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# **MINUTES**

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**of the**

**15th General Assembly**

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**EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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**June 22-24, 1995  
Charlotte, North Carolina**

# **OFFICERS OF THE 15TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**MODERATOR:** Rev. Wayne Hoffman  
Westkirk Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
2700 Colby Woods Drive  
Des Moines, Iowa 50322

**STATED CLERK:** Dr. L. Edward Davis  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
29140 Buckingham Avenue Suite 5  
Livonia, Michigan 48154

Internal Revenue Service Number  
for the  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
38-2329622

## **PLEASE ADDRESS OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE TO:**

The Reverend Dr. L. Edward Davis, Stated Clerk  
29140 Buckingham Avenue Suite 5  
Livonia, Michigan 48154

## **NEXT MEETING OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**CHERRY CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
10150 E. BELLEVIEW AVENUE  
ENGLEWOOD, COLORADO 80111  
JUNE 20-22, 1996

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# MINUTES

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of the  
15th General Assembly

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EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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*Sanctify them by the truth, your Word is truth."*

John 17:17





## FOREWORD

The five sections of this volume are as follows:

**JOURNAL** - the minutes of the daily sessions of the Assembly. Though the Journal does not contain the documents that appear in the second section (Appendices) it does contain the recommendations made in those documents. Those recommendations appear in the Journal at the point where they were considered. For ease of reference and cross-reference, the Journal is divided into articles. An index of the Journal appears at the end of the book.

**APPENDICES** - the reports submitted to the Assembly by presbyteries, committees of the Church, and by other bodies, for the Assembly's consideration. With the exception of overtures and communications, all reports appear in the Appendix in alphabetical order. All references to papers in the Appendix are by page number in the Journal.

**DOCUMENTS** - the primary documents adopted by the Assembly to govern its life and mission.

**DIRECTORY** - general information about the denomination includes permanent committees of the Assembly, presbytery moderators and stated clerks, and a roster of the churches and ministers.

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL REPORTS** - a summary of the reports of the churches' financial and statistical statuses in the preceding year.

The Clerk welcomes suggestions for the improvement of these annual volumes.

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 MODERATOR, 15TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
 

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The Reverend Wayne M. Hoffman was elected Moderator of the 15th General Assembly.

Born in Lennox, South Dakota, Wayne committed his life to Christ at the age of 12. He is a 1957 graduate of the University of Dubuque, Dubuque, Iowa and earned his M.Div at the University of Dubuque in 1960. Ordained in the United Presbyterian Church in 1960, Wayne has served congregations in Grundy Center, Iowa, Luverne, Minnesota, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and in Waterloo and Des Moines, Iowa. In 1986, Wayne joined the EPC as an evangelist in Des Moines. His church, Westkirk EPC, became a particular congregation in 1987.



Wayne has written five books, including *Church Membership*, *Discipleship Training*, and *Preaching*, and has served as Adjunct Staff at the University of Dubuque Seminary, the College of St. Francis (Religion Department), and the North Central Career Development Center. He also served on the Pastor's Advisory Committee, Wartburg College and the Board of Trustees, Huron College. In radio ministry for 14 years, Wayne was also producer and host of a television program, *The Cutting Edge*.

Active in both the Presbytery of Mid-America and the General Assembly, Wayne has served as chairman of the Candidates Care Committee of the presbytery, and as a member of the permanent National Outreach Committee. He has twice served as chairman of standing committees at General Assembly. In the summer of 1993, when floods inundated the heartland of America, Wayne coordinated flood relief efforts of EPC churches across the country which offered financial help and services.

Wayne and his wife Helga celebrated their forty-second wedding anniversary on June 21. They are blessed with five children, all of whom are Christians active in the local church serving as elders and deacons, and in women's ministry, youth leadership, and choir. Twelve wonderful grandchildren complete the family circle.

## MODERATORS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ASSEMBLY YEAR	NAME	PRESBYTERY	PLACE OF ASSEMBLY
1st 1981	Rev. Calvin Gray	Midwest	Livonia, Michigan
2nd 1982	Elder Irvin Rinehart	West	Aurora, Colorado
3rd 1983	Dr. James Van Dyke	Southeast	St. Louis, Missouri
4th 1984	Elder Donald Harms	Midwest	Jackson, Mississippi
5th 1985	Rev. James Morrison	East	Aurora, Colorado
6th 1986	Elder Roger Vonder Bruegge	Central South	Livonia, Michigan
7th 1987	Dr. E. Perry Mobley	Southeast	Rome, Georgia
8th 1988	Elder Richard Heidtman	Midwest	Englewood, Colorado
9th 1989	Dr. Andrew Jumper	Central South	St. Louis, Missouri
10th 1990	Elder James Rimmel	Allegheny	Bethesda, Maryland
11th 1991	Dr. William Flannagan	Central South	Livonia, Michigan
12th 1992	Elder John Adamson	Central South	Memphis, Tennessee
13th 1993	Dr. W. Graham Smith	East	Aurora, Colorado
14th 1994	Elder William Johns	Southeast	Pompano Beach, Florida
15th 1995	Rev. Wayne Hoffman	Mid-America	Charlotte, North Carolina

## STATED CLERK OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

YEARS	ORIGINAL PRESBYTERY
1981- Dr. L. Edward Davis	Midwest

## TRUSTEES OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

*Class of 1998*

Dr. Wally Hostetter	Elder Gary Fields	Elder Jan Bole
Faith EPC	8926 S. Edgewood Lane	1697 S. Kingston St.
4285 S. Lapeer Road	Highlands Ranch, CO 80126	Aurora, CO 80012
Lake Orion, MI 48359	303/892-8081	303/751-3126
810/340-1900		

*Class of 1997*

Elder Richard Heidtman	Rev. Dan Lacich
12301 E. Stanley Road	North Park EPC
Columbiaville, Michigan 48421	600 Ingomar Road
810/653-2072	Wexford, PA 15090
	412/367-5000

*Class of 1996*

Dr. James Van Dyke	Elder Earl Clark
1 Westlyn Place	2740-A West River Walk Circle
Rome, GA 30165	Littleton, CO 80123
706/235-0616	303/795-6508

**Ex-Officio Members**

Rev. Wayne Hoffman, Moderator  
Westkirk EPC  
2700 Colby Woods Drive  
Des Moines, IA 50322  
515/253-0330 Fax: 515/253-0596

Elder William Johns, Chairman  
103 Brentwood  
Rome, GA 30165  
706/234-1919 Fax: 706/295-7233

Dr. L. Edward Davis, Stated Clerk  
Office of the General Assembly  
29140 Buckingham Avenue, Suite 5  
Livonia, MI 48154  
313/261-2001 Fax: 313/261-3282

Dr. Graham Smith, Past Chairman  
Faith Presbyterian Church  
6076-B Franconia Road  
Alexandria, VA 22310  
703/971-3800 Fax: 703/971-3803

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**MINUTES**  
of the  
**15TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**JOURNAL**

**Minutes - Thursday morning**

**First Session**  
**June 22, 1995**

**15-1 MORNING WORSHIP**

Worship began at 9:00 a.m. in the sanctuary of Forest Hill Church, Charlotte, North Carolina. Host Pastor, Dr. David Chadwick, preached on "Through Jesus Christ the Worst Thing That Can Happen to Us is the Best Thing," based on Matthew 13:47-51. Special music was provided by Tony Montieth and Carmen Campbell, under the direction of Dr. Richard Wilson, Director of Worship and the Arts.



*David Chadwick, host pastor*

**15-2 CONVENING OF THE 15TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

The 15th General Assembly was called to order at 10:10 a.m. at the Forest Hill Church, Charlotte, North Carolina. Elder Bill Johns, Moderator of the 14th General Assembly, opened with prayer.

*The Convening Prayer*

Lord, as we gather in this place to attend to the business of your church, pour out your Spirit upon us that we might have divine guidance. Give us, we pray, holy wisdom to make decisions pleasing to you. Give us brotherly love for one another that we may not be divided by differences of opinion. May we always give kindly consideration to the feelings of others, and may our hearts be open to different views. Grant especially, Holy Father, that we may be open to change, and that our minds might be pliable to the working of the Holy Spirit. Bless the times of worship, may our fellowship be pleasing to you, may our business be done according to your will. We commit this Assembly to you, to the upbuilding of your kingdom here on earth, and to our Savior, Jesus Christ in whose Name we pray. Amen.

Stated Clerk Edward Davis placed in nomination for Recording Clerks the names of Elders Buck Russell and Llew Fischer, and Rev. Mike Glodo who were then elected by acclamation.

**15-3 DECLARATION OF QUORUM AND ASSEMBLY ENROLLMENT**

With more than 300 commissioners present, the Moderator declared a quorum present (G.16-24, "...at least five Ministers and five Ruling Elders representing at least three Presbyteries). The roll of the Assembly follows:

**Central South Presbytery**

<u>City</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Elders</u>
Atmore, AL	First	Stephen Jennings	
Mobile, AL	Trinity	John Mathieu	Ronald Mann

Irondale, AL  
Anna, IL

Bossier City, LA  
Houma, LA  
Zachary, LA  
Brandon, MS

Columbus, MS  
Laurel, MS  
Meridian, MS

West Point, MS  
Memphis, TN

Redeemer  
EPC

Westminster  
First  
Zachary  
Lakeside

Covenant  
Westminster  
First

First  
Second

Garland, TX  
Houston, TX

Katy, TX  
Marshall, TX

Providence  
Christ EPC

Cornerstone  
EPC of Marshall

David Keyser  
Steve Wilkinson

Jim Wallace  
David Herbertson  
David Hicks  
James McGuire  
Greg Anthony  
Bill McCaskill  
Russell Loudon  
Robert Horel  
John Quigley  
Sam Downing  
Sanders Willson  
Ron Sadlow

Clifton King

Buck Oliphant  
Kirk Werner

Robert Camenisch  
Dennis Flach  
Ron Pierce  
Bill Solomon

Charles Stokes

J. D. Meller  
Abram Norton  
Les Williams

Bill Holmes

James Russell  
Joe Hallenbeck  
Mike Mathews

John Adamson  
John Dewald  
Frank Fourmy  
Charles Leonard  
Bryan Nearn  
Bill Simmons  
Willis Willey

Reese Baker  
Charles Haden  
Robin Kemp  
Orin Littlejohn  
Hillard Strong

### East Presbytery

**City**  
Baltimore, MD  
Bethesda, MD

**Church**  
Dundalk  
Fourth

Gaithersburg, MD  
Voorhees, NJ

Butler, PA

New Castle, PA

New Life  
Ashland EPC

Calvary

New Covenant

**Ministers**  
Paul Brown  
Robert Norris  
Willard Davis  
James Byrne

David Howard  
Ian Lamont  
Bruce Hoadley  
Bill Glassman

George Yates

### Elders

Richard Bowman  
Charles Brady  
Hadley De Puy  
Horace Heafner  
Samuel Jones  
Frank Sanders  
Gerald Moser  
Dave Hoffman  
Frank Johnson  
J. Robert Brown  
Robert Kennedy, Sr.  
Robert Young  
Richard Hite



Rita Denniston

Pittsburgh, PA	New Hope	Rodger Woodworth
Wexford, PA	North Park	Robert Barrett

Alexandria, VA	Faith
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Dan Laci
Brian Tome
Graham Smith

Zelda Artz
Cooper McWhirter
Alan Smith
Ted Tubbesing
Kenneth Vlietstra
Steve Eaves

Burke, VA	Christ Church
Lake Ridge, VA	King of Glory

Mike Winship
Ken Jones
Richard Barany
Ron Meyer
Peter Stam
Nancy Stewart

### Florida Presbytery

<u>City</u>
Brooksville

<u>Church</u>
Faith EPC

<u>Ministers</u>
Ron DiNunzio

### Elders

Steve Brooks
Felix Sharpe
Ramona Chadwick
Lawrence Hersch
Constance Jennings
William Lawson
Debbie Hess
Mary Ann Munz
Douglas Calhoun, Sr.
Gerry Hittenburger
Richard Elm
Frank Mathias

Daytona Beach
---------------

The Cornerstone
-----------------

Howard Chadwick
-----------------

Ft. Pierce
Lake Mary
Homestead

Trinity
Abundant Life
First

Bob Garment
Bob Wilbur
Robert Hess

Pompano Beach
---------------

New Covenant
--------------

George Callahan
Jim Letizia
Woody Johnson

Tampa
-------

Christ Covenant
-----------------

Michael Glodo
Terry Mulford

### Mid-America Presbytery

<u>City</u>
Des Moines, IA
Warrenville, IL

<u>Church</u>
Westkirk
Immanuel

<u>Ministers</u>
Wayne Hoffman
Bob Harvey

### Elders

Paul Heidebrecht
Carolyn Nystrom

Lenexa, KS
Overland Park, KS
Cape Girardeau, MO
Chesterfield, MO
St. Louis, MO

West Highlands
Covenant Chapel
Christ Presbyterian
Christ Chapel
Central

Robert Bayles
Tom Ryan
Art Hunt
Jerry Brundle
Tim Brewer
Austin McCaskill
John Splinter

Kenneth Breckner
Lawrence Evans
Bill Goessling
Harold Hegel
Charles Hoppe

David Lovell  
Philip Muir

**Mid-Atlantic Presbytery**

<u>City</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Elders</u>
Albemarle, NC Asheville, NC	Covenant Harvest	David Steele Lee Kizer Howard Shockley	Joe Schluchter Vern Schneider Alan Shaffer Bill Smith Lee Stertz
Cary, NC	Fellowship of Christ	David McLean	Felton Hairr John Shirey
Charlotte, NC	Forest Hill	David Chadwick Robbi Fischer Todd Hahn David Ruff	Steve Caldwell John Davis Jim Long Charles Overstreet Linda Paulson Knox Sherer Gordon Stanley
Charlotte, NC Charlotte, NC	Grace Chapel St. Giles	Jimmy Carr Percy Burns	Hugh Blythe John Hicks Neil Matheson Hal Uzzell Rufus Davis Reade Joliff
Cramerton, NC	Cramerton	Rick Slate	
Franklin, NC Franklin, NC Gastonia, NC Highlands, NC	Cornerstone Grace Linwood Community Bible	Ron Odum Tom Musselman John Jennings Steve Kerhoulas	Frank Leslie Bruce Oliver
Laurinburg, NC Monroe, NC Pinehurst, NC	New Life Lee Park Christ Fellowship	Robert Dean Ronnie Burton Don Hardman	Bruce Bryant James Haywood John Rudd Terry Edwards
Plumtree, NC Shelby, NC Wilmington, NC	Plumtree Covenant Fellowship Myrtle Grove	Bruce Anderson Douglas Murphy Ken Burbridge Jim Glasgow Bryan Slater	Bill Blackley Alton Clark, Sr. Don Phillips Tony Register Tony Satterfield Phil Stump Edward Best King Brown
Winston-Salem, NC	Reynolda	Dick Little Dick Robinson	

Anderson, SC	Christ Church	Bill Hyer	Frances Wall James Wall Michael Borron Dan Jackson David Larson
Clover, SC	First	Doyle Baynard	
Florence, SC	Bethesda	Travis Martin	
Florence, SC	Trinity	David Brogren Bill Meyer	Bill Allen Jim Allen Thad Davis
Gaffney, SC	Overbrook	Ron Read	
Laurens, SC	Emmanuel	James Thyne	
Lexington, SC	Cregmore	Wayne Wood	
Abingdon, VA	Cleveland		Richard McQueen
Elkton, VA	EPC	Jim Martin	Larry Dickerson Don Creamer Jesse Franklin
Fredericksburg, VA	EPC		
Greenwood, VA	Lebanon	Paul Rettew	
Hampton, VA	Northampton	Daniel Berry, III	Robert McRacken Charles Hammett
Midlothian, VA	Christ EPC		
Roanoke, VA	Woodside	Bruce Robinson	
Salem, VA	Faith	Todd Atkins	Llew Fischer John Allman Gerald Kidd Henry Redman
Virginia Beach, VA	Kempsville	Charles Wickman Andy Jackson	Joe Hartzog Jeff Presseau Charles Scott Curt Brown John Dyer Lew Soulsby John Young
Bluefield, WV	Westminster	Jeffrey Chadwick	
Cross Lanes, WV	Perrow	Nate Atwood Jack Maxwell Rick Stauffer	
		Ron Case Ellis Deibler Don Fortson Don Fortson, III Daniel Gilbert Frank Kik Alex Koval Bill Read Jeffrey Richards Michael Swart	

Midwest Presbytery
--------------------

<u>City</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Elders</u>
Auburn, IN	St. Andrew	Donovan Coley	Charlotte Beatty Richard Beatty

*Journal, \$15-3*

Ann Arbor, MI	Covenant	Mark Vanderput	Ted Dodasovich Phil Tiews Robert Wood Dick Hile
Ann Arbor, MI	Knox	Michael Frison Bartlett Hess Peter Preiser, Jr.	Robert Avis Dennis Graham Roy Hawthorne James Walker
Brighton, MI	Cornerstone		
Detroit, MI	Military Avenue	Randy Brown	
Farmington Hills, MI	Grace	Tony DeOrio Gil Odendaal Harold Polk, Jr.	Percy Andrews Bill Bumford Dick Heidtman Truman Todd
Flint, MI	Calvary		
Harrison Township, MI	Knox	Chris Gibson Mark Hudson Perry Mobley Brian Tweedie	
Livonia, MI	Ward		Janet Carlton Ron Grant Al Guilstorf Nabil Hakim Norm Jackson Robert Julin Chuck Longmire Greg Middlemis James Orr Bill Roberts David Satterthwaite Lyn van der Harst
Lake City, MI	Lake City	Don Van Dyke	
Mt. Pleasant, MI	Mt. Pleasant	Bill Lindner, Jr.	Herb Lenon Gordon Parkinson Russ Wing Kevin Ruark Charles Talbot Roger Derksen Thomas Henson
Owosso MI	Community EPC		
Plymouth, MI	Trinity	Bill Moore Bill Branham, Jr. Wally Hostetter	
Rochester Hills, MI	Faith		
South Lyon, MI	Fellowship EPC	Steve Johnson Don Giesmann	Ben Moore Ray Sawmiller
Trenton, MI	First		
Troy, MI	Kensington	Steve Andrews David Massimi Bob Stauffer Gary Koerth James Brown, Jr. Carlton Baker Edward Davis David Marshall Samuel Rowen George Woodcock	Michael Owen James Rimmel Earl Runcan
Richmond, OH	Faith EPC		
Youngstown, OH	Tabernacle		

<b>Southeast Presbytery</b>
-----------------------------

<u>City</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Elders</u>
Cartersville, GA	Hope	Rocky Thompson	Curtis Morris
Lavonia, GA	Faith	Tommy Jordan	Ann Gibson
		Joe Renfro	Joyce Smith
Marietta, GA	Grace		Leonard Pilgrim
Rome, GA	First	Bill Flannagan	Harlen Dewey
			Keith Finley
			Bill Johns
			William Pilson
			Barry Smith
			Omer Johnson
			Joy Kelley
Ft. Wright, KY	New Beginning	Steven Riser	
Chattanooga, TN	Brainerd	Steve Jones	
Chattanooga, TN	Lookout Valley	Russ Ragon	Keith Thompson
Hixson, TN	Valleybrook	Sam Harris	Ben Brychta
		Bill Sharp	George Schneider
Knoxville, TN	Christ	Julian Reese	
		James Van Dyke	

<b>St. Andrews Presbytery</b>
-------------------------------

<u>City</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Elders</u>
Buenos Aires	Olivos	Aldo Fontao	Freddie Berk
		Kenneth Murray	

<b>West Presbytery</b>
------------------------

<u>City</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Elders</u>
Phoenix, AZ	Morningside	Rick Wiess	Bill Arnold
			Norm Templeton
Tucson, AZ	New Covenant	Ed McCallum	
Folsom, CA	Faith EPC	John Cedar	
San Jacinto, CA	Hemet Valley	Dean Wolf	
Santa Maria, CA	Santa Maria	Tom Pitman	
Aurora, CO	Faith	Doug Klein	Vern Porter
		Fred Stifel	Buck Russell
Denver, CO	Cornerstone	Ken Glasier	
Englewood, CO	Cherry Creek	James Miller	Joanne Becker
		Brad Strait	Greg Bettis
		Jeffrey Van Kooten	Jan Bole
		George Wood	Harold Haddon
			John Israel
			Jeanene King
			Bert Loudon
			Ann Norton
			Carol Osborn
			Paul Patterson

Englewood, CO	Cherry Hills	Louis Angone Bob Beltz Jim Dixon Donna McClellan John Patterson	Colleen Rinehart Irvin Rinehart Mark Sheehan
Englewood, CO Ft. Collins, CO Golden, CO Lakewood, CO	Greenwood Christ Fellowship Lookout Mountain Bear Creek	Tom Melton Ed Davis Peter Hielt James Coleman Tom Dages Bruce Spear	Hugh Smith Leon Niemann Ted Brandsma
Parker, CO Redmond, WA Renton, WA	Parker Northwest EPC First	Ed Randal Jeffrey Jeremiah  Chris Istrati Mark Moore Darryl Sparling Brad Yorton	Albert Stancliff Glenn Boeshaar Dave Nichols

**Final enrollment** of the Assembly is as follows:

Ruling Elders:	196
Ministers:	<u>189</u>
<b>Total Commissioners:</b>	<b>385</b>
Observers:	<u>239</u>
<b>Total Assembly Registration:</b>	<b>624</b>

Number of churches represented: 122

**Commissioners excused:** The following requests to be excused from the 15th General Assembly were received in writing:

**Ruling Elders:** Charles Moore (Central, St. Louis, MO), Marty Martin (Cherry Creek, Englewood, CO), David Pixley (Knox, Ann Arbor, MI)

**Ministers:** Robert Balnicky (Madeira Beach, FL), Ron Bell (Christ Presbyterian, Somerville, AL), Robert Carner (Australia), Jack Carter (Church of the King, Corpus Christi, TX), Jim Murphy (Faith, Loveland, CO), Chris Smith (Lakewood, CO), Hugh White (Corpus Christi, TX)

#### 15-4 DOCKET ADOPTED

The docket for the day was adopted.

**Docket**

Thursday, June 22, 1995

*First Session*

- 9:00 Opening worship Service: David Chadwick preaching.  
Introduction of missionaries.
- 9:45 Assembly convenes.
1. Opening session. Constituting prayer. Election of Recording Clerks. Local arrangements and announcements. Call for quorum. Docket.
  2. Election of 15th General Assembly Moderator. Passing of the gavel.
  3. State of the Church address (Retiring Moderator.)
  4. Partial report of the Nominating Committee.
  5. Ratification vote on descending overture. Adoption of 14th General Assembly (1994) Minutes.
  6. Report of the Stated Clerk. Matters received and referred. Committee instructions. Introduction of standing committee chairmen.
  7. Introductions. New churches. Face-to-Face.
- 11:00-2:00 Pastors' Wives Luncheon (Mint Museum)
- 12:00-1:15 Gordon-Conwell complimentary lunch (Forest Hill)

*Second Session*

- 1:30-5:00 Assembly committees meet.
- 2:30-5:00 Women's Ministries program (Marriott)
- 7:30 Evening worship service: Bill Johns presiding  
Eric Alexander, Keynote  
Investiture of 15th General Assembly Moderator

**15-5 PARTIAL REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Elder Colleen Rinehart, chairman, opened with prayer and placed in nomination for 15th General Assembly Moderator the name of Rev. Wayne Hoffman, pastor of Westkirk EPC, Des Moines, Iowa. Rev. Tom Ryan, pastor of Covenant Chapel EPC, Overland Park, Kansas, delivered the nominating speech. No other nominations were forthcoming from the floor, and Rev. Hoffman was then elected by acclamation.

Rev. Hoffman introduced his wife of 42 years, Helga, and expressed his gratitude to the Assembly for his election. He stressed that though we are a small denomination, we should not be intimidated but affirm excellence, warmth, and faithfulness. The gavel was passed to the new Moderator.

**15-6 STATE OF THE CHURCH ADDRESS**

Retiring Moderator Bill Johns prefaced his report with prayer. He reported that he had visited eight of the nine presbyteries and traveled more than 70,000 miles this year.

The *State of the Church* address follows.

## STATE OF THE CHURCH ADDRESS

William Johns, Moderator  
14th General Assembly



*Bill Johns, Moderator,  
14th General Assembly*

The 14th General Assembly bestowed upon me a most undeserved honor when you elected me as your Moderator. I have been blessed and educated beyond my wildest imaginations. Blessed by the opportunity to visit widely throughout our denomination and in the course of my travels to have encountered the most loving hospitality by the kindest people you would ever want to meet; educated by a year of travel that has taken us over 70,000 miles from Pennsylvania to California and from Naples, Florida to Seattle, Washington and beyond the nation's shores to Argentina and Brazil.

With apologies to my brothers and sisters in the Presbytery of the Southeast, our travels have enabled us to visit eight of the nine presbyteries in the EPC.

We have seen diversity and we have seen similarity. Diversity seems to be quite in vogue in our day. It must be said that diversity does much to commend itself in a society or an organization. It must also be said that diversity carried to the extreme results in the society or organization losing its character. In our day and time, we are urged at every point to be tolerant of the views of others. "After all, it's the 1990's." I submit to you that this willingness to be tolerant of any and every idea or philosophy that is espoused has great dangers hidden in its future. For example, the Scriptures teach us that there is **ONLY ONE WAY BY WHICH MEN CAN BE SAVED, AND THAT IS THROUGH JESUS CHRIST**. But in our society, and even in the church, there are suggestions to the contrary.

In the past year, we have experienced a wide variety of forms of worship. I believe the Scriptures do not limit us to one traditional form, but that there is freedom up to a point. Our freedom should not be exercised at the expense of our unity. At the same time, we dare not quench the working of the Holy Spirit in our midst. But we must test the spirits. As Moderator, I can visualize the potential for divisiveness in this area of worship and I call us as a denomination and as individuals, to be unified in those areas essential to our faith, and where we have options of freedom, that we not exercise those freedoms when it may cause our brothers to stumble.

There is so much that is right about the EPC that we may be prone to overlook the needs and the areas where growth has not been completed. Our numerical growth as a denomination has not been spectacular during the past year, yet there is evidence of spiritual growth among us.

Last Fall, the Executive Committee conducted a survey among pastors, clerks of session, and committees of the Assembly to determine what were the prevailing views of the operation of the General Assembly office. I will review the results in general a bit later in this report, but there were many constructive expressions of concern; among them, the need for improved communication, the need for more effective outreach, for more manpower in the Assembly office to expedite the handling of matters referred to that office, for more activity in the areas of youth ministries, women's ministries, men's ministries and more. There is no question about the desirability of each of these functions. However, there is one common problem associated with them all. That is a lack of adequate financing.

Members of the Assembly, we have a thoroughly dedicated staff of people in the Assembly office. They are well qualified, hard working people. We have grown; the issues of a new denomination have become more complex. The need for answers to questions and the need for guidance at presbytery and local church levels have increased. The Stated Clerk is highly qualified to handle the duties of the office, but his ability, timewise, is limited. We must look to the future of this denomination and prepare for it. That means we must provide



more resources for the Assembly to carry out its work effectively. As Assembly offices go, we are very understaffed. I would place this on your individual and collective hearts for future consideration. The choice is ours. We can stand pat, or we can trust God for the will and the means to provide a climate for an adequate staff of professional leadership in our Assembly office. I believe the stage is set for us to make a major move in church growth in the next three to five years. Let's not miss the opportunity.

Having challenged your ears and your pockets, let me turn to a report of an exciting experience. I speak of my visit along with my predecessor, Graham Smith, and his wife Madge, to the St. Andrews Presbytery in Argentina. We enjoyed a glorious time of learning and seeing the development of the EPC in Buenos Aires. From early morning to late evening we saw loving hospitality and a determination to provide a Presbyterian witness in the Latin culture. It was our pleasure to encourage them in their struggle, sometimes in a hostile (or at best indifferent) environment to share the good news of the Gospel. They, likewise, are in need of greater financial support. But the church there is on the move.

Our sister denomination in Brazil is alive and well. It has become very missions-minded as it is sending out missionaries into the world. In this connection, I have come to believe that God honors, above all else, the obedience to His Great Commission. If you want to prosper as a church or individual, just get serious about missions and the blessings begin to flow and flow. By contrast, the absence of a serious commitment of time and resources to the mission enterprise will be evident in a church that struggles on every front. I commend the work of Dick Oestreicher and all who are involved in the planning and implementation of those plans for this denomination's world outreach activities.

During my visits to various churches, I observed an exciting commitment to new member and officer training. Such training is essential to the health of a connectional church where people are coming from a variety of backgrounds to the EPC. This is reflected in the comments of a number of people with whom I spoke. For example at Community EPC in Owosso, Michigan following the pastor's prospective new member Sunday School class, many were saying such things as, "This is the kind of church I have been looking for." And there were others where the same sentiment was expressed. If officers are not properly trained in their roles as Elders and Deacons, we cannot expect the church to grow.

I previously mentioned the survey conducted last Fall. I would like to share with you a brief summary. The COA, however, considers this information of such value that it deserves considerable study in order that the responses be properly evaluated, and a program of action be designed and implemented. Four hundred surveys were distributed. Response exceeded 50%.

There were seven questions on the survey. The first question asked, "Do you believe the General Assembly Office serves the denomination, its presbyteries and congregations..."

Very well?	54%
Partially achieves expectations?	14%
Adequately achieves expectations?	17%
Inadequately?	6%
No opinion	11%

The second question was opened-ended, asking "In what areas does the General Assembly Office excel?" A variety of answers were received providing useful information for the study committee. Nineteen percent of the respondents had no opinion.

The third question asked, "In what areas does the General Assembly fail to meet your needs?" Thirty-eight percent of those responding had no answer. The variety of answers, however, represent the kind of input the Executive Committee was looking for in the survey and will be subsequently evaluated.

In order to get some feel for the level of acquaintance of respondents, the fourth question was "Are you familiar with the organizational structure of the General Assembly Office?"

Very familiar:	25%
Somewhat familiar:	47%
Not familiar:	26%
No answer:	2%

Question five asked, "What changes or improvements would you make in the organizational structure of the General Assembly Office?" Fifty-nine percent had no suggestions. The suggestions that were submitted will be the subject of further evaluation.

Question 6: "Does the General Assembly provide all the services it should? If not, what additional services could be provided?"

Yes:	43%
No:	10%
Uncertain:	39%
No answer:	13%

A number of suggestions were offered by 19% of the respondents.

Question 7 was an open-ended opportunity for participants in the survey to comment on other suggestions. This segment was used by many, and there were items that reflected thoughtful concern in a number of areas.

In summary, responses were overwhelmingly positive. There were concerns as to whether the staffing of the General Assembly office was adequate, and several people expressed concern for the health of the Stated Clerk because of his work load.

Since the survey was designed to give participants opportunity to make suggestions and express personal opinions, it is not possible to review these answers fully here. It is the intent of the Committee on Administration, however, to give you a general idea of the results, to give detailed consideration to the results by a committee to be appointed by the chairman of the COA, and where possible and practical, develop an action plan. You will be kept informed.

Finally I must not fail to credit those who made this year such a wonderful experience for me. There is my home church, First Presbyterian of Rome, Georgia, where my pastor and session have been so supportive of Mary and me. My Sunday School class endured a very disjointed year of lessons because of my travels. Much gratitude is due Marilyn and Karen in the Assembly Office for their patience and effectiveness in facilitating my travel and ministry. I am indebted to Graham Smith and John Adamson who so graciously paved the way for one who so often was feeling his way along, and to Ed Davis for his counsel and willingness to listen to new ideas. I thank the many people across the country who opened their homes with such a spirit of love and hospitality. Most of all I thank my wife Mary, who often traveled with me and when not able to go along, patiently abided my absence. She has been a rock of strength for me.

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**15-7 PARTIAL REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Elder Colleen Rinehart announced that late registrations were assigned to committees and that lists will be posted in various areas of the building. The Overtures and Resolutions Committee was dissolved, as no business was forthcoming to this committee (cf. §15-11 **Matters Referred**). Commissioners previously assigned to the Overtures and Resolutions Committee were assigned to other committees. The Moderator's appointments of standing committee chairmen were introduced.

Administration:	Elder Joe Schluchter (Mid-America)
Christian Education & Publications:	Rev. Buck Oliphant (Central South)
Fraternal Relations:	Rev. Chris Gibson (Midwest)
Memorials and Appreciation:	Rev. Howard Shockley (Mid-Atlantic)
Ministerial Vocation:	Elder Samuel Jones (East)
National Outreach:	Rev. Ed McCallum (West)
Presbytery Review:	Elder Charles Talbot (Midwest)
Theology:	Rev. Graham Smith (East)
Women's Ministries:	Elder Ramona Chadwick (Florida)
World Outreach:	Rev. Doug Klein (West)
Youth Ministries:	Elder Jan Bole (West)

The slate of nominees printed in the Commissioner's Handbook constituted the first reading of nominations for the permanent committees.

