbyterian Church of Brazil (IPB). Following his report, he distributed a survey form on missions conferences, past and future, of the particular churches. (Mr. Randal's annual report to the Assembly is on p. 186)

7-36 Partial Report of the Committee on Theology

Chairman, Elder Philip Tiews, Covenant Presbyterian, Ann Arbor, MI, offered prayer before presenting the report of his committee.

A. Business Referred to Committee:

1. Recommendation #25
2. Recommendation #26
3. Recommendation #27
4. Recommendation #28

B. Recommendations:

1. That Recommendation #25, to adopt the Position Paper on Pornography (p. 168) **not** be adopted.

Grounds: The committee, while commending the initial work in producing this paper, believed the paper needed more scriptural references and a more thoughtful wording, and will offer the permanent committee suggestions pertaining thereto. Committee therefore believes that the paper should be referred back to the permanent Committee on Theology for work and resubmitting to the 8th General Assembly.

— Adopted

2. That Recommendation #26, that the 7th General Assembly adopt as its position paper the Preliminary Position Paper on the Value & Respect for Human Life (p. 170) with the addition of the word "human" before "life" be adopted with the following amendments:

- a. Strike the word "preliminary" from the title, and from the last paragraph.
- b. In the 4th paragraph, line 2, delete "'Thou shalt not kill' (Ex. 20:13)" and insert "'You shall not murder' (Ex. 20:13 NIV)."
- c. In next to last paragraph, delete "such things as euthanasia, suicide, and other." Insert after "important decisions" the words "of life and death."
- d. At the end of the next to last paragraph, insert "However, it is to be clear that our human limitations never permit us to be in violation of a clear command from God."

— Adopted

3. That Recommendation #27 that the Westminster Confession of Faith be printed in loose-leaf form for insertion together with the **Book of Order** be adopted with the following amendments:

- a. Scripture citations be included at bottom of appropriate page.
- b. The Shorter Westminster Catechism be produced in loose-leaf form for inclusion in the **Book of Order**.
- c. Document "The Essentials of the Faith" be produced in loose-leaf form for inclusion in the **Book of Order**.

— Adopted

4. That Recommendation #28 be adopted that the **Book of Worship**, § 3-1, be amended by (a) inserting the word "ordinarily" before the word "only" in the third sentence so that the sentence reads: "Ordinarily, only a lawfully ordained Minister may administer the sacraments, but such do not act in their own right, rather in behalf of Christ and His Church."; and

(b) adding the following after the sentence just quoted, "In the absence of a lawfully ordained Minister, authority to administer the sacraments may be exercised by Ruling Elders with the consent of the Session. This privilege should be exercised only in extraordinary circumstances in which a lawfully ordained Minister is not reasonably available."

Further, to amend the **Westminster Confession of Faith**, Chapter 27-4, by adding the word "ordinarily" at the beginning of the second sentence, so that the sentence reads: "Ordinarily, neither of these may be administered by anyone but a lawfully ordained minister of the Word."

In addition, the committee recommends the adoption of the following amendments:

- a. That the word "ordinarily" be inserted in the **Westminster Confession**, Chapter 28-2 between the words "Spirit" and "by" so that the sentence reads, "The person is to be baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit **ordinarily** by a lawfully called minister of the gospel."; and
- b. That the **Larger and Shorter Catechisms** be amended so that they are consistent with this change in the **Westminster Confession**.

Amendment to the above stated motion was proposed that the word "ordinarily" be deleted in § 3-1 of the **Book of Worship**, and further to replace the words, "lawfully ordained minister" with the word "session." Also, in the **Westminster Confession of Faith**, Chapter 27-4, to remove the word "ordinarily" and replace the words "lawfully ordained minister of the Word" with the word "session."

For discussion, the Stated Clerk advised the Assembly to separate the **Book of Order** and the **Westminster Confession of Faith** and to address the proposed change in the **Confession** first.

In the discussion which followed, the point was made that to adopt the statement that neither sacrament could be administered by anyone but a **session** would preclude assistant pastors, who are **not** members of the session. The question was also raised of when, in the amending of a document, does it cease to be an historical document? After considerable discussion, the question was called.

ON MOTION the amendment to the motion replacing the word "ministers" with "session" was defeated.

___ Not Adopted

ON MOTION to adopt the proposed changes in the **Westminster Confession** in Chapters 27-4 and 28-2 and that the permanent Committee on Theology identify language with which to bring the other constitutional documents, the **Larger and Shorter Catechisms**, into conformity with the confessional changes and bring such to the 8th General Assembly.

___ Adopted

ON MOTION to reconsider the latter section of the above motion, concerning the appropriate committee and schedule for identifying language concerning the **Catechisms**.

___ Adopted

ON MOTION to appoint the standing committee, rather than the permanent Committee on Theology, to determine how the **Larger and Shorter Catechisms** should be amended to be consistent with the approved changes in the **Westminster Confession**.

ON MOTION to adopt the proposed changes in the **Book of Worship**, § 3-1.

____ Adopted

(For final report of Committee on Theology, see § 7-64).

5. The standing Committee on Theology recommended that the General Assembly adopt the document *The Essentials of the Faith* as part of its Constitution and as its official position on those matters of faith that are fundamental and required by the Evangelical Presbyterian Church as being essential in the ordination or reception of Teaching Elders, Ruling Elders, and Deacons, and as a standard of faith for teaching those who wish to profess their faith in Jesus Christ as Savior.

ON MOTION to refer the above recommendation and the whole matter of subscription to ordination vows to the permanent Committee on Theology for study.

____ Adopted

6. The standing Committee on Theology recommended that the General Assembly direct the permanent Committee on Theology to study the following areas and report back to a future Assembly:

- A. Suicide
- B. Euthanasia
- C. Divorce and Remarriage

ON MOTION to refer the above recommendation to the permanent Committee on Theology for study.

____ Adopted

7-37 Recess

The Moderator declared a recess at 3:25 p.m. Assembly reconvened at 3:40 p.m.

7-38 Report of the Committee on Christian Education & Publications

Chairman, Elder Maryon Remke, Faith Presbyterian, Aurora, CO offered prayer prior to presenting the report of her committee.

A. Business Referred to Committee:

1. Recommendation #32
2. Overture 87-B (On Officer Training Program)

B. Recommendations:

1. That Recommendation #32 to approve the position description for a Director of Christian Growth and Nurture, and to begin search process for person to fill that position **not** be adopted. (p. 80)

Grounds: The committee felt that inadequate grounds were given for the need of the above stated position. Committee believed a more complete description of the background, skills, and educational requirements for the position was needed.

____ Adopted

2. That Overture 87-B be approved to develop an officer training program for the purposes of 1) continuing resourcing of current officers, and 2) resourcing new officers.

____ Adopted

3. Elder Clint Hess presented the report of the Task Force on the Process of Aging. (Procedural Recommendation #2, to allow suspension of **Rules for Assembly** for a 10 minute presentation by this Task Force, was previously approved by the Assembly. See p. 23)

ON MOTION to adopt the paper of the Task Force on the Process of Aging (Appendix) with the following change:

1. That the word "birth" which occurs three times in this report under the section "Title Change" (first sentence, A & B) be stricken, and that the word "conception" be substituted.

____ Adopted

4. The standing Committee on Christian Education & Publications recommended that the General Assembly not do business with hotels and motels that promote pornography for their customers in the cities where future assemblies are held, and further, will encourage our constituents to refrain personally from patronizing these establishments.

____ Adopted

5. The standing Committee on Christian Education & Publications recommended that the **Rules for Assembly** be amended to establish a permanent Committee on Youth Ministries with responsibility for conference ministries, youth curriculum resourcing, youth ministry resources, and other youth related concerns for grades 7-12.

____ Adopted

6. The standing Committee on Christian Education & Publications recommended that the above Committee on Youth Ministries be composed of two Teaching Elders, two Ruling Elders and two youth specialists; further, that the application of the **Rules for Assembly** concerning the composition of the committees be suspended in this case for a three year period.

Grounds: Youth specialists are needed to add expertise to this committee and they would not in all probability be ordained elders.

ON MOTION, that substitute motion to the effect that the permanent Committee on Youth Ministries be composed of **two** Teaching Elders and **four** Ruling Elders, and that the second half of the original motion be deleted.

____ Adopted

Motion to reconsider the composition of Committee on Youth Ministries was defeated.

7. The standing Committee on Christian Education & Publications recommended that the standing Committee on Administration adjust the proposed 1988 budget by adding \$3,000 to fund Committee on Youth Ministries. (cf. Administration Committee Recommendation #7-55)

— Adopted

7-39 Report Suspended

The report of the Committee on Christian Education & Publications was suspended by the Moderator to allow fraternal observer, Wayne Frazier of the ARP, to bring greetings. A death in his extended family necessitated an immediate departure.

7-40 ARP Fraternal Observer

Wayne Frazier, representative of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, spoke to the Assembly for five minutes, bringing greetings from his denomination. He was warmly received by the Assembly.

7-41 Report of Christian Education & Publications Committee (continued)

8. Summer Jam, 1987: Rev. Rhett Payne was asked to give an update on plans for Summer Jam, 1987, the denominations's first summer youth camp, to be held at Kanakuk Kamp, Branson, MO on August 24-28. He noted that the dates this year presented some conflicts because school in many areas will already be in session that week. He said that for this year, however, those were the only available dates. Planning for 1988 may encompass a different date and location.

Rhett presented the Assembly with a stirring challenge to step up to youth ministries in general and support of summer camp in particular. Financial support for this year's camp was, to date, inadequate to meet obligations and financial assistance to campers.

ON MOTION to adopt the Report of the Committee on Christian Education & Publications.

7-42 Docket Amended

ON MOTION the docket was amended to extend business session until 5:30 p.m.

7-43 First Reading on Nominations

Rev. Lester Felker, chairman, (Faith Presbyterian, Aurora, CO) read the nominations. The committee was asked to bring names for new Youth Committee to second reading of nominations.

**First Reading
Committee on Nominations**

Administration Committee

Class of 1990

Elder Sam Searcy

West Presbytery

Rev. James Van Dyke

Southeast Presbytery

**Christian Education
& Publications**

Class of 1988	Elder Lee Etter	West Presbytery
Class of 1990	Elder Ed McCallum	Midwest Presbytery
	Elder Jim Hawthorne	Southeast Presbytery

Church Development

Class of 1989	Elder John Bernbaum	East Presbytery
Class of 1990	Elder Charles Moore	Central South Presbytery
	Elder John Stone	Far West Presbytery
	Rev. Doug Klein	Midwest Presbytery

Fraternal Relations

Class of 1989	Rev. Robert Norris	East Presbytery
Class of 1990	Rev. Kent Bull	East Presbytery
	Elder Paul Lawrence	Central South Presbytery

Ministerial Vocation

Class of 1990	Elder Jerry Alpert	Central South Presbytery
	Rev. Lester Felker	West Presbytery

Theology

Class of 1990	Rev. Anthony De Orio	Midwest Presbytery
	Elder Joe Hubbard	West Presbytery

**Permanent Judicial
Commission**

Class of 1990	Elder Ken Breckner	Central South Presbytery
	Elder Leonard Pilgrim	Southeast Presbytery
	Rev. Robert Stauffer	Far West Presbytery

7-44 Report of Committee on Church Development

Chairman, Rev. William Flannagan, Central Presbyterian, St. Louis, MO opened the report of his committee with prayer. He asked all the church planters to stand and identify themselves. Those standing were Rev. Mike Glodo, Rev. Steve Jennings, Rev. Mike Chastain, Rev. Bob Mossman, Rev. Craig McElvain, and Rev. Tom Musselman. Prayer was offered for these men and for the churches they are leading.

A. Business Referred to Committee:

1. Recommendation #15
2. Recommendation #30
3. Recommendation #31
4. Minutes of permanent Church Development Committee
5. Overture 87-A

B. Recommendations:

1. That Recommendation #15 be adopted that the boundaries of the West Presbytery be extended to include the states of Washington and Idaho.

____ Adopted

2. That Recommendation #30 be adopted to amend the **Book of Government** by adding the following as § 5-2 and renumbering subsequent sections:

5-2 **The development of a mission church:** A mission church consists of a number of professing Christians, with their children, associated together for divine worship and godly living, agreeable to the Scriptures, and submitting to the lawful government and discipline of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

The mission church, because of its traditional nature, requires a temporary system of government. Depending on the circumstances, and at its own discretion, Presbytery shall provide for such government in one of several ways:

- A. Appoint an Evangelist as prescribed in 10-3C of the **Book of Government** and entrust appropriate powers to that person.
- B. Cooperate with the Session of a particular church in arranging a mother-daughter relationship with a mission church. The Session may then serve as the temporary governing body of the mission church.
- C. Appoint a commission to serve as a temporary Session of the mission church.

At the discretion of the temporary governing body, members may be received into the mission church as prescribed in Chapter 9. These persons then become confirmed or baptized members of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. Mission churches shall maintain membership rolls in the same manner as, but separate from, other particular churches.

Mission churches and their members shall have the right of judicial process to the court having oversight of their temporary governing body. It is the further intention of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church that mission churches enjoy the same status as particular churches in relation to civil government.

____Adopted

3. That Recommendation #31 be adopted that consideration of the **Provisional Master Plan for Church Development** (p. 86) be postponed until the 8th General Assembly (1988).

____Adopted

4. That the **Minutes** of the permanent Church Development Committee (June 18, 1987, February 26, 1987, and May 21, 1987) be approved.

____Adopted

5. That **Overture 87-A** be adopted after deleting the designation "MO" (Missouri) after "Kansas City" in the second paragraph so that the overture states:

WHEREAS, the state of Kansas lies within the bounds of the Presbytery of the West, and the state of Missouri lies within the bounds of the Presbytery of the Central South; and

WHEREAS, the metropolitan area of Kansas City is located in both states with contiguous suburbs in both states; and

WHEREAS, the Presbytery of the Central South has organized a mission church in one of these contiguous counties, Overland Park, KS, which has members from both states;

BE IT RESOLVED that the metropolitan area of Kansas City and those contiguous counties of that city be included within the bounds of the Presbytery of the Central South.

____Adopted

ON MOTION to commend the permanent Committee on Church Development and to adopt the report of the standing Committee on Church Development.

7-45 Report of the Committee on Overtures and Resolutions

Prayer was offered by chairman, Elder Richard Heidtman (Calvary Presbyterian, Flint, MI) who presented his committee's report.

A. Business Referred to Assembly:

1. Overture 87-C
2. Overture 87-F
3. Overture 87-G (Recommendation #37)
4. Overture 87-I (Recommendation #38)

- B. 1. That Overture 87-C (p. 10) requesting the General Assembly to establish a plan to bring about an equality of financial assistance for those participants of that plan so that there would be financial freedom to choose for adoption as well as for procreation." be changed as follows:

Amend the last paragraph beginning with "Therefore . . ." by deleting the words "a plan" and inserting the words "the following plan" so that the overture would read: "THEREFORE, we overture the 7th General Assembly to establish a plan to bring about an equality of financial assistance for those participants of that plan so that there would be financial freedom to choose for adoption as well as for procreation." Then to add the following provisions:

- a. That the Moderator instruct the permanent Committee on Administration to conduct an actuarial study of the feasibility of insurance coverage for the cost of adoption as well as investigating other possible funding for adoptive families under the plan, and

- b. That the Moderator instruct the permanent Committee on Administration to investigate developing resources at the General Assembly level to provide counseling, guidance and resource assistance to prospective adoptive families and to assist the development of similar resources at the presbytery level, and
- c. That the permanent Committee on Administration report its findings and recommendations for action to the 8th General Assembly for approval and implementation."

— Adopted

- C. That Overture 87-F (p. 12) on special meetings of presbytery be adopted as proposed.

THEREFORE, the Presbytery of the Midwest does hereby respectfully overture the 7th General Assembly to send to the Presbyteries for their affirmative or negative vote the following changes to the **Book of Government**, § 16-17 and 16-18:

Section 16-17

Present Wording

"... When requested in writing by two Ministers and three Ruling Elders, the Moderator shall convene the court . . ."

Proposed Wording

"When requested in writing by two Ministers and four Ruling Elders from at least two congregations, the Moderator shall convene the court . . ."

Section 16-18

Present Wording

"Quorum: Two Ministers and three Ruling Elders shall constitute a quorum. However, a Presbytery may fix its own quorum provided it is not less than that stated above."

Proposed Wording

"Two Ministers and four Ruling Elders from at least two congregations shall constitute a quorum. However, a Presbytery may fix its own quorum, provided it is not less than that stated above."

— Adopted

- D. That Overture 87-G on elder representation at the General Assembly not be adopted, and the following be substituted:

"Actions taken at the presbytery level to correct the numerical disparity between ruling and teaching elders shall also apply to elder representation at the General Assembly level."

This overture, if adopted, would become a descending overture to become § 2-4 in the **Book of Government**.

The Stated Clerk noted here that this overture is out of order at the General Assembly level where assemblies are **open**. He stated that this causes conflicts on the General Assembly level where representation is purely congregational and open. The Permanent Judicial Commission, in Recommendation #37, recommends defeat of this overture. The PJC perceives the problem of disproportionate representation as arising not from an imbalance in the numbers of ministers and elders requiring remedial legislation. It results, rather, from the failure of many of the sessions of our churches to send elders and commissioners to General Assembly. Further, the PJC believes that the adoption of this overture would result in an administrative nightmare for the General Assembly. Discussion continued until adjournment. (cf. #7-50)

7-46 Assembly Adjourned

Assembly adjourned at 5:30 p.m., to reconvene in pre-presbytery worship at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

Eighth Session
Wednesday Evening, June 17, 1987

7-47 Evening Worship

Commissioners and observers met in the sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. for pre-presbytery worship service. The Chancel Choir of First Presbyterian ministered to the Assembly with special music.

7-48 Presbytery Meetings

Presbytery meetings were held at 7:45 p.m. immediately following the service of worship.

Minutes

Ninth Session
Thursday Morning, June 18, 1987

Docket Thursday, June 18, 1987

Eighth Session 7:00 a.m.

Assembly reconvenes in business session
(Sanctuary)

- * Previous day's **Minutes**
- * Bills and Overtures (pending)
- * Report of Fraternal Relations Committee
- * Report of Administration Committee
- * Report of Women's Ministries Committee
- * 6th General Assembly **Minutes**

- * Descending Overtures
- * Report of Memorials and Appreciation Committee
- * Report of Ministerial Vocation Committee
- * Second reading of Nominations
- * Report of Presbytery Review Committee
- * Final Report of Theology Committee
- * New business
- * Local arrangements

11:00 a.m.	SERVICE OF PRAYER (Sanctuary)
12 Noon	Adjournment

7-49 Assembly Called to Order

Moderator Mobley called the Assembly to order at 7:01 a.m. Rev. David Massimi, Richmond, OH, was asked to open the session with prayer.

ON MOTION the docket for the day was adopted.

Recording Clerk Rev. Howard Shockley read the synopses for meetings of June 16 and 17.

ON MOTION the synopses were approved as read.

7-50 Report of Overtures and Resolutions Committee (continued)

Discussion continued on Overture 87-G. A substitute motion was put on the floor in which the General Assembly would use as its own the presbyteries' plans to correct disparity. In this way, the General Assembly is actually the inviter but it does not have the administrative problems of choosing which churches each year will have the right to send additional Ruling Elders.

ON MOTION to adopt substitute motion: "These same churches shall be invited by the General Assembly to add one additional ruling elder until this disparity is corrected for meetings of the General Assembly.

____Adopted

E. That Overture 87-I be adopted to amend the **Book of Government**, § 17-2.C, by substituting "three-fourths" for "a majority" so that § 17-2.C would then read, "Approval by three-fourths of the Presbyteries is required. It was the intention that this amendment would guard against capricious changes not well considered for "the grassroots" on up.

Amendment to the motion was made to change "three-fourths" to "two-thirds." Such would permit making changes in the **Book of Government** which are unrelated to the Confession on a less stringent basis than that on which the Confession is changed. Amendment defeated.

The Moderator announced that time for discussion was over and the Assembly must vote to extend discussion for five additional minutes. A standing vote was taken to extend debate. Defeated. The question was called for.

ON MOTION to approve Overture 87-I to amend the **Book of Order**, § 17-2.C by substituting "three-fourths" for "a majority."

____ Adopted

On the subject of parity between Ruling and Teaching Elders at General Assembly, Chairman Elder Dick Heidtman encouraged the churches to plan to include enough money in the budget to enable it to send Ruling Elders to Assembly along with their ministers. He made the observation that we do not now see as many Ruling Elders at General Assembly as are eligible.

ON MOTION to adopt the report of the Committee on Overtures and Resolutions.

7-51 **Report of Committee on Fraternal Relations**

Chairman, Rev. Ron Ragon, Brainerd Presbyterian, Chattanooga, TN, opened the report with prayer.

A. Business Referred to Committee:

1. Recommendation #21
2. Recommendation #22
3. Recommendation #23
4. Recommendation #24
5. Communication #87-1

B. Recommendations:

1. That Recommendation #21 be adopted, that the Evangelical Presbyterian Church contribute \$500 to the World Evangelical Fellowship, of which \$75 shall be considered the annual (1987) denominational membership fee.

____ Adopted

2. That Recommendation #22 be adopted, that the Evangelical Presbyterian Church enter into fraternal relationship with the Christian Reformed Church and that such relationship shall include the following and be mutual:

1. exchange of fraternal delegates at major assemblies;
2. occasional pulpit fellowship (pulpit exchange);
3. intercommunion;
4. joint action in areas of common responsibility;
5. communication on major issues of joint concern;
6. exercise of mutual concern and admonition with a view to promoting the fundamentals of Christian unity.

____ Adopted

3. That Recommendation #23, that the 7th General Assembly approve postponement of consideration of application for membership in the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Churches (NAPARC) not be approved and in its place, that recommendation that the Evangelical Presbyterian Church pursue membership in NAPARC at the discretion of the permanent Fraternal Relations Committee be adopted.

Grounds:

- a. Conditions are not expected to change sufficiently in the foreseeable future to effect their reservations about our practices in the areas of gifts of the Holy Spirit and the role of women in ministry and office.
- b. Postponement of the application causes the same recommendation to be considered time after time.
- c. To postpone action will in effect cause any possible activity of fellowship and mutual encouragement to cease for the period of postponement.

_____ Adopted

4. That Recommendation #24 that the Assembly approve the proposed letter for the 7th General Assembly to NAPARC explaining reasons for postponement of application (Recommendation #23) not be adopted because of the action adopted in item #3 above.

_____ Adopted

5. On Communication #87-1 from the Presbytery of St. Andrew, Buenos Aires, Argentina, requesting full membership in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, committee recommended:
 - a. That the Presbytery St. Andrews, Buenos Aires, Argentina, be accepted into full membership.
 - b. That two provisions of the **Book of Government** be temporarily waived; namely,
 1. § 7-4, concerning property ownership, and
 2. § 14-1.A(2) and 14-1.E(2) concerning ordination vows substituting therein, "Do you believe the Scripture of the Old and New Testament to be by the Holy Spirit the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the church universal, and God's Word to you?"
 3. That the General Assembly evaluate the progress of the Presbytery towards constitutional conformity at least annually;
 - c. That Rev. Ed Davis, Rev. Ed Randal, and Elder Roger Vonder Bruegge be commissioned to examine and receive the ministers of the Presbytery St. Andrew into the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

Considerable discussion followed the motion, particularly concerning the change in the ordination vow. Concerning the waiving of the property matter, it was explained that civil government in Argentina has certain regulations and procedures unlike those in the United States, and that to conform to our **Book of Government**, the Presbytery may need up to five years to effect any changes.

Substitute motion was made for point #3, "That the Presbytery of St. Andrew be allowed five (5) years to bring their presbytery into complete conformity with the EPC **Book of Government**." Amendment adopted.

Motion to amend item C. by adding, "with special reference toward full conformity in ordination vow #2." Amendment defeated.

ON MOTION to adopt above recommendations (§5, a, b, and c) including substitute motion for b.3.

____ Adopted

("No" votes on this motion were recorded on behalf of Rev. Tommy Shields, Rev. Stephen Jennings, Rev. James Brown, Jr., Elder John McIntyre, Elder John Grewell, and Rev. David Craig.)

Rev. Kenneth Murray, Moderator of the Presbytery of St. Andrew was given the privilege of the floor to express appreciation on behalf of his presbytery for this action taken.

The suggestion that further work be done to establish procedures for provisional or mission presbyteries was moved.

ON MOTION that the Stated Clerk of General Assembly be instructed to recommend changes in the **Book of Order** which make provision for mission and/or provisional presbyteries.

____ Adopted

6. The standing committee recommended that the invitation be accepted from the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church for its Interchurch Relations Committee to meet with the permanent Fraternal Relations Committee in Greenville, SC in the 1988 "for the purpose of seeking between us better understanding in areas of mutual interest."

____ Adopted

7. The standing committee recommended that the permanent Fraternal Relations Committee actively pursue fraternal relations with the Presbyterian Church of America and report their progress to the 8th General Assembly.

____ Adopted

ON MOTION the minutes of the permanent Fraternal Relations Committee were approved, and the committee was commended for its work this year.

____ Adopted

ON MOTION to receive the report of the standing Committee on Fraternal Relations.

7-52 Final Report of Enrollment

The Stated Clerk reported that the final enrollment was 121 Ruling Elders and 117 Teaching Elders for a total of 238 commissioners.

7-53 Report of the Standing Committee on Administration

Chairman, Elder Charles Moore, Central Presbyterian, St. Louis, MO offered prayer before reporting for the committee. He noted that his committee had over 18 items to consider and so had divided into subcommittees. Subcommittee chairmen were recognized and committee members introduced.

I. Business Referred to Committee:

1. Recommendation #9
2. Recommendation #7
3. Recommendation #8
4. Recommendation #4
5. Recommendation #5
6. Recommendation #6
7. Recommendation #13
8. Recommendations A - G from report of subcommittee on employee benefits
9. Recommendation #10
10. Recommendation #11
11. Recommendation #12
12. Recommendation #14

ON MOTION to put report of the Pension Committee first.

Recommendations:

1. That Recommendation #9 be approved that the denomination establish an employer sponsored tax sheltered annuity (TSA) program for the required minimum of 10% of gross effective salary for retirement for each minister and missionary; that each congregation be urged to participate in the denominational program; that the Pension Committee present an IRS approved program to the next Assembly for adoption and activation.

Grounds: Individual plans are subject to social security tax on basis on self-employment. If the plan is denominational, the plan is not taxed.

____ Adopted

2. That Recommendation #7, be adopted with amendments (following) that the General Assembly establish a permanent Pension Fund Committee, composed of three classes of two each, with each person able to succeed himself for one term. A member may be reelected for additional terms after an interim of one year. The committee shall be nominated to the Assembly by the permanent Nominating Committee, with the chairman to be nominated at the Assembly by the outgoing Moderator.

The duties of the committee shall be:

1. to establish a pension plan in accord with the mandate of the Assembly;
2. to serve as trustees under such a plan;
3. to administer the proceeds of the "Gratitude Gift;"
4. to make annual report of its proceedings to the Assembly.

To initiate this committee, the standing Nominating Committee shall nominate to this Assembly, the six persons established in three classes of two each. Each person shall be eligible to succeed himself for one full term.

The standing Administration Committee recommends that the above recommendation be amended as follows and then adopted.

1. Eliminate #3 to administer the proceeds of the "Gratitude Gift" and change #4 to #3.
2. In #1, change the word "establish" to "propose."
3. Add the following concluding paragraph: "The permanent Nominating Committee shall nominate individuals with financial competence in the matter of pensions. These individuals shall not be gainfully employed or be an immediate relative to anyone employed in the field of pension management. The intent is to avoid any conflict of interest, or any appearance of such conflict."

In the ensuing discussion, amendment was made to delete above item #3. Rev. Kent Bull, secretary of the standing committee requested to go on record as working toward avoiding conflict of interest.

The question was called for. Motion to delete item #3 defeated.

ON MOTION to amend item #3 by changing in the first sentence the word "nominate" to the words "seek to find" so that the sentence reads, "The Nominating Committee shall **seek to find** individuals with financial competence in the matter of pensions." Amendment adopted.

ON MOTION to adopt Recommendation #7 as amended.

____ Adopted

3. That Recommendation #8 be adopted with amendment (following) to establish an annual offering in connection with the Christmas season which shall be used by the Pension Committee of the Assembly to supplement the income of our retired ministers and missionaries who participate in the denominational program. This program each year shall be known as the "Gratitude Gift," and each congregation is urged through all of its special offerings to support this fund.

Further, the Assembly Office shall be instructed to produce materials promoting this special offering, and shall be authorized to take appropriate actions to encourage the participation of every congregation in the "Gratitude Gift." Promotional costs shall be borne by the receipts for the fund. The Pension Committee shall be authorized to determine individual supplements needed for retired ministers and missionaries.

The standing committee recommends that the first paragraph be amended by deleting the words, "through all of its special offerings" so that it will read "... and each congregation is urged to support this fund."

Grounds: Only one offering is intended.

ON MOTION Recommendation #8 was adopted as amended.

____ Adopted

4. That Recommendation #4 be adopted that persons otherwise required to be covered by the denominational insurance plan be exempted from such mandatory coverage when they have coverage under the Civilian Health and Medical Programs of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS).

____ Adopted

5. That Recommendation #5 be adopted that the restriction of 6 months waiting period for coverage of pre-existing conditions for an employee coming in from another denominational plan be eliminated, and that the 12 month waiting period for coverage of pre-existing conditions of the dependents of the employee be eliminated.

____ Adopted

6. That Recommendation #6 be amended (following) and adopted that the employee benefits program of the General Assembly be amended to exclude coverage of radial keratotomy, a new procedure to correct nearsightedness.

Amendment was made to adopt exclusion for radial keratotomy **except** when physician (including second surgical opinion) verifies that myopia cannot be corrected by either glasses or contact lenses. Motion to amend adopted.

ON MOTION to adopt Recommendation #6 as amended.

____ Adopted

Because commissioners were leaving the room, the Stated Clerk asked that Recommendation #13 below be considered for it required a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of registered commissioners for adoption. A count was made, and 160 commissioners were assembled.

7. That Recommendation #13 that the 7th General Assembly adopt **Recommendations for Amendments to the Rules for Assembly** be amended (following) and adopted as amended.

Recommendations for Amendments to the Rules for Assembly

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the **Rules for Assembly** be changed to establish a Committee on Nominations under Section IX, Permanent Committees, by deleting the present number "7" and rewriting it as indicated below:

7. Committee on Nominations
- a. The membership shall consist of 9 members, in three classes of three each, composed of four Teaching Elders and five Ruling Elders, with at least one person from each Presbytery. When the number of Presbyteries exceeds nine, membership shall be rotated fairly among the Presbyteries. A member may not succeed himself. The Stated Clerk shall work with the committee to insure compliance with the requirements of the **Rules for Assembly**.

- b. The chairman shall be named from the next outgoing class by the outgoing Moderator of the Assembly. The chairman shall take office at the close of the Assembly.
- c. Each year at the Assembly, the outgoing Moderator shall nominate three persons to the Assembly for membership on this committee. At that time, the floor will be opened for other nominations. However, all nominations must meet the requirements for Presbytery representation and for the Teaching Elder and Ruling Elder distribution. The Stated Clerk shall rule if a nomination from the floor is valid, and if so, which nominee of the Moderator it shall be made against. Those elected shall take office at the close of the Assembly.
- d. Duties:
 1. Nominees for Moderator: The committee shall advise each Presbytery following the meeting of the Assembly of the privilege of that Presbytery to recommend to the committee a person for Moderator of the General Assembly. Such recommendation shall be forwarded to the committee no later than December 31 of that year. After December 31, the committee shall evaluate the recommendations of the Presbyteries, as well as other recommendations it may receive, and at the next meeting of the Assembly shall recommend no more than two persons as its nominees for Moderator. At that time, nominations may also be made from the floor. Election shall be by a majority vote of the Assembly. Nominees of the committee shall be advised of their pending nomination.
 2. To nominate to the Assembly persons for vacancies of all Assembly permanent committees with the exception of the World Outreach Committee.
 3. To name from the commissioners to the Assembly those who will serve on the various standing committees of the Assembly. The chairmen of such committees shall be appointed by the Moderator from those so named.

Enabling Motion:

In order to initiate this system, the Moderators for 1984 and 1985 shall nominate three persons each for the class of 1988 and 1989 respectively, and the retiring Moderator of 1986 shall also name three persons and, in addition, name a chairman from the class of 1988. The Stated Clerk shall cooperate with these Moderators to assure compliance with the requirements for Ruling and Teaching Elders, as well as proper Presbytery representation.

Recommendations:

In order to bring the **Rules for Assembly** into accord, it is further recommended that the following changes be made.

1. First, that § 2-3 be changed to read: "The first order of business shall be the election of a Moderator. The Committee on Nominations shall make its report and the floor shall be opened for additional nominations. There shall be only one nominating speech not to exceed five minutes for each nominee. No seconding speeches shall be permitted."
2. Second, that § 2-4 be changed by omitting the first phrase, "If more than one commissioner is nominated" and by capitalizing the first word, "Election."

The standing committee recommended the following amendments to Recommendation #13.

1. In the next to last sentence of item 7-c delete the words "and if so, which nominee of the Moderator it shall be made against" and substitute the words "and if it is valid, the Stated Clerk shall determine which of the Moderator's three nominees the nominee from the floor will run against."
2. At the end of 7-d.1, alter the period to a comma and add the words "ordinarily no less than sixty days prior to the meeting of the General Assembly."

ON MOTION to adopt the above amendments to Recommendation #13.

ON MOTION to adopt Recommendation #13 as amended. (Standing count of vote was taken: 167 yes; 0 no. Minimum of 158 was required for $\frac{2}{3}$.)

____ Adopted

7-54 Report of Committee on Administration (continued): Employee Benefits Subcommittee

8. That Recommendation A be adopted, that the General Assembly place its group medical and life/AD & D with Provident Life and Accident Insurance Company effective July 1, 1987, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

____ Adopted

9. That Recommendation B be adopted that The Travelers Companies continue to provide group long term disability insurance until July 1, 1988 and that the Committee on Administration study alternative means of meeting this need and present its recommendations to the 8th General Assembly for action.

____ Adopted

10. That Recommendation C that The Travelers complete the payment of all claims incurred prior to July 1, 1987, and settle all accounts with us in due course, subsequent to final payment of said claims.

____ Adopted.

11. That Recommendation D that all changes suggested for cost containment be adopted and included in the new plan with Provident. The suggestions are as follows:

- a. Fixed charge for cost containment: \$.92/employee per month;
- b. Suggested charge for deleting pre-existing conditions restriction: Not quoted, but estimated to be same as before (\$.23/employee and \$.36/dependent per month);
- c. Suggested charge for simplifying the deductibles: \$1.08/employee and \$1.70/dependent per month.

____ Adopted

12. That Recommendation E be adopted that all churches be forewarned or reminded of the need for Worker's Compensation Insurance for all ministers and employees wherever eligible, and petition the COA or General Assembly Office for an excep-

tion which may be granted, if necessary, subject to the laws of each state wherein eligibility for Worker's Compensation coverage is denied to a minister or employee.

— Adopted

13. That Recommendation F be adopted that the Committee on Administration seek a qualified Employee Benefits Consultant and that the Committee on Administration be authorized to engage such person and that fees for said consultant be paid out of experienced credits on group insurance, and further, that other expenses of administering our Employee Benefits programs be included in present and future costs for insurance and other benefits rather than as at present, in the Administration Budget.

— Adopted

14. That Recommendation G be adopted that a six month progress report from the Insurance Subcommittee be forwarded to each member church (or participant) about January 1, 1988.

— Adopted

The standing committee commended Elder Jim Daniels, Chattanooga, TN for his diligence and work in presenting the report of the insurance subcommittee.

7-55 Report of Standing Committee on Administration (continued): Budgets & Planning

15. That Recommendation #10 that the 7th General Assembly adopt the Proposed 1988 Administration Budget for \$285,155 be amended to add \$3,000 to Account #550 to cover travel costs for Youth Ministries Committee, and adopted as amended. Total administration budget to be \$288,155.

— Adopted

16. That Recommendation #11 be adopted that the 7th General Assembly adopt the Proposed 1988 Benevolence Askings for \$719,750. (Adjustments were properly requested by World Outreach Director which reduced total benevolence askings from \$752,750.)

— Adopted

17. That Recommendation #12 that the General Assembly establish an Assembly per member benevolence goal for each local congregation, such goal to be determined by the total benevolences approved by the Assembly. Each committee shall indicate the suggested per member goal for each congregation.

That the Assembly Office provide to each session and congregation information on the approved benevolences along with the suggested per member goal by the first of September, following the meeting of the General Assembly, along with the per member contribution for the Assembly's Administration Budget.

Further, that each session and congregation be assured that such per member goal is not an assessment but only a suggestion. Further, that each session and congregation be assured that contributions to approved Assembly benevolences may be designated for specific causes and those contributions shall be used only for such designated causes.

Further, in order to provide a realistic guide to the Assembly for budgeting and spending, that each congregation be urged to notify the Assembly Office no later than

February of each year, its intended giving goal for that year to approved Assembly benevolences, with the understanding that such local church goal is not a pledge, but only a goal for which the local church will strive.

Further, that the Assembly urge each session and congregation to participate in this voluntary funding of the approved benevolences of the Assembly.

____ Adopted

18. That Recommendation # 14 be adopted to accept invitation from Central Presbyterian, St. Louis, MO to host the 9th General Assembly, 1989.

____ Adopted

ON MOTION to adopt the report of the standing Committee on Administration as a whole.

7-56 Report of Standing Committee on Women's Ministries

Elder Dodie Hampton, chairman, offered prayer and brought the report of her committee to the floor.

No recommendations were referred to this committee. However, several suggestions were brought to the Assembly from the committee.

1. Women of the denomination, including pastors' wives, are encouraged to attend the Women's Ministries meetings at the Presbytery level, and the churches are encouraged to consider financial assistance to facilitate such attendance. The permanent Committee on Women's Ministries is strongly urged to consider and include pastors' wives in all of its activities.
2. Women who are designated representatives to General Assembly from the churches' Women's Ministries should have "Women's Ministries" on their badges for identification. (These badges should not otherwise differ from all other Assembly badges.)
3. The General Assembly planners should make a special effort **not** to schedule conflicting programs.
4. Our youth should be included in activities of our Church such as Women's Ministries and on a carefully selected basis as Observers at General Assembly, as they are our Church of the future.
5. Any missions project of Women's Ministries, including the current project, should be "personalized" as much as possible. Funding of the current missions project should begin as soon as funding methods can be worked out.
6. A denominational person for Christian Education and Women's Ministries should be hired whenever feasible.

The standing Committee on Women's Ministries affirmed the permanent committee, "for through its regular programs and with innovations such as the proposed National Leadership Conference, it addresses the many needs of our EPC women, encouraging them to find and use their gifts. In the words of past Moderator Irvin Rinehart, 'We feel the largest potential growth in our Church today is in Women's Ministries.' "

ON MOTION the report of the standing Committee on Women's Ministries was adopted.

____ Adopted

7-57 Adoption of 6th General Assembly Minutes

Copies of the **Minutes** of the 6th General Assembly were distributed to commissioners. The Clerk apologized that they were not yet in permanently bound form.

ON MOTION the **Minutes** of the 6th General Assembly were adopted as presented.

____ Adopted

7-58 Descending Overtures

The Stated Clerk reviewed the process of consideration for overtures sent down from a preceding Assembly and which, when voted on by a sufficient number of presbyteries, are returned to the subsequent Assembly for vote. (cf **Book of Government**, 17-2.A-D)

1. Overture 86-A on Examination of Candidates.

Presbytery vote to approve was unanimous.

____ Approved and Ratified

2. Overture 86-B on Quorum for Ministerial Committee Meetings of Presbytery:

Presbytery votes:

YES

NO

Central South

Alleghenies

East

Far West

Midwest

Southeast

West

____ Approved and Ratified

3. Overture 86-C on Transfer of Presbytery Membership for Retired Ministers:

Presbytery vote to approve was unanimous. (NOTE: See 7-60, item #3, for further action.)

____ Approved and Ratified

7-59 Report of Committee on Memorials and Appreciation

Elder Judy Teachworth brought the report of committee to the Assembly, following an opening prayer.

Committee member Elder Alex Miltenberger prayed for those in leadership who died during the past year. Names were read to the Assembly:

1. Elder Jack Beatty, Grace Presbyterian, Franklin, NC
2. Elder Warren Cisney, Santa Maria Community Church, Santa Maria, CA
3. Elder Murray Deighton, Ward Presbyterian, Livonia, MI
4. Rev. Wilson Dowling, former pastor of Cramerton EPC, Cramerton, NC
5. Ann Grubbs, wife of retired pastor Henry Grubbs, Calvin Presbyterian, Houston, TX
6. Elder Alexander MacKay, Goodwill Presbyterian, Montgomery, NY
7. Elder John Vander Harst, Ward Presbyterian, Livonia, MI
8. Elder Joseph Wood, Goodwill Presbyterian, Montgomery, NY

Words of appreciation were expressed for those who worked to make the Assembly happen: the host church, First Presbyterian, and its pastor, Rev. James Van Dyke; the Local Arrangements Committee and the countless and tireless volunteers. Also thanks were given to churches of the Southeast Presbytery who provided refreshments:

First Presbyterian, Rome, GA
Brainerd Presbyterian, Chattanooga, TN
Trinity Presbyterian, Florence, SC
Reynolda Presbyterian, Winston-Salem, NC
Trinity Community Church of Gwinnett, GA
New Covenant Community Church, Atlanta, GA.

Others acknowledged for their work were the General Assembly Office staff, Marilyn Bartel, Kay Sudheimer, Janet Bain and Jan Clark; the Moderator of the 6th General Assembly, Roger Vonder Bruegge; the Stated Clerk, L. Edward Davis; Assistant Recording Clerk, Howard Shockley; Perry Mobley, Moderator, 7th General Assembly; the chairmen and members of the permanent and standing committees. Thanks were expressed to speakers and worship leaders: Robert Norris, R.C. Sproul, Jerry Kirk, Kay Arthur, Elizabeth Hicks, Nelson Bates, L. Edward Davis, Bartlett Hess, Andrew Jump-er, James Morrison, Calvin Gray, Irvin Rinehart, James Van Dyke, and Roger Vonder Bruegge. Also, the Minister of Music, Betty Doss, and the choir of First Church, including soloists Teresa Hamn, Laura Peters, and Gerald Atkins.

The commissioners enthusiastically applauded all who had contributed to the success of this General Assembly.

ON MOTION to adopt the report of the committee on Memorials and Appreciation.

____Adopted

7-60 Report of Standing Committee on Ministerial Vocation

Rev. Bud Sparling, chairman, reported for his committee, and opened with prayer.

I. Business Referred to Committee:

1. Overture 87-D
2. Overture 87-E
3. Overture 87-H
4. Recommendation #16
5. Recommendation #17
6. Recommendation #18
7. Recommendation #20

II. Recommendations:

1. That Overture 87-D on seminary endorsements **not** be adopted:

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church requires of Teaching Elders that they believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, totally trustworthy, fully inspired by the Holy Spirit, the supreme, final, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice; and

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church requires its Teaching Elders to be diligent, zealous, and faithful in proclaiming the truths of the Gospel, and

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church requires literate and theologically articulate persons to fill the office of Teaching Elder, and

WHEREAS, we require candidates for ministry to have completed seminary training;

THEREFORE, the Presbytery of the East overtures the 7th General Assembly to draw up and circulate to the Presbyteries of the denomination a list of approved seminaries, whose standards and teaching adhere to our confessional standards.

FURTHER, that each presbytery committee shall ensure that candidates for the ministry be urged to attend these evangelical and Reformed seminaries.

Grounds: Consensus of the committee was that the diversity of evangelical background, expression of faith and Christian experience are a valued characteristic of our denomination. To establish a list of approved institutions of learning opens the danger of endorsing the training process rather than the person called to ministry. Seminaries change. Committee believes that in the best interest of the denomination we should neither establish an inclusive nor exclusive list of seminaries. Recommendation not to adopt in no way reflects on the acceptability of any specific seminary but rather affirms what the EPC believes is the right and responsibility of each presbytery to monitor and control preparation for ministry.

ON MOTION **not** to adopt Overture 87-D.

____ Adopted

2. That Overture 87-E on endorsement of Reformed Theological Seminary **not** be adopted for the grounds stated in # 1 above, and because of ramifications to other good schools which are not so endorsed.

OVERTURE 87-E: ON ENDORSING REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

WHEREAS, theological education of ministerial candidates is of central importance in developing effective ministers; and

WHEREAS, there is currently no denominational seminary of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church; and

WHEREAS, presbyteries as well as ministerial candidates need guidance in determining a proper place for theological education; and

WHEREAS, it is of paramount importance for candidates in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church to be adequately educated within the Reformed tradition of our faith; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that Reformed Theological Seminary of Jackson, MI has a heritage in keeping with ours, a theology compatible with ours, and is sympathetic to the goals, the ministry, and the growth of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Presbytery of the Central South does hereby humbly overture the General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church for the reasons cited above, to give denominational approval and endorsement of Reformed Theological Seminary. Further, to recommend it as an approved seminary to the

presbyteries of our denomination as a most appropriate institution within the Reformed tradition for the instruction and training of ministerial candidates of the various presbyteries.

FURTHER, that each presbytery committee having the oversight of candidates shall be requested to encourage such candidates to attend Reformed Theological Seminary, or such other seminaries that may have denominational approval.

ON MOTION **not** to adopt Overture 87-E.

____ Adopted

ON MOTION to send Reformed Theological Seminary a letter of commendation and appreciation.

____ Adopted

3. That the General Assembly adopt Overture 87-H as presented.

OVERTURE 87-H: CONCERNING PRESBYTERY STATUS OF RETIRED MINISTERS

WHEREAS, retired ministers should be allowed to continue to participate in the activities, ministries, and fellowship of a presbytery; and

WHEREAS, every presbytery should be actively involved in ministering to retired ministers, especially those who reside within the geographical bounds of that presbytery; and

WHEREAS, both ministry by the retired minister and ministry to the retired minister could be substantially changed if the retired minister moved out of the geographical bounds of presbytery; and

WHEREAS, the **Book of Government**, §15-8, states concerning retired ministers: "A Minister who is so retired remains full member of presbytery. Membership may not be transferred to another presbytery;" and

WHEREAS, this prohibition against seeking to transfer to another presbytery forces the retired minister to choose between continued involvement with presbytery and (if a move outside the bounds of presbytery were desired) freedom to move;

THEREFORE, the Presbytery of the Southeast respectfully overtures the 7th General Assembly to amend the **Book of Government**, §15-8, by deleting the word "not" from the sentence "Membership may not be transferred to another presbytery."

____ Adopted

Clarification was asked of the Stated Clerk for Overtures 87-H (above) and 86-C (descending overture, § 7-58, item #3).

ON MOTION to reconsider Descending Overture 86-C. The Assembly concurred that Overture 87-H goes beyond 86-C and is overall a better statement.

ON MOTION to defeat Descending Overture 86-C and consider in its place Overture 87-H. (Overture 87-H then becomes a descending overture.)

____ Adopted

4. That Recommendation #16 be adopted that the chairman of the Ministerial Vocation Committee be given five minutes to emphasize #8.1 of the Goals for Pastoral Care and to distribute an article by Eugene Peterson.

____ Adopted

5. That Recommendation #17 be adopted that the 7th General Assembly endorse the "Denominational Goals for Pastoral Care." (p. 124)

____ Adopted

6. That Recommendation #18 be adopted that the **Book of Government**, § 13-5, be amended by adding to the present statement, "Presbytery shall not ordinarily receive a minister seeking to transfer from another denomination while either discipline, inquiry, or charges are pending against the minister. Presbytery, may, however, by $\frac{3}{4}$'s vote, following careful review of the case, declare pending charges insufficient for refusal of membership."

____ Adopted

7. That Recommendation #19 be adopted that the **Book of Government** be amended by adding a new section #13-6 as follows: "Persons previously ordained in another Reformed denomination, but who for reasons other than disciplinary action lack current ordination credentials, shall be examined by the presbytery on views of those subjects set forth for ordination. Those persons, shall, upon approval, become immediately eligible for ordination and to receive a call approved by the presbytery."

____ Adopted

8. That Recommendation #20 that the **Book of Government** be amended in Chapter 13 (pending approval of Recommendation #13) so that the present § 13-6 becomes 13-7; the present § 13-7 becomes 13-8; and the present § 13-8 becomes 13-9.

____ Adopted

The standing committee expressed its disappointment that no further action was taken by the permanent Ministerial Vocation Committee to fulfill a recommendation from the 6th Assembly to the effect that "military chaplains be empowered to receive members into the EPC by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith and letter of transfer, and such membership to be held in two or three local congregations which have a willingness to participate in such a ministry representing a geographical distribution of the United States." Rev. William Flannagan, chairman of the permanent committee, expressed apologies that this was not done this year.

ON MOTION to adopt the report of the standing Committee on Ministerial Vocation.

____ Adopted

7-61 Second Reading of Nominations

Rev. Dan Lacich reported for the committee in the absence of the chairman. He opened with prayer. Because of time constraints, the standing Nominating Committee asked that the task of nominating persons to serve on the Pension Committee be given to the permanent Nominating Committee.

ON MOTION the permanent Nominating Committee will assume the task of nominating persons to serve on the Pension Committee.

Nominations from the floor for permanent committees of the General Assembly were taken to add to the slate below. They were:

Rev. Don Giesmann, Class of 1990, Permanent Judicial Commission (Southeast Presbytery)

Rev. Ron Glover, Class of 1990, Church Development Committee (Southeast Presbytery)

Administration Committee

Class of 1990	Elder Sam Searcy	West Presbytery
	Rev. James Van Dyke	Southeast Presbytery

Christian Education and Publications

Class of 1988	Elder Lee Etter	West Presbytery
Class of 1990	Elder Ed McCallum	Midwest Presbytery
	Elder Jim Hawthorne	Southeast Presbytery

Church Development

Class of 1989	Elder John Bernbaum	East Presbytery
Class of 1990	Elder Charles Moore	Central South Presbytery
	Elder John Stone	Far West Presbytery
	Rev. Doug Klein	Midwest Presbytery

Fraternal Relations

Class of 1989	Rev. Robert Norris	East Presbytery
Class of 1990	Rev. Kent Bull	East Presbytery
	Elder Paul Lawrence	Central South Presbytery

Ministerial Vocation

Class of 1990	Elder Jerry Alpert	Central South Presbytery
	Rev. Lester Felker	West Presbytery

Theology

Class of 1990	Rev. Anthony De Orio	Midwest Presbytery
	Elder Joe Hubbard	West Presbytery

Permanent Judicial Commission

Class of 1990	Elder Ken Breckner	Central South Presbytery
	Elder Leonard Pilgrim	Southeast Presbytery
	Rev. Robert Stauffer	Far West Presbytery

Youth Ministries

Class of 1988	Elder Marc Gronholz Elder Bob Denckhoff	West Presbytery Midwest Presbytery
Class of 1989	Elder Michael Farrand Rev. Steve Wilkinson	Midwest Presbytery Southeast Presbytery
Class of 1990	Elder Tricia Ploutz Rev. Rhett Payne	Far West Presbytery Central South Presbytery

ON MOTION the slate of nominations as presented by the Nominating Committee was elected. (By standing vote, Rev. Doug Klein was elected to Church Development Committee for Class of 1990; Rev. Bob Stauffer was elected to Permanent Judicial Commission, Class of 1990.)

____ Adopted

Motion was made to protest the ruling of the Stated Clerk prohibiting discussion on behalf of those persons nominated from the floor. Motion was ruled out of order in that complaint must be registered immediately upon commitment of the breach or alleged breach.

7-62 Permanent Nominating Committee

The Moderators, past and present, nominated the following to serve on the permanent Nominating Committee:

Class of 1988	Elder Richard Heidtman Elder Frank Johnson Rev. Bartlett Hess	Midwest Presbytery East Presbytery Midwest Presbytery
Class of 1989	Rev. Rocky McElveen Elder Robert Bole Elder Armin Remke	Far West Presbytery West Presbytery West Presbytery
Class of 1990	Elder Blaine Wilson Rev. William Flannagan Elder James Ramey	Allegheny Presbytery Central South Presbytery Southeast Presbytery

The floor was opened for additional nominations. None were forthcoming.

ON MOTION the above persons were unanimously elected.

____ Adopted

ON MOTION to adopt the report of the Nominating Committee.

____ Adopted

7-63 Report of the Standing Committee on Presbytery Review

Rev. Tommy Shields, chairman, reported following his opening prayer.

I. Business Referred to Committee:

1. Minutes of the 7 presbyteries.

II. Recommendations:

1. That the **Minutes** of the Southeast, Midwest, and Central South Presbyteries be approved with modifications.

____Adopted

2. That the **Minutes** of the Far West Presbytery be approved with notations and the following exceptions:

- a. Candidates have been received without evidence of credentials or EPC church membership.
- b. Failure to conform to the requirements of the **Book of Order** with reference to "Terms of Call."
- c. Call of an evangelist without designation of powers delegated by Presbytery.

____Adopted

3. That the **Minutes** of the West Presbytery be approved with the following exceptions:

- a. Minutes of the meeting of June 18, 1986 were omitted.
- b. Charges leveled against the presbytery noted without action by the presbytery.

____Adopted

4. That the **Minutes** of the East Presbytery be approved with notations and the following exceptions:

- a. Approval of an overture without inclusion of text.
- b. Call of a minister without terms of call or powers delineated.

____Adopted

5. That the **Minutes** of the Allegheny Presbytery be approved with notations and the following exceptions:

- a. Deacons are not members of Presbytery.
- b. Terms of call need to be included in the **Minutes**.
- c. Presbyteries do not accept resignations but vote to dissolve pastoral relationships.
- d. Call was approved without designating who was called to what and under what terms.
- e. Approval of change of status to associate pastor without a call being presented from the session, or terms of call.
- f. An organizing pastor was called who is not a member of EPC and who plans to retain his membership in another denomination.

____Adopted

6. That all above exceptions be remanded to the presbyteries for corrections by December 1, 1987, and that a copy of the corrected **Minutes** be forwarded to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly by January 1, 1988.

— Adopted

7. ON MOTION to adopt the report of the standing Committee on Presbytery Review.

7-64 Final Report of Standing Committee on Theology

Recommendation B-4 from the committee's report was amended by the committee in the last sentence so that it now reads: "And that the **Westminster Larger Catechism** answers to questions 169 and 176 be amended as follows:"

Question 169: How hath Christ appointed bread and wine to be given and received in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper?

Present reading: Christ hath appointed the ministers of his word, in the administration of this sacrament of the Lord's supper, to set apart the bread and wine from common use by the word on institution, thanksgiving, and prayer; to take and break the bread, and to give both the bread and the wine to the communicants; who are by the same appointment to take and eat the bread, and to drink the wine; in thankful remembrance that the body of Christ was broken and given, and his blood shed for them.

Proposed reading: Christ hath appointed, in the administration of this sacrament of the Lord's supper, the setting apart of the bread and wine from common use by the word of institution, thanksgiving, and prayer; the taking of the bread and breaking it; and the giving of the bread and the wine to the communicants; who are by the same appointment to take and eat the bread, and to drink the wine; and in thankful remembrance that the body of Christ was broken and given, and his blood shed for them.

Question 176: Wherein do the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's supper agree?

Present reading: The sacraments of baptism and the Lord's supper agree, in that the author of both is God; the spiritual part of both is Christ and his benefits; both are seals of the same covenant, are to be dispensed by ministers of the gospel and by none other, and to be continued in the church of Christ until his second coming.

Proposed reading: The sacraments of baptism and the Lord's supper agree, in that the author of both is God; the spiritual part of both is Christ and his benefits; both are seals of the same covenant, are ordinarily to be dispensed by ministers of the gospel, and to be continued in the church of Christ until his second coming.

— Adopted

ON MOTION the report of the standing Committee on Theology was adopted.

— Adopted

7-65 8th General Assembly

In the absence of representatives from Cherry Hills Community Church, hosts of next year's Assembly, Elder Irv Rinehart spoke to the Assembly about the 8th (1988) General Assembly to be held in Englewood, CO. Dates for this Assembly are June 20-23, 1988.

ON MOTION that the Committee on Administration consider extending the length of the Assembly.

____ Adopted

7-66 Reading of the Minutes

ON MOTION the Assembly dispensed with the reading of the **Minutes**.

7-67 Adjournment

The 7th General Assembly adjourned at 11:00 a.m., to gather for service of prayer in the sanctuary.

PART II

Appendices

Administration Committee Report

The Committee on Administration met three times during the past year: September 12, 1986, January 9, 1987, and April 10, 1987. The Executive and Finance Committee met each time the day prior to the Administration Committee.

Considerable work was undertaken during the year to improve our denominational group insurance program. Quotes from several insurance companies were solicited and our present carrier, The Travelers, was consulted for changes within our present policy. The Committee continues to fine-tune our insurance program to provide the best possible coverage at the best possible cost, keeping in mind the necessity and value of total participation of member churches.

Heritage materials were developed this year and include mugs, tote bags, and pens. These are available at cost to the Assembly and will continue to be available during the year from the General Assembly Office. A denominational road sign adaptable to the particular churches has been designed and will be produced shortly. Forms developed this year include certificates of baptism for both children and adults, and letters of transfer.

The **Ministerial Endowment Fund** has nearly \$12,500 to date. In January a check for the interest (\$1000) was sent to a minister in need, according to the provisions of the Fund.

Several recommendations from the Committee come before the Assembly, including one to establish a "Gratitude Gift" program through an annual Christmas offering.

The EPC is growing both in size and in maturity. The Committee received First EPC in Renton, WA in April, 1987, since no geographical Presbytery yet exists for that state. Congregation elected to affiliate with West Presbytery in the interim. Several Article 13 (PCUSA) churches are currently in process of dismissal to the EPC at this writing. Also coming before this Assembly is an overture from a Presbytery of 5 churches in Argentina, asking to be received as a national Presbytery.

Because of increased numbers of ministers seeking calls in the EPC, the General Assembly Office this year instituted an "Opportunity List" consisting of both ministers looking for calls and churches seeking ministers. List is updated monthly and circulated on the first of each month.

Plans call for holding 8th General Assembly (1988) at Cherry Hills Community Church, Englewood, CO. Tentatively scheduled as speakers at that Assembly are Haddon Robinson and Chuck Colson. Invitation to host the 9th Assembly has been received from Central Presbyterian, St. Louis, MO. Earliest planning for the 10th Assembly (1990) calls for a Washington, DC area location.

Recommendations for Amendments to the **Rules for Assembly**

I. **Recommendation:**

It is recommended that the **Rules for Assembly** be changed to establish a Committee on Nominations under § IX, Permanent Committees, by deleting the present number "7" and rewriting it as indicated below:

7. Committee on Nominations

- a. The membership shall consist of 9 members, in three classes of three each, composed of four Teaching Elders and five Ruling Elders, with at least one person from each Presbytery. When the number of Presbyteries exceeds nine, membership shall be rotated fairly among the Presbyteries. A member may not succeed himself. The Stated Clerk shall work with the committee to insure compliance with the requirements of the **Rules for Assembly**.
- b. The chairman shall be named from the next outgoing class by the outgoing Moderator of the Assembly. The chairman shall take office at the close of the Assembly.
- c. Each year at the Assembly, the outgoing Moderator shall nominate three persons to the Assembly for membership on this committee. At that time, the floor will be opened for other nominations. However, all nominations must meet the requirements for Presbytery representation and for the Teaching Elder and Ruling Elder distribution. The Stated Clerk shall rule if a nomination from the floor is valid, and if so, which nominee of the Moderator it shall be made against. Those elected shall take office at the close of the Assembly.
- d. Duties:
 1. Nominees for Moderator: The committee shall advise each Presbytery following the meeting of the Assembly of the privilege of that Presbytery to recommend to the committee a person for Moderator of the General Assembly. Such recommendation shall be forwarded to the committee no later than December 31 of that year. After December 31, the committee shall evaluate the recommendations of the Presbyteries, as well as other recommendations it may receive, and at the next meeting of the Assembly shall recommend no more than two persons as its nominees for Moderator. At that time, nominations may also be made from the floor. Election shall be by a majority vote of the Assembly. Nominees of the committee shall be advised of their pending nomination.
 2. To nominate to the Assembly persons for vacancies of all Assembly permanent committees with the exception of the World Outreach Committee.
 3. To name from the commissioners to the Assembly those who will serve on the various standing committees of the Assembly. The chairmen of such committees shall be appointed by the Moderator from those so named.

II. Enabling Motion:

In order to initiate this system, the Moderators for 1984 and 1985 shall nominate to the Assembly three persons each for the class of 1988 and 1989 respectively, and the retired Moderator of 1986 shall also name three persons and, in addition, name a chairman from the class of 1988. The Stated Clerk shall cooperate with these Moderators to assure compliance with the requirements for Ruling and Teaching Elders, as well as proper Presbytery representation.

III. Recommendations:

In order to bring the **Rules for Assembly** into accord, it is further recommended that the following changes be made.

1. First, that § 2-3 be changed to read: "The first order of business shall be the election of a Moderator. The Committee on Nominations shall make its report and the floor shall be opened for additional nominations. There shall be only one nominating speech not to exceed five minutes for each nominee. No seconding speeches shall be permitted."
2. Second, that § 2-4 be changed by omitting the first phrase, "If more than one commissioner is nominated" and by capitalizing the first word, "Election."

Ascending Overtures to the 7th General Assembly

OVERTURE 87-A: ON CENTRAL SOUTH PRESBYTERY BOUNDS

WHEREAS, the state of Kansas lies within the bounds of the Presbytery of the West, and the state of Missouri lies within the bounds of the Presbytery of the Central South, and

WHEREAS, the metropolitan area of Kansas City is located in both states with contiguous suburbs in both states, and

WHEREAS, the Presbytery of the Central South has organized a mission church in one of these contiguous counties, Overland Park, KS, which has members from both states.

BE IT RESOLVED that the metropolitan area of Kansas City and those contiguous counties of that city be included within the bounds of the Presbytery of the Central South.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Lawrence, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of the Central South

OVERTURE 87-B: ON OFFICER TRAINING PROGRAM

The Presbytery of the East respectfully overtures the 7th General Assembly to approve development of an officer training program for the purposes of

1. continued resourcing of current officers;
2. resourcing new officers.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Kent Bull, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of the East

OVERTURE 87-C: ON FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ADOPTION

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church has taken the position, "Both individual Christians and the Church should oppose abortion and do everything in their power to provide supportive communities and alternatives to abortion." (EPC Position Paper on Abortion); and

WHEREAS, adoption is one of the key alternatives to abortion; and

WHEREAS, the average cost of adoption puts a financial hardship on all but the well-to-do; and

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church's own health insurance plan covers the medical cost of giving birth to a child (procreation) but does not cover any expenses for adoption, and in effect, creates a significant financial deterrent to adoption within our own church; and

WHEREAS, Presbyterians have never believed in separating faith from practice; and

WHEREAS, Scripture teaches we first examine ourselves and are obedient before we point out the sin of others;

THEREFORE, we overture the 7th General Assembly to establish a plan to bring about an equality of financial assistance for those participants of that plan so that there would be financial freedom to choose for adoption as well as for procreation.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Schmoekel, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of the Midwest

OVERTURE 87-D: ON SEMINARY ENDORSEMENTS

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church requires of Teaching Elders that they believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, totally trustworthy, fully inspired by the Holy Spirit, the supreme, final, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice; and

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church requires its Teaching Elders to be diligent, zealous, and faithful in proclaiming the truths of the Gospel, and

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church requires subscription to the **Essentials of the Faith** that are fundamental, and

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church requires literate and theologically articulate persons to fill the office of Teaching Elder, and

WHEREAS, we require candidates for ministry to have completed seminary training;

THEREFORE, the Presbytery of the East overtures the 7th General Assembly to draw up and circulate to the Presbyteries of the denomination a list of approved seminaries, whose standards and teaching adhere to our confessional standards.

FURTHER, that each Presbytery committee shall ensure that candidates for the ministry be urged to attend these evangelical and Reformed seminaries.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Kent Bull, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of the East

OVERTURE 87-E: ON ENDORSING REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

WHEREAS, theological education of ministerial candidates is of central importance in developing effective ministers; and

WHEREAS, there is currently no denominational seminary of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church; and

WHEREAS, Presbyteries as well as ministerial candidates need guidance in determining a proper place for theological education; and

WHEREAS, it is of paramount importance for candidates in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church to be adequately educated within the Reformed tradition of our faith; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that Reformed Theological Seminary of Jackson, MS has a heritage in keeping with ours, a theology compatible with ours, and is sympathetic to the goals, the ministry, and the growth of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Presbytery of the Central South does hereby humbly overture the General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church for the reasons cited above, to give denominational approval and endorsement of Reformed Theological Seminary. Further, to recommend it as an approved seminary to the Presbyteries of our denomination as a most appropriate institution within the Reformed tradition for the instruction and training of ministerial candidates of the various Presbyteries.

FURTHER, that each Presbytery committee having the oversight of candidates shall be requested to encourage such candidates to attend Reformed Theological Seminary, or such other seminaries that may have denominational approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Lawrence, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of the Central South

OVERTURE 87-F: ON SPECIAL CALLED MEETINGS OF PRESBYTERY

WHEREAS, in our tradition, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church has endeavored to have two Ruling Elders for each Minister in the decision making process; and

WHEREAS, a special called meeting of the Presbytery is a very serious portion of the decision making process, and a quorum ought also to reflect our tradition; and

WHEREAS, a special meeting, therefore, should not be called by a single congregation nor a quorum come from a single congregation, but should involve at least two congregations; and

WHEREAS, the **Book of Order** should give clear direction to this end;

THEREFORE, the Presbytery of the Midwest does hereby respectfully overture the 7th General Assembly to send to the Presbyteries for their affirmative or negative vote the following changes to the **Book of Government**, Sections 16-17 and 16-18:

PRESENT WORDING

PROPOSED WORDING

Section 16-17:

"...When requested in writing by two Ministers and three Ruling Elders, the Moderator shall convene the court. . ."

"When requested in writing by two Ministers and four Ruling Elders from at least two congregations, the Moderator shall convene the court. . ."

PRESENT WORDING

PROPOSED WORDING

Section 16-18:

"Quorum: Two Ministers and three Ruling Elders shall constitute a quorum. However, a Presbytery may fix its own quorum provided it is not less than that stated above."

"Two Ministers and four Ruling Elders from at least two congregations shall constitute a quorum. However, a Presbytery may fix its own quorum, provided it is not less than that stated above."

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Schmoekel, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of the Midwest

OVERTURE 87-G: ON GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATION

WHEREAS, in the **Book of Government**, § 2-3, it states that "The Presbytery shall be composed of all Ministers belonging to it, and two Ruling Elders from each particular church, or two Ruling Elders for each Minister from each particular church within its bounds. The basis of representation to the General Assembly shall be the same as representation to Presbytery;" and

WHEREAS, a provision has been added to § 2-3 and 16-14 to provide for establishing parity within the Presbytery where there is a disproportionate ratio of Ruling Elders to Ministers;

RESOLVED, that § 2-3 and 16-20 be amended to add the following paragraph to establish parity at the meeting of the General Assembly:

"When a disproportionate ratio of Ruling Elders to Teaching Elders occurs in the General Assembly, the General Assembly will move, through the Office of the Stated Clerk to correct the ratio by suggesting to member churches equally divided among the Presbyteries on a yearly alphabetical rotation basis that they have the right to appoint an additional Ruling Elder to the meeting of the General Assembly. The General Assembly shall on this basis invite churches to add one additional Ruling Elder until this disparity is corrected."

Respectfully submitted,

Howard Shockley, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of the Southeast

OVERTURE 87-H: CONCERNING PRESBYTERY STATUS OF RETIRED MINISTERS

WHEREAS, retired Ministers should be allowed to continue to participate in the activities, ministries, and fellowship of a Presbytery; and

WHEREAS, every Presbytery should be actively involved in ministering to retired ministers, especially those who reside within the geographical bounds of that Presbytery; and

WHEREAS, both ministry by the retired minister and ministry to the retired minister could be substantially changed if the retired minister moved out of the geographical bounds of Presbytery; and

WHEREAS, the **Book of Government**, § 15-8, states concerning retired ministers: "A Minister who is so retired remains a full member of Presbytery. Membership may not be transferred to another Presbytery;" and

WHEREAS, this prohibition against seeking to transfer to another Presbytery forces the retired minister to choose between continued involvement with Presbytery and (if a move outside the bounds of Presbytery were desired) freedom to move;

THEREFORE, the Presbytery of the Southeast respectfully overtures the 7th General Assembly to amend the **Book of Government**, § 15-8, by deleting the word "not" from the sentence "Membership may not be transferred to another Presbytery."

Respectfully submitted,

Howard Shockley, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of the Southeast

OVERTURE 87-I: ON CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, the **Book of Government**, § 17-3 concerning amendments to the Confession of Faith and Catechisms, says in paragraph B, "Approval by three-fourths of the Presbyteries is required;" and

WHEREAS, the **Book of Government**, § 17-4, concerning union with another ecclesiastical body, says in paragraph B, "Approval by three-fourths of the Presbyteries is required." and

WHEREAS, the **Book of Government**, § 17-2, concerning amendments to the **Book of Order** says in paragraph C, "Approval by a majority of the Presbyteries is required." and

WHEREAS, in the history of precedent bodies, e.g., PCUS, divisive and diluting actions were enacted by changes in the **Book of Order** (or **Book of Church Order**) by majority votes; and

WHEREAS, by this tactic, even such vital points as ordination vows were changed; and

WHEREAS, such close votes created tension within such precedent bodies; and

WHEREAS, a good amendment should be agreeable to more than a simple majority of Presbyteries; and

WHEREAS, any amendment not receiving at least a three-fourths approval by Presbyteries could well profit from more church-wide discussion, prayer, and refining; and

WHEREAS, the unity now experienced in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church is so precious and glorifying to the Lord of the Church that it is to be desired above changes in policy - changes which do not reflect more of the mind of the Church than a majority;

THEREFORE, the Presbytery of the Southeast respectfully overtures the 7th General Assembly to amend the **Book of Government**, § 17-2.C by substituting "three-fourths" for "a majority" so that § 17-2.C would read, "Approval by three-fourths of the Presbyteries is required."

Respectfully submitted,

Howard Shockley, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of the Southeast

Administration Budget - 1988

ADMINISTRATION BUDGET		1986 Budget	1986 Actual	1987 Budget	1988 Proposed	1988 Adopted
PERSONNEL						
502	Executive Staff Salaries	39,535.	39,534.96	59,355.	62,355.	
504	Office Staff Salaries	26,500.	33,969.80	22,000.	30,000.	
506	Staff Insurance & Pension	10,132.	11,771.45	13,332.	14,000.	
508	Executive Staff Allowance	5,400.	5,400.00	5,900.	5,900.	
510	Staff Study Leave Allowance	500.	483.76	-0-	-0-	
512	Staff Travel	6,000.	4,503.32	3,000.	4,500.	
514	Executive Travel (Moderator-Clerk)	20,000.	16,698.91	20,000.	20,000.	
516	Taxes and Insurance	8,000.	5,784.26	8,400.	8,800.	
ADMINISTRATION						
520	Contingencies	3,000.	1,868.67	3,000.	6,000.	
522	Telephone	7,500.	5,941.09	7,500.	7,500.	
524	Office Supplies	3,500.	3,648.82	4,000.	5,000.	
526	Printing & Promotion	20,000.	21,471.42	25,000.	25,000.	
528	Postage	5,000.	4,413.51	5,500.	6,000.	
530	Repairs & Maintenance	2,000.	6,736.95	2,500.	7,000.	
532	Financial Audit	3,000.	4,536.57	4,000.	4,000.	
534	Professional Fees	1,800.	1,800.00	1,800.	2,000.	
536	Miscellaneous	3,000.	3,346.24	3,000.	3,000.	
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT						
540	Mortgage Payment	9,022.	9,022.00	9,022.	9,100.	
542	Insurance	1,988.	994.67	2,000.	2,000.	
544	Utilities	4,500.	3,706.56	4,500.	5,000.	
546	Office Development	3,000.	2,889.11	4,000.	5,000.	
547	Property Maintenance	6,750.	5,228.48	7,000.	4,000.	
548	Property Taxes	2,900.	2,794.83	2,000.	2,000.	
GENERAL ASSEMBLY						
550	Committee Travel - Meetings	20,000.	19,718.37	25,000.	25,000.	
552	General Assembly Administration	7,000.	6,949.65	7,000.	7,500.	
554	Christian Development - Resource Training	5,000.	2,848.00	5,000.	5,000.	
556	Fraternal Relations	4,500.	4,400.87	9,500.	5,000.	
557	Christian Education Resource Center	--	--	-0-	1,000.	
DEVELOPMENT						
560	Presbytery Development	3,500.	988.06	3,500.	2,500.	
566	Leadership Development	1,000.	1,366.32	1,000.	1,000.	
TOTALS		234,027.	232,816.85	267,809.	285,155.	

1988 Benevolence Askings Budget

World Outreach

Brazil:	Joint Committee on Mission	5,000
	Frontier	78,750
	Visiting Professor	6,000
	Seminary Library	5,000
	Seminary Dormitory	50,000
	Mission in Paraguay	35,000
Ethnic:	Black Church Development	
	Sustenance	31,000
	Development	17,000
Ethnic:	Portuguese Congregation (U.S.)	
	Sustenance	12,000
	Development	5,000
Ethnic:	Thai Christian Ministries	6,000
	Argentina Pastoral Sustenance	18,900
	LOGOI Tabasco Project	19,300
	Middle East Reformed Fellowship	10,500
	Special Project (D. Thompson)	5,300
	World Outreach Director	44,000
	World Outreach Publication and Development	15,000
	Urban Relief Project in Haiti (Job Training)	3,000
	Rural Relief Project in Kenya	3,000

• TOTAL WORLD OUTREACH 369,750

Christian Education & Publications

Director of Christian Growth and Nurture	30,000
Summer Jam (Youth Camp)	17,500

• TOTAL CHRISTIAN ED 47,500

Women's Ministries

2nd Mile Giving	2,500
Brazil: House furnishings	10,000

• TOTAL WOMEN'S MINISTRIES 12,500

Church Development

Church Development	45,000
Southern California Project	30,000
Church Loan Fund	210,000

• TOTAL CHURCH DEVELOPMENT 285,000

Ministerial Endowment Trust 5,000

• GRAND TOTAL \$719,750

Christian Education & Publications Committee Report

This committee met twice this year: October 17, 1986 and March 19 & 20, 1987. The Task Force on Pornography and the Task Force on the Process of Aging met in conjunction with the March meeting.

We are constantly seeking ways to communicate the availability of materials and resources for our churches. We realize how much we fall short of implementing the works of the committee and meet the needs of our churches. The committee, therefore, has completed a position description for a **Director of Christian Growth and Nurture** to be employed at the General Assembly Office. We believe there is an immediate need to add such a person.

A committee description for the Christian Education & Publications Committee was drafted this year and is as follows:

"The Christian Education & Publications Committee of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church views its responsibility to include the parameters of research, resource, and development of information and materials for our member churches and Presbyteries.

The areas of focus for the committee include research, resources and development in the following areas:

1. Curriculum review
2. Leadership development
3. Publications and other forms of communications
4. Worship and music
5. Sunday school development and operations
6. Camps and conferences
7. Christian day schools
8. Assigned issues

These guidelines were established by the CE&P committee in May, 1983 and updated by the committee March, 1987."

Heritage materials have been produced (mugs, tote bags, pens) and are available at the Assembly and at the General Assembly Office at cost.

The first annual youth camp at Kamp Kanakuk (Branson, MO) is supported by the committee. Rev. Rhett Payne, Marshall, TX is in charge of arrangements for the August 20-25, 1987 camp.

An EPC representative went to the National Consultation on Pornography this year. The Task Force on Pornography, through this committee, seeks to promote greater awareness of the problem and ways in which to deal with it. (*Minutes follow.*)

Task Force on the Process of Aging hopes to present a summary of its work to the Assembly. We believe this will be helpful to all our churches. (*Minutes follow.*)

New publications this year include Certificates of Baptism (adult and infant), Letter of Transfer (membership), and Certificates for Dismission of a Minister. Newsletters ("News from the EPC") are printed on a regular basis in the Assembly office.

Recommendations

- 1. That the Assembly approve the position of **Director of Christian Growth and Nurture** as described and the hiring of such person.
- 2. That the Assembly adopt Christian Education Benevolence Askings in the amount of \$47,500.

a. Annual Youth Camp	\$17,500
b. Director of Christian Growth & Nurture	<u>30,000</u>
TOTAL	\$47,500

- 3. That the **Rules for Assembly** be suspended to allow for a 10 minute presentation during the Assembly by the Subcommittee on the Process of Aging.

The new chairman of this committee is Elder Patricia Seraydarian. As chairman for the past two years, I have appreciated working with this fine committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Leuretta M. Rallens, Chairman

Director of Christian Growth and Nurture Position Description

- I. **POSITION TITLE:** Director of Christian Growth and Nurture
- II. **EXECUTIVE STAFF MEMBER:**
- III. **EFFECTIVE DATE:** September 1, 1987
- IV. **POSITION SUMMARY:** The Director of Christian Growth and Nurture shall be recommended by the Committee on Christian Education and Publication subject to call by the Administration Committee. The term shall be three (3) years subject to review, and renewable at the pleasure of the Administration Committee.
- V. **ORGANIZATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS:**
 - A. **Staff Responsibility:** The Director will be responsible to execute the policies and programs of the CE&P and is managerially accountable to the Administration Committee through the Stated Clerk. The Director will be given a review and evaluation of his/her performance on an annual basis.
 - B. **Committee Relationship:** The Director shall serve on the CE&P as a non-voting member and may serve on other committees as deemed appropriate.
- VI. **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

The Director will be responsible for implementing policies, directives and plans which have been adopted and established by the CE&P. It is expected that the accomplishment of directives and policies be executed in an orderly, timely and professional manner.

 - A. **Liaison Person:**
 1. Will be a liaison between EPC Office and Congregations (or representatives of those congregations).
 2. Will deal specifically with the concerns within the context of Christian Education and Women's Ministries.
 3. Will develop and execute programs that can stimulate and encourage particularly the leadership and/or congregations of small churches and mission churches within the denomination.
 - B. **Resource Person:**
 1. Identify resources and continue to update the resource center.
 2. Identify and maintain a current list of those willing to share their expertise with those needing or requesting help.
 3. Help a church identify and diagnose present needs as to seriousness, impending demands, appropriate timing for response or action.
 4. Will hold training sessions, both group and individual.
 - C. **Personal Qualities:**
 1. Must be a committed believer who supports the philosophy and mission of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.
 2. Must demonstrate strong relational skills.
 3. Must demonstrate managerial and organizational skills.

The Task Force on the Process of Aging
March 19, 1987

Devotions: Proverbs 24:3-6

Committee: Clint Hess, Rex Pike, Leuretta Rallens & Margaret Wolds
Letter of resignation from Don Fortson

Introductions

Goal of this Meeting

Provide adequate communication (to identify the situation) to the Presbytery and to the local church level.

Title Change: **The Task Force on the Process of Aging**, encompassing birth to death.

Lifted from the preliminary position paper on value of and respect for life the following:

God has an infinite value and unequivocal love for human life. After the fall of mankind as indicated in Genesis 3, the remainder of the biblical story is the story of God's loving pursuit to reestablish at-one-ment. That atonement is finally and fully established in the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The task force recommends that there be established by each Session an individual or committee to assume responsibility for carrying out the following objectives:

- A. Create an awareness of the **life continuum** process. Life begins at birth and people age until their physical death.
- B. Promote the spiritual, physical and emotional well-being of the Christian individual from birth to physical death, and to **dispel age-related myths and stereotypes**.
- C. Suggest planning for retirement housing at the Presbytery level for our denomination, enabling people to spend their latter years among fellow Christians.

Strategies to Accomplish the Above:

- A. Speakers bureaus
- B. Counseling
- C. Printed materials
- D. Video tapes and audio cassettes
- E. Presbytery education

Committee dismissed for dinner and reconvened to report to CE&P committee at 8:30 p.m.

Task Force on Pornography
March 19, 1987

The Task Force on Pornography met at the Office of the General Assembly on Thursday, March 19, at 5:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Don Galardi, George Kirsten, and Ed Davis, Stated Clerk

Goal

To have a committee established in every EPC church for the purpose of:

1. **educating** the local body with respect to pornography;
2. **involving** the local body as the Lord leads to confront pornography in the community and to take appropriate action.

Priorities

1. To form a national EPC Task Force on Pornography as per Overture 86-G, for the purpose of working with NCAP (National Coalition Against Pornography) and assisting each Presbytery to carry out the goal of **educating** and involving each church body.
2. To recruit an NCAP representative from the Christian Education Committee of each Presbytery to serve as a resource person on pornography who shall:
 - a. be familiar with all the contents of the Attorney General's Commission on Pornography;
 - b. be familiar with all NCAP material;
 - c. After November release, have James Dobson's video tape on pornography available for showing at local churches.

Tasks

I. Form a Task Force on Pornography.

1. Don Galardi - representative to NCAP.
2. George Kirsten - chair Task Force. Serve as Board Representative to NCAP.
3. Bill Branham (Don Galardi will call him.)
4. A woman (to be announced).

They will meet prior to General Assembly to (a) map out what will happen after NCAP, and (b) to determine how best to assist Presbyteries.

II. Prepare for General Assembly by:

1. Inviting Jerry Kirk to speak.
2. Drafting a letter to each Presbytery. Letter will ask Presbytery to appoint an NCAP representative from the Presbytery CE Committee who will:
 - a. be resource person on pornography;
 - b. attend NCAP meeting in November and meet with Task Force;
 - c. attend 1 hour special meeting at General Assembly in Rome, GA;
 - d. plan how we can assist each Presbytery after NCAP meeting in November.

III. At General Assembly,

1. have dates for NCAP;
2. secure agenda for NCAP;
3. get addresses and phone numbers of NCAP representatives;
4. provide a copy of Attorney General's Commission Report.

Ongoing Plan

To be worked out.

Funding

1. NCAP Conference (November)	\$135
2. Airfare	250
3. Hotel	<u>120</u>
(for one person)	\$505

Respectfully submitted,

George Kirsten
Task Force on Pornography

Church Development Committee Report

The Church Development Committee met three times this Assembly year: October 10, 1986; February 26, 1987; and May 21, 1987.

One of our privileges was to allocate \$83,311 for some 14 projects.

The great majority of the work of the committee was addressed to the **Master Plan**. It follows this report, still as a provisional document, Plan "B." We commend it to the whole church for study and to Presbytery Committees on Church Development for reflection and input. We desire that this report be owned by the entire Church as a working document for implementation by the 8th General Assembly (1988).

We believe that the calling of a full time Director of Church Development needs to be within the context of a careful working document which will give direction to the Office of Church Development.

Therefore, while we hold before the Church the enterprise of church development and commend all who are enthusiastically engaged at various levels, we believe it would be **premature** to ask the Church to fund this with a \$2.00 per member assessment (cf. Recommendation 2 below).

I wish to thank each member of our committee for the care and commitment they have all given to the church development work. They are Nelson Bates, Elden Brieschke, Don Fortson, Wally Hostetter, Norm Huebl, John Holleran, and Irv Rinehart.

Your patience in allowing us the time to perfect the plan together will help us lay the foundation for an exciting future in church planting.

The committee recommends the following to the General Assembly:

Recommendations:

1. That the **Book of Government**, Chapter 5, be amended by adding the following as § 5-2 and renumbering the subsequent sections:
 - 5-2 **"The development** of a mission church: A mission church consists of a number of professing Christians, with their children, associated together for divine worship and godly living, agreeable to the Scriptures, and submitting to the lawful government and discipline of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

The mission church, because of its transitional nature, requires a temporary system of government. Depending on the circumstances and at its own discretion, Presbytery shall provide for such government in one of several ways:

- A. Appoint an Evangelist as prescribed in § 10-3C of and entrust appropriate powers to that person.
- B. Cooperate with the Session of a particular church in arranging a mother-daughter relationship with a mission church. The Session may then serve as the temporary governing body of the mission church.

- C. Appoint a commission to serve as temporary Session of the mission church.

At the discretion of the temporary governing body, members may be received into the mission church as prescribed in Chapter 9. These persons then become confirmed or baptized members of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. Mission churches shall maintain membership rolls in the same manner as, but separate from, other particular churches. Mission churches and their members shall have the right of judicial process to the court having oversight of their temporary governing body. It is the further intention of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church that mission churches enjoy the same status as particular churches in relation to civil government."

2. That consideration of the **Provisional Master Plan for Church Development (1986)**, Draft B, be postponed until the 8th General Assembly (1988).

Respectfully submitted,

Calvin Gray, Chairman

Provisional Master Plan for Church Development

Draft B

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Preamble to the Master Plan

To fulfill God's long range purposes, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church has committed itself to an aggressive program of church planting and development. Therefore, the denomination's Church Development Committee is presenting a **Provisional Master Plan** for consideration by the General Assembly.

In developing strategies and guidelines, the committee humbly acknowledges that "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain." (Psalm 127:1) An effective plan is essential, but unless God blesses, guides, and energizes those involved in its implementation, our efforts and strategies will be fruitless.

Therefore, we urge those who participate in this ministry to recognize our dependence upon the power and gifts of the Holy Spirit.

The Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Provisional Master Plan for Church Development
Draft B

I. Foreword

Desiring to be obedient to God's call in the Great Commission, "Go ye therefore and make disciples of all nations," the General Assembly Church Development Committee has continued to develop this **Provisional Master Plan**. It is designed not only to encourage new church development, but to aid existing churches in growth and maturation.

We believe the **Plan** should be led by spiritual guidance, based deeply upon prayer and biblical teaching. With the Lord's leading we seek the involvement of and commitments from our individual churches, Presbyteries, and General Assembly. Each individually and collectively establish goals and plans which together form the basis for implementation of the **Master Plan**.

The **Provisional Master Plan** further provides for leadership, strategic methods, organization, education, financial resources, evaluation and help for existing churches.

It is our desire that this document continue to be improved.

II. Introduction

The 4th General Assembly (1984) asked the Church Development Committee to construct a **Master Plan for Church Development**. This mandate follows:

Believing in the command of our Lord to evangelize and disciple men and women, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church is committed to an aggressive program of church growth and church planting. The development of a comprehensive church development and planting master plan should be of the highest priority. The following should be included:

- A. Identification of persons and possibilities for church growth by:
1. identifying and pursuing existing opportunities (pockets of people who are desirous of beginning a new church);
 2. identifying strategic growth centers most viable for church planting;
 3. identifying and encouraging existing congregations to parent new churches;
 4. identifying persons with vision and gifts for church planting;
 5. providing training and resources on Presbytery level to equip for oversight.

- B. Communication of the biblical mandate to disciple men and women.
- C. Identification of a full time church planting and development specialist responsible to the Church Development Committee for implementing the Master Plan. Such person would:
 - 1. be responsible for training pastors and congregations in church planting and development ;
 - 2. be an advisory resource to church development committees;
 - 3. model a church development project;
 - 4. develop a fundraising base.

It has been said we are "a people whose time has come." If we truly believe this, we must develop a **Master Plan**. This Plan is submitted in the hope that it will fulfill the Assembly's mandate and be used as a blueprint for church development.

III. Goals and Targets for Church Development

In fulfillment of our mandate, we propose the establishment of an EPC flagship church in 12 new high growth areas in the United States by the year 2000.

Goals

- 1. To establish a flagship church in 12 pioneer high growth areas in the United States by the year 2000.

Flagship Church: A church capable in size, maturity, and resourcefulness to become a regional church and reproduce itself in the planting of daughter churches in pioneer areas.

Pioneer Area: Any major high growth area which does not have an EPC flagship church.

- 2. To develop a program to identify, assess, train, and follow up on persons gifted in ministry for the work of church planting.
- 3. To encourage churches of 500 members or more to commit themselves to the planting of a daughter church.
- 4. To capitalize the Church Loan Fund with \$1,000,000 by the year 2000.

Targets for 1988

1. Achieve working relationships with Presbyteries whereby partnership with Presbytery enables the perfection of the denominational Master Plan.
2. Develop the working blueprint for the first flagship church in 1989.
3. Develop a major demographic study for strategic church planting for the United States.
4. Implement an assessment process for church planting personnel.
5. Identify and call a Director of Church Development for the General Assembly Office.
6. Educate and resource committees through their Church Development Committees to effectively carry out church development on the Presbytery level.

IV. Strategic Components

1. Leadership for Church Planting

- 1(1). A successful church planter is a unique person. He must possess a high degree of multiple leadership gifts which make him specifically suited to such a calling. Experience and study indicate the following ingredients are essential and in many cases are measurable.
 1. A contagious love for Jesus Christ.
 2. A highly motivated individual.
 3. One not easily discouraged and given to moods of depression because of failure.
 4. One flexible in his style of ministry, willing and able to adjust to a changing environment.
 5. A people person and a task oriented worker.
 6. A person who has giftedness to see a goal, plan toward it, and work hard to achieve it.
 7. One who is an able communicator to modern man.
 8. An individual able to make the difficult sacrifices necessary to successfully endure the start-up years of church planting.
- 1(2). In order to correctly choose church planters, we must develop:
 - a. a profile basis for understanding what kind of person would be compatible with the EPC.
 - b. an assessment tool to develop an objective understanding of our highest potential people.

2. Presbytery Development

- 2(1). Presbyteries are encouraged to accept the primary responsibility for church planting and congregational development. Presbyteries must have equipped and active committees on church development.

- 2(2). Presbyteries are encouraged to work in creative consultation with the General Assembly Committee on Church Development in church planting and congregational development.
- 2(3). Presbyteries are encouraged to accept the goal of initiating at least one mission church per year.
- 2(4). Presbyteries are encouraged to equip their committees on church development by providing:
 - a. appropriate bibliographical materials on church planting and congregational development;
 - b. training for committee personnel;
 - c. assistance in demographic studies essential for church planting;
 - d. assistance for the task of evaluating and encouraging growth in new churches during early development.

3. Strategic Modes

A. **Flagship**

A church, capable in size, maturity, and resourcefulness, becomes a regional church and reproduces itself in the planting of daughter churches in pioneer areas.

B. **Mother-Daughter**

This approach involves the planting of a new church (daughter) from the larger, more established (mother) church.

C. **Sister-Daughter**

The planting and support of a new church inside/outside Presbytery bounds and in cooperation with the Presbytery of Jurisdiction.

D. **Presbytery-Daughter**

This involves the starting of a new church (daughter) by the Presbytery.

E. **General Assembly-Daughter**

The new church (daughter) is started by the General Assembly. This model could be directed by either the Church Development Committee and/or full time Director of Church Development which is to be established.

F. **Independent Church or Start-Up Group Absorption**

Fellowship or small churches can be started independently. Subsequently, this new church will need to be absorbed into and cared for by the EPC. This could involve a local EPC church, or Presbytery, or the General Assembly.

All of the above at some point are mission churches.

MISSION CHURCH: "A mission church exists when the goal of organization of a particular congregation is being pursued under the oversight of either Presbytery, a mother church, or a combination of both. In areas lying outside of Presbytery boundaries, a mission church may be planted by the General Assembly Committee on Church Development. When possible, a mother or a sister church nearby may hold members on its roll as affiliate members until the day of the congregation's organization. A church shall continue as a mission church until it is deemed by the nurturing body or bodies to be ready to stand on its own."

V. Strategic Steps in Church Planting

1. Development of the concept: Whether by a local church, a Presbytery, or the General Assembly as much support material and data needs to be collected. Prayer and careful planning as participants are essential key ingredients.
2. Endorsement by the various judicatories: The plan needs to be carefully worked out and presented with demographics, leadership, sponsorship, funding, approach, and style of ministry clearly spelled out. When the project is locally sponsored, the endorsement of the CDC needs to be sought even where no funding is necessary. How does what is being planned fit in with the **Provisional Master Plan**?
3. Funding for the project needs to be approved on a three-year basis as previously presented. Funding will normally cease from the CDC after 3 years,
4. Petition Presbytery for status as mission church.

VI. Strategic Funding

The funding plan should include such sources as individuals, churches, Presbyteries, bequeaths, endowments and special gifts. The broadest base of ongoing support should come from local church members.

- 5(1). The funding of church planting through the EPC comes currently from designated benevolences for church development giving.
- 5(2). **Church Loan Fund:** Capital resources available for loans would come through a new Church Loan Fund with an initial target amount of \$300,000. Mission efforts needing assistance for land acquisition and building could seek help from the Church Loan Fund. This Fund would be developed through:
 - a. promoting congregational giving by individual gifts, legacies, endowments, out-right gifts and inclusion in local church budgets;
 - b. designation of annual Thanksgiving Offerings to this Fund;
 - c. loans would be available at a favored rate to congregations;
 - d. Phase I of capital development should be completed by December 31, 1987;
 - e. the Church Development Committee in cooperation with the Finance Committee shall set parameters for the Fund and design guidelines for the administration of the Fund.
- 5(3). All levels of the Church recognize the need for involvement of the resources of all the judicatories in a sponsored church planting project.