**15-8 RATIFICATION OF DESCENDING OVERTURE**

The Stated Clerk directed the Assembly's attention to Descending Overture #94-A, which was approved by seven of the eight presbyteries. If an overture receives approval by three-fourths of the presbyteries, that overture is forwarded to the following Assembly for a simple majority ratification.

*Question: Shall the Book of Government, §15-8, be amended by adding a new paragraph at the end of the section? [Proposed section is in italics.]*

**Present wording**

**§15-8 Removal of a Minister to Inactive Status:** A Minister may, for reasons deemed valid, request the 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. However, the name of the Minister shall be carried on the Inactive Status Roll of Presbytery. After at least one year, the Minister may request Presbytery to be restored to Active Status. The Presbytery, after careful deliberation, may do so provided the Minister has a valid call that Presbytery approves,

**Proposed wording**

**§15-8 Removal of a Minister to Inactive Status:** A Minister may, for reasons deemed valid, request the 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. However, the name of the Minister shall be carried on the Inactive Status Roll of Presbytery. After at least one year, the Minister may request Presbytery to be restored to Active Status. The Presbytery, after careful deliberation, may do so provided the Minister has a valid call that Presbytery approves,

or provided the Minister is being transferred to another Presbytery in order to receive a call. When the Minister has been without approved call for a period of one year, the Ministerial Committee will confer with the Minister as to his continued sense of call and his expectations for future ministry. The committee will then recommend to the Presbytery whether the Minister should remain on Active Status in the Presbytery or be placed on Inactive Status. The Presbytery, at its discretion and after judicious consideration, may place the Minister on the Inactive Status Roll involuntarily provided the vote to do so is by a two-thirds majority.

or provided the Minister is being transferred to another Presbytery in order to receive a call. When the Minister has been without approved call for a period of one year, the Ministerial Committee will confer with the Minister as to his continued sense of call and his expectations for future ministry. The committee will then recommend to the Presbytery whether the Minister should remain on Active Status in the Presbytery or be placed on Inactive Status. The Presbytery, at its discretion and after judicious consideration, may place the Minister on the Inactive Status Roll involuntarily provided the vote to do so is by a two-thirds majority.

*A limit shall be placed on the time during which a Minister on Inactive Status shall remain on the roll of Presbytery, the limit being five years. After five years, the Presbytery has the right to drop that person from the roll without censure.*

Grounds: In proposing this amendment, the Ministerial Vocation Committee observed there are occasions when a Minister has remained on the Inactive Status Roll of Presbytery an inordinately long period of time without ever receiving a call to ministry. Such a person could conceivably remain on this roll indefinitely. The Assembly concurred in the wisdom of setting constitutional limits on this issue by adding this paragraph.

#### VOTE OF THE PRESBYTERIES

	Yes	No
Central South	42	5
East	23	0
Florida	26	0
Mid-America	28	0
Mid-Atlantic	93	0
Midwest	54	0
Southeast	31	0
St. Andrews	0	7
West	88	0

**ON MOTION** to ratify Overture #94-A.

#### 15-9 RECEPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 14TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Minutes of the 14th General Assembly were received. Adoption of the Minutes will be accomplished by the Committee on Administration, as allowed in *Robert's Rules of Order*. The Stated Clerk asked that additions and corrections to this document be forwarded to the General Assembly Office as soon as possible.

The Stated Clerk explained the Assembly's custom dispensing of the reading of the minutes, instead reading and approving a daily synopsis.

#### **15-10 REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK**

Commissioners who had not completed the registration process were admonished to do so as soon as possible. The Clerk presented his report, noting we are increasingly learning how to become more Presbyterian and Reformed, to extend God's kingdom to more points of the world, to offer the services essential to this body of believers, and to resist the General Assembly Office becoming an end in itself. He referred to statistics charting various aspects of our growth and development as a denomination. Of particular note was the fact that our net membership over the past year remained nearly unchanged. Over the last five years, 30 churches have been either dissolved or dismissed. We must cease losing those who felt called of God to be part of our fellowship, and who are no longer viable churches.

New churches welcomed this Assembly year were the following:

1. Christ Presbyterian Church of Decatur (Decatur, Alabama)
2. Church of the King (Corpus Christi, Texas)
3. New Covenant (New Castle, Pennsylvania)
4. Allegheny Valley (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania)
5. New Life Christian Fellowship (Laurinburg, North Carolina)
6. New Harvest (St. Louis, Missouri)
7. Neighborhood Fellowship (Chandler, Arizona)

Churches dissolved or dismissed this year were the following:

1. New Beginnings (Greensboro, North Carolina)
2. Grace EPC (Murfreesboro, Tennessee)
3. Christ Community (Arcadia, California)
4. New Covenant (Atlanta, Georgia)

Rev. Davis announced that Rev. Corbett Heimburger has been selected to be National Outreach Director, to begin service August 1. He noted we are thankful to God for his provision of our four outstanding program leaders including Dick Oestreicher, Jan Juday, Dan Weidman, and most recently, Corbett Heimburger.

Encouraging statistics include an increase in members on the baptized roll, youth professions of faith, and attendance figures. Interpretation of the benevolence askings projects continues to be a major goal. The Church Loan Fund is active, and the possibility of increasing the cap of allowable loans beyond \$50,000 is being studied.

The Clerk called the Assembly's attention to the growth statistics for each of our churches. The struggle to achieve membership growth is not limited to the smaller church; collectively, our 12 largest churches lost 1,000 members. God is at work among our churches, giving us increase in many areas, and challenging us to grow and develop in other areas.

**ON MOTION** to receive the report of the Stated Clerk.

## 15-11 MATTERS REFERRED

References of communications, overtures, resolutions and recommendations were adopted as follows:

### A. COMMUNICATIONS

- **Communication #95-1** (p. 91) from William Johns, Moderator (14th General Assembly), dated June, 1995  
\_\_\_\_\_ Referred to the Floor (p. 43)
- **Communication #95-2** (p. 92) from Colleen Rinehart, Chairman Nominating Committee, dated May 22, 1995  
\_\_\_\_\_ Referred to the Floor (p. 42)
- **Communication #95-3** (p. 93) from Dr. James Miller and Mr. Maurice Martin, Jr., Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church, dated September 28, 1994  
\_\_\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 35)
- **Communication #95-4** (p. 94) from Mr. Gary Cervenka, Central Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, MO, dated March 8, 1995  
\_\_\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 36)
- **Communication #95-5** (p. 95) from Dr. Jim Dixon, Cherry Hills Community Church, Englewood, CO dated May 12, 1995  
\_\_\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 38)
- **Communication #95-6** (p. 96) from William Johns, Moderator (14th General Assembly) dated November 21, 1994  
\_\_\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 38)
- **Communication #95-7** (p. 97) from Donna Alberta, Editor *EPC Reflections*, dated May 11, 1995  
\_\_\_\_\_ Referred to Christian Education and Publications Committee (p. 42)
- **Communication #95-8** (p. 98) from Donald J. Duff, Secretary, North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council, dated June 8, 1995  
\_\_\_\_\_ Referred to Fraternal Relations Committee (p. 35)
- **Communication #95-9** (p. 99) from James E. Rimmel, dated March 9, 1995  
\_\_\_\_\_ Referred to Ministerial Vocation Committee (p. 48)
- **Communication #95-10** (p. 100) from Dan Weidman and Janet Juday, dated March 5, 1995  
\_\_\_\_\_ Referred to Youth Ministries and Women's Ministries Committees (pp. 62, 63)
- **Communication #95-11** (p. 101) from Clarence Reimer, Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability  
\_\_\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 39)



- **Communication #95-12** (p. 102) from Agustin Vencer, Jr., World Evangelical Fellowship dated March 26, 1995  
     \_\_\_ Referred to Fraternal Relations Committee (p. 35)
- **Communication #95-13** (p. 104) from Rev. Daniel M. Berry, III, Northampton Presbyterian Church, dated January 19, 1995  
     \_\_\_ Referred to Christian Education and Publications Committee (p. 42)
- **Resolution #95-A** (p. 105) from Presbytery of the Southeast, dated May 12, 1995  
     \_\_\_ Referred to National Outreach Committee (p. 46)

## **B. OVERTURES**

- **Overture #95-A** from the Presbytery of the Southeast, dated February 25, 1995:  
 Reflection upon past church history is beneficial in that it enables us to avoid mistakes of the past as well as capitalize on successes of the past. The information requested in this overture will also enable us to appreciate the importance of accountable stewardship of personnel and possessions.

Whereas, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church has been involved in new church development (church planting) for over a decade; and

Whereas, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church has experienced a variety of responses to church development efforts; some successful, now developed into particular church status and others which have been dissolved and are no longer in existence; and

Whereas, evaluation of past history serves as an excellent source of learning and direction for the present and future; and

Whereas, the presbyteries of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church need ongoing advice and direction in the area of church development;

Therefore, the Presbytery of the Southeast respectfully requests that the General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church instruct the National Outreach Committee to provide the following information which shall be distributed to all presbyteries prior to the 1996 General Assembly:

- 1) The number of successful church plants established in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church during the past ten years (by successful, meaning:
  - a) those church plants which are reflecting numerical and financial increases annually;
  - b) those church plants which have now been developed into particular church status).
- 2) The number of church plants which have been discontinued in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church during the past ten years;
- 3) The amount of money invested to establish the successful church plants;
- 4) The amount of money invested in the plants which have failed to:
  - a. reflect numerical or financial increase annually;
  - b. failed to become particular churches;

- 5) The number of personnel (pastors and laity) involved in the unsuccessful church plants;
- 6) The number of personnel (pastors and laity) dismissed from the unsuccessful church plants;
- 7) The present status of the pastors who have been dismissed from church plants;
- 8) The reasons for successful church plants;
- 9) The reasons for unsuccessful church plants;
- 10) Elements which seem to produce successful church plants.

— Referred to National Outreach Committee (p. 46)

- **Overture #95-B** from the Presbytery of St. Andrews, dated May 1, 1995:  
"Greetings to the General Assembly on the subject of the sending of minutes in the Spanish language.

Since two years ago, we have had serious problems in obtaining volunteers who translate the minutes of the Presbytery to the English language. In the 36th meeting of the Presbytery, the Translation Committee (that hasn't been working for some time) was dissolved because we could not find substitutes, and the following motion was approved.

Motion was made that dissolved the Committee on Translation, given that it is impossible to find people with the knowledge and time available in order to complete that work, and in the necessary cases to contract the services of professional translators with the supervision of the Presbytery. In addition, it is proposed to petition the G.A. the sending of our minutes in Spanish with a resume in English.

This decision was ratified at the 37th Presbytery meeting. For this reason, the St. Andrews Presbytery respectfully petitions the General Assembly to accept the sending of our minutes in Spanish with a detailed summary in English.

Without other motive and wanting you to understand our petition, we greet you in the love of our Savior Jesus Christ.

— Referred to Presbytery Review Committee (p. 65)

- **Overture #95-C** from the Presbytery of the West, dated February 4, 1995:  
Inasmuch as minister members of presbyteries frequently move, and regularly do so to begin new ministries, often outside of Evangelical Presbyterian Church congregational structures, and

Inasmuch as ministries are most easily accessible and evaluated by those closest to them in geographic areas, and such areas in our denomination most approximate presbyteries, and

Inasmuch as jurisdiction over a minister remains in the presbytery to which he currently belongs until a call has been approved and the transfer consummated, and

Inasmuch as early contact with a new presbytery would ensure good communication, the prevention of potential misunderstanding, and that the new ministry did not conflict with the presbytery's strategy for mission, and



Inasmuch as no such procedure is set forth for this circumstance in the current **Book of Order** of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Presbytery of the West in its regular meeting held February 4, 1995 overtures the 15th General Assembly to add the following provision to the **Book of Government** as §11-13, with the current §11-13 and §11-14 renumbered to §11-14 and §11-15.

**§11-13** Prior to accepting a call to an out of bounds ministry within the geographic boundaries of another Presbytery not currently his own, a minister shall inform the appropriate committees of both Presbyteries seeking the advice and approval of both Presbyteries regarding potential plans for ministry or work.

\_\_\_ Referred to Ministerial Vocation Committee (p. 48)

- **Overture #95-D** from the Presbytery of the West, dated May 20, 1995:  
Whereas, we have more ordained ministers in the EPC than we currently have positions for in the established church structure; and

Whereas, those ministers without a call in an EPC church and who desire to remain in the EPC are presently unable to obtain a call to an EPC church; and

Whereas, many ministers without a call in the EPC make an increasing number of requests to serve outside the bounds; and

Whereas, many of these calls are to serve churches of other denominations, sometimes not even of the Reformed tradition or to serve outside the structures of any organized church; and

Whereas, those serving in such positions do so without any oversight of the presbytery even though presbytery ordains them and approves their calls; and

Whereas this situation raises possible legal and/or theological ramifications; and

Whereas, there is no clear cut consistent guidance to presbyteries in this matter in either the **Book of Order** or the *Precedural Manual For Ministerial And Candidate Committees*.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Presbytery of the West, in its regular meeting held May 20, 1995, overtures the 15th General Assembly to recognize this growing problem and to provide consistent constitutional guidance to the presbyteries in the matters of calls for ministers to serve outside the bounds of presbytery.

\_\_\_ Referred to Ministerial Vocation Committee (p. 48)

- **Overture #95-E** from the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic, dated April 21-22, 1995:  
Whereas, this Presbytery understands the logic underlying the recommendation of the Committee on Administration (COA) to change the Presbytery boundary lines; and

Whereas, the benefits of the proposed boundary change are recognized to enhance viability and provide additional leadership to the Presbytery of the Southeast; and

Whereas, the five churches located in western North Carolina, namely Community, Cornerstone, Grace, Harvest and Plumtree are reportedly quite willing to accept the proposed boundary change; and

Whereas, Christ Church, Anderson, and Cleveland, Abingdon have objected, stating it would be disruptive to their members and leaders in view of strong ties to other churches in this Presbytery; and

Whereas, this Presbytery supports the proposed boundary change in western North Carolina, including applicable counties;

Therefore, the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic overtures the General Assembly to amend the COA boundary change recommendation to exclude Christ Church, Anderson, and Cleveland, Abingdon.

— Referred to National Outreach Committee (p. 46)

- **Overture #95-F** from the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic, dated April 21-22, 1995: Whereas, there is a growing rate of ministers who are no longer serving in a pastorate, primarily due to lack of experience and skills in dealing with conflict and interpersonal relationships, not only in the EPC but across denominational lines; and

Whereas, once a Minister is no longer serving a pastorate because of problems which led to an irreconcilable breach of trust between the Session and Pastor, statistically, he is not very likely to receive another call; and

Whereas, the establishment of an internship program would provide a means for the candidate to gain experience and skills under a role model, greatly increasing the prospect of future success in his ministry;

Therefore, the Presbytery overtures the General Assembly to appoint a committee to study the feasibility of implementing an EPC Internship Training Program.

Grounds: Review of the history of a number of ministers who are no longer serving in a pastorate because of difficulties in interpersonal relationships reveals that most, if not all, were called to a pastorate without first serving as an Associate Pastor or Assistant Pastor. On the other hand, records indicate that there are very few failures among ministers who gained experience and skills through serving as an Assistant Pastor or Associate Pastor prior to assuming a pastorate.

Secular occupations, such as doctors, require service as an intern to prove that he or she has successfully demonstrated the practical skills to perform in this field of endeavor. The Presbyterian Church in America has established a Presbytery Internship Training Program.

— Referred to National Outreach Committee (p. 49)

- **Overture #95-G** from the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic, dated April 21-22, 1995: Whereas, we praise God that our denomination continues to grow, albeit this growth inevitably means increased costs for the church hosting the General Assembly; and

Whereas, the high cost of hosting the General Assembly may exclude some churches who would otherwise offer to host this event; and

Whereas, this problem would be alleviated if such costs are shared;

Therefore, be it resolved that the General Assembly approve action to the effect that henceforth such costs will be borne one-third each by the General Assembly, the Presbytery, and the Host Church.

Grounds: Reportedly, recent General Assemblies have cost the host church approximately \$25,000. This is an excessively heavy burden to expect a single church to bear.

\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 38)

- **Overture #95-H** from the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic, dated April 21-22, 1995: That the first sentence of G.5-3E be amended by deleting "If it seems appropriate."

Present wording

If it seems appropriate, the organizing body shall approve the election of Ruling Elders.

Proposed wording

The organizing body shall approve election of Ruling Elders.

Grounds: There is no provision to organize a church without first electing Ruling Elders who are subsequently trained, ordained and installed before the congregation may be declared a duly constituted church. It is assumed that "If it seems appropriate" was inserted to provide for the organizing body to defer election of Ruling Elders if there were no qualified persons available for this office.

\_\_\_ Referred to National Outreach Committee (p. 46)

- **Overture #95-I** from the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic, dated April 21-22, 1995: That the **Book of Discipline** be amended by adding paragraph 12-5 as follows:

Present wording

(No comparable paragraph currently exists.)

Proposed wording

*When a member requests the Session to remove his/her name from the church or renounces jurisdiction, the Session, after inquiry and due delay, is of the judgment that the request does not spring from temporary doubt or special temptation, may remove the name from the roll.*

Grounds: While G.9-5D provides that a member whose name has been placed on the Inactive Roll for a period of one year may be removed from the membership of the church, this process requires a span of two years before the name may be removed.

\_\_\_ Referred to National Outreach Committee (p. 46)

- **Overture #95-J** from the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic, dated April 21-22, 1995: That G.11-5F.2 be amended as follows:

Present wording  
Manse or manse allowance

Proposed wording  
*Housing or housing allowance*

Grounds: This amendment would change the wording to agree with that in the Terms of Call form.

\_\_\_ Referred to Ministerial Vocation Committee (p. 49)

- **Overture #95-K** from the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic, dated April 21-22, 1995: That the **Book of Order** be amended as follows:

Present wording  
G.3-1 The power given to the church by Christ is moral and spiritual, thus distinguishing the government of the church from civil government. The powers of the church reside in the Church as exercised in its courts and not in individuals. The use of these powers is for the purpose of proclamation, administration and enforcement of the laws of Jesus Christ as revealed in Scripture. Exercise of these powers must always be in conformity with the Scripture.

3-2 There are two kinds of powers of the Church: The Power of Order and the Power of Jurisdiction.

A. The Power of Order: This power is exercised by individuals who have been ordained. It is the power to serve, to proclaim and to minister in the name of Christ as undershepherd. While such duty is incumbent upon every Christian, it is especially incumbent upon those who are ordained to office. It includes especially the sharing of the Gospel, reproving the erring, visiting the sick, and otherwise exhibiting to the world the fruit of the Spirit.

3-3 Powers given to the Church by Jesus Christ are not an end in themselves, but are given to edify God's people, to promote the faith of the Church, and to evangelize the whole world to the end that all might know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Proposed wording  
The authority given to the church by Christ is moral and spiritual, thus distinguishing the government of the church from civil government. The authority of the church resides in the Church as exercised in its courts and not in individuals. The use of this authority is for the purpose of proclamation, administration, and enforcement of the laws of Jesus Christ as revealed in Scripture. Exercise of this authority must always be in conformity with the Scripture.

3-2 There are two kinds of authority of the Church: the Authority of Order and the Authority of Jurisdiction.

A. The Authority of Order; this authority is exercised by individuals who have been ordained. It is the authority to serve, to proclaim, and to minister in the name of Christ as undershepherd. While such duty is incumbent upon every Christian, it is especially incumbent upon those who are ordained to office. It includes especially the sharing of the Gospel, reproving the erring, visiting the sick, and otherwise exhibiting to the world the fruit of the Spirit.

Authority given to the Church by Jesus Christ is not an end in itself but is given to edify God's people, to promote the faith of Church and to evangelize the whole world to the end that all might know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

**D.1-4** The power which Christ has given the Church is for building up and not for destruction.

**D.12-2** If a communing member of the church against whom no charges are pending shall request the Session to transfer his name to the roll of noncommuning members, it shall be in the power of the Session to grant the request, and this action may be announced to the congregation should this seem wise and proper.

**D.1-4** The authority which Christ has given the Church is for building up and not for destruction.

**D.12-2** If a communing member of the church against whom no charges are pending shall request the Session to transfer his name to the roll of noncommuning members, it shall be in the authority of the Session to grant this request, and this action may be announced to the congregation should this seem wise and proper.

Grounds: Scripturally, ordination does not give power (*dunamis*) but rather gives the right (*exousia*) to exercise authority. Further, the proposed amendment would be more readily acceptable in contemporary understanding of the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the church courts.

— Referred to Theology Committee (p. 55)

- **Overture #95-L** from the Presbytery of Florida, dated October 8, 1995:  
That a Section D.12-5 be added:

Present wording

[No comparable paragraph currently exists.]

Proposed wording

"When a Minister shall renounce the jurisdiction of the presbytery by accepting a call to a non-EPC ministry without consent of presbytery, or by submitting a written request for dismissal from office, if in good standing, the irregularity shall be recorded, and he shall be divested from office without censure by a 2/3 majority of the presbytery. If there are charges against the Minister, those charges shall be communicated to the church, denomination, or ministry which he has joined."

Grounds: The **Book of Order** does not currently make provision for or define circumstances under which a minister may be divested without censure in the case of renunciation of jurisdiction.

Also from the Florida Presbytery, dated February 11, 1995:  
That the **Book of Government**, §11-13 be amended as follows:

Present wording

**G.11-13** In the event a Minister desires to accept a call not approved

Proposed wording

In the event a Minister accepts a call not approved by Presbytery, his

by Presbytery, that person may request inactive status from office under the conditions set forth elsewhere (G.15-7).

action shall represent a renunciation of jurisdiction and the Presbytery in which he is a member shall divest him of office without censure according to the provisions of the **Book of Discipline**, §12-5.

\_\_\_ Referred to Ministerial Vocation Committee (p. 49)

### **C. RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **From the Administration Committee**

● **Recommendation #1**

That the invitation of Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church, Englewood, CO to host the 16th (1996) General Assembly be approved (cf. Communication #95-3, p. 93).

\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 35)

● **Recommendation #2**

That the invitation of Central Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, MO to host the 17th (1997) General Assembly be approved (cf. Communication #95-4, p. 94).

\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 36)

● **Recommendation #3**

That the General Assembly approve the 1996 Proposed Benevolence Askings Budget (p. 88) of \$668,500.

\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 36)

● **Recommendation #4**

That the General Assembly approve the 1996 Proposed Administration Budget (p. 87) of \$802,725.

\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 36)

● **Recommendation #5**

That the General Assembly instruct the Committee on Theology to study the issue of civil disobedience and report to the 16th (1996) General Assembly, and that the Stated Clerk bring together an ad hoc committee to study the legal side of this issue.

\_\_\_ Referred to Theology Committee (pp. 53, 57)

● **Recommendation #6**

That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §11-1 to add the words, "and the Group Insurance Plan" at the end of the first sentence. (Cf. Recommendation #26)

\_\_\_ Referred to the floor (p. 41)

● **Recommendation #7**

That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §8-2,

a) to delete the present second sentence and add, "Representation on each committee shall be presbyterial."

b) add the words "and secretaries" following the word "chairmen" in the first sentence.

\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 36)

● **Recommendation #8**

That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §9-1,A.3-b by deleting the line which reads, "...Insurance, pension, retirement" and substitute the words, "property and liability insurance."

\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 36)

● **Recommendation #9**

That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §9-6 by deleting the current section and substituting the following: "The Moderator shall be in consultation with each permanent committee and appoint its chairman for the Assembly year. This provision shall not apply to the Committee on Administration and the Permanent Judicial Commission."

\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 36)

● **Recommendation #10**

That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §10-4 by changing the date on the fifth line from "December 31" to "March 31" and changing the "sixty" in the eleventh line to "thirty" days.

\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 36)

● **Recommendation #11**

That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §10-4.3 by deleting the last sentence.

\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 37)

● **Recommendation #12**

That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §13-3.2 by deleting this sentence and renumbering items thereafter.

\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 37)

● **Recommendation #13**

That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §13-4.4 by

- a) changing in the first line the "10" minutes to "15" minutes;
- b) deleting in the second sentence the words "an additional five (5) minutes" and substituting the words, "in additional five (5) minute increments."
- c) adding a third sentence which shall read, "No commissioner may speak longer than three (3) minutes."

\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 37)

● **Recommendation #14**

That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §8-4.A by deleting the words "elect a secretary."

\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 37)

● **Recommendation #15**

That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §8-7 by adding the sentence, "The Moderator may extend this time up to an additional ten (10) minutes."

\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 37)



- **Recommendation #16**

That the General Assembly designate the 1995 Thanksgiving Offering for the Orlando Florida Key City church plant.

\_\_\_ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 38)

**From the Committee on Christian Education & Publications  
and the Committee on Administration**

- **Recommendation #18**

That the General Assembly grant the Christian Education and Publications Committee permission to design a subscription program for the denominational magazine, *EPC Reflections*, which shall begin with the June, 1996 issue.

\_\_\_ Referred to Christian Education and Publications Committee (p. 41)

**From the Committee On National Outreach and Committee on Administration**

- **Recommendation #19**

That The General Assembly permit the realignment of presbytery boundaries to include the following churches within the bounds of the Southeast Presbytery: Cleveland EPC (Abingdon, VA), Christ Church (Anderson, SC), Community Bible Church (Highlands, NC), Plumtree Presbyterian (Plumtree, NC), Grace Presbyterian and Cornerstone EPC (both of Franklin, NC) and Harvest Church (Asheville, NC).

\_\_\_ Referred to National Outreach Committee (p. 46 )

**From the Board of Pension and Benefits**

- **Recommendation #20**

That the following addition be made to the Plan:

"Persons who have opted out of the Social Security system shall, upon retirement or attainment of age 65, whichever occurs later, be excluded from the Evangelical Presbyterian Church's medical benefit plan. However, coverage may be continued upon participation in the Medicare Voluntary Enrollment Plan, Parts A and B, and upon payment of the required monthly premium to both Medicare Voluntary Enrollment Plan and the Evangelical Presbyterian Church's Medical Benefits Plan."

\_\_\_ Referred to the floor (p. 39)

- **Recommendation #21**

That the following addition be made to the Plan under the section entitled, "Preventative Care:"

The Plan will pay 80 percent (80%) of eligible expenses, after the deductible, for the following:

\* immunizations for eligible dependent children to age 16.

\_\_\_ Referred to the floor (p. 40)

- **Recommendation #22**

That the current conversion option providing medical care benefits be discontinued.

\_\_\_ Referred to the floor (p. 40)



● **Recommendation #23**

That the Plan be amended to include pancreatic transplants on the list of organ transplants which will be covered, so that the affected section will read:

**Human Organ/Tissue Transplants:**

Covered transplants are limited to cornea, kidney, liver, heart, lung, bone marrow and pancreas.

\_\_\_ Referred to the floor (p. 40)

● **Recommendation #24**

That the following revised premium structure for the medical plan be effective August 1, 1995:

	<u>Region A</u>	<u>Region B</u>	<u>Region C</u>
Employee only	\$129	\$165	\$183
Employee/spouse	\$305	\$363	\$403
Employee/children	\$239	\$284	\$315
Employee/spouse and children	\$394	\$471	\$519

*Current rate structure is as follows:*

Single	\$169	\$202	\$218
Family	\$394	\$471	\$519

\_\_\_ Referred to the floor (p. 40)

● **Recommendation #25**

That the Assembly rescind its 1989 action (Act 89-06) which established a Board of Reference.

\_\_\_ Referred to the floor (p. 41)

● **Recommendation #26**

That the *Rules for Assembly*, §11-1, be amended by:

- 1) adding at the end of the first sentence the words "and the Group Insurance Plan." The sentence would then read:

"The Board of Pension and Benefits shall oversee the administration of the denominational Pension Plan *and the Group Insurance Plan.*"

- 2) adding in 11-1b. **Duties** the words "to administer the Group Insurance Plan;" in the second line preceeding the words "to administer the proceeds..." so that the section would then read:

b. **Duties:** to serve as trustees under the Pension Plan adopted by the Assembly; *to administer the Group Insurance Plan;* to administer the proceeds of the "Gratitude Gift;" to make annual report of its proceeds to the Assembly.

\_\_\_ Referred to the floor (p. 41)

**From the Committee on Fraternal Relations**

[No recommendations were forthcoming from this committee.]

**From the Committee on Ministerial Vocation**

[No recommendations were forthcoming from this committee.]

## From the Nominating Committee

● **Recommendation #27**

That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in § 8-2 by adding the words "mailed ten days" between the words "registration" and "prior" in the third sentence of the section. The third sentence of §8-2 would then read:

"The Assembly Nominating Committee will elect committee personnel from commissioner registrations mailed ten days prior to the convening of the Assembly."  
 \_\_\_ Referred to the floor (p. 42)

## From the Committee on Theology

● **Recommendation #28**

That the General Assembly adopt the proposed Preliminary Position Paper on Capital Punishment as an amendment by substitution for the current preliminary Position Paper on Capital Punishment, and that it be sent to the churches for study.  
 \_\_\_ Referred to Theology Committee (p. 53)

● **Recommendation #29**

That the General Assembly adopt the proposed Pastoral Letter Regarding Criteria for Evaluating Membership in Secret Fraternal Organizations and send it to the presbyteries and churches for their guidance.

\_\_\_ Referred to Theology Committee (p. 53)

● **Recommendation #30**

That the General Assembly adopt the proposed revised Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage as an amendment by substitution for the current Preliminary Position Paper and adopt it as its Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage.

\_\_\_ Referred to Theology Committee (p. 54)

● **Recommendation #31**

That the General Assembly adopt the proposed Position Paper on the Value of and Respect for Human Life as an amendment by substitution for the current Position Paper on the Value of and Respect for Human Life.

\_\_\_ Referred to Theology Committee (p. 54)

## From the Committee on Women's Ministries

[No recommendations were forthcoming from this committee.]

## From the Committee on World Outreach

● **Recommendation #32**

That the following addition be made to the *World Outreach Missions Manual* :  
 In Section 201.1 K. **Spouse**, add the following item (p. 19):

"When single missionaries plan to marry, the prospective spouse shall be expected to submit all application forms and meet stated World Outreach qualifications."

\_\_\_ Referred to World Outreach Committee (p. 59)

● **Recommendation #33**

That the following addition be made to the *World Outreach Missions Manual*:  
In Section 201.1 Exceptions, add the following paragraph as "O."

"O. Any exceptions to these qualifications must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the World Outreach Committee."

— Referred to World Outreach Committee (p. 59)

● **Recommendation #34**

That the following addition be made to the *World Outreach Missions Manual*:  
In Section 304.2 Emergency Medical Leave

1. Delete existing paragraph 304.2 (p. 67), and in its place, substitute the following:

**304.2 Emergency Medical Leave**

"Ordinarily a missionary is expected to obtain the permission of the field director to leave the field of assignment due to illness or injury. When an emergency leave is necessary, the following guidelines will take effect.

**I. For An EPC Missionary**

1. The travel necessary as a result of the need for medical attention will be the expense of World Outreach. The World Outreach office will seek to apply denominational resources as appropriate.
2. The Director of World Outreach, in consultation with the appropriate medical personnel can decide:
  - a. To which country the missionary should be transported for proper care. If this decision is not acceptable to the family, then additional expenses for travel to another country will be negotiated with the family.
  - b. Whether the missionary should be accompanied by another missionary, family, friend, or medical person and will be at the expense of World Outreach.
  - c. The appropriate length of medical leave.
3. Decisions about financial obligations during medical leave can be made by the Director of World Outreach in consultation with the missionary, insurance and pension agencies, the appropriate field personnel, and if necessary, with the World Outreach Committee.
4. Ordinarily the missionary will return to the field to complete his/her term of service. However, circumstances may warrant an alternate plan. This can be worked out with the Director of World Outreach, the missionary, the appropriate field personnel and with the approval of the World Outreach Committee, since it would involve a change in the Terms of Call.
5. If circumstances are such that dependents are left on the field, then appropriate and adequate arrangements for their guardianship must be made before departing.

## II. For An EPC Missionary In Cooperative Agreement With Another Agency

1. Ordinarily, the agency with whom the missionary has a cooperative agreement will be the first to know of and therefore respond to such an emergency.
2. Such agency is expected to:
  - a. Keep the Director of World Outreach fully informed;
  - b. Follow the guidelines as spelled out above in consultation with the Director of World Outreach.
3. The expense for such emergency medical care will be borne by the appropriate agency as spelled out in the Terms of Call and the Cooperative Agreement and, if there be such, a Memo of Understanding.