General Assembly and Presbyteries need to be assured of the support of the mother church and the group of mission church people where there is that base. In potential churches in new areas, the encouragement should be given the local church to assume financial responsibility as soon as possible.

VII. Church Development Policies

1. Presbytery projects shall have at least a matching dollar from either Presbytery or congregational budgets (both/and preferably).
2. Initiation of all projects shall have the support of either a Presbytery or "mothering" session. Mother-Daughter projects shall be done in consultation with the Presbytery Committee on Church Development.
3. Designated benevolence monies received by the Assembly Office for **Mission to the Nation** shall be distributed periodically to Presbyteries having approved projects.
4. Monies allocated for a Presbytery without approved projects shall be held in escrow for a designated period of time. Subsequent to that period of time, those monies may be reallocated to other Presbyteries with approved projects.
5. Presbyteries shall approve and present projects for funding approval periodically to the Assembly Committee according to the schedule shown. No Assembly monies may be released to Presbyteries without the approval of the Assembly Committee. Requests shall not be considered by the CDC if not previously approved.
6. General Assembly may commit itself to 100% support in the first year of a project in which it is the sole sponsor; to 50% support where it is the joint sponsor along with the Presbytery; and to 33% where it is the sponsor along with the Presbytery and a local church. This support will decrease automatically by one-third each year through the third year. A fourth year of support should be possible after careful review and by decisive action of its CDC.

Communications

#87-1



Iglesia Presbiteriana San Andrés

INSCRIPTA EN EL FICHERO DE CULTO BAJO EL N° 160

PERU 382
1647 BUENOS AIRES
Tel.: 33-4388

20th May 1987

The Reverend Dr. L. Edward Davies, Stated Clerk
Evangelical Presbyterian Church
26049 Five Mile Road
Detroit, Michigan 48239
United States of America

Dear Dr. Davis,

It was a privilege and joy to have Mr. Roger Vonder Bruegge and yourself attend the Constituting Service celebrating the formation of the Iglesia Presbiteriana San Andrés Presbytery, held on May 8th 1987 and later at the first Presbytery Session of May 12th. At both occasions we felt the presence and blessing of God upon us and we look to Him for direction and blessing in the future.

In this respect I am pleased to inform you that at the Presbytery meeting of May 12th it was approved unanimously to seek full membership into the General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, and the appropriate excerpt from the Minutes reads as follows: "that the Presbytery of the Iglesia Presbiteriana San Andrés, Argentina, should overture for full membership into the General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. On motion, a unanimous ballot was passed."

I am therefore submitting this request trusting that the General Assembly will look favorably upon it at its next meeting on June 15-18 in Rome, Georgia. We are grateful to God for His leading the Iglesia Presbiteriana San Andrés into contact with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, for the many meetings and guidance we have received from you, and seeing how God has intervened in this relationship in the past, we firmly believe that the action we are carrying out today is in line with His will for us in the future.

I look to you for continuing guidance as to the procedure to be followed in the presentation of this overture.

Yours in His service,

J. F. Berk
Presbytery Clerk

Communications

#87-2

THE CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

7700 DAVIS DRIVE • SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI 63105 • (314) 727-2777

May 5, 1987

The Rev. Edward Davis
Stated Clerk
Evangelical Presbyterian Church
26049 Five Mile
Detroit, MO 48239

Dear Ed,

On behalf of the session of Central Presbyterian Church, we extend to the General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, a cordial invitation for the Assembly to be held at Central in 1989.

Sincerely,



Dexter A. Kuhlman,
Clerk

DAK/kjd

Descending Overtures

Sent to the Presbyteries by the 6th General Assembly.

Overture 86-A: On Examination of Candidates

Shall the **Book of Government**, § 13-2, be amended by deleting the present wording and **substituting** the proposed sentence?

Present Wording

"The Candidate shall be examined in the following areas: Theology, English Bible, Sacraments, the **Book of Order** in all its parts, and the nature of the office of Minister of the Word."

Proposed Wording

"The Candidate shall be examined in writing and orally in the following areas: Theology and Sacraments, English Bible, the **Book of Order**, the Reformed tradition and the nature of the office of Minister of the Word."

Yes

No

Presbytery of the Alleghenies
Presbytery of the East
Presbytery of the Far West
Presbytery of the Midwest
Presbytery of the Southeast
Presbytery of the West

Overture 86-B: On Quorum for Ministerial Committee Meetings of Presbytery

Shall the Book of Government be amended in § 16-27.A, by **changing the third sentence** in the following manner?

Present Wording

"Its quorum shall be two-thirds of its members."

Proposed Wording

"Its quorum for action shall be one-half (½) of membership, to include at least one Ruling Elder and one Teaching Elder."

Yes	No
Presbytery of the East	Presbytery of the Alleghenies
Presbytery of the Far West	
Presbytery of the Midwest	
Presbytery of the Southeast	
Presbytery of the West	

Overture 86-C: On Transfer of Presbytery Membership for Retired Ministers

Shall the Book of Government, § 15-8, be **amended by adding** to the fifth sentence as reads below:

Present Wording

“Membership may not be transferred to another Presbytery.”

Proposed Wording

“Membership may not be transferred to another Presbytery except in the case of the realignment of Presbytery boundaries. In such case, the membership of the retired Minister shall be held in the realigned Presbytery of his choice.”

Yes	No
Presbytery of the Alleghenies	
Presbytery of the East	
Presbytery of the Far West	
Presbytery of the Midwest	
Presbytery of the Southeast	
Presbytery of the West	

Financial Audit

**Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Comparative Financial Statements
December 31, 1986 and 1985**

ROBERT C. JULIN & ASSOCIATES, P.C., CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

ROBERT C. JULIN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

3000 TOWN CENTER, SUITE 2090

SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN 48075

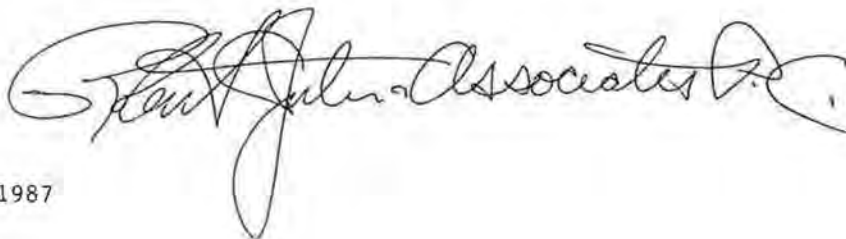
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MEMBER
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

To the General Assembly of the
EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We have examined the balance sheets of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church as of December 31, 1986 and 1985, and the related statements of revenues, expenses, and changes in fund balances, and changes in financial position for the years then ended. Our examinations were made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and, accordingly, included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the aforementioned financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church at December 31, 1986 and 1985, and the results of its operations and the changes in its financial position for the years then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a consistent basis.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Robert C. Julin & Associates P.C.", is written over the bottom right portion of the page.

June 9, 1987

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 1986 AND 1985

I N D E X

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LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES

	<u>DECEMBER 31,</u>	
	<u>1986</u>	<u>1985</u>
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
Current portion of long-term debt	\$ 1,766	\$ 3,659
Accounts payable	6,480	34,508
Accrued expenses	2,543	3,192
Self-insured liability (Note 4)	75,820	87,943
Restricted funds	<u>327,070</u>	<u>260,391</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>413,679</u>	<u>389,693</u>
 <u>LONG-TERM DEBT</u> (Note 3)		
Mortgage payable	57,103	58,867
Note payable	<u>-</u>	<u>3,385</u>
Total Long-Term Debt	<u>57,103</u>	<u>62,252</u>
 <u>FUND BALANCES</u>		
Net investment in property and equipment	537,349	545,065
Undesignated, available for current purposes	<u>158,289</u>	<u>116,070</u>
Total Fund Balances	<u>695,638</u>	<u>661,135</u>
 Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	 <u>\$1,166,420</u>	 <u>\$1,113,080</u>

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

BALANCE SHEETS

ASSETS

	<u>DECEMBER 31,</u>	
	<u>1986</u>	<u>1985</u>
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 279,130	\$ 236,881
Marketable securities (Note 6)	226,577	200,000
Accounts receivable	58,319	57,997
Inventory (Note 2)	2,796	3,976
Prepaid expenses	3,380	3,250
Total Current Assets	<u>570,202</u>	<u>502,104</u>
<u>PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT (Notes 2, 3 and 5)</u>		
Land	65,000	65,000
Buildings	511,815	511,815
Furniture and fixtures	74,507	57,662
Transportation equipment	-	12,442
	<u>651,322</u>	<u>646,919</u>
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>55,104</u>	<u>35,943</u>
Net Property and Equipment	<u>596,218</u>	<u>610,976</u>
 Total Assets	 <u>\$1,166,420</u>	 <u>\$1,113,080</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1986 AND 1985

	<u>1986</u>	<u>1985</u>
<u>REVENUES</u>		
Contributions		
Unrestricted	\$ 230,424	\$ 210,405
Restricted	312,674	280,126
Donated assets (Note 5)	12,500	495,000
Investment income	34,997	19,091
Literature sales	10,284	8,056
Other income	22,758	16,446
	<u>623,637</u>	<u>1,029,124</u>
Total Revenues		
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Operating expenses	278,395	206,575
Restricted expenses	300,785	275,497
Cost of literature sales	9,954	7,357
	<u>589,134</u>	<u>489,429</u>
Total Expenses		
Excess of Revenues over Expenses	34,503	539,695
Fund Balances - Beginning of Year	661,135	121,440
Fund Balances - End of Year	<u>\$ 695,638</u>	<u>\$ 661,135</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN FINANCIAL POSITION
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1986 AND 1985

	<u>1986</u>	<u>1985</u>
<u>RESOURCES PROVIDED</u>		
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 34,503	\$539,695
Items which do not use resources:		
Depreciation	<u>31,900</u>	<u>20,644</u>
Resources Provided From Operations	66,403	560,339
Decrease in other asset	-	970
Increase in long-term debt	<u>-</u>	<u>61,000</u>
Total Resources Provided	<u>66,403</u>	<u>622,309</u>
<u>RESOURCES USED</u>		
Net additions to property and equipment	17,142	610,509
Payment and reclassification of long-term debt	<u>5,149</u>	<u>4,170</u>
Total Resources Used	<u>22,291</u>	<u>614,679</u>
Increase in Working Capital	<u>\$ 44,112</u>	<u>\$ 7,630</u>
<u>CHANGES IN WORKING CAPITAL BY COMPONENT</u>		
Increase (decrease) in current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 42,249	\$(57,811)
Marketable securities	26,577	200,000
Accounts receivable	322	3,068
Inventory	(1,180)	2,556
Prepaid expenses	<u>130</u>	<u>953</u>
	<u>68,098</u>	<u>148,766</u>
Increase (decrease) in current liabilities:		
Current portion of long-term debt	(1,893)	1,559
Accounts payable	(28,028)	26,169
Accrued expenses	(649)	1,768
Self-insured liability	(12,123)	21,893
Restricted funds	<u>66,679</u>	<u>89,747</u>
	<u>23,986</u>	<u>141,136</u>
Increase in Working Capital	<u>\$ 44,112</u>	<u>\$ 7,630</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 1986 AND 1985

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Evangelical Presbyterian Church is a Church denomination with member churches who are evangelical in spirit.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

General

The Evangelical Presbyterian Church is exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

The financial statements include only the accounts of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and do not include the accounts of affiliated local Presbyteries or member churches.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Church are presented on the accrual basis of accounting. Contribution income is recognized as income as received.

Restricted contributions by a donor, grantor, or other outside party for particular operating projects are deemed to be earned and reported as revenue when the Church has incurred expenditures in compliance with specific restrictions. Such amounts received but not yet expended are reported as restricted funds until the terms of restriction have been met.

Contributions received without restrictions are available to support current operations. Contributed assets are recorded at the fair market value at the date of the gift.

Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are stated at cost or, in the case of gifts, at fair market value on the date the gift was received. Depreciation is computed on the straight-line method as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Years</u>
Buildings	30
Furniture and fixtures	5
Transportation equipment	3

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 1986 AND 1985

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Property and Equipment (Continued)

Maintenance and repairs which do not improve or extend the life of the respective assets are charged to income when incurred.

Depreciation expense for the years 1986 and 1985 totaled \$31,900 and \$20,644, respectively.

Inventory

Inventory consists primarily of books and other publications. Inventory is stated at the lower of cost or market on the first-in, first-out basis.

NOTE 3 - LONG-TERM DEBT

Long-term debt consists of the following:

	<u>1986</u>	<u>1985</u>
Mortgage payable in monthly installments of \$752 including interest at 12-1/2% through June 1, 1990 with a balance of \$51,800 due June 24, 1990, secured by land and building	\$58,869	\$60,426
Note payable in monthly installments of \$235 including interest at an adjustable rate, secured by transportation equipment	-	5,485
	58,869	65,911
Less current portion	<u>1,766</u>	<u>3,659</u>
Net long-term debt	<u>\$57,103</u>	<u>\$62,252</u>

Principal payments due within the next four years are as follows:

1987	\$ 1,766
1988	2,000
1989	2,264
1990	<u>52,839</u>
Total	<u>\$58,869</u>

Total interest expense for the years 1986 and 1985 totaled \$7,817 and \$4,737, respectively.

- 7 -

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 1986 AND 1985

NOTE 4 - SELF-INSURED LIABILITY

The Church has established a self-insured health insurance program for employees of member churches and their families, and clergy and their families. The program loss is limited through the use of a stop-loss insurance policy.

The Church has not recognized any income or expense under this program since the premiums collected less costs is equal to the self-insured liability.

NOTE 5 - DONATED ASSETS

During 1986 and 1985, respectively, a computer with a fair market value of \$12,500, and a Church building and house located within the City of Detroit, with a fair market value of \$495,000, were donated.

NOTE 6 - MARKETABLE SECURITIES

Marketable securities are stated at cost, or in the case of gifts, at market value on the date the gift was received. The market value of the securities was \$237,353 and \$200,000 at December 31, 1986 and 1985, respectively.

NOTE 7 - RECLASSIFICATION OF PRIOR YEAR AMOUNTS

Certain reclassifications have been made in the 1985 financial statements to conform to the classifications used in 1986.

ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ROBERT C. JULIN & ASSOCIATES, P.C. CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

ROBERT C. JULIN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

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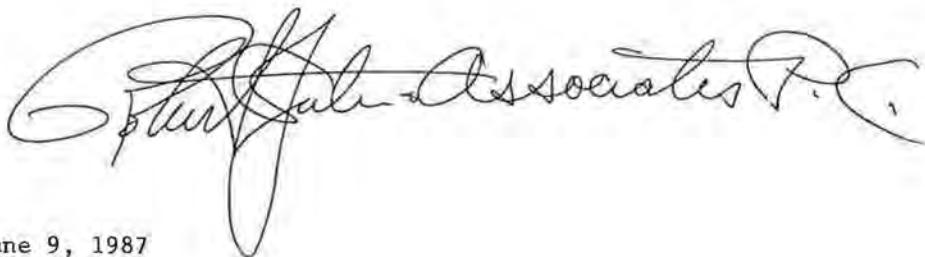
MEMBER

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

To the General Assembly of the
EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The accompanying additional financial information for the years ended December 31, 1986 and 1985, while not considered necessary to a fair presentation of the financial position and results of operations, is presented for supplementary analysis purposes. While the primary purpose of our examination of the financial statements of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church for the years ended December 31, 1986 and 1985 was to permit us to formulate our opinion on the financial statements as a whole, we subjected the additional financial information to the same audit procedures. In our opinion, this information is stated fairly in all material respects when considered in conjunction with the financial statements taken as a whole.

 Robert C. Julin & Associates P.C.

June 9, 1987

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STATEMENTS OF OPERATING EXPENSES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1986 AND 1985

	<u>1986</u>	<u>1985</u>
Compensation	\$ 84,409	\$ 67,251
Depreciation	31,900	20,644
Repairs and maintenance	30,233	8,980
Travel expense	23,591	15,750
Committee expense	19,933	13,900
Printing and promotion	16,233	22,672
Professional fees	13,493	7,255
Interest expense	7,817	4,737
Taxes	6,209	3,190
Office supplies	5,808	4,708
Telephone	5,743	7,002
Insurance	5,523	3,448
Postage	5,336	5,268
Development expense	5,073	1,581
Fraternal relations	4,401	3,525
General Assembly expense	2,587	2,855
Rent expense	-	5,335
Miscellaneous	10,106	8,474
Totals	<u>\$278,395</u>	<u>\$206,575</u>

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STATEMENTS OF RESTRICTED EXPENSES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1986 AND 1985

	<u>1986</u>	<u>1985</u>
World outreach	\$204,362	\$135,896
Church assistance	71,965	71,590
Special projects	20,810	61,139
General Assembly	2,817	6,622
Ministerial endowment	<u>831</u>	<u>250</u>
Totals	<u>\$300,785</u>	<u>\$275,497</u>

Fraternal Relations Committee Report

The permanent Fraternal Relations Committee met for its annual meeting at EPC headquarters in Detroit, Michigan, on March 17-18, 1987. The committee is grateful for the efficient work of the EPC secretarial staff along with their warm welcome and willingness to help. We are also thankful for the gracious hospitality of those EPC families who opened their homes to us for overnight lodging, breakfast and often transportation. All of this and the ever-ready expertise of our Stated Clerk, Ed Davis, contributed to the sense that the EPC committee work is really the work of our extended EPC family.

Members of the FRC brought a report from the meeting of the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council (NAPARC) which met on Nov. 11-12, 1986 in Greenville, SC. A verbal invitation for the EPC to apply for membership in NAPARC was extended by its executive board, called the Interim Committee. The following denominations are members of NAPARC: the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, the Christian Reformed Church, the Korean American Presbyterian Church, the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, the Presbyterian Church in America, and the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America.

There was considerable discussion in the FRC about the nature and history of NAPARC, including an analysis of its Constitution. The FRC noted, that while the NAPARC leadership encouraged EPC application for membership, it did so with some degree of reservation. These reservations lie in the area of the work and gifts of the Holy Spirit in ministry, and the role of women in ministry and office.

While the FRC believes that these areas of conviction are important, it recognizes that specific application of these convictions in the EPC are reserved for the local congregation and individual presbytery. Hence, these convictions are of a secondary nature, whereas for some of the NAPARC churches these areas would be of primary conviction. Because it would be unfortunate for these areas of conviction to become areas of contention, we believe that at the present time it is in the best interests of the EPC and the NAPARC Churches to postpone our application for membership.

1. Therefore, the Fraternal Relations Committee recommends that the 7th General Assembly of the EPC postpone application for membership in NAPARC for three years, and that a letter of explanation be sent to the Interim Committee of NAPARC.

Having received a letter from David Howard, Executive Secretary of the World Evangelical Fellowship describing recent developments and ministry in that organization, and thanking the EPC for its membership and financial support in 1986, the FRC recommends:

2. That the 7th General Assembly contribute \$500 to the World Evangelical Fellowship, of which \$75 shall be considered the annual EPC membership fee.

As part of this year's business, the FRC traveled to Grand Rapids, Michigan on March 18, 1987 to meet with the Interchurch Relations Committee (IRC) of the Christian Reformed Church. Members of our FRC have met several times in the past three years with Dr. Clarence Boomsma, Chairman of the IRC, and with Rev. Hofman, Stated Clerk of the CRC. After our joint meeting, the expressed consensus on both committees was that our denominations have much in common, and what differences that do exist would not be an impediment to a warm and formal relationship.

We were informed that the IRC would recommend to the General Synod (Assembly) of the Christian Reformed Church this year that an ecclesiastical fellowship (fraternal relationship) be established with the EPC. Therefore, the FRC recommends:

3. That a fraternal relationship be established with the Christian Reformed Church, and by mutual agreement that that relationship be defined by both Churches as follows:
 1. exchange of fraternal delegates at major assemblies;
 2. occasional pulpit fellowship;
 3. intercommunion;
 4. joint action in areas of common responsibility;
 5. communication on major issues of joint concern;
 6. exercise of mutual concern and admonition with a view to promoting the fundamentals of Christian unity.

The FRC elected Rev. David Massimi as Chairman of the Committee for the coming year, 1987-88, and elected Elder Harold Haddon as Secretary for the same term.

As directed by previous Assemblies, the FRC has pursued fraternal contacts with the Presbyterian Church in America, the Orthodox Presbyterian Church and the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America. It was the privilege of the Chairman to represent the FRC at the General Synod of the RPCNA, July 14-16, 1986 in Lawrence, KS. The RPCNA is a denomination of only about 5000 members and 71 Churches. It is genuinely orthodox, much more Calvinistic than the EPC, and somewhat to the "right" of evangelicalism. The music in their worship services is without instruments, and they only sing the Psalms, but do so beautifully.

Although the RPCNA does not permit the ordination of women as elders or pastors, they have a very strong and effective Synodical. This women's organization was the driving force that raised money for the construction and continued funding of a multi-million dollar retirement home for pastors, pastor's wives, missionaries and Christian educators.

The RPCNA also has a significant mission program, which, along with its colleges and seminary, exerts an influence in the world and in the Kingdom far beyond what might be expected of a denomination its size. We would do well to learn all that we can from the RPCNA, and fellowship as much as is reasonable and possible, and continue to pursue full fraternal relations with these brothers and sisters in Christ.

Representing the EPC at the conference of the National Association of Evangelicals, March 2-5, 1987, in Buffalo, N.Y., were Stated Clerk, Ed Davis and his wife, Barbara, Rev. Ed Randal of our World Outreach Office, and myself. Each of us spent considerable time manning the EPC booth, passing out EPC literature, and generally functioning as public relations and information resources for the EPC.

It is hard to overestimate the benefits from the resources alone that are available at the NAE, to say nothing about the information and inspiration from speakers and workshops. Furthermore, it is tremendously encouraging to see the increasing cooperation between 45 evangelical denominations. The NAE is speaking more effectively than ever, and in more unity than ever, to the nation, the Christian community, and to the government about issues vital to us all. It is also exerting much more effective influence in the Congress and other policy making agencies about moral and social issues, and issues of religious liberty.

Of special interest are several resolutions passed this year at the NAE. They are entitled, "Celebration," "A Declaration," "Peace, Freedom And Human Rights," and "Prayer For Churches In Nicaragua." Copies of these are on file at our denominational offices.

Our Stated Clerk, Rev. L. Edward Davis, represented the EPC this year at the meeting of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches (WARC). He was elected to that organization's Cooperation and Witness Committee. WARC is a truly worldwide organization representing approximately 140 million Christians of Reformed heritage.

As the Fraternal Relations Committee has met with various churches and ecumenical representatives, we are more convinced than ever that the EPC is truly "a Church whose time has come." Our unique blend of fidelity to the Scriptures, Presbyterian theology and polity, and Spirit-inspired evangelicalism will enable us to make a positive influence for Christ on an ever increasing spectrum of people, both in the Church and in the world.

To Him be glory and honor, dominion and power, now and forever!

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. David V. Massimi, Chairman
Fraternal Relations Committee

Proposed Letter from 7th General Assembly to NAPARC

Interim Committee
North American Presbyterian And Reformed Council
Greenville, SC

March 24, 1987

Dear Brethren in Christ,

For three years the Evangelical Presbyterian Church has been the recipient of your gracious hospitality and invitation to participate as official observers of the NAPARC meetings. This we have done with great benefit through the representatives of our Fraternal Relations Committee and the office of the Stated Clerk.

You have opened your fellowship to us with little reservation. Recent conversations with the Interim Committee have suggested that the time may be at hand for the Evangelical Presbyterian Church to seek closer ties with NAPARC. Our experience has been that NAPARC leadership does encourage our application for membership but with some small degree of reservation.

Your reservations have been candid and in love. The reservations seem to lie within the area of biblical authority as it relates to our understanding of the work of the Holy Spirit and women in ministry. These are specific areas of great concern for all of us, but areas in which substantial differences exist as to what constitutes primary or secondary levels of conviction.

The EPC has historically postured itself as a Reformed and Presbyterian body committed to responsible freedom in its courts as to specific practices within major areas of doctrinal conviction. We would all affirm the divine presence and essential work of the Holy Spirit in redemption. How, and to what extent the Spirit bestows spiritual giftedness is open to individual conviction. That the Holy Spirit redeems and gifts women is beyond debate. Whether such giftedness should find expression in office is a question open to discussion and difference. In other words these less essential areas of biblical doctrine shall be for the EPC areas of constant freedom of profession and practice. In these less essential areas of conviction, each appropriate court of the Church has the freedom to find the mind of the Lord for itself.

Because we do not want to see the differences in these areas of conviction become areas of contention, and because as a young denomination we are still discovering "who we are," we are postponing our application for membership in NAPARC for at least three years.

We are most grateful for the opportunities we have had to come as observers to the NAPARC meetings. We pray that God will continue to bless your cooperative efforts in NAPARC, as together you further the cause of Christ. We also ask your prayer for the EPC as we continue to seek God's direction and timing for the ecumenical relationships that we establish.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you.

Historical Commission Report

To the General Assembly,

The Historical Commission held its first meeting May 28-29, 1987 at the General Assembly offices in Detroit. The Commission met to initiate the compilation and preservation of items of a historical nature, relevant to the founding and early years of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC).

We are profoundly impressed with the imperative of our task. It has been said that a people who do not understand their history have no future. As a newly-formed denomination the orderly consideration of such work, not only should be undertaken while memories are fresh, but must involve people at all levels of our denomination.

A first-year goal of the Commission is to collect, collate, and record anecdotal records of EPC's origins and first years. Almost every church in our denomination has within its ranks the capacity to contribute substantially to the compiling of the thrilling story of the EPC. Truly it is His story! We rejoice in God's sovereign grace and guidance which has made it a glorious reality.

But we need the help of everyone in a position to share those strands of information and anecdotal material that can be woven into the tapestry of our exciting history.

Here's how you can participate in the process:

1. collect, identify and reproduce any memorable information relevant to the history of your church;
2. package and mail to the following address:

The Historical Commission, EPC
26049 Five Mile Road
Detroit, MI 48239

Profoundly grateful for your anticipated cooperation, we are your servants in Christ,

The Historical Commission

Kent Bull
Homer Graham
George Scotchmer

Joint Committee on Missions Report

November 3, 1986

The meeting of the Joint Committee on Missions convened in the Calvin Room of Ward Presbyterian Church, Livonia, Michigan at 9:00 a.m.

Morning Session (I)

According to the **Articles of Agreement**, the chairmanship of the meeting will rotate between Bartlett Hess, EPC, and Boanerges Ribeiro, IPB, the respective co-chairmen of each delegation. For this meeting, Bartlett will chair each morning session; Boanerges will chair each afternoon session.

Bartlett asked each person to introduce himself. Vern Porter is the representative from the Committee on World Outreach. Ed Randal is Director of World Outreach. Roger Vonder Bruegge is Moderator of the 6th General Assembly. David Massimi is chairman of the Fraternal Relations Committee. When the JCM meets in the USA, the chairman of the Fraternal Relations Committee and the incumbent Moderator are requested to meet with the JCM.

Edesio Chequer is Moderator of the IPB, elected in July, 1986 at their Synod (General Assembly). Boanerges Ribeiro is President of the Interecclesiastical Commission and a delegate to the JCM. Nelson Marino is Stated Clerk of the IPB, also a member of the Interecclesiastical Commission and elected secretary of these delegates. Esdras Leonor is serving as translator. Edward Davis, Stated Clerk of the EPC, is serving on behalf of Andrew Jumper, who because of illness is unable to attend this meeting. Kay Sudheimer, secretary for World Outreach was also present.

Before proceeding to the agenda, Bartlett Hess gave a devotional and a history of the committee. He chose Galatians 6 as his text. We belong to the same family. Within this family there are no differences. We are to bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of God. A burden is something we cannot carry ourselves. That is why we need the Body of Christ and each other. The IPB and the EPC need each other. So we are here to share burdens, dreams and visions to the glory of God and so fulfill the Law of Christ. We are bound together in God's love. Each has to shoulder his own burden, but with the encouragement of the other, the burden can be made easier.

Prayer was offered by Roger Vonder Bruegge and Edesio Chequer.

Bartlett Hess summarized the history of the IPB and EPC relationship. Boanerges Ribeiro was invited to the 4th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. He invited an EPC delegation to come to Brazil the following winter. They did, and visited Sao Paulo and other parts of the country. Ultimately this relationship was put to paper in a document entitled the **Articles of Agreement** which was subsequently ratified by the two denominations. At this meeting, a discussion will begin as to the implementation of this **Agreement**.

It was agreed that first names will be used throughout this meeting. The format each day will be 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon, and 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m., with additional time allotted for breaks.

Theological education was the first topic of discussion. Andrew Jumper taught at the 1986 Pastors' Institute and developed the subject of pastoral counseling. Boanerges gave a history of the Institute. It began 25 years ago for the purpose of keeping pastors up-to-date on theological thought. Lecturers would come from the USA, chosen by the New York mission headquarters. They did not have a great deal of influence on those who heard them for only a short time. The seminary students had more time to study and listen to these men. The influence became increasingly less than positive. Consequently, the Institute was suspended until just recently. The IPB wants to continue the Institute with evangelicals who are academically respected. Theoretical and practical experience are needed in these lectures. The IPB needs help to identify capable lecturers and gain support for their travel to Brazil. The IPB will care for their local expenses. Bartlett has been recommended for 1987. Suggestions for 1988 are needed. Bartlett's topic will be Church Growth.

Bartlett asked for suggestions for future topics for the Pastors' Institute. Apologetics and liberation theology were suggested. Dialectic theology was also mentioned. Karl Barth has influence in Brazil. Edward asked if Brazilian pastors like to think theologically. Boanerges answered yes. Edward also asked if equipping pastors to think theologically would be a main goal. Boanerges indicated yes here as well.

Bartlett indicated that these theologians need to be contacted well in advance. Boanerges said that they could be flexible with the topics in order to get speakers to come.

Dr. Klooster from Calvin Seminary was suggested as a good example of a speaker who communicates well on the subject of contemporary theology.

What are the needs concerning the Sao Paulo library, and how can they be met? There has been a limited response to Andy's efforts. He has 12 cases of unsorted books. Andy hopes to sort the books and make an appeal to retired pastors to donate their libraries.

Edward suggested using North American publishers' catalogues to identify volumes which will be most helpful might be obtained, and subsequently these volumes would be purchased with appropriately designated funds. David indicated that he just received a list from Gordon-Conwell Seminary. It listed evangelical commentaries for every book of the Bible. Boanerges also suggested that Institute lecturers could submit bibliographies. Bart thought it would be helpful to have a list of books from the IPB of those books they thought would be helpful. A composite bibliography will be developed.

Bartlett asked what the long term plans of the IPB were, and how we could assist in theological education. Boanerges spoke to the need of finding and funding professors for the graduate program. This would involve travel to Brazil for one month periods, and evaluating continuing work periodically from the USA. Help would also be needed for approving thesis subjects and bibliographies, followed by the approval of the thesis itself. People experienced in pastoral counseling, Christian education, and church development are primary needs.

Boanerges believes preaching in Brazil needs improvement, and would like to have someone skilled in this area. Dr. Rob Norris from Fourth Church in Bethesda, Maryland, was suggested.

These visiting professors would not need to be fluent in Portuguese. They should, however, have a master's degree, preferably a doctorate, in the areas they teach.

It was hard to estimate a dollar amount needed for this project. Edward indicated that \$5,000 has been set aside as a goal in the benevolence askings for 1987 for each professor. Those resources should be used for travel and arrangements thereto. Local expenses would be up to the IPB.

Edward asked if other seminaries besides the one at Sao Paulo are involved. Boanerges indicated that Sao Paulo primarily has the funds for this project. Edesio said that this question could be a topic of the 1987 meeting after further IPB discussion.

Discussion followed concerning PCUSA missionaries currently working with IPB who may wish to continue that relationship by transferring to the EPC as their sending church. To date such has not been requested, though the door is still open. No one on the list of acceptable missionaries has come forward. Boanerges noted that there are PCUSA missionaries who would like to stay in Brazil and continue to relate to the IPB but do so in the context of their current denomination. This leaves the IPB in an embarrassing situation since the IPB is no longer relating to the denomination with which those missionaries are affiliated. Theology is not the problem with these missionaries, but the long-standing ties very hard to break.

How shall we proceed? Edward reviewed past procedures. The initial investigation was done by the IPB and only then did the EPC make any contact. That procedure would continue to be the most supportive. If EPC is contacted by US personnel, the EPC would forward those names to the IPB. Boanerges said this is good, but since EPC already has the approved list, it would be acceptable for the EPC to proceed. Next year is the final year during which the IPB will relate with missionaries who are not affiliated with an acceptable denomination. This may create problems.

Roger indicated there are some EPC churches who are supporting independent missionaries or organizations in Brazil. How would IPB view that? Edesio said it would depend on the particular work. Each case would be considered on its own merit. It was pointed out that it was important for the IPB to understand that individual churches are free to maintain their local benevolent programs as well as the denominational program.

Boanerges said they were open to discussion on each case individually, but the IPB did not want to interfere with internal EPC affairs.

The committee recessed for lunch at Bill Knapp's Restaurant.

Afternoon Session (II)

At this point, Boanerges began to chair the meeting.

Discussion commenced concerning sending missionaries from the EPC to work with the IPB. There has been no such activity to date. Reformed Theological Seminary has indicated growing interest in Brazil. Our churches are mission minded and once the need is expressed, a good response will likely follow.

Edwin outlined the process of becoming an EPC missionary. The applicant must be a member of an EPC particular church or Presbytery. The application process includes testing, references, and personnel processing, and takes approximately 8-12 months. Edwin expressed enthusiasm for recruiting missionaries for Brazil.

Bartlett asked what type people and skills are being sought. The following areas are important; frontier work, theological education, professors of Old Testament Biblical exegesis (could start in 1987), camp retreat personnel. Supervision of such people would be guided by the terms of the Agreement.

Some concern arose regarding Brazilian labor laws. Boanerges felt church workers would be admitted. Short term projects (2 weeks - 3 months) would be welcomed. The IPB indicates that it would receive missionaries as soon as the EPC could send them. It is also working toward being able to support those who wish to work in Brazil. There is no limit to the number of opportunities available. The role of the missionary in the future will depend on the people of Brazil themselves.

Nelson brought a new project before the JCM at the request of the Interecclesiastical Committee. This is a project to build an elementary school, a high school, and a seminary in Belo Horizonte. This city of 3.5 million people is the third largest city in Brazil. It has a real need for a Christian school. A formal proposal was presented. The cost is \$3.5 million. Because of conditions related to the 9 acre parcel of land, the work would need to begin in 2 years and be completed by 5 years. EPC is interested in the project but not the land conditions. The IPB would like the EPC to visit the area and learn more about the project.

Next topic pertained to possible areas in the USA and Canada where missionary personnel sent from the IPB and approved by the EPC could minister.

Research provided by Esdras concerning the Portuguese speaking population in the USA was presented by Edwin. The Portuguese speaking Brazilians are not classified as a group. California, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island have the largest settlements of Portuguese speaking people. The more recent immigrants tend to be middle socio-economic class and seem to assimilate easily but also try to keep their identity. There is a need and an opportunity to evangelize the Portuguese speaking community in this country.

There was no data available as to any other work being done, or what the response of the Portuguese speaking community has been. Boanerges spoke of an IPB work done in New Jersey in the 1920's under the PCUSA. It was never a large church, but it still exists and supports itself. Many lessons are to be learned here.

Esdras was asked to speak as a resource. He believes there are many more Portuguese speaking people than legal numbers show. Many others such as the Jehovah's Witnesses are already evangelizing them. Bartlett asked if it is easier to reach those who have immigrated, and Esdras indicated yes.

Nelson indicated a need to send someone with a great missionary vision. Lessons could be learned from the New Jersey church. The pastor who came from Brazil became fascinated with Princeton and then brought others from Brazil who did the same thing. It was indicated that a problem often arises when people come to the USA and then lose their zeal. Boanerges asked if EPC could support them fraternally and spiritually, and Edward affirmed the EPC's intention to provide strong personal and spiritual support. Nelson added that in the past, those who came used the opportunity to achieve personal goals. The selection of people will have to be carefully made.

Edesio pledged a commitment to the Portuguese-speaking people, wherever they are. The Brazilian church is ready for this kind of challenge. They have people interested in such work.

The meeting was adjourned for the day.

Morning Session (III)

Boarnerges opened the day's session with a devotional from John 14:13. Jesus brought the disciples together in a servant's fraternity. The work we do is His work - a servant's work. Bartlett was the chairman for this session.

The first topic for discussion was to review several items from yesterday's session. What are the needs of the Brazilian church and how will EPC's assistance be implemented? Such needs as teachers for the Pastor's Institute, books for the seminary, camp director, short-term construction people, and professors for the seminary. Implementation should be through the EPC's World Outreach Committee. EPC's part of the JCM should work to expedite this.

Edward reviewed the guidelines of the JCM and introduced EPC's administrative document on how the JCM will relate to the General Assembly. This internal document of the EPC is available to the IPB. Item 8 of that document states, "In forwarding JCM proposals to the General Assembly of the EPC for approval, the World Outreach Committee shall include proposals for funding and budgeting. In recommending disapproval, the CWO shall indicate reasons for disapproval and financial implications." Item 9 states, "Recruitment of missionaries for Brazil is the responsibility of the CWO." Item 10 reads, "Promotion and interpretation of the EPC work in Brazil is the responsibility of the CWO." Item 11 states, "Funding and church support is the responsibility of the World Outreach Committee.

Vern is a member of the CWO, Roger is a past member and current Assembly Moderator, and Ed Randal is the Director of World Outreach.

There are other projects that the IPB wish to be presented. The IPB project in Paraguay, overseas mission opportunities in Europe, and Africa were introduced. The Overseas Mission Committee of the IPB invites the EPC to begin a study to plant other churches in South America, France and Africa. The IPB seeks to work together on this.

Concerning the Portuguese-speaking people in Canada, there was no data available to the JCM. Edesio and Nelson will visit a Brazilian pastor in Toronto later this week, and hope to gather more information concerning the Portuguese-speaking people in Canada. The Presbyterian Church of Canada invited him and paid for his expenses. The work began just this year. Boarnerges indicated part of the freedom within the IPB is that personnel can accept an invitation such as this. This work has not been supervised by the IPB and is not in cooperative agreement with the Presbyterian Church of Canada. It flowed out of a friendship that developed between the Brazilian pastor and an elder who came from Toronto to Brazil.

Proposal: That the JCM target the fall of 1987 to begin a joint mission in church planting on the east coast of the USA. Details in personnel, program and funding to be developed in February, 1987 for submitting to EPC World Outreach, General Assembly, and appropriate agencies in the IPB. This would involve one missionary couple to be sent by the IPB to work in relationship to the EPC. The door is open for further study as to the most strategic location in the area stretching from Boston to Philadelphia. In February, 1987, the proposed visit of two EPC representatives to Brazil would provide more opportunity to discuss location. EPC would hope to match personnel and truly be partners in mission in this project. This proposal is a concept. The proposal envisions a goal of beginning work on this project in Fall, 1987.

Edwin and Edward agreed that to bring a Brazilian couple with one child to the USA for one year for this project would cost approximately \$30,000.

What are some of the other IPB planning for mission development in the world? The IPB is in communication with Angola and Mozambique. Angola has a Presbyterian Church that began as a result of a split from the Anglican church. The split came not on theological lines, but on administrative lines. It is a small denomination with 9 local churches. The IPB Moderator will visit Angola and the IPB will decide after that visit what can happen there. The Mozambique church grew out of the Reformed Church in Switzerland. A Brazilian pastor, whose father-in-law is French, who has a real burden for France would like to begin a work there. This too will be studied.

It was agreed the JCM will await further reports to see if a collective desire emerges between the IPB and the EPC as to partnership in these areas.

Edward noted that from the very beginning of our relationship with the IPB, we have, as a denomination, been interested in frontier missions. The IPB has helped the EPC to narrow that interest to the Alta Floresta area. We welcome the prioritizing of the area by the IPB. We have congregations and people who are very interested in frontier mission with some money already in hand. We must develop our understanding of the needs and translate this into concrete specifics to which our people can respond. We need all different sizes of projects to be identified. We must send veterans to work with the IPB Committee on National Missions to develop our work in this area. Edward has suggested to World Outreach that Roger and Edwin go back to Brazil for a substantial period of time in 1987. They may wish to take one or two others with them. They should return with frontier mission projects, short-term mission projects, and other opportunities to present.

"Is this proposal of any inconvenience to you?" (Edward) Boanerges responded, "No, we were hoping this would happen."

Bartlett asked if there were any summer missions opportunities in 1987. Edesio indicated they would welcome such persons or teams. Edesio described a possible summer project in Salvador (the fourth largest city in Brazil). Spiritism is very high there, and this would be a good place to receive youth from the USA for youth work. IPB could also use people able to help in constructing a nursing home there. The EPC asked for more information on Salvador, which the IPB agreed to provide.

Boanerges suggested local Brazilian churches could develop a program for summer volunteers to help in evangelism. Singing groups would likewise be much appreciated.

To minister in the frontier, the number would have to be limited to 5 or 6 because of the size of the planes which fly to the area. Larger groups could be accommodated in the urban centers.

Edesio described the Matupa project. Construction of the school is to begin in February, 1987, with 5 classrooms for first and second grades. Thereafter, one new grade will be opened each year through elementary school. Construction will proceed year by year. A written summary of the projected structures and time frame was made available to the EPC.

The Matupa project is envisioned as a 7-year project. The first year the IPB would contribute 30%; 2nd year, 35%; 3rd year, 40%; 5th year, 50%; 6th year, 55%. In the 7th year the church would support itself. The question was asked if the EPC could assist in these percentages.

Bartlett inquired if there were projects appropriate for the Committee on Women's Ministry to support. Edward suggested that Roger meet with the Chairman of the Women's Ministry Committee before February, 1987. Edwin and Roger could then bring back several project possibilities as suggestions for the spring meeting of the Committee on Women's Ministries.

How is it best to transmit funds from the EPC to the IPB? Boanerges indicated the funds should be sent to the treasurer of the IPB General Assembly with a designation attached. This process will be adopted unless otherwise requested by the IPB. The funds should be transmitted through a bank to the address of the treasurer and the account number provided to the EPC by Boanerges.

Afternoon Session (IV)

Boanerges assumed the chairmanship of the afternoon session. The mission work in Paraguay was described. The IPB has received governmental approval to work there. This is very hard to get. They currently have a missionary in Concepcion and hope to send a second missionary to Paraguay in 1987. The Interecclesiastical Committee asked the IPB delegates to ask the EPC for 50% financial cooperation in this project. Included are the cost of a missionary, evangelistic material, car and car maintenance, radio costs, office/travel expense, and construction of a church. Fifty percent would amount to \$35,000. The objective is to develop a church that will be self-sufficient quickly.

The earliest the EPC could approve this proposal would be June, 1987. It is possible that World Outreach Committee in February, 1987, will have undesignated mission money which might be available to help this project. Edward indicated the Alta Floresta Presbytery project will be on the World Outreach agenda in February, 1987. He also said some money should be available by early 1987 for frontier development in this presbytery.

Does the IPB have any long term plans to work in other countries? There is nothing specific yet. It was suggested that it would be a good idea for World Outreach and the IPB World Mission Committee to keep each other informed.

The **Minutes** of the November 3 meeting were reviewed and revised. The procedure for approving the **Minutes** for today's meeting are as follows:

1. Tentative draft will be written.
2. Draft will be submitted to Bartlett and Boanerges for approval.
3. Final approved copy will be signed by the co-chairmen.
4. **Minutes** will be entered into the permanent bound record of this committee and kept by each denomination. Such shall be done in both languages.

Edesio expressed gratitude on behalf of the IPB for the hospitality of the EPC and the strengthening of fraternal ties. They will continue to pray for our working together.

Bart expressed gratitude to the IPB delegates for coming. "You have each enriched our lives. We look forward, by the grace of God, to see you again."

Nelson was pleased to have come for his first visit to the USA. It was agreed that the names and addresses of the participants be attached to the **Minutes**.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Boanerges Ribeiro
Co-Chairman, IPB

Bartlett Hess
Co-Chairman, EPC

Ministerial Vocation Committee Report

The Ministerial Vocation Committee met April 30 - May 1, 1987 at the office of the General Assembly, Livonia, Michigan.

Present were: Ronald Chism, Walter Lobdell, Tommy Shields
Howard Shockley, Bill Flannagan, Chairman.
Edward Davis was present as Advisor.

The following matters of business are reported to the General Assembly for 1) information; and 2) action:

1. The Ministerial Vocation Committee has completed an extensive agenda of work assignments, assisting with a more effective and efficient operational procedure manual for Ministerial Committees of our Presbyteries. The Manual is presented to the Assembly for information and shall be distributed to the Presbytery Ministerial Committees.

We have fulfilled the instructions of the Sixth General Assembly regarding the development of a plan for providing Pastoral Care for pastors and their families. After many hours of study, discussion, and prayer the Committee has prepared a presentation for Assembly action entitled: Denominational Goals for Pastoral Care.

Our continuing education program which has been developed for candidates with extraordinary status is operating very smoothly. Our candidates who are classified in the extraordinary circumstances have become more appreciative of the orderly and competent manner in which they are being assisted in areas of educational deficiency.

The MVC has completed two complete batteries of standardized tests for ministerial candidates. Presbytery Ministerial Committees are responding very favorably to the testing procedure.

The MVC, in concert with the Stated Clerk, has now completed most of the informational forms necessary for expediting the distribution of information through the respective courts of the church. The latest forms completed are TERMS OF CALL (MINISTER) and TERMS OF CALL (EVANGELIST). The next informational form to be developed will be the CHURCH INFORMATION FORM.

The Subcommittee on Military Chaplaincy, under the leadership of Les Felker, is doing a fine job in establishing new channels of communication with our military chaplains and the respective offices of the military chaplaincy.

The MVC expresses sincere appreciation for the contributions of time and talent from Ronald Chism and Bill Flannagan. These two men have completed their terms of service on this Committee.

The Committee has selected Tommy Shields to serve as Chairman of the Ministerial Committee.

2. For General Assembly Action: The Ministerial Vocation Committee requests:

- A. 7th General Assembly endorsement of the **DENOMINATIONAL GOALS FOR PASTORAL CARE**.
- B. Five Minutes during the 7th General Assembly in order for the MVC Chairman to emphasize 8.1 of the **GOALS FOR PASTORAL CARE** and the distribution of an article by Eugene Peterson.
- C. Amendment to the **Book of Government** 13-5:
13-5: (to be an addition to present statement)
... spiritual growth.
"Presbytery shall not ordinarily receive a minister seeking to transfer from another denomination while either discipline, inquiry, or charges are pending against the minister. Presbytery may, however, by $\frac{3}{4}$'s vote, following careful review of the case, declare pending charges insufficient for refusal of membership."
- D. Amendment to the **Book of Government** 13-6:
13-6: (new addition to the BOG)
"Persons previously ordained in another Reformed denomination; but who, for reasons other than disciplinary action, lack current ordination credentials, shall be examined by the presbytery on views of those subjects set forth for ordination. Those persons shall, upon approval, become immediately eligible for ordination and to receive a call approved by the presbytery."
- E. Amendment to the **Book of Government**:
Present 13-6 becomes 13-7
Present 13-7 becomes 13-8
Present 13-8 becomes 13-9

This report is respectfully submitted to the 1987 General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

William M. Flannagan, Chairman
Ministerial Vocation Committee
Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Denominational Goals for Pastoral Care

Introduction:

Clergy stress has been identified as a growing problem within all denominations. Burnout is often seen as the end result of increasing pressures upon the minister, impacting both his/her professional and personal life. Numerous health problems are now understood as stemming directly from stress and/or stress-induced illnesses. The impact on individual spiritual life can be devastating. The Sixth General Assembly assigned this Committee the task of developing a strategy to address this problem.

The following goals reflect many hours of study, discussion, and prayer by the Committee. Documents studied represent evaluation and experiences from such noted counsellors and pastors as Stuart and Jill Briscoe, David McKenna, Mary L. Bouma, Ted Engstrom, Chuck Swindoll, and Craig Ellison. Preliminary investigation also produced an astounding revelation: Few, if any, mainline denominations have formally addressed ministerial stress. We could not find any who have developed an official strategy for reducing stress among clergy. It is our conviction that pressures on ministers will not lessen in the future. In the following goals we have sought to consider both immediate and long-range needs. Some of these goals can be immediately implemented. It is our prayer that through God's grace, wisdom, and direction, constructive responses can be realized, to the edification of the Body as a whole and of its individual members.

GOAL #1: To encourage a balanced perspective on spiritual and numerical growth by developing tools for measuring the spiritual health of congregational life beyond those of statistical comparisons, such as growth, finances, size.

Objectives:

- 1.1: Evaluate the present process of annual review as to its helpfulness for both denominational reporting and congregational growth and development.
- 1.2: Development of evaluative instruments for the measurement of spiritual health and vitality of the congregation to be used by the Session.
- 1.3: Evaluate the influence of the Church Growth Movement upon the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.
- 1.4: Identify learning experiences that incorporate a balanced perspective between the values of both numerical and spiritual growth.

GOAL # 2: To establish processes for annual review of identifiable needs within congregational life in relationship to an intentional mission statement and specific goals.

Objectives:

- 2.1: Develop a working bibliography of evaluative and assessment tools presently available.
- 2.2: Develop a self-study document sensitive to the EPC which may be used by congregations seeking to develop a master plan for missions.
- 2.3: Identify and train resource persons within Presbyteries who may assist congregations in developing a local master plan for missions.

GOAL #3: To offer an annual growth experience for persons in ministry focusing upon spiritual, emotional, marital, family and church life.

Objectives:

- 3.1: Review the General Assembly agenda to determine the feasibility of reinstituting workshop time for growth experiences.

GOAL #4: To reaffirm our denominational commitment to quality continuing education for ministers and to develop resources for fulfilling this commitment.

Objectives:

- 4.1: Instruct Presbyteries to do a self-study of how present study leave time is being used in terms of time, cost, and effectiveness in ministry.

GOAL #5: To provide regional resource persons for pastoral care and support.

Objectives:

- 5.1: Explore with the Committees on Administration and Church Development various models by which this need could be met.

GOAL #6: To publish a monthly Pastoral Newsletter focusing on pastoral support, skills development, and information essential for effective ministry.

Objectives:

- 6.1: The General Assembly office, in concert with the Ministerial Vocation Committee, shall publish two issues of the Pastoral Newsletter, during 1987-1988.
- 6.2: The Pastoral Newsletter is to be distributed to Teaching Elders and lay leadership.

GOAL #7: To provide marriage and family enrichment opportunities for pastors and their spouses.

Objectives:

- 7.1: Send at least one ministry couple from each Presbytery to an MVC endorsed growth experience during 1987-1988.
- 7.2: Develop a financial base for the above goal from congregations and individuals willing to support this ministry.

GOAL #8: To encourage ministers in taking their weekly day of rest and occasional special times for renewal and reflection.

Objectives:

- 8.1: The Ministerial Vocation Committee is to communicate by pastoral letter its loving concern and encouragement that ministers and sessions see that this goal is taken seriously.

GOAL #9: To motivate ministers and sessions to take seriously the priesthood of believers and to commit themselves to equipping the laity for ministry.

Objectives:

- 9.1: Encourage ministers and sessions to study Ephesians 4:11-16, and to evaluate their oversight of the congregations life and mission in the light of this passage.

GOAL #10: To provide tools enabling pastoral candidates and congregations to articulate clearly their philosophy and goals for ministry and to resolve differences constructively.

Objectives:

- 10.1: Develop a Church Information Form adequate for substantive discussion between the search committees and candidates.
- 10.2: Encourage Ministerial Committees to fulfill their pastoral role in negotiations between pastoral candidates and search committees.

GOAL #11: To help ministers make a more objective assessment of their calling, gifts, and effectiveness in ministry in light of their ordination vows.

Objectives:

- 11.1: Identify credible assessment resources readily available for persons in Christian vocations.

Procedural Manual for Ministerial Committees

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I. Entry (into the ministry)

A. Introduction "A Theology of Calling"

1. The Vocational Choice of a Christian

All Christians are called by God to repentance and to participation in the healing ministry of Jesus Christ in the world. In this sense all Christians are called to be ministers of the Gospel and to exercise such gifts as God has given them in obedience to His purpose. The call of God to be Christian demands that the choice of work be a responsible decision of faith, based on the following factors:

- a. **The work must be appropriate to serve God's purposes.** The work must be judged first on the basis of its relationship to the biblically expressed mission of the Church, and second on the relative need in the world for that work. It is not enough to choose useful work which one likes and can do. The Christian's work must be important to the Kingdom of God.
- b. **The work must be consistent with a person's abilities.** God has created each person with an individual set of natural abilities and a unique emotional and mental pattern. All Christians should make use of testing, counseling, and every other means at their disposal to learn as much as they can about themselves and their God-given gifts so that they may best serve God in the vocational area for which He has fitted them.
- c. **The work must be confirmed by an inner conviction that this is God's will for their lives.** By the grace of God, when Christians seek in faith to choose with good judgment, they begin to sense a strong conviction that one type of work is better for them than others. This is what might be spoken of as the "Inner Call" or the "Secret Call". It is very definitely a part of the occupational choice Christians make, but never should it be trusted alone, since this kind of inner experience can be misinterpreted. The Church is responsible for helping all its members choose not the merely satisfying, but the best.

2. The Importance of the Ministry

The Reformers believed that God instituted a ministry to declare His will, to administer the Sacraments, and to ensure the orderly government of the Church. They held that preaching and teaching by a trained and duly authorized person are essential. The Sacraments are functions of the ministry not because their validity is based on the minister's ordination, but because they must never be separated from preaching, the declaration of God's will. These elements, the sincere preaching of the Word, the right administration of the Sacraments, and the orderly government of the Church, were and still are the marks of the true Church. This, the function of the ministry was and still is seen to be of vital importance.

Therefore, the ministry should be considered by able, committed people. It is imperative that those endowed with suitable physical, mental, and spiritual gifts give primary consideration to the choice of this vocation. The Church, in fact, should urge gifted individuals — as responsible Christians — to consider the ministry because of its importance to God's purposes.

3. The Call of the Church

Who is to decide who has these gifts? Dare one completely trust one's own judgment? Does one rely on the opinions of others? Should one look to the covenant community? The Reformers felt that the ultimate judgment about demonstrated gifts for the ministry could best be made by the people of God. They insisted that ministers be called by the Church.

By this call of the Church, the Reformers meant a process which included the search for and selection of candidates, the period of trial, the election of a candidate to be pastor by the people of the congregation, and examination before presbytery, culminating in the ordination and installation of the candidate as minister. The entire process comprised the "Outward Call" or the call of the Church. In Calvin's mind, the Scriptures taught that the Church has the responsibility to be the agent through which God calls people into the ministry. Moreover, his experience forcefully indicated that this Biblical understanding of the call served a dual purpose: it protected the Church from weak and misguided leadership; it provided the means of securing the gifted, disciplined, prepared ministry which would be necessary for the Reformed churches. Like Luther, Calvin and his successors placed the deciding consideration upon the call of the Church.

In theory and in practice, the Reformers affirmed the right and the responsibility of the Church to choose or select candidates for the ministry — not only from among those who offered themselves, but also those who did not. The Reformers, therefore, searched for individuals with the appropriate gifts and confronted them with the challenge of the ministry.

In modern times, the "Inner Call" has frequently been given the predominant position. The Reformers unhesitatingly affirmed its importance, but they never acknowledged it as the sole deciding factor for admission to the ministry. Calvin defined the inner or secret call as the "good testimony of one's heart" that allowed one to accept a proffered office in the Church.

Another trend in modern times has been the tendency to look upon the call to the ministry as an event which takes place at one time and may not be apparent to anyone other than to the one called. **The Book of Government** § 12-2-A, indicates calling to be not only an **event**, but a **process**. For the individual, this process strengthens the impetus to the ministry; for the Church, it confirms the validity of the call and the suitability of the person called.

B. The Relationship of the Ministerial Committee to the Presbytery.

1. General Overview

The Ministerial Committee is presbytery's agent for enlistment, support, care and supervision of its candidates for the ministry. The responsibilities of this committee should include:

- a. Enlistment: seeking out those who are likely to be ministers and laying before them the opportunities and demands of the ministry of the Word.

- b. Reception: guiding applicants for candidacy through all the steps necessary under the **Book of Government** to come under the supervision of the committee (G 12-2-B.) or to become candidates under care of presbytery. (G 12-2-A.)
- c. Oversight: supervision and care of candidates until they have been ordained or have otherwise ceased to be candidates.

2. Significant Task

The Ministerial Committee makes the presbytery's first response to those seeking candidacy. For the Church at large, the committee stands at the outer gate to the ordained ministry — responding to the applicants, screening them, and recommending whether or not they should be admitted to processes which may eventually lead to ordination as ministers of the Word.

The committee's responsibility takes two directions. On the one hand, the members must care for the Church, meeting the needs for individuals who may become able, committed leaders. On the other hand, the committee must care for those challenged by the possibility of a call to the ordained ministry. In the latter case, committee members must deal with questions of effectiveness and happiness in the ministry.

3. Required Resources

- a. Personnel: The significance of the task of the Ministerial Committee calls for well-qualified people who can and will commit themselves to a faithful term of office. The committee should be large enough to carry out its functions without undue hardship for any, but not so big as to be unwieldy. It would be helpful if the committee were composed of persons (16-27-A.) of varying ages and life experiences. The committee should communicate annually its perception of its personnel needs to presbytery's Nominating Committee.
- b. Funds: The presbytery should provide adequate funds to enable the committee to discharge all its responsibilities to the candidates and to the presbytery. This amount should include funds for the following items:
 - 1. Administration - Expenses of the Committee
 - 2. Program
 - 3. Scholarship or aid funds
- c. Committee: The Ministerial Committee will have to be adapted to whatever administrative structure the Presbytery uses to carry out its work. The terms of office will be those determined by the presbytery.

The committee will need a high level of commitment to carry out its role. Too many absences or too much change in membership or leadership on the part of the committee will inevitably result in unsteady support for, and a high degree of uncertainty on the part of, the candidates. The result will be that they will not receive adequate counsel, care, and supervision.

Once the Ministerial Committee has been established by the presbytery, it may structure itself in whatever way seems best suited to carry out its responsibilities in its particular circumstances. The following suggestions are offered for consideration:

1. The committee shall elect a chairman and a clerk. There should be resources among the committee to handle an anticipated large amount of correspondence.
2. Some facets of the work of the committee need to be done by the committee as a whole.
3. The full committee should meet regularly — at least as often as presbytery meets.
4. Other facets of committee work, especially the pastoral aspects of oversight, can be carried out effectively by sub-committees or by individuals.

C. The Work of the Ministerial Committee

1. Responsibilities: 16-27-A.1-12

- a. Shall report annually, to presbytery, on the work of the ministers in that presbytery. This includes an annual report from those ministers approved for labor outside the bounds of presbytery.
- b. Shall assist churches in securing pastor(s).
- c. Shall review each request for dissolution of a pastoral relationship and shall report to presbytery.
- d. Shall counsel with congregations seeking a pastor or other pastoral staff. Shall recommend to presbytery a minister to serve as Moderator of the church session. Shall assist the congregation in securing pulpit supply.
- e. Shall have oversight of the candidates for the gospel ministry of the presbytery. (Presbytery may assign this function to some other committee.)
- f. Shall confer with each minister desiring to become a member of the presbytery, or candidate desiring ordination, and conduct any examination it deems necessary in order to make a decision for its recommendation to presbytery concerning the application. It shall also conduct the examination by the presbytery of the applicant according to the **Book of Government**.
- g. Shall be consulted prior to a call being issued to any pastor.
- h. Shall review the annual remuneration of all ministers in the presbytery. Shall consult with church sessions if deemed necessary concerning such remuneration. May recommend to presbytery minimum terms for the call of a minister. Change in terms of call shall come through this committee.

- i. Shall consult with churches receiving financial aid from Presbytery.
- j. May be appointed by Presbytery to serve as a judicial or administrative commission.
- k. May investigate and make recommendations to Presbytery regarding churches having difficulties or failing in its mission.
- l. May be authorized by Presbytery to dissolve pastoral relationships and dismiss ministers according to the **Book of Order**, when both pastor and congregation concur in the dissolution.

II. Process of Ordination and Candidacy

A. Pastoral Offices: 11-5,6,7

1. **Pastor:** Elected by the congregation. Relationship established by the Presbytery.
2. **Pastor, Associate:** Elected by the congregation. Call shall stipulate the primary responsibilities of the office. Relationship established by the Presbytery. With Presbytery approval may succeed the pastor.
3. **Pastor, Assistant:** Elected by the Session. Call shall be for a definite period of time and be renewable. Call shall stipulate the primary responsibilities of the office. Relationship established by the Presbytery. May not succeed the pastor.

B. Temporary Pastoral Offices: 11-8.A.B.C.

1. **Stated Supply:** May serve a definite period of time of no less than one month and no more than twelve. May serve as Moderator of the Session with Presbytery approval.
2. **Interim Supply:** Invited to serve during the period of time a congregation is seeking a pastor.
3. **Occasional Supply:** Invited to serve on specified days. Only Ministerial Committee must approve.

C. Disposition of the Call to the Ministry: 11-9,10,11,12,13

A call may be placed in the hands of a minister or a candidate only by the Presbytery to which that person belongs. Action must comply with criteria in 11-9.

1. **From another Presbytery:** The Presbytery shall not proceed in dealing with the call until that person has been received by the calling Presbytery.
2. **To a non-pastorate capacity:** The calling agency shall issue a call in like form as a particular church and the Presbytery shall proceed in ordinary fashion for approving such a call.

3. **A call outside the structures of the Church:** A request is presented to Presbytery, indicating the nature of the work and the terms of the call. Procedure must adhere to the criteria of 11-12.
4. **A call not approved by Presbytery:** A call not approved by Presbytery may resort to inactive status under conditions set forth in 15-7.

D. Preparation for Office: 12-1; 12-3

Calling to office in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church places certain obligations on an ordinand. 12-1

Special preparation for the ministry is required; **(please note the Procedural Manual for Candidates for the Gospel Ministry.)**

1. Person desiring to become an ordained minister shall first become a candidate under the care of the Presbytery of which that person's church is a member. That person begins this process by receiving the endorsement of the particular church Session where the person's membership has been held for at least six months.
2. Presbytery committee charged with the oversight of candidates shall conduct the necessary testing.
3. Presbytery shall make public examination of the candidate. If approved, Presbytery shall proceed according to the procedure described in 12-2.C,D,E, F,G,H.

E. Examination for Ordination and/or Installation: 13-1; 13:8

Prior to approving a candidate for ordination to the ministry, it is important for the ordaining court to assure itself of the competency of the individual being ordained to serve.

The examination of a candidate for the ministry and/or a candidate under the extraordinary status is explained in the G 13-2,3; and in the **Manual for Candidates**.

The examination of an ordained minister transferring to a Presbytery. A minister seeking to transfer into Presbytery shall be examined on **views** of the areas indicated in § 13-2. Note: 13-4.

The examination of an ordained minister coming from another denomination: Note: 13-5.

1. From another denomination from within the Reformed family:
 - shall present credentials of education required by those seeking ordination.
 - shall be examined on views and beliefs in the same fashion as one transferring from one Presbytery to another within the EPC.

2. From another tradition:
— shall be examined in the same manner as a candidate for ordination.
3. Each person seeking admission shall always be examined on personal Christian experience and progress in spiritual growth.

This portion of the manual is in more detail in order for this material to be duplicated and provided as a resource for Search Committees.

III. Search Process

A. Introduction:

Your church has a staff position open. The person who will fill it may now be a student in seminary, may be ordained and serving a church, may be an ordained minister not serving a local church at the present time, but interested in doing so. Although this portion of the **Procedure Manual** uses the term "minister" throughout, it is with the understanding that "minister" may mean student about to begin on a first pastorate or an ordained person serving somewhere other than the local church.

This **Manual** is for the guidance of: 1. officers of a church; 2. search committees during the time a church is seeking a pastor.

The steps in this **Manual** are the result of tried and accepted practices which have been proved over the years. (**Book of Order** 11-5)

1. Session calls a congregational meeting to elect a Search Committee.
2. Congregation elects a Search Committee in duly called meeting.
3. Search Committee consults with the Ministerial Committee of the Presbytery.
4. Search Committee selects the best prospect for the position and discusses the suggested terms of the call and covenant with the minister, asking for a reaction.
5. Search Committee obtains the consent of the Ministerial Committee. (Should M.C. decline to consent, Search Committee may persist with the nomination, recognizing that the Presbytery has the right to reject the call. See: § 11-3).
6. Search Committee notifies the church Session which shall call a congregational meeting.
7. Search Committee reports to the congregation and makes recommendation to call a Pastor/Associate. A majority favoring the recommendation is required to elect a Pastor. The exact vote must be recorded in minutes and person elected notified of the count. The congregation shall appoint representatives to advocate the call at a meeting of Presbytery.
8. The call of the congregation shall be stated in a form similar to the form in the **Book of Order**, 11-5,F.

B. Special Relationships

A Search Committee has special relationships with three permanent bodies. They are:

1. Ministerial Committee: Each Presbytery has a committee dealing with ministers and their working relationships. (**Book of Order** 16-27,A)
2. The Church Session
3. The Congregation

The Committee

- is responsible for assisting churches when they seek a pastor.
- shall recommend to Presbytery a minister to serve as Moderator of the church Session.
- shall work with congregation in securing pulpit supply.
- should develop a close relationship with a Session and a Search Committee.

The Session

- is responsible for continuing regular worship services when a church is without a pastor.
- engages a Stated Supply, Interim Supply, or Occasional Supply, as appropriate.

NOTE: It is preferable to engage a Stated or Interim Supply so as to enhance continuity of church activities. Presbytery's Committee must be consulted before engaging a Stated or Interim Supply. (This is also true of Occasional Supply if for longer than one month.)

- calls a congregational meeting to elect a Search Committee which in turn shall nominate one minister to the congregation for consideration for a call to fill the available position.
- concurs in terms of call and covenant.
- calls a congregational meeting to issue a call.

The Congregation: The Search Committee is the congregation's (not the Session's) committee and the congregation:

- determines the number of members (ordinarily 5 to 7) and elects a Search Committee that is typical of the congregation.
- must receive notice of a meeting to elect a Search Committee at least two Sundays prior to the meeting.
- can transact only business stated in the notice of the meeting.
- should elect alternates to fill vacancies on the committee or else fill vacancies at a subsequent congregational meeting.
- acts on the report of the Search Committee including the terms of call and covenant, and discharges the committee when its work is finished.

Joint Meeting with the Ministerial Committee: The committee should meet with the officers of a church and the Search Committee promptly after the Search Committee has been elected. In the meeting the following topics should be covered:

- call process explained.
- potential problems identified and discussed. Particular attention should be given to questions of moving on the field, standard exams for seminary students, and for ministers from other denominations.
- need for the church developing a clear and concise statement and explanation of its theological views, congregational and community identification, etc. See: "Church Information"
- establish a range of remuneration for the call and expenses of the committee.

General Guidance for Search Committee: The judgment of members of a Search Committee as they proceed to select a minister to be nominated will significantly affect the life of the congregation. The task requires spiritual guidance to secure wisdom beyond ourselves. Members of the committee should:

- join in prayer covenant for God's guidance and direction in the selection.
- open and close all meetings with prayer.
- schedule regular meetings.
- elect a chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary.
- keep the Session and the congregation informed of progress, but names of individuals being considered and their qualifications must be kept confidential even from family members and church officers.
- keep the Ministerial Committee fully informed of progress.
- keep clear and accurate records of ministers under consideration, Personal Information Forms requested and received, correspondence with ministers, decisions made concerning ministers.
- keep ministers still under consideration informed of committee's progress.
- promptly inform ministers when they are no longer under consideration.
- strive to receive unanimous and enthusiastic support.

AVOID:

- speaking for the committee unless authorized to do so.
- making a commitment to a minister concerning a call during preliminary communications and interviews.

Church Information: One of the first major tasks of a Search Committee is to prepare an informational description of your church. Preparing it can determine the training, experience, and abilities that a minister should have in order to serve the particular congregation. The committee is also describing its church and community for the prospective ministers. In addition, the description is used for matching prospective ministers to a church.

Source of Names: Names of prospective ministers will come from various groups, including:

- members of the congregation.
- former members and interested friends.
- members of the committee.

The committee may wish to invite the congregation to suggest names and should request Personal Information Forms for those whose names are submitted. Anyone suggesting a minister should furnish the committee with the full name and current address of the person being proposed. Personal Information Forms may be requested from the Office of the Stated Clerk, Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 26049 Five Mile Road, Detroit, Michigan 48239.

In addition to Personal Information Forms requested by name, the committee will also receive Personal Information Forms from:

- The Ministerial Committee
- Self-referrals from ministers who are aware of the position.

Receiving and Reading Personal Information Forms

All ministers/candidates should submit an "EPC Personal Information Form" to the Office of the General Assembly. In addition to an essay section, these forms contain objective information such as educational background, work experience, date and place of birth, family status, and major areas of interest. Evaluating the Personal Information Forms provides a preliminary screening to determine if the committee wants to get more information on particular ministers. In evaluating Personal Information Forms the committee should:

- establish a simple recording system to track when a form was received and its status during the committee's activities.
- establish selection criteria, keeping in mind merit, suitability, and availability.
- develop a procedure whereby members place candidates in one of at least three categories:
 - appear to be suitable
 - possible
 - not suitable
- contact those that appear suitable to see if available and, if so, determine if mutual interest exists.

Interviewing:

While much can be learned from reading and evaluating Personal Information Forms, the additional information gained from direct interviews and from hearing a minister or seminary student lead in worship and/or preach is invaluable. Thus when a committee becomes seriously interested in a minister, it should visit in his church. If that is not possible, the Ministerial Committee can arrange for him to preach in another church for the convenience of the committee. However, the committee **should not** expect a minister to visit its church for the purpose of preaching a trial sermon prior to being presented as the nominee or prior to receiving a call. For mutual convenience, an interview usually can and should be arranged during the same trip when a committee hears a minister preach.

Hearing a Minister Preach: The following suggestions are offered for guidance:

- reread the minister's Personal Information Form.
- be on time for the service; verify time of service.
- enter the sanctuary either singly or in pairs, not as a large group which would be noticeable.
- avoid being more conspicuous than necessary lest you disturb both minister and congregation.
- have a receptive and inquiring attitude:
 - does the service begin promptly at the set time?
 - does the service run smoothly?
 - does the minister read the Scripture well and carefully?
 - is the pulpit manner compelling?
 - are the prayers helpful?
 - is the sermon easily followed, well organized, and applicable to life?
 - is the congregation attentive?
 - is the minister's custom at the close of the service acceptable?
- note the activities announced in bulletin or from pulpit.
- greet the minister simply and cordially as you leave the service.

Interviewing a Minister:

An effective interview requires adequate preparation. In addition to becoming acquainted, the whole question of potential relationship should be explored thoroughly and honestly. Since the minister will also be interviewing the committee, members should answer all questions asked. The following guidelines are suggested:

- restudy your church information report so you are prepared to answer questions about it, your church, and community.
- review the Personal Information Form to identify points on which you would like further information and formulate specific questions to generate the information.
- decide which committee member should begin the interview and how to proceed.
- allow adequate opportunity for the minister to ask questions.
- take notes both during the interview and immediately following to capture impressions gained during the course of the interview.
- thank the minister and remind him that the interview is not a commitment on the part of either party.
- arrange a date and procedure to let each other know if further consideration is in order.

Subjective Information:

- should be obtained by the Ministerial Committee and the Search Committee from sources other than the minister under consideration.
- may be obtained discreetly from friends or the members of the committee living in the community where the minister is located.
- may be obtained from credit bureaus.
- should include such matters as the record of the minister in the pastorate previously served, his ability to work easily among all ages and classes of people, his attitude toward the total program of the church, and his ability as a preacher, pastor, educator, and church administrator.
- must be received and treated in confidence.

Search Committee's Report to the Ministerial Committee: The Search Committee is responsible for selecting and nominating a minister. While the congregation may call a minister of its own choosing, the Search Committee cannot act unilaterally, and it must:

(Remember that **Book of Order**: 16:27-A.7 states, "No call to a pastor may be issued by a congregation which has not first consulted with the Ministerial Committee." Also: 11-5.B)

- ascertain that the Ministerial Committee will recommend Presbytery's approval of the terms of the call and seek the committee's advice on the terms of the covenant before a name is submitted to the congregation.
- determine Presbytery's policy prior to the actual examination before Presbytery toward a minister's moving to the new work before the call is approved, placed in his hands and Presbytery has received the minister.

Congregation Meets to Elect Pastor/Associate Pastor:

- when the committee is ready to nominate, it informs the Session and calls a congregational meeting for that purpose. (**Book of Order** 11-5.D)

The Call

- The formal prosecution of a call extended by a congregation involves documenting specific actions on "Form for Call". This form is conceptually described and its purpose explained in **Book of Order** 11-5.F.
- Any special requirements on what to include in the call should be checked with Presbytery.
- The Search Committee should keep in mind the importance of continuing coverage of the minister's insurance and retirement programs when prosecuting a call.

Public Notices of Acceptance of Call:

- Public notices of acceptance of a call are made jointly by the Session of the church issuing the call and the minister called. The Search Committee should coordinate and see that these notices are issued.

Associate Pastor: The same steps are followed in calling an associate pastor as in calling a pastor. All involved should remember that:

- the congregation is required to vote upon terms of covenant.
- the call and covenant set forth the particular functions to be fulfilled.
- an associate is eligible to succeed the pastor.

Discharge of Search Committee:

At the time the Search Committee is elected, provision should be made for it to serve until the duly called minister is installed. At that time, the committee's work is concluded. However, experience shows that the new minister can use a support group. The Search Committee, which has become so well acquainted with the minister, might well become a sounding board and support group for the first year of the new pastoral relationship.

A Word to the Wise

Experience shows that a little courtesy can go a long way in making the search process more pleasant for both committee and minister. Give serious consideration to the minister's family and personal feelings and the result will reflect sincere appreciation from all concerned.

IV. Installation Process: — Chapter 14

The **Book of Order** clearly states that the planning and the conduct of the entire process of ordination and installation is the responsibility of the Presbytery. The Presbytery usually delegates this responsibility to an administrative commission, upon whose shoulders rests the entire responsibility of insuring the order and meaning of this significant event.

The **Book of Government** sets forth in Chapter 14, the specific steps which must be followed in the ordination and installation of ministers. The purpose of this Manual is to assist in the implementation of the procedures outlined in the **Book of Order**.

A. Steps to be taken By Presbytery Prior to the Installation:

The Presbytery, through the Ministerial Committee, should consult with the candidate for installation prior to the meeting of Presbytery. The committee should prepare recommendations for Presbytery, taking into consideration the wishes of the candidate concerning the following matters:

1. The time and place of his ordination and/or installation: This service will ordinarily be held in the church of which he is to be pastor. When a minister is called as pastor of two or more congregations he must be installed in each congregation. This may be conducted jointly by the congregations or separate services may be held.
2. The names of the ministers and the ruling elders who shall compose the commission to ordain/install: It is customary for the candidate to request ministers and ruling elders to serve on the commission. Presbytery may set the number of individuals it wishes to serve on the commission. These individuals must be members of the Presbytery under whose jurisdiction the service takes place.
3. The names of other elders and ministers: The candidate may submit to the Presbytery for approval names of other ruling elders and/or ministers the Presbytery may wish to invite to participate in the service.
4. The specific parts to be assigned to members of the commission and to other invited participants: At a minimum the parts include:
 - a. presiding and pronouncing the constitutional questions.
 - b. preaching of the ordination/installation sermon.
 - c. charging of the minister-elect.
 - d. charging of the congregation.
 - e. offering the prayer or prayers of ordination/installation.

Before submitting the names of these persons to Presbytery it is wise for the chairman of the committee assisting the candidate to ascertain that they have agreed to serve.

B. Steps to be taken at the Service of Installation:

1. The commission should meet privately prior to the service and open its proceedings with prayer. A secretary should be selected and instructed to take complete minutes (using the approved form for commission minutes which may be obtained from the General Assembly office.)
2. At the appointed time the commission should proceed with the service of worship.

- a. The members of the commission, the candidate, and the elders of the church should enter the sanctuary in that order, following the choir if there is a processional. The commission members should be seated facing the congregation; the candidate should be seated in the front row or pews nearest to the aisle; and the elders of the church should be seated in a body in the row immediately behind the candidate.
 - b. The chairman of the commission should preside throughout the entire service. Following the sermon the chairman should state to the congregation the proceedings of the Presbytery regarding the candidate up to this point and introduce the members of the commission.
 - c. He should then direct the candidate to stand facing the commission and address to him the questions required by G14-1.A-1 through 10.
 - d. While the candidate is still standing the chairman should then direct the constitutional questions to the congregation: G14-1.A-11 through 14.
 - e. When the questions are answered in the affirmative the commission chairman should direct the candidate to kneel. Members of the commission should rise and place their right hands upon the candidate's head and shoulders for the prayer of ordination/installation.
 - f. The chairman will ask the candidate to rise and then give to him the right hand of fellowship saying; "By the authority of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and the Presbytery of _____, I declare that _____ has been ordained/installed to the Gospel Ministry of this Church, and that he/she has been duly and properly installed as Pastor of this congregation, agreeable to the Word of God and the laws of this Church. As such he/she is entitled to be given support, encouragement, honor, and obedience in the Lord. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."
 - g. There should then follow the charge to the pastor which should be limited to 5 minutes.
 - h. The charge to the congregation should then be delivered. This charge should also be limited to 5 minutes.
 - i. The service is concluded with the benediction. By custom the newly ordained minister offers an apostolic benediction.
3. At the conclusion of the service the elders and deacons of the congregation should proceed to the front to greet their newly-installed pastor, followed by other members of the congregation.

Many congregations have an informal reception for the minister and his family following the service.

4. The commission should retire to conclude its own meeting with the reading of the minutes of the proceedings and prayer. A complete and formal report must be made to the Presbytery.

V. Dissolution of Pastoral Relationships

A. Procedures to be followed by the Church:

1. The first public knowledge of a minister's intention to "resign his pastorate" should be given by him to the Session of the church. He should advise the members of the Session of his intention to accept the call which has been extended to him and ask the Session to call a congregational meeting for the purpose of deciding whether to concur in his request.

The Session should proceed to arrange for such a congregational meeting immediately, care being taken to observe the required notice of "two Sunday's notice". (G8-1.B) (15-2)

The dissolution of a pastoral relationship: This relationship may be dissolved only by Presbytery.

2. Dissolution by reason of age: When a minister serving in any capacity in the Church reaches the age of 70, that relationship shall be terminated. The minister is obligated to notify the Presbytery six months prior to his 70th birthday. The minister is then eligible to be reelected in the same relationship yearly with the approval of the church Session and the Presbytery.

No person having reached the age of 70 is eligible to accept a call as pastor to any congregation other than the one being served upon reaching retirement age.

3. For the sake of good record keeping, it is advisable for the Clerk of the Session to send a certified transcript of the congregational meeting to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery. However, some form of report **must** be made to the Presbytery (normally through the Ministerial Committee to the meeting of Presbytery) that it concurred with the minister in his request for the dissolution of the pastoral relationship.

The congregation has the right to refuse to concur in the minister's request. In such case it must be prepared to appear by its commissioners and explain its action. (G15-2).

After hearing both minister and church, the Presbytery will render its decision as to dissolution of the pastoral relationship.

VI. Transfer and Dismissal (G11-9;11-10;13-4)

Most movement in the ministry of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church results from a minister's acceptance of a call to a church. When the call comes from a church in another Presbytery the minister usually requests transfer to that Presbytery at the same time his "resignation" of his present pastorate is made known to the Session of his church. Since a call is a three-way contract between the minister, the church and the Presbytery, three distinct parties are definitely involved in the minister's orderly departure from the Presbytery of which he is now a member. Certain procedures are incumbent upon each of these parties.

A. Procedures to be followed by the Minister:

1. The minister should advise the Session of his church that he intends to ask Presbytery to dissolve the pastoral relationship between himself and the church and request a congregational meeting called for the purpose of deciding whether to concur in his request to the Presbytery. (G15-2)
2. He should also advise the Moderator and Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of his intended action and ask for a meeting of the Presbytery to be called to act on his request for dissolution of the pastoral relationship.
3. Some Presbyteries operate under the provision of G15-2, permitting dismissal of a minister by the appropriate commission of Presbytery (the Ministerial Committee may be empowered to act in behalf of Presbytery when there is agreement with pastor and congregation). In such cases the minister's request would be transmitted to the Presbytery's appropriate commission, which should promptly act on his request.
4. Usually a Presbytery dismisses a minister to another Presbytery in order that he may accept the call of a particular church of that Presbytery. The minister makes a two-fold request of the Presbytery: the **dissolution** of the present relationship and **transfer** to the other Presbytery, i.e. his **dismissal** to it. It is important to him to see that the technicalities involved are carefully observed and the constitutional requirements faithfully met. He should present, therefore, both parts of the needed request to his Presbytery.

G11-9 reads: "A call shall be placed in the hands of a Minister or a Candidate only by the Presbytery to which that person belongs." Note the words, "... only by that Presbytery to which he belongs, ..." etc. If a minister is not a member of a Presbytery, it cannot place in his hands officially any call to whatever service. Viewed from his standpoint, a minister may be advised by a pulpit nominating committee that a congregational meeting of their church has elected him as its pastor and he may receive a copy of the "call" of that church for his pastoral services, duly certified by the Moderator of the congregational meeting. But so long as he remains a member of any other Presbytery the call is not officially in his hands.

5. Following the meeting of the Presbytery (or the meeting of the commission approved by Presbytery, where applicable) the minister should ascertain from the Stated Clerk of his Presbytery that a Certificate of Dismissal to the other Presbytery has been, or will be, transmitted to the Stated Clerk of the other Presbytery promptly.

VII. Pastoral Care (Oversight) (G16-27; 15-7; 15-8)

- ##### A. Individual Members:
- The Ministerial Committee of the Presbytery is responsible for providing oversight, support and counsel for the ministers in the respective Presbyteries.
1. **Active Ministers:** The Ministerial Committee is to maintain communications with all of the active ministers in the Presbytery and to make an annual report to Presbytery regarding the work of each minister. This includes a report on those ministers approved for labor outside the bounds of Presbytery.

The Committee is also responsible for an annual review of remuneration of all ministers and shall consult with church Sessions if deemed necessary concerning such remuneration.

2. **Inactive Ministers:** A minister may, for reasons deemed valid, request of Presbytery to be placed on inactive status. If the Presbytery concurs, the minister shall be placed on such status. All rights and privileges granted by ordination are temporarily set aside, including the right to vote and participate in the meetings of Presbytery. After one year, the minister may request Presbytery to be restored to active status.

A minister with approved charge, at the discretion of Presbytery and after judicious consideration, may be involuntarily placed on the Inactive Roll, provided the vote was two-thirds majority.

3. **Retired Ministers:** A minister may request Presbytery to be placed on the Retired Roll of Presbytery due to age, infirmity, or other debilitating condition. If the Presbytery concurs, a service of appreciation and thanksgiving should be conducted.

A minister who is retired remains a full of Presbytery. The Ministerial Committee is responsible for making an annual review of its retired members to be sure of their welfare and to rectify any deficiencies. This review is to be included in the annual review of minister.

B. To Congregations:

The Ministerial Committee is to serve as counselor and advisor for the local congregation:

1. The committee is to work with particular churches in securing pastor(s). It shall counsel with congregations seeking a pastor or other pastoral staff, shall recommend to Presbytery a minister to serve as moderator of the church Session, and shall work with a congregation in securing pulpit supply.
2. No call to a pastor may be issued by a congregation which has not first consulted with the committee.
3. Requests to Presbytery regarding change in terms of call shall come through the committee.
4. The committee shall consult with particular churches receiving aid from Presbytery regarding that aid.
5. The committee shall insure that the moderator of the Session in a church where a pulpit is vacant shall present a pastoral report to each stated meeting of the Presbytery. The report shall be on the spiritual well being of that congregation as long as the pulpit is vacant.

C. Crisis Intervention:

1. Although no complaint may have been received, if in the judgment of the committee a particular congregation may be having difficulties or appears to be failing in its mission, the committee has the authority to investigate and to make recommendations to Presbytery.

VIII. Out of Bounds: (G10-3.F;11-11,12)

Within the office of minister, there are numerous callings. It may occur that a minister is called to labor in some capacity outside the authority of a court of the Church. After being fully satisfied that the ministry is consistent with the calling to the ministry of the Word, the Presbytery may grant permission for the minister to labor outside the bounds.

It shall be required of the minister to make annual report of his faithfulness to the Gospel, and have such permission of the Presbytery renewed annually at its discretion.

A minister may receive a call from some court or agency in a capacity other than the pastorate. The Presbytery shall proceed in ordinary fashion for approving the call, except the commission to install shall be omitted. If a minister desires to accept a call outside the structures of the Church, he shall present a request to the Presbytery, indicating the nature of the work and the terms of the call. If the Presbytery approves the nature of the work, it may approve the call for a definite period of time.

IX. Annual Reviews: (G16-27:A.1,7,8;15-8;10-3.F;11-11,11-12)

The Ministerial Committee has the responsibility for conducting annual reviews for all ministers in the Presbytery (this includes pastors classified as active, inactive, retired, and serving out of bounds).

- A. All annual reviews should be conducted sensitively and with a sufficient amount of time being provided for the minister to share information reflecting areas of accomplishment, disappointment, expectation, and need.
 1. **Compensation:** The minister's salary and perquisites are an area of concern for the Ministerial Committee. Annual review of the adequacy of compensation and the advocacy of an organized compensation plan to improve inadequate salaries should have a high priority in every Presbytery.
 2. **Annuities, Pensions and Benefits:** The Ministerial Committee should have a working knowledge of annuities and pensions in order to answer routine questions. Knowing where to find answers to questions is important.
 3. **Conflict Management:** One skill every Ministerial Committee should strive to develop is the ability to discern early warning signs of conflict in individuals as well as in groups. Much of the church's pain over conflict could be diminished or even avoided if committees were more sensitive to early warnings.
- B. **Terms of Call:** No call to a pastor may be issued by a congregation which has not first consulted with the committee. Requests to Presbytery for a change in the terms of call shall come through the committee. The Ministerial Committee may recommend to Presbytery minimum terms for the call of a minister.

- C. **Retired Ministers:** The Presbytery, through this committee, is responsible for making annual review of its retired members to be sure of their welfare and to rectify any deficiencies.
- D. **Out of Bounds:** The committee shall keep in contact with all ministers laboring outside the bounds of Presbytery and assure that these individuals submit their annual reports to the court.
- E. **Annual Reports:** The Ministerial Committee is to submit a written report to the Presbytery regarding the areas of responsibility and evaluations made during the year.

X. **Relocation:**

In work with ministers who want or need to relocate, the Ministerial Committee will take a highly supportive role which can include the following:

- A. Exploring with the minister the type of call best suited to his gifts and needs at the time. Ministers often need guidance in order to be realistic about career goals and job prospects.
- B. Advising on the preparation of the Personal Information Form or reviewing the form when completed. (PIF's should be kept current. PIF's may be obtained from the office of the General Assembly Stated Clerk.)
- C. Explaining how the call system works. Phoning or writing Ministerial Committees in other Presbyteries on behalf of the minister who wants to move.
- D. Encouraging the minister to practice interviewing skills with a colleague.
- E. Keeping in touch with the minister throughout the process.

XI. **Documents for processes included in this manual:**

- A. Entry:
 - 1. Application for Membership
 - 2. Ministerial Committee and/or Ministerial Vocation Files
- B. Ordination:
 - 1. EPC Candidates Manual
 - 2. Ministerial Obligation Statement
 - 3. Ordination Certificate
- C. Search Process:
 - 1. Establish Search Committee
 - 2. Consultation with Ministerial Committee
 - 3. PIF's from Assembly Office
 - 4. Terms of Call Approved by Ministerial Committee
 - 5. Presbytery Consent for Pastoral Relationship
- D. Installation
- E. Dissolution of Pastoral Relationships
 - 1. Presbytery empowers Ministerial Committee to dissolve a Pastoral Relationship.
- F. Transfer/Dismissal
- G. Out of Bounds

Moderator's Report

With mixed emotions I have kept an eye on the calendar watching as June 15, 1987 approaches. That is the day in God's wisdom that a new Moderator will take the helm of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and my stand as helmsman will end. As I watch the sun set on the wake of the 6th General Assembly, I can catch the high bright images of the last year as well as the troughs. I am going to take perhaps my last liberty as Moderator and reminisce where the denominational ship of state has been, is presently running, and its next port of call.

We have increased numerically both in the number of churches and communicant members coming on board — good solid biblically committed churches, pastors, and congregations. I have met a number of the people making up these congregations, and they are fine Christian men, women, and children from all walks of life. A wide diversity of membership only makes the depths and foundations of God's churches stronger. In fact, the receptivity and love shown to me by those I have met and their deep commitment in ministry to God's creation only reassures me that the Evangelical Presbyterian Church is doing what Jesus has called her and all of us to do, "Feed my sheep."

Nationally we have had some disappointments and short falls in losing some of our battles. For the old southern branch of the new reunited church, Article 13 (the rules governing the withdrawal process) is being challenged which is making it harder for brothers and sisters of like denominational stance to join the ranks of any Reformed body without considerable trial and sacrifice. It reminds us that Satan is still present in this world, running around like a rampaging lion. Please continue to pray for all of God's people, no matter what circumstances they are in.

We have taken giant strides in the building of both our Women's Ministries and Christian Education. Both committees have done yeoman's service during the past ecclesiastical year. As commissioners and observers to the 7th General Assembly, you will see firsthand their important work.

We are indeed a missions minded denomination. And God will stand with us as we reach out to others around the world. The agreement entered into between our denomination and the IPB in Brazil was ratified by their Supreme Council last July in Vitoria. That document defines the working relationship between our two bodies. It has opened the way for the first short term missions trip to the Brazilian frontier this summer. Argentina is also a country where we have been given great challenge and opportunity. The formation of what I hope will become the EPC of Argentina is putting God's plan for reaching all of his people into action.

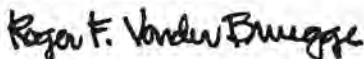
I have found an area here in the United States that needs our prayers, attention, and commitment. That is the area of new church development. For God's Word to reach more people, we as a denomination need to place all our oars in the water together, and pull in unison. The planting of new churches is essential in having the EPC maintain a vital impact here at home. Dream, pray, encourage and support, both physically and financially the effort to plant new churches.

God has called us to the EPC for a reason. God has called us to Himself for a reason. I believe that both those reasons are the same, to spread the good news of Christ to everyone.

Scholars say that no one knows from whence wind comes and goes. God provides the wind and we as mates on the EPC ship of state need to be ready to clear the decks and man the sheets when God's wind fills her sails.

Let us keep a ready and trim ship committed to Christ and the return of His kingdom, ever responsive to the gust of wind from God. Pray for all in authority, those in leadership positions in this church. Pray for your new moderator, your old ones as well, and show love to one another.

In His Name and Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roger F. Vonder Bruegge". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Roger F. Vonder Bruegge, Moderator
6th General Assembly
Evangelical Presbyterian Church

National Association of Evangelicals Report

At its annual convention in March of this year, NAE completed 45 years of service to the evangelical community. As we approach our golden anniversary we could be tempted to look back fondly at God's past blessings and "rest on our laurels." But that cannot happen. As NAE President Ray Hughes affirmed at our convention in Buffalo, New York, in a world full of darkness, "We have the light!"

The oldest and most viable expression of evangelical cooperation in the United States, NAE stands in a unique position to promote biblical values and encourage spreading the good news of Jesus Christ in our nation and the world. We will not shirk these tasks; and through the power of the Holy Spirit, the cooperation of evangelical denominations, and the efforts of our various local evangelical associations, commissions, affiliates and subsidiaries, we seek to accomplish His will.

We rejoice over the opportunities God has given us to serve Him this past year.

On a national level, NAE made an impact through involvement in several special projects. As chairman of Christian Leaders for Responsible Television (CLear-TV), a non-denominational effort involving more than 1,600 religious leaders, I had the opportunity to express, during face-to-face meetings with top network executives, evangelical concerns over the immorality, violence and anti-Christian bias characteristic of prime time television programming.

Further, through our Peace, Freedom and Security Studies program (PFSS), NAE is attempting to educate evangelicals on how to appropriately and knowledgeably enter the war/peace debate. PFSS has been enthusiastically endorsed by prominent religious and political figures, including many from outside the evangelical movement. Significant steps this past year included the approval of the PFSS *Guidelines* by NAE's Board of Administration and a series of consultations about the program held around the country.

NAE pursued other ministries as well.

In Washington, D.C., our Office of Public Affairs (OPA) continued to keep watch on legislation and worked to correct any infringement of religious liberty. Last year, the Office filed "friend of court" briefs at the U.S. Supreme Court that defended a Louisiana statute requiring the teaching of creationism where evolution is taught, supported tax exempt status for churches and argued that the Jews for Jesus organization had a constitutional right to distribute literature in the Los Angeles International Airport.