\_\_\_ Referred to World Outreach Committee (p. 59)

### ● Recommendation #35

That the following addition be made to the *World Outreach Missions Manual*:  
In section 311, add the following as paragraph 311.4 (p. 75 of *Manual*):

#### 311.4 Permanent Re-Entry

Missionaries permanently returning from the field are encouraged to participate in a re-entry program, such as the one Missionary Internship provides, or something similar.

Funds will be included in the missionary's Terms of Call under a category of re-entry expense."

\_\_\_ Referred to World Outreach Committee (p. 60)

### ● Recommendation #36

That the following addition be made to the *World Outreach Missions Manual*:

Delete existing paragraph 400.2.2 (p. 87 of *Manual*) and substitute in its place, the following paragraph:

402.2. Of funds exceeding three months support, an amount not exceeding 50% of the excess may be available for projects recommended by the World Outreach Director and approved by the World Outreach Committee.

\_\_\_ Referred to World Outreach Committee (p. 60)

### ● Recommendation #37

That the following addition be made to the *World Outreach Missions Manual*:

In Section 400, add the following as paragraph 10 (p. 89 of *Manual*):

#### 400.10 Vehicles

"World Outreach includes a standard vehicle in the Terms of Call for career missionaries serving and residing overseas. The initial vehicle will be included in the outgoing costs at \$14,000 or an amount approved by the World Outreach Director. The initial amount of the vehicle will be held in escrow until the actual purchase of the vehicle. Twenty percent of the cost of the replacement vehicle

will be put into the annual Terms of Call and set aside for future purchase. Vehicle registration and insurance will be in the name of the missionary and operational costs will be assumed by the missionary."

\_\_\_ Referred to World Outreach Committee (p. 61)

● **Recommendation #38**

That Africa Inland Mission be approved as a cooperative agency.

\_\_\_ Referred to World Outreach Committee (p. 61)

● **Recommendation #39**

That Middle East Media be approved as a cooperative agency.

\_\_\_ Referred to World Outreach Committee (p. 61)

**From the Committee on Youth Ministries**

[No recommendations were forthcoming from this committee.]

**ON MOTION** to adopt two procedural recommendations, #17 and #40, with the understanding that the Assembly must first adopt Recommendation #15 to amend the *Rules for Assembly* allowing additional time for presentation of program matters.

● **Recommendation #17**

That the General Assembly grant the Committee on Youth Ministries 15 minutes of floor time to present material on a strategy for ministry to Generation X.

\_\_\_ Referred to the floor (p. 63)

● **Recommendation #40**

That the Assembly grant World Outreach a ten-minute portion of time on the docket for Dick Oestreicher to speak about the work of World Outreach.

\_\_\_ Referred to the floor (p. 63)

**15-12 INTRODUCTIONS**

The Stated Clerk introduced Rev. Eric Alexander, keynote speaker, and Rev. Doug Jones, Synod Coordinator of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. Representatives of churches newly received this year (cf. §15-10, p. 15) were asked to stand and be recognized. Because of time constraints, the "face-to-face" portion of the first session was postponed until Friday morning. First session was adjourned with Rev. Michael Glodo asking the blessing for the noon meal, provided by Gordon-Conwell Seminary, Charlotte.

**MINUTES - THURSDAY AFTERNOON**

**Second Session  
June 22, 1995**

**15-13 STANDING COMMITTEES MEET**

Standing committees met in session from 1:30 - 5:00 p.m. at Forest Hill Church.

**15-14 EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE**

The evening worship service began at 7:30 p.m. Rev. Graham Smith read the Scripture (John 4:20-24), and introduced Rev. Eric Alexander, keynoter, who spoke on the topic of Biblical leadership, defining it according to Scripture as "bringing to God, in and

through Christ, the glory due Him." Rev. Alexander is pastor of St. George's Tron Church, Glasgow, Scotland. (Offerings received during public services were designated for the General Assembly.) Service concluded at 9:15 p.m.



*Eric Alexander*

Order of Worship		
Thursday, June 22, 1995		
7:30 p.m.		
Welcome		David Chadwick
Exaltation	"Praise to the Lord"	
	"Let Us Rejoice/Praise the Lord"	
	"Fairest Lord Jesus"	
	"Majesty"	
Solo	"No Condemnation"	Michelle Jordan
Investiture of 15th Assembly Moderator		
Offering	"He is All You Need"	Mark Daily
Scripture and Prayer		Graham Smith
Sermon "Biblical Worship" (John 4:20-24)		Eric Alexander
Closing Song	"Be Glorified (In My Life)"	
Benediction		15th General Assembly Moderator

#### 15-15 MODERATOR'S COMMUNION SERVICE

The Assembly gathered in the sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. for the Moderator's Service of Communion and Prayer. Retiring Moderator, Elder Bill Johns, delivered a meditation from Zechariah 10:4, noting that the name "Zechariah" means "the Lord remembers." He reminded worshipers that Jesus asked us to remember that his body was broken and his blood shed for us.



*Bill Johns, Moderator  
14th General Assembly*

The annual benevolence offering received during the Moderator's Communion Service is designated for the Medical Benevolence Fund. This Fund exists in partnership with presbyteries to assist ministers unable to maintain their medical premiums. The 1995 offering was \$1828.

Order of Worship		
Moderator's Service of Communion and Prayer		
Friday, June 23, 1995		
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.		
Invocation		
Opening Hymn	"Holy, Holy, Holy"	
	"This is Holy Ground"	
	"We Are Standing on Holy Ground"	
Solo "Almighty God"		Anita Bishop
Moderator's Meditation		Bill Johns
Celebration of Holy Communion		
	"Holy is the Lamb"	
	"Only by Grace"	

Communion Hymn "O Sacred Head Now Wounded"  
 Benevolence Offering "In Heaven's Eyes" Anita Bishop  
 Hymn "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"  
 Prayers Bill Flannagan  
 Closing

**MINUTES - FRIDAY MORNING**

**Third Session**  
**June 23, 1995**

**15-16 BUSINESS SESSION**

Moderator Wayne Hoffman opened the session with prayer at 11:30 a.m. The docket for the day was adopted.

**Docket**

Friday, June 23, 1995

*Third Session*

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 8:00        | Committees reconvene  |
| 9:30        | Moderator's Service of Communion and Prayer   |
| 10:30       | Break   |
| 10:45       | Business Session  |
|             | 1. Opening prayer. Docket for the day.  |
|             | Announcements. Face-to-Face.  |
|             | 2. Report of Fraternal Relations Committee. Introduction of fraternal delegates and guests. |
|             | 3. Partial report of Administration Committee.  |
|             | 4. Report of Board of Pension and Benefits.   |
|             | 5. Report of Christian Education and Publications Committee.                                |
| 11:00-12:00 | Women's Ministries (Marriott)   |
| 12:00-1:45  | Pig Pickin' Commissioner's Luncheon (Forest Hill)   |
| 12:30-2:30  | Women's Luncheon (Marriott) Marilyn Chadwick, speaker                                       |

*Fourth Session*

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 2:00-5:00 | Business Session  |
|           | 1. Adoption of minutes (6/22). Committee reports pending from previous session.       |
|           | 2. Partial report of Nominating Committee. Second reading and additional nominations. |
|           | 3. Nominations from the 14th General Assembly Moderator (Communication #95-1)         |
|           | 4. Report of National Outreach Committee  |
|           | 5. Final Report of Administration Committee.  |
|           | 6. Report of Ministerial Vocation Committee.  |
| 3:00-4:45 | Women's Ministries Workshop   |
| 3:30-3:45 | Break   |
| 5:30-7:00 | Tour of RTS campus and complimentary dinner   |
| 7:30      | Evening Worship Service: Eric Alexander, keynoter                                     |
|           | Commissioning of new missionaries   |



**15-17 FACE-TO-FACE**

Rev. Mike Winship, chairman of the Ministerial Vocation Committee, asked churches looking for pastors to make announcements on the floor. He invited ministers looking for a call to complete an index card indicating their interest. Cards were posted on the bulletin board behind the sanctuary.

**15-18 REPORT OF FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Rev. Chris Gibson, chairman, opened with prayer.

Fraternal delegates and observers were introduced. Rev. Bartlett Hess introduced fraternal observer, Rev. Guilhermino Cunha, president of the Presbyterian Church of Brazil (IPB) who brought greetings to the Assembly. Goal of the IPB is to double the number of Presbyterian church members, one by one. Rev. Cunha thanked the Assembly for its prayers, partnership in church planting, assistance in theological education and joint cooperation in missions ventures in Africa and Latin America. He brought prayer card bookmarks for commissioners as reminders to pray for the IPB and its mission.

Fraternal delegate, Rev. Doug Jones, Synod Coordinator for the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church addressed the Assembly. "Behold how great it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." He extended a gracious invitation for the EPC to avail itself of Erskine College and Seminary, the Bonclarken retreat grounds, and ARP missions trips.

Rev. Chris De Vos, fraternal delegate from the Christian Reformed Church, brought greetings. As a denomination, the CRC prays for our growth and ministry in these spiritually perilous times. The CRC Synod completed its work yesterday, and Rev. De Vos noted that though their church has been in pain and turmoil for the past several years, they believe a time of healing has begun. He asked the Assembly to pray for them, as they pray for the EPC.

Prayer was offered as the Assembly adjourned to the commissioners' luncheon. For the first time, a "Commissioners' Luncheon" was held, including all commissioners (men and women) and guests. Participants converged at the tent on the church lawn to enjoy a genuine North Carolina barbecue along with delightful bluegrass music performed by local musicians. This was an informal gathering, with no guest speaker.

The Women's Luncheon was held at the Marriott Hotel for participants in the Women's Ministries program. Marilyn Chadwick, a noted conference and seminar speaker and wife of host pastor David Chadwick, addressed the women.

**MINUTES - FRIDAY AFTERNOON**

**Fourth Session  
June 23, 1995**

**15-19 REPORT OF FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE (continued)**

The business session reconvened at 2:00 p.m., with continuation of Fraternal Relations Committee report. Chairman Chris Gibson introduced Rev. Johnny Ortiz, fraternal delegate from the Association of the Charismatic Presbyterian Churches, who brought greetings to the Assembly.



- I. Business referred to committee
  - A. Communication #95-8
  - B. Communication #95-12
  - C. Minutes of permanent Committee on Fraternal Relations (April 8-10, 1995)
- II. Recommendations from the committee
  - A. That **Communication #95-8** (p. 98) from Mr. Donald Duff, North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council, be **received** as information. \_\_\_\_\_Adopted
  - B. That **Communication #95-12** (p. 102) from Agustin Vencer, Jr., World Evangelical Fellowship be **received** as information and forwarded to the permanent Committee on Fraternal Relations with the following recommendation "that if the money could be found, a delegate or delegates chosen by the permanent Committee on Fraternal Relations be sent to the WEF 10th General Assembly to represent the EPC." \_\_\_\_\_Adopted
  - C. The minutes of the permanent Committee on Fraternal Relations were reviewed and approved, with notations being forwarded to the permanent committee.

**ON MOTION** to receive the report of the Fraternal Relations Committee as a whole.

#### **15-20 REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Elder Joseph Schluchter, chairman, opened the report of the committee with prayer.

- I. Business referred to committee
 

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Recommendation #1</li> <li>B. Recommendation #2</li> <li>C. Recommendation #3</li> <li>D. Recommendation #4</li> <li>E. Recommendation #7</li> <li>F. Recommendation #8</li> <li>G. Recommendation #9</li> <li>H. Recommendation #10</li> <li>I. Recommendation #11</li> <li>J. Recommendation #12</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>K. Recommendation #13</li> <li>L. Recommendation #14</li> <li>M. Recommendation #15</li> <li>N. Recommendation #16</li> <li>O. Communication #95-3</li> <li>P. Communication #95-4</li> <li>Q. Communication #95-5</li> <li>R. Communication #95-6</li> <li>S. Communication #95-11</li> <li>T. Overture #95-G</li> <li>U. Minutes of permanent committee (Nov. 3-4, 1994; Apr. 6-7, 1995)</li> </ol>
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- II. Recommendations from the committee
  - A. That **Recommendation #1**, "that the invitation of Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church, Englewood, CO to host the 16th (1996) General Assembly be approved" be adopted (cf. Communication #95-3, p. 93). \_\_\_\_\_Adopted
  - B. That **Recommendation #2**, "that the invitation of Central Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, MO to host the 17th (1997) General Assembly be approved" be adopted (cf. Communication #95-4 p. 94). \_\_\_\_\_Adopted

- C. That **Recommendation #3**, "that the General Assembly approve the 1996 Benevolence Askings Budget of \$668,500" (p. 89) be adopted. \_\_\_Adopted
- D. That **Recommendation #4**, "that the General Assembly approve the 1996 Proposed Administration Budget of \$802,725 (p. 88)" be amended by increasing the Program Staff Salaries line item from \$171,425 to \$176,425 (+\$5,000) to reflect the actual salary of the National Outreach Director.

**ON MOTION** to adopt the amendment to Recommendation #4.

**ON MOTION** to adopt Recommendation #4 as amended.

- E. That **Recommendation #7**, "that the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §8-2 by:
- a) deleting the present second sentence and add, 'Representation on each committee shall be presbyterial.' and
  - b) adding the words 'and secretaries' following the word 'chairmen' in the first sentence" be adopted.

Grounds: Such change clears up the wording, and brings the section into conformity with the process for the chairmen.

\_\_\_Adopted

- F. That **Recommendation #8**, "that the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §9-1.A. 3-b by deleting the line which reads, 'Insurance, pension, retirement' and substituting the words, 'property and liability insurance'" be adopted.

Grounds: Responsibility for insurance, pension and retirement no longer rests with the Committee on Administration; it is responsible, however, for property and liability insurance.

\_\_\_Adopted

- G. That **Recommendation #9**, "that the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §9-6 by deleting the current section and substituting the following: 'The Moderator shall be in consultation with each permanent committee and appoint its chairman for the Assembly year. This provision shall not apply to the Committee on Administration and the Permanent Judicial Commission'" **not** be adopted.

Grounds: Present wording was deemed adequate.

\_\_\_Adopted

- H. That **Recommendation #10**, "that the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §10-4 by changing the dates on the fifth line from 'December 31' to 'March 31' and changing the 'sixty' in the eleventh line to 'thirty'" be adopted.

Grounds: This amendment will bring the *Rules for Assembly* into agreement with present practice, recognizing that presbyteries need the additional time.

\_\_\_Adopted

- I. That **Recommendation #11**, "that the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §10-4.3 by deleting the last sentence" be adopted.

Grounds: This brings the section into conformity with §8-2.

\_\_\_ Adopted

- J. That **Recommendation #12**, "that the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §13-3.2 by deleting item 2, 'Motion to adopt is seconded from the floor,' and renumbering items thereafter" be adopted.

Grounds: *Roberts' Rules of Order* does not require a second for a recommendation forthcoming from a committee.

\_\_\_ Adopted

- K. That **Recommendation #13**, "that the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §13-4.4 by:

- a. changing in the first line, the '10' minutes to '15' minutes;
- b. deleting in the second sentence the words 'an additional five (5) minutes, and substituting the words 'in additional five (5) minute increments.'

\_\_\_ Adopted

- c. and adding a third sentence which shall read, 'No commissioner may speak longer than three (3) minutes' with the addition of the words "at one time" at the end of the proposed section.

Grounds: To give the Assembly freedom to extend discussion beyond 15 minutes and preclude discussion being dominated by any one individual.

\_\_\_ Adopted

- L. That **Recommendation #14**, "that the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §8-4.A, by deleting the words 'elect a secretary'" be adopted.

Grounds: The Nominating Committee has been given responsibility to name a secretary, eliminating the need for a committee to elect its own (cf. Recommendation #7 above).

\_\_\_ Adopted

- M. That **Recommendation #15**, "that the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §8-7 by adding the sentence, 'The Moderator may extend this time up to an additional ten (10) minutes'" be adopted.

Grounds: Such provision would allow for more flexibility, at the Moderator's discretion, in making special presentations.

\_\_\_ Adopted

- N. That **Recommendation #16**, "that the General Assembly designate the 1995 Thanksgiving Offering for the Orlando Florida Key City church plant" be adopted.

\_\_\_ Adopted

**ON MOTION** the standing committee further recommended "that the General Assembly Office provide the necessary information for all special offerings at least five weeks in advance of the projected date of the offering" be adopted.

\_\_\_Adopted

- O. That **Overture #95-G**, requesting the General Assembly "to approve action to the effect that henceforth, General Assembly costs will be borne one third each by the General Assembly, Presbytery, and host church **not** be adopted.

Grounds: For the foreseeable future, churches are available who are willing to fund the costs of hosting the General Assembly.

\_\_\_Adopted

In reference to the preceding question, the committee further recommended that the permanent Committee on Administration survey the churches in such a way as to estimate cost of the 15th General Assembly (host church, Office of the General Assembly, local church and commissioners), and report findings to the 16th (1996) General Assembly with recommendations that it deems appropriate" be adopted.

Grounds:

Whereas, we seek to be good stewards of the financial resources the Lord has provided, and

Whereas the total cost of holding the General Assembly (cost to host church, cost to General Assembly office, cost to local churches and commissioners) continues to rise, and

Whereas these costs at times keep smaller churches from sending commissioners, thus resulting in an Assembly that is disproportionately representative of the larger churches, and

Whereas these costs at times keep some churches from hosting the General Assembly.

\_\_\_Adopted

- P. That **Communication #95-5** (p. 95), a letter of invitation from Dr. Jim Dixon, pastor of Cherry Hills Community Church, Englewood, Colorado to host the 18th (1998) General Assembly be adopted.

\_\_\_Adopted

- Q. That **Communication #95-6** (p. 96) from Moderator Bill Johns regarding the Thanksgiving Offering for the Church Loan Fund be received as information.

\_\_\_Adopted

- R. That **Communication #95-11** (p. 101) from Mr. Clarence Reimer, Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, be received as information. This letter apprised the General Assembly of its renewal of membership in the organization.

\_\_\_Adopted

- S. The minutes of the permanent Committee on Administration were reviewed and approved, with notations being forwarded to the permanent committee.

**ON MOTION** to receive report of the Administration Committee as a whole.

#### 15-21 SYNOPSIS READ

Rev. Michael Glodo read the synopsis of the previous day's minutes.

**ON MOTION** to approve the synopsis as read.

#### 15-22 REPORT OF THE BOARD OF PENSION AND BENEFITS

Elder Orin Littlejohn, chairman, reported for the committee following prayer.

##### I. Business referred to the floor

- A. Recommendation #20
- B. Recommendation #21
- C. Recommendation #22
- D. Recommendation #23
- E. Recommendation #24
- F. Recommendations #6 and #26

##### II. Recommendations from the Board

- A. That **Recommendation #20** be adopted "that the following amendment by addition be made to the plan under the section entitled "Retiree Medical Benefits:" "Persons who have opted out of the Social Security System shall, upon retirement or attainment of age 65, whichever occurs later, be excluded from the Evangelical Presbyterian Church's medical benefit plan. However, coverage may be continued upon participation in the Medicare Voluntary Enrollment Plan, Parts A and B, and upon payment of the required monthly premiums to both Medicare Voluntary Enrollment Plan and the Evangelical Presbyterian Church's Medical Benefits Plan."

**ON MOTION** to amend by adding after the word "System" in the first line, the words "and who are not otherwise eligible or entitled to Social Security and Medicare coverage."

The proposed amended section reads:

"Persons who have opted out of the Social Security System *and who are not otherwise eligible or entitled to Social Security and Medicare coverage* shall, upon retirement or attainment of age 65, whichever occurs later, be excluded from the Evangelical Presbyterian Church's medical benefit plan. However, coverage may be continued upon participation in the Medicare Voluntary Enrollment Plan, Parts A and B, and upon payment of the required monthly premiums to both Medicare Voluntary Enrollment Plan and the Evangelical Presbyterian Church's Medical Benefits Plan.

**ON MOTION** to adopt Recommendation #20 as amended.

- B. That **Recommendation #21**, "that the following addition be made to the Plan under the section entitled, 'Preventative Care'" be adopted:

"The Plan will pay 80 percent (80%) of eligible expenses, after the deductible, for the following:

- Immunizations for eligible dependent children to age 16."

\_\_\_Adopted

- C. That **Recommendation #22**, "that the current conversion option in the Medical Plan providing medical care benefits be discontinued" be adopted.

Grounds: As of 1/1/95, conversion charges have been increased by 400% for major medical coverage, 300% for comprehensive coverage, and 100% for hospital and surgical coverage.

\_\_\_Adopted

- D. That **Recommendation #23**, "that the Medical Plan be amended to include pancreatic transplants on the list of organ transplants which will be covered so that the affected section reads:

'Human Organ/Tissue Transplants: Covered transplants are limited to cornea, kidney, liver, heart, lung, bone marrow and pancreas."

Grounds: Current plan lists organ transplants covered by our plan. Due to changes in medical capabilities, we recommend pancreatic transplants be added to the list.

\_\_\_Adopted

- E. That **Recommendation #24**, "that the following revised premium structure for the Medical Plan be effective August 1, 1995," be approved.

	<u>Region A</u>	<u>Region B</u>	<u>Region C</u>
Employee only	\$129	\$165	\$183
Employee/spouse	\$305	\$363	\$403
Employee/children	\$239	\$284	\$315
Employee/spouse/ children	\$394	\$471	\$519

*Current rate structure is as follows:*

Single	\$169	\$202	\$218
Family	\$394	\$471	\$519

Grounds: Favorable Plan experience makes these premium rates possible. Further stratification of rates results in more equity.

\_\_\_Adopted

- F. That **Recommendation #25** "that the Assembly rescind its 1989 action (Act 89-06) which established a Board of Reference" be adopted.

Grounds: This Board has never been fully appointed nor has it functioned. Purpose of this Board was to give grass roots input to the Board of Pension and

Benefits. At the present time, members of the Board of Pension and Benefits are available during each General Assembly meeting to listen to and address any problems, suggestions, or comments from anyone attending the Assembly.  
 \_\_\_ Adopted

- G. That **Recommendation #26** (cf. also **Recommendation #6**), "that the *Rules for Assembly*, §11-1, be amended by:

- 1) adding at the end of the first sentence the words 'and the Group Insurance Plan.' The sentence would then read:

"The Board of Pension and Benefits shall oversee the administration of the denominational Pension Plan *and the Group Insurance Plan.*"

- 2) adding in 11-1b **Duties**, the words 'to administer the Group Insurance Plan;' in the second line preceding the words 'to administer the proceeds...'

The amended section would then read:

b. **Duties:** to serve as trustees under the Pension Plan adopted by the Assembly; *to administer the Group Insurance Plan;* to administer the proceeds of the 'Gratitude Gift;' to make annual report of its proceedings to the Assembly."

\_\_\_ Adopted

**ON MOTION** to receive the report of the Board of Pension and Benefits as a whole.

## 15-23 REPORT OF THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

The report was opened with prayer by the chairman, Rev. Buck Oliphant.

### I. Business referred to committee

- A. Recommendation #18
- B. Communication #95-7
- C. Communication #95-13
- D. Minutes of the permanent committee (September 15-17, 1994 and March 10-11, 1995)

### II. Recommendations from the committee

- A. That **Recommendation #18** "that the General Assembly grant the Christian Education and Publications Committee permission to design a subscription program for the denominational magazine, *EPC Reflections*, which shall begin with the June, 1996 issue" be adopted with the addition of the words, "or funding" between the words "subscription" and "program."

Grounds: Since the Christian Education and Publications Committee gave birth to *Reflections*, the Assembly would like them to continue with the funding process.

\_\_\_ Adopted

- B. That **Communication #95-7** (p. 97) from Mrs. Donna Alberta, Editor, *EPC Reflections*, be received as information.

\_\_\_ Adopted



- C. **Communication #95-13** (p. 104) from Rev. Daniel M. Berry, III: Committee recommended "that the permanent Christian Education and Publications Committee form a task force composed of Christian educators and theologians to review and evaluate various curricula and make evaluations based on EPC standards, making this evaluation to the churches in a simplified form" be adopted.

Grounds: Since the permanent committee has done outstanding work, we would like them to simplify the evaluation forms to be sent to each local church in addition to a Reformed Theology Evaluation.

\_\_\_Adopted

- D. Believing that the Holy Spirit is using Promise Keepers to renew men, the standing committee strongly encouraged EPC pastors and church leaders to participate. Since the EPC does not currently have an organized Men's Ministry, the standing committee recommended that the local churches encourage men to be involved in Promise Keepers.
- E. The minutes of the permanent Committee on Christian Education and Publications were reviewed and approved, with notations being forwarded to the permanent committee.

**ON MOTION** to receive the report of the Christian Education and Publications Committee as a whole.

The Assembly recessed for a 15-minute break at 3:30 p.m.

#### 15-24 PARTIAL REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Elder Colleen Rinehart, chairman, opened with prayer. The second reading of nominations for the permanent committees was presented. Nominees were asked to stand and be recognized. The Moderator determined there were no further nominations from the floor.

Committee recommended that **Recommendation #27** be adopted "that the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in §8-2 by adding the words 'mailed ten days' between the words 'registrations' and 'prior' in the third sentence of the section.

The amended §8-2 would then read:

"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 *mailed ten days* prior to the Assembly convening. Ratio should be as close to 2:1 as possible."

Grounds: With all the variables involved in assigning commissioners to committees, the Nominating Committee's goal is to make the process more efficient and fair.

\_\_\_Adopted



In keeping with the requirements stated in the *Rules for Assembly* (§11-1,a), Elder Bill Johns, Moderator of the 14th General Assembly, presented the following:

- a. Appointment of Rev. Thomas Ryan to be chairman of the 1995-96 Nominating Committee (cf. *Rules*, §10-2)
- b. Nomination to the Class of 1998, Committee on Nominations (cf. *Rules*, §10-3):  
 Elder Homer Graham (West)  
 Elder Connie Jennings (Florida)  
 Rev. David Massimi (Midwest)  
 There being no further nominations, the above were elected by acclamation.
- c. Nomination of Elder Orin Littlejohn nominated to be chairman of the Board of Pension and Benefits. There being no further nominations, Elder Littlejohn was elected by acclamation.

## 15-25 REPORT OF THE NATIONAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Rev. Ed McCallum, chairman, opened his report in prayer. The Assembly joined him in prayerful song, "Spirit of the Living God."

The committee recommended that the Assembly grant fifteen minutes for a presentation on church planting and the Orlando Project.

\_\_\_ Adopted

Rev. Lee Kizer, chairman of the permanent Committee on National Outreach, was granted time for a 5-minute videotape presentation on church planting, explaining the goals of National Outreach through the year 2000. He introduced Rev. Dan Lacich, who has been selected to be church planter for the Orlando Project beginning January, 1996. Dan reviewed his background and goals for the project, and asked for the Assembly's prayers and support.

The committee further recommended that the Assembly grant five minutes for the introduction of Rev. Corbett Heimburger, Director of National Outreach.

\_\_\_ Adopted

Rev. Heimburger begins as National Outreach Director on position August 1, 1995. Following a resounding welcome by the Assembly, Mr. Heimburger spoke briefly about his background and vision as Director of National Outreach. Trusting God to do great things in the EPC through Jesus Christ to the glory of God, Rev. Heimburger asked prayer for the wisdom and faith to reach the lost for Jesus Christ.

Assembly adjourned in prayer at 5:00 p.m. The Moderator announced the Assembly would worship together this evening at 7:30 p.m., and reconvene Saturday at 8:00 a.m. [The NOC report continued at the Saturday morning business session.]

## 15-26 EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

The Assembly gathered to worship at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary of Forest Hill Church. World Outreach Director, Dick Oestreicher and the Moderator presided at the commissioning of new missionaries Jan and Dan Clark, Nancy Foster (Frontiers), Dick and Linda Barany (Africa Inland Mission) and Jim and Sally Foote (Siberia). All other EPC missionaries present were asked to come forward to lay hands on them, while Dick Oestreicher led the Assembly in prayer for their ministries.

Rev. Sandy Willson read the Scripture (I Corinthians 3: 1-15). Rev. Rob Norris introduced Rev. Eric Alexander, who continued his sermon on Biblical leadership. He noted that God's primary concern is with the worker and the evidence of the Christian's character. He warned that the danger of Christian leadership is to feel one does not need to continue growing. *Who* we are in the service of God matters infinitely more than *what* we do. While the church is looking for better methods, God is looking for better people. The second point he made was that the work in which we are engaged is God's work, not ours. "Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord." The jealousy of God is that "My glory I will not give to another." We can never regenerate one single soul; regeneration and sanctification are exclusively God's work. Rev. Alexander continued by stressing that God's work will be done God's way in His laying of the foundation and the materials He uses. In doing God's work God's way, the cost is great, but the reward is correspondingly great. Building something of eternal worth is exceedingly costly.



Eric Alexander

Service concluded at 9:20 p.m.

#### Order Of Worship

Friday, June 23, 1995

7:30 p.m.

Welcome	15th General Assembly Moderator
Solo	"Here I Am" P.C. Schnell
Exaltation	"A Mighty Fortress"
	"Lord I Lift Your Name on High"
	"Step by Step"
Commissioning of Missionaries	Richard Oestreicher
Offering	"Ever Devoted" P.C. Schnell
Scripture and Prayer	Sandy Willson
Sermon	Eric Alexander
Closing Song	"Glorify Your Name"
Benediction	

#### MINUTES - SATURDAY MORNING

**Fifth Session**  
**June 24, 1995**

#### 15-27 MORNING WORSHIP AND BUSINESS SESSION

Assembly met for worship at 8:00 a.m. in the sanctuary with Rev. Lee Kizer presiding. National Outreach Director, Rev. Corbett Heimburger, gave the meditation based on Acts. 1:1-11. He said that the disciples watched while Jesus rose to heaven, and an angel reminded them Jesus would be back. The disciples were given a command, then power, a transforming message, a promise and a hope. We, too, are to have a sense of purpose, witnessing where we are, reaching out first to surrounding areas, then to the whole world. Rev. Kizer led in prayer for Corbett as he embarks on his new ministry.

Order of Worship		
Saturday, June 24, 1995		
8:00 a.m.		
Opening song	"Glory Glory Lord"	
	"Heaven Is In My Heart"	
Solo	"You Are My Fortress"	Beverly Wilson
Meditation		Corbett Heimburger
Closing song	"The Church's One Foundation"	

At 9:00 a.m., the Moderator called the Assembly to order for the business session.

**ON MOTION** to adopt the summary of minutes of June 23, read by Rev. Mike Glodo, and the docket for the day.

Docket	
Saturday, June 24, 1995	
<i>Fifth Session</i>	
8:00 a.m.	Morning worship
8:45	Business Session
	1. Opening prayer. Docket. Adoption of minutes (6/23).
	2. Committee reports pending from previous session.
	National Outreach Committee. Ministerial Vocation Committee.
	3. Permanent Judicial Commission
	4. Report of Theology Committee
	5. Report of World Outreach Committee
10:30-10:45	Break
	6. Report of Youth Ministries Committee
	7. Report of Women's Ministries Committee
Noon	Box lunch (on campus)
<i>Sixth Session</i>	
1:00	Business session
	1. Committee reports pending from previous session
	2. Final report of Nominating Committee
	3. Report of Presbytery Review Committee
	4. Report of Memorials and Appreciation
3:45	Concluding worship (estimated time)
4:00	Adjournment (estimated time)

# 15-28 REPORT OF NATIONAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE (continued)

Rev. Ed McCallum, chairman, opened with prayer and continued the report of the National Outreach Committee.

- I. Business referred to committee
  - A. Recommendation #19
  - B. Overture #95-E
  - C. Resolution #95-A

- D. Overture #95-A
- E. Overture #95-H
- F. Overture #95-I
- G. Minutes of the permanent committee (September 22-24, 1994 and March 30 - April 1, 1995)

## II. Recommendations from the committee

- A. That **Recommendation #19** "that the General Assembly permit the realignment of presbytery boundaries to include the following churches within the bounds of the Southeast Presbytery: Cleveland EPC (Abingdon, VA), Christ Church (Anderson, SC), Community Bible Church (Highlands, NC) Plumtree (Plumtree, NC), Grace Presbyterian and Cornerstone, (both of Franklin, NC) and Harvest Church (Asheville, NC) **not** be adopted.

Grounds: In light of Overture #95-E and Resolution #95-A, and the concurrence of the permanent Committee on National Outreach, the recommendation was no longer relevant. (See subsequent action on Recommendation #19 at the end of this Section 15-28.)

\_\_\_ Adopted

- B. That **Overture #95-E** (p. 111), "to amend the Committee on Administration's boundary change recommendation to exclude Christ Church (Anderson, SC) and Cleveland Church (Abingdon, VA) be adopted. (See subsequent action on Overture #95-E at the end of this Section 15-28.)