Also sponsored this year by the OPA were two well-attended conferences providing evangelicals an "inside view" of our nation's capital. The Washington Insight Briefing for NAE leaders and the Federal Seminar for college students included visits to the White House, the Supreme Court Building and both Houses of Congress. Justice Antonin Scalia, Vice President George Bush and Senator Robert Dole were just three of the impressive speakers at these two conferences.

Also holding important gatherings were two NAE commissions. The Evangelism and Home Missions Association (EHMA) sponsored a "Consultation on Compassionate Ministries" September 22-24 in Chicago. Three weeks later, the National Christian Education Association (NCEA) met in Columbus, Ohio under the theme, "Dynamic Leadership in Christian Education."

Publicity for NAE's conferences was provided by our Office of Information. The Office also produced the award-winning *United Evangelical ACTION* magazine, programs such as *Scriptures to Live By*, *World Day of Prayer*, *NAE Sunday* and the *National Evangelical 1987-88* directory. With more than 4,000 entries, this year's *National Evangelical* is the largest, most complete directory NAE has ever produced.

In honor of the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, NAE Counsel Forest Montgomery wrote "*One Nation Under God*," a fascinating history of our nation's foundational document.

Other important publications of NAE include the monthly newsletter *Washington Insight*, periodic *Occasional Papers* and the Office of Field Service's *Dateline*. Through *Dateline* and the travels of NAE's field director and national field representative, supporting members are kept informed of present and projected ministries of NAE.

Continued growth confirmed the value evangelicals place on NAE. In 1986, two denominations, the Advent Christian Church and the Presbyterian Church in America joined the association with numerous individuals, local churches and organizations. Also, West Virginia organized a state-wide association of evangelicals, bringing to 22 the number of such associations.

NAE's subsidiary, World Relief Corporation, continued its worldwide ministry to the poor, the hungry and the homeless with a 1986 disbursement of over \$18 million. I had the chance this year to see for myself World Relief projects in Burkina Faso and Mali.

One new World Relief ministry is a program to process more than 100,000 undocumented aliens who qualify for amnesty under recent federal legislation.

Through the NAE affiliated National Religious Broadcasters (NRB), more than 1,300 members join together to protect religious freedom in broadcasting and encourage greater effectiveness in their ministries. NRB has also taken steps to strengthen its code of ethics with which members are expected to comply.

Another affiliate, the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association (EFMA) has become the largest association in the world with 87 member boards and 12,564 missionaries serving in every part of the world.

NAE receives international identification through its membership in the World Evangelical Fellowship (WEF) whose headquarters recently moved to Singapore. More than 200 delegates from around the world participated in the WEF General Assembly held last summer in Singapore. NAE was well represented at the gathering.

These accomplishments are bountiful evidence of God's provision during NAE's 45 years of service. We look ahead to new challenges and an even broader ministry by and for evangelicals. We gratefully acknowledge the continued support and participation of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in the on-going work of the National Association of Evangelicals.

Respectfully submitted,

Billy A. Melvin
Executive Director

Permanent Judicial Commission Report

The Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC) of the General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church has met twice since the 6th General Assembly, each time with eight of its nine members present. The Commission's work and recommendations are as follows.

Regarding Overtures before the Assembly

The Commission reviewed the following Overtures and found no Constitutional conflict or difficulty of implementation with any of them:

- 87-A (p. 70)
- 87-B (p. 70)
- 87-C (p. 70)
- 87-D (p. 71)
- 87-E (p. 72)
- 87-F (p. 72)

The Commission reviewed Overture 87-G (p. 73) and recommends its rejection by the 7th General Assembly for the following reasons:

1. The PJC perceives the problem of disproportionate representation as arising not from an imbalance in the numbers of Ministers and Elders requiring remedial legislation; it results, rather, from the failure of many of the sessions of our churches to send Elder-commissioners to General Assembly.
2. The adoption of this Overture would result in an administration nightmare.

The Commission reviewed Overture 87-H (p. 74) and recommends referral to the Assembly Committee on Ministerial Vocation.

The Commission reviewed Overture 87-I (p. 74) and recommends its rejection by the 7th General Assembly for the following reasons:

1. Chapters 17-3, 17-4 (BOG) require the agreement of three-fourths of the Presbyteries in order to change the Confession of Faith and Catechisms (17-3) and to create a union relationship with another denomination (17-4). The PJC agrees that changes of such magnitude should require such majorities for approval; however,
2. The Commission believes that changes in the **Book of Order** should be relatively easier to accomplish, as the vast majority of these are routine corrections.
3. With our current number of Presbyteries (seven), this Constitutional change would require the approval of six of the seven.

Regarding Provisional Opinions of the Stated Clerk

The PJC interprets its responsibility regarding Provisional Opinions of the Stated Clerk to be limited to those Opinions related to the interpretation and/or application of the Constitution. Two such were reviewed and the Commission's conclusions are reported below.

1. Recommendation #39 (p. 161) regarding attendance at Session meetings (reference: Ward Church, Livonia, Michigan):

The Commission concurred with the Opinion rendered by the Stated Clerk. The PJC understands the **Book of Government** to grant Sessions the authority to invite anyone to attend a Session meeting and to extend to them the privilege of the floor, but that Session voting privileges are limited to those Ministers and Elders in active service and elected by the congregation.

2. Regarding the succession of Assistant Pastors to the position of Pastor (reference: North Park Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and BOG 11-7):

The Commission concurs with the Opinion and indicates that BOG 11-7 should be understood by the Church as, "A person serving as Assistant Pastor on the same church staff at the time the Pastor position becomes vacant shall not be called to fill that position in the same church, by any means." The intent here is to preclude the possibility that an Assistant Pastor succeed to the vacated office of Pastor in the same church at the time the vacancy occurs. The wisdom of the Church substantiates that this judgment serves the Church well in its pursuit of peace and purity. (Recommendation #40, p. 161)

HOWEVER, the Commission recognizes that at the time the Pastor Search Committee of North Park Church began its work there was ambiguity of language and confusion in understanding BOG 11-7. Therefore, the Commission recommends that the 7th General Assembly grant an exception in this regard to this church, and that this exception be understood to be pastoral in nature and unique in our legislative history. (Recommendation #41, p. 162)

3. That the BOG, 11-7, be amended by substituting for the last sentence the following sentence: "A person serving as Assistant Pastor on the same church staff at the time the Pastor position becomes vacant, shall not be called to fill that position in the same church, by any means." (Recommendation #42, p. 162)

Regarding the Book of Discipline

Numerous suggestions for amendment prompted the PJC to undertake a comprehensive study of the EPC **Book of Discipline**. A part of that study was the comparison of our BOD with those of the PCA and that PCUSA. After a careful review and analysis of these three documents, it was agreed that the Church would be better served by the adaption of the "Rules of Discipline" of the PCUSA for our use. This document, with revisions introduced by the PJC, is being presented to the Assembly for study and comment. It will be set before the 8th General Assembly, with further revisions, for adoption by the EPC.

Regarding Changes in the Book of Government

As a part of its ongoing work, the Commission reviewed the BOG and makes the following recommendations for amendment. They are presented in order and accompanied, where necessary, by supporting rationale.

- 9-3 FROM: "... vote or hold office. . ."
TO: "... vote or hold elected office. . ."

RATIONALE: Clarification and conformity with 6-1 C.
(Recommendation #43)

- 15-6 FROM: "... Presbytery. Also, Presbytery may elect that person as a commissioner to the General Assembly. In either case the person. . ."
TO: "... Presbytery. The person. . ."

RATIONALE: The EPC does not have a delegated Assembly.
(Recommendation #44)

16-7E and 16-7F

- FROM: "... Chairman. . ."
TO: "... Moderator. . ."

RATIONALE: Uniform usage, as in 16-7E. (Recommendation #45)

- 16-9 FROM: "If there is no Pastor . . . capacity."
TO: Delete sentence.

- FROM: "Also, Presbytery . . . may appoint. . ."
TO: "Presbytery shall appoint. . ."

RATIONALE: Conformity with 16-27A-4. (Recommendation #46)

- 16-10F FROM: "... Section 9-6."
TO: "... Sections 9-3, 9-4, 9-5 and 9-6."

RATIONALE: 9-6 refers only to removal of a member's name when that person is ordained. The other sections encompass the other actions intended by 16-10F. (Recommendation #47)

- 16-27B Delete the entire paragraph and substitute the following:

"The Permanent Judicial Commission: The General Assembly shall establish a Permanent Judicial Commission. The Commission shall consist of a minimum of six persons in three classes of two each. In each class, there shall be one Teaching Elder and one Ruling Elder. Terms of service shall be for no less than three years except to initiate the system or to fill vacancies. There must be at least three classes, and an officer who has served all or part of two consecutive full terms shall be ineligible for reelection for one year. Efforts shall be made to give fair representation to the various Presbyteries. During service on this Commission, no member may hold office or employment in the court. Its quorum shall be two-thirds of its membership. It shall elect its own moderator and a clerk from among its members and a careful and accurate record shall be kept of its deliberations and actions, with a permanent record of these minutes filed with the Office of the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly. The duties of the Commission shall be:"

RATIONALE:

1. Reducing the PJC from nine to six members. We felt that requiring nine members was stretching human resources too thin and that with six members it will be easier to reach a quorum. Another benefit, although not a primary consideration, is the reduction of costs.
2. In changing the ratio of Teaching and Ruling Elders, we felt that this would better enable us to utilize the backgrounds and experience of our Teaching Elders in church government and that this would insure that we have one Teaching and one Ruling Elder in each class to provide better continuity. (Recommendation #48)

Respectfully submitted,

Harold K. Polk, Moderator

Recommendations to the 7th General Assembly

From the Committee on Administration

- R-4 That persons otherwise required to be covered by the denominational insurance plan be exempted from such mandatory coverage when they have coverage under the Civilian Health and Medical Programs of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS).

_____ Referred to Administration

- R-5 That in our group insurance plan the restriction of 6 months waiting period for coverage of pre-existing conditions for an employee coming in from another denominational plan be eliminated, and that the 12 month waiting period for coverage of pre-existing conditions of the dependents of the employee be eliminated.

_____ Referred to Administration

- R-6 That the group insurance plan of the General Assembly be amended to exclude coverage for radial keratotomy, a new procedure to correct nearsightedness.

_____ Referred to Administration

- R-7 That the 7th General Assembly establish a permanent Pension Fund Committee, composed of 3 classes of 2 each, with each person able to succeed himself for one term. A member may be reelected for additional terms after an interim of one year. The committee shall be nominated to the Assembly by the Nominating Committee, with the chairman to be nominated at the Assembly by the outgoing Moderator.

The duties of the committee shall be:

1. to establish a pension plan in accord with the mandate of the Assembly.
2. to serve as trustees under such a plan.
3. to administer the proceeds of the "Gratitude Gift."
4. to make annual reports of its proceedings to the Assembly.

To initiate this committee, the Nominating Committee shall nominate to this Assembly, the six persons established in three classes of two each. Each person shall be eligible to succeed himself for one full term.

_____ Referred to Administration

- R-8 That the Assembly establish an annual offering in connection with the Christmas season which shall be used by the Pension Committee of the Assembly to supplement the income of our retired ministers and missionaries who participate in the denominational program. This program each year shall be known as the "Gratitude Gift," and each congregation is urged through all of its special offerings to support this fund.

Further, the Assembly Office shall be instructed to produce materials promoting this special offering, and shall be authorized to take appropriate actions to encourage the participation of every congregation in the "Gratitude Gift." Promotional costs shall be borne by the receipts for the fund. The Pension Committee shall be authorized to determine individual supplements needed for retired ministers and missionaries.

_____ Referred to Administration

- R-9 That the denomination establish an employer sponsored tax sheltered annuity (TSA) program for the required minimum 10% of gross effective salary for retirement for each minister and missionary; that each congregation be urged to participate in the denominational program; that the Pension Committee present an IRS approved program to the next Assembly for adoption and activation.

A congregation may elect to use this TSA program for its employees, and all approved missionaries of the denomination shall be eligible to participate.

— Referred to Administration

- R-10 That the 7th General Assembly adopt the Proposed 1988 Administration Budget for \$285,155.

— Referred to Administration

- R-11 That the 7th General Assembly adopt the Proposed 1988 Benevolence Askings for \$752,750.

— Referred to Administration

- R-12 That the General Assembly establish an Assembly suggested per member benevolence goal for each local congregation, such goal to be determined by the total benevolences approved by the Assembly. Each committee shall indicate the suggested per member goal for each congregation.

That the Assembly Office provide to each session and congregation information on the approved benevolences along with the suggested per member goal by the first of September, following the meeting of the General Assembly, along with the per member contribution for the Assembly's Administration Budget.

Further, that each session and congregation be assured that such per member goal is not an assessment but only a suggestion. Further, that each session and congregation be assured that contribution to approved Assembly benevolences may be designated for specific causes and those contributions shall be used only for such designated causes.

Further, the Assembly Office shall submit to each congregation a quarterly report on its giving to the Assembly, for both per member contributions and per member goal for benevolences.

Further, in order to provide a realistic guide to the Assembly for budgeting and spending, that each congregation be urged to notify the Assembly Office no later than February of each year, its intended giving goal for that year to approved Assembly benevolences, with the understanding that such local church goal is not a pledge, but only a goal for which the local church will strive.

Further, that the Assembly urge each Session and Congregation to participate in this voluntary funding of the approved benevolences of the Assembly.

— Referred to Administration

- R-13 That the 7th General Assembly adopt **Recommendations for Amendments to the Rules for Assembly.**

— Referred to Administration

- R-14 That the invitation from Central Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, MO to host the 9th General Assembly be accepted.

_____ Referred to Administration

- R-15 That the boundaries of the West Presbytery be extended to include the states of Washington and Idaho.

_____ Referred to Church Development

From the Committee on Ministerial Vocation

- R-16 That the chairman of the Ministerial Vocation Committee be given five minutes to emphasize § 8.1 of the Denominational Goals for Pastoral Care and to distribute an article by Eugene Peterson.

_____ Referred to Ministerial Vocation

- R-17 That the 7th General Assembly endorse the "Denominational Goals for Pastoral Care."

_____ Referred to Ministerial Vocation

- R-18 That the **Book of Government**, § 13-5, be amended by adding to the present statement, "Presbytery shall not ordinarily receive a minister seeking to transfer from another denomination while either discipline, inquiry, or charges are pending against the minister. Presbytery may, however, by $\frac{3}{4}$'s vote, following careful review of the case, declare pending charges insufficient for refusal of membership."

_____ Referred to Ministerial Vocation

- R-19 That the **Book of Government**, be amended by adding a new § 13-6 as follows: "Persons previously ordained in another Reformed denomination, but who, for reasons other than disciplinary action, lack current ordination credentials, shall be examined by the Presbytery on views of those subjects set forth for ordination. Those persons shall, upon approval, become immediately eligible for ordination and to receive a call approved by the Presbytery."

_____ Referred to Ministerial Vocation

- R-20 That the **Book of Government** be amended in Chapter 13 (pending approval of R-13), so that the present § 13-6 becomes 13-7; the present § 13-7 becomes 13-8; and the present § 13-8 becomes 13-9.

_____ Referred to Ministerial Vocation

From the Committee on Fraternal Relations:

- R-21 That the Evangelical Presbyterian Church contribute \$500 to the World Evangelical Fellowship, of which \$75 shall be considered the annual (1987) denominational membership fee.

_____ Referred to Fraternal Relations

R-22 That the Evangelical Presbyterian Church enter into fraternal relationship with the Christian Reformed Church and that such relationship shall include the following and be mutual:

1. exchange of fraternal delegates at major assemblies;
2. occasional pulpit fellowship (pulpit exchanges);
3. intercommunion;
4. joint action in areas of common responsibility;
5. communication on major issues of joint concern;
6. exercise of mutual concern and admonition with a view to promoting the fundamentals of Christian unity.

____ Referred to Fraternal Relations

R-23 That the 7th General Assembly approve postponement of consideration of application for membership in North American Presbyterian & Reformed Churches (NAPARC).

____ Referred to Fraternal Relations

R-24 That the Assembly approve the proposed pastoral letter (from the 7th General Assembly to NAPARC explaining reasons for postponement (cf. R-23),

____ Referred to Fraternal Relations

From the Committee on Theology

R-25 That the 7th General Assembly adopt the **Position Paper on Pornography**. (p. 168)

____ Referred to Theology

R-26 That the 7th General Assembly adopt as its position paper, the Preliminary Position Paper on the Value of and Respect for Life with the addition of the word "human" before "life". (p. 170)

____ Referred to Theology

R-27 That the **Westminster Confession of Faith** be printed in loose-leaf form for insertion together with the **Book of Order**.

____ Referred to Theology

R-28 That the 7th General Assembly adopt the paper **Ruling Elders and the Sacraments**. (p. 172)

____ Referred to Theology

From the Committee on World Outreach

R-29 That the proposed Part IV of **Mission Manual** be adopted. (p. 177)

____ Referred to World Outreach

R-33 That the **Missions Manual**, § 100.2, be amended by substituting for the second sentence the following statement:

"That the global mission of the EPC shall be to plant, develop, and nurture the Church of Jesus Christ in those cultures and people groups where particular opportunity and our ability to respond most closely coincide. For this purpose World Outreach exists."

_____ Referred to World Outreach

- R-34 That for purposes of project cooperation, the EPC approve the following definition of an approved mission agency:

"An approved mission agency is defined as a 'mission organization created to serve the Church of Jesus Christ and identified by the following:

- * authentic evangelical confessional identity;
- * historical integrity and explicit mission statement;
- * mission objectives compatible with the EPC mission statement;
- * financial credibility as measured by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability or by comparable standards;
- * membership in the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association, or meet comparable standards.' "

_____ Referred to World Outreach

- R-35 That approved mission agency status be granted the Middle East Reformed Fellowship (MERF).

_____ Referred to World Outreach

- R-36 That the General Assembly approve the CWO request to place on hold for one year the appointment of any new missionaries under cooperative agreements with other agencies while the CWO develops a 'master plan' for world outreach, including priorities and an operational plan for consideration by the 8th General Assembly (1989).

_____ Referred to World Outreach

From the Committee on Church Development

- R-30 That the **Book of Government**, Chapter 5, be amended by adding the following as § 5-2 and renumbering the subsequent sections:

5-2 The development of a mission church: A mission church consists of a number of professing Christians, with their children, associated together for divine worship and godly living, agreeable to the Scriptures, and submitting to the lawful government and discipline of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

The mission church, because of its transitional nature, requires a temporary system of government. Depending on the circumstances and at its own discretion, Presbytery shall provide for such government in one of several ways:

- A. Appoint an Evangelist as prescribed in § 10-3 of the **Book of Government** and entrust appropriate powers to that person.
- B. Cooperate with the session of a particular church in arranging a mother-daughter relationship with a mission church. The session may then serve as the temporary governing body of the mission church.
- C. Appoint a commission to serve as a temporary session of the mission church.

At the discretion of the temporary governing body, members may be received into the mission church as prescribed in Chapter 9. These persons then become confirmed or baptized members of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. Mission churches shall maintain membership rolls in the same manner as, but separate from, other particular churches.

Mission churches and their members shall have the right of judicial process to the court having oversight of their temporary governing body. It is the further intention of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church that mission churches enjoy the same status as particular churches in relation to civil government.

____ Referred to Church Development

- R-31 That consideration of the **Provisional Master Plan for Church Development**, (p. 86) be postponed until the 8th General Assembly (1988).

____ Referred to Church Development

From the Committee on Christian Education and Publications

- R-32 That the position description be approved for a Director of Christian Growth and Nurture, and such person sought to fill that position.

____ Referred to Christian Education and Publications

From the Permanent Judicial Commission

- R-37 That the General Assembly reject Overture 87-G, ON GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATION (see p. 73 for reasons).

____ Referred to Assembly

- R-38 That the General Assembly reject Overture 87-I, ON CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE REQUIREMENTS (see p. 74 for reasons).

____ Referred to Assembly

- R-39 That the General Assembly approve the opinion of the Stated Clerk and the PJC to the effect that church sessions have the authority to invite anyone to attend a session meeting and to extend to them the privilege of the floor, but that session voting privileges are limited to those ministers and elders in active service and elected by the congregation.

____ Referred to Assembly

- R-40 That the General Assembly approve the opinion of the Stated Clerk and the PJC that the **Book of Government**, § 11-7, be understood by the Church as "A person serving as Assistant Pastor on the same church staff at the time the pastor position becomes vacant shall not be called to fill that position in the same church, by any means."

____ Referred to Assembly

- R-41 That the General Assembly grant an exception to the opinion rendered in R-40 to North Park EPC, Wexford, PA, which began its pastoral search under the ambiguity and confusion in understanding **BG** §11-7; and that this exception be understood to be pastoral in nature and unique in our legislative history.

___ Referred to Assembly

- R-42 That the **Book of Government**, §11-7 be amended by substituting for the last sentence, "A person serving as Assistant Pastor on the same church staff at the time the pastor position becomes vacant shall not be called to fill that position in the same church, by any means."

___ Referred to Assembly

- R-43 That the **Book of Government**, §9-3, be amended in the second sentence as follows:

PRESENT WORDING: "However, affiliate members are not eligible to vote or hold office in the church."

PROPOSED WORDING: "However, affiliate members are not eligible to vote or hold **elected** office in the church."

___ Referred to Assembly

- R-44 That the **Book of Government**, §15-6, be amended as follows:

PRESENT WORDING: "... Presbytery. Also, Presbytery may elect that person as a commissioner to the General Assembly. In either case the person so elected shall make diligent report to the electing court."

PROPOSED WORDING: "... Presbytery. The person so elected shall make diligent report to the electing court."

___ Referred to Assembly

- R-45 That the **Book of Government**, §16-7E and 16-7F, be amended as follows:

PRESENT WORDING: (16-7E) "... It shall meet at the call of the Chairman, or when ordered to convene by the church session. When requested in writing by one-fourth of the Board, the Chairman. . ."

PRESENT WORDING: (16-7F) "... The Board must approve its minutes and they shall be signed upon approval by the Chairman and the Recording Clerk.

PROPOSED WORDING: Substitute the word "Moderator" for the word "Chairman" in both sections.

___ Referred to Assembly

- R-46 That the **Book of Government**, §16-9, be amended as follows:

PRESENT WORDING: (third sentence) "If there is no Pastor, the Church Session may elect one of its members to serve in that capacity.

PROPOSED WORDING: Delete the above sentence.

PRESENT WORDING: (fourth sentence) "Also, Presbytery, at its discretion, may appoint a Minister of the Presbytery to serve as Moderator when a church has no Pastor."

PROPOSED WORDING: "Presbytery shall appoint a Minister of the Presbytery to serve as Moderator when a church has no Pastor."

____ Referred to Assembly

R-47 That the **Book of Government**, §16-10F, be amended as follows:

PRESENT WORDING: "To dismiss, restore, grant affiliation, or remove members in accordance with § 9-6."

PROPOSED WORDING: "To dismiss, restore, grant affiliation, or remove members in accordance with § 9-3, 9-4, 9-5, and 9-6."

____ Referred to Assembly

R-48 That the **Book of Government**, §16-27, be amended by deleting present paragraph and substituting the following:

"The Permanent Judicial Commission: The General Assembly shall establish a Permanent Judicial Commission. The Commission shall consist of a minimum of six persons in three classes of two each. In each case, there shall be one Teaching Elder and one Ruling Elder. Terms of service shall be for no less than three years, except to initiate the system or to fill vacancies. There must be at least three classes, and an officer who has served all or part of two consecutive full terms shall be ineligible for reelection for one year. Efforts shall be made to give fair representation to the various Presbyteries. During service on this Commission, no member may hold office or employment in the court. Its quorum shall be two-thirds of its membership. It shall elect its own moderator and clerk from among its members, and a careful and accurate record shall be kept of its deliberations and actions, with a permanent record of these minutes filed with the Office of the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly. The duties of the Commission shall be:"

____ Referred to Assembly

Procedural Recommendations:

R-1 That the **Rules for Assembly** be suspended to allow Dr. Jerry Kirk, National Coalition Against Pornography, to speak one hour to the Assembly on Wednesday, June 17 at 11:00 a.m.

____ Adopted

R-2 That the **Rules for Assembly** be suspended to allow for a 10 minute presentation during the Assembly by the Task Force on the Process of Aging.

____ Adopted

R-3 That the **Rules for Assembly** be suspended to permit a 15 minute presentation by Rev. Edwin Randal, Director of World Outreach, on the development of EPC missions.

____ Adopted

Stated Clerk's Report

The psalmist wrote, "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain" (Psalm 127:1).

God continues to bless our church with growth. This gives us encouragement. But growth comes in many colors, sizes, and shapes. As we grow and mature, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church dares never forget that Christ is the Lord of the Church and will build and bless it if its members allow Him to reign. Unless Christ reigns and rules, our efforts are in vain.

I. The Statistical Face of the Church

A. Churches received:

	Presbytery
1. Clarkston EPC, Clarkston, MI	Midwest
2. EPC, Austin, TX	Central South
3. Sutter Presbyterian, St. Louis, MO	Central South
4. Overland Park, Kansas City, KS	Central South
5. Goodwill Presbyterian, Montgomery, NY	East
6. Fourth Presbyterian, Bethesda, MD	East
7. Church of the Intercessor, Lincoln, VA	East
8. Christ Covenant, Tampa, FL	Southeast
9. EPC, Burlington, NC	Southeast
10. EPC, Statesboro, GA	Southeast
11. Lynn Garden, Kingsport, TN	Southeast
12. Prince of Peace EPC, Knoxville, TN	Southeast
13. Cornerstone Presbyterian, Franklin, NC	Southeast
14. First EPC, Rock Hill, SC	Southeast
15. Christ EPC, Anderson, SC	Southeast
16. EPC, Augusta, GA	Southeast
17. First EPC, Renton, WA	Out of Bounds

B. Churches dismissed or dissolved:

	Presbytery
1. First EPC, Chesterfield, SC	Southeast
2. EPC, Marietta, GA	Southeast

C. Summaries of church growth:

1. 1986			
1. Additions:	17	1983	62
2. Losses	2	1984	74
3. Net	+15	1985	84
		1986	99

2. 1986 % of change: +18%

3. Growth by Presbytery:

	1985	1986	%
Allegheny	7	7	0%
Central South	12	15	25%
East	6	9	50%
Far West	6	6	0%
Midwest	18	19	5%
Southeast	22	29	32%
West	13	13	0%

D. Article 13 Churches Awaiting Dismissal:

1. Fairlington, Alexandria, VA (700) East
2. Reynolda, Winston-Salem, NC (700) Southeast
3. First, Brooksville, FL (400) Southeast

E. Congregational Membership Statistics:

1. **Membership (active, confirmed)**

1986:	27,972
1985	23,379
1984	20,508
1983	18,210

(+4,593 members = +20%)

2. **Infant Baptisms**

1986	445 (+18%)
1985	377
1984	337
1983	305

3. **Adult Baptisms**

1986	201 (+23%)
1985	163
1984	227
1983	233

4. **Youth Professions of Faith**

1986	387 (+67%)
1985	232
1984	247
1983	318

5. **Sunday School Enrollment**

1986	15,310
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6. **Baptized Rolls**

1986	1,755
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F. Financial Statistics:

1. **Per Member Giving**

1986	\$180,073
1985	160,631
1984	155,736

2. **Churches participating in per member giving:**

1986	77%
1985	67%
1984	75%

3. **Missions Giving**

1986	\$3,625,019* (+54%)
1985	2,356,129
1984	2,076,777

(* Of \$3,625,019 missions giving reported, \$470,589 was designated for EPC mission causes which means 13¢ of every congregational mission dollar goes to EPC missions.)

4. **Average Giving (per person)**

1986	\$795* (+12%)
1985	723
1984	766

(* \$22,245,237 divided by 27,972 members = \$795)

I want to commend Session clerks for faithful and persistent work this year. Last year nearly 30% of churches failed to report by mid-May. This year this percentage dropped to 10%. Both Session and Presbytery clerks are often silent heroes. May they never cease to know how much the Office of the General Assembly appreciates their diligent work.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "L. Edward Davis". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

L. Edward Davis, Stated Clerk

Theology Committee Report

The committee met at the call of the Stated Clerk in the office of the EPC in Detroit, Michigan on March 13-14, 1987

PRESENT: Elder Larry Lee, Elder Cord Sump, Rev. Dan Lacich, Rev. Fred Lian,
Rev. Bob Bryan

Elder Mel Weimeister has resigned from this committee and was therefore not in attendance.

In the absence of the Stated Clerk because of illness, Administrative Assistant Marilyn Bartel briefed the committee on the task before it, and then excused herself from the meeting.

Committee opened with a season of prayer. Dan Lacich was chosen to chair this committee, and Bob Bryan to take minutes.

First addressed was the matter of **Ruling Elders and the Sacraments**. Committee reworked the paper submitted to the 6th General Assembly. The committee recommends the amended version (p. 172) to the General Assembly for adoption. Larry Lee asked that his negative vote be recorded.

Committee had another season of prayer committing this paper to the Lord and asking for His wisdom to write a preliminary position paper on pornography.

Committee outlined five sections and each person agreed to write a draft of a section, type them, and work to improve and unite them into one cohesive whole.

The committee recessed for supper with prayer by the chairman, and reconvened on the following day.

Session opened with prayer at 9:00 a.m. and committee revised first draft of preliminary position paper on pornography. Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the preliminary position paper on pornography (p. 168).

Committee unanimously agreed to recommend to General Assembly that the **Westminster Confession of Faith** be printed in a loose leaf form for insertion together with the **Book of Order**.

Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the "Preliminary Position Paper on the Value of and Respect for Life" with the addition of the word "human" before "life" to become the "Position Paper on the Value of and Respect for Human Life." (p. 170)

The committee adjourned with prayer by Cord Sump at 11:40 a.m. on Saturday, March 14, 1987.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Lacich, Chairman

Cord Sump, Secretary

Preliminary Position Paper on Pornography

"Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence, and if anything worthy of praise, let your mind dwell on these things." (Phil. 4:8 NASB)

"We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ." (II Cor. 10:5 NASB)

For those who strive to adhere to the message of the Word of God, pornography has no place in their lives and no power to disrupt or enslave. Yet our land is polluted with the graphically illustrated imaginings of those who have not presented their bodies as living sacrifices to God, who reject having their minds renewed (Rom. 12:1, 2), who are themselves enslaved to degrading passions (Rom. 1:26), and who make profit by seeking to seduce and so enslave others, including our children.

Pornography is defined in Webster's Collegiate Dictionary as the "depiction of erotic behavior as in pictures or writing intended to cause sexual excitement." Pornography grows as contemporary man sees himself only as a creature of an evolutionary process that does not recognize a God-creator to whom he is responsible. Man without the direction of God responds to pornography as a means of stimulating his sensual desires. This response to sensual sexual stimulation without adherence to God's law leads to sexual promiscuity and perversion. Such perversions develop the most bestial degradations of man that include the sexual abuse of men, women, and children. God makes provision for sexual activity that is healthy, fulfilling and pleasurable. Jesus indicates that God created man and woman and instituted marriage for the uniting of two people into one flesh (Mt. 19:4, 5). Only within the confines of marriage can people have a healthy sexual union.

Marital fidelity is mocked as pornography is promoted. The wholesomeness of love between man and woman established by God is deformed into a constant search for some new experience in depravity. Morality is considered by many today as a suppression of the freedom of expression of the keen desires of man.

The Word of God is clear in its condemnation of those activities which take place in the world of pornography. It condemns fornication (Eph. 5:3; Col. 3:5), adultery (Lev. 20:10; Rom. 1:24); incest (Lev. 18:6; I Cor. 5:10); homosexuality (Lev. 20:13); bestiality (Lev. 18:23); and prostitution (Lev. 19:29). Pornography involves individuals in these sins in order to film and photograph them. It also encourages others who view such material to engage in similar practices.

Pornography is therefore not consistent with the Law of Christ. The Christian and non-Christian who engage in, purchase, and allow the ongoing of pornography are opposing the will of their Creator.

The Evangelical Presbyterian Church stands firmly and decisively against their multi-billion dollar per year industry of productions and profligacy of pornography and obscenity in any form, including the media of printed literature, television, telephone, movies, videos, and radio. Research shows that pornography incites violence, contributes to many violent crimes such as rape and child abuse, and encourages illicit and abusive sexual activity. It has been demonstrated that pornography is both seductive and addictive, desensitizing its victims and leading them to greater consumption of pornographic material. People of all ages and both sexes are victimized and

exploited by pornography. Particularly, pornography devastates family structure, threatens community values, and attacks the moral and ethical foundations of the Church. Because we are aware of the damage pornography fosters, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church condemns pornography as evil, exploitive, offensive, manipulative, and totally unacceptable in any form.

The Supreme Court in 1973 reaffirmed the right of the community to protect its standards. Therefore, the EPC urges individual Christians, congregations, and judicatories to exercise this right and fight this evil.

1. We should communicate with our Congressmen, Senators, and the President to promote congressional action against pornography, as well as contact the Attorney General to encourage the vigorous enforcement of the existing laws against pornography.
2. Christians can and should refuse to do business with establishments that include pornography in their merchandise. They should also register their disapproval of such merchandise with the proprietor.
3. Products of companies whose advertising dollars support pornography should not be purchased or used.
4. Radio and television stations that support graphic sexual and immoral programs should be contacted in a spirit of love and asked to discontinue such programming.
5. Pastors can raise the level of awareness of the depth of this problem by including sermons and lessons on the subject in their preaching and teaching each year.
6. Regular and consistent prayer on the part of every Christian is encouraged.

“If My people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.” (II Chron. 7:14, NIV).

Romans 12:9 — ‘Abhor what is evil and cling to what is good.’

Preliminary Position Paper of the Value of and Respect for Human Life

There are certain theological positions taken within the Reformed tradition which include such issues as abortion, capital punishment, euthanasia, and participation in war which rest on the same basic premise. It is essential that this premise be fully understood.

God has an infinite value and unequivocal love for human life. After the fall of mankind as indicated in Genesis 3, the remainder of the biblical story is the story of God's loving pursuit to reestablish at-one-ment. That atonement is finally and fully established in the birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

God's unequivocal love is manifested in the ministry of Christ where we see revealed the ultimate ground for the valuing of human life. The persons most rejected by human society, most despised by men, are the very ones to whom Jesus reached out with tender love and concern. Above all, His sacrifice on the cross affirms God's love and concern for us human beings as being of great value, precious in His sight.

In many respects, God's love and concern is made explicit in the Sixth Commandment, "*Thou shalt not kill.*" (Exodus 20:13) This commandment is expanded and enlarged by supporting scriptural references. As God deeply values human life, so He commands us to reflect that value in our relationship to one another.

Historically in the Reformed theological tradition, the extent of God's command has been expressed in both the Shorter and the Larger Catechism.

In the Shorter Catechism we have the following statements:

Q. 68 *What is required in the Sixth Commandment?*

A. The Sixth Commandment requireth all lawful endeavors to preserve our own life, and the life of others.

Q. 69 *What is forbidden in the Sixth Commandment?*

A. The Sixth Commandment forbiddeth the taking away of our own life, or the life of our neighbor unjustly, or whatsoever tendeth thereunto.

In the Larger Catechism we find these obligations considerably expanded, for there we read as follows:

Q. 135 *What are the duties required in the Sixth Commandment?*

A. The duties required in the Sixth Commandment are: all careful studies and lawful endeavors, to preserve the life of ourselves and others, by resisting all thoughts and purposes, subduing all passions, and avoiding all occasions, temptations and practices, which tend to the unjust taking away the life of any, by just defense thereof against violence; patient bearing of the hand of God, quietness of mind, cheerfulness of spirit, a sober use of meat, drink, physic, sleep, labor, and recreation; by charitable thoughts, love, compassion, meekness, gentleness, kindness, peaceable, mild, and courteous speeches and behavior, forbearance, readiness to be reconciled, patient bearing and forgiving of injuries, and requiting good for evil, comforting and succoring the distressed, and protecting and defending the innocent.

Q. 136 *What are the sins forbidden in the Sixth Commandment?*

- A. The sins forbidden in the Sixth Commandment are: all taking away the life of ourselves, or of others, except in case of public justice, lawful war, or necessary defense; the neglecting or withdrawing the lawful or necessary means of preservation of life, sinful anger, hatred, envy, desire of revenge, all excessive passions; distracting cares, immoderate use of meat, drink, labor, and recreation; provoking words, oppression, quarreling, striking, wounding, and whatsoever else tends to the destruction of the life of any.

From these obligations, we may discern three basic prohibitions. First, we are, in a passive sense, to do no willful harm. Second, in a positive sense, we are to promote the well-being of others and therefore, to protect from harm. Third, we are not unjustifiably or unlawfully to take a life.

It is immediately apparent that these three responsibilities may come in conflict with one another. For example, the duty to do no harm to someone who might be attacking another person with malicious intent may come in conflict with the duty to protect from harm the one being attacked. Within the Reformed tradition, historically there has been weight towards the obligation to protect from harm when that duty is in conflict with the obligation to do no harm. This has been based on the judgment that protecting from harm is ordinarily more in keeping with respect for life.

It is on that judgment, for example, that when an attacker is threatening the life of another who is innocent or does not seek to do harm, we are not permitted the luxury of non-action of pacificism, for that is not consistent with respect for life that is in keeping with God's ordering.

Again, there may be some irreducible conflict between the duty to do no harm and the duty to protect from harm in case of defending one's self, or in the case of war. Thus, where both duties cannot be followed, and where God's command requires action, the duty to protect from harm seems to be favored and is most in keeping with respect and reverence for life.

Above all, the overriding obligation and the paramount duty, is to seek to determine and then fulfill that which is most consistent with respect for human life. Since such a decision may, in fact, result in the taking of a life in a manner considered justifiable, such an action would not be a violation of the Sixth Commandment. Indeed, such an action may be more consistent with the obligation to respect life.

In considering our obligation to show respect for human life even as God shows infinite and unequivocal love for human life, we must at the same time recognize that human life has certain limitations. In seeking to show respect for human life, it must be done in the context of those limitations. These include such things as the reality of death and the limitation of life because of death, the limitation we have in our ability to endure pain and suffering, the limitation on our knowledge and our ability to know, and the limitation we have to bear emotional pressure and stress.

These are considerations that we must understand when we consider such things as euthanasia, suicide, and other important decisions. For example, in consideration of our death limitation, doing no harm may mean permitting a terminally ill person to die. Or again, the depth of pain may be such that protecting from harm might mean refusing to intervene in the prolongation of life.

We see, then, that our duty to do no harm and to protect from harm may be modified by those limitations that are a part of our humanness. Thus, in considering specific issues, these duties and these limitations will play an important part in the decision-making process. This preliminary position paper on the value and respect for human life will serve as a background material for consideration of important issues previously mentioned and which include among others such matters as abortion, suicide, euthanasia, war and capital punishment.

Ruling Elders and the Sacraments

The Committee on Theology recommends to the General Assembly that the **Book of Worship**, § 3-1, be amended by (a) inserting the word “ordinarily” before the word “only” in the third sentence of § 3-1, so that the sentence reads “Ordinarily, only a lawfully ordained Minister may administer the sacraments, but such do not act in their own right, rather in behalf of Christ and His Church.”; (b) adding the following sentence after the sentence just quoted: “In the absence of lawfully ordained Minister, authority to administer the sacraments may be exercised by Ruling Elders with the consent of the Session. This privilege should be exercised only in extraordinary circumstances in which a lawfully ordained Minister is not reasonably available.”

Further, we recommend that the **Westminster Confession of Faith**, Chapter 27-4, be amended as follows: That the word “ordinarily” be inserted at the beginning of the second sentence to read: “Ordinarily neither of these may be administered by anyone but a lawfully ordained Minister of the Word.”

Our reasons for these recommendations are as follows:

1. Upon examination of the Scriptures, it is evident that members of the Body of Christ, other than Pastors, did administer the sacraments. Philip, a deacon (Acts 6:5) administered the sacrament of baptism to the Ethiopian eunuch (Acts 8: 26-40).
2. The New Testament instructions allow for the administration of the sacraments by both Teaching and Ruling Elders.

Titus 1:7 instructs the overseers to be entrusted with God’s work. This pertains to all of God’s work, including the sacraments.

I Peter 5: 1,2 states that Elders are to shepherd (feed) the flock of God, In the Reformed tradition, this feeding has referred to both the Word and the sacraments.

3. The **Book of Government**, § 10-6, states that “Thus a Ruling Elder should study and learn the Word and become equipped to teach the Word, even to supplying a regular ministry of the Word where none is available. The Ruling Elder should become adept at leading worship and at leading prayer. As an undershepherd, that person should visit the sick, the bereaved, the lonely, the aged, the shut-in, and all those who have a pastoral need.”

This clearly indicates that Ruling Elders are to be able to fill the role of Pastor when needed. This is especially true of preaching the Word.

Within Reformed theology, the preached word is seen as “primary” and the visible word, via the sacraments, is “secondary.” If we are instructed to permit Ruling Elders to perform the “primary” function of preaching, we should also permit them to perform the “secondary” function of administering the sacraments.

4. There are times in the life of the Church when a Pastor is not available and there is an ongoing need for the sacraments to be available. For example, when the pulpit is vacant and a supply Pastor is not available, such need exists. Undoubtedly, there are also times when it would be advantageous in our mission efforts for a Ruling elder to be allowed to administer the sacraments. It would also enrich the pastoral ministries of our churches for Ruling Elders to be authorized to take the sacraments to shut-ins.
5. The **Book of Worship**, in § 3-1, states, "The power revealed in the sacraments does not reside in them or in the one administering them, but in the work of the Holy Spirit and in the promise of God who gives benefits to those who are worthy of them."
6. The need is recognized for Ruling Elders to be adequately trained for their call, and so it is strongly urged that Sessions equip their Ruling Elders appropriately in the function of this office according to the guidelines in the **Book of Government**, § 12-3.

Women's Ministries Committee Report

Since becoming a Permanent Committee at the Sixth General Assembly in 1986, Women's Ministries has held two meetings . . . the first on October 16, 1986 and the second on March 11-12, 1987. Both meetings were held in Detroit.

Each Presbytery's representative on the G.A. Resource Council for Women's Ministries (permanent committee) has set up a Presbytery Representative Council in her Presbytery, with most churches having at least one representative on each council. The councils in the Presbyteries meet concurrently with the Presbytery meeting. Each convener reports information gathered at the G.A. Resource Council meeting, and also plans any additional program which will best meet the expressed needs of the ladies of the individual Presbytery.

Women in all our churches seem to be seeking good Bible study materials. The Community Bible Study Series prepared by Dr. Eddy I. Swieson, Pastor of Christian Covenant Church, Rockville, Maryland, has been endorsed by the G.A. Resource Council as well as a new study on the Book of Acts, "You Are My Witnessess . . ." by the Rev. David Hicks of Zachary Presbyterian Church, Zachary, Louisiana. The latter was prepared for, and at the request of the Presbytery of the Central South. The G.A. Resource Council would like to endorse a special study each year.

To meet the frequently expressed need of women across the denomination to know they are connected to each other, two bulletin inserts concerned exclusively with Women's Ministries have been prepared this assembly year . . . the first in December and the second in May.

Women of EPC aim to provide financial support to their projects through the concept of "2nd Mile Giving" . . . going the second mile over and above their tithes with designated giving for women's ministries. Women's organizations in congregations are encouraged to include this item in their annual budgets. Some of the 2nd Mile Giving funds also are to be directed toward the financial support of a denominational Director of Christian Growth and Nurture who will provide assistance to Women's Ministries as well.

The G.A. Resource Council has planned several special activities on Wednesday, June 17, 1987, for ladies attending the 7th General Assembly. These include: a continental breakfast and worship in music followed by a special Bible study with Elizabeth Berry Hicks, and the annual women's luncheon at which time Kay Arthur, Director of Precepts Ministries, Chattanooga, Tenn., will be the featured speaker.

The Resource Council has also planned its 1988 luncheon with Pamela Heim of Colorado Springs, Colorado, as guest speaker.

The need for bringing together women from all across the denomination will be met at a National Leadership Conference, tentatively planned for 1989 with Ann Graham Lotz as the platform Bible teacher.

The G.A. Resource Council considered the vast needs of Alta Floresta Presbytery (Brazil) as presented by EPC World Outreach, and voted to recommend to the General Assembly approval for Women's Ministries to raise \$10,000 to be used as follows: \$4,000 to enable a resource person to visit Alta Floresta Presbytery to aid in developing women's ministries there, and \$6,000 to fully furnish one home for pastors and/or teachers and to partially furnish three additional homes.

World Outreach Committee Report

The Committee on World Outreach continues to make progress on a variety of fronts:

- * The relationship with our sister church in Brazil (IPB) is growing into a meaningful fellowship. One result of the November meeting of the Joint Committee for Missions was the proposal that the IPB and EPC cooperate in mission work in Paraguay and in a Portuguese speaking community in the northeastern United States.
- * The committee has called "home missionary" Robert McCallum to establish a congregation using the Detroit Urban Ministries Center as its home. We have added three other missionary couples since the 6th General Assembly: Rocky and Sharon McElveen with Logoi; Phil and Margaret Muir with Wycliffe; and David and Deborah Walker with Overseas Crusade.
- * The **Missions Manual** will be complete with this Assembly's approval of Section IV. Our operation policies will then be written, approved and made available to our churches and interested new missionaries.

Recommendations

The committee **recommends** approval of the following items from our minutes of this past year.

1. Benevolence Askings for 1988

Brazil Frontier	\$78,750.00
Brazil Visiting Professor	6,000.00
Brazil Seminary Library	5,000.00
Brazil Seminary Dorm	50,000.00
Brazil Mission in Paraguay	35,000.00
Ethnic-Black Church Development	
Sustenance	31,000.00
Development	17,000.00
Ethnic-Portuguese Congregation U.S.	
Sustenance	35,000.00
Development	15,000.00
Ethnic-Thai Christian Ministry	6,000.00
Argentina Pastoral Sustenance	18,900.00
Logoi Tabasco Project	19,300.00
Middle East Reformed Fellowship	10,500.00
Special Project - Thompson	5,300.00
World Outreach Director	44,000.00
World Outreach Publication and Development	20,000.00
Relief Project - Kenya	3,000.00
Relief Project - Haiti	3,000.00
TOTAL	\$402,750.00

2. Part IV of Mission Manual (p. 177),

3. Missions Manual, § 100.2, replace sentence two with the following statement:

“That the global mission of the EPC shall be to plant, develop, and nurture the Church of Jesus Christ in those cultures and people groups where particular opportunity and our ability to respond most closely coincide. For this purpose World Outreach exists.”