\_\_\_ Adopted

- C. That **Resolution #95-A** (p. 105), be **received** as information. This resolution enthusiastically supported the boundary change, effective January 1, 1996, as vital in the presbytery's continuing ministry for EPC in this region.

\_\_\_ Adopted

- D. That **Overture #95-A** (p. 106), asking the Assembly to instruct the permanent Committee on National Outreach to produce a report on reasons for success and failure in past EPC church plants, be **received** as information and referred to the permanent National Outreach Committee for inclusion in the data base project.

\_\_\_ Adopted

- E. That **Overture #95-H** (p. 114), that the General Assembly amend G.5-3E by deleting the words "if it seems appropriate" and substituting the word "authorize" for the word "approve" so that the first sentence of G.5-3E shall read:

"The organizing body shall authorize the election of Ruling Elders."

Grounds: Committee concurred with the Permanent Judicial Commission that the word "authorize" more clearly describes the action of permitting an election rather than ratifying its results.

\_\_\_ Adopted

- F. That **Overture #95-I** (p. 115) that the Assembly amend **Book of Discipline**, §12, by **adding** the following as §12-5:

"When a member requests the Session to remove his/her name from the church roll or renounces jurisdiction, the Session, after inquiry and after due delay, is of the judgment that the request does not spring from temporary doubt or special temptation, may remove the name from the roll" **not** be adopted.

Motion was made to substitute the following for the proposed §12-5, to read,  
 "When a member requests the Session to remove his/her name from the church roll or renounces jurisdiction, the Session may remove the name from the roll. The Session is urged to make proper inquiry and confirmation of the member's request." Motion was not adopted.

The PJC considered this overture and suggested the use of mandatory language. Elder Vern Schneider, PJC member, addressed the reason for this, stressing that if renunciation of jurisdiction takes place, it becomes effective immediately upon written receipt of notice of that action by the clerk of session.

**ON MOTION** to adopt the recommendation of the PJC to amend by substituting the following for the main motion:

§12-5 The written request of any member to have his or her name removed from the rolls shall be effective upon its receipt by the Clerk of Session.

G. The minutes of the permanent Committee on National Outreach were approved with notations being forwarded to the permanent committee.

The Stated Clerk raised a point of order, bringing to the Assembly's attention that by not adopting Recommendation #19, no change whatsoever as to presbytery boundaries had taken place, and that Overture #95-E (cf. §15-28) was of non-effect. The Clerk advised that a motion to reconsider Recommendation #19 may be in order.

**ON MOTION** to reconsider Recommendation #19.

**ON MOTION** to amend Recommendation #19 by excluding Christ Church (Anderson SC) and Cleveland Church (Lebanon, VA) and adopt as amended.

The adoption of Recommendation #19 now makes possible the implementation of the previously adopted Overture #95-E.

**ON MOTION** to receive the report of the National Outreach Committee as a whole.

## **15-29 REPORT OF THE MINISTERIAL VOCATION COMMITTEE**

Elder Sam Jones, chairman, opened with prayer. He asked members of the permanent and standing committees to stand to be recognized.

- I. Business Referred to Assembly
  - A. Communication #95-9
  - B. Overture #95-C
  - C. Overture #95-D
  - D. Overture #95-F
  - E. Overture #95-J



- F. Overture #95-L
- G. Minutes of the permanent committee (October 28-29, 1994 and March 16-18, 1995)

II. Recommendations from the committee

- A. That **Communication #95-9** (p. 99) from James Rimmel be received as information.

The committee recommended that the offer from the Board of Trustees at Erskine College of matching scholarship money for any EPC student be approved and this opportunity communicated via mail and at the General Assembly meeting.

Grounds: The availability of tuition assistance could significantly help EPC students with the cost of higher education. A matching scholarship program would be consistent with the history of EPC and the ARP fraternal relations. Erskine has added an EPC member to the Board of Trustees.

\_\_\_ Adopted

- B. That **Overture #95-C** (p. 109), to add section 11-13 to the **Book of Government**: "Prior to accepting a call to an out-of-bounds ministry within the geographic boundaries of the Presbytery not currently his own, a minister shall inform the appropriate committees of both Presbyteries, seeking the advice and approval of both Presbyteries regarding potential plans for ministry or work" **not** be adopted.

\_\_\_ Adopted

Committee recommended in its place that the following paragraph be added to G.11-12:

"In the event that the outside of bounds ministry falls within the geographic boundaries of a Presbytery not currently his own, a minister shall inform the appropriate committees of both Presbyteries seeking the advice and approval of both Presbyteries regarding potential plans for ministry or work."

Grounds: The new paragraph makes explicit what is currently implicit in the **Book of Order**, therefore, the requirements are clearer. Adding the new paragraph addresses the issues that have been raised without the unnecessary renumbering of paragraphs in the **Book of Government**.

\_\_\_ Adopted

- C. That **Overture #95-D** (p. 110), that the General Assembly recognize this growing problem of oversight of ministers serving in out-of-bounds ministries and to provide consistent constitutional guidance to the presbyteries in the matters of calls for ministers to serve outside the bounds of presbyteries be referred to the permanent Committee on Ministerial Vocation for study, and recommendations to be brought to the 16th General Assembly.

\_\_\_ Adopted

Committee further recommends that, as part of this study, the Committee on Ministerial Vocation consult with the Committee on Theology concerning how the call to ministry and ordination in the EPC relates to ministers who serve outside the bounds of presbytery.

Grounds: The issues raised in this overture are very broad and have far-reaching implications for the EPC. An in-depth study, therefore, is required to deal adequately with these concerns. A review of the Reformed understanding of call and ordination should help bring clarity to the study.

\_\_\_Adopted

- D. That **Overture #95-F** "to appoint a committee to study the feasibility of implementing an EPC Internship Training Program" be referred to the permanent Ministerial Vocation Committee for study.

Grounds: The concept of an EPC internship training program has sufficient merit to warrant further study.

\_\_\_Adopted

- E. That **Overture #95-J** to amend G.11-5F.2 substituting the words "Housing or housing allowance" for the current words, "Manse or manse allowance" be adopted.

Grounds: This word change will be more consistent with common usage.

\_\_\_Adopted

- F. That **Overture #95-L** be approved as proposed and that the Permanent Judicial Commission's recommendation for the **Book of Government**, §11-13, be approved with the deletion of the last paragraph of the proposal. The above motion shall be understood as including the following:

1. A new section labeled **Book of Discipline** §12-5 to read:  
"When a Minister shall renounce the jurisdiction of the Presbytery by accepting a call to a non-EPC ministry without consent of Presbytery, or by submitting a written request for dismissal from office, if in good standing, the irregularity shall be recorded, and he shall be divested from office without censure by a 2/3 majority of the Presbytery. If there are charges against the Minister, those charges shall be communicated to the church, denomination, or ministry which he has joined."
2. **Book of Government** §11-13 shall be deleted.
3. **Book of Government** §11-14 shall be renumbered as §11-13.
4. **Book of Government** §11-14 shall read as follows:  
"In the event a Minister accepts a call not approved by Presbytery, his action shall represent a renunciation of jurisdiction and the Presbytery in which he is a member shall divest him of office without censure according to the provisions of the **Book of Discipline**, §12-5."
5. Delete last paragraph of original PJC recommendation for new §11-14 which reads as follows:  
"When a church officer, after consultation and notice, persists in a work disapproved by the governing body having jurisdiction, the governing body may determine by a 2/3 majority vote that the officer has renounced the jurisdiction of this church."

Grounds for deletion: The **Book of Order** does not currently make provision for or define circumstances under which a minister may be divested without censure in the case of renunciation of jurisdiction. Holding over action on renunciation

of jurisdiction when a minister has accepted a call to a non-EPC ministry without the approval of Presbytery raises questions of legal liability for actions of that minister no longer under the supervision of the court.

A motion to substitute the original recommendation of the Permanent Judicial Commission for the recommendation of the standing committee carried by a standing vote of 141 yes, 93 no. The recommendation of the PJC is as follows:

1. That the paragraph currently numbered G.11-13 be removed.
2. That the paragraph currently numbered G.11-14 be renumbered G.11-13.
3. That the following be added to the **Book of Government** and numbered G.11-14.

**G.11-14** When a church officer, whether a Minister, Ruling Elder, or Deacon renounces the jurisdiction of this church in writing to the clerk or stated clerk of the governing body of jurisdiction, the renunciation shall be effective upon receipt. Renunciation of jurisdiction shall remove the officer from membership and ordained office and shall terminate the exercise of office.

The renunciation shall be reported by the clerk or stated clerk at the next meeting of the governing body, which shall record the renunciation, delete the officer's name from the appropriate roll, and take such other actions of an administrative character as may be required in the Constitution.

When a church officer, after consultation and notice, persists in a work disapproved by the governing body having jurisdiction, the governing body may determine by a 2/3 majority vote that the officer has renounced the jurisdiction of this church.

Grounds: Proposed amendments regarding this section of the **Book of Government** have been received. In the opinion of the PJC, the goals sought are better served in this manner. This language is considered more clear, concise, and consistent with the entire Constitution.

Motion was made to amend the above motion by adding to this proposed section G.11-14 the following paragraph:

"In the event a minister accepts a call not approved by Presbytery, his action shall represent a renunciation of jurisdiction and the Presbytery in which he is a member shall divest him of office without censure according to the provisions of the Book of Discipline 12-5."

The amendment as presented was ruled out of order since no §12-5 currently exists in the **Book of Discipline**.

With consent of the amendment mover, the phrase following the word "censure" shall be stricken (underlined above).

**ON MOTION** to adopt the amendment by a standing vote of 175 yes, 63 no.



**ON MOTION** to adopt the substitute motion as amended.

The amended section G.11-14 as adopted shall read:

**G.11-14** When a church officer, whether a Minister, Ruling Elder, or Deacon renounces the jurisdiction of this church in writing to the clerk or stated clerk of the governing body of jurisdiction, the renunciation shall be effective upon receipt. Renunciation of jurisdiction shall remove the officer from membership and ordained office and shall terminate the exercise of office.

The renunciation shall be reported by the clerk or stated clerk at the next meeting of the governing body, which shall record the renunciation, delete the officer's name from the appropriate roll, and take such other actions of an administrative character as may be required in the Constitution.

When a church officer, after consultation and notice, persists in a work disapproved by the governing body having jurisdiction, the governing body may determine by a 2/3 majority vote that the officer has renounced the jurisdiction of this church.

In the event a minister accepts a call not approved by Presbytery, his action shall represent a renunciation of jurisdiction and the Presbytery in which he is a member shall divest him of office without censure.

Motion was made to substitute the word "disapproved" for the words "not approved in line 1, paragraph 4. (*Motion lost by a subsequent motion to refer.*)

Further discussion and a degree of confusion followed. The Clerk was asked to rule on the appropriateness of referring the matter back to the PJC without first voting on the motion on the floor. He advised that a motion to refer as a subsidiary motion takes precedence over a main motion.

**ON MOTION** to refer this entire matter (Item F, pp. 49-51) to the Permanent Judicial Commission for further study and clarification. (*Cf. §15-34, p. 58 for reconsideration of reference.*)

- G. The minutes of the permanent Committee on Ministerial Vocation were approved with notations being forwarded to the permanent committee.

**ON MOTION** to receive the report of the Ministerial Vocation Committee as a whole.

## **15-30 REPORT OF THE PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION**

Rev. Ron DiNunzio, Moderator of the PJC, opened with prayer, and asked members of the Commission to stand and be recognized.

### **1. Amendment of G.16-27B.2**

Recommendation "that G.16-27B.2 be amended by changing the 60-day deadline for receipt of materials for consideration at General Assembly to 30 days."

That portion of G.16-27B.2 would then read:

- "2. All proposals requesting amendment to the Constitution shall be communicated in writing to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly no later than 30 days prior to the convening of the next session of the General Assembly..."

Grounds: Such amendment would allow time for matters considered at Spring presbytery meetings to be forwarded for consideration at the General Assembly of the same year.

\_\_\_\_ Adopted

2. A request from an individual for an opinion concerning actions taken by the Committee on Administration relative to the continuation of the existence of a presbytery reorganized by General Assembly was determined not to be properly before the PJC.
3. Minutes of the Permanent Judicial Commission (Friday, June 23, 1995) were distributed, relative to a proposed revision of the **Book of Discipline**. The draft was submitted by the Ad Interim Committee on Constitutional Review, a committee created by the 14th General Assembly (cf. 14th General Assembly **Minutes**, §14-32) to examine ambiguous, contradictory or inadequate coordination between the **Book of Government** and the **Book of Discipline** as to disciplinary matters, including both remedial and punitive aspects thereof, and to offer possible amendments to the 15th General Assembly. The PJC determined that the proposed work was not properly before the PJC at this time for the reasons that:
  - a) the time requirement for submission of material was not met;
  - b) the sheer volume of the work demands far more time for study by the PJC than is available in order to meet the Committee's request;
  - c) a cursory reading of the proposed materials revealed the presence of small details appearing to require editorial attention; and
  - d) a number of substantive changes, including perceived conflicts with other parts of the Constitution, necessitate thorough study before the PJC can fulfill its duty to the Assembly regarding proposed amendments to the Constitution.

**ON MOTION** to extend the life of the Ad Interim Committee on Constitutional Review for one year for the purpose of giving time for the Committee and PJC to consult further regarding the proposed revision of the **Book of Discipline**, and for the Committee to extend its work to related portions of the **Book of Government** and prepare its report for the 16th General Assembly.

**ON MOTION** to receive the report of the Permanent Judicial Commission.

#### 15-31 REPORT OF THE THEOLOGY COMMITTEE

Rev. Graham Smith, chairman, opened with prayer. Members of the permanent and standing Theology Committees were asked to stand and be recognized.

- I. Business Referred to committee
  - A. Recommendation #5
  - B. Recommendation #28



"Unbelievers may comfortably swear a particular oath in the name of a god (I Corinthians 8:5-6), but it is idolatrous for a Christian to share in that oath."

4. Page 2, line 41, place in quotation marks the sentence beginning with "Furthermore..." and add "NASV" following "Exod. 18:21" in same sentence.
5. Page 3, lines 7-9, underline questions therein.
6. Page 3, line 36, after the word "include," add the words "elements of worship, e.g." so the sentence reads, "Such practices include *elements of worship, e.g.* corporate prayer and the administration of sacraments or pseudo-sacraments."
7. Page 4, line 5ff, underline all questions included through the end of this paragraph.
8. Page 4, line 11, change the word "of" to "in" so the sentence reads, "An individual Christian must ask himself, in light of the above considerations, whether he can, *in* good conscience, commit himself to the ideals of a particular secretive fraternal organization."

**ON MOTION** to amend by deleting everything after the word "presented" in the first paragraph of the motion.

Motion to delete the third full paragraph on third page of pastoral letter was defeated.

**ON MOTION** to adopt recommendation as amended. (*The Pastoral Letter as proposed is found in its entirety on pages 235-238.*)

Rev. Robert Horel (First Presbyterian, Meridian, MS) asked that his name be recorded as opposing this proposal.

- D. That **Recommendation #30**, "that the General Assembly adopt the revised Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage as an amendment by substitution for the current Preliminary Position Paper and adopt it as its Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage" **not** be adopted.

\_\_\_ Adopted

Committee further recommended that the paper be referred back to the permanent Committee on Theology with encouragement, asking the committee to make more explicit the Scriptural basis for the views expressed in lines 1-18 on page 4 of the proposed paper, particularly with respect to non-sexual forms of abuse, and with reference to the matter referred to in lines 42, 43, on page 6 and lines 1-9 on page 7.

Grounds: It is imperative that our views on these matters be informed by and expressive of Scriptural truth.

\_\_\_ Adopted

- E. That **Recommendation #31**, "that the General Assembly adopt the proposed "Position Paper on the Value of and Respect for Human Life" as an amendment

by substitution for the current Position Paper on the Value of and Respect for Human Life" be amended:

- 1) Page 1, line 20, add the words, "reproductive technology" between the words "abortion" and "and" so the sentence reads, "We live in a day of profound ethical dilemmas as we consider such issues as suicide, assisted suicide, euthanasia, abortion, *reproductive technology*, and capital punishment."
- 2) Page 3, line 32, change the word "milieu" to "times" so the sentence reads, "It is rare in our *times* to witness this kind of deathbed gathering."
- 3) Page 3, line 35, italicize the words "important ministerial functions of the terminally ill."
- 4) Page 3, line 40, delete the sentence "This gave meaning to the personal aspects of death."
- 5) Page 4, line 8, delete the words "by someone to take an action" so the sentence reads, "Active euthanasia, on the other hand, means intervention which would hasten the patient's death."
- 6) Page 4, line 9, delete the words "these evils as" and insert the words "as it" between the words "euthanasia" and "rapidly" in line 10, so the sentence reads, "The church must speak out against active euthanasia *as it* rapidly gains popular approval."
- 7) Page 4, line 37, correct spelling of "fellowship."
- 8) Page 6, line 12, delete the word "and" between the words "heal" and "restore" and add the words "improve or" between the words "heal" and "restore," so the sentence reads, "In many situations a distinction can be made between treatment that will heal, *improve or* restore the patient to health and treatment that will only prolong the dying process."
- 9) Page 6, line 20, add the word "improve" between the words "heal" and "or" so the sentence reads, "Medical treatment that is clearly efficacious to heal, *improve*, or restore must not be refused."

**ON MOTION** to avoid confusion between the papers, change the name of the proposed paper to "Position Paper on the Problems of Suffering, Death, and Dying."

**ON MOTION** to change the words "as an amendment by substitution for" to "be adopted in addition to."

**ON MOTION** to adopt the position paper as amended. [*Paper as proposed is found on pp. 247-255.*]

- F. That **Overture #95-K** to amend G. 3-1, 3-2, and 3-3, and D.1-4, and D.12-2 by substituting on the use of the word "authority" in place of "power" be adopted.

#### Present wording

G.3-1 The power given to the church by Christ is moral and spiritual, thus distinguishing the government of the church from civil government. The powers of the church reside in the Church as exercised in its courts

#### Proposed wording

G. 3-1 The authority given to the church by Christ is moral and spiritual, thus distinguishing the government of the church from civil government. The authority of the church resides in the Church as exercised

and not in individuals. The use of these powers is for the purpose of proclamation, administration and enforcement of the laws of Jesus Christ as revealed in Scripture. Exercise of these powers must be in conformity with the Scripture.

3-2 There are two kinds of powers of the Church: The Power of Order and the Power of Jurisdiction.

A. The Power of Order: This power is exercised by individuals who have been ordained. It is the power to serve, to proclaim and minister in the name of Christ as undershepherd. While such duty is incumbent upon every Christian, it is especially incumbent upon those who are ordained to office. It includes especially the sharing of the Gospel, reproving the erring, visiting the sick, and otherwise exhibiting to the world the fruit of the Spirit.

B. The Power of Jurisdiction: This is the power to rule and is a joint power to be exercised in church courts in regular gradation. The exercise of such power shall always reflect the essential unity of the church.

3-3 Powers given to the church by Jesus Christ are not an end in themselves, but are given to edify God's people, to promote the faith of the church, and to evangelize the whole world to the end that all might know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

D.1-4 The power which Christ has given the church is for building up and not for destruction.

D.12-2 If a communing member of the church against whom no charges are pending shall request the Session to transfer his name to the roll of noncommuning members, it shall be in the power of the Session to grant the request, and this action may be announced to the congregation should this seem wise and proper.

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D.1-4 The authority which Christ has given the church is for building up and not for destruction.

D.12-2 If a communing member of the church against whom no charges are pending shall request the Session to transfer his name to the roll of noncommuning members, it shall be in the authority of the Session to grant this request, and this action may be announced to the congregation should this seem wise and proper.

Adopted



Committee recommended "that the General Assembly instruct the permanent Committee on Theology to develop a statement offering guidance to the church regarding reproductive technology and to make an appropriate response to a future General Assembly."

Grounds: This is an increasingly urgent problem in our society and for our church people. This issue came to the committee's attention while considering Recommendation #31. These grounds likewise apply to the following amendment.

\_\_\_Adopted

Committee recommended that the General Assembly "instruct the permanent Committee on Theology to consider the issue of organ transplantation, and to make an appropriate response to a future General Assembly."

\_\_\_Adopted

**ON MOTION** to amend the recommendation to include the words "donation and" between the words "organ" and "transplantation."

- G. Minutes of the permanent Committee on Theology were reviewed and approved with notations being forwarded to the permanent committee. The permanent committee was commended for its fine work.

**ON MOTION** to receive the report of the Theology Committee as a whole.

#### **15-32 REQUEST TO RECONSIDER RECOMMENDATION #5**

Motion to reconsider Recommendation #5 (p. 53) on the subject of **civil disobedience** and formation of an ad hoc committee was received and seconded. (See §15-33 for subsequent action.)

Motion was adopted for the order of the day, and the Assembly adjourned for lunch.

#### **MINUTES - SATURDAY AFTERNOON**

**Sixth Session  
June 24, 1995**

#### **15-33 RECONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATION #5**

The Moderator reconvened the Assembly with prayer at 1:25 p.m.

**ON MOTION** to reconsider Recommendation #5, "that the General Assembly instruct the Committee on Theology to study the issue of civil disobedience and report to the 16th (1996) General Assembly, and that the Stated Clerk bring together an ad hoc committee to study the legal side of this issue."

A substitute motion "that the General Assembly instruct the Stated Clerk to bring together an ad hoc committee to study the legal side of civil disobedience and to report to the 16th (1996) General Assembly" was **not** adopted.

**ON MOTION** "that the General Assembly instruct the Committee on Theology to study the issue of civil disobedience and report to the 16th (1996) General Assembly,

and that the Stated Clerk bring together an ad hoc committee to study the legal side of this issue." A standing count was taken: 99 yes, 38 no.

#### **15-34 RECONSIDERATION OF REFERENCE**

**ON MOTION** to reconsider the reference of item "F" in the report of the Ministerial Vocation Committee (cf. §15-29,B-6, p. 51). It is more appropriately referred to the permanent Committee on Ministerial Vocation, rather than the Permanent Judicial Commission.

**ON MOTION** to refer the following item to the permanent Ministerial Vocation Committee for further study and clarification:

**G.11-14** When a church officer, whether a Minister, Ruling Elder, or Deacon renounces the jurisdiction of this church in writing to the clerk or stated clerk of the governing body of jurisdiction, the renunciation shall be effective upon receipt. Renunciation of jurisdiction shall remove the officer from membership and ordained office and shall terminate the exercise of office.

The renunciation shall be reported by the clerk or stated clerk at the next meeting of the governing body, which shall record the renunciation, delete the officer's name from the appropriate roll, and take such other actions of an administrative character as may be required in the Constitution.

When a church officer, after consultation and notice, persists in a work disapproved by the governing body having jurisdiction, the governing body may determine by a 2/3 majority vote that the officer has renounced the jurisdiction of this church.

In the event a Minister accepts a call not approved by Presbytery, his action shall represent a renunciation of jurisdiction and the Presbytery in which he is a member shall divest him of office without censure.

#### **15-35 REPORT OF THE WORLD OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

Rev. Doug Klein, chairman, offered prayer prior to delivering his report.

- I. Business referred to committee
  - A. Recommendation #32
  - B. Recommendation #33
  - C. Recommendation #34
  - D. Recommendation #35
  - E. Recommendation #36
  - F. Recommendation #37
  - G. Recommendation #38
  - H. Recommendation #39
  - I. Recommendation #40
  - J. Minutes of the permanent committee (September 8-10, 1994, June 5-7, 1995, and March 23-25, 1995)
- II. Recommendations from the committee



- A. That **Recommendation #32**, "that the following addition be made to the *Missions Manual*, Section 201.1K" be adopted.

**201.1K Spouse**

When single missionaries plan to marry, the prospective spouse shall be expected to submit all application forms and meet stated World Outreach qualifications.

Grounds: The spouse is an important part of the mission team.

\_\_\_ Adopted

- B. That **Recommendation #33**, "that the following addition be made to the *Missions Manual*, Section 201.1" be adopted.

**201.1 Exceptions**

- O. Any exceptions to these qualifications must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the World Outreach Committee.

Grounds: This section will provide World Outreach more flexibility in dealing with unique situations.

\_\_\_ Adopted

- C. That **Recommendation #34**, "that the following addition be made to the *Missions Manual* as Section 304.2" be adopted:

1. Delete existing paragraph 304.2 and in its place, substitute the following:

**304.2 Emergency Medical Leave**

Ordinarily a missionary is expected to obtain the permission of the field director to leave the field of assignment due to illness or injury. When an emergency leave is necessary, the following guidelines will take effect.

**I. For an EPC Missionary**

1. The travel necessary as a result of the need for medical attention will be the expense of World Outreach. The World Outreach office will seek to apply denominational resources as appropriate.
2. The Director of World Outreach, in consultation with the appropriate medical personnel can decide:
  - a. To which country the missionary should be transported for proper care. If this decision is not acceptable to the family, then additional expenses for travel to another country will be negotiated with the family.
  - b. Whether the missionary should be accompanied by another missionary, family, friend, or medical person and will be at the expense of World Outreach.
  - c. The appropriate length of medical leave.
3. Decisions about financial obligations during medical leave can be made by the Director of World Outreach in consultation with the missionary, insurance and pension agencies, the appropriate field

personnel, and if necessary, with the World Outreach Committee.

4. Ordinarily the missionary will return to the field to complete his/her term of service. However, circumstances may warrant an alternate plan. This can be worked out with the Director of World Outreach, the missionary, the appropriate field personnel and with the approval of the World Outreach Committee, since it would involve a change in the Terms of Call.
5. If circumstances are such that dependents are left on the field, then appropriate and adequate arrangements for their guardianship must be made before departing.

## II. For An EPC Missionary In Cooperative Agreement With Another Agency

1. Ordinarily, the agency with whom the missionary has a cooperative agreement will be the first to know of and therefore respond to such an emergency.
2. Such agency is expected to:
  - a. Keep the Director of World Outreach fully informed;
  - b. Follow the guidelines as spelled out above in consultation with the Director of World Outreach.
3. The expense for such emergency medical care will be borne by the the appropriate agency as spelled out in the Terms of Call and the Cooperative Agreement and, if there be such, a Memo of Understanding.

\_\_\_ Adopted

- D. That **Recommendation #35**, "that the following addition be made to the *Missions Manual* as Section 311.4" be adopted.

### 311.4 Permanent Re-Entry

Missionaries permanently returning from the field are encouraged to participate in a re-entry program such as the one Missionary Internship provides or something similar.

Funds will be included in the missionary's Terms of Call under a category of re-entry expenses.

Grounds: Such provision will help missionary families upon their return to American culture.

\_\_\_ Adopted

- E. That **Recommendation #36** be adopted to delete existing paragraph 400.2.2 in the *Missions Manual*, and substitute in its place the following paragraph:

**400.2.2** Of funds exceeding three months support, an amount not exceeding 50% of the excess may be available for projects recommended by the World Outreach Director and approved by the World Outreach Committee.

Grounds: This change allows the missionary to use excess monies for approved projects that benefit both the missionary and the work of the missionary's team.  
 \_\_\_ Adopted

- F. That **Recommendation #37**, be adopted to add the following as **400.10 Vehicles** in the *Missions Manual*:

**400.10 Vehicles:**

World Outreach includes a standard vehicle in the Terms of Call for career missionaries serving and residing overseas. The initial vehicle will be included in the outgoing cost at \$14,000 or an amount approved by the World Outreach Director. The initial amount of the vehicle will be held in escrow until the actual purchase of the vehicle. Twenty percent of the cost of the replacement vehicle will be put into the annual Terms of Call and set aside for future purchase. Vehicle registration and insurance will be in the name of the missionary and operational costs will be assumed by the missionary.

Grounds: This will help the missionary in a systematic way to purchase necessary transportation.  
 \_\_\_ Adopted

- G. That **Recommendation #38**, "that Africa Inland Mission be approved as a co-operative agency" be adopted.  
 \_\_\_ Adopted

- H. That **Recommendation #39**, "that Middle East Media be approved as a cooperative agency" be adopted.  
 \_\_\_ Adopted

- I. That **Recommendation #40**, "that the Assembly grant World Outreach a ten-minute portion of time on the docket for Dick Oestreicher to speak about the work of World Outreach" be adopted.  
 \_\_\_ Adopted

Mr. Oestreicher then addressed the Assembly, summarizing the work of World Outreach during the past year.

- J. Minutes of the permanent Committee on World Outreach were reviewed and approved with notations being forwarded to the permanent committee.

- K. Minutes of the Joint Committee on Missions were approved.

In addition, the Assembly considered the following items:

- L. "That Pioneers be approved as a cooperative agency."  
 \_\_\_ Adopted

- M. "That SERVE, 'Sending Experienced Retired Volunteers Everywhere,' be recognized as an approved mission agency."  
 \_\_\_ Adopted

The Assembly commended the permanent committee and World Outreach Director Dick Oestreicher for their outstanding work in the area of world missions.

**ON MOTION** to receive the report of the World Outreach Committee as a whole.

# 15-36 REPORT OF THE YOUTH MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

Elder Jan Bole, chairman, opened the report of her committee with prayer.

- I. Business referred to committee
  - A. Communication #95-10
  - B. Minutes of the permanent committee (October 6-7, 1994 and March 13-14, 1995)

## II. Recommendations from the committee

- A. Committee recommended that the Assembly take a Spring offering (cf. **Communication #95-10**, p. 100) in 1996, with the monies to be divided equally between Women's Ministries and Youth Ministries after covering the expenses of the offering.

Grounds: Additional funds are needed to strengthen and expand the scope of ministry and impact within the Kingdom and the world.

\_\_\_ Adopted

- B. Committee recommended that the Committee on Administration approve an annual Spring offering to benefit Youth and Women's Ministries.

Grounds: These ministries must rely on extra funds for their ongoing program and planning.

\_\_\_ Adopted

- C. Minutes of the permanent committee were reviewed and approved with notations being forwarded to the permanent committee.

The chairman called the Assembly's attention to the current ministries to EPC youth, including the following:

1. **Summer Jam:** This ministry began eight years ago, with 100 participants. The 1995 Summer Jam in Florida is filled to capacity (450 + ); Colorado Summer Jam has room for more, but already has 300 registered participants.
2. **Youth Missions Trips:** The missions trips to Kentucky to work with Rev. Glenn Ferrell are filled, as well as the ministry effort in Mexico with World Servants. Each trip has 100 participants.
3. **Training of EPC Youth Workers:** The annual Youth Workers Conference was a wonderful success. Twenty-seven youth ministry workers from many churches gathered to be encouraged and to exchange ideas. This year's conference will be September 14-16 in Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina, with guest speaker Keith Naylor. The hope is that this type of interaction will afford greater avenues of cooperative ministries in future years.
4. **Challenges for the future:** The primary limitation facing EPC Youth Ministry is that of limited time to address the ever-growing administrative demands which are a result of the expanding ministry. EPC Youth Ministries is currently working to

promote Generation "X" materials to assist local churches in ministering to these young adults.

The Assembly granted Youth Ministries permission to do a 15-minute presentation about Generation X, (the Baby Busters), showing the importance and difficulty of reaching this segment of our population. A 10-minute videotape was shown. Dan Weidman, Director of Youth Ministries and Rev. David Lovell of Lay Renewal Ministries spoke to the Assembly. They indicated they are encouraged that this generation is searching for answers, realizing that what they have experienced in life is not the answer. The EPC is aiming to reach this generation, encouraging networking and using the resources available to light a fire to bring a generation to the truth in Jesus Christ. The challenge is to reach these young people for Him.

**ON MOTION** to receive the report of the Youth Ministries Committee as a whole.

#### 15-37 REPORT OF WOMEN'S MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

Elder Ramona Chadwick, chairman, opened with prayer.

##### I. Business referred to committee

A. Communication #95-10

B. Minutes of the permanent committee (October 17-18, 1994 and March 13-14, 1995)

##### II. Recommendations from the committee

A. That the Assembly take a Spring Offering for 1996, to be designated for Youth Ministries and Women's Ministries. [*Cf. §15-36, p. 62, Report of Youth Ministries Committee*]

\_\_\_Adopted

B. That the permanent Committee on Administration be asked to study the possibility of a Spring Offering for Youth and Women's Ministries being a continuing offering. [*Cf. §15-36, p. 62, Report of Youth Ministries Committee*.]

\_\_\_Adopted

C. Minutes of the permanent Committee on Women's Ministries were reviewed and approved with notations being forwarded to the permanent committee.

The chairman made note of the July 20-23 Women's Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan and urged pastors and sessions to encourage their women to attend.

**ON MOTION** to receive the report of the Women's Ministries Committee as a whole.

#### 15-38 FINAL REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Chairman Colleen Rinehart strongly encouraged that future registrations for General Assembly be submitted to the General Assembly office by April 15. Registrations will be mailed to the Clerk of Session by February 1.

**ON MOTION** to elect the following slate of nominations for the permanent committees:

**Administration**

## Class of 1998

Elder Gary Fields (West)  
 Elder Jan Bole (West)  
 Rev. Wally Hostetter (Midwest)

**Board of Pension and Benefits**

## Class of 1998

Elder Charles Talbot (Midwest)  
 Rev. Russell Loudon (Central South)

**Christian Education and Publications**

## Class of 1998

Elder Barbara Mansfield (Midwest)  
 Elder Carolyn Nystrom (Mid-America)

**Fraternal Relations**

## Class of 1998

Rev. Charles Wickman (Mid-Atlantic)  
 Elder Paul Heidebrecht (Mid-America)

## Class of 1997

Rev. Bill Flannagan (Southeast)

**Ministerial Vocation**

## Class of 1998

Rev. Bob Harvey (Mid-America)  
 Elder Bill Goessling (Mid-America)

## Class of 1997

Rev. William Moore (Midwest)

## Class of 1996

Elder Ed George (Florida)

**National Outreach**

## Class of 1998

Elder Ben Brychta (Southeast)  
 Rev. Lee Kizer (Mid-Atlantic)  
 Elder Charles Overstreet (Mid-Atlantic)

## Class of 1997

Rev. William Read (Mid-Atlantic)

## Class of 1996

Rev. Tom Melton (West)

**Permanent Judicial Commission**

## Class of 1998

Elder James Rimmel (Midwest)  
 Elder James Wall (Mid-Atlantic)  
 Rev. Ron DiNunzio (Florida)

**Theology**

Class of 1998

Rev. Michael Glodo (Florida)

Elder George Schneider (Southeast)

**Women's Ministries**

Class of 1998

Mrs. Sandra Milis (Midwest)

Mrs. Jean Ward (Southeast)

**World Outreach**

Class of 1998

Elder Emily Reid (Midwest)

Elder Arnold Lindseth (Central South)

Rev. William Meyer (Mid-Atlantic)

Class of 1997

Elder Robert Brock (Central South)

Class of 1996

Rev. Todd Hahn (Mid-Atlantic)

**Youth Ministries**

Class of 1998

Rev. Gary Koerth (Midwest)

Mr. Bret Spiegelman (Central South)

The Stated Clerk reminded the Assembly that by action of the 13th General Assembly, Assembly now convenes the Thursday in June following Father's Day, and adjourns on Saturday afternoon. Dates for the next three Assemblies are as follows:

16th General Assembly: June 20-22, 1996 (Englewood, Colorado)

17th General Assembly: June 19-21, 1997 (St. Louis, Missouri)

18th General Assembly: June 18-20, 1998 (Highlands Ranch, Colorado)

**ON MOTION** to receive the report of the Nominating Committee as a whole.

**15-39 REPORT OF THE PRESBYTERY REVIEW COMMITTEE**

The report of the Presbytery Review Committee was opened with prayer by Elder Charles Talbot, chairman.

**I. Business referred to committee****A. Overture #95-B****B. Minutes of the Presbyteries****II. Recommendations from the committee**

**A. Committee recommended that the Assembly affirm the decision of the 14th General Assembly to require that presbytery minutes be presented in English in addition to any other language the Court wishes to maintain, and therefore Overture #95-B (pp. 107-108) not be adopted.**

\_\_\_ Adopted



Committee further recommended "that the General Assembly, through its World Outreach Benevolences, consider assisting the St. Andrews Presbytery and such other presbyteries to which it might apply in the future, in the purchase of computer software to assist in creating the English translations."

**ON MOTION** to amend by deleting the words "World Outreach."

**ON MOTION** to adopt the recommendation as amended.

- B. Committee recommended that the Stated Clerks of each presbytery include a "check list" with their minutes. Such check list shall be provided by the General Assembly Office. Each presbytery Stated Clerk will note on the check list the page number on which each requirement is met for each presbytery meeting.
- \_\_\_ Adopted

Members of the Presbytery Review Committee and the Stated Clerks of the presbyteries were commended for their fine work.

1. **Allegheny Presbytery (dissolved)**

Minutes were not available for review by the 1994 Presbytery Review Committee. Minutes were submitted later. The 1995 Presbytery Review Committee found the minutes from the Allegheny Presbytery were insufficient and sloppy, with a complete disregard for conformance to acceptable standards.

2. **Presbytery of the Central South**

- a) Presbytery did not acknowledge and did not respond to General Assembly regarding the last year's exceptions and notations (*Rules*, VIII, 8-11.F)
- b) No annual review of changes in the Terms of Call recorded (*Rules*, 8-11.G-9)
- c) The commission appointed at the 34th Stated Meeting was not identified or dismissed (G.16-26.B)

3. **Presbytery of the East**

- a) While Stated Clerk responded to 1994 Presbytery Review, the Presbytery did not record its response in its minutes (*Rules*, 8-11F).
- b) No record of annual review of changes in Terms of Call (*Rules* 8-11.G-9)
- c) The May 21 meeting shows that the Woodworth Commission was appointed by the Moderator but not approved by the Presbytery. Also, the report was mentioned but not received by Presbytery (G.16-26.B).
- d) Terms of Call for interim supply Al Smith and Bill Glassman were not recorded (*Rules*, 8-11.G-9).

4. **Presbytery of Florida**

- a) The meeting of October, 1994 did not record the "ayes" and "nays" for the vote on Overture #94-A (*Rules*, 8-11.G-12).
- b) The February, 1995 meeting did not record the changes in the Terms of Call for all ministers (*Rules*, 8-11.G-9).
- c) The minutes did not show that the annual review of the Retired Ministers Roll had been done (G.15-9).



**5. Presbytery of Mid-America**

- a) Minutes did not show that the annual review of the Retired Ministers Roll had been done (G.15-9).
- b) Terms of Call for Moeller and Nuenke were not recorded (*Rules*, 8-11.G-9).
- c) Presbytery approval of annual changes in the Terms of Call was not recorded (*Rules*, 8-11.G-9).
- d) In the January 28 meeting, the powers reserved to a session were incorrectly given to David Boswell (G.12-2A).
- e) The Graham Commission Report was not received by Presbytery, and the Commission was not dismissed (G.16-26B).

**6. Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic**

- a) Presbytery administration of commissions did not meet requirement of G.16-26B in 1) powers not defined; 2) duration not defined.

**7. Presbytery of the Midwest**

- a) No action by Presbytery and no response as to the disposition of the 1994 General Assembly exceptions were recorded (*Rules*, 8-11.F).
- b) No review of Retired Ministers Roll was recorded (G.15-9).
- c) Presbytery administration of commissions did not meet requirements of G.16-26B in:
  - 1. RE/TE ratio (Odendaal Commission)
  - 2. Written reports not submitted (Knox, Hess, Frison Commission and others)
  - 3. Many commissions were never dismissed.

**8. Presbytery of the Southeast**

No exceptions.

**9. Presbytery of St. Andrews**

The 1994 Presbytery Review committee was unable to review the St. Andrews Presbytery minutes because they were submitted in Spanish. St. Andrews Presbytery complied with recommendation #3 of the 1994 Presbytery Review Committee and resubmitted its minutes with full English translations.

- a) No annual review of changes in Terms of Call and no annual review of Retired Ministers Roll (*Rules*, 8-11.G-16)
- b) Minutes did not include Presbytery budget (*Rules*, 8-11.G-16)
- c) No report of annual review of session minutes.

**10. Presbytery of the West**

No exceptions.

**ON MOTION** to adopt the report of the Presbytery Review Committee as a whole.

**15-40 REPORT OF THE MEMORIALS AND APPRECIATION COMMITTEE**

Rev. Howard Shockley, chairman, reported for the committee and opened with prayer. He read the names of those who died during this Assembly year, and the Assembly stood for a moment of silent prayer in appreciation of the service of these saints.

1. Rev. Clair S. Albright (February, 1995), First Presbyterian Church, Anna, IL
2. Elder Samuel Baker (January, 1994), First Presbyterian Church, Homestead, FL
3. Elder Sanborn "Sandy" Caldwell (September, 1994), Valleybrook Presbyterian Church, Hixson, TN
4. Elder Ellis F. Hale (December, 1994), First Presbyterian Church, Rome, GA
5. Elder George W. Humphreys (March, 1995), Second Presbyterian Church, Memphis, TN
6. Elder Lawrence Aaron Plank (January, 1995), Ashland EPC, Voorhees, NJ
7. Elder Winn Parker Rash (March, 1995), Christ Covenant Church, Tampa, FL
8. Elder Wesley Y. Reed (February, 1995), Central Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, MO

The committee expressed its gratitude on behalf of the Assembly to all who participated in its planning, including Dana and David Cadwell, Charles Overstreet, David and Marilyn Chadwick, Richard Wilson, Todd Hahn, Mary Lance Sisk, musicians, soloists and drama participants. Thanks also to Recording Clerks Buck Russell and Lew Fischer and Rev. Mike Glodo and the General Assembly staff.

The Assembly also wishes to thank the moderators, past and present, standing committee chairmen, the entire staff of Forest Hill Church and all the volunteers who typed, copied, ran errands and answered questions, hosted guests and provided transportation, snacks, and treats. The warm and gracious hospitality shown to the Assembly delighted commissioners and warmed all our hearts.

#### IN MEMORIAM

*Clair S. Albright*



Rev. Clair S. Albright, Pastor Emeritus, First Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Anna, Illinois) went to be with his Lord on February 14, 1995. He was one of the first Teaching Elders to explore the EPC option, and came into the new denomination at great personal sacrifice. Serving as a minister of the Gospel for thirty years, he labored in the EPC from 1981 until his retirement in 1984 when he was given the status of Pastor Emeritus of the Anna, Illinois church. His wife, Vera, survives, along with children Christopher Albright, Larry Albright, Clarice Albright-Gunn, Michael Kennedy, Colleen Kennedy Lind, Patrick Kennedy, Maureen Kennedy Gildon and twelve grandchildren.

**ON MOTION** to receive the report of the Memorials and Appreciation Committee as a whole.

**15-41 CONCLUDING WORSHIP AND ADJOURNMENT**

The Assembly concluded the business session at 3:00 p.m. and held the final worship time of the Assembly.

**Order of Worship**

Saturday, June 24, 1995

Hymn "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Solo "God's Chosen People" Tony Monticith

Moderator's Comments

Closing Hymn "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

The Moderator declared the 15th General Assembly adjourned at 3:15 p.m. The 16th General Assembly will convene June 20-22, 1996 at Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church, Englewood, Colorado.

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PART II

APPENDICES

## Administration Committee Report



*Graham Smith, chairman*

The Committee on Administration, having been expanded to nine elected members by the 14th General Assembly, convened for two stated meetings November 3-4, 1994 and April 6-7, 1995. In addition, a telephone conference meeting convened July 14, 1994. The Committee on Administration accomplished the duties assigned to it by the *Rules for Assembly*.

The Executive Committee of the Committee on Administration, which was expanded to six members by the full COA, convened four times and carried out the additional duties assigned it. Two of the additional duties assigned were:

- 1) Assume final responsibility for performance evaluation and policy review of the World Outreach Director and the National Outreach Director.
- 2) Conduct an ongoing review of the Stated Clerk's Office and report to the Committee on Administration at its meetings.

One of the first tasks undertaken by the Executive Committee was to survey all pastors, stated clerks, and General Assembly committee personnel regarding their views of the activities of the General Assembly Office. The results of the survey were overwhelming positive and reflect the high esteem which exists for General Assembly Office personnel. The results of this survey will be presented to the 15th General Assembly.

One prevailing opinion of the General Assembly Office was that the Stated Clerk and staff were overworked. The addition of Dick Oestreicher as World Outreach Director has relieved some of the pressure on our Assembly staff. God has truly blessed our denomination with the presence of Dick Oestreicher. Additional relief can be expected with the hiring of the National Outreach Director.

A summary of other actions of the Committee on Administration are:

- 1) Authorized the Office of the General Assembly to coordinate a loan of \$200,000 from interested parties to the New Covenant Church, Pompano Beach, Florida. The purpose of this loan was to prevent New Covenant from losing its church property as a result of judgments made against the church by courts in the state of Florida. As a result of this action and the generosity of several churches within the denomination, New Covenant was able to settle the judicial judgments. New Covenant Church is currently working on plan to repay the loan.
- 2) Authorized the appointment of an ad hoc committee to study the legal side of civil disobedience and how actions by individual churches could impact the presbyteries and General Assembly. Work of the committee will be reported at the 16th General Assembly.

- 3) The COA continues to be concerned over the lack of participation by many of our churches in the per woman asking. Many of the larger churches were contacted by the COA requesting their sessions include the per woman asking in their 1995 operating budgets.
- 4) In accordance with the action of the 14th General Assembly, the Finance Committee was instructed to investigate alternative formulas for allocating the costs of General Assembly operations among the churches. The Finance Committee has studied other denominations' plans and will continue to study and make a recommendation at a later date.
- 5) Approve a pre-assembly workshop for the 15th General Assembly to be conducted by Forest Hill Church.
- 6) Approved a dinner sponsored by the Ministerial Vocation Committee during the 15th General Assembly for ministers ordained five years or less, along with their spouses.
- 7) Referred to the Executive Committee the action of the 14th General Assembly instructing the COA to "develop a strategic plan to set forth the vision, goals, and programs of the General Assembly for the next several years. This plan should include goals, programs, activities, and priorities for the life of the plan." The Executive Committee continues to work on this plan.
- 8) Approved a special spring offering from the churches for the operation budgets of the Youth and Women's Ministries Committees. The **Impact Offering** was to be taken on or about Mother's Day.
- 9) Approved a pre-assembly conference for 1996 for the purpose of informing and training the churches to reach Generation X, or the Baby Busters.
- 10) Approved the 1995 Thanksgiving Offering to be taken for the Orlando, Florida Key City church plant.
- 11) Affirmed the action of the National Outreach Committee in recommending that the presbytery boundaries between the Southeast Presbytery and the Mid-Atlantic Presbytery be changed. Further, the COA instructed three of its members to visit the Mid-Atlantic Presbytery to explain the rationale for this recommendation.
- 12) Authorized the Executive Committee to conduct an audit of the Assembly's property and liability insurance coverage, and to make necessary changes including a common expiration date for all policies.
- 13) Concurred in the report of the Finance Subcommittee and approved the proposed 1996 Administration Budget of \$802,725.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in XI, 11-1 to add the words, "and the Group Insurance Plan" at the end of the first sentence.



2. That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in VIII, 8-2,
  - a) to delete the present second sentence and add, "Representation on each committee shall be presbyterial."
  - b) add the words "and secretaries" following the word "chairman" in the first sentence.
3. That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in IX, 9-1.A.3-b by deleting the line which reads, "...Insurance, pension, retirement" and substitute the words, "property and liability insurance."
4. That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in IX, 9-6 by deleting the current section and substituting the following: "The Moderator shall be in consultation with each permanent committee and appoint its chairman for the Assembly year. This provision shall not apply to the Committee on Administration and the Permanent Judicial Commission."
5. That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in X, 10-4 by changing the date on the fifth line from "December 31" to "March 31" and changing "sixty" in the eleventh line to "thirty" days.
6. That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in X, 10-4.3 by deleting the last sentence.
7. That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in XIII, 13-3.2 by deleting this sentence and renumbering items thereafter.
8. That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in XIII, 13-4.4 by
  - a) changing in the first line the "10" minutes to "15" minutes;
  - b) deleting in the second sentence the words "an additional five (5) minutes" and substituting the words, "in additional five (5) minute increments."
  - c) adding a third sentence which shall read, "No commissioner may speak longer than three (3) minutes."
9. That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in VIII, 8-4.A by deleting the words "elect a secretary."
10. That the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in VIII, 8-7 by adding the sentence, "The Moderator may extend this time up to an additional ten (10) minutes."
11. That the General Assembly grant the Committee on Youth Ministries 15 minutes of floor time to present material on a strategy for ministry to Generation X.
12. That the General Assembly designate the 1995 Thanksgiving Offering for the Orlando Florida Key City church plant.
13. That the General Assembly adopt the proposed 1996 Benevolence Askings Budget of \$668,500.
14. That the General Assembly adopt the proposed 1996 Administration Budget of \$802,725.
15. That the General Assembly accept the invitation of Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church, Englewood, CO to host the 16th (1996) General Assembly.

16. That the General Assembly accept the invitation of Central Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, MO to host the 17th (1997) General Assembly.
17. That the General Assembly instruct the Committee on Theology to study the issue of civil disobedience and report to the 16th (1996) General Assembly, and that the Stated Clerk bring together an ad hoc committee to study the legal side of this issue.
18. That the General Assembly realign the boundaries between the Presbytery of the Southeast and the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic to include the following seven churches as part of the Southeast Presbytery: Cleveland EPC, Abingdon, VA; Christ Church, Anderson, SC; Cornerstone EPC, Franklin, NC; Grace EPC, Franklin, NC; Plumtree Presbyterian, Avery County, NC; Harvest Church, Asheville, NC; Community Bible Church, Highlands, NC.
19. That the General Assembly grant the Christian Education and Publications Committee permission to design a subscription program for the denominational magazine, *EPC Reflections*, which shall begin with the June, 1996 issue.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Graham Smith, Chairman  
Committee on Administration  
June, 1995

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## Board Of Pension And Benefits Report

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The Board of Pension and Benefits met on two occasions during the last year, in September, 1994 and March, 1995 to conduct its ongoing business.

### EPC Group Insurance Plan

During the 14th General Assembly meeting the Board had asked for an increase in premiums for those pastors who had opted out of Social Security since they would not be covered by Medicare during a time in their lives that they would be most likely to use the insurance benefits. The Assembly denied that request. This situation was further researched and the following recommendation is proposed:

#### Recommendation #1

That the following addition be made to the Plan:

"Persons who have opted out of the Social Security System shall, upon retirement or attainment of age 65, whichever occurs later, be excluded from the Evangelical Presbyterian Church's medical benefit plan. However, coverage may be continued upon participation in the Medicare Voluntary Enrollment Plan, Parts A and B, and upon payment of the required monthly premiums to both Medicare Voluntary Enrollment Plan and the Evangelical Presbyterian Church's Medical Benefits Plan."

The Board has received many requests for coverage of "well" visits for children. The following addition to the health plan has been recommended:

#### Recommendation #2

That the following addition be made to the Plan under the section entitled "PREVENTIVE CARE:"

The Plan will pay 80 percent (80%) of eligible expenses, after the deductible, for the following:

- immunizations for eligible dependent children to age 16.

As of January 1, 1995, the new conversion charges have been increased by 400% for major medical coverage, 300% for comprehensive coverage and 100% for hospital/surgical coverage. With this in mind, we would propose the following:

#### Recommendation #3

That the current conversion option providing medical care benefits be discontinued.

Our current plan lists organ transplants that will be covered by our plan. Due to changes in medical capabilities and practice we would recommend that pancreatic transplant be added to that list.

#### Recommendation #4

That the Plan be amended to include pancreatic transplants on the list of organ transplants which will be covered, so that the affected section will read:

Human Organ/Tissue Transplants:

Covered transplants are limited to cornea, kidney, liver, heart, lung, bone marrow and pancreas.

Our plan has enjoyed a favorable loss ratio during the past year and we would like to recommend the following changes in our premium structure:

Recommendation #5

That the following revised premium structure for the medical plan be effective August 1, 1995:

	<u>Region A</u>	<u>Region B</u>	<u>Region C</u>
Employee Only	\$129	\$165	\$183
Employee/Spouse	\$305	\$363	\$403
Employee/Children	\$239	\$284	\$315
Employee/Spouse and Children	\$394	\$471	\$519

Our current rate structure is as follows:

Single	\$169	\$202	\$218
Family	\$394	\$471	\$519

There are currently 434 employees enrolled in the Group Insurance Plan, 320 families and 114 singles. Our reserve figure is holding steady at approximately \$1,700,000.

CLAIMS DATA

Claims for year 1991	\$1,273,900
Claims for year 1992	\$1,207,983
Claims for year 1993	\$1,398,030
Claims for year 1994	\$1,507,346

**General**

The establishment of a Board of Reference was mandated by General Assembly action in 1989. This Board has never been fully appointed nor has it functioned. The purpose of this Board was to give grass roots input to the Board of Pension and Benefits. At the present time members of the Board of Pension and Benefits are available during each General Assembly meeting to listen to and address any problems, suggestions or comments from anyone attending the Assembly.

Recommendation #6

That the Assembly rescind its 1989 action (Act 89-06) which established a Board of Reference.

## Housekeeping

**Recommendation #7**

That the *Rules for Assembly*, Article XI, 11-1 be amended by

- 1) adding at the end of the first sentence the words "and the Group Insurance Plan."

The sentence would then read:

"The Board of Pension and Benefits shall oversee the administration of the denominational Pension Plan *and the Group Insurance Plan*."

- 2) Adding in 11-1b. **Duties** the words "to administer the Group Insurance Plan;" in the second line preceding the words "to administer the proceeds..." so that the section would then read:

b. Duties: to serve as trustees under the Pension Plan adopted by the Assembly; *to administer the Group Insurance Plan*; to administer the proceeds of the "Gratitude Gift;" to make annual report of its proceedings to the Assembly.

**The Pension Plan**

Our Pension Plan is alive and growing. Mutual funds in general are performing much better than they were a year ago.

Following is the fund breakdown (market value) balances as of the end of May:

<b>Fund Name</b>	<b>Employee Funds</b>	<b>Employer Funds</b>
Puritan	7,492	21,868
Magellan	278,791	1,404,537
Contrafund	7,102	117,482
Growth & Income	156,557	855,176
Intermediate Bond	51,637	197,412
Asset Manager	175,687	721,736
Retirement MM	<u>155,263</u>	<u>388,553</u>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$832,528</b>	<b>\$3,706,765</b>

The value of the entire pension fund is \$4,539,292.00.

There are 98 churches who have adopted The Pension Plan with 454 individual participants.

Respectfully submitted,

R. Orin Littlejohn, Chairman  
Board of Pension and Benefits  
June, 1995

## FIDELITY CONTRAFUND

Fidelity Contrafund seeks capital appreciation.

The fund invests primarily in undervalued common stock and securities convertible into common stock. It also may invest in preferred stocks, warrants and other debt securities. The fund seeks companies currently out of favor with the investing public that may have favorable long-term outlooks due to termination of unprofitable operations, changes in management, industry or products or a possible merger/acquisition. However, these issues are considered speculative. The fund may invest up to 5% of its assets in lower-quality debt.

<u>Total Return %</u>							
1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
-1.90	21.02	43.15	3.94	54.92	15.89	21.43	-1.12

## FIDELITY PURITAN

Fidelity Puritan Fund seeks income, consistent with preservation of capital.

The fund invests in a diversified array of high-yielding securities; these may be common stocks, preferred stocks or bonds. The relative holdings vary in response to changing market conditions. The bonds may have any quality rating or maturity: up to 35% of the fund's assets may be invested in lower-quality, higher yielding assets.

The fund purchases foreign securities, zero-coupon bonds and indexed securities. The fund may also engage in futures contracts, short sales and swap agreements.

<u>Total Return %</u>							
1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
-1.79	18.69	19.60	-6.35	24.46	15.43	21.45	1.78

## FIDELITY MAGELLAN

The Fidelity Magellan Fund seeks capital appreciation. The fund invests primarily in common stocks and convertible securities, with up to 20% of its assets invested in debt securities of all types and qualities.

It features domestic corporations operating primarily in the United States, domestic corporations that have significant activities and interests outside the U. S. and foreign companies.

No limitations are placed on total foreign investment, but no more than 40% of assets will be invested in companies operating exclusively in one foreign country.

<u>Total Return %</u>							
1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
1.00	22.77	34.58	-4.51	41.03	7.02	24.66	-1.81

## FIDELITY GROWTH AND INCOME

Fidelity Growth and Income Portfolio seeks long-term growth, current income and growth of income, consistent with reasonable investment risk.

The fund invests primarily in dividend-paying common stocks with growth potential. Generally, the fund sells securities whose dividends fall below the yield of the S & P 500 Index. Some common-stock selections, however, may be made in securities not paying dividends but offering prospects for capital growth or future income.

Fixed-income investments made by the fund generally are in corporate bonds.

<u>Total Return %</u>							
1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
5.77	22.98	29.60	-6.80	41.84	11.54	19.53	2.27



## FIDELITY ASSET MANAGER

Fidelity Asset Manager seeks total return with reduced risk over the long term.

The fund normally allocates its assets within the following investment parameters: 10%-60% in stocks, 20%-60% in bonds, and 0%-70% in short-term fixed-income instruments. A neutral mix consists of 40% stocks, 40% bonds and 20% money-market instruments.

The bond portion consists of debt of varying quality, maturities are greater than three years. A single reallocation may not involve more than 10% of assets. The fund may purchase foreign issues.

<u>Total Return %</u>					
1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
15.28	5.38	23.64	12.75	23.29	-6.60

## FIDELITY INTERMEDIATE BOND

Fidelity Intermediate Bond Fund seeks current income.

The fund invests in high quality corporation obligations, U.S. government securities, obligations of major U.S. banks, prime commercial paper and other instruments that the fund's advisor believes to be of comparable quality. The fund's weighted maturity is expected to be 10 years or less.

<u>Total Return %</u>							
1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
1.99	7.22	11.82	7.54	14.50	6.08	11.96	-2.01

## FIDELITY MONEY MARKET

Retirement Government Money Market portfolio is a diversified portfolio of Fidelity Money Market Trust. The portfolio is generally intended for investors in tax-saving retirement plans. The portfolio seeks to obtain as high a level of current income as is consistent with the preservation of capital and liquidity.

This is done by investing in obligations issued or guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States government, its agencies or instrumentalities and also in repurchase agreements secured by these obligations.

**KARL L. DRAKE, PC**  
**CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT**

1415 W. ARGYLE STREET  
 JACKSON, MICHIGAN 49202

(517) 796-9383 TELEPHONE  
 (517) 796-9403 FACSIMILE

APPENDICES

Independent Auditor's Report

To the General Assembly of the  
 Evangelical Presbyterian Church

We have audited the accompanying statement of net assets and changes in net assets arising from cash transactions of Evangelical Presbyterian Church Pension Plan as of and for the year ended December 31, 1994. This financial statement is the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note A, these financial statement was prepared on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the net assets and changes in net assets arising from cash transactions of Evangelical Presbyterian Church Pension Plan as of and for the year ended December 31, 1994, on the basis of accounting described in Note A.

*Karl L. Drake PC*

Karl L. Drake, PC  
 Certified Public Accountant

March 2, 1995

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
PENSION PLAN

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

For the year ended December 31, 1994

Additions to plan assets attributed to	
Contributions	\$ 1,151,524
Dividends and interest	154,011
Transfers in	222,852
Gain (loss) in market value	<u>(196,778)</u>
	<u>1,331,609</u>
Deductions from plan assets attributed to	
Pension payments	127,093
Account fees	<u>5,056</u>
	<u>132,149</u>
NET INCREASE	1,199,460
Net assets	
Cash and investments - beginning of year	<u>2,412,635</u>
Cash and investments - end of year	\$ 3,612,095
	=====

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
PENSION PLAN  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
December 31, 1994

NOTE A - PLAN DESCRIPTION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES.

A general description of Evangelical Presbyterian Church Pension Plan (the Plan) and a summary of significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of the accompanying financial statements follows.

Basis of Presentation

The accounting records of the Plan are maintained primarily on the cash receipts and disbursements method of accounting whereby revenue and the related assets are recognized when received rather than when earned, and expenses are recognized when paid rather than when the obligation is incurred.

Eligibility

The Plan is available to any employees of member churches, and clergy of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

Plan Funding

The plan is fully funded from contributions received from participants in salary reduction agreements or member churches on behalf of their employees or their pastors.

NOTE B - TAX STATUS

The Plan is a tax-exempt entity as provided by Internal Revenue Code Section 403(b).

NOTE C - PLAN INVESTMENTS

At December 31, 1994, the Plan's assets were invested in Merrill Lynch and Fidelity investment accounts as follows. All assets are valued at market value.

Merrill Lynch	\$ 28,264
Fidelity Money Market	344,027
Fidelity Asset Manager	777,163
Fidelity Intermediate Bond	266,394
Fidelity Growth & Income	796,245
Fidelity Contrafund	104,335
Fidelity Magellan	1,262,815
Fidelity Puritan	<u>32,852</u>
	\$3,612,095
	=====

BPB-2

KARL L. DRAKE, PC  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

1415 W. ARGYLE STREET  
JACKSON, MICHIGAN 49202

(517) 796-9383 TELEPHONE  
(517) 796-9403 FACSIMILE

Independent Auditor's Report

To the General Assembly of the  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church

We have audited the accompanying statement of net assets and changes in net assets arising from cash transactions of Evangelical Presbyterian Church Medical Insurance Plan as of and for the years ended December 31, 1994 and 1993. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note A, these financial statements were prepared on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets and changes in net assets arising from cash transactions of Evangelical Presbyterian Church Medical Insurance Plan as of and for the years ended December 31, 1994 and 1993, on the basis of accounting described in Note A.

*Karl L. Drake PC*

Karl L. Drake, PC  
Certified Public Accountant

March 2, 1995

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
MEDICAL INSURANCE PLAN

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

For the years ended December 31, 1994 and 1993

	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>
Additions to plan assets attributed to		
Premiums	\$ 2,220,780	\$ 1,998,996
Dividends and interest	109,970	93,011
Gain (loss) in market value	<u>(146,804)</u>	<u>-0-</u>
	<u>2,183,946</u>	<u>2,092,007</u>
Deductions from plan assets attributed to		
Claims	1,488,213	1,427,715
Premiums	373,744	383,623
Administrative expenses	43,446	48,034
Transfer to medical benevolence fund	<u>-0-</u>	<u>11,827</u>
	<u>1,905,403</u>	<u>1,871,199</u>
NET INCREASE	278,543	220,808
Net assets		
Cash - beginning of year	<u>1,524,125</u>	<u>1,303,317</u>
Cash - end of year	<u>\$ 1,802,668</u>	<u>\$ 1,524,125</u>
	<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

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EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
MEDICAL INSURANCE PLAN  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
December 31, 1994 and 1993

NOTE A - PLAN DESCRIPTION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES.

A general description of Evangelical Presbyterian Church Medical Insurance Plan (the Plan) and a summary of significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of the accompanying financial statements follows.

Basis of Presentation

The accounting records of the Plan are maintained primarily on the cash receipts and disbursements method of accounting whereby revenue and the related assets are recognized when received rather than when earned, and expenses are recognized when paid rather than when the obligation is incurred.

Eligibility

The Plan is available to any employees of member churches and their families, and clergy and their families of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

Premium Revenues

The plan is fully funded from premiums charged to the participants at rates determined by the Board of Directors. A portion of the premiums collected from the participants is remitted to an insurance company for coverage in excess of the amounts self-insured by the Plan.

NOTE B - TAX STATUS

The Plan is a tax-exempt organization as provided by Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(9).

NOTE C - PLAN INVESTMENTS

Investments are valued at market value and are maintained in various investment accounts as follows.