4. Establishment of Ethnic Ministries Committee

5. Granting of approved agency status for Middle East Reformed Fellowship (MERF), (p. 184)

6. Concept and procedure for EPC approval of mission agencies with whom we can cooperate on projects. (Procedure for cooperation when EPC missionaries are involved is already established.)

“An approved mission organization is defined as a ‘mission organization created to serve the Church of Jesus Christ and identified by the following:

- * authentic evangelical confessional identity;
- * historical integrity and explicit mission statement;
- * mission objective compatible with the EPC mission statement;
- * clarity in ministry goals and objectives;
- * financial credibility as measured by the Evangelical Council of Financial Accountability or by comparable standards;
- * membership in the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association, or meet comparable standards.’ ”

7. Request of a one year hold on accepting new EPC missionaries under cooperative agreements with other agencies while CWO develops a “master plan” for World Outreach, including priorities and an operational plan to be presented to the 8th General Assembly (1988).

CWO membership this Assembly year consisted of Elder Dodie Hampton, Elder Bob Fenn, Rev. Sam Harris, Elder Vern Porter, Rev. Ron Ragon, Rev. George Scotchmer, and Elder Dick Oestreicher.

Respectfully submitted

Richard Oestreicher
Chairman

World Outreach Missions Manual — Part IV

Section 4 — Financial Policies

4.1 Salary and Allowances

4.1.1 Basic Structure and Process.

A support account will be maintained for each individual or couple, an account from which salary and other personal benefits are paid according to the specific terms of call. If a significant and sustained shortage occurs in the support account, World Outreach will consult and work with the missionary in encouraging EPC congregations to restore the account to a positive balance.

4.1.2 Excess Support.

At the end of every fiscal year each missionary account will be reviewed to identify excess support. Any excess will be handled as follows:

1. A three month's support balance will be left in the missionary's support account.
2. Of funds exceeding three months' support, up to \$1,000 for a single and \$2,000 for a couple will be available for approved projects.
3. Any remaining monies will be disbursed to other missionary support accounts which have a negative balance.

4.1.3 Variable Base Salaries

Base salaries will vary depending on whether the missionaries are married or single.

Terms of call will be reviewed each year in an effort to maintain parity between missionaries and U.S. pastors.

4.1.4 Exchange Rates

The World Outreach office will monitor exchange rates one day prior to the monthly anniversary of payment date and will adjust the remittance accordingly.

4.1.5 Allowances

A housing and utilities allowance will be provided. The missionary is responsible to secure his own housing and is encouraged to live modestly while on the field. He is also responsible for his own personal items and for appropriate insurance of such.

4.1.6 Field Adjustment.

A field adjustment will be made to compensate for the varying cost of living and purchasing power on various fields. It will be based on the missionary's salary excluding funds allowed for housing and utilities and will be computed using current field cost-of-living information.

4.1.7 Payment of Salary.

Payment will be on the last day of each month. Prior to field organization, deposits will be made to individual accounts in U.S. banks and copies of deposit slips forwarded to missionaries.

4.1.8 Required Expenses

World Outreach will cover from one's support account all expenses incurred by required procedures and activities upon receipt of proper documentation. The purchase of an item of service costing in excess of \$250.00 for which the missionary or candidate expects reimbursement (application procedures and examinations, passports and visas applications, immunizations, travel, shipping, study, etc.) will require prior approval from the World Outreach office.

4.1.9 Special Projects

Over \$1,000.00

It is the right of all World Outreach missionaries to submit requests to the CWO for a special project (see Attachment 1). In the raising of special project funds, the major initiative and responsibility are with the field leadership or individual missionary requesting the funds. The missionary or field leadership constructs and submits the project proposal to the World Outreach Committee for approval. If approved, the CWO will recommend the Benevolence Asking to General Assembly and upon approval will give all logistical and promotional support possible to ensure the success of the project.

Under \$1,000.00:

For projects which are less than \$1,000.00, the proper form (Attachment 2) is to be submitted to the field leadership, or, in absence of such, the World Outreach Director for approval. After approval has been granted, the missionary may publicize the project need.

4.2 Missionaries Working with Cooperative Agreements

Payments of salary for missionaries serving under cooperative agreements with other agencies will be handled by the cooperative agency. The payment date and pay procedure will be set by the said agency, not by World Outreach.

4.3 Outside Employment Internationally

Terms of call will be negotiated and agreed to by World Outreach, the field agency, and the missionary unit. Normally, outside employment hinders ministry. There may be cases where it could enhance the ministry and World Outreach may grant permission. When permission is granted, in cases where financial compensation is involved, adjustments may be made in the terms of call.

4.4 Benefits

4.4.1 Medical Insurance

World Outreach provides comprehensive medical coverage, long term disability, and limited life insurance for all missionaries unless an alternative is requested by the cooperative agency. A separate brochure is available describing the insurance program.

4.4.2 Pension

The terms of call for each member of World Outreach includes contributions to a tax deferred retirement account. This amount is a fixed percentage, set by the General Assembly and computed on the base salary and housing allowance.

4.5 Taxes

All missionaries are responsible for their own U.S. income taxes and their own host country taxes. If the host country taxes cannot be claimed as a credit against the missionary's U.S. tax, the missionary will be refunded the amount of the host country tax from support account.

4.6 Social Security

All non-ordained missionaries receiving salary directly from World Outreach are covered by Social Security. Social Security arrangements for non-ordained missionaries in a cooperative missionary relationship will be covered by that mission. All ordained missionaries are treated as self-employed ministers unless they have filed notice of election not to be covered due to conscientious objection.

Social Security will be deducted from the non-ordained missionary's salary and World Outreach will pay the normal employer's matching share from the missionary's support account.

4.7 Administration Assessment

4.7.1 Personal Support

Each month 10% or \$100.00, whichever is less, will be deducted from the support account of each World Outreach missionary unit. This amount helps offset World Outreach administrative expenses and may be adjusted periodically.

4.7.2 Projects

All non-personnel World Outreach projects (except U.S. church planting projects) approved as Benevolence Asking by the General Assembly shall include a 5% charge to help cover administrative costs.

4.8 Field Expense

Work funds will be reimbursed from the support account upon receipt of monthly or quarterly reports covering the expenditures. The missionary shall submit proper documents to substantiate work expense.

4.9 Property

4.9.1 Updated Records

Accurate, updated records will be kept of all property on the field which is owned by World Outreach. Property purchased from contributed funds are owned by World Outreach but may be consigned or titled to individual missionaries.

4.9.2 World Outreach Approval

In purchasing large equipment, land, etc. for World Outreach, field leadership will work out the details with World Outreach approval. Payments for this will be made by a World Outreach check or bank draft to transfer, rather than having missionaries write a check for the purchase. Copies of deeds to land purchased in foreign countries shall be kept on deposit with the World Outreach office.

4.9.3 Tax Receipts

Equipment purchased from other than personal salary is considered World Outreach property. Donors for such purchases are eligible for such tax deductible receipts.

4.10 Education

4.10.1 Continued Education

World Outreach allows career missionaries \$350 per year to be used for continuing education (in addition to language study). Unused portion may accumulate to a maximum of \$3,500. This money will come from their support account and will be paid them in addition to salary. Any program of continued education must be approved by the World Outreach office.

Increments will be computed as of January 1 of each year, including 6 months or more of the first year computed.

4.10.2 Education of Missionary Children

1. Schooling of children on the field shall be selected in consultation with the World Outreach office.
2. World Outreach will pay 90% of school costs through high school.
3. These costs are charged to the missionary's support account and are paid to the missionary in addition to salary.

4.11 Child Care Expenses

World Outreach will reimburse one half of the cost incurred in hiring child care so that parents may engage in full time language study. This policy is applicable to the missionary with preschool age children or school age children who are taught at home.

The funds to cover this expense will come from the missionary's support account.

4.12 Missionary Children Travel Expenses

Missionary children under age 23 who are single and dependent upon parental support, are to be considered part of the missionary's family. Thus they are eligible for reimbursement of travel costs to and from the field for one trip during a four-year term; such costs are to be treated as a regular expense chargeable to the missionary's support account.

4.13 Advance of Funds

If necessary, funds can be advanced to the missionary or candidate to cover such expenses as travel, outfitting, etc. After two months, if no accounting for the advance has been made, or no arrangements made pertaining thereto, the outstanding advance will be deducted from the next salary of the missionary. If the missionary is serving with a second agency, World Outreach will withhold sending the next transmittal of funds to said agency in order to cover the outstanding advance.

Any remaining portion of the advance should be returned to World Outreach.

Part IV, Attachment 1

Planning Sheet for Proposed New Programs or Projects over \$1,000

1. What do I want to do? (What is my goal?)
2. A. What relationship does this have to my overall objectivity?
B. How high a priority to our overall program?
highest 1 2 3 4 5 6 lowest
C. Does it represent a shift in interest for us?
3. What will be the measurable result? (How will I know my goal has been reached?)
4. What are the underlying presuppositions? (What am I counting on? Will it stay the same or change? Example: government, social conditions, weather, economy, cultural patterns, spiritual hunger, etc.)
5. How long a commitment is implied?
1 month () 6 months () 1 year () 4 years ()
_____ ()
6. What are the resources we need?
 - A. Knowledge of what _____ what level _____
 - B. Time how much time _____ WO's _____ others _____
 - C. Money how much money _____ WO's _____ others _____

Planning Sheet for Proposed Personal Projects under \$1,000

This sheet is to be submitted to the field leadership (or, in absence of such, the World Outreach Director) for approval. Only after that approval has been granted will the missionary publicize the project need.

1. What do I want to do? (What is my goal?)

2. A. What relationship does this have to my overall objective?

B. How high a priority to our overall program?

highest 1 2 3 4 5 6 lowest

C. Does it represent a shift in interest for us?

3. What will be the measurable result? (How will I know my goal has been reached?)

4. What are the underlying presuppositions? (What am I counting on? Will it stay the same or change? Example: government, social conditions, weather, economy, cultural patterns, spiritual hunger, etc.)

5. What will it cost?

6. When will it be needed?

7. How can these resources be obtained?

- A. Knowledge of what _____ what level _____
- B. Time WO's _____ others _____
- C. Money WO's _____ others _____

8. How should it be budgeted?

A. Over what period of time?

B. How much each time?

An "X" in Box 1 of A indicates my feelings that the proposed project is right in line with what we are now doing. An "X" in Box 6 of A means that it is something entirely new.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	
A. The new project complements existing program.							It is entirely new.
B. The new project is innovative.							It is basically traditional.
C. There is high local interest. (Outside the team)							There is low local interest.
D. There is a high risk of failure in the program.							There is a low risk of failure.
E. There will be continuing commitment required to make it effective.							It is a one shot project.
F. It is a cooperative venture (e.g., Mission and National Church, etc.)							The project is ours alone.
G. Not doing this would undermine the whole program.							Not doing this would not undermine our program.

Additional Comments:

Report on Middle East Reformed Fellowship (MERF)

Purpose

"MERF is an indigenous fellowship serving in the Middle East on behalf of Reformed churches and believers world-wide." It is committed to evangelism through the support of national evangelists and through the use of mass media. Working through various national denominations it is engaged in church planting. It provides Biblical and theological training. It also meets physical needs through relief that is normally channelled through local churches.

History

MERF began in Beirut, Lebanon in the early '70's when a group of believers banded together to sponsor lectures and seminars on the Reformed faith. Scattered by the war in Lebanon, some of MERF's members carried on relief efforts in Lebanon while others went to Egypt where they preached, taught, and published Reformed literature.

In the early '80's MERF was reorganized, with a special emphasis on training and supporting national evangelists in the Middle East.

Doctrine

MERF's doctrinal statement is evangelical and Reformed.

Ministry Objectives

MERF supported four church planting projects in Egypt in 1986, of which two congregations are now fully self-supporting. They also established one Arabic congregation in Cyprus. Plans for 1987 include sixteen such projects in Egypt, one in Jordan, one in Beirut, and three in Syria.

MERF began providing in November of 1986 study programs at the center in Cyprus for pastors and lay leaders from throughout the Middle East. There were 6 Presbyterian pastors from Egypt in the program in November. Plans for 1987 are to have 8 trainees for each two-week term. This program runs continuously through the year.

Another program in Cyprus is for training Muslim converts from countries throughout the Arab world.

A third program offered at the Center in Cyprus is designed to train westerners to witness to the growing Muslim community in the West.

During 10 months in 1986 MERF responded to 34,000 letters which were sent by those listening to MERF-related radio broadcasts. Many of these were from Muslims inquiring about the Christian faith.

MERF has provided emergency relief in both Lebanon and the Sudan. Relief priorities are first to aid evangelicals, second to help other Christians, and third, as a witness, to help non-Christian neighbors. They have carefully worked out a policy for handling relief funds.

Finances

Inasmuch as all staff personnel are supported by their own churches or denominations, all other funds received by MERF are used fully for ministry projects. This includes diaconal funds, the distribution of which carries no overhead. Relief distribution is carried on by those serving in a voluntary capacity.

Contributors to MERF include congregations in the Presbyterian Church in America, Reformed Church in America, Orthodox Presbyterian Church, Christian Reformed Church, and the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America.

Board of Directors

"All regular members of the Board of Directors are to be natives of the region." Members are chosen on the basis of their commitment to the Scripture and the Reformed faith, their reputation in the church, their gifts and their involvement in the ministry of the Gospel in the Middle East. At present there are nine members on MERF's Board. Including Victor Atallah, Director, there are three men serving fulltime on the ministerial staff at MERF.

References

Early in 1986 World Outreach contacted three of the men listed on MERF's Board of Reference. These were Dr. Jay Adams and Dr. Richard Gaffin, Jr. at Westminster Seminary and Dr. Simon Kistemaker at Reformed Theological Seminary. All of them commended MERF for its Reformed emphasis, its integrity, and its unique ministry. Richard Gaffin commented, "This is an organization whose activities I can commend without reservation."

Last fall Central Presbyterian Church in St. Louis sent Helen Herndon and Marilyn Nixon to Cyprus and Egypt to survey the work of MERF. Helen concluded, "I find the MERF ministry to be credible and vital. It is based on a sound Biblical and doctrinal foundation and seeks to pass on that foundation to those to whom it ministers . . . It appears to be well balanced in that its basic ministry is meeting spiritual needs, but at the same time it recognized physical and material needs. One aspect of the ministry is not accomplished to the exclusion of the other."

World Outreach Director's Report

Many EPC congregations are expanding their commitment to world missions. Such churches are not only establishing larger budgets for missions but also are creatively tackling challenges such as how to prioritize their support budget, how to develop mission policy, and how to recruit and train new missionaries. This vitality and vision reflects our church's God-given potential for serving Him together around the world.

The Presbyterian Church of Brazil: Following last November's historic convening of the first Joint Committee for Missions by the Presbyterian Church of Brazil (IPB) and the EPC, Moderator Roger Vonder Bruegge and I went to Brazil for two weeks in February. Our purpose was to evaluate the projects which the EPC has committed itself to help, and to arrange for a team of ten EPC members to work with the Brazilian church this July. I have also done research and survey work to identify a Portuguese-speaking community on the East coast of the U.S. in which the IPB and the EPC can join in establishing a church. The new partnership between our 2 churches promises to be a fruitful one.

The Urban Ministries Center: This spring the World Outreach Committee called Robert McCallum as a "home missionary" to establish a congregation in the predominantly black neighborhood in which the Urban Ministries Center is located. Robert, with his wife Carolyn and 4 year old daughter, Tiffany, will move to Detroit in June to begin this challenging new work.

Thai Christian Ministry: In April, James "Bucky" Brown, stated clerk of the Presbytery of the Far West, and I met with the leadership of the Thai Christian Ministries for three evenings of training sessions to prepare this 50 member congregation for organization. This young Los Angeles area church has a strong zeal for evangelism and missions.

EPC Congregations and Presbyteries: Over the last 12 months I have visited 18 EPC congregations (several more than once), meeting with mission committees, teaching, and preaching. This includes participating in mission conferences in 7 of these churches. I presented a report on the floors of the Presbyteries of the Southeast, Central South, and Midwest. In addition, I conducted a special "World Outreach Information Meeting" for the Presbytery of the West. Another means by which World Outreach information has been distributed this year has been through the Daily Prayer Calendar begun last October.

World Outreach Benevolence Askings:

1986 Outreach Benevolence Askings

Project # and Description	Goal	Received
WO8601 Executive Director	\$40,000	\$41,244
WO8602 Publications and Office Development	60,000	3,950
WO8603-05 Brazil: Theological Education	50,000	2,497
WO8606-10 Brazil: Frontier Outreach and Missionary Support	120,000	103,664
WO8611 India	50,000	53,638
WO8612 Urban Ministries Center	80,000	12,358
	<u>\$360,000</u>	<u>\$217,351</u>

For 1986, \$217,351 was received, or 60% of the goal of \$360,000 adopted by General Assembly. Even when allowing for certain projects which were delayed, such as the Urban Ministries Center and the Brazil graduate school, we experienced a serious shortfall in our commitment.

Forty-four percent of all EPC congregations participated in the support of World Outreach missionaries or projects during 1986.

1987 World Benevolence Askings through April

Project # and Description	Goal	Received
WO8701 Executive Director	\$43,000	\$2,823
WO8702 Publications and Office Development	50,000	1,180
WO8703-05 Brazil: Theological Education	65,000	275
WO8707-09 Brazil: Frontier Outreach	115,910	250
WO8711 India: Bibles for India	50,000	6,475
WO8712 Mexico: Logoi	18,360	3,050
WO8713 Urban Ministries Center	60,000	3,354
WO8714 Thai Christian Ministries	1,500	1,000
	<u>\$403,770</u>	<u>\$18,407</u>

Giving towards World Outreach Benevolence Askings during the first 4 months of 1987 totaled less than 5% of the amount approved by General Assembly.

Conclusion: We have every reason to believe that God is leading us as a church into global ministries for which He has specially prepared us. To be responsive to His direction, however, we must see broader ownership of World Outreach's mission and projects among our congregations.

Edwin K. Randal, Director
World Outreach



Part III

Documents

Acts of the General Assembly

"An act of the General Assembly represents the expressed will of the Assembly and provides definitive guidelines for the life and mission of the church until either amended or superceded by the action of a subsequent Assembly." Stated Clerk, 1987.

General Assembly

- 83-02 Opportunity shall be provided at each General Assembly for pastors seeking a call to meet with churches and ministers seeking to issue a call (**Minutes**, 3-53).
- 83-09 The General Assembly endorses a three-fold statement of purpose for its meetings: (**Minutes**, 4-38).
1. To do the business of the Assembly;
 2. To be a time of celebration and fellowship;
 3. To provide an opportunity for growth in ministry skills (**Minutes**, 3-53).
- 84-09 A Preliminary Position Paper is not intended to be a thorough theological statement nor a complete exegetical Biblical study on a particular issue. Rather, such a Paper is intended to set forth in a preliminary way the "mind" of the General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church on some particular issue or subject. The purpose of such a Preliminary Position Paper is to enable the Evangelical Presbyterian Church to make a statement to itself, or the Christian community, or the world in general on some issue or subject so that our general position is quickly made clear while the thorough theological or exegetical study may be done in due time. Such a Preliminary Position Paper may be adopted by one Assembly and modified or changed at any succeeding Assembly. Ordinarily such a Preliminary Position Paper shall have an Ad Interim Committee appointed to send the Paper to the presbyteries and congregations for study and comment and for further development theologically and Biblically in order that such Paper might be presented to some subsequent Assembly as a "Position Paper."
- 84-10 The General Assembly shall establish an Ad Interim Committee on Theology to enable the Assembly to continue the development of its posture on crucial issues facing its church. Preliminary position papers shall be initiated by the Committee on Administration but individuals, sessions, and presbyteries may also develop such which shall be forwarded to the General Assembly through its Administration Committee. (**Minutes**, 4-38).
- 85-01 All heads of committees, boards, agencies or commissions, whether male or female, shall be designated as "chairman" and usage of term "chairperson" refrained from (**Minutes**, 5-25).
- 86-01 The General Assembly shall establish a permanent Committee on Theology of six members, one half of whom are Ruling Elders and one-half Teaching Elders (**Minutes**, 6-24).

- 86-02 The Assembly instructs the permanent Committee on Theology to make known to all Ministers and Clerks of Session the date and place of its meetings, and the agenda of items to be deliberated and welcome input from the constituency regarding said matters (**Minutes**, 6-28).
- 86-06 A permanent Committee on Women's Ministries shall be formed, with one representative from each presbytery (appointed by the Moderator initially) to serve a 3 year term after which the regular electoral process of rotation of class will be used (**Minutes**, 6-52).
- 86-15 The Assembly establish an historical foundation, appoint a committee to oversee its development, and instruct that committee to prepare a history of the origins of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. The Committee for the Historical Foundation shall be responsible for collecting, cataloging, and preserving historical documents, artifacts, and other items of historical significance in the origins and ongoing life of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (**Minutes**, 6-75)
- 87-06 The Assembly establishes a new permanent Committee on Youth Ministries with responsibility for conference ministries, youth curriculum resourcing, youth ministry resources, and other youth related concerns for grades 7-12. Committee to have two ministers and four ruling elders. (**Minutes**, 7-38).
- 87-13 The Assembly approves the establishment of new permanent Pension Fund Committee to:
- * to establish a pension plan in accord with the Assembly's mandate;
 - * to serve as trustees under such a plan;
 - * to administer proceeds of the "Gratitude Gift;"
 - * to make annual report of proceedings to the Assembly.
- (**Minutes**, 7-53).
- 87-18 A permanent Committee on Nominations is approved for establishment. Committee to consist of 9 members in three classes of three each, composed of four ministers and five ruling elders with at least one person from each presbytery. When the number of presbyteries exceeds nine, membership to be rotated among the presbyteries. The outgoing Moderator shall nominate three persons to the Assembly for committee membership, along with any nominations from the floor. Elected persons will take office at the close of the Assembly.

Duties are to oversee a presbytery's privilege of nominating an individual to be Moderator and to receive and evaluate any other recommendations for moderatorial nominees; to nominate to the Assembly persons to fill vacancies of all Assembly permanent committees except World Outreach; and to appoint commissioners of the Assembly to the various standing committees of each Assembly (**Minutes**, 7-53).

Office of the General Assembly

- 82-01 The General Assembly shall establish an Office of the General Assembly. The Assembly shall authorize the employment (calling) of an Administrative Coordinator who shall also serve as Stated Clerk, and a Director of Church Development who shall be primarily responsible for church planting and congregational development (**Minutes**, 2-32).

- 82-02 The Administration Committee shall select a permanent place for the Office of the General Assembly to be approved by the Administrative Commission (**Minutes**, 2-32).
- 82-09 The General Assembly shall provide an amount sufficient for salary and housing, insurance, pension, travel, and entertainment to establish a position of a permanent Stated Clerk (**Minutes**, 2-50).
- 82-10 The General Assembly approves the concept of self-funding insurance and instructs its Committee on Administration to execute a plan in trust as appropriate. Individual churches are urged to assume the deductible portion of the health insurance program and cost of co-insurance as part of a minister's compensation (**Minutes**, 2-56).
- 85-09 The permanent Committee on Christian Education makes available for sale to churches standardized forms such as certificates for infant baptism, church membership, etc (**Minutes**, 5-46).
- 85-08 General Assembly endorses a special denominational voluntary Christmas offering to help needy ministers or missionaries and authorizes EPC churches to receive such an offering whose funds shall be administered by the Permanent Committee on Administration (**Minutes**, 5-46).
- 86-13 The Assembly instructs the stated clerks of presbyteries to request every congregation to recommend Ruling Elders willing and qualified to serve on specific permanent committees. Further, to instruct the Stated Clerk of General Assembly to produce a brief description of the duties and responsibilities for each permanent committee along with upcoming vacancies. Clerks of presbyteries are requested to submit a combined list of available Ruling Elders from member congregations, along with their qualifications, experience and brief biographical sketch. Copies of all pertinent documents are to be transmitted to each member of the Nominations Committee prior to its meeting. (**Minutes**, 6-70).
- 87-14 An annual "Gratitude Gift" offering in connection with the Christmas season is approved. Monies received to be used by the Pension Committee to supplement income of our retired ministers and missionaries who participate in the denominational program (**Minutes**, 7-53).

Confessional Matters

- 81-01 The intent of the **Essentials of the Faith** shall be to give a clear concise statement of the fundamentals of Christian faith as embodied in the Westminster Confession and professed by the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (**Minutes**, 1-12).
- 84-01 The General Assembly shall print the Summertown edition of the **Westminster Confession of Faith**, published by Attic Press with introduction, and appropriate table of contents, appendices #1 and #2, and excluding the declaratory statement (**Minutes**, 4-23).
- 87-03 The Assembly endorses the addition of the Westminster Confession of Faith, the *Essentials*, and the Shorter Catechism to the **Book of Order**. (**Minutes**, 7-36).

Presbyteries

- 81-02 Presbyteries shall meet at least twice during the year and a third time during the General Assembly (**Minutes**, 1-24).
- 81-03 Presbyteries shall have as their goals for presbytery meeting the following:
- a. To develop fellowship and support for pastors and elders;
 - b. To share resources with other churches;
 - c. To encourage church planting strategies (**Minutes**, 1-24).
- 82-04 The Presbytery of the East is constituted by the Assembly and shall include the states of Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Washington, DC (**Minutes**, 2-32).
- 82-05 The Presbytery of the South is constituted by the Assembly and shall include the states of Virginia, West Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas (**Minutes**, 2-32).
- 82-06 Churches in Texas and southern Illinois shall be given their choice as to which contiguous presbytery each respective church belongs (**Minutes**, 2-32).
- 83-03 Presbyteries shall use the approved standardized "Application - Candidates for Gospel Ministry" for persons seeking to come under care of presbyteries (**Minutes**, 3-48).
- 83-04 Session shall use the approved "Session Approval Form" for commending candidates to presbyteries (**Minutes**, 3-48).
- 83-06 Presbyteries shall use the approved standardized "Call for Pastor or Associate Pastor" for ministerial terms of call (**Minutes**, 3-48).
- 83-10 The Presbytery of the Far West is constituted by the Assembly and shall include the states of California and Arizona (**Minutes**, 3-54).
- 83-12 The Presbytery of the South is divided into two Presbyteries, the Presbytery of the Southeast and the Presbytery of the Central South. Presbytery of the Southeast shall include the states of Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, plus eastern portions of Florida, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Presbytery of the Central South shall include states of Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, plus western portions of Florida, Kentucky, and Tennessee (**Minutes**, 3-54).
- 84-11 The Presbytery of the East shall include within its boundaries those churches which fall within the bounds of the greater Washington, DC metropolitan area of the Fairfax County, Arlington County, and Alexandria areas of Virginia (**Minutes**, 4-40).
- 84-12 The Presbytery of the East shall include those churches in eastern Ohio which lie east of interstate 77 in Ohio (**Minutes**, 4-40).
- 85-02 The Stated Clerk of the General Assembly shall annually forward to each presbytery the names of persons from that presbytery who are members of General Assembly permanent committees (**Minutes**, 5-25).
- 85-03 The boundaries of the Presbytery of the Central South shall be changed to include Missouri (**Minutes**, 5-29).

- 86-04 The Presbytery of the East shall be divided into two Presbyteries: East and Allegheny. The Allegheny Presbytery shall have as its eastern boundary a line running from and including Rochester, NY to Chambersburg, PA and I-81. The southern boundary shall include the state of West Virginia except for the eastern panhandle. Western boundary shall include eastern Ohio from I-77 eastward including the city of Cleveland.

East Presbytery shall include the rest of New York, the eastern part of Pennsylvania, the New England States, all of New Jersey, Maryland, and Delaware. Also the eastern panhandle of West Virginia, the district of Columbia, and the Washington, DC metropolitan areas of Virginia which include the counties of Loudon, Prince William, Arlington, and Fairfax, and the cities of Alexandria and Fairfax (**Minutes**, 6-51).

- 86-05 The EPC, Anna, Illinois, shall be placed within the bounds of the Central South Presbytery so that bounds would then include all of the state of Illinois south of I-70 (**Minutes**, 6-51).
- 86-13 The Assembly instructs the stated clerks of presbyteries to request every congregation to recommend Ruling Elders willing and qualified to serve on specific permanent committees. Further, to instruct the Stated Clerk of General Assembly to produce a brief description of the duties and responsibilities for each permanent committee along with upcoming vacancies. Clerks of presbyteries are requested to submit a combined list of available Ruling Elders from member congregations, along with their qualifications, experience and brief biographical sketch. Copies of all pertinent documents are to be transmitted to each member of the Nominations Committee prior to its meeting. (**Minutes**, 6-70).
- 87-07 The boundaries of the West Presbytery are extended to include the states of Washington and Idaho. (**Minutes**, 7-44).
- 87-08 The metropolitan area of Kansas City and contiguous counties of that city within the state of Kansas (West Presbytery) shall be placed totally within the bounds of the Central South Presbytery. (**Minutes**, 7-44).
- 87-11 The Presbytery of Iglesia Presbiteriana San Andres, formed in Buenos Aires, Argentina, shall be received, consisting of five particular churches. (**Minutes**, 7-51).

Office of the Minister

- 81-04 Terms of call for any minister of member churches shall provide for participation in the denominational hospitalization and disabilities programs (**Minutes**, 1-32).
- 81-05 Terms of call for any minister shall provide a minimum of 18% benefit to provide for group hospitalization, disability and pension. The pension factor shall not be less than 10%. This benefit shall be computed on the gross effective salary base, i.e., salary and housing/utilities allowance (**Minutes**, 1-32).
- 81-06 The denominational group insurance plan providing health, disability, and life coverage shall be mandatory for all ministers within member churches (**Minutes**, 1-36).
- 82-07 "Uniform Procedures on Candidacy, Licensure, and Ordination" (**Minutes**, 2-33, 42).
1. Candidates for ordination must fulfill all requirements for ordination and until receiving a call, they will be licensed.

2. Requirements for ordination shall be:
 - A. Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.
 - B. Seminary degree - M. Div. or equivalent including Koine Greek and Hebrew.
 - C. Care of presbytery for a minimum of one year.
 - D. Examinations - Four written and one oral examination must be sustained.
 - E. Valid Call.
 - F. Other evidence - Assurance those spiritual gifts needed for effective ministry are present and being developed.
 3. All exceptions to fulfilling standards for ordination (extraordinary circumstances) will be referred to permanent Assembly Committee on Ministerial Vocation for a recommended course of action, including continuing education and reading requirements. The Presbytery of Jurisdiction shall in conjunction with the Assembly Committee on Ministerial Vocation:
 - 3-1. Mail necessary documentation (personal history, etc.) to Assembly Committee for their review and counsel and
 - 3-2. Proceed with process of ordination only after receiving recommendations from Assembly Committee on Ministerial Vocation.
 4. License shall be granted to eligible candidates according to the following:
 - 4-1. Persons may be licensed by the presbytery for specific duties within the church (extraordinary candidate) including the possibility of offering the sacraments if situation warrants such.
 - 4-2. Persons shall be licensed by the presbytery prior to ordination. All licensures are to be reviewed annually by the appropriate presbytery committee.
 5. Provision may be made for a session to commission specific ministries of those not expecting to be ordained for the term of their employment, e.g., music, Christian education, etc.
 6. Persons seeking membership within a presbytery may be received as enrolled members only upon evidence of a call endorsed by that presbytery.
 7. Terms of call: The amount of annual vacation time: one month.
 8. Terms of call: The amount of time to be given for study leave: two weeks, cumulative up to six weeks.
- 82-10 The General Assembly approves the concept of self-funding insurance and instructs its Committee on Administration to execute a plan in trust as appropriate. Individual churches are urged to assume the deductible portion of the health insurance program and cost of co-insurance as part of a minister's compensation (**Minutes**, 2-56).
- 83-01 The Committee on Ministerial Vocation shall annually provide the presbyteries a letter encouraging each session to review annually pastoral and staff compensation, taking into account such factors as changes in cost of living, performance, capabilities of the congregation, and economic conditions of the community. Each presbytery shall determine how best to use the letter (**Minutes**, 3-37).
- 83-02 Opportunity shall be provided at each General Assembly for pastors seeking a call to meet with churches and ministers seeking to issue a call (**Minutes**, 3-53).
- 83-05 A standardized "Personal Information Form" shall be provided for ministers seeking admission into the EPC and for EPC ministers seeking a change in call (**Minutes**, 3-50).

- 83-07 The denomination shall provide an approved "Candidates Educational Equivalency Program" for presbyteries preparing candidates for the ministry who have extraordinary circumstances. Program shall be under general oversight of Ministerial Vocation Committee (**Minutes**, 3-50).
- 84-02 The General Assembly sustained the Permanent Judicial Commission's opinion that "It is contrary to the Westminster Confession of Faith (27-4) and the Constitution of the Church **Book of Worship** (3-1) to allow persons who are not ordained ministers of the Word to administer the Sacraments." Document titled "Uniform Procedures on Candidacy, Licensure, and Ordination" (**Minutes**, 1983) shall be amended accordingly (**Minutes**, 4-23).
- 84-03 General Assembly shall approve and print the proposed **Manual for Candidates for the Gospel Ministry** (**Minutes**, 4-23).
- 84-07 Licensed candidates with extraordinary status having been previously granted sacramental authority for their congregations may be given special dispensation to continue (cf. Acts 84-02) while diligently pursuing ordination. Only candidates on record as of the 4th General Assembly given such authority may continue. No new candidates may be so treated (**Minutes**, 4-36).
- 84-08 General Assembly adopts the self-funding group insurance plan offered by the Travelers Insurance Company and gives authority to the permanent Committee on Administration to approve and establish all details relative to the establishment of proposed plan.
- General Assembly requires pastors and employees of all member congregations, all presbyteries and the Assembly who meet minimum requirements to enroll in the program.
- This major medical program shall be reviewed annually and a full report made to the General Assembly (**Minutes**, 4-37).
- 85-05 That the General Assembly sustain the Permanent Judicial Commission's opinion regarding the office of "co-pastor" as being nonexistent and EPC congregation sanctions by the **Book of Government** are those of Pastor, Associate Pastor, and Assistant Pastor (**Minutes**, 5-40).
- 86-03 The General Assembly instructs the permanent Committee on Ministerial Vocation to investigate, evaluate, and develop a plan to assist with the pastoral care of our pastors, their families, and congregations (**Minutes**, 6-43).
- 86-18 The denominational group insurance plan shall be amended by increasing the cap for long term disability insurance from \$25,000 to \$40,000 maximum insurable salary (**Minutes**, 6-75).
- 86-19 The denominational group insurance plan shall be amended to make retired persons eligible by defining "retiree" as follows: "A retiree is one who has reached the 60th birthday and has served at least five (5) years in his or her EPC church. Such persons may continue to participate in the medical portion of the EPC plan indefinitely by contributing the appropriate monthly premium." (**Minutes**, 6-75).

- 87-12 The Assembly approves the establishment of an employer-sponsored tax sheltered annuity program for the required minimum (10%) of gross effective salary for retirement for each minister and missionary and urges each congregation to participate in such program (**Minutes**, 7-47).
- 87-14 An annual "Gratitude Gift" offering in connection with the Christmas season is approved. Monies received to be used by the Pension Committee to supplement income of our retired ministers and missionaries who participate in the denominational program (**Minutes**, 7-53).
- 87-15 The Assembly allows persons otherwise required to be covered by the denominational group insurance plan to be exempted from such mandatory coverage when they have coverage under the Civilian Health and Medical Programs of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS) (**Minutes**, 7-53).
- 87-16 Restriction is eliminated of 6 months waiting period for coverage of pre-existing conditions for an employee coming in from another denominational insurance plan. The 12 months waiting period for coverage of pre-existing conditions of dependents of employees is also eliminated. (**Minutes**, 7-53).
- 87-17 The employee benefits plan is amended to exclude coverage for radial keratotomy, a new procedure to correct nearsightedness. (**Minutes**, 7-53).
- 87-19 Group insurance plan for health and disability coverage is changed from The Travelers to the Provident Life and Accident Insurance Company. Life insurance coverage remains with The Travelers (**Minutes**, 7-54).

Church Development

- 82-03 The Assembly shall establish a three-year program (1982-85) called "Mission to the Nation" which shall have as its goal church planting and congregational development. The permanent committee will propose appropriate projects on a church-wide campaign to raise \$2.5 million for this program. Congregations are encouraged to make this giving a priority (**Minutes**, 2-32).
- 83-11 The General Assembly shall establish a loan fund for church site and building development whereby on a revolving capitalization basis, low interest monies will be available to mission churches and other churches in need (**Minutes**, 3-54).
- 86-12 The Assembly approves a new **Church Loan Fund** with an initial target goal of \$300,000. Monies would be available at a favorable rate to EPC congregations seeking to acquire land or building facilities. Steps to launch Fund:
 - 1. Promote congregational giving by individual gifts, legacies, endowments, outright gifts, and inclusion in local church budgets;
 - 2. Designate 1986 and 1987 Thanksgiving Offerings to this Fund (**Minutes**, 6-64).

World Outreach

- 84-04 Oversight of Ethnic and Urban Ministries in North America shall be given the permanent Committee on World Outreach (**Minutes**, 4-24).
- 86-11 Cooperative agreement is approved between the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and Wycliffe Bible Translators (**Minutes**, 6-67).
- 86-14 Cooperative agreement is approved between the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and LOGOI (**Minutes**, 6-67).
- 87-01 Cooperative agreement is approved between the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and Middle East Reformed Fellowship (MERF) (**Minutes**, 7-30).
- 87-02 The General Assembly adopts definition of approved mission agency as follows:
"An approved mission agency is defined as a 'mission organization created to serve the Church of Jesus Christ and identified by the following:
- * authentic evangelical confessional identity;
 - * historical integrity and explicit mission statement;
 - * mission objectives compatible with the EPC mission statement;
 - * clarity in ministry goals and objectives;
 - * financial credibility as measured by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability or by comparable standards;
 - * membership in the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association or meet comparable standards.' "
- (**Minutes**, 7-30).

Fraternal Matters

- 81-07 The Evangelical Presbyterian Church shall seek membership in the National Association of Evangelicals (**Minutes**, 1-39).
- 82-11 The Evangelical Presbyterian Church shall pursue with the highest ethical conduct, fraternal relationship with other evangelical Reformed bodies (**Minutes**, 2-56).
- 83-11 The General Assembly shall establish a loan fund for church site and building development whereby on a revolving capitalization basis, low interest monies will be available to mission churches and other churches in need (**Minutes**, 3-54).
- 84-05 The General Assembly instructs the Stated Clerk to make denominational application for membership into the World Alliance of Reformed Churches (**Minutes**, 4-26).
- 84-06 The General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church seeks, through its Fraternal Relations Committee, to identify, develop and implement relationships with other bodies of Christians which will promote the Lordship of Jesus Christ, the unity of His Body, and the strengthening of the Kingdom of God on earth.

To this end the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, through its Fraternal Relations Committee, seeks to build relationships with those denominations in the Reformed tradition, ecumenical agencies, which are evangelical or Reformed in character and in spirit, and other groups and organizations which are working to advance the Kingdom of God through ministries of evangelism, nurture and service.

A "fraternal relationship" may include one or more of the following:

1. A formal relationship with the highest representative body of another denomination. Such a relationship is most commonly understood as "being in correspondence" with that body.
2. Less formal relationships, which may include exchange of information, exchange of observers and shared ministries at different judicatory levels.
3. Memberships in ecumenical agencies which proclaim the Word of God promote the unity of the Body of Christ, and share resources for effective ministries.
4. Relationships which endorse and support ministries lying outside conventional ecclesiastical structures, but are of significance to the Kingdom.

A "fraternal relationship" may be constituted only by the General Assembly, which shall also approve the terms of such relationships. (**Minutes**, 4-26)

- 85-10 The General Assembly shall establish fraternal relations with the Association Reformed Presbyterian Church and send a delegate to their Synod every other year beginning in 1986. (**Minutes**, 5-47)
- 85-11 The General Assembly shall pursue fraternal relations with the Presbyterian Church of America, the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America, the Christian Reformed Church, and the Orthodox Presbyterian Church as soon as mutually convenient (**Minutes**, 5-47).
- 86-16 The Evangelical Presbyterian Church shall seek membership in the World Evangelical Fellowship (WEF) (**Minutes**, 6-74).
- 87-09 The Evangelical Presbyterian Church shall seek membership in the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council. (**Minutes**, 7-46).
- 87-10 The Evangelical Presbyterian Church shall enter into a fraternal relationship with the Christian Reformed Church (**Minutes**, 7-46).

Fiscal Matters

- 82-08 The fiscal year of the Assembly shall be a calendar year (**Minutes**, 2-50).

83-08 Fiscal Policy

"The administration and operation of the General Assembly shall be supported entirely by per member giving.

Beyond Assembly administration programs, activities of the Assembly in such areas as world mission, new church development, etc. shall be supported by benevolence offerings of the various congregations as follows:

- a. Each committee shall make a request to the Assembly through the Administration Committee for specific project funding in the succeeding year.
- b. Upon the Assembly's approval, this shall become the Benevolence Askings of the denomination.
- c. Local congregations may give to this objective in the following manner:
 1. Undesignated giving to all objectives which gifts shall be applied according to the percentage of the budget for each program.

2. Designated giving to a specific program. All designated giving shall go to the program for which it was given. However, when the full budget of a program is reached, while designated giving shall continue to go to that program, undesignated giving shall then be distributed to other programs proportionately until 100% of budget for each program is reached. Once each program has reached 100 per cent of benevolence, undesignated gifts shall then be distributed according to percentage of budget as was done previously.

The Administration Committee shall present to the Assembly a recommended calendar of all events for the coming year. Such calendar shall include specific seasons, times of emphasis, times for prayer and education of the congregations for the various benevolence objectives of the General Assembly. The asking of special offerings shall be left to the discretion of local session.

To move towards the support of the administration and operation of the Office of the General Assembly entirely by per member giving; for 1984, the per member giving shall be set at \$8.00 and based on the current membership as of December 31, and in 1985, with the approval of the General Assembly, shall be set at a figure to cover that cost.

As staff is added to boards, agencies, and other offices of the Assembly, such staff shall be funded out of the General Assembly Administrative Budget. The purpose of this policy is to unify staff operations and equipment use as much as possible and to maintain parity of salaries and benefits.

All financial appeals by any committee, agency, or persons, must be submitted to the Administration Committee for prior approval." (**Minutes**, 3-53)

- 85-07 The General Assembly shall set aside its fiscal policy (Unified Budget #5) which states, "additional staff be funded out of the General Assembly Administrative Budget for a period of five years during which time new staff development may be funded by benevolence giving (**Minutes**, 5-43).
- 85-08 General Assembly endorses a special denominational voluntary Christmas offering to help needy ministers or missionaries and authorizes EPC churches to receive such an offering whose funds shall be administered by the Permanent Committee on Administration (**Minutes**, 5-46).
- 86-07 The Assembly endorses the concept of '2nd Mile Giving' for Women's Ministries to be part of the Benevolence Budget (**Minutes**, 6-60).
- 87-20 The Assembly approves the adoption of a **per member benevolence goal** for each congregation to be determined by the total benevolences approved by the Assembly. Assembly Office shall provide to each session and congregation information on the approved benevolences along with the suggested per member goal by September 1 following the meeting of the General Assembly, along with a suggested per member contribution for the Assembly's Administration Budget.

Each session and congregation are assured that such per member goal is not an assessment but only a suggestion, and that contributions to approved Assembly benevolences may be designated for specific causes and those contributions shall be used only for such designated causes.

The Assembly urges each congregation to notify the Assembly Office no later than February of each year its intended giving goal for that year to approved Assembly benevolences with the understanding that the local church's goal is not a **pledge** but only a goal towards which the church will strive (**Minutes**, 7-55).

Program Matters

- 86-08 The Task Force on Aging continue its work with the goal of implementing the following recommendation adopted by the Assembly:

Short Range Goals:

1. To encourage each Presbytery to assign the study of a ministry to older adults to an appropriate committee.
2. Produce and distribute resource material for the local churches use in developing ministries for older adults.
3. Provide consultation to Lifestyle Committees.
4. Conduct workshops on aging to be held at General Assembly and Presbytery meetings.
5. Publish a quarterly newsletter.

Long Range Goals:

1. Promote awareness of the unique emotional, social, and spiritual needs of older persons.
2. Promote appreciation for the contributions older persons may make to the church body and fellowship through leadership, teaching, and outreach.
3. Encourage collecting information and sharing about effective ministries with older adults within the EPC as well as in other denominations.
4. Provide information about current state and federal legislation as well as national public policy.
5. Emphasize the importance of individual Christians modifying their lifestyle to improve on their physical, emotional, and spiritual health (**Minutes**, 6-60).

- 86-09 The Youth Ministry concept for summer youth conference is adopted (**Minutes**, 6-60).
- 87-04 The Assembly approves the development of an officer training program for purposes of 1) continued resourcing of current officers and 2) resourcing new officers. (**Minutes**, 7-38).
- 87-05 The Assembly decides not to do business with hotels and motels promoting pornography for their customers in the cities where future General Assemblies are held, and further will encourage its constituents to refrain personally from patronizing such establishments. (**Minutes**, 7-38).

Articles of Agreement

Between The Evangelical Presbyterian Church
and

The Presbyterian Church of Brazil

aiming at a brotherly fellowship in which they
will help each other in the propagation of the
Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Preamble

The Presbyterian Church of Brazil has been created by God as one of His instruments to be a Reformed and Presbyterian witness in Brazil for Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God. The Evangelical Presbyterian Church has also been created by God as a similar instrument in the United States. Each recognizes that the other has primary responsibility for the country where God has placed it. When one works as a helper in the regional field of the other, it shall do so under the authority of that church. However, in order for the helper church to have a voice in the missionary enterprise of the primary church, it is necessary to establish a means whereby the two churches may share in the planning, projecting, overseeing and strategizing for missions. It is always to be remembered that the primary church has final authority for approval of such plans for missions. The means for such joint planning shall be **"The Joint Committee for Missions."** This Joint Committee shall assist both in Brazil and in the United States in recommending to the primary churches plans for developing the missionary enterprise in joint venture between the primary and the helper churches.

The Joint Committee for Missions

1. Recommendations for shared missions between a primary and helper church shall come to both churches through the JCM.
2. The JCM shall be composed of six (6) members, three (3) from each church. In addition, each church may appoint advisors without vote.
3. Each church shall designate one of its members as co-chairman and meeting shall be alternately chaired by the co-chairman. A secretary/recorder shall be provided by the host church and minutes shall be provided in both English and Portuguese. A permanent book of the minutes shall be kept in both languages and a copy provided for each Church for historical purposes. The Committee shall meet at least annually in November and at other times as necessary, such other meetings to be set by the JCM at its November meeting or upon call of the co-chairman. The regular meetings ordinarily shall be held alternately in each country.
4. The JCM shall make an annual report to the two churches, through the appropriate denominational committee, in order that shared missions may be kept before the two churches.
5. The approval, disapproval, or modification of recommendations from the JCM shall come from that board or agency so designated by the particular church. Also, such designated board or agency may submit recommendations and proposals to the JCM for its consideration.