		1994	1993
Claims account	Merrill Lynch	\$ 58,982	\$ 126,552
Administration account	Merrill Lynch	22,385	4,739
Short-term reserves	Merrill Lynch	870,871	878,535
	Vanguard Wellesley	16,901	-0-
	Vanguard Bond Fund	189,691	-0-
	T. Rowe Price	16,621	-0-
	Lindner Funds	16,383	-0-
	Invesco Funds	16,398	-0-
Long-term reserves	Smith Barney	297,283	257,126
	Smith Barney	297,153	257,173
		<u>\$1,802,668</u>	<u>\$1,524,125</u>
		=====	=====

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APPENDICES



## 1996 Administration Budget

	1994 Budget	1994 Actual	1995 Budget	1996 Adopted
<b>PERSONNEL DISBURSEMENTS</b>				
Stated Clerk Salary	56,650	56,650	58,600	61,600
Program Staff Salaries	169,106	125,286	183,800	176,425
Support Staff Salaries	80,097	67,493	82,900	108,900
Staff Insurance/Pension	63,230	43,072	66,514	65,000
Executive Expense Allowance	7,300	7,300	7,300	7,300
Staff Travel/Expenses	20,000	8,855	27,000	30,000
Executive Travel	25,000	20,541	20,000	20,000
Taxes/Workman's Compensation	24,500	19,697	26,000	26,000
Officers/Directors Liability	<u>3,100</u>	<u>3,076</u>	<u>3,500</u>	<u>3,500</u>
	448,983	351,970	475,614	493,725
<b>ADMINISTRATION DISBURSEMENTS</b>				
Contingencies	6,000	3,540	5,000	4,000
Telephone	14,000	15,234	17,000	17,000
Office Supplies	7,500	6,872	8,000	8,000
Printing & Promotion	30,000	22,902	30,000	35,000
Postage	20,000	17,248	22,000	24,000
Technology Support	10,000	10,564	10,000	10,000
Financial Audit	5,000	3,000	5,000	5,000
Professional Fees	2,000	3,110	2,000	2,000
Miscellaneous	4,000	3,544	4,000	4,000
Office Development	15,000	9,760	12,000	18,000
Committee Travel/Expense	50,000	45,423	55,000	55,000
GA Administration	15,000	15,559	15,000	15,000
Staff Technical Training	2,000	826	2,000	2,000
Pension Fund Administration	12,000	3,082	10,000	6,000
Fraternal Relations	10,000	7,360	12,000	12,000
Presbytery Development/Support	7,000	4,758	7,000	7,000
Leadership Development	1,000	1,189	1,000	1,000
Christian Ed/Resource	1,000	1,637	1,000	1,000
5 Mile Utilities	900	819		
5 Mile Maint./Insurance	900	2,271		
5 Mile Taxes	4,200	2,855		
5 Mile Interest				
5 Mile Mortgage Principal				
Buckingham Rent	63,000	59,777	64,000	68,000
Buckingham Utilities	7,000	6,033	7,000	7,000
Buckingham Maint/Insurance	5,000	4,641	5,000	6,000
Van Expense	<u></u>	<u>1,420</u>	<u>1,141</u>	<u>2,000</u>
	293,500	253,424	295,000	313,000
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>	<b>742,483</b>	<b>605,394</b>	<b>770,614</b>	<b>807,725</b>

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**1996 Benevolence Askings Budget**


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<b>Christian Education and Publications Committee</b>	
<i>EPC Reflections</i> publications	\$45,000
<b>Ministerial Vocation Committee</b>	
Andrew Jumper Scholarship Fund (\$2 per member)	\$106,000
Newly Ordained Ministers Event	3,000
<b>Women's Ministries Committee</b>	
Faith Focus	\$30,000
Per woman asking	25,000
<b>National Outreach Committee</b>	
Church Planting	\$50,000
Key Cities Project	50,000
Church Loan Fund	25,000
<b>World Outreach Committee</b>	
Military Avenue/World Impact	\$30,000
Appalachian project	5,000
China seminary project	50,000
Siberia team development	15,000
Kazakhstan team development	15,000
Muslim team development	10,000
Russian study Bibles	5,000
<u><b>Argentina</b></u>	
• Argentina Leadership Development	15,000
• Mission Director Field Office	40,000
• Church planting and team development	30,000
• IBBA Library development	5,000
• Spanish Resource Center	1,500
<u><b>Brazil National Outreach</b></u>	
• New church development - Tocantins	25,000
• Street children's ministry in Sammar	7,000
• Geneva Study Bible translation into Portuguese (partial costs)	8,000
<u><b>Brazil Foreign Missions</b></u>	
• New ministry development in Ghana	15,000
<u><b>Brazil Theological Education</b></u>	
• Graduate scholarships for four students	45,000
<b>Youth Ministries Committee</b>	8,000
Ministerial Endowment Fund	5,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$668,500</b>

## Christian Education and Publications Committee Report



Barbara Mansfield, Chairman

The Committee met twice during the 1994-95 Assembly year, on September 15-17, 1994 and again March 9-10, 1995. Committee members are Barbara Byron, Mark Hudson, Barbara Mansfield (chairman), James Miller, Carolyn Nystrom, and James Vanek.

The following topic areas were reviewed by committee members with action as noted.

### Denominational Publication

The 1995 Women's Ministry Faith Focus was granted to fund a denominational publication, and Donna Alberta graciously agreed to serve as our editor. Much committee time was utilized in planning for the publication, outlining the purpose, suggesting topics for articles, identifying writers, etc.

The title of the publication will be *EPC Reflections*. The publication will be printed in Grand Rapids, Michigan at the Christian Reformed Church publishing house. First edition will be ready for distribution at General Assembly. Future plans include three issues published during the year, with proposed dates of January, May and September. The projected volume is planned for approximately 20,000 per issue. The committee asked the Committee on Administration to place before the Assembly a request for a subscription plan to begin with the June, 1996 issue.

### Men's Programs

The committee conducted a telephone conference call regarding the Promise Keepers program. The committee also received for consideration a men's ministry program from Victor Books. Additional materials are being received by committee for further review, and committee members will continue to research this topic.

### Additional Programs and Material

Committee reviewed the CRC LiFE curriculum and recommend this program to be added for EPC churches to consider. An addendum will be prepared for the booklet, *Curriculum Evaluation Packet for Children*. The committee was impressed with the quality of the LiFE program.

### Small Church Survey

Committee reviewed the survey results received from the churches under 200 members. Much time was spent by Carolyn Nystrom tabulating survey results, and she is to be commended for her outstanding work. Survey results were shared with other EPC committees for action and planning. A limited number of survey results are available at the EPC book table for those participants who did not receive a copy and would like one.

### Lay Renewal Ministries

In the Fall of 1994, the committee communicated with Lay Renewal regarding a cooperative venture with EPC through this committee, recommending an ongoing working relationship with them to be the denomination's official curriculum and resource supplier. Through the EPC office and the Committee on Administration, an agreement was reached and this relationship with Lay Renewal began in January. EPC churches are encouraged to contact Lay Renewal with their Sunday school curriculum and other publication needs.

### General Assembly

Committee reviewed the 1994 General Assembly exhibit problems, materials distributed to churches and method of distribution so that more effective plans might be made for the 1995 General Assembly.

### Future Areas of Committee Work

Committee will be completing the worship service forms in the 1995-96 General Assembly year. Stewardship tracts will be on the Fall, 1995 agenda. The position paper, "What is a Session?" will be reviewed by committee this fall. Continued review of Men's Ministries and programs available will be conducted. The area of missions materials for children and adults will be researched.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Mansfield, Chairman  
Christian Education and Publications Committee

June, 1995



## COMMUNICATION #95-1

# Evangelical Presbyterian Church

29140 BUCKINGHAM AVENUE, SUITE 5 LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48154  
(313) 261-2001 Fax (313) 261-3282

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

APPENDICES

June, 1995

The Reverend Dr. L. Edward Davis  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
29140 Buckingham Avenue, Suite 5  
Livonia, Michigan 48154

Dear Ed:

The *Rules for Assembly* state that the Moderator is to appoint a chairman for the Nominating Committee, and to nominate persons to fill vacancies on the Nominating Committee. The Moderator is also to nominate the chairman for the Board of Pension and Benefits for the forthcoming Assembly year.

I am pleased to offer the following names:

1. Appointment: Rev. Thomas Ryan, chairman, Nominating Committee
2. Nominations: Nominating Committee, Class of 1998
  1. Elder Homer Graham, Presbytery of the West
  2. Elder Connie Jennings, Presbytery of Florida
  3. Rev. David Massimi, Presbytery of the Midwest
3. Nomination: Elder Orin Littlejohn, chairman, Board of Pension and Benefits

It is my blessing and privilege to place these names before you, and to commend these fine people for service to our denomination and to our Lord.

In Christ,

William Johns, Moderator  
14th General Assembly



COMMUNICATION #95-2  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church

29140 BUCKINGHAM AVENUE, SUITE 5 LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48154  
(313) 261-2001 Fax (313) 261-3282

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

APPENDICES

May 22, 1995

TO: L. Edward Davis, Stated Clerk  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
29140 Buckingham Avenue, Suite 5  
Livonia, Michigan 48154

FROM: Colleen Rinehart, Chairman  
Nominating Committee

RE: Commissioner Registrations and Committee Assignments

The Nominating Committee recommends to the General Assembly that the *Rules for Assembly* be amended in Section VIII, 8-2, by adding the words "mailed ten days" between the words "registrations" and "prior" in the third sentence of the section.

The third sentence of Section VIII, 8-2, would then read:

"The Assembly Nominating Committee will elect committee personnel from Commissioner registrations mailed 10 days prior to the convening of the Assembly."

Grounds: Late registrations create an extremely heavy burden on the Nominating Committee as well as the General Assembly Office.



# Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church

COMMUNICATION #95-3

building a community of christian disciples  
10150 East Belleview Avenue, Englewood, Colorado 80111 303-779-9909

September 28, 1994

Dr. L. Edward Davis, Stated Clerk  
Office of the General Assembly  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
29140 Buckingham Avenue, Suite 5  
Livonia, MI 48154

Dear Dr. Davis,

At its meeting on Sunday, September 25, 1994, the Session of Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church unanimously resolved to extend an invitation to the General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church to hold the 16th annual meeting of the General Assembly at Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church. The Session is mindful of the disruption of previous plans to host the 13th General Assembly and therefore with gratitude and the highest sense of expectancy renews the invitation.

Trusting that it may be the will of God that this invitation will prove acceptable, we anxiously await the reply of the General Assembly.

In His service,

James F. Miller  
Senior Pastor

Maurice L. Martin, Jr.  
Clerk of Session

APPENDICES

## COMMUNICATION #95-4



7700 Davis Drive • Clayton, Missouri 63105

Phone: (314) 727-2777 • FAX: (314) 854-0168

March 8, 1995

Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
29140 Buckingham Ave #5  
Livonia, MI 48154

Attention: Mr. Edward Davis  
Stated Clerk

Dear Mr. Davis:

The Session of Central Presbyterian Church would like to extend an invitation to host the 1997 Evangelical Presbyterian Church General Assembly in St. Louis, Missouri.

Please contact us so that we might firm up arrangements and confirm our offer to host the 1997 General Assembly.

Sincerely,

Gary Cervenka  
Clerk of the Session

GC/mn







May 12, 1995

L. Edward Davis, Stated Clerk  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
29140 Buckingham Ave., Suite 5  
Livonia, MI 48154

Dear Ed,

Please consider this letter as a formal invitation for the General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church to be our guests in Highlands Ranch (south metro Denver) in 1998.

We will be moving into our new facility in July, with our first worship service tentatively on July 30th. The Lord blessed us during the winter with wonderful weather, only about three days when they couldn't work. Now that the building is totally enclosed, it has rained every day which is preventing them from finishing the roads and parking areas. Pray with us!

I look forward to seeing you in June in Charlotte.

Serving Christ with you,

Dr. Jim Dixon  
Senior Pastor



**With our thanksgiving for  
these blessings,  
accept our praise, O God.**

### COMMUNICATION #95-6

November 21, 1994

[Sent to the Clerks of Session]

Dear Friend:

As a child, I always looked forward to the end of May because that was the time school was over, and summer was a time of freedom and fun. Then came September and it was back to school (which I didn't eagerly look forward to). But in September I knew

that not far away were Thanksgiving and Christmas. Thanksgiving was a time when our family - aunts, uncles, grandparents, as well as brother, sister, and parents - gathered to have a great time together (and we were out of school). But the greatest anticipation was looking forward to Christmas and the surprises of Christmas morning (and we were out of school).

Well, you probably noticed that one of the important things to me in those childhood years was **being out of school**. But things have changed. As we grow and mature, our values change. Thanksgiving and Christmas have become a time of **giving and not getting**. They are times of being willing to give from a spirit of gratitude and our giving is truly a measure of our gratitude.

In my brief time as Moderator, I have had many opportunities to visit and contact our Assembly office. It is a place of much activity, with loving, caring people handling a major responsibility to direct and assist the denomination in its growth. But they can function effectively only as long as we in the local churches do our part in providing the resources through our "per member" giving. Many of you have assumed your share, and more, of this support. To you go grateful thanks for your willingness to share.

To others, **we need your support**. Having visited many of our churches, I am aware that many of you are struggling with financial matters. A proven biblical principle is that when we give sacrificially out of whatever we have, we will be given even more.

As Clerk of the Session, you are in a position to partner with your pastor and lead your Session to take a step of faith, asking the Session and congregation to lend their shoulders to carry their share of the cost of our denominational office. This is a time for expressing our gratitude. **BLESSINGS WILL FOLLOW**. God's best has been given for us. Now may we respond by giving our best to Him

Blessings to you and your congregation.

Bill Johns, Moderator  
14th General Assembly



## COMMUNICATION #95-7

# Evangelical Presbyterian Church

29140 BUCKINGHAM AVENUE, SUITE 5 LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48154  
(313) 261-0001 Fax (313) 261-3282

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

May 11, 1995

[Sent to the Pastors]

Dear Friend:

You asked for it. Now you've got it!

You and your ministerial colleagues throughout the Evangelical Presbyterian Church responded to the Office of the General Assembly Survey distributed recently with a resounding call for better denominational communication. As you know, good two-way communication is the key ingredient in any healthy, well-functioning system—whether a family or a corporation or a church body. To that end, we are on the threshold of distributing our premiere edition of our new magazine, *EPC Reflections*.

The magazine is being published under the auspices of the Committee on Christian Education and Publications. Much hard work has gone into the preliminary research and development phase. At this writing, I am awaiting the second stage proof from our friends at the Christian Reformed Church's Product Services department. They have wonderfully agreed to accept us as a client, allowing us to benefit from their more than a century of publishing experience. The graphic design, layout, and printing of our magazine rests in their very capable hands. I know you will be extremely pleased with the results.

Since this magazine represents an historic step forward for us, we need to celebrate as well as participate together in its debut. Your support and practical cooperation in launching this informative and edifying publication is critical. Please help us in the following key ways:

- \* Promote *Reflections* from the pulpit, encouraging your members and regular attenders to secure a copy (one copy per family unit). There is nothing as valuable as the pastor's endorsement!
- \* Identify for us on the enclosed postcard the name of the contact person at your church who will cheerfully and diligently take ownership of the distribution process. This is extremely important! We will use this information to prepare mailing labels for shipping your magazines. It would be counterproductive to have the magazine inadvertently pushed to a forgotten corner of the church office. Some of the content is time-sensitive. **Please find a team player who will take responsibility for this very important task!!!**

Please furnish the requested information by **May 30**, so that we may create the database and the labels needed to facilitate our first shipment.

Thank you in advance for your enthusiastic support and encouragement. Please write to me with any suggestions (including topics for feature articles), constructive criticisms, or manuscript submissions you would like us to consider for future issues.

Your sister in Christ,

Donna Rae Alberta  
Editor

## COMMUNICATION #95-8

### NORTH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN AND REFORMED COUNCIL

Dr. Myung Doh Kim, Chairman  
1901 W. 166th Street  
Gardena, CA 90247

The Rev. Donald J. Duff, Secretary  
303 Horsham Road, Suite G  
Horsham, Pennsylvania 19044

Dr. David H. Engelhard, Vice-Chairman  
2850 Kalamazoo Ave. S.E.  
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

The Rev. Robert Henning, Treasurer  
3711 Premier Dr.  
Columbus, IN 47203-9657

#### APPENDICES

June 8, 1995

Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
Office of the General Assembly  
The Rev. L. Edward Davis, Stated Clerk  
29140 Buckingham Ave., Suite 5  
Livonia MI 48154

Dear Brethren,

At the Twentieth meeting of the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council, held in Philadelphia on November 2, 1995, the Council received a FAX from the Stated Clerk of your General Assembly. The communication was presented to the Council and at that meeting the following motion was adopted:

The Interim Committee be authorized to proceed with a consultation with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church as they requested in their communication of November 2 (see communication 7).

I will call the attention of the Interim Committee to this motion and seek to pursue some way to implement it.

May the Lord bless you in your 15th General Assembly to be held in Charlotte, North Carolina this month.

Yours in Christ's service,



Donald J. Duff, Secretary

COMMUNICATION #95-9  
JAMES E. RIMMEL CO., L.P.A.  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

8090 MARKET STREET  
SUITE NO. 3  
BOARDMAN, OHIO 44512  
216/726-9064  
216/726-6539 FAX

OTHER OFFICES:  
CANFIELD, OHIO  
DEAR BROTHERS,  
9 March 1995

Rev. Dr. L. Edward Davis  
Stated Clerk  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
29140 Buckingham Avenue  
Suite 5  
Livonia, MI 48154

RE: EPC Scholarship

Dear Ed:

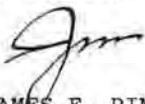
It is with great pleasure that I share with you the good news that the Erskine Board of Trustees will, in all likelihood, consider an EPC matching scholarship program at its May meeting. Tentatively, that which will be acted upon by the Board would allow for EPC members to receive up to \$1,000 from the School on a one-to-one matching basis with our local EPC Churches. For example, should my daughter, Stefani, opt to attend Erskine, she could receive up to a \$1,000 EPC scholarship for each year of attendance provided those monies were matched by her home church and/or other EPC sources.

Please know that the receipt of such monies do not preclude an EPC Erskine student from receiving additional awards based upon applicable criteria. In other words, given students may receive financial aid in addition to the EPC matching scholarship.

Ed, in anticipation of the Board's approval of this policy, I am seeking COA's permission to communicate this exciting opportunity via the mails to each local church and at Assembly.

With kind personal regards, I remain

In Christ,

  
JAMES E. RIMMEL

JER:jl

APPENDICES

## COMMUNICATION #95-10



# Evangelical Presbyterian Church

29140 BUCKINGHAM AVENUE, SUITE 5 LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48154  
(313) 261-2001 Fax (313) 261-3282

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## APPENDICES

March 5, 1995

Dear Pastor,

You are an important part of helping us meet a real challenge! You may recall that the General Assembly approved a special offering for Youth and Women's Ministries. Both of our ministries have exciting visions, but are sometimes crippled from accomplishing them by lack of funds.

We desire to involve women in "hands on" mission endeavors, to bring week-end youth jams to regional arenas, and provide mini-conferences for women that will impact our smaller and larger churches. However, ideas and excitement cannot get us where we want to go. We need the "fuel" to get us to our destinations. That's where your church enters *the race*.

**Starting Line:** Your church agrees to help by facilitating the collection of the Special Offering which we are calling our **IMPACT OFFERING**.

**Date of Race:** What better day than Mother's Day, May 14, 1995!

**Rules of Race:** We provide attractive bulletin inserts and envelopes.

**Rationale:** The whole church is helping two of its strong "runners" (Youth and Women's Ministries) to strengthen and expand the scope of their ministry and impact within the kingdom and in the world.

**Finish Line:** Your church sends the collected offering to the General Assembly Office marked **IMPACT OFFERING**, and Women's and Youth Ministries will benefit equally.

We enlist your help in "running this race." If Mother's Day is not suitable, please choose an alternate date. We will send you the materials for the offering by mid-April, unless we hear otherwise. If your church is unable to participate let us know by calling us at (313) 261-2001 and speaking to either one of us.

Your co-laborers.

Dan Weidman,  
Dir. of Youth Ministries

Jan Juday,  
Dir. of Women's Ministries

## COMMUNICATION #95-11

90/90

EVANGELICAL

COUNCIL FOR

FINANCIAL

ACCOUNTABILITY

September 27, 1994



Dr. L. Edward Davis  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
29140 Buckingham Ave #5  
Livonia, MI 48154

Dear Dr. Davis:

I am very pleased to tell you that your membership in the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) has been renewed for 1994. Evangelical Presbyterian Church continues to demonstrate good faith compliance with the ECFA standards of responsible stewardship.

1994 marks the fifteenth anniversary of ECFA. Originally starting out in 1979 with 150 members, today ECFA has over 770 member organizations promoting financial accountability among the Christian nonprofit community.

The challenge for ECFA has never been greater. Donors increasingly look to ECFA to verify that the Christian charity they wish to support is worthy of their trust. In 1993, ECFA received twice as many telephone calls from donors inquiring about member ministries as ever before.

ECFA's mission is to help Christ-centered evangelical non-profit organizations earn the public's trust through their ethical practices and financial accountability. Thank you for your commitment to accountability. We are committed to assisting you in any way possible to do what is right and honoring to the Lord in the way your organization conducts business and carries out its ministry.

Enclosed is a copy of the updated Member Profile information that we send out to donors inquiring about your organization. Please let us know in writing of any changes that are necessary. If you have any suggestions as to how we may further improve our service to ECFA members and the donor public, please let us know. Please be aware that copies of the ECFA "seal" are available to members from the ECFA office. If you need more of these please contact us.

May God continue to bless you and your ministry.

Sincerely,

Clarence Reimer  
Vice President Member Review and Compliance

Enc: Member Profile

R:\letters\_from\appamr.94pl



**WORLD EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP**AGUSTIN B. VENCER, JR., *International Director***WEF MEMO**

**To :** CEOs OF ASSOCIATE MEMBERS  
**From:** AGUSTIN "JUN" VENCER, JR.  
**Subject:** 10TH WEF GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
**Date :** March 26, 1995

Dear Brethren:

Greetings to you in the name of the Lord! I trust that all are well with you. As we plan for the future, we are reminded of Paul's challenge: "... but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ" (Phil. 3:13, 14). May this be our challenge also.

1. *The 10th WEF General Assembly.* Our next General Assembly will be held at Minehead, United Kingdom. The dates are: April 9-12, 1996 - *NEF General Secretaries' Strategy Consultation*; April 12 (evening) - 18, 1996 - *10th General Assembly*. Our theme is: **THE WORLD FOR JESUS CHRIST: Faith for the future.**

Please take note of the following important items.

- 1.1 Subject to inflation and other changes, the current cost estimates for the Assembly would be: *Registration Fee* - \$200.00 (to cover part of cost of administration, busing to and from Heathrow Airport, and facilities) and *Accommodations* (with meals) per day - \$80.00.
- 1.2 Update your Organizational data as attached for our revised directory. We need this by August, 1995.
- 1.3 Send to us the names of your delegates so that we can issue the official invitation for visa purposes and to make accommodation reservations, preferably by June, 1995.
- 1.4 We will be dealing with possible amendments to the WEF By-laws and we would encourage you to send in your proposed amendments not later than July 30, 1995.
- 1.5 Kindly take note that this is our Assembly, the Executive Committee have adopted the policy that *each delegate shall take care of his own travel, registration, and accommodation costs.*
- 1.6 *We are planning to have an Associate Members pre-GA track (April 9-12, 1995).* This will also be at Minehead. This will also be the first time that we are planning to do it to ensure maximum participation by all WEF members in the process of discipling the nations for Jesus. We will link with the delegates of the REFs and NEFs during joint sessions to discuss possible areas of partnership in each country.

I will bring you more specific information at the earliest possible time. A Track Coordinator is being

March 26, 1995

appointed to co-opt members to plan the program and the outcomes.

Please pray for the ongoing preparation for the GA and plan early the selection of your delegates and guests. We are confident of the Lord's blessings. Kindly direct all communications or inquiries regarding the GA to me.

2. *Finances.* If we are able to collect all our membership dues every year, it would amount to US\$31,450.00 @ year. This is only about 1/10 of our direct Administrative Cost to run WEF! Clearly, we have to trust God for His provision beyond our membership dues. It means sacrificial (or proportional) giving by member bodies. Thus far, we are most grateful for Christian Foundations, churches, organizations and individuals who partner with us in ministry. But the primary financial responsibility remains that of the members. It is ours. In fact, our donors and partners are raising a valid question: "If your members are not supporting you, why should we?" Let's begin with and update our annual dues ... trust God for more ... and expect greater blessings from Him. Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "beyond their ability they gave of their own accord, begging us with much entreaty for the favor of participation" (2 Cor.8:3,4) and to the Philippians concerning their generous giving, "Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for the profit which increases to your account" (4:17).

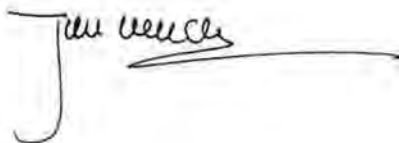
3. *WEF Brochure.* The brochure provides the rationale for and thrust of WEF ministries. It is an updated statement as to what we stand for and critical contribution to World evangelization.

4. *NEF Primer.* Our vision is to reach THE WORLD FOR JESUS CHRIST. It is to see the whole World disciplined for Christ. Our mission is to establish and strengthen regional and national evangelical fellowships/alliances so that they can empower and mobilize local churches and Christian organizations to disciple the nations for Christ. The NEF mission is the total mobilization of God's people and resources in the nation. It is our conviction that the NEF is critical to achieve the vision of a disciplined nation. I'm sending you a copy of a *Primer* to establish and strengthen an NEF. It is our hope that you will find it helpful to you in your ministry.

Be assured of our prayers for you and your ministries. God bless ... Shalom.

*Enclosures:*

1. Copy of present WEF directory entry
2. WEF Corporate brochure
3. NEF Primer
4. Strategic Process
5. ID Report



## COMMUNICATION #95-13

*Northampton Presbyterian Church, E.P.C.*

1217 Todds Lane  
Hampton, Virginia 23666  
Reverend Daniel M. Berry, III  
826-1305 or 825-0301

19 January 1995

### APPENDICES

The Rev. Dr. Ed Davis, Stated Clerk  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
29140 Buckingham Ave., S. 5.  
Livonia, Mi. 48154.

Dear Dr. Davis:

I was interested to receive this week the mailings regarding Lay Renewal Ministries and their role in distributing resources in the EPC. Of course, I have been somewhat familiar with their work since the days before the merger of the PCUS and the UPCUSA. Certainly, this organization may be helpful to the EPC in a variety of ways, including distribution of certain educational materials.

My concern, however, is the lack of a reformed emphasis in the materials mentioned. Most of our churches already receive informational mailings from such publishers as David C. Cook, Gospel Light, Scripture Press, Group, and the others mentioned in the mailing. Instead of these sources, or at least in addition to them, why not work to promote such resources as Great Commissions Publishing, CRC Publishers, and the denominational publishers for the PCA and the ARP congregations?

Would it be necessary for the General Assembly to endorse officially these more distinctively reformed publishers of C.E. materials? Is there perhaps some other reason why we, as a denomination, cannot concentrate on these publishing houses whose roots are more specifically Presbyterian?

I have been working to move our Sunday school department gradually toward a more reformed perspective and away from these independent, albeit evangelical, publishers. We are achieving this objective. It is a slow process, and we are careful not to push too fast. As a denomination, we need to remember that we are not only evangelical, but also Presbyterian; we are interested in being renewed, but also in being reformed.

Thank you for your interest. I look forward to hearing from you on this matter. Hope to see you in Charlotte.

Very sincerely,  
The REv. Mr. DANIEL M. Berry, III



## RESOLUTION #95-A

### Presbytery of the Southeast Evangelical Presbyterian Church

6001 Hixson Pike • Hixson Tennessee 37343

Phone (615) 843-0314

FAX (615) 843-0314

Samuel M. Harris, Stated Clerk

Bill Johnson, Treasurer

APPENDICES

### A Resolution to the 15th General Assembly from the Presbytery of the Southeast May 12, 1995

We, as the Presbytery of the Southeast, are thankful to God and to the wisdom of the National Outreach Committee for their recommendation to the 15th General Assembly that a boundary change occur between the Presbyteries of the Mid Atlantic and the Southeast.

We, therefore, as the Presbytery of the Southeast, at our 35th Stated meeting, on May 12, 1995, go on record as supporting the boundary change effective Jan. 1, 1996. We are also supportive of the overture sent by the Presbytery of the Mid Atlantic modifying the original recommendation of the NOC. We believe that this will allow our presbytery to continue to be a vital and viable part of the EPC's ministry in this region.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel M. Harris  
Stated Clerk

## OVERTURE #95-A

### Overture to the Fifteenth General Assembly from the Presbytery of the Southeast

#### APPENDICES

Reflection upon past church history is beneficial in that it enables us to avoid mistakes of the past as well as capitalize on successes of the past. The information requested in this overture will also enable us to appreciate the importance of accountable stewardship of personnel and possessions.

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church has been involved in new church development (church planting) for over a decade; and,

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church has experienced a variety of responses to church development efforts: some successful, now developed into particular church status; and, others which have been dissolved and are no longer in existence; and,

WHEREAS, evaluation of past history serves as an excellent source of learning and direction for the present and future; and,

WHEREAS, the Presbyteries of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church need ongoing advice and direction in the area of church development;

THEREFORE, the Presbytery of the Southeast respectfully requests that the General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church instruct the National Outreach Committee to provide the following information which shall be distributed to all Presbyteries prior to the 1996 General Assembly:

- 1) The number of successful church plants established in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church during the past ten years (by successful =
  - a) those church plants which are reflecting numerical and financial increases annually;
  - b) those church plants which have now been developed into particular church status).
- 2) The number of church plants which have been discontinued in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church during the past ten years;
- 3) The amount of money invested to establish the successful church plants;
- 4) The amount of money invested in the plants which have failed to:
  - a) reflect numerical or financial increase annually;
  - b) failed to become particular churches;
- 5) The number of personnel (pastors and laity) involved in the successful church plants;
- 6) The number of personnel (pastors and laity) dismissed from the unsuccessful church plants;
- 7) The present status of the pastors who have been dismissed from church plants;
- 8) The reasons for successful church plants;
- 9) The reasons for unsuccessful church plants;
- 10) Elements which seem to produce successful church plants.

Approved by the Presbytery of the Southeast at its 34th Stated Meeting, Feb. 25, 1995.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sam Harris, Stated Clerk

## OVERTURE #95-B

Presbiterio San Andres - Buenos Aires  
Perú 352 - (1067) - Bs. As. - Argentina  
Teléfono / Fax 331-0308

### InterOffice Memo

To: Dr. Ed Davis, Stated Clerk  
From: Rev. J.J. Mejias, Stated Clerk - St. Andrews Presbytery  
Date: May 01, 1995 May 1, 1995  
Subject: Solicitud a la Asamblea General de envío de actas en idioma español

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CC:

Querido Ed.

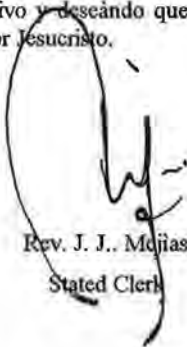
Desde hace dos años tenemos serios problemas para conseguir voluntarios que traduzcan las actas de Presbiterio al idioma Ingles, en la reunión de presbiterio n° 36 el Comité de traducción (que no se encontraba trabajando desde hace tiempo) fue disuelto, por no encontrarse reemplazantes, y se aprobó la siguiente Moción:

Se hace Moción para que se disuelva el Comité de Traducción, dado que es imposible conseguir personas con el conocimiento y tiempo disponibles para cumplir esa tarea, y en los casos necesarios contratar los servicios de traductores profesionales con la supervisión de un Presbítero. Además se propone peticionar a la Asamblea General el envío de nuestras actas en español con un resumen en ingles.

Esta decisión fue ratificada en la reunión de presbiterio n° 37.

Por todo esto El Presbiterio San Andres Peticiona respetuosamente a la Asamblea General, que acepte el envío de nuestras actas en idioma español, con un detallado resumen en idioma Ingles.

Sin otro motivo y deseando que sepan entender nuestra petición les saludo en el amor de nuestro Señor Jesucristo.



Rev. J. J. Mejias  
Stated Clerk

## OVERTURE #95-B

(English Translation)

Greetings to the G.A. on the subject of the sending of minutes in the Spanish language

Dear Ed,

Since 2 years ago, we have had serious problems in obtaining volunteers that translate the minutes of the Presbytery to the English language, in the Presbytery meeting n 36 77, the Translation Committee (that hasn't been working for some time) was dissolved because we could not find substitutes, and the following motion was approved:

Motion was made that dissolves the Committee on Translation, given that it is impossible to find people with the knowledge and time available in order to complete that work, and in the necessary cases to contract the services of professional translators with the supervision of the Presbytery. In addition, it is proposed to petition the G.A. the sending of our minutes in Spanish with a resumé in English.

This decision was ratified at the n 37 77 Presbytery meeting.

For this reason the San Andres Presbytery petitions respectfully the G.A. to accept the sending of our minutes in Spanish, with a detailed resumé in English.

Without other motive and wanting that you understand our petition, we greet you in the love of our Savior Jesus Christ.



## OVERTURE #95-C

### PRESBYTERY OF THE WEST

11373 East Alameda Avenue

Aurora, Colorado 80012

Telephone (303) 364-7271

*The following overture was approved by the Presbytery of the West at its February 4, 1995 meeting.*

Inasmuch as minister members of presbyteries frequently move, and regularly do so to begin new ministries, often outside of Evangelical Presbyterian Church congregational structures, and

Inasmuch as ministries are most easily accessible and evaluated by those closest to them in geographic areas, and such areas in our denomination most approximate presbyteries, and

Inasmuch as jurisdiction over a minister remains in the presbytery to which he currently belongs until a call has been approved and the transfer consummated, and

Inasmuch as early contact with a new presbytery would ensure good communication, the prevention of potential misunderstanding, and that the new ministry did not conflict with the presbytery's strategy for mission, and

Inasmuch as no such procedure is set forth for this circumstance in the current *Book of Order* of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Presbytery of the West in its regular meeting held February 4, 1995, overtures the 15th General Assembly to add the following provision to the *Book of Government* as §11-13, with the current §11-13 and §11-14 renumbered to §11-14 and §11-15.