6. No joint missionary enterprise shall be undertaken that has not been recommended by the JCM and approved in a manner required by each denomination.
7. Approved joint missionary enterprises shall have a time frame and financial parameters designated and shall have established procedures for evaluation and assessment.
8. The following stipulations shall govern missionaries (those appointed to serve within the bounds of the other church):
 - A. **Ordained**
 1. Shall be under the jurisdiction of the agency, institution or church court under which they serve.
 2. Shall be under the constitutional documents (confessional, polity, discipline, court decisions) of the church under which they are serving.
 3. May become members of an appropriate presbytery if they desire without affecting their membership in their own denomination.
 4. In the event of a need to exercise discipline, the matter shall be referred to the church of origin (sending church).
 - B. **Laymen**
 1. Shall be under the jurisdiction of the agency, institution or church court under which they serve.
 2. Shall be under the constitutional documents (confessional, polity, discipline, court decisions) of the church under which they are serving.
 3. May become members of a local congregation if they desire without affecting membership in their own home church.
 4. In the event of a need to exercise discipline, the matter shall be referred to the church of origin (sending church).
 - C. The sending church shall be responsible for matters relating to the maintenance of missionaries. An exception to this could occur when a request is made by the primary church of the helper church on the condition of taking the responsibility for the support of that person.
9. Fundings shall be guided by the following principles:
 - A. Donors may designate funds only to projects approved by the JCM and accepted by both churches. Each donor church shall designate an agent of facilitation for prospective donations.
 - B. Contributions of a helper church shall ordinarily be used for missions enterprises, including church buildings, or schools or manses. Mission enterprises include the support of personnel designated as internal missionaries by the primary church, but such support shall always be through the Board of National Missions.

- C. Mission projects ordinarily shall be supported by both the primary church and helper church so that there will be a sense of mutual ownership. However, the mutual ownership shall not be judged by the amount of financial participation.
 - D. The helper church may acquire or own properties for its own use such as a headquarters for its missionary enterprise or manses for its missionaries within the area of the primary church. However, when funds are provided for expansion or development of facilities shall be owned by the appropriate agency or court of the primary church.
10. Participation in the JCM does not preclude either church from establishing working relationships with other churches or groups in either Brazil or the United States, provided that through the JCM the other denomination is informed and has an opportunity to respond.
11. However, the above freedom does not apply to relationships that may be established by either church with persons, agencies or dissident groups of the other church.
12. While this agreement envisions a permanent mutual working relationship, it shall be reviewed periodically by the JCM which may also suggest revisions to both Churches, or either Church of itself may initiate suggested revisions. Either Church may revoke the agreement provided six months minimum notice is given. The union of either Church with another church body will automatically terminate the agreement after twelve (12) months following such union. The continued cooperation with the new entity will necessitate approval of new terms of agreement.
13. Initially, and until changed by either church the coordinating agencies for the JCM shall be the World Outreach Committee of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and the Interecclesiastical Relations Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Brazil.
14. Initially, the priorities for the JCM shall focus on Brazil as the primary church with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church being the helper church. Those priorities shall be:
- A. Theological Education, including:
 - 1. Graduate education for pastors;
 - 2. Library development;
 - 3. Capital development of seminaries.
 - B. Support of US Presbyterian missionaries already working with the Presbyterian Church of Brazil who wish to continue that working relationship by transfer to the jurisdiction of EPC as their sending church.
 - C. The sending of missionaries from EPC to work with the Presbyterian Church of Brazil, providing the Presbyterian Church of Brazil approves them.
 - D. The JCM may explore areas in the United States of Canada where it may be appropriate to place missionaries from the Presbyterian Church of Brazil, provided it has the approval of the EPC.

- E. Cooperating in the national missions enterprise with the Presbyterian Church of Brazil in frontier areas especially but not to the exclusion of other significant opportunities for mission.
- F. Beginning to develop a mutual and cooperative missionary enterprise to the Americas and wherever there are places of special opportunities.
15. The details of the methods by which recommendations from the JCM go to each Church for approval and implementation may be attached to this Agreement as an official attachment for that Church.
16. These Articles of Agreement shall be in force when approved by both Churches. Amendments will be in force when approved by both Churches.



Rev. Andrew A. Jumper
Chairman



Rev. Boanerges Ribeiro
Chairman



Rev. L. Edward Davis
Stated Clerk



Dr. Paulo Breda Filho



Rev. Bartlett L. Hess

Jose Arantes Costa

Brazil

Administrative Policies and Details for Implementation of the

"Articles of Agreement between the

Evangelical Presbyterian Church

and

the Presbyterian Church of Brazil"

Within the Evangelical Presbyterian Church

1. The recommendations of the Joint Committee for Missions shall always come to the General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church through the World Outreach Committee with its recommendation for approval or disapproval.
2. Neither the Joint Committee for Missions, nor its members, shall make any solicitations for funds if other support from the denomination or its member churches. Such solicitations shall be made by the World Outreach Committee after approval by the General Assembly.
3. Membership and advisors of the Joint Committee for Missions for the Evangelical Presbyterian Church shall be:
 - a) Two persons elected by the World Outreach Committee, one of whom shall be a member of the World Outreach Committee and one of whom shall be a non-member;
 - b) One person elected by the Administration Committee of the General Assembly;
 - c) The Director of World Outreach shall be the advisor to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church section of the Joint Committee for Missions (and in his absence, the Stated Clerk of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church);
 - d) The World Outreach Committee may appoint additional advisors as it may feel is necessary;
 - e) The Chairman of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church section of the Joint Committee shall be named by that section;
 - f) When the Joint Committee for Missions meets in the United States, the Moderator of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and the Chairman of the Fraternal Relations Committee are strongly urged to attend as observers/advisors;
 - g) The Evangelical Presbyterian Church membership on the Joint Committee for Missions shall be in three classes of one each, for a three-year term. To establish these classes, the Administration Committee nomination shall be for three years and the World Outreach Committee shall stipulate one nominee for two years and the other for one year. Each nominee is eligible for a second full term according to the **Book of Order** principle of rotation.

4. Expenses - the cost of meetings and related expenses for the Joint Committee for Missions, shall be budgeted by the World Outreach Committee.
5. The original copy of the Articles of Agreement, along with the annual minutes of the Joint Committee for Missions shall be filed by the World Outreach Committee with the Stated Clerk of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church for archiving.
6. The World Outreach Committee shall make an annual report to the General Assembly of the work of the Joint Committee for Missions, along with the recommendations of the Joint Committee for Missions, accompanied by the advice of the World Outreach Committee for approval or rejection.

In addition, the World Outreach Committee shall interpret, promote, advertise, support and otherwise inform the member congregations of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of the work of the Joint Committee for Missions and the approved recommendations of the General Assembly.

7. The World Outreach Committee shall submit to the Joint Committee for Missions any suggestions of recommendations it considers important or pertinent.
8. In forwarding Joint Committee for Missions proposals to the General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church for approval, the World Outreach Committee shall include proposals for funding and budgeting. In recommending disapproval, the World Outreach Committee shall indicate reasons for disapproval and financial implications.
9. Recruitment of missionaries for Brazil is the responsibility of the World Outreach Committee.
10. Promotion and interpretation of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church work in Brazil is the responsibility of the World Outreach Committee.
11. Funding and church support is the responsibility of the World Outreach Committee.
12. Any properties owned by the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Brazil shall have title of such properties held by the Trustees of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. Acquisition or disposition of properties shall be done only by action of the Trustees of the ecclesiastical corporation and only after consultation with the World Outreach Committee.

In the event of various differences between the two, ordinarily the matter shall be submitted to the General Assembly. However, in the case of emergency or other serious need to act, the Trustees (or its Executive Committee) shall have the authority to make a final decision and act, reporting its actions and the reasons thereof to the next meeting of the Assembly.

13. Apart from the Joint Committee for Missions, the World Outreach Committee may recommend to the General Assembly, the termination or revocation of the Articles of Agreement under terms of revocation set forth in the Articles.

14. The Articles of Agreement, and the policies and details for implementation are approved by the commission of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and shall become operational by March 1, 1986 as follows:
 - a) When the Administration Committee and the World Outreach Committee have appointed personnel stipulated;
 - b) When the Articles have been approved and personnel appointed by the Executive Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Brazil. (Final ratification by the Presbyterian Church of Brazil must be by its General Assembly in July of 1986.)
15. It is to be understood that the Joint Committee for Missions may proceed to develop projects related to the priorities in the Articles that have already been approved by the Executive Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Brazil.
16. Suggested amendments to the Articles of Agreement shall always come to the General Assembly through the World Outreach Committee. In addition, the World Outreach Committee may make suggestions for amendments of the Articles of Agreement to the Joint Committee for Missions of the General Assembly or to both.

Cooperative Agreement with Missionary Internship

COMMITTEE ON WORLD OUTREACH

Evangelical Presbyterian Church

2312 Monroe Street

Dearborn, Michigan 48124

Phone: (313) 562-2300

Cooperative Agreement with Evangelical Missionary Agencies

The terms of this agreement relate to the category of a member missionary relationship.

1. The Missionary shall have dual membership status with both the Evangelical Presbyterian Church World Outreach and Missionary Internship.
2. The appointment of the missionary shall be subject to the approval of both agencies in accordance with the standards established by each agency.
3. In the event that the one agency requests confidential materials gathered by the other, such materials shall be shared with the understanding that the materials shall be kept confidential by that agency.
4. The missionary-candidate shall participate in the full candidate and training program of Missionary Internship.
5. An appropriate time shall be allowed for the candidate to properly do itineration or deputation for the candidate co-ordination of the World Outreach within the Evangelical Presbyterian Church churches in order that adequate prayer and financial support can be realized.
6. Missionary Internship shall supervise the securing of visas and make other arrangements necessary for beginning field work.
7. The World Outreach shall be the sponsoring agency for financial and prayer support of the missionary.
8. Missionary Internship shall be the directing agency in relation to missionary activities on the field.
9. Final discipline as relates to theology and morals rests in the proper church of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.
10. The World Outreach missionary is to have liberty in the full and free presentation of the Gospel as contained in and understood in the Reformed view.
11. While on the field, the missionary shall be under the jurisdiction of Missionary Internship.
12. While on the field, the missionary shall be an integral part of the field staff, sharing equally in privileges and responsibilities as any other member and being subject to the policies and direction of Missionary Internship who shall report to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church annually; progress, field evaluation and next year's projected goals.

13. The missionary's field director will initiate furlough planning in consultation with World Outreach and also with Missionary Internship North American Director.
14. While on home service (while traveling to and from the field), the missionary shall be under the jurisdiction of World Outreach. Among the missionary's home service responsibilities, consideration will be given by World Outreach to assignments, projects, additional study or training requested by Missionary Internship. Progress and activity information during home service will be provided for Missionary Internship.
15. While on home service the missionary shall be expected to carry on a deputation ministry for World Outreach within the constituency of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church congregations. Each agency shall assume the arrangements and expenses of deputation when the member is doing deputation for either agency. Primary deputation responsibilities will be with the EPC under World Outreach coordination, but within the context of the proportion of support from EPC sources.
16. The missionary shall not solicit homeland constituencies of either agency for personal funds or field needs without the permission of the respective agency.
17. The financial relationship of the missionary with Missionary Internship shall be the same as that for all other members for all assessments. During the EPC portion of home service, adequate financial arrangements may be set World Outreach.
18. At the time of departure, World Outreach will commit itself to a level of monthly support to Missionary Internship. World Outreach support checks will be issued to Missionary Internship at that level. Semi-annually, in January and July, both Missionary Internship and World Outreach will report support income to each other so periodic adjustments can be made.
19. Compensation, hospitalization, retirement, and insurance plans shall be provided to Evangelical Presbyterian Church World Outreach missionaries by mutual agreement of both agencies.

Signed:

John F. Robinson

R. Oestreicher

date: June 26, 1985

date: Aug. 3, 1985

Missionary Internship

World Outreach

Cooperative Agreement with Overseas Crusades

COMMITTEE ON WORLD OUTREACH

Evangelical Presbyterian Church

2312 Monroe Street

Dearborn, Michigan 48124

Phone: (313) 562-2300

Cooperative Agreement with Evangelical Missionary Agencies

The terms of this agreement relate to the category of a member missionary relationship.

1. The Missionary shall have dual membership status with both the Evangelical Presbyterian Church World Outreach and Overseas Crusades.
2. The appointment of the missionary shall be subject to the approval of both agencies in accordance with the standards established by each agency.
3. In the event that the one agency requests confidential materials gathered by the other, such materials shall be shared with the understanding that the materials shall be kept confidential by that agency.
4. The missionary-candidate shall participate in the full candidate and training program of Overseas Crusades.
5. An appropriate time shall be allowed for the candidate to properly do itineration or deputation for the candidate co-ordination of the World Outreach within the Evangelical Presbyterian Church churches in order that adequate prayer and financial support can be realized.
6. Overseas Crusades shall supervise the securing of visas and make other arrangements necessary for beginning field work.
7. The World Outreach shall be the sponsoring agency for financial and prayer support of the missionary.
8. Overseas Crusades shall be the directing agency in relation to missionary activities on the field.
9. Final discipline as relates to theology and morals rests in the proper church of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.
10. The World Outreach missionary is to have liberty in the full and free presentation of the Gospel as contained in and understood in the Reformed view.
11. While on the field, the missionary shall be under the jurisdiction of Overseas Crusades.
12. While on the field, the missionary shall be an integral part of the field staff, sharing equally in privileges and responsibilities as any other member and being subject to the policies and direction of Overseas Crusades who shall report to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church annually; progress, field evaluation and next year's projected goals.

13. The missionary's field director will initiate furlough planning in consultation with World Outreach and also with Overseas Crusades North American Director.
14. While on home service (while traveling to and from the field), the missionary shall be under the jurisdiction of World Outreach. Among the missionary's home service responsibilities, consideration will be given by World Outreach to assignments, projects, additional study or training requested by Overseas Crusades. Progress and activity information during home service will be provided for Overseas Crusades.
15. While on home service the missionary shall be expected to carry on a deputation ministry for World Outreach within the constituency of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church congregations. Each agency shall assume the arrangements and expenses of deputation when the member is doing deputation for either agency. Primary deputation responsibilities will be with the EPC under World Outreach coordination, but within the context of the proportion of support from EPC sources.
16. The missionary shall not solicit homeland constituencies of either agency for personal funds or field needs without the permission of the respective agency.
17. The financial relationship of the missionary with Overseas Crusades shall be the same as that for all other members for all assessments. During the EPC portion of home service, adequate financial arrangements may be set World Outreach.
18. At the time of departure, World Outreach will commit itself to a level of monthly support to Overseas Crusades. World Outreach support checks will be issued to Overseas Crusades at that level. Semi-annually, in January and July, both Overseas Crusades and World Outreach will report support income to each other so periodic adjustments can be made.
19. Compensation, hospitalization, retirement, and insurance plans shall be provided to Evangelical Presbyterian Church World Outreach missionaries by mutual agreement of both agencies.

Signed:

Lawrence E. Keges

R. Oestreicher

date: June 19, 1985

date: July 10, 1985

Overseas Crusades

World Outreach

Cooperative Agreement with Logoi

COMMITTEE ON WORLD OUTREACH

Evangelical Presbyterian Church
26049 Five Mile Road
Detroit, Michigan 48239
Phone: (313) 532-9555

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH EVANGELICAL MISSIONARY AGENCIES

The terms of this agreement relate to the category of a member missionary relationship.

1. The Missionary shall have dual membership status with both the Evangelical Presbyterian Church World Outreach and Logoi.
2. The appointment of the missionary shall be subject to the approval of both agencies in accordance with the standards established by each agency.
3. In the event that one agency requests confidential materials gathered by the other, such materials shall be shared with the understanding that the materials shall be kept confidential by that agency.
4. The missionary-candidate shall participate in the full candidate and training program of Logoi.
5. An appropriate time shall be allowed for the candidate to properly do itineration or deputation for the candidate coordination of the World Outreach within the Evangelical Presbyterian Church churches in order that adequate prayer and financial support can be realized.
6. Logoi shall supervise the securing of visas and make other arrangements necessary for beginning field work.
7. The World Outreach shall be the sponsoring agency for financial and prayer support of the missionary.
8. Logoi shall be the directing agency in relation to missionary activities on the field.
9. Final discipline as relates to theology and morals rests in the proper church court of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.
10. The World Outreach missionary is to have liberty in the full and free presentation of the Gospel as contained in and understood in the Reformed view.
11. While on the field, the missionary shall be under the jurisdiction of Logoi.
12. While on the field, the missionary shall be an integral part of the field staff, sharing equally in privileges and responsibilities as any other member and being subject to the policies and direction of Logoi who shall report to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church annually; progress, field evaluation and next year's projected goals.
13. The missionary's field director will initiate furlough planning in consultation with World Outreach and also with Logoi North American Director.

14. While on home service (while traveling to and from the field), the missionary shall be under the jurisdiction of World Outreach. Among the missionary's home service responsibilities, consideration will be given by World Outreach to assignments, projects, additional study or training requested by Logoi. Progress and activity information during home service will be provided for _____.

15. While on home service the missionary shall be expected to carry on a deputation ministry for World Outreach within the constituency of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church congregations. Each agency shall assume the arrangements and expenses of deputation when the member is doing deputation for either agency. Primary deputation responsibilities will be with the EPC under World Outreach coordination, but within the context of the proportion of support from EPC sources.

16. The missionary shall not solicit homeland constituencies of either agency for personal funds or field needs without the permission of the respective agency.

17. The financial relationship of the missionary with Logoi shall be the same as that for all other members for all assessments. During the EPC portion of home service, adequate financial arrangements may be set by World Outreach.

18. At the time of departure, World Outreach will commit itself to a level of monthly support to Logoi. World Outreach support checks will be issued to Logoi at that level. Semiannually, in January and July, both Logoi and World Outreach will report support income to each other so periodic adjustments can be made.

19. Compensation, hospitalization, retirement, and insurance plans shall be provided to Evangelical Presbyterian Church World Outreach missionaries by mutual agreement of both agencies.

Signed:

date: _____

date: _____

World Outreach

Cooperative Agreement with Wycliffe

COMMITTEE ON WORLD OUTREACH

Evangelical Presbyterian Church
26049 Five Mile Road
Detroit, Michigan 48239
Phone: (313) 532-9555

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH EVANGELICAL MISSIONARY AGENCIES

The terms of this agreement relate to the category of a member missionary relationship.

1. The Missionary shall have dual membership status with both the Evangelical Presbyterian Church World Outreach and Wycliffe.
2. The appointment of the missionary shall be subject to the approval of both agencies in accordance with the standards established by each agency.
3. In the event that one agency requests confidential materials gathered by the other, such materials shall be shared with the understanding that the materials shall be kept confidential by that agency.
4. The missionary-candidate shall participate in the full candidate and training program of Wycliffe.
5. An appropriate time shall be allowed for the candidate to properly do itineration or deputation for the candidate coordination of the World Outreach within the Evangelical Presbyterian Church churches in order that adequate prayer and financial support can be realized.
6. Wycliffe shall supervise the securing of visas and make other arrangements necessary for beginning field work.
7. The World Outreach shall be the sponsoring agency for financial and prayer support of the missionary.
8. Wycliffe shall be the directing agency in relation to missionary activities on the field.
9. Final discipline as relates to theology and morals rests in the proper church court of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.
10. The World Outreach missionary is to have liberty in the full and free presentation of the Gospel as contained in and understood in the Reformed view.
11. While on the field, the missionary shall be under the jurisdiction of Wycliffe.
12. While on the field, the missionary shall be an integral part of the field staff, sharing equally in privileges and responsibilities as any other member and being subject to the policies and direction of Wycliffe.
13. The missionary's field director will initiate furlough planning in consultation with World Outreach and also with Wycliffe U.S. Division Director.

14. While on home service (while traveling to and from the field), the missionary shall be under the jurisdiction of World Outreach. Among the missionary's home service responsibilities, consideration will be given by World Outreach to assignments, projects, additional study or training requested by Wycliffe. Progress and activity information during home service will be provided for _____.

15. While on home service the missionary shall be expected to carry on a deputation ministry for World Outreach within the constituency of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church congregations. Each agency shall assume the arrangements and expenses of deputation when the member is doing deputation for either agency. Primary deputation responsibilities will be with the EPC under World Outreach coordination, but within the context of the proportion of support from EPC sources.

16. The missionary shall not solicit homeland constituencies of either agency for personal funds or field needs without the permission of the respective agency.

17. The financial relationship of the missionary with Wycliffe shall be the same as that for all other members for all assessments. During the EPC portion of home service, adequate financial arrangements may be set by World Outreach.

18. At the time of departure, World Outreach will commit itself to a level of monthly support to Wycliffe. World Outreach support checks will be issued to Wycliffe at that level. Semiannually, in January and July, both Wycliffe and World Outreach will report support income to each other so periodic adjustments can be made.

19. Compensation, hospitalization, retirement, and insurance plans shall be provided to Evangelical Presbyterian Church World Outreach missionaries by mutual agreement of both agencies.

Signed:

date: _____

date: _____

World Outreach

Rules for Assembly

As Amended by the 7th General Assembly

- I. Date and Place of Meeting
 - 1-1 The General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church shall meet annually on the date and at the place fixed by the preceding General Assembly, between May 1 and June 30.
 - 1-2 The place of meeting shall be rotated among the various areas of the church as much as is practical. Any Presbytery or church outside of Presbytery that desires to entertain the General Assembly shall forward an invitation to the Stated Clerk no later than a month before the preceding Assembly.
- II. Organization of a General Assembly's Meetings
 - 2-1 The General Assembly shall be called to order at the designated time by the Moderator, and shall begin with a worship service.
 - 2-2 The Stated Clerk shall present a report on the enrollment and declare if a quorum is present. If such is present, the Assembly shall be declared to be properly constituted.
 - 2-3 The first order of business shall be the election of a Moderator. The Committee on Nominations shall make its report and the floor shall be opened for additional nominations. There shall be only one nominating speech not to exceed five minutes for each nominee. No seconding speeches shall be permitted.
 - 2-4 Election shall be by ballot, on ballots provided by the Stated Clerk. Tellers appointed by the Stated Clerk shall gather, count and report the ballot tabulation to the Stated Clerk. Election shall be by majority. Should no majority exist among a plurality of nominees, a second ballot shall be called for the highest nominees. The Moderator shall declare the election.
 - 2-5 As soon as the Moderator shall have been declared elected, he shall assume his duties as Moderator.
- III. The Moderator
 - 3-1 The Moderator shall preside at all sessions of the Assembly except for those times when the Moderator may temporarily invite another Commissioner to act as the presiding officer.
 - 3-2 The Moderator shall call the succeeding Assembly to order and preside until a successor has been elected. A sermon from the retiring Moderator is appropriate. If the Moderator is unable to act, the most immediate past moderator present, or in the absence of any, the Stated Clerk, shall call the Assembly to order and preside over its session until a Moderator has been elected.

IV. The Stated Clerk

- 4-1 The Stated Clerk shall be elected on the last day of the Assembly. A new Stated Clerk shall assume office at the end of the Assembly, or at such time thereafter as designated by the General Assembly.
- 4-2 The Stated Clerk shall perform the duties assigned by the **Book of Government** and by the **Standing Rules for Assembly**, and such other duties as are assigned by action of the Assembly.
- 4-3 The Stated Clerk shall assemble the items of business to come before the Assembly and prepare a daily docket for the receiving of committee reports and consideration of all appropriate business to come before the Assembly.
- 4-4 The Stated Clerk shall keep the **Minutes** of the General Assembly. He shall publish them annually with statistical reports of the Church and reports of the committees of the Assembly.
- 4-5 The Stated Clerk shall have the privilege of the floor in all matters pertaining to his office and at such times when the Moderator, chairmen of Assembly committees, or any Commissioner request clarification of Assembly business.
- 4-6 The Stated Clerk shall be the parliamentarian of the General Assembly.
- 4-7 The Stated Clerk shall have surveillance over denominational archives and historical documents on behalf of the General Assembly, and shall be responsible for the right of access to such documents.

V. The Assembly Arrangements

- 5-1 The Moderator of the last General Assembly and the Stated Clerk shall plan the periods of worship at the meeting of the Assembly, including the celebration of the Lord's Supper and public services. A brief worship service shall be included at the beginning of each day's session.
- 5-2 The Lord's Supper shall be celebrated by the General Assembly on the first day of its meeting. The retiring Moderator shall preside on this occasion and shall preach a sermon or deliver an appropriate address. The newly elected Moderator shall assist in this service.
- 5-3 The first order of the day, except the opening day, at the beginning of the business session shall be the presentation of a docket listing the business which is to be considered that day. Revision of the docket may be necessary during the day.
- 5-4 The Stated Clerk shall oversee all arrangements for the meeting and housing of the General Assembly in conjunction with the host Presbytery and/or host church.

VI. Communications and Overtures

- 6-1 A communication to the General Assembly is formal correspondence received by the Stated Clerk from other churches, interchurch agencies and from other organized bodies outside the church proper having business with the Assembly.
- 6-2 The Stated Clerk shall recommend to the Assembly reference for all communications.

- 6-3 An overture ordinarily is the request of a Presbytery for action by the General Assembly upon a specific matter.
- 6-4 All overtures shall be delivered to the Stated Clerk at least thirty (30) days prior to the opening of General Assembly. No overtures received by the Stated Clerk less than one month prior to the opening of the Assembly shall be considered by its Assembly convening in that year. Overtures from the floor of General Assembly shall be considered only if received by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of assembled Commissioners.

VII. Reports to the General Assembly

- 7-1 The Moderator, Stated Clerk, permanent committees and special committees shall make annual reports. Such reports shall be transmitted to the Stated Clerk by May 1. These reports shall be referred to the Commissioners by the Clerk by June 1.
- 7-2 All ad interim committees shall make full reports in writing with the rationale for all recommendations included therein, and such reports shall be mailed to all Commissioners at least two weeks prior to the convening of the Assembly.

VIII. Assembly Committees

- 8-1 All business shall ordinarily come to the floor of the Assembly for final action through Assembly Committees, except reports of ad interim committees, which shall report directly to the Assembly. The following committees shall handle the matters indicated:
 - 1. Administration - concerning administrative matters
 - 2. World Outreach - concerning world missions
 - 3. Church Development - concerning home missions and evangelism
 - 4. Christian Education & Publications - concerning Christian education and publications
 - 5. Ministerial Vocation - concerning preparation and care of ministers
 - 6. Presbytery Review - concerning Presbytery ministry and action
 - 7. Fraternal Relations - concerning other denominations and agencies
 - 8. Memorials and Appreciation - concerning appreciation
 - 9. Overtures and Resolutions - concerning communications
 - 10. Theology - concerning theological matters under study
 - 11. Women's Ministries - concerning ministries of the women of the church.
- 8-2 The Moderator will appoint chairmen of each Assembly committee. Representation will be presbyterial, with membership-at-large being no greater than 10%. The Assembly Nominating Committee will elect committee personnel from Commissioner registrations prior to the Assembly convening. Ratio should be as close to 2:1 (RE:TE) as possible.
- 8-3 The committees may be scheduled to meet prior to the opening session of the Assembly to handle business referred by the Stated Clerk.
- 8-4 The Assembly Committees shall proceed as follows:
 - 1. At the assigned time, each committee shall assemble in its assigned place, elect a secretary, review material in hand and begin its work.
 - 2. Each committee shall be available to reconvene to consider additional matters referred from the Assembly floor.
 - 3. A quorum is considered to be a simple majority.

- 8-5 The Assembly Committee's report shall be brief and concise. It shall include the following:
1. A list of all items referred to and considered by the committee;
 2. A statement of all issues discussed;
 3. A report of all recommendations contained in reports, communications and overtures referred. Action taken by the Assembly committees to approve, modify or not approve those items referred shall be reported back to the Assembly with reasons.
- 8-6 Minutes of the correspondent permanent committee shall be submitted to the Assembly committee for review.
- 8-7 Information presentation of some special aspects of work reported by a particular Assembly committee shall be limited to five (5) minutes.
- 8-8 Any recommendation affecting the budget of the Assembly shall be referred to the Committee on Administration for review before presentation to the Assembly.
- 8-9 The completed report of an Assembly committee shall contain the full text of the report and handled as follows:
1. Typed in double space;
 2. Proofed and signed by chairman of committee and thereafter given to Stated Clerk for permanent record;
 3. Presented to the Assembly during docketed time by chairman or designate.
- 8-10 No partial report of an Assembly committee shall be presented without consent of the Assembly.
- 8-11
1. Presbytery **Minutes** shall be examined for conformity to:
 - a. the constitutional standards of the church, as to substance of the action recorded.
 - b. appropriate standards as to the use of the English language.
 2. Each set of Presbytery **Minutes** must be read by at least two members of the Committee on Review.
 3. The findings of the Committee with respect to the **Minutes** of each Presbytery shall be reported under the following categories as appropriate:
 - a. **Notations:** Typographical errors, misspellings, improper punctuation, non-prejudicial statements of facts and other variations in form may be reported here. Also, failure to provide sufficient or proper information or identification, misstatement of facts, etc., may be included here.
 - b. **Exceptions:** Violations of constitutional standards of actions which in substance appear not to conform to EPC standards should be reported here.
 4. The Committee should prepare a report concerning the **Minutes** of each Presbytery. After action by the Assembly, two copies shall be given to the Stated Clerk, one for his permanent file and one to be mailed to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery.
 5. Notations and exceptions in the Committee's report shall be handled as follows:
 - a. Notations shall be forwarded to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery without being read to the Assembly or recorded in its **Minutes**.

- b. Exceptions shall be read before the Assembly, recorded in its **Minutes**, and disposed of as the Assembly determines.
- 6. The Presbyteries shall take note in their **Minutes** of exceptions and notations conveyed from the Assembly of the disposition they have made of such.
- 7. **Guidelines for Presbytery Minutes**
 - a. Date, time, place of meeting. Presbytery must meet at least three (3) times a year (BOG, 16-7, **Minutes**, 1981). Minutes should reflect names of Ruling & Teaching Elders present, visitors present, and include excused and unexcused absences. Minutes should reflect the number of the stated meeting.
 - b. Meeting opened and closed with prayer.
 - c. Declaration of quorum (BOG, 16-18).
 - d. Accurate record of motions passed and actions taken (BOG, 16-19).
 - e. Minutes should be typed with complete sentences, correct spelling and bound in hard cover.
 - f. Minutes signed by Stated Clerk and Moderator.
 - g. Minutes should reflect an accurate record of candidates received and dismissed.
 - h. Minutes should reflect an accurate record of ministers received and dismissed including proper examination procedures leading to ordination and/or installation.
 - i. Record of approved pastoral calls and any changes in calls and the granting of permission to labor outside the bounds of Presbytery (BOG, 16-16.A).
 - j. Minutes must reflect an annual review of sessional records.
 - k. Minutes must reflect establishing, dissolving, dividing, uniting, receiving, and dismissing of churches (BOG, 16-16.E).
 - l. Minutes must reflect observations of and carrying out of General Assembly injunctions and instructions.
 - m. Overtures to the General Assembly must be recorded.
 - n. Minutes will reflect any judicial cases before Presbytery and the disposition thereof in accordance with the **Book of Discipline**.
 - o. Minutes will include all minutes of Presbytery "appointed" commissions.
 - p. Minutes should include annual approved Presbytery budget and related financial reports.
 - q. Minutes should include annual Presbytery statistical reports.

IX. Permanent Committees

- 9-1 The ministries of the Assembly shall be conducted primarily through permanent committees, to wit:
 - 1. Committee on Administration
 - a. Chaired by most immediate past moderator;
 - b. Committee membership; Moderator, Stated Clerk, immediate past moderator, six elected members plus chairmen of other permanent committees. The chairmen from other committees shall be advisory members and have voice but no vote.
 - c. Function in the following ways:
 - 1. Administrative oversight
 - Oversight and coordination of Administration Committee with World Outreach, Christian Education, Ministerial Vocation, Church Development, Fraternal Relations, Women's Ministries and Youth Ministries Committees.
 - Responds to emergency and disaster situations
 - Serve as Directors of the corporation

2. Denominational Development
 - General Assembly planning
 - Promotion/public relations
 - Personnel administration (staff hiring, staff accountability)
 - Budget development: receive projections from all committees and submit to General Assembly a proposed budget
 - All legal and corporate matters
 - Insurance, pension, retirement
3. All other business of ecclesiastical matters not specifically assigned to any other committees.
2. Committee on Christian Education
 - a. To be composed of six members, to elect own chairman.
 - b. Duties:
 1. Curriculum development
 2. Provide resources for church/Christian day schools (all levels)
 3. Provide assistance in Sunday School development and operation
 4. Publications other than curriculum
 5. Camp and conference development
 6. Lay leadership development
 7. Worship and music resources
3. Permanent Judicial Commission

"The Permanent Judicial Commission: The General Assembly shall establish a PJC. The Commission shall consist of a minimum of nine persons in three classes of three each, and of which at least two-thirds must be Ruling Elders. The Assembly shall determine their eligibility to succession. Efforts shall be made to give fair representation to the various Presbyteries. During service on this Commission, no member may hold office or employment in the court. Its quorum shall be two-thirds of its membership. It shall elect its own moderator and a clerk from among its members and an accurate record shall be kept of its deliberations and actions, with a permanent record of these Minutes filed with the Office of the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly." Duties of the PJC described in the **Book of Government**, Sec. 16-27.B
4. Committee on World Outreach
 - a. To be comprised of nine members on a three-year, three class system, with the EPC Moderator and Stated Clerk to serve as ex-officio members. The CWO will elect replacement members from within EPC membership. Members may serve a maximum of two terms and then may not be re-elected without at least one year's break. CWO members are to include three Teaching Elders and six Ruling Elders. The CWO is to meet at least twice a year, including the General Assembly.
5. Committee on Church Development
 - a. Membership to be nine members, including three at "large members" in order to add greater breadth and depth of experience. Chairman to be elected by committee.
 - b. Duties: to give oversight and planning to the domestic ministries in church planting, evangelism, and church development.
6. Committee on Ministerial Vocation
 - a. Membership to be six members, chairman elected by committee.
 - b. Monitors and aids ministerial committees of local Presbyteries.
 - c. Assists in placement of pastors and helps churches to find pastors.

- d. Provides information on colleges and seminaries.
 - e. Examines extraordinary candidates.
 - f. Oversees theological testing.
7. Committee on Nominations
- a. The membership shall consist of 9 members, in three classes of three each, composed of four Teaching Elders and five Ruling Elders, with at least one person from each Presbytery. When the number of Presbyteries exceeds nine, membership shall be rotated fairly among the Presbyteries. A member may not succeed himself. The Stated Clerk shall work with the committee to insure compliance with the requirements of the **Rules for Assembly**.
 - b. The chairman shall be named from the next outgoing class by the outgoing Moderator of the Assembly. The chairman shall take office at the close of the Assembly.
 - c. Each year at the Assembly, the outgoing Moderator shall nominate three persons to the Assembly for membership on this committee. At that time, the floor will be opened for other nominations. However, all nominations must meet the requirements for Presbytery representation and for the Teaching Elder and Ruling Elder distribution. The Stated Clerk shall rule if a nomination from the floor is valid, and if it is valid, the Stated Clerk shall determine which of the Moderator's three nominees the nominee from the floor will run against. Those elected shall take office at the close of the Assembly.
 - d. Duties:
 - 1. Nominees for Moderator: The committee shall advise each Presbytery following the meeting of the Assembly of the privilege of that Presbytery to recommend to the committee a person for Moderator of the General Assembly. Such recommendation shall be forwarded to the committee no later than December 31 of that year. After December 31, the committee shall evaluate the recommendations of the Presbyteries, as well as other recommendations it may receive, and at the next meeting of the Assembly shall recommend no more than two persons as its nominees for Moderator. At that time, nominations may also be made from the floor. Election shall be by a majority vote of the Assembly. Nominees of the committee shall be advised of their pending nomination, ordinarily no less than sixty days prior to the meeting of the General Assembly.
 - 2. To nominate to the Assembly persons for vacancies of all Assembly permanent committees with the exception of the World Outreach Committee.
 - 3. To name from the commissioners to the Assembly those who will serve on the various standing committees of the Assembly. The chairmen of such committees shall be appointed by the Moderator from those so named.
8. Committee on Fraternal Relations
- a. Membership to consist of six members, chairman to be elected by committee.
 - b. Duties: to assist the General Assembly in identifying, developing, and implementing relationships with other bodies of Christians including denominations in the Reformed tradition, ecumenical agencies (evangelical or Reformed in character and other groups working to advance the Kingdom of God through evangelism, nurture, and service.

9. Committee on Theology
 - a. Membership shall be composed of six people, one half of whom shall be Teaching Elders and one half of whom shall be Ruling Elders, to be in three rotating classes of two each.
 - b. Duties: to receive and study such theological matters as may be referred to it by the General Assembly and to return to the General Assembly its opinions and requested papers or documents.
 10. Committee on Women's Ministries
 - a. Membership to consist of one representative from each Presbytery to serve a 3-year term after which the regular electoral process of rotation of class year will be used.
 - b. Duties: to provide an atmosphere for the women of the church to mature spiritually and to recognize and develop their God-given gifts.
 11. Pension Fund Committee
 - a. Membership to consist of six persons in three classes of two each, with each person able to succeed himself for one term. A member may be reelected for additional terms after an interim of one year. The committee shall be nominated to the Assembly by the Nominating Committee, with the chairman to be nominated at the Assembly by the outgoing Moderator.
 - b. Duties: to propose a pension plan in accord with the mandate of the Assembly; to serve as trustees under such a plan; to administer the proceeds of the "Gratitude Gift;" to make annual report of its proceedings to the Assembly.
 12. Committee on Youth Ministries
 - a. Membership to be comprised of two Teaching Elders and four Ruling Elders; in three rotating classes of two each.
 - b. Duties: to be responsible for conference ministries, youth curriculum resourcing, youth ministry resources and other youth related concerns for grades 7-12.
- 9-2 The power and authority of the permanent committees shall be those set forth in these **Rules** or by direction of the General Assembly.
 - 9-3 Each committee shall be constituted on a three year, three class structure. All members shall be Teaching Elders or Ruling Elders. Insofar as practicable, the ratio of two Ruling Elders to one Teaching Elder shall be maintained.
 - 9-4 In the event of a vacancy on a permanent committee of the General Assembly, when such vacancies seriously affect the work of the committee, and upon the request of the chairman of that committee, the Committee on Administration is authorized to appoint a person to fill the vacancy of that committee. Such appointees shall serve until the following General Assembly at which time the person shall be presented to the General Assembly by the Nominating Committee for approval. Upon approval of the General Assembly, the nominees shall then be approved for the terms and class according to the vacancy being filled.
 - 9-5 A majority of a permanent committee shall constitute a quorum.
 - 9-6 Each permanent committee shall elect its chairman for the forthcoming Assembly year before the Assembly that initiates that Assembly year.

X. New Business

- 10-1 Any matter presented in any form which has not been received by the Stated Clerk prior to the opening of General Assembly shall be treated as new business.

- 10-2 New business must be presented to the Assembly before the close of the second day of business. The Administration Committee may assist the Stated Clerk in referring all new business coming to the Assembly.

XI. Parliamentary Procedure

- 11-1 Except as otherwise specifically provided in these **Rules, Robert's Rules of Order** shall be the standard in parliamentary procedure.
- 11-2 In presenting the report of a committee, the chairman shall lead the Assembly in a brief prayer before making the report. The entire report shall be read before any particular report by a majority vote of those present. When a majority of a committee wishes to present a minority report, the member reporting for the minority shall have the privilege of presenting the minority report and moving it as a substitute for the portion of the majority report affected.
- 11-3 Each recommendation in each report must be read, considered, and acted on separately.
1. The chairman moves the adoption.
 2. Motion to adopt is seconded from the floor.
 3. The Moderator asks, "Is there objection or question?"
 4. Hearing no objection or question, the Moderator states, "It is adopted." (Procedure known as "Short Form of Voting,"
- 11-4 Procedure in debating a question:
1. The committee chairman may answer questions concerning the report addressed through the Moderator.
 2. The chairman shall have the opportunity to make the final statement in debate.
 3. No Commissioner may speak on the same question more than once until all desiring to speak have done so.
 4. Debate on the main motion shall be limited to ten (10) minutes unless extended. A simple majority may extend debate an additional five (5) minutes.
 5. Debate shall be free, open, and responsible with equal time being given to proponents insofar as possible.
- 11-5 All motions should be presented in writing and read before being voted on.

XII. Amendment or Suspension of Rules

- 12-1 **The Rules** of the General Assembly may be amended or suspended only by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote of the total enrollment of the Commissioners. A motion to amend is debatable. A motion to suspend is not debatable.

PART IV

Directory

Officers of General Assembly

Directory of Permanent Committees

Committee on Administration

Class of 1990

TE James Van Dyke	RE Sam Searcy
First Presbyterian Church	4004 S. Atchison Way
101 E. Third Avenue	Aurora, CO 80014
Rome, GA 30161	303/690-7277
404/291-6033	

Class of 1989

TE Donald Galardi	RE James Daniels
Community EPC	311 Forsythe St.
308 W. Main	Chattanooga, TN 37415
Owosso, MI 48867	615/877-6382
517/725-7597	

Class of 1988

TE Mark Brewer	RE Will Bethel
Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church	8 Ridgewood Road
10150 E. Belleview Ave.	Rome, GA 30161
Englewood, CO 80110	404/234-3661
303/779-9909	

Ex-Officio Members (With Vote)

TE Perry Mobley, Moderator	RE Roger Vonder Bruegge
Trinity Presbyterian Church	Chairman
Box 3865	Immediate Past Moderator
Florence, SC 29502	1777 W. Adams
803/665-8022	St. Louis, MO 63122
	314/822-3338

TE L. Edward Davis
Stated Clerk
26049 Five Mile Road
Detroit, MI 48239
313/532-9555

Advisory Members

(Without Vote)

TE Tommy Shields
Ministerial Vocation
Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Box 653 107 E. Jefferson
Anna, IL 62906
618/833-5225

TE David Massimi
Fraternal Relations
Faith EPC
Box 143
Richmond, OH 43944
216/943-0476

RE Richard Oestreicher
World Outreach
32150 Pembroke
Livonia, MI 48152
313/477-4210

TE Calvin Gray
Church Development
Bear Creek EPC
3101 S. Kipling
Denver, CO 80227
303/986-5511

Colleen Rinehart
Women's Ministries
19622 N. 130th Avenue
Sun City West, AZ 85375
602/584-9651

RE Patricia Seraydarian
Christian Education & Publications
18576 Mayfield
Livonia, MI 48152
313/478-5396

Committee on Christian Education and Publications

Class of 1990

RE Ed McCallum
Trinity Seminary
642A Westmoreland
Vernon Hills, IL 60061
312/861-0039

RE Jim Hawthorne
522 Iris Drive
Florence, SC 29501
803/699-0425

Class of 1989

TE Eddy Swieson
Christian Covenant Church
38 Treworthy
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
301/424-3889

RE Pat Seraydarian, Chairman
18576 Mayfield
Livonia, MI 48152
313/478-5396

Class of 1988

TE George Kirsten
Family of Faith
12325 W. Bowles
Littleton, CO 80127
303/972-4904

RE Lee Etter
2395 Joliet Street
Aurora, CO 80010
303/366-6567

Committee on Church Development

Class of 1990

TE Doug Klein	RE Charlie Moore
Grace Chapel	326 Clion Lane
23233 Drake Road	St. Louis, MO 63141
Farmington Hills, MI 48024	314/434-4710
313/474-0151	

RE John Stone
512 W. Richard
Santa Maria, CA 93454
805/925-4116

Class of 1989

TE Calvin Gray, Chairman	RE John Bernbaum
Bear Creek EPC	11709 Auth Lane
3101 S. Kipling	Silver Springs, MD 20902
Denver, CO 80227	202/546-3086 (or)
303/986-5511	301/681-5864

Class of 1988

TE Wally Hostetter	RE Nelson Bates
Faith EPC	Route 2 Box 61
1000 University #108	Franklin, NC 28734
Rochester, MI 48063	704/524-4853
313/259-6550	

RE Norm Huebl
12437 E. Cedar Circle
Aurora, CO 80012
303/364-1220

Committee on Fraternal Relations

Class of 1990

TE Kent Bull	RE Paul Lawrence
Christ Presbyterian	40 Cripple Shin Bluff Drive
2640 N. Dobson	Rogers, AR 72756
Chandler, AZ 85224	501/925-2864
602/730-1820	

Class of 1989

TE Robert Norris	RE Bruce Brede
Fourth Presbyterian	3977 Lakewood
5500 River Road	Drayton Plains, MI 48020
Bethesda, MD 20816	313/337-6615
301/320-3600	

Class of 1988

TE David Massimi, Chairman	RE Harold Haddon
Faith Evangelical Presbyterian	6205 W. Harvard Dr.
Box 143	Lakewood, CO 80277
Richmond, OH 43944	303/985-2333
614/756-4923	

Committee on Ministerial Vocation

Class of 1990

TE Lester Felker	RE Jerry Alpert
Faith Presbyterian Church	9600 Clayton Road
11373 E. Alameda Avenue	Ladue, MO 63124
Aurora, CO 80012	314/997-3538
303/364-7271	

Class of 1989

TE Tommy Shields	RE Walter Lobdell
P.O. Box 653	11672 Crooked Lane
Anna, IL 62905	South Lyon, MI 48178
618/833-5225	313/437-1588

Class of 1988

TE Howard Shockley	RE Thomas Jones
Asheville EPC	236 Montclair Ave.
P.O. Box 9845	Pittsburgh, PA 15229
Asheville, NC 28815	412/931-3611

Nominating Committee

Class of 1990

RE Blaine Wilson	TE William Flannagan
Calvary Presbyterian	Westminster Presbyterian
123 E. Diamond St.	P.O. Box 6345
Butler, PA 16001	Laurel, MS 39441
	601/426-9710

RE James Ramey
2612 Briarwood Drive
Florence, SC 29501
803/667-1652

Class of 1989

TE Rocky McElveen
19013 Bechard
Cerritos, CA 90701
213/402-2390

RE Robert Bole
1697 S. Kingston
Aurora, CO 80012
303/751-3126

RE Armin Remke
3846 S. Dawson
Aurora, CO 80014
303/699-8274

Class of 1988

RE Richard Heidtman
12301 E. Stanley Road
Columbiaville, MI 48421
313/257-7330

RE Frank Johnson
136 Chaucer Place
Cherry Hill, NJ 08003
609/795-4458

TE Bartlett Hess
Ward Presbyterian Church
17000 Farmington Road
Livonia, MI 48154
313/422-1150

Permanent Judicial Commission

Class of 1990

TE Robert Stauffer
Tabernacle Presbyterian Church
2432 S. Raccoon Road
Youngstown, OH 44515
216/792-3897

RE Kenneth Breckner
7500 Wydown Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63105
314/725-8548

RE Leonard Pilgrim
3837 Montford
Chamblee, GA 30341
404/457-9704

Class of 1989

TE Darryl Sparling
Covenant Community
Presbyterian Church
15200 E. Girard #4600
Aurora, CO 80014
303/699-2272

RE Palmer Heenan
1002 Bishop
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230
312/882-2138

RE Prevost Marshall
P.O. Box 1360
Highlands, NC 28741
704/526-2258

Class of 1988

TE Robert Ralston, Chairman	RE Homer Graham
Faith Presbyterian Church	1121 S. College Dr.
11373 E. Alameda Ave.	Santa Maria, CA 93454
Aurora, CO 80012	805/925-8083
303/364-7271	

RE Claude Russell
1670 S. Moline St.
Aurora, CO 80012
303/751-0481

Committee on Theology

Class of 1990

TE Anthony De Orio	RE Joe Hubbard
Grace Chapel	Christian Counseling Associates
23233 Drake Road	1074 S. Alkire Street
Farmington Hills, MI 48024	Lakewood, CO 80228
313/474-0151	303/988-3103

Class of 1989

TE Dan Lacich, Chairman	RE Larry Lee
North Park EPC	4420 Hedgethorn
600 Ingomar Road	Burton, MI 48509
Wexford, PA 15090	313/742-8467
412/367-5000	

Class of 1988

TE Robert Bryan	RE Cord Sump
Community Bible Church	403 Howard Circle
P.O. Box 1486	Chattanooga, TN 37411
Highlands, NC 28731	615/624-7994
704/526-2482	

Committee on Women's Ministries

Barbara Lacich (Allegheny)	Bonnie Brede (Midwest)
117 Dunbar Ave.	3977 Lakewood
Pittsburgh, PA 15202	Drayton Plains, MI 48020
412/367-5000	313/673-7004
Mary Jennings (Far West)	Colleen Rinehart, Chairman
Box 41805	19622 N. 130th Avenue
Tucson, AZ 85717	Sun City, West, AZ 85375
602/327-4023	602/584-9651

Jan Bole (West)
1697 S. Kingston
Aurora, CO 80012
303/751-3126

Jeane Mobley (Southeast)
1223 Wisteria Dr.
Florence, SC 29501
803/662-9794

Joan Pohlman (East)
33 State Highway 208 S.
Montgomery, NY 12549
914/457-5959

Committee on World Outreach

Class of 1990

RE Al Larsson
4102 Spruell
Kensington, MD 20895
301/320-3600

TE C. Lowry Horner
Ashland EPC
33 E. Evesham Avenue
Voorhees, NJ 08043
609/429-3614

RE Joe Evans, Jr.
2164 N. Waco
Tulsa, OK 74127
917/587-8840

Class of 1989

RE Dodie Hampton
14830 E. Jefferson Ave.
Aurora, CO 80014
303/690-7783

Class of 1988

TE Sam Harris
Faith Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 7887
Roanoke, VA 24019
703/563-9634

RE Richard Oestreicher, Chairman
32150 Pembroke
Livonia, MI 48152
313/477-4210

TE George Scotchmer
7288 S. Bristol Drive
Pasadena, MO 63121
314/382-4774

Youth Ministries Committee

Class of 1990

RE Tricia Ploutz
3433 Marvin St.
Santa Maria, CA 93455
805/937-8279

TE Rhett Payne
EPC of Marshall
403 E. Burleson
Marshall, TX 75670
214/935-7898

Class of 1989

RE Mike Farrand
803 N. Water Street
Owosso, MI 48867
517/725-6428

TE Steve Wilkinson
First Presbyterian
101 E. Third
Rome, GA 30161
404/291-6033

Class of 1988

RE Marc Gronholz
16720 116th St. #5
Renton, WA 98056
206/630-1638 (h)

Directory

CHURCHES AND MINISTERS (1988)

(Affiliate churches, noted by an asterisk, are independent churches whose pastors are members of EPC presbyteries.)

Alabama

First Presbyterian Church

208 E. Horner

Atmore, AL 36502

Rev. Lanier Ellis (Karen)

205/368-5453

Trinity Presbyterian Church

5817 Grelot Rd.

Mobile, AL 36609

Rev. Ronald Pierce (Brenda)

205/343-1414

Minister Laboring Out of Bounds

Rev. Larry Bein (Judy)

First Independent Protestant Church

1710 W. Dallas Ave.

Selma, AL 36701

205/875-8645

Arizona

Christ's Presbyterian Church

2640 N. Dobson Road

Chandler, AZ 85224

Rev. Kent Bull (Barbara)

602/963-9222

New Covenant Church

P.O. Box 41805

Tucson, AZ 85716

Rev. Stephen Jennings (Mary)

602/327-4023

Minister Laboring Out of Bounds

Rev. Douglas M. Van Gaalen (Lisa)

Church of the Redeemer

717 N. Stapley Dr.

Mesa, AZ 85203

602/833-7500

Arkansas

Faith EPC

1030 S. College Ave.

Fayetteville, AR 72701

Rev. Paul A. Westberg (Marlene)

501/443-3641

California

Thai Christian Ministries

10035 E. Washington Street

Bellflower, CA 90706

(Pulpit Vacant)

213/591-7549

Carmel Valley EPC

P.O. Box 962

Del Mar, CA 92014

(Pulpit Vacant)

619/755-0839

Hemet Valley Presbyterian Church

23895 Kirby

Hemet-San Jacinto, CA 92382

Dr. Theodore Kline (Jean)

714/654-3981

Santa Maria Community Church

210 W. Fesler

Santa Maria, CA 93454

Rev. James E. Brown, Jr. (Judy)

805/928-7622

Minister Laboring Out of Bounds

Rev. Juan Carlos Ortiz

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Colorado

Covenant Community Presbyterian Church
15200 E. Girard #4600

Aurora, CO 80014

Rev. Darryl "Bud" Sparling (Carol)

Rev. Craig Babb (Debbie)

303/699-2272

(Meets at Trails West Elementary School)

Faith Presbyterian Church

11373 E. Alameda Ave.

Aurora, CO 80012

Rev. James Morrison (Beth)

Rev. Fred Stifel (Gail)

Rev. Les Felker (Gloria)

Rev. Ken Glasier (Helen)

Rev. Robert Ralston (Eva)

Rev. Neil Ellison (Deborah)

303/364-7271

Korean Presbyterian Church

2023 Southgate #48

Colorado Springs, CO 80906

Dr. Michael Lim

303/634-2258

Bear Creek EPC

3101 S. Kipling St.

Denver, CO 80227

303/986-5511

Rev. Calvin Gray (Gloria)

Rev. Bill Vogler (Karen)

Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church

10150 E. Belleview Ave.

Englewood, CO 80110

Rev. Mark A. Brewer (Carolyn)

Rev. Gary G. Reddish

Rev. Gary Wooley (Ann)

303/779-9909

Cherry Hills Community Church

3651 S. Colorado Blvd.

Englewood, CO 80110

Dr. James Dixon (Barbara)

Rev. Robert L. Beltz (Allison)

Rev. Dick Savidge

Rev. William D. Nuenke

303/781-0091

Christ Fellowship Church

4025 S. Mason

Ft. Collins, CO 80525

Rev. Ed G. Davis (Donna)

303/223-0682

Family of Faith

12325 W. Bowles

Littleton, CO 80127

Rev. George Kirsten (Glenda)

303/972-4904

(Meets at Columbine Hills El. School)

Trinity EPC

90 E. Orchard Ave.

Littleton, CO 80120

Rev. Fred V. Lian (Kerrie)

Rev. Dan E. Hiatt (Evelyn)

Rev. Brad Carson

303/798-6387

Faith Evangelical Church

2707 North Wilson Avenue

Loveland, CO 80537

Dr. James E. Murphy (Barbie)

Rev. Duncan R. Howard

303/663-0522

Parker Presbyterian Church

P.O. Box 1262

Parker, CO 80137

(Pulpit Vacant)

303/841-2125

Rev. Robert E. Mossman (Bev)

North Jeffco Fellowship

9860 W. 35th Avenue

Wheat Ridge, CO 80033

303/237-4205

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Rev. Richard Van Pelt

2055 S. Emerson

Denver, CO 80210

303/778-1095

Rev. Young J. Woo

Korea Dae-Sin Pres. Church of Denver

1420 Zenia #106

Denver, CO 80220

303/322-2980

(Meets at Faith Pres., Aurora)

Florida

Faith EPC

105 N. Main Suite E

Brooksville, FL 34601

Rev. Jacob Eige

904/796-4969

Trinity EPC

5150 Oleander Ave.

Fort Pierce, FL 34982

Rev. Robert Garment (Mary)

305/468-0869

First Presbyterian Church

1800 Highway 20 East

Niceville, FL 32578

Rev. Richard Adelman

904/678-2521

Eastside Presbyterian Church (MC)

7914 Richwood Drive

Orlando, FL 32817-4130

Rev. Calvin Vermeire (Doris)

305/277-9530

Christ Covenant Church

902 W. Busch Blvd. Suite 106

Tampa, FL 33612

Rev. Woody Johnson (Reville)

813/935-8275

Georgia

Evangelical Presbyterian Fellowship (MC)

28 Parkgate Dr.

Atlanta, GA 30328

Rev. Steve Conrad

404/394-3391

New Covenant Community Church

3147 Chamblee-Tucker Road

Atlanta, GA 30341

Dr. Ronald Crews (Jonda)

404/451-2038

EPC Mission Church

3924 Creekwood Lane

Martinez, GA 30907

Rev. Robert Taylor (Janet)

404/868-9807

First Presbyterian Church

101 E. Third Ave.

Rome, GA 30161

Dr. James Van Dyke (Rosemary)

Rev. Stephen Wilkinson (Suzanne)

404/291-6033

Trinity Community Church

951 Arlington Dr.

Tucker, GA 30084

Rev. Thomas L. Musselman (Alice)

404/934-2968

Illinois

Baldwin Community Presbyterian Church

Baldwin, IL 62217

(Pulpit Vacant)

Evangelical Presbyterian Church

P.O. Box 653 Route 146 East

Anna, IL 62906

Rev. J. Thomas Shields (Cindy)

618/833-5225

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Dr. Robert Woodburn (Barbara)

Moody Bible Institute

820 North Lasalle Drive

Chicago, IL 60610

312/329-4000

Dr. Peyton Marshall (Cappi)

Minister of Counselling

Christ Church of Oak Brook

1190 Parker Ave.

Downers Grove, IL 60516

312/960-4926

Indiana

Trinity Presbyterian Church

Box 638

Columbia City, IN 46725

Rev. Lawrence Schmoekel (Ann)

219/244-5494

Iowa

Westkirk Presbyterian Church

7032 Holcomb Ave.

Urbandale, IA 50322

Rev. Wayne Hoffman (Helga)

515/276-9122

Kansas

EPC

8340 Mission Road Suite B11

Prairie Village, KS 66206

Rev. Craig McElvain (Laurel)

913/341-5820

Kentucky

Winchester Presbyterian Church

c/o Dr. Nancy Peel

205 W. Lexington

Winchester, KY 40391

(Pulpit Vacant)

Louisiana

First Presbyterian Church
Box 784

Houma, LA 70361

Rev. Bill Lindner (Mary Lynn)
504/873-8136

Westminster Presbyterian Church
1780 E. Bert, Kouns Industrial Drive

Shreveport, LA 71105

Rev. W.T. Parmenter
Rev. Randy West

Zachary Presbyterian Church
4455 Church St. Box 314

Zachary, LA 70791

Rev. David Hicks (Elizabeth)
504/654-2972

Maryland

Dundalk Presbyterian Church
Merritt Blvd. & Stansbury Road

Baltimore, MD 21222

Rev. Paul Brown (Mai)
301/284-3250

Christian Covenant Church
38 Treworthy Road

Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Dr. Eddy I. Swieson (Deborah)
301/424-3889

Fourth Presbyterian Church
5500 River Road

Bethesda, MD 20816

Dr. Robert Norris (Caren)
Dr. Willard Davis (Rosemary)
Rev. Jeffrey Jeremiah (Cindy)
301/320-3600

Dr. Robert Maseroni (Joan)
9609 McAlpine Road

Silver Springs, MD 20901

301/587-2912

Michigan

Covenant Presbyterian Church
416 W. Huron

Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Rev. Malcolm Brown (Marjorie)
313/761-1999

Cornerstone EPC (Mission Church)

810 E. Grand River

Brighton, MI 48116

Rev. Timothy Brewer (Elizabeth)
313/227-9411

(Meets at Maltby Middle School
Brighton and Bauer Rds.)

North Oaks Community Church
5770 M-15

Clarkston, MI 48016

Rev. Kurt Gebhard (Elaine)
313/625-7332

Military Avenue Presbyterian Church
1002 N. Military Avenue

Detroit, MI 48209

(Pulpit Vacant)
313/842-7188

Grace Chapel

23233 Drake Road

Farmington Hills, MI 48024

Rev. Douglas L. Klein (Carol)
Dr. Tony DeOrio (Janet)
Rev. John Patterson (Mary Ellen)
313/474-0151

Calvary Presbyterian Church
6100 Richfield Road

Flint, MI 48506

Rev. Harold Polk (Karla)
313/736-4100

Lake City EPC

P.O. Box 829

Lake City, MI 49651

(Pulpit Vacant)
616/839-2948

Ward Presbyterian Church
17000 Farmington Road

Livonia, MI 48154

Dr. Bartlett L. Hess (Margaret)
Rev. John B. Crimmins III (Debbie)
Rev. Thomas Burbridge (Janet)
Rev. James Killgore (Grace)
Rev. Brian Tweedie (Debbie)
Rev. Arthur Hunt (Linda)
Rev. Robert Schlismann (Carol)
313/422-1150

Knox Presbyterian Church

25700 Crocker Blvd.

Mt. Clemens, MI 48045

Rev. George Woodcock (Miriam)

Rev. Mark Hudson

Rev. Chris Gibson (Debbie)

313/469-8500

Mt. Pleasant Community Church

1400 W. Broomfield Rd.

Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Dr. Donald Hyer (Joann) Interim Pastor

517/773-3641

Community EPC

114 N. Ball St.

Owosso, MI 48867

Rev. Donald Galardi (Diedre)

517/725-6930

Trinity Presbyterian Church

10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd.

Plymouth, MI 48170

Rev. William C. Moore (Cynthia)

Rev. William T. Branham, Jr. (Kristen)

313/459-9550

Oakland Avenue Presbyterian Church

404 Oakland Avenue

Pontiac, MI 48058

Rev. Paul R. Moon (Marie)

313/858-2577

Faith EPC

1000 W. University Blvd. #108

Rochester, MI 48063

Dr. Wallace Hostetter (Linda)

Rev. Stephen Andrews, (Paula)

313/651-4910

Fellowship EPC

22200 Pontiac Trail, Box 102

South Lyon, MI 48178

Rev. Carlton Baker (Harriet)

313/437-4216

First Presbyterian Church

2799 West Road

Trenton, MI 48183

Dr. Donald Giesmann (Sara)

Rev. Ian Leslie, (Deborah)

313/676-1510

Mississippi

Westminster Presbyterian Church

19 Northgate

Laurel, MS 39440

Dr. William M. Flannagan (Joyce)

601/426-9710

Louisville Presbyterian Church

North Church Avenue P.O. Box 506

Louisville, MS 39339

Rev. Bill McCaskill (Cindy)

601/773-5647

Laboring Out of Bounds

Rev. Robert T. Wilbur (Barbara)

Unity Presbyterian Church

515 Lehmborg Road P.O. Box 2445

Columbus, MS 39701

601/328-3882

Missouri

Sutter Presbyterian Church

13145 Olive Blvd.

Creve Coeur, MO 63141

Rev. William L. McConkey (Hula)

Rev. Michael Glodo, AP (Vicki)

314/721-0134

Central Presbyterian Church

7700 Davis Drive

St. Louis, MO 63105

Dr. Andrew A. Jumper (Sydney)

Rev. S. Donald Fortson, Jr. (Mae)

Dr. Robert G. Bayley (Ruth)

Rev. John Splinter (Marcia)

Rev. David Elliott (Nancy)

Rev. Austin McCaskill (Beverly)

314/727-2777

Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

c/o 7700 Davis Dr.

St. Louis, MO 63105

Rev. William Solomon (June)

314/727-2777

New Jersey

Ashland EPC

33 E. Evesham Ave.

Voorhees, NJ 08043

Rev. C. Lowry Horner (Grace)

609/429-3614

New Mexico

Evangelical Presbyterian Communion
10131 Coors NW I-2, 107
Albuquerque, NM 87114
Dr. Roy Howes (Judy)
Rev. Mark Vander Put (Mary Jane)
505/898-0944

New York

Goodwill Presbyterian Church
33 State Highway 208 South
Montgomery, NY 12549
Rev. Stewart Pohlman (Joan)
Rev. Richard Alberta (Donna)
914/457-5959

First Love EPC
195 Oak Neck Drive
W. Islip, NY 11795
(Pulpit Vacant)

North Carolina

Asheville EPC
P.O. Box 9845
Asheville, NC 28815-9845
Dr. Howard Shockley (Margaret)
704/252-7831

Evangelical Presbyterian Church
1522 Granville
Burlington, NC 27215
Rev. Michael Brown (Becky)
919/229-6573

Cramerton Presbyterian Church
152 8th Ave.
Cramerton, NC 28032
Rev. Rick D. Slate (Karin)

Fairview Christian Fellowship
Box 453
Fairview, NC 28730
Rev. Lee Kizer (Janet)
704/628-1514

Cornerstone EPC
136 Carl Slagle Road P.O. Box 623
Franklin, NC 28734
Rev. Ronald Odum (Donna)
704/369-6888

Grace Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 1033
Franklin, NC 28734
Rev. David Craig (Carolyn)
704/369-6800

First EPC
P.O. Box 12656
Gastonia, NC 28053-6656
Rev. John S. Jennings (Sandra)
704/865-4065

Community Bible Church
P.O. Box 1486
Highlands, NC 28741
Rev. Robert Bryan (Carol)
704/526-4689

Plumtree Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 65
Plumtree, NC 28644
Rev. Wallace Wise (Janice)
704/765-6919

Reynolda Presbyterian Church
2200 Reynolda Road
Winston-Salem, NC 27106
Dr. Richard Little (Shirlee)
Rev. Richard Robinson (Caroline)
919/723-0716

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Rev. Roger Wiles (Jane)
Rev. Lee O'Hare (Janet)
Christ Covenant Church
1414 Cliffwood
Greensboro, NC 27406
919/274-9000

Dr. Jeffrey Richards (Debbie)
Maranatha Bible Church
135 East Corriher Ave.
Salisbury, NC 28144

North Dakota

Minister Laboring Out of Bounds

Rev. Jerry Van Curler (Elizabeth)
First Congregational Church
Kulm, ND 58456
701/647-2708

Ohio

Faith EPC

Box 143

Richmond, OH 43944

Dr. David V. Massimi (Carolyn)

614/765-4923

New Hope Evangelical Church

1913 Estelle Ave.

Steubenville, OH 43952

Rev. Don Van Dyke (Carol)

614/264-9374

Evangelical Presbyterian Fellowship

Box 109

Wickliffe, OH 44092

Rev. Hugh P. Gowman (Grace)

216/943-0476

Tabernacle Presbyterian Church

2432 S. Raccoon Road

Youngstown, OH 44515

Rev. Robert Stauffer (Deborah)

216/792-3897

Oklahoma

Freedom Presbyterian Church

P.O. Box 55265

10110 S. 67th East Ave.

Tulsa, OK 74155-1265

Rev. Richard Montroy (Dodie)

918/494-5751

Pennsylvania

Calvary Presbyterian Church

123 E. Diamond St.

Butler, PA 16001

Rev. Ron DiNunzio (Jeanna)

412/283-6070

Oakwood Presbyterian Church

P.O. Box 8092/1901 Waddle Road

State College, PA 16803

Rev. Ed Solomon (Linda)

814/238-5442

North Park EPC

600 Ingomar Road

Wexford, PA 15090

Rev. Daniel M. Lacich (Barbara)

412/367-5000

South Carolina

Christ Church

109 Broad St.

Anderson, SC 29621

Rev. William Hyer

803/226-2979

Bethesda Presbyterian Church

3541 E. Palmetto

Florence, SC 29501

Rev. D. Ronald Glover (Patricia)

803/669-1945

Trinity Presbyterian Church

Box 3865

Florence, SC 29502-3865

Dr. E. Perry Mobley (Jeane)

803/665-8022

First EPC of Rock Hill

3437 Fairhaven Rd.

Rock Hill, SC 29730

Rev. W. Ron Case (Barbara)

803/366-9590

Laboring Out of Bounds

Rev. John Fain, III (Dawn)

c/o Servants Missionary Service

6341 Dorchester

Columbia, SC 29203

Rev. Jerry Robinson (Judy)

Clover Christian Fellowship

204 Calhoun Street

Clover, SC 29710

803/222-9953

Tennessee

Brainerd Presbyterian Church

7 North Tuxedo Avenue

Chattanooga, TN 37411-3793

Rev. Ronald Ragon (Judith)

Rev. Frederick Kirms (Marilyn)

615/698-3471

Christ's Community Church EPC

2718 St. Lawrence St.

Chattanooga, TN 37421

Rev. Gary Record (Joan)

615/892-8641

Lynn Garden Presbyterian Church
c/o Howard Steffey, Clerk
1105 Nelms Lane
Kingsport, TN 37665
(Pulpit Vacant)
615/247-1204

Prince of Peace EPC
7323 Bennington Drive NW
Knoxville, TN 37919
Dr. Turner Howard (Patricia)
615/694-8906

Laboring Out of Bounds

Rev. Timm Jackson (Karen)
Second Presbyterian Church
4055 Popular
Memphis, TN 38111
901/454-0034

Rev. Julian Reese (Melanie)
Christ Church
1538 Highland Ave.
Knoxville, TN 37919
615/525-7413

Texas

New Life EPC
4808 Bonham
Amarillo, TX 79110
Rev. Robert Merriman (Carolyn)
806/353-1096

Presbyterian Church of the Holy Spirit
6043 Abilene Trail
Austin, TX 78749
Rev. Frank D. Costenbader, Jr. (Deborah)
Rev. Richard S. Pickens (Nancy)
512/288-0673

Grace Church (EPC)
2027 Verlaine Dr.
Carrollton, TX 75007
Rev. Philip Mathis (Dana)
214/492-8171

Calvin Presbyterian Church
1782 W. Belt North
Houston, TX 77043
Dr. Randall Pannell
713/468-0904

Church of the Savior
13606 Partage Lane
Houston, TX 77069
(Pulpit Vacant)

EPC of Marshall
403 E. Burleson
Marshall, TX 75670
Rev. Rhett Payne III (Donna)
214/935-1814

Covenant Community Presbyterian Church (MC)
5017 Lockwood Dr.
Waco, TX 76710
Rev. John M. Eubanks
817/776-4752

Minister Out of Bounds

Rev. Gerald Kelly (Deborah)
The Don and Sybil Harrington
Cancer Center
1500 Wallace Blvd.
Amarillo, TX 79106

Virginia

Christ Church
6602 Degen Drive
Burke, VA 22015
Rev. L. Michael Winship (Shirley)
703/455-2412

Evangelical Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 154
Elkton, VA 22827
Rev. James B. Martin (Dee)
703/298-2120

Lebanon Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 115
Greenwood, VA 22943
Rev. N. Kirk Werner (Sue Carol)
703/456-6719

Hope Presbyterian Church
Box 720
Hamilton, VA 22068
Dr. Larry Reinertsen (Carol)
703/338-3130

Faith Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 7887
Roanoke, VA 24019
Rev. Samuel M. Harris (Sandy)
703/387-1911

Faith Presbyterian Church
6096-D Franconia Rd.
Alexandria, VA 22310
Dr. Graham Smith (Margaret)
Rev. David Howard (Jana)
703/971-3800
(Meets at Key Intermediate School)

Rev. Joe Pryzmanski
EPC Mission Church
3422 Dandelion Circle
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Rev. Roger L. Bush (Carol)
Oak Hill Bible Church
P.O. Box 31
Clifton Forge, VA 24422
703/862-7704

Rev. Charles L. Hammett (Marilyn)
Christ Community Church
11511 Drysdale Dr.
Richmond, VA 23236
804/276-7593

Rev. Jimmie Hollandsworth (Dorothy)
Church of the Living Way
1902 Arden Road SW
Roanoke, VA 24015
703/977-2767

Washington

First Evangelical Presbyterian Church
16720 116th Avenue SE #5
Renton, WA 98058
Dr. Paul Johnson (Barbara)
206/228-0840

Minister Laboring Out of Bounds

Rev. James Rosenquist (Connie)
Route 1 Box 60
Tekoa, WA 99033

PRESBYTERY OF ST. ANDREWS

Belgrano
Conesa 2216, 1428 Capital Federal
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Rev. Osvaldo Vena
781-8882

Centro
Belgrano 579, 1067 Capital Federal
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Rev. Miguel Angel Robles (Castellano)
Rev. Robert Thomas (Ingles)
331-0308

Olivos
Acassuso 1131, 1636 Olivos, Pcia.
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Rev. Kenneth Murray
790-0974

Quilmes
Brown 831, 1878 Quilmes
Buenos Aires, Argentina
253-4810

Temperley
Gral. Paz 191, 1834 Temperley
Buenos Aires, Argentina
244-0847

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913/764-1670
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Presbytery — Central South

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Crisfield, MD 21817
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606/623-1124
Presbytery — West

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Chaplain, Capt. Steven E. Barrett (Carolyn)
(USAF)
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Farmington, MI 48024
313/474-9110

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213/402-2390

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704/669-7950

Presbytery — Southeast

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Presbytery — Midwest

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814/238-1222
Presbytery — Allegheny

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Presbytery — Central South

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704/369-6134
Presbytery — Southeast

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Presbytery — Southeast

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Presbytery — West

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914/888-4906
Presbytery — East

Rev. Frank Meyer
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Presbytery — West

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Presbytery — West

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Presbytery — Southeast

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301/252-0425
Presbytery — East

Rev. Chris Smith (Sharon)
12434 W. Florida Dr.
Lakewood, CO 80228
303/979-1888
Presbytery — West

Rev. John Spence (Carole)
16 West Street
Asheville, NC 28801
704/252-1823
Presbytery — Southeast

Part V

Annual Statistical and Financial Reporting

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE ALLEGHENY PRESBYTERY

#	CHURCHES		Beginning Balance	Receipts		Disbursements					Total Receipts	Total Disbursements	Ending Balance
				Contributions	Bequests	Local Causes	Presbytery	Per Member Giving	EPC Missions	Non-EPC Missions			
1.	Calvary, Butler	PA	43,519	135,553	390	104,357	800	3,056	1,840	20,328	135,943	130,381	49,081
2.	EP Fellowship	OH	209,794	134,261	14,163	90,896	1,400	0	0	14,782	148,424	107,078	251,140
3.	Faith EPC	OH	13,326	89,966	0	67,734	300	909	10,017	7,495	89,966	86,455	16,837
4.	New Hope	OH											
5.	North Park	PA	13,633	281,457	0	236,116	0	3,392	8,144	28,856	281,457	276,508	18,582
6.	Oakwood Pres.	PA	979	72,111	0	51,783	246	656	0	9,764	72,111	62,449	10,641
7.	Tabernacle Pres.	OH	30,882	169,564	805	133,562	124	1,976	1,150	24,565	170,369	161,377	39,874

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE ALLEGHENY PRESBYTERY

#	CHURCHES	LOCATION	# - Elders	# - Deacons	Total Membership 1985	Gains			Losses			Total Membership 1986	Sunday School Enrollment	Adult Baptisms	Infant Baptisms	Youth Professions
						Profession of Faith	Certificates	Other	Certificates	Deaths	Other					
1.	Calvary Presbyterian	Butler, PA	15	9	387	0	0	5	11	12	0	369	242	0	2	0
2.	EP Fellowship	Wickliffe, OH	8	15	182	3	0	7	4	1	8	176	70	10	0	0
3.	Faith EPC	Richmond, OH	9	6	101	10	0	0	0	0	0	111	118	0	4	1
4.	New Hope	Steubenville, OH										75				
5.	North Park	Wexford, PA	15	18	423	46	0	0	11	3	61	394	210	0	7	11
6.	Oakwood Presbyterian	State College, PA	6	6	82	3	12	0	8	1	0	88	54	0	4	0
7.	Tabernacle Presbyterian	Youngstown, OH	16	11	266	0	0	3	4	4	2	259	200	0	1	0

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE CENTRAL SOUTH PRESBYTERY

#	CHURCHES	Beginning Balance	Receipts		Disbursements					Total Receipts	Total Disbursements	Ending Balance
			Contributions	Bequests	Local Causes	Presbytery	Per Member Giving	EPC Missions	Non-EPC Missions			
1.	Calvin TX	77,897	82,139	0	55,928		8,396			82,139	61,704	95,721
2.	Central MO	1,392,560	2,795,263	0	1,762,191	5,596	11,192	125,925	347,947	2,795,263	2,252,851	1,934,972
3.	EPC IL	15,321	126,916	2,542	103,115	182	1,216	1,692	7,141	129,458	113,345	31,143
4.	EPC TX	11,998	127,104	0	81,387	0	680	5,500	9,387	127,104	96,954	42,149
5.	Faith AK	(.23)	30,432	0	29,900	120	100	0	210	30,432	30,330	79
6.	First Presbyterian AL	11,530	142,886	0	130,947	351	936	0	10,300	142,886	142,534	11,882
7.	First Presbyterian LA	65,032	104,944	0	77,702	588	1,176	0	13,989	104,944	93,455	76,521
8.	Louisville MS	5,269	43,982	0	39,007	396	792	750	2,400	49,251	43,345	5,906
9.	Northside MS											
10.	Overland KS	0	15,746	0	13,720	0	0	0	0	15,746	13,720	2,026
11.	Sutter MO	2,713	101,658	0	80,564	0	212	0	22,316	101,658	103,092	1,279
12.	Westminster MS	0	227,552	0	112,474	600	1,200	0	9,716	227,552	123,990	103,562

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE CENTRAL SOUTH PRESBYTERY

#	CHURCHES	LOCATION	# - Elders	# - Deacons	Total Membership 1985	Gains			Losses			Total Membership 1986	Sunday School Enrollment	Adult Baptisms	Infant Baptisms	Youth Professions
						Profession of Faith	Certificates	Other	Certificates	Deaths	Other					
1.	Calvin Presbyterian	Houston, TX	4	0	72	0	72	0	0	1	5	68	38	0	1	0
2.	Central	St. Louis, MO	42	45	2,366	56	87	44	83	38	44	2,388	775	1	46	35
3.	EPC	Anna, IL	6	9	152	5	1	3	1	5	0	155	74	0	0	5
4.	EPC	Marshall, TX	6	0	74	4	24	8	0	0	0	110	117	9	1	8
5.	Faith EPC	Fayetteville, AL	5	0	34	0	0	3	2	0	0	35	5	0	1	0
6.	First EPC	Atmore, AL	5	5	116	0	8	0	2	0	7	115	62	0	2	0
7.	First Presbyterian	Houma, LA	6	0	152	8	1	0	3	1	21	136		0	7	0
8.	Louisville Presbyterian	Louisville, MS	6	4	99	0	0	5	5	3	20	76	32	0	2	0
9.	Northside EPC	Meridian, MS										35				
10.	Overland Park	Leawood, KN	0	0	35							35				
11.	Sutter Presbyterian	University City, MO	7	19	108	0	0	0	1	2	3	102	76	0	0	0
12.	Westminster Presbyterian	Laurel, MS	7	0	0	4	156	0	0	1	0	159	123	0	0	4

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE CENTRAL SOUTH PRESBYTERY

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FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE EAST PRESBYTERY

#	CHURCHES	Beginning Balance	Receipts		Disbursements					Total Receipts	Total Disbursements	Ending Balance
			Contributions	Requests	Local Causes	Presbytery	Per Member Giving	EPC Missions	Non-EPC Missions			
1.	Ashland NJ	66,582	202,064	0	106,714	1,247	4,500	4,621	55,390	202,064	172,471	96,174
2.	Christian Covenant MD	185,195	250,040	0	188,246	400	1,860	2,100	40,634	250,040	233,240	201,995
3.	Christ Church VA	8,045	66,619	313	62,375	150	500	250	2,700	66,932	65,976	9,002
4.	Church of Intercessor VA	26,534	69,433	0	57,979	0	0	0	11,122	66,433	69,101	26,866
5.	Dundalk Presbyterian MD	4,336	119,624	0						119,624	119,215	4,795
6.	First Love NY	20,377	30,008	0	22,356	0	248	150	1,218	30,008	23,972	26,413
7.	Fourth Presbyterian MD	0	1,834,378	0	1,345,856	0	0	0	430,008	1,834,378	1,775,864	58,513
8.	Goodwill Presbyterian NY											
9.	Silver Springs MD											

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE EAST PRESBYTERY

#	CHURCHES	LOCATION	# - Elders	# - Deacons	Total Membership 1985	Gains			Losses			Total Membership 1986	Sunday School Enrollment	Adult Baptisms	Infant Baptisms	Youth Professions
						Profession of Faith	Certificates	Other	Certificates	Deaths	Other					
1.	Ashland EPC	Voorhees, NJ	12	7	440	9	5	4	10	5	0	443	138	0	8	9
2.	Christian Covenant	Gaithersburg, MD	5	5	201	45	0	0	4	0	0	201	105	-	-	45
3.	Christ Church	Burke, VA	-	-	75	25			26			76	30	0	0	0
4.	Church of Intercessor	Lincoln, VA										50				
5.	Dundalk Presbyterian	Baltimore, MD	12	9	357	5	1	0	8	4	10	341	166	0	5	4
6.	First Love	W. Islip, NY	2	2	37							37	20	0	2	0
7.	Fourth Presbyterian	Bethesda, MD	24	25	1883	95	98	0	31	9	4	2032	1380	10	16	-
8.	Goodwill Presbyterian	Montgomery, NY	6	0	85	18	2	0	0	2	6	94	-	-	2	-
9.	Silver Springs	Silver Springs, MD	Mission Church													

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE FAR WEST PRESBYTERY

#	CHURCHES	Beginning Balance	Receipts		Disbursements					Total Receipts	Total Disbursements	Ending Balance
			Contributions	Bequests	Local Causes	Presbytery	Per Member Giving	EPC Missions	Non-EPC Missions			
1.	Christ's EPC AZ	19,203	79,018	0	78,795	300	280	1,080	5,455	79,018	85,910	12,311
2.	Covenant Presbyterian AZ	10,000	21,646	0	20,868	0	50	400	200	21,646	21,518	10,129
3.	Carmel Valley CA	44,687	83,318	0	38,793	300	0	0	1,684	83,318	40,777	87,228
4.	Hemet Valley CA	8,028	29,610	0	23,793	300	352	300	276	29,610	23,307	11,939
5.	Santa Maria CA	863	64,113	1,613	59,633	0	704	772	3,601	66,590	64,710	1,875
6.	Thai Christian CA											

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FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE MIDWEST PRESBYTERY													
#	CHURCHES		Beginning Balance	Receipts		Disbursements					Total Receipts	Total Disbursements	Ending Balance
				Contributions	Bequests	Local Causes	Presbytery	Per Member Giving	EPC Missions	Non-EPC Missions			
1.	Calvary Presbyterian	MI	48,049	357,784	3,355	274,452	0	3,950	2,900	12,132	361,139	293,434	115,754
2.	Clarkston EPC	MI											
3.	Community EPC	MI											
4.	Cornerstone	MI	0	103,817	0	71,436	0	0	0	0	103,817	71,436	32,381
5.	Covenant Presbyterian	MI	0	31,701	0	30,265	200	800	588	(152)	31,701	31,701	0
6.	EPC	MI	38,022	93,069	0	106,793	66	440	718	5,172	131,091	113,189	17,902
7.	Faith Presbyterian	MI	6,032	216,656	0	167,924	365	584	24,676	23,152	216,656	216,701	5,987
8.	Fellowship EPC	MI	263,001	127,295	0	112,518	300	1,200	3,420	12,393	127,295	129,831	260,465
9.	First Presbyterian	MI	54,500	384,500	1,500	228,500	1,600	6,400	12,000	102,500	386,000	351,000	89,500
10.	Grace Chapel	MI	132,980	393,555	0	311,345	341	2,272	9,015	65,590	393,555	388,563	137,972
11.	Knox Presbyterian	MI	32,576	452,421	2,404	306,127	726	2,904	1,000	119,883	454,825	430,640	56,761
12.	Military Avenue	MI	8,054	62,795	0	38,771	67	352	378	22,774	62,795	62,342	8,507

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE MIDWEST PRESBYTERY																
#	CHURCHES	LOCATION	# - Elders	# - Deacons	Total Membership 1985	Gains			Losses			Total Membership 1986	Sunday School Enrollment	Adult Baptisms	Infant Baptisms	Youth Professions
						Profession of Faith	Certificates	Other	Certificates	Deaths	Other					
1.	Calvary Presbyterian	Flint, MI	21	21	395	30	10	32	1	8	11	447	171	9	15	13
2.	Clarkston EPC	Clarkston, MI										21				
3.	Community EPC	Owosso, MI										50				
4.	Cornerstone	Brighton, MI										143				
5.	Covenant Presbyterian	Ann Arbor, MI	4	3	81	0	4	4	3	0	1	85	42	2	6	0
6.	EPC	Lake City, MI	6	0	55	0	0	1	0	0	0	56	57	0	0	0
7.	Faith Presbyterian	Rochester, MI	6	0	73	4	61	6	7	0	12	125	220	4	4	4
8.	Fellowship EPC	South Lyon, MI	7	8	124	5	0	4	3	1	0	129	130	0	0	5
9.	First Presbyterian	Trenton, MI	12	36	766	0	0	19	12	7	0	766	372	1	3	0
10.	Grace Chapel	Farmington, MI	6	19	284	4	40	11	8	1	0	330	-	-	11	-
11.	Knox Presbyterian	Mt. Clemens, MI	9	0	363	11	7	11	5	2	35	350	320	2	6	2
12.	Military Avenue	Detroit, MI	3	0	57	4	0	0	1	1	0	59	30	0	1	0

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE MIDWEST PRESBYTERY												
#	CHURCHES	Beginning Balance	Receipts		Disbursements					Total Receipts	Total Disbursements	Ending Balance
			Contributions	Bequests	Local Causes	Presbytery	Per Member Giving	EPC Missions	Non-EPC Missions			
13.	Mt. Pleasant Comm. MI	38,480	257,831	0	209,039	600	1,200	1,200	32,296	257,831	244,335	51,976
14.	Oakland Avenue MI	27,574	278,386	3,676	238,584	524	3,112	1,500	44,559	282,063	288,279	21,358
15.	Trinity IN	5,880	71,869	3,336	71,924	3,029	0	0	0	75,205	74,953	6,132
16.	Trinity MI	232,651	560,171	0	651,454	1,000	4,000	13,340	40,043	560,171	709,837	82,985
17.	Ward MI	451,759	4,118,258	0	3,308,472	5,118	34,112	158,000	612,317	4,118,258	4,118,019	451,998
18.	Westkirk Presbyterian IO	1,354	78,614	0	50,545	0	0	728	1,337	78,614	52,610	27,357

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE MIDWEST PRESBYTERY

#	CHURCHES	LOCATION	# - Elders	# - Deacons	Total Membership 1985	Gains			Losses			Total Membership 1986	Sunday School Enrollment	Adult Baptisms	Infant Baptisms	Youth Professions
						Profession of Faith	Certificates	Other	Certificates	Deaths	Other					
1.	Mt. Pleasant Community	Mt. Pleasant, MI	13	8	315	14	9	9	9	4	32	301	158	2	3	0
14.	Oakland Avenue	Pontiac, MI	11	16	364	3	2	0	2	8	3	356	288	0	4	0
15.	Trinity	Columbia City, IN	12	12	164	0	2	2	3	1	0	164	62	0	3	0
16.	Trinity	Plymouth, MI	11	0	501	10	34	19	3	2	59	500	360	5	14	1
17.	Ward	Livonia, MI	33	221	4,276	429			71	22	104	4,508	4,431	30	103	134
18.	Westkirk	Des Moines, IO	12	0	0	30	95	30	0	3	0	152	55	5	4	17

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STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE SOUTHEAST PRESBYTERY

#	CHURCHES	LOCATION	# - Elders	# - Deacons	Total Membership 1985	Gains			Losses			Total Membership 1986	Sunday School Enrollment	Adult Baptisms	Infant Baptisms	Youth Professions
						Profession of Faith	Certificates	Other	Certificates	Deaths	Other					
1.	Asheville EPC	Asheville, NC	3	0	33	3	1	2	4	0	4	35	32	0	0	0
2.	Bethesda Presbyterian	Florence, SC	9	0	104	4	8	0	3	0	7	106	65	2	0	4
3.	Brainerd Presbyterian	Chattanooga, TN	10	23	462	11	48	2	32	5	0	486	231	4	6	9
4.	Christ Covenant	Tampa, FL	0	0	0	1	73	0	0	0	0	74	45	0	4	0
5.	Community Bible	Highlands, NC	5	0	39	6	4	7	2	1	0	53	35	6	0	6
6.	Cramerton Presbyterian	Cramerton, NC	7	9	76	0	0	0	1	2	0	73	35	0	0	0
7.	East Side Presbyterian	Orlando, FL	4	0	15	-	5	-	0	0	0	20	15	0	0	0
8.	EPC	Elkton, VA	7	0	64	1	0	0	0	0	0	65	50	0	1	0
9.	EPC	Burlington, NC	0	0	0	0	22	18	0	0	0	40	32	0	0	0
10.	EPC	Statesboro, GA										25				
11.	EP Fellowship	Tucker, GA										40				
12.	Fairview Christian	Fairview, NC										75				

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE SOUTHEAST PRESBYTERY													
#	CHURCHES		Beginning Balance	Receipts		Disbursements					Total Receipts	Total Disbursements	Ending Balance
				Contributions	Bequests	Local Causes	Presbytery	Per Member Giving	EPC Missions	Non-EPC Missions			
13.	Faith Presbyterian	VA	7,313	72,080	0	62,695	1,200	464	2,150	4,461	72,080	70,970	8,423
14.	First EPC	NC											
15.	First Presbyterian	GA	75,595	555,029	151,909	466,667	42,000	8,000	15,759	146,037	706,938	678,463	104,070
16.	Grace Presbyterian	NC	10,955	56,261	0	38,299	0	0	700	3,046	56,261	42,045	25,171
17.	Lebanon Presbyterian	VA											
18.	Lynn Garden Pres.	TN											
19.	New Covenant	GA	2,200	58,839	0	25,268	546	0	770	6,175	61,479	32,759	30,920
20.	Prince of Peace	TN											
21.	Plumtree Presbyterian	NC	18,081	142,891	0	63,608	2,400	1,200	4,200	76,289	142,891	147,697	13,275
22.	Trinity Presbyterian	FL	3,319	86,906	0	73,739	1,224	0	1,675	2,407	86,906	79,046	11,179
23.	Trinity Presbyterian	SC	76,253	319,435	0	218,174	20,000	2,000	20,207	51,958	319,435	312,339	83,350
24.	West Knoxville	TN											
25.	Winchester Pres.	KY											

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE SOUTHEAST PRESBYTERY

#	CHURCHES	LOCATION	# - Elders	# - Deacons	Total Membership 1985	Gains			Losses			Total Membership 1986	Sunday School Enrollment	Adult Baptisms	Infant Baptisms	Youth Professions
						Profession of Faith	Certificates	Other	Certificates	Deaths	Other					
13.	Faith Presbyterian	Roanoke, VA	6	0	58	2	7	8	1	1	4	69	30	8	0	0
14.	First EPC	Gastonia, NC										75				
15.	First Presbyterian	Rome, GA	31	24	1,010	4	26	4	23	10	11	1,000	265	2	6	0
16.	Grace Presbyterian	Franklin, NC	4	2	83	0	0	0	18	1	8	56	46	0	0	0
17.	Lebanon Presbyterian	Greenwood, VA										100				
18.	Lynn Garden Presbyterian	Kingsport, TN										159				
19.	New Covenant	Atlanta, GA	2	1	17							17				
20.	Prince of Peace	Knoxville, TN										150				
21.	Plumtree Presbyterian	Plumtree, NC	5	8	150	8	12	2	12	1	1	158	206	8	0	7
22.	Trinity Presbyterian	Ft. Pierce, FL	9	0	102	4	6	5	0	4	8	105	49	2	2	3
23.	Trinity Presbyterian	Florence, SC	9	9	246	1	25	0	3	1	0	268	172	1	6	0
24.	West Knoxville	Knoxville, TN										35				
25.	Winchester Presbyterian	Winchester, KY										35				

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE WEST PRESBYTERY

#	CHURCHES	Beginning Balance	Receipts		Disbursements					Total Receipts	Total Disbursements	Ending Balance
			Contributions	Bequests	Local Causes	Presbytery	Per Member Giving	EPC Missions	Non-EPC Missions			
1.	Bear Creek CO	(1,198)	669,889	0	478,637	0	6,300	0	160,230	669,889	645,167	23,524
2.	Cherry Creek CO	357,912	1,574,231	30,000	765,976	0	6,600	67,085		1,604,231	839,661	1,122,482
3.	Cherry Hills CO	0	2,437,804	0	1,903,871	0	9,600	0	163,389	2,437,804	2,076,860	360,944
4.	Christ Fellowship CO											
5.	Covenant Community CO	85,009	138,072	0	188,566	84	328	500	2,150	138,072	191,628	31,453
6.	EP Communion NM											
7.	EPC TX											
8.	Faith Evangelical CO	43,146	311,775	0	250,564	0	1,186	50	62,430	311,775	314,230	40,690
9.	Faith Presbyterian CO	431,727	1,783,185	0	1,516,068	10,000	26,992	6,136	230,235	1,783,185	1,789,431	425,481
10.	Family of Faith CO	0	220,431	2,224	147,610	0	0	0	12,264	222,654	159,875	62,780
11.	Freedom Presbyterian OK	5,485	41,406	0	37,062	326	326	250	4,461	41,406	42,425	4,466
12.	Parker Presbyterian CO	21,505	79,307	70	84,361	0	0	125	0	79,377	84,486	16,397
13.	Trinity CO											

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE WEST PRESBYTERY

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