#### §11-13

Prior to accepting a call to an out of bounds ministry within the geographic boundaries of the Presbytery not currently his own, a minister shall inform the appropriate committees of both Presbyteries seeking the advice and approval of both Presbyteries regarding potential plans for ministry or work.

In His service,

Claude E. Russell, Jr.  
Stated Clerk





**OVERTURE #95-D**  
**PRESBYTERY OF THE WEST**  
11373 East Alameda Avenue  
Aurora, Colorado 80012  
Telephone (303) 364-7271

**APPENDICES**

**ASCENDING OVERTURE TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE 15TH MEETING**  
**OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY, EPC**

1. Subject: Call to serve Outside the Bounds of Presbytery.
2. References: BOG 10-3F, 11-11, 11-12, 14-1D, 16-16A, 16-27-A-1 and Section VIII and attachment 11 of Procedures Manual for Ministerial and Candidates Committees.

WHEREAS, we have more ordained ministers in the EPC than we currently have positions for in the established church structure, and;

WHEREAS, those ministers without a call in an EPC Church and who desire to remain in the EPC are presently unable to obtain a call to an EPC church and;

WHEREAS, many ministers without a call in the EPC, make an increasing number of requests to serve Outside the Bounds and;

WHEREAS, many of these calls are to serve churches of other denominations, sometimes not even of the Reformed tradition or to serve outside the structures of any organized church, and;

WHEREAS, those serving in such positions do so without any oversight of the Presbytery even though Presbytery ordains them and approves their calls, and;

WHEREAS, this situation raises possible legal and/or theological ramifications, and;

WHEREAS, there is no clear cut consistent guidance to Presbyteries in this matter in either the Book of Order or the Procedures Manual for Ministerial and Candidate Committees.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Presbytery of the West in its regular meeting held May 20, 1995, overtures the 15th General Assembly to recognize this growing problem and to provide consistent constitutional guidance to the Presbyteries in the matters of calls for ministers to serve Outside the Bounds of Presbytery.

In His Service,

  
Claude E. Russell Jr.  
Stated Clerk



## OVERTURE #95-E

# Evangelical Presbyterian Church

PRESBYTERY OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

Llew Fischer, Stated Clerk

APPENDICES

Presbytery approved the following overture at its 20th Stated meeting held April 21-22, 1995 at the Reynolda Presbyterian Church, Winston-Salem, NC, for submission to the 15th General Assembly for consideration:

### OVERTURE

Whereas, this Presbytery understands the logic underlying the recommendation of the Committee on Administration (COA) to change the Presbytery boundary lines; and,

Whereas, the benefits of the proposed boundary change are recognized to enhance viability and provide additional leadership to the Presbytery of the Southeast; and,

Whereas, the five churches located in western North Carolina, namely, Community, Cornerstone, Grace, Harvest and Plumtree are reportedly quite willing to accept the proposed boundary change; and,

Whereas, Christ Church, Anderson and Cleveland have objected, stating that it would be disruptive to their members and leaders in view of strong ties to other churches in this Presbytery; and,

Whereas, this Presbytery supports the proposed boundary change in western North Carolina, including applicable counties;

Therefore, the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic overtures the General Assembly to amend the COA boundary change recommendation to exclude Christ Church, Anderson and Cleveland.

Respectfully,

Llew Fischer



## OVERTURE #95-F

# Evangelical Presbyterian Church

PRESBYTERY OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

Llew Fischer, Stated Clerk

### APPENDICES

Presbytery approved the following overture at its 20th Stated Meeting held April 21-22, 1995 at the Reynolda Presbyterian Church, Winston-Salem, NC, for submission to the 15th General Assembly for consideration:

#### OVERTURE

Whereas, there is a growing rate of Ministers who are no longer serving in a pastorate, primarily due to lack of experience and skills in dealing with conflict and interpersonal relationships, not only in the EPC but across denominational lines; and,

Whereas, once a Minister is no longer serving a pastorate because of problems which led to an irreconcilable breach of trust between the Session and Pastor, statistically, he is not very likely to receive another call; and,

Whereas, the establishment of an Internship Program would provide a means for the Candidate to gain experience and skills under a role model, greatly increasing the prospect of future success in his ministry,

Therefore, this Presbytery overtures the General Assembly to appoint a committee to study the feasibility of implementing an EPC Internship Training Program.

#### Grounds:

Review of the history of a number of Ministers who are no longer serving in a pastorate because of difficulties in interpersonal relationships reveals that most, if not all, were called to a pastorate without first serving as an Associate Pastor or Assistant Pastor. On the other hand, records indicate that there are very few failures among Ministers who gained experience and skills through serving as an Assistant Pastor or Associate Pastor prior to assuming a pastorate.

Secular occupations, such as doctors require service as an intern to prove that he/she has successfully demonstrated the practical skills to perform in this field of endeavor.

The Presbyterian Church in America has established a Presbytery Internship Training Program.

Respectfully,

112 Llew Fischer



## OVERTURE #95-G

# Evangelical Presbyterian Church

PRESBYTERY OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

Llew Fischer, Stated Clerk

Presbytery approved the following overture at its 20th Stated meeting held April 21-22, 1995 at the Reynolda Presbyterian Church, Winston-Salem, NC, for submission to the 15th General Assembly for consideration:

### OVERTURE

Whereas, we praise God that our denomination continues to grow, albeit this growth inevitably means increased costs for the church hosting the General Assembly; and,

Whereas, the high cost of hosting the General Assembly may exclude some churches who would otherwise offer to host this event; and,

Whereas, this problem would be alleviated if such costs are shared,

Therefore, be it resolved that the General Assembly approve action to the effect that henceforth such costs will be borne one third each by the General Assembly, Presbytery and the Host Church.

### GROUNDS:

Reportedly, recent General Assemblies have cost the Host Church approximately \$25,000. This is an excessively heavy burden to expect a single church to bear.

Respectfully,

  
Llew Fischer



## OVERTURE #95-H

# Evangelical Presbyterian Church

PRESBYTERY OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

Llew Fischer, Stated Clerk

### APPENDICES

Presbytery approved the following overture at its 20th Stated meeting held April 21-22, 1995 at the Reynolda Presbyterian Church, Winston-Salem, NC, for submission to the 15th General Assembly for consideration:

#### OVERTURE

That the first sentence of BG 5-3E be amended by deleting "If it seems appropriate".

#### Present wording

If it seems appropriate the organizing body shall approve the election of Ruling Elders.

#### Proposed wording

The organizing body shall approve election of Ruling Elders.

#### Grounds:

There is no provision to organize a church without first electing Ruling Elders, who are subsequently trained, ordained and installed before the congregation may be declared a duly constituted church.

It is assumed that "If it seems appropriate" was inserted to provide for the organizing body to defer election of Ruling Elders if there were no qualified persons available for this office.

Respectfully,

Llew Fischer



## OVERTURE #95-I

# Evangelical Presbyterian Church

PRESBYTERY OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

Llew Fischer, Stated Clerk

Presbytery approved the following overture at its 20th Stated meeting held April 21-22, 1995 at the Reynolda Presbyterian Church, Winston-Salem, NC, for submission to the 15th General Assembly for consideration:

### OVERTURE

That the Book of Discipline be amended by adding paragraph 12-5 as follows:

#### Present wording

(No comparable paragraph currently exists)

#### Proposed wording

When a member requests the Session to remove his/her name from the church or renounces jurisdiction, the Session, after inquiry and due delay, is of the judgement that the request does not spring from temporary doubt or special temptation, may remove the name from the roll.

#### Grounds:

While BG 9-5D provides that a member whose name has been placed on the Inactive Roll for a period of one year may be removed from the membership of the church, this process requires a span of two years before the name may be removed.

Respectfully,

Llew Fischer



## OVERTURE #95-J

# Evangelical Presbyterian Church

PRESBYTERY OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

Llew Fischer, Stated Clerk

## APPENDICES

Presbytery approved the following overture at its 20th Stated meeting held April 21-22, 1995 at the Reynolda Presbyterian Church, Winston-Salem, NC, for submission to the 15th General Assembly for consideration:

### OVERTURE

That BG 11-5 F.2 be amended as follows:

#### Present wording

Manse or manse allowance

#### Proposed wording

Housing or housing allowance

#### Grounds:

This amendment would change the wording to agree with that in the Terms of Call form.

Respectfully,

Llew Fischer



# OVERTURE #95-K

## Evangelical Presbyterian Church

PRESBYTERY OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

Llew Fischer, Stated Clerk

This Presbytery approved the following overture at its 20th Stated meeting held April 21-22, 1995 at the Reynolda Presbyterian Church, Winston-Salem, NC, for submission to the 15th General Assembly for consideration:

### OVERTURE

That the Book of Order be amended as follows:

#### Present wording The Power of the Church

BO

3-1

The power given to the church by Christ is moral and spiritual, thus distinguishing the government of the church from civil government. The powers of the Church reside in the Church as exercised in its courts and not in individuals. The use of these powers is for the purpose of proclamation, administration, and enforcement of the laws of Jesus Christ as revealed in Scripture. Exercise of these powers must be in conformity with the Scripture.

3-2 There are two kinds of powers of the Church: The Power of order and the Power of Jurisdiction.

A. The Power of Order: This power is exercised by individuals who have been ordained. It is the power to serve, to proclaim, and to minister in the name of Christ as under-shepherd. While such duty is incumbent upon every Christian, it is especially incumbent upon those who are ordained to office. It includes, especially the sharing of the Gospel, reproving the erring, visiting the sick, and otherwise exhibiting to the world the fruit of the spirit.

B. The Power of Jurisdiction: This is the power to rule and is a joint power to be exercised in church courts in regular gradation. The exercise of such power shall always reflect the essential unity of the church.

#### Proposed wording The Authority of the Church

The authority given to the church by Christ is moral and spiritual, thus distinguishing the government of the Church from civil government. The authority of the Church reside in the church as exercised in its courts and not in individuals. The use of this authority is for the purpose of proclamation, administration, and enforcement of the laws of Jesus Christ as revealed in Scripture. Exercise of this authority must always be in conformity with the Scripture.

There are two kinds of authority of the Church: the Authority of order and the Authority of Jurisdiction.

A. The Authority of Order: This authority is exercised by individuals who have been ordained. It is the authority to serve, to proclaim, and to minister in the name of Christ as under-shepherd. While such duty is incumbent upon every Christian, it is especially incumbent upon those who are ordained to office. It includes especially the sharing of the Gospel, reproving the erring, visiting the sick, and otherwise exhibiting to the world the fruit of the Spirit.

B. The Authority of Jurisdiction: this is the authority to rule and is a joint authority to be exercised in church courts in regular gradation. The exercise of such authority shall always reflect the essential unity of the church.



- 3-3 Powers given to the Church by Jesus Christ are not an end in themselves, but are given to edify God's people, to promote the faith of the Church, and to evangelize the whole world to the end that all might know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

**Present wording**

BD

- 1-4 The power which Christ has given the Church is for building up and not destruction.

**Present wording**

BD

- 12-2 If a communing member of the Church against whom no charges are pending shall request the Session to transfer his name to the roll of noncommunicating members, it shall be in the power of the Session to grant the request, and this action may be announced to the congregation should this seem wise and proper.

Authority given to the church by Jesus Christ is not an end in itself but is given to edify God's people, to promote the faith of the Church, and to evangelize the whole world to the end that all might know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

**Proposed wording**

The authority which Christ has given the Church is for building up and not for destruction.

**Proposed wording**

If a communing member of the church against whom no charges are pending shall request the Session to transfer his name to the roll of noncommunicating members, it shall be in the authority of the Session to grant this request, and this action may be announced to the congregation should this seem wise and proper.

**Grounds:**

Scripturally, ordination doesn't give power (dunamis), but rather gives the right (exousia) to exercise authority. Further, the proposed amendment would be more readily acceptable in contemporary understanding of the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the Church Courts.

Respectfully,

  
Llew Fischer

## OVERTURE FROM FLORIDA PRESBYTERY

### OVERTURE #95-L

The Presbytery of Florida, at its 13th Stated Meeting at Faith Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Brooksville, Florida, October 8th, 1994 approved the following overture to the General Assembly:

#### Add a section labeled BOD 12-5

When a Minister shall renounce the jurisdiction of the presbytery by accepting a call to a non-EPC ministry without consent of presbytery, or by submitting a written request for dismissal from office, if in good standing, the irregularity shall be recorded, and he shall be divested from office without censure by a 2/3 majority of the presbytery. If there are charges against the Minister, those charges shall be communicated to the church, denomination, or ministry which he has joined.

- RE\* GROUNDS: 1. The Book of Order does not currently make provision for or define circumstances under which a minister may be divested without censure in the case of renunciation of jurisdiction.
2. Holding over action on renunciation of jurisdiction when a Minister has accepted a call to a non EPC ministry without the approval of Presbytery raises questions of legal liability for actions of that minister no longer under the supervision of the court.

At its 15th Stated Meeting, February 11th, 1995 at Ft. Pierce, Florida, the Presbytery of Florida approved the following addendum to Overture 94-A above to bring the Book of Government into harmony with the Book of Discipline. The revised Overture is now labelled Overture FP-95-A.

#### Current Wording

- BOG 11-13 In the event a Minister desires to accept a call not approved by Presbytery, that person may request inactive status from office under the conditions set forth elsewhere. (Section 15-7).

#### Proposed Wording

- BOG 11-13 In the event a Minister accepts a call not approved by Presbytery, his action shall represent a renunciation of jurisdiction and the Presbytery in which he is a member shall divest him of office without censure according to the provisions of the *Book of Discipline* 12-5.

I certify that this EXTRACT of official minutes of the Presbytery of Florida is accurate and correctly reflects the action of the court on all matters described herein.

  
Robert J. Garment, Stated Clerk

2-11-95  
Date

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## FINANCIAL AUDIT

**KARL L. DRAKE, PC**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

1415 W. ARGYLE STREET  
JACKSON, MICHIGAN 49202

(517) 796-9383 TELEPHONE  
(517) 796-9403 FACSIMILE

To the General Assembly of the:  
EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the accompanying balance sheets of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church as of December 31, 1994 and 1993, and the related statements of revenues, expenses, and changes in fund balances, and statement of cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Organization's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church as of December 31, 1994 and 1993 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audits were made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The schedules of administrative expenses and restricted expenses are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

March 2, 1995

*Karl L. Drake*  
Karl L. Drake, P.C.  
Certified Public Accountant

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
BALANCE SHEETS  
As of December 31, 1994 and 1993

## ASSETS

	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and equivalents:		
Unrestricted	\$ 236,897	\$ 207,468
Restricted	3,704,994	3,274,105
Inventory	25,109	41,668
Prepaid expenses	<u>1,347</u>	<u>2,370</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>3,968,347</u>	<u>3,525,611</u>
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT		
Land	-0-	20,000
Buildings	-0-	65,220
Furniture and fixtures	<u>64,549</u>	<u>76,154</u>
	64,549	161,374
Less, accumulated depreciation	<u>(44,245)</u>	<u>(62,531)</u>
Net Property & Equipment	<u>20,304</u>	<u>98,843</u>
OTHER ASSETS		
Notes receivable	274,083	86,117
Deposits	<u>6,129</u>	<u>6,129</u>
Total Other Assets	<u>280,212</u>	<u>92,246</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 4,268,863</u>	<u>\$ 3,716,700</u>
	=====	=====

See Accompanying notes to the financial statements.

## LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES

	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 13,180	\$ 4,459
Accrued expenses	10	965
Self-insured liability	1,802,668	1,524,125
Restricted funds	<u>1,658,083</u>	<u>1,105,322</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>3,473,941</u>	<u>2,634,871</u>
FUND BALANCES		
Property & equipment fund	20,304	98,843
Current fund	260,791	267,268
Ministerial endowment fund	39,076	37,691
Church loan fund	474,751	448,615
Medical benevolence fund	<u>-0-</u>	<u>229,412</u>
Total Fund Balances	<u>794,922</u>	<u>1,081,826</u>
Total Liabilities & Fund Balances	\$ 4,268,863 =====	\$ 3,716,700 =====

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
For the Years Ended December 31, 1994 and 1993

	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Contributions		
Unrestricted	\$ 570,612	\$ 560,674
Restricted	1,484,852	1,002,686
Investment income	58,666	51,120
Literature sales	27,573	23,477
Other income	14,771	40,268
Ministerial endowment	1,386	-0-
Church development	36,299	41,721
Church loan fund	26,136	16,430
Medical benevolence	-0-	9,093
Gain on sale of assets	<u>16,949</u>	<u>-0-</u>
Total Revenues	<u>2,237,244</u>	<u>1,745,469</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Operating expenses	643,569	617,640
Restricted expenses	1,484,852	1,002,686
Cost of literature sales	21,044	21,005
Ministerial endowment	-0-	-0-
Church loan fund expenses	-0-	2,755
Medical benevolence	<u>-0-</u>	<u>1,048</u>
Total Expenses	<u>2,149,465</u>	<u>1,645,134</u>
Excess of Revenues over Expenses	87,779	100,335
Transfer from insurance fund to medical benevolence fund	-0-	11,827
Transfer of fund balance to Restricted funds liability	(374,686)	(460,000)
Fund Balances - Beginning of Year	<u>1,081,829</u>	<u>1,429,667</u>
Fund Balances - End of Year	<u>\$ 794,922</u> =====	<u>\$ 1,081,829</u> =====

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
For the Years Ended December 31, 1994 and 1993

	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 87,779	\$ 100,335
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	12,202	14,142
Gain on sale of assets	(16,949)	-0-
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Decrease (Increase) in inventory	16,559	(3,945)
Decrease (Increase) in prepaid expenses	1,023	755
Increase (Decrease) in accounts payable	8,721	772
Increase (Decrease) in accrued liabilities	(955)	(3,672)
Increase (Decrease) in self-insured liab.	278,543	220,808
Increase (Decrease) in restricted funds	179,226	202,198
Decrease (Increase) in notes receivable	(187,966)	52,766
Decrease (Increase) in deposits	-0-	-0-
Cash flows from operating activities	<u>378,183</u>	<u>584,159</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	82,135	-0-
Purchase of fixed assets	-0-	(21,893)
Net cash flows from investing activities	<u>82,135</u>	<u>(21,893)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities		
Repayments of long term debt	-0-	(43,674)
Transfer from self-insurance fund	-0-	11,827
Increase (Decrease) in cash	460,318	530,419
Cash - Beginning of year	<u>3,481,573</u>	<u>2,951,154</u>
Cash - End of year	<u>\$3,941,891</u> =====	<u>\$3,481,573</u> =====
Other disclosures:		
Cash used for:		
Income taxes	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Interest	4,290	-0-

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

-5-

APPENDICES



EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
December 31, 1994 and 1993

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 of 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 when received.

Restricted contributions by a donor, granter, or other outside party for particular operation 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

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

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
December 31, 1994 and 1993

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Depreciation expense for the years 1994 and 1993 totaled \$12,202 and \$14,142 respectively.

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.

Investments are carried at market value, including accrued interest.

NOTE 3 - NOTES RECEIVABLE

Notes receivable consists of loan agreements made to member churches at interest rates below the current market value. The churches make principal and interest payments on a monthly basis. Details of this account consist of the following:

	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>
Ashville EPC	\$ 4,500	\$ 5,600
Heartland	34,167	39,167
Westkirk	36,667	41,250
Argentina	50,000	-0-
Faith EPC	49,166	-0-
North Park EPC	49,583	-0-
Elkton EPC	<u>50,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>
Total	\$274,083	\$ 86,017
	=====	=====

NOTE 4 - SELF INSURANCE

The Evangelical Presbyterian Church currently utilizes a self-funded medical program using an insurance company to administer the claims. The program covers employees of member churches and their families, and clergy and their families. The program loss is limited by the use of a reinsurance policy.

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
December 31, 1994 and 1993

The Church follows the accounting policy of not recognizing any income or expense under the program since premiums collected less costs is projected to be equal to the self insurance liability.

Following is a summary of transactions for the self insurance program for 1994 and 1993.

	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>
Premiums collected	\$ 2,220,780	\$ 1,998,996
Interest income	109,970	93,011
Gain (loss) in mkt. value	(146,804)	-0-
Premiums paid	373,744	383,623
Claims paid	1,488,213	1,427,715
Transfer to medical benevolence fund	-0-	11,827
Administrative expense	<u>43,446</u>	<u>48,034</u>
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 278,543 =====	\$ 220,808 =====

NOTE 5 - PENSION PLAN

The General Assembly Office participates in a multi-employer pension plan administered by the Board of Pensions and Benefits as elected by the General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. The plan is a defined contribution type. Contributions by the General Assembly Office to the plan for participants for 1994 and 1993 were \$16,450 and \$29,603 respectively. Any employee may participate in the salary reduction aspect of the plan. Also, the Assembly may make contributions for the benefit of employees at its discretion.

The assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses of the pension plan are not included in the accompanying financial statements.

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
December 31, 1994 and 1993

NOTE 6 - CHANGES TO PRIOR YEAR FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Certain 1993 amounts have been reclassified to conform to current year's financial statement presentation.

NOTE 7 - LEASE AGREEMENT

The Assembly has entered into a lease agreement for office space effective February 1, 1993. The lease has a five year term with monthly rent of \$4,512 during the first year. Total minimum lease payments are as follows:

1995	55,255
1996	56,489
1997	57,758
1998	4,822

A security deposit of \$6,129 was paid to secure the lease. Total lease expense for 1994 and 1993 was \$54,045 and \$47,225, respectively.

NOTE 8 - CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The Assembly considers all highly liquid debt instruments with maturities of three months or less to be a cash equivalent. At December 31, 1994, cash and cash equivalents included the following:

	<u>Carrying Value</u>	<u>Book Value</u>
Petty Cash	\$ -0-	\$ 200
Comerica Bank Account	72,428	80,821
Merrill Lynch Accounts	952,239	952,239
Smith Barney Shearson Accounts	594,436	594,436
Fidelity Accounts	168,583	168,583
Benham Accounts	609,914	609,914
Invesco Account	16,398	16,398
Lindner Account	16,383	16,383
T. Rowe Price Account	16,621	16,621
The Vanguard Group Accounts	<u>1,242,053</u>	<u>1,242,053</u>
	\$ 3,689,055	\$ 3,697,648
	=====	=====

Of these amounts, \$72,428 is covered by FDIC insurance, \$2,217,985 is covered by SIPC insurance, and \$742,053 is covered by insurance maintained by the brokerage companies. The remaining \$656,589 is uninsured.

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SCHEDULE OF OPERATING EXPENSES  
For the Years Ended December 31, 1994 and 1993

APPENDICES

	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>
Compensation	\$249,428	\$228,175
Staff insurance & pension	50,159	52,488
Depreciation	12,202	14,142
Repairs and maintenance	5,732	6,573
Travel expense	30,754	33,635
Committee expense	44,628	45,873
Contingencies	3,264	-0-
Printing and promotion	24,966	24,029
Professional fees	6,110	15,211
Expenses of pension plan	3,051	19,327
Interest expense	-0-	4,290
Taxes and insurance	30,654	7,811
Office supplies	7,288	5,122
Telephone	14,509	14,913
Utilities	6,956	6,173
Insurance	3,076	3,076
Postage	17,248	17,278
Development expense	27,965	38,490
Fraternal relations	7,501	15,478
Support & training	23,736	-0-
Rent	54,045	47,225
General Assembly expense	15,559	13,646
Miscellaneous	<u>4,738</u>	<u>4,685</u>
Totals	\$643,569 =====	\$617,640 =====

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SCHEDULE OF RESTRICTED EXPENSES  
For the Years Ended December 31, 1994 and 1993

	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>
World outreach	\$1,266,642	\$ 760,261
Church assistance	42,075	61,546
Special projects	<u>176,135</u>	<u>180,879</u>
Totals	\$1,484,852 =====	\$1,002,686 =====

## Fraternal Relations Committee Report

The Fraternal Relations Committee met April 9-10, 1995 in Fort Mill, South Carolina. The major task of this committee is to build relationships with other denominations in the Reformed tradition. This year we have concentrated our efforts on two particular Presbyterian bodies.

### Association of the Charismatic Presbyterian Church

The 14th General Assembly established a fraternal relationship with the Association of the Charismatic Presbyterian Church in Puerto Rico. The committee met with Rev. Johnny Ortiz of the Association to explore ways of cultivating this relationship.

The Association consists of six congregations and a theological training institute, all committed to propagating the Reformed faith. In recent years, the Association has launched mission work in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. One result is the formation of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Haiti. Schools have been established in both countries by mission teams sent by the Association. Accredited theological education and the availability of Reformed literature in Spanish continue to be serious needs in the Caribbean and to which the Association is strongly committed.

With the help of Rev. Ortiz, the committee developed the following plan of action:

1. Exchange fraternal delegates with the Association, whose General Assembly convened in February.
2. Send a representative to the General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Haiti (December, 1995).
3. Encourage the Presbyteries of Florida and the Mid-Atlantic to become acquainted with the congregations in Puerto Rico and to invite their ministers to visit.
4. Support the Association's mission work in Haiti with benevolence funds and encourage EPC congregations to send youth mission teams to work alongside the Association.
5. Encourage Puerto Rican ministerial candidates to utilize the resources of Reformed Theological Seminary, and to ask the Seminary to respond to the particular needs of the Association.

### Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

The committee arranged for a delegation of EPC representatives to visit the ARP Center in Greenville, South Carolina, and review our fraternal relationship with leaders of the denomination. That meeting was held on May 1, 1995. Attending on behalf of the EPC were Ed Davis, John Adamson, Bill Johns, Jim Rimmel, and Paul Heidebrecht; Mark Ross, Doug Jones, Greg Slater, Hal Morris and Jim Corbett represented the ARP.

Both parties agreed that the relationship between the two denominations begun in 1990 has produced positive results, and even further cooperation is desirable. The most successful joint venture has been the church planting assessment center (CPAC). The appointment of an EPC missionary, Chris Meeks, to the ARP mission work in Mexico is another sign of partnership in the Lord's work. Jim Rimmel joined the board of trustees of Erskine College and Seminary to represent the EPC, and a matching dollar scholarship program has been established for EPC students.

Several new areas of cooperation were explored, including:

1. Promotion of the ARP's Christian Education resources among EPC congregations, in particular, their Adult Quarterly for Sunday School.
2. Promotion of the ARP Board of Publication's new theological journal, *Faith and Practice*, to EPC pastors and lay leaders.
3. Joint medical insurance coverage, since both denominations have the same carrier, if it will lead to reduced costs and greater benefits. A meeting of denominational representatives is scheduled for the week of General Assembly in Charlotte.
4. Promotion of each denomination's summer youth activities to the other, and consideration of joint youth programming in the Northeast.
5. Greater exposure of Erskine College and Seminary to the EPC. Erskine representatives will attend the 15th General Assembly in Charlotte.

The committee continues to rejoice in the spiritual and theological renewal occurring within the ARP, and views our partnership with our brothers and sisters in the ARP as a model of healthy interchurch relations.

### NAPARC Membership

Several General Assemblies in recent years have endorsed application for membership in the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council. To date, the Council has not chosen to act definitively on our application. The EPC's position on the ordination of women to the office of elder appears to be the primary obstacle. The committee determined to bring this matter to a final conclusion and will request NAPARC to make a definitive statement at its November, 1995 meeting. If the answer is negative, the committee urges the Assembly to abandon efforts to join the Council. If the answer is positive, a majority of NAPARC member denominations must approve our application at their 1996 Synods and General Assemblies.

### WARC Membership

The 14th General Assembly asked the Fraternal Relations Committee to examine our membership in the World Alliance of Reformed Churches. The EPC is the only US conservative Presbyterian body remaining in this international organization. In recent years, we have been inactive members and there is little interest in altering this posture, at least by the committee. Our reason for remaining in WARC is rather pragmatic. It provides us with



a "corresponding relationship" with the PC(USA) and this facilitates smoother transfers of credentials by ministers leaving the PC(USA) to join the EPC. Many of our ministers have benefited from this relationship.

The committee would prefer membership in a more conservative worldwide alliance than WARC. Two such organizations are in the process of formation and the committee is monitoring these carefully. The committee also anticipates the possibility of further transfers of PC(USA) ministers into the EPC. A wait-and-see stance seems appropriate at the moment.

Whether WARC membership makes any difference in these circumstances remains an open question. The committee is studying WARC materials to assess the benefits and drawbacks of continued membership, and will bring a recommendation to the 16th General Assembly.

As we conduct our business on behalf of the General Assembly, we are constantly impressed at the unique call of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. We are strategically positioned to foster the unity of Christ's Church, for we seek to be evangelical and Reformed, responsive to the Spirit and obedient to the Word of God, Presbyterians loyal to the heritage, yet eager to reflect the diversity of the worldwide Body of Christ. May God bless us as we serve Him in this special role.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul H. Heidebrecht, Convener  
Fraternal Relations Committee  
June, 1995

## FRC-1

November 3, 1994

To: The 15th General Assembly  
From: Lee E. Kizer, EPC Fraternal Delegate  
General Synod, Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church  
Subject: 190th Meeting of the ARP General Synod

On June 13-15, 1994 delegates to the 190th meeting of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian General Synod gathered at Bonclarken Assembly, the ARP conference center at Flat Rock, North Carolina. In attendance were 189 ministers and 130 ruling elders to discuss denominational business matters.

Two issues seemed to require more discussion and deliberation than others. The first concerned the question as to whether some Erskine Theological Seminary faculty members are in accord with ARP beliefs. The specific matter of concern centered on using feminine or neuter pronouns to address God. Earlier in the spring of 1994, the faculty of Erskine had issued a statement that feminine language in reference to God is to be avoided and the Bible's own masculine language about God is not to be avoided. The fact that the gender-neutral issue could arise in the ARP seminary, however, caused concern among the delegates. After receiving assurances from the chairman of the Erskine Board of Trustees that the Board would respond to the Synod's concerns, the Synod approved a motion by unanimous vote in the form of a resolution which states:

"Whereas, language used to address God is not a matter of personal preference, cultural norms or arbitrary choice, and whereas, the nature of Biblical revelation requires that God's own language about Himself as revealed in Scripture is normative for our form of address and our way of thinking about God, and whereas, making reference to God with feminine nouns or pronouns is contrary to God's self-revelation in Jesus Christ and in Scripture, and whereas, referring to God in gender-inclusive language or non-gender-specific language in order to avoid using masculine terminology denies essential attributes of God and skews our understanding of Him, therefore be it resolved that the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church rejects both the use of feminine language for God and the avoidance of masculine references to God by the use of gender-neutral or non-gender-specific language, as contrary to the Scriptures and the Westminster Standards. It further directs the churches, courts, boards, agencies, publications, and educational institutions of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church to address the Triune God as He has revealed Himself in His Word."

The second issue of some length was prompted by a detailed recommendation from the Committee on the Minister and His Work that Synod "move toward a uniform written examination of all candidates for ordination." According to the proposal, exams

would be prepared and administered at the Synod level. Presbyteries would be told their candidates' scores on the tests and there would be a ranking of all who took the test. After much debate, an amendment was drafted to allow presbyteries more or less to do whatever they want with a set of questions prepared annually by the Synod Committee. In this way, they protected presbyteries' rights to examine prospective ministers however they choose.

The retiring Moderator called for new means of assisting pastors and congregations that are having problems with each other, more attention to the fact that the ARP is a connectional church, increased stewardship consciousness and new efforts toward evangelism. He concluded his report by saying, "Let's keep our sights on what Jesus wants."

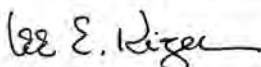
The rest of the Synod's business was brought forth through the 21 reports included in the delegates' packets.

Sue Shoger, wife of former EPC teaching elder Tom Shoger, addressed the wives of ministers attending Synod by giving a devotional and life-centered talk.

Fraternal greetings were received from representatives of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, the Presbyterian Church in America, the Orthodox Presbyterian Church and the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America.

The Synod in general was positive, open, prayerful and friendly. Most importantly, however, it was Christ-centered.

Respectfully submitted,



Lee E. Kizer



# Community Evangelical Presbyterian Church

July 1, 1994

Rev. Ed Davis  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
29140 Buckingham Ave., Suite 5  
Livonia MI 48154

Dear Ed:

It was my privilege to represent the EPC during the CRC Synod meeting. I was warmly received as a fraternal delegate and enjoyed fellowship around the lunch table with several brethren. The experience was one I will never forget.

I was present for their Synod meeting all day Wednesday an half the day on Thursday. Wednesday's meeting began at 8:30am and concluded at 10:00pm, with breaks for meals and coffee. Their meetings were characterized with extreme patience in hearing each delegate who wished to speak. I've never seen debates last so long. It was interesting to note their procedures for dispensing of business in comparison to our General Assembly.

The most moving part for me was to observe the sense of forlornness that hovered over each session of the Synod. Their vote to sustain the allowance of women's ordination was defeated by a 95-89 margin. I've enclosed several news releases. As you can see they are almost split evenly. I was impressed with both minority and majority positions held within their body to not only express their respective viewpoints, but also agonize over maintaining unity. I do not use the term agonizing lightly. There is a tremendous amount of pain present on both sides which is difficult to watch taking place in any group of Christians.

In particular, I was impressed with the minority groups' efforts to share their pain and disapproval over the Synod decision. This included many women wearing black with mouths taped, yellow ribbons worn on the lapel and prayer meetings that were held through out each day. All of these demonstrations were quite obvious but I did not discern a hint of belligerence or hostility. Everyone seemed to be trying to come to terms with the decision as well as the future uncertainty.

Church Office  
114 N. Ball St.  
Owosso, MI 48867  
(517) 725-6930

My presentation was received well by both sides. I encouraged them to focus on their essentials which include a rich heritage. Several pastor's asked for my card and indicated that they may lean toward the EPC given the recent decision of the Synod. Ten churches had already placed women in the office of elder without permission to do so and now are urged to come into compliance.

I believe the best that we might offer them at this time is to redouble our efforts to pray for God's peace to be among them. The deliberation of their Synod left a burden in my heart that is hard to express.

May God protect our young church from such division and may His peace rain a spirit of reconciliation upon the brethren of the CRC.

Yours truly,



Don E. Galardi, Pastor

P.S. I've also enclosed a copy of the letter sent to the CRC from the PCA. I believe it to be quite stern in its tone.

### FRC-3

## Joint Meeting of the EPC and ARP Representatives May 1, 1995 Greenville, South Carolina

Present: EPC: Ed Davis, John Adamson, Bill Johns, Jim Rimmel, Paul Heidebrecht  
ARP: Mark Ross, Doug Jones, Hal Morris, Greg Slater, Jim Corbett

The meeting began with lunch at the ARP Center and concluded with dinner at the Poinsettia Club. Ed Davis reviewed the history of the fraternal relationship between the two denominations. All participants indicated a strong desire to continue the relationship and find additional ways to cooperate and support each other's denominational efforts. The Geneva Agreement of Cooperation (June, 1992) was enthusiastically referenced. Selection of Doug Jones as ARP synod coordinator will facilitate better communication between denominational administrative leadership. It was also agreed that EPC's Fraternal Relations Committee and the ARP's Inter-Church Relations Committee need to meet on some regular basis to monitor and stimulate the relationship. Special mention was given to identifying projects of mutual concern which are difficult for one denomination to do alone, such as the assessment center.

Major items discussed at the meeting were as follows:

1. We reviewed the results of adding an EPC member to the board of Erskine College/Seminary. Jim Rimmel has held this position for more than a year. He indicated great pleasure in serving in this capacity. A scholarship fund for EPC students has been established. Erskine representatives have attended Summer Jam and will be present at this year's General Assembly. At present, there are no EPC students at the college; one or two attend the seminary. When Jim completes his 6-year term on the board, we need to evaluate the effectiveness of this initiative, as well as the procedure for continuing the practice, if that is deemed desirable.
2. The greatest area of success between our two denominations has been the annual joint church planting assessment center (CPAC). Jim Corbett directs this program and is very pleased with the present level of development. He prefers the current size of 15 candidates per year (split between the two denominations) because it permits selectivity. He highly values the input of EPC staff. Jim admitted the ARP is facing a shortage of candidates and is now recruiting at other seminaries. Their goal is to plant four new churches a year. The EPC expects to see growth in the number of candidates after it calls a Director of National Outreach.
3. The cooperative venture in world missions in Mexico involving Chris Meeks was mentioned but not discussed in depth.
4. The ARP staff introduced their Christian education curriculum resources to the EPC. They publish the *Adult Quarterly for Sunday School* written by W.H. Kuykendall of Erskine Seminary, which apparently is quite popular among their churches. Their Board of Publications has just launched a journal, *Faith and Practice*, aimed at pastors and lay leaders. The first issue was on baptism. It was substantive and well done. We discussed promoting this journal to EPC church leaders.

5. The appointment of Doug Jones as Synod Coordinator was a major step for the ARP. They have never given anyone such a position, but allowed each agency to operate independently. Doug will make communication with the ARP much easier. He is a fine individual with outstanding credentials.

There was also discussion about the interaction between our Fraternal Relations Committee and the ARP Inter-Church Relations Committee, given the steady turnover of membership on both groups. We have little corporate memory and seem to start over every time we meet. The actual cooperative activities must be done by program staff or other committees, but the two committees should assume responsibility for monitoring the relationship.

6. We raised the issue of NAPARC membership. The ARP members recognized the problem EPC has, and that the ordination of women is a major issue. They did admit, however, they have found little of value in NAPARC membership and have become rather inactive in recent years.

They have determined to join the new ICRC instead of the new PRF being promoted by the PCA. They have still not decided to join NAE.

7. Cooperative efforts in the area of youth ministry were explored. Johnny Price and Dan Weidman, both denominations' national youth leaders, communicate regularly and have worked together on a few projects. We agreed to acquaint our churches with each other's summer youth programs (camps, mission trips) in order to broaden the opportunities of both.
8. We talked at length about the feasibility of joining forces in the area of medical insurance, since we have the same provider. We agreed to meet in Charlotte in June with members of each denomination's pension fund/benefits committees and administrators.

#### • Ideas for future cooperative development

1. Act as a clearinghouse of church planter candidates and share openings between both denominations.
2. Ask Lay Renewal to stock and promote the *Adult Quarterly*.
3. Mail brochures of denominationally-sponsored activities, such as conferences or youth camps, to each other's congregations.
4. Joint conferences or workshops on topics of common interest, such as
  - junior high ministry
  - ethnic ministries
  - music
  - CME units
  - pastors and wives
  - lay leadership
  - revitalization of small churches
  - promotion methods (telemarketing, mass mailing)
5. Distribution of *Faith and Practice* within the EPC.

6. Explore a youth camping program in the Northeast (also youth mission trips in eastern Canada).
7. Encourage interaction between churches at the Presbytery and local levels, e.g., Memphis area, Florida, etc.
8. Find ways for EPC to benefit from the services and expertise of Dr. Vickery, who now heads Christian education work for the ARP.
9. Exchange directories and find ways to interface them so we can identify areas where our congregations are in close proximity.
10. Develop an assessment center for cross-cultural church planters and missionaries.
11. Produce a curriculum based on the Children's Catechism, which is the property of Summertown. The EPC has several writers who could be approached.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Paul Heidebrecht, Convener  
Fraternal Relations Committee



# UNITED EVANGELICAL **Action** FRC-4

FROM  
**NAE**  
NATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION OF  
EVANGELICALS

MARCH-APRIL 1995

## A Vision Fulfilled

By Billy A. Melvin

**I**N THE SUMMER of 1967 at age 38, I loaded my wife and two children into the family car and headed to Wheaton, Ill., where I was to begin service as the executive director of the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE).

From a human perspective, there was little reason to make the move. We had only recently occupied a new home in Nashville, Tenn., which Darlene and I had custom designed. At the same time, as executive secretary of my denomination, I had successfully lead an effort to construct a new office building to house our national ministries. Life for me, at the time, was truly the proverbial "bowl of cherries."

But, there was a fire in my soul. A fire placed there by God. About 12 years earlier, I had discovered through NAE a new joy—the joy of sharing in practical ways my oneness with other believers. That discovery had created within me a burning desire to help others find the same joy I had found.

I knew my task would not be easy. NAE was not finding a ready response to its mission. As one of my predecessors once said, "Evangelicals get together very carefully." As a result, the association was struggling and had accumulated a sizeable indebtedness. Nevertheless, I had no doubt that my move was God's will, and that he would help me see the fulfillment of the vision he had given me. Not only did I



Billy A. Melvin, executive director, National Association of Evangelicals, 1967-1995

believe evangelicals could be brought together, I believed we could become a dynamic community, bearing witness to biblical truth and standing together in cooperative action.

Those early years were tough and demanding. It was necessary to be a "jack-of-all-trades," since limited resources provided only a very small staff. It was also necessary to work with a long-term perspective. As I thought, planned and prayed, it became clear to me that it would probably take at least 10 years for the evangelical community to reach a

point of significant, nationwide strength and influence.

In the meantime, the work was exhilarating. It was exciting to see evangelicals coming together and cooperating for the furtherance of the gospel. And, year by year gains were realized, and we were able to provide more and more services and benefits to our members.

It was not surprising, therefore, when in December 1976, Ken Briggs, religion editor of the *New York Times*, wrote an article on religion in America in which he said, "It is clear that the initiative in religion in this country has now passed to the evangelicals."

Nineteen years have passed since Briggs made that evaluation. Years marked by the greatest growth in NAE's history. From 1980 to 1990 we experienced a 74 percent growth in our membership. Evangelicals were reaching out to one another and giving expression to their oneness in Christ through NAE. Today, NAE represents 50,000 local churches from 80 denominations, plus hundreds of Christian organizations and educational institutions.

This growth is not the result of my efforts only. Thousands have contributed to NAE's growth, and special recognition is due our staff, members of the executive committee and board of administration, our

(See Vision Page 3)

### Vision (Continued from page 1)

denominational leaders, and thousands of individuals who have prayed, contributed and spoken words of encouragement. In it all, God has confirmed his leading in my life as I have seen the vision he gave me 28 years ago fulfilled.

It is now time for a new vision to be born. This is as it should be. Every organization must renew itself as it moves from vision to vision to serve new generations. My successor, Don Argue, has been selected to lead NAE at this critical and pivotal time. He deserves, and needs, the support of each one of us as NAE discovers again what it means to practice cooperation without compromise in service to a new generation.

He will have my strong support, and I trust yours as well. The role of evangelicals in the religious life of this country must be decisive as we move into the 21st century. Together, we must rise to the challenge and make a difference!—Billy A. Melvin will retire at the end of March after 28 years as executive director of the National Association of Evangelicals. **NAE**

## World Evangelical Fellowship 10th General Assembly

April 9-18, 1996  
Minehead, United Kingdom

### *"The World for Jesus Christ : Faith for the future."*

The WEF 10th General Assembly will gather to have a date with history. 150 years ago, 915 delegates from many parts of the world gathered and attempted to form a World Evangelical Alliance. It was a model in terms of commitment to evangelical unity and cooperation as some delegates took three months to get to London and another three months to go home for that consultation. In fact, two of the delegates went with the Lord on their way. Even though, the Alliance was not formally formed, it planted the seed for such a dream which bore fruit in 1951 when the World Evangelical Fellowship was organized in the Netherlands and it adopted the Statement of Faith which is word for word the one that WEF uses today. This time, delegates from a hundred ten countries will come, with their flags and costumes, to give God praise and glory in this joyous celebration.

But beyond thanksgiving for the past, the God of forever calls us to keep on going forward. It is not an easy road. In fact, it is strewn with many valleys and hills, with hardly the bare necessities to get through. The people of God of their way to the promised land experienced many frustrations and hardships. Yet God told Moses, "Why do you cry? Tell the children of Israel to go forward." And so we must ... allowing not the problems of the present to defeat us but making the future shape us with our mental image of what God wants done through us - to reach the World for Jesus Christ. For this, we must have faith for the future.

### *The Purpose Statement*

1. *Purpose Statement.* The WEF 10th General Assembly shall have the following Purpose Statement:

*"The WEF General Assembly - a gathered presence of Christian leaders strengthens and establishes regional and national evangelical fellowships to empower and mobilize the body of Christ to disciple the nations.*

*We do this by defining critical issues, identifying resources and developing a shared vision."*

2. *Assembly Outcomes.* The expected outcomes from the General Assembly are::

- 2.1 *Ownership of WEF and Vision.* To achieve this, secure alignment of vision, appreciate the work of the NEFs, ownership of strategy, greater appreciation for local church, legal mandate for the WEF leadership, financial ownership as well.

- 2.2 *Agenda for the Future.* To identify the critical issues in society/church, to reach out to nations without NEFs, to affirm our evangelical roots and the fundamentals of our faith, wider public awareness of evangelicalism in the world, and acting together in carrying out the agenda.

- 2.3 *Networking resources.* To affirm the legitimacy of WEF/REF/NEF ministries as well as that of our affiliate and associate members and to network resources within the Organization. Develop practical materials for delegates to use after the GA.

- 2.4 *Celebration.* To enable the participants to go home feeling that they are part of the whole in the

fellowship and worship; to make them conscious that WEF is a powerful representation of the Body of Christ; and to accentuate hidden evangelical heroes of the faith.

3. *Program.* The General Assembly program shall include:

- 3.1 Devotion / Bible Exposition
- 3.2 Prayer Assemblies
- 3.3 Four major seminars on "Faith for the future"
- 3.4 Plenaries on critical issues confronting the churches into the next century
- 3.5 Workshops on focus issues from the Commissions and Departments
- 3.6 Reports: In addition to the International Director's Report and Finance, will be a special overview of where the churches are today and where the Spirit of God seems actively at work in our world in evangelism and missions.
- 3.7 Business (Election of Council Members, etc.)
- 3.8 Evening Inspirational Meetings/Media presentations
- 3.9 Joint with Spring Harvest in some sessions.

4. *General Cost.* Registration - \$200.00 for the whole duration. Accommodations (including meals) - \$80.00 a day. Delegates and Guests are expected to pay their own travel costs.

### *A summary of the basic strategy*

The 10th General Assembly, which I pray would gather as many delegates as in 1846, is necessary to the multi-stage process that has began years ago. It is not going to be just another global meeting. The Assembly is in itself a part of a strategy to effectively achieve vision.

*Stage 1. Clarifying of vision.* We have done this in 1993.

*Mission Statement.* World Evangelical Fellowship establishes and helps Regional and National Evangelical Fellowships empower and mobilize local churches and Christian Organizations to disciple the nations for Jesus Christ.

*Our Vision.* To disciple \* the nations for Jesus Christ or The World for Jesus Christ.

*Our Mission.* The total mobilization of local churches and Christian Organizations in every Country to disciple the Nations.

*Stage 2. Developing the specific strategy.* To establish primarily a viable, visible and vital \*\*National Evangelical Fellowship in every nation. The *primer* for the National Evangelical Fellowship is now widely used as standard reference for the Fellowships. We have tested this with good response in seminars among leaders of over 90 NEFs in the last three years!

*Stage 3. Alignment of WEF Structures.* It is not enough to have vision and strategy. It is important to have a responsive structure. In WEF this will come in four stages.

3.1 *International Council, Commissions and Departments.* For the past two years, our Commissions

have slowly aligned themselves to the WEF vision so much so that this year, each one has a target of at least three countries to replicate themselves in the NEFS.

**3.2 Regional Associations.** To cascade vision and to mobilize NEFS in a global scale with great effectiveness, the Regional Associations must be aligned with WEF's vision. The preferred relationship would be decentralization of operations but with clear accountability lines to WEF. In September, 1995 - there will be a regional strategic consultation, participated by selected key thinkers, to move us another step further. During this Consultation, the following key outcomes are desired: alignment of vision, clarity of operational relationship, a strategy to establish a viable and vital NEF in each region within a target period.

**3.3 National Evangelical Fellowships (NEFs).** Focus on leadership training, organizational networking, mobilization of churches and para-churches. The key outcomes would be the vital presence of key programs: a national strategy for saturation church planting, a national association for cross-cultural missions, an effective arm in helping the poor, a dynamic voice for justice and religious freedom, defense of Truth, and Specialized ministries are growing.

**3.4 Associate Members.** WEF has 3 affiliates and 105 associate members. Except for a few associate members, they are not connected to the vision of WEF. A strategic alignment of vision must be made to bring about the need transformation of WEF, NEFs and local churches to disciple the nations for Christ. Such an alignment will truly bring synergy and effectiveness in ministry.

**Stage 4. 10th WEF General Assembly.** The GA will be the best forum to own the vision, provide the mandate for greater unity, and grant legal authority to the leadership for the next four years. The GA has two parts:

**4.1 Pre-GA Tracks.** The different Commissions will meet (April 9-12, 1996) to discuss critical issues confronting the church today and into the next century and to strategize how to replicate themselves in NEFs. The regional research of NEFs will help provide the context.

**4.2 The Regional & National Fellowships Track.** This will deal with visioning, organizing, and action planning for their regions and nations.

**4.3 Associate Members Track.** This is a first event. Associate members will be encouraged to meet as a separate track to discuss their ministries, identify areas of duplications, work on partnership, and consider working together through the NEF country by country. This is perhaps one of greatest resources available to WEF.

**4.4 The General Assembly.** It will be a time of celebration - of praise and worship especially with our brothers and sisters in Great Britain. It will be a time of reverential awe as we learn of what God is doing in the lives and nations of delegates. It will be a time to discuss together the critical issues that confront our churches and world. It will be a time of business as together we seek solutions to common problems. It will be a time to dream and hope ... to go home and make a difference in our world. The delegates, representing their countries, must be imbued with a vision for their nation and the world for Christ. They must be linked with resources within the family.

**Stage 5. NEF Action Planning.** The delegates need to go home with a clear vision and compelling desire to do something. Development and implementation of action plans to reach their nation for Christ will be the post-GA focus.

*Stage 6. Adopt A Nation.* Strong NEFs, churches, the Global Network, and para-church groups can now adopt a nation, i.e., working to start or strengthen an NEF in another country.

*Stage 7. Global presence and influence.* With all the stages in place, the evangelicals would be a significant force in the hand of God for world evangelization. As God told Isaiah, "Behold, I am doing something new." This is our *kairos* moment. Let us work together with God. It is a unique window of opportunity ... a rare moment ... to experience our oneness ... to gird ourselves together in His service.

***The 10th WEF General Assembly is a critical process to the total mobilization of evangelicals worldwide to achieve strategic alignment of vision and programs to reach the whole World for Jesus Christ.***

Dr. Jun Vencer  
International Director

## NEWS RELEASE



**NATIONAL  
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OF  
EVANGELICALS**

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Dr. Billy A. Melvin  
Executive Director

APPENDICES

**CONVENTION SUMMARY**

**THE 53RD ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS HELD MARCH 5-7, 1995, AT THE GALT HOUSE HOTEL, LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.**

**LOUISVILLE, Ky.**—The National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) celebrated its 53rd anniversary at its annual convention by proclaiming the convention theme, "One Faith, One Witness, One Hope." The annual three-day celebration ended with a tribute to retiring Executive Director Billy A. Melvin.

As R. Lamar Vest said in his opening remarks to a Board of Administration dinner audience, this year's convention was very definitely "a celebration of the past and a gaze into the future." Vest, director of media ministries for the Church of God, Cleveland, Tenn., served as the convention program coordinator and is the NAE 2nd vice chairman.

"There is no theme more important to us than one which helps us focus on our oneness in Christ," Vest said. "Someday, soon, hopefully, we shall surely discover that the only supremacy we can claim is the degree to which the Spirit of God controls us."

Melvin, who will complete 28 years as executive director of NAE March 31, was honored during the closing banquet with special gifts including a sculpture and a book of remembrances from evangelical leaders across the nation. Several others provided personal testimonies.

**PLENARY ADDRESSES**

The NAE convention opened with a Sunday morning worship service, March 5. Duane Litfin, president of Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill., delivered a message from John 17:1-5. He called his audience to be "deeply rooted in the one whom we preach and in whom we represent to this needy and hungry culture." Litfin said evangelicals will be transformed when they see Jesus not just as the Jesus of the incarnation, but also as the risen one, the Lord of history and the Lord of the universe. Such a view will transform our worship services, our gratitude, our obedience and our unity, he added.

During the first evening session on Sunday, March 5, Morris Chapman addressed the "One Witness" portion of the convention theme by investigating Revelation 3:7-13. Chapman, president of the executive committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, emphasized that America needs a spiritual awakening. He noted that revival "cannot be worked up, it must be prayed down." He illustrated his statement by recalling that the famous sermon by Jonathan Edwards, "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God," was first delivered after three days of fasting and prayer by Edwards.

During the Monday morning, March 6, Leadership Session, Jack W. Hayford, in a honest self-appraisal, reviewed his own journey from being prejudiced as a young pastor to the point of having a heavenly vision for a multiethnic partnership. Hayford, pastor of The Church on the Way in Van Nuys, Calif., called for more than just "toleration and graciousness" on the part of evangelicals, but a "total obliteration" of those things which separate the races.

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Though his message was entitled "An Evangelical Response to Racism," Hayford said he preferred to call his vision one of "transethnicity" instead of using the designation "interracial."

Hayford called for the church to not be "politically correct" but to be "kingdom correct." In acknowledging his own arrogance, Hayford said, "We can be so incredibly mean in our hearts while being so gracious in our social relationships.

"Only the Holy Spirit can bring us to moments of disclosure," Hayford added. "We need to manifest the spirit of God in allowing us to display that order of kingdom life, ethnically speaking, which was intended from the inception of the church at Pentecost. Are we willing to be changed?"

Monday night's plenary speaker, Paul Conn, continued the convention theme by keying in on the believer's hope. Using Ephesians 1:18 as his primary text, Conn pointed out ways to communicate the real hope to others. The communication must be kept simple, focused and "pounded home." The communicator is most effective, Conn said, when he is so full of hope that hope just can't keep from pouring out.



Ronald Potter, assistant professor of Christian Thought and Contemporary Culture at the Center for Urban Theological Studies, Philadelphia, Pa., dealt with an aspect of "An Evangelical Response to Racism," during the Tuesday morning, March 7, Leadership Session.

He recounted briefly his early Christian life. When he first accepted Christ, he began actively preaching evangelistically, but realized soon that he "needed more." He entered Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill., in the fall of 1968. Early influences included Francis Schaeffer, Bill Pannell, Tom Skinner and Bill Bentley.

For 25 years, he has wrestled with what evangelicals were saying to the African-American community.

Potter contends that "far too much racial reconciliation talk" isn't much more than a simplistic "Can't we get along?" analysis. However, most racial conflict has very little to do with the inability of racial groups "getting along" with each other. He states that such an "analysis is faulty because it presupposes interracial parity. Black-white interracial conflict is essentially systemic and cannot therefore be resolved solely by individual blacks and whites attempting to get along with each other."

He believes that African-Americans as a group have been "systematically denied 'life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness'" by "white controlled social institutions." Moreover, conflicts between African-American and other non-white ethnic minorities (e.g., Latinos, Asians and Arabs) are "due to actual or perceived social equalities."

## LUNCHEON SPEAKERS

Christian Higher Education Commission: Bradley J. Longfield, associate professor of church history at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa, talked about "The Secularization of the Academy: Its History and Implications for Evangelical Higher Education."

Christian Stewardship Association: Brian Kluth, president of the association, located in Milwaukee, Wis., spoke about stewardship trends impacting evangelical Christianity.

Churchmen Commission: Albert W. Prentice, chief executive of Prentice Limited Mercedes-Benz Portadown in Northern Ireland, spoke of the importance of one's faith in the market place. He encouraged his audience to consider the greatness of the mystery of godliness.

Evangelical Fellowship of Mission Agencies: David Bryant, founder and president of Concerts of Prayer International, Wheaton, Ill., said America is in the early stages of a true spiritual awakening whose "intensity and focus may be unprecedented." Bryant added, "The only explanation is the living God."



**Evangelism and Home Missions Association:** Kent R. Hunter, president of Church Growth Center, Corunna, Ind., said that radical ministry is need in a rapidly changing environment if the church is to grow in the 21st century. He warned that many local churches will cease to exist in the next 40 years because they are unable to adapt to a changed world.

**Hispanic Commission:** Frank Fiorenza, founder and director of Family Crusades International, San Jose, Calif., challenged his audience to work together toward spiritual unity in the body of Christ. That will help Hispanics to impact the world with a powerful testimony, Fiorenza said, adding that Hispanics have a "real hope" to proclaim and rejoice in.

**National Association of Christian Child & Family Agencies:** Glenn Hester, an employee with the state of New Jersey, told his story of being in foster care programs. He urged his audience to "rescue the powerless children" in their communities and give them "self-esteem, joy and hope."

**National Christian Education Association:** Elmer Towns, dean, School of Religion at Liberty University, Lynchburg, Va., said that though there are indicators of trouble, the vitality and future of Sunday school is crucial. "For the Sunday school to return to its previous vitality, it must re-commit itself to its purpose, have a balanced ministry, and return to its 'revival' roots of commitment to spiritual passion," Towns said.

**Social Action Commission:** Aaron Hamlin, executive director of the National Black Evangelical Association (NBEA), discussed God's direction in his life, God's direction in the life of the NBEA and God's direction in the ministry of reconciliation.

**Women's Commission:** Author and speaker Anne Ortlund, Newport Beach, Calif., reminded her audience to shape their lives with prayer. "In prayer we have become God's fellow workers! We are no longer our little selves." After relating personal experiences of answered prayer in her family's life, she further challenged her listeners: "Prayer is not everything, but everything is by prayer."

**World Evangelical Fellowship:** Agustin B. (Jun) Vencer, international director of World Evangelical Fellowship, discussed "Strategies for the Third Millennium: The Evangelical Challenge."

World Relief: David Rawson, U.S. ambassador to Rwanda, discussed dealing with a number of extremely complex issues and outlined how Africa's most Christian nation had become a "killing field." "Dealing with complex disaster requires world-class logistics, massive amounts of food, medicines, shelter and water, diplomatic skills in conflict resolution, the practical experienced energies of private agencies like World Relief. But ultimately it requires being there." The challenge of being a model of justice and benevolence now looms before us in meeting even more complex emergencies around the globe, Rawson said.

## AWARDS

World Relief, the development and relief arm of the National Association of Evangelicals, presented its 16th annual Helping Hands Award to Darlene Melvin, wife of retiring Executive Director Billy A. Melvin. She was recognized "for a life devoted to quiet and consistent acts of compassion to the less fortunate through her church." Darlene was pivotal in forming an English language training program for refugees in Wheaton, Ill., lining up Christian volunteers with newly arrived refugees who had fled to America.

JoAnne Jankowski received NAE's 1995 Layperson of the Year Award. She was honored for "demonstrating a deep loyalty and commitment to a wide variety of Christian activities and especially to the National Association of Evangelicals, where she has served with distinction for many years." Jankowski and her husband, Leonard, publish the *EP News Service* and the *Minnesota Christian Chronicle*.

Aaron Hamlin, executive director of the National Black Evangelical Association (NBEA) since 1973, and formerly the association's field director, was presented the J. Elwin Wright Award for his deep commitment to the cause of evangelical cooperation. A member of NAE's Board of Administration since 1968, Hamlin served a vital part of the planning committee for the joint NAE/NBEA Convocation on Reconciliation, held in Chicago January 6-7, 1995.

Kenneth R. Taylor, founder and chairman of the board of Tyndale House Publishers, was presented the James DeForest Murch Award for his excellence of editing skills and his leadership in evangelical publishing. He served as an editor with InterVarsity Press before directing Moody Press. Since 1971 more than 37 million copies of the Living Bible have been sold. Taylor also founded Living Bibles International.

## RAMBO DELIVERS PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

David Rambo, president of the Christian & Missionary Alliance in Colorado Springs, Colo., said, "NAE still stands as the only organization that seeks as its major objective to unite evangelicals. ... Thus, we gather not to shore up a dying movement or even to

maintain a position of prominence but to acknowledge a half-century of blessing." Rambo also outlined his five specific objectives for NAE and the progress that has been made in those areas in the past year. These included: addressing the need for racial reconciliation, increasing the participation of women in NAE, acknowledging the need for younger leadership, welcoming into NAE more parachurch organizations and megachurches, and centering its efforts on the re-evangelization of America.

#### **MELVIN DELIVERS 28TH AND LAST ANNUAL REPORT**

Retiring NAE Executive Director Billy A. Melvin delivered his 28th and final report to NAE's constituency and declared that his vision for NAE was fulfilled. "I can now step down as your executive director with a heart filled with gratitude to God," Melvin said. He said that his successor, Don Argue, "deserves and needs the support of each one of us as NAE discovers again what it means to practice cooperation without compromise in service to a new generation."

#### **RESOLUTIONS PASSED**

The business sessions of the National Association of Evangelicals adopted two resolutions, "Compassion for Immigrants and Refugees" and "U.S. Foreign Aid and Humanitarian Assistance," and a position paper which reflects the 1995 convention theme, "One Faith, One Witness, One Hope."

TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 1995

The business session of the National Association of Evangelicals adopted the following position paper, which reflects the 1995 convention theme, "One Faith, One Witness, One Hope," and two resolutions.

### One Faith, One Witness, One Hope: Celebrating Our Unity in Jesus Christ

The unity of the body of Christ is one of the great themes of the New Testament. When people come to Christ through repentance and faith, they not only become "new creatures in Christ," but become members of Christ's one body as well. "For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body" (1 Cor. 12:13). As members of Christ's Body and as members of the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE), we commit ourselves to one another in a loving fellowship that promotes cooperative effort in Christian witness and celebration of all that we share together in Christ.

We celebrate our one faith. Our Statement of Faith reflects the fact that we accept the Bible as our authority and rule of faith and practice. The Lord God — Father, Son and Holy Spirit — is the object and provider of our one faith. "It is by grace you have been saved, through faith — it is the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8). We "fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Heb. 12:2).

We celebrate our one witness. "Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ" (Rom. 10:17). Yet, "faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead" (James 2:17). Our united witness to the gospel of Christ has never been needed more. Religious syncretism, moral relativism, extreme individualism, materialism and racism are dominant ideologies of the age, undermining the institutions of family, church and civil government which are ordained by God. Knowing the power of God's truth to transform, we unite in a fresh commitment of ourselves to God in order faithfully to proclaim and demonstrate biblical Christianity.

We celebrate our one hope. "If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men. But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead" (1 Cor. 15:19-20). Through Jesus Christ we believe in God the Father, who through the power of the Holy Spirit raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so our faith and hope are in the triune God. We anticipate the "glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ" (Titus 2:13). We anticipate that time when "the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away" (Rev. 21:3-4).

United in Christ and with a firm commitment to our one faith, one witness, and one hope, we resolve to serve our Lord by *standing for biblical truth*, calling evangelicals to bear witness to the absolute standard of biblical truth and its application to every area of life, modeling Christian unity based upon a commitment to biblical truth and the lordship of Jesus Christ. We will do this by identifying the needs and issues around which our members have common concerns, developing ways and means to meet these needs and to address these issues, and a collegial environment which will support the mission and ministry of each member unit.

We resolve to serve our Lord by *speaking with a representative voice*. We will do this by proclaiming the gospel globally and ministering to human needs — physical, emotional, and spiritual, and identifying sociocultural issues and addressing them with a biblical, prophetic perspective.

We resolve to serve our Lord by *serving the evangelical community*. We will do this by enabling evangelical organizations to fulfill their ministries through encouragement, support, information, cooperative action, service, and education in the nature of contemporary issues, thus providing a support network for effective response and action.

As we, the National Association of Evangelicals, serve the Lord in these ways, we do so in the knowledge that we are pleasing our Lord Jesus Christ whose prayer "that they may be one as we are one" (John 17:11) will be lived out before an unbelieving world, until such time as our faith is face-to-face, our witness is verified, and our hope is complete!

## Compassion for Immigrants and Refugees

As Christians, we are called to joyfully share our faith and hope with all people. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are guided by love. The Bible repeatedly declares God's love and care for all people, and requires that "The same law shall apply to the native-born as to the alien living among you." (Exod. 12:49) Similarly, "You are to have the same law for the alien and the native-born. I am the LORD your God." (Lev. 24:22)

The National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) is deeply concerned by a growing spirit of hostility towards immigrants and refugees who have become residents in our communities. While we recognize that some of our constituency feel strongly concerning issues of justice and law, we are all compelled by the love of Christ to act with compassion to our neighbors. Therefore, we pledge to eliminate the spirit of racism in any of our responses. While we recognize the right of nations to regulate their borders, we believe this responsibility should be exercised with a concern for the entire human family in a spirit of generosity and compassion. (Deut. 10:19, Leviticus 19:34)

Furthermore, we acknowledge that immigrants and refugees contribute much to the continuing strength and vitality of local communities and our country by their commitment to work, education, and the family.

We call upon our government, therefore, to maintain reasonable and just admissions policies for refugees and immigrants. As evangelicals responsible to love our neighbors as ourselves (Matt. 22:39), we are called to show personal and corporate hospitality to those who seek a new life in our nation.

## U.S. Foreign Aid and Humanitarian Assistance

With the end of the Cold War and the need to reduce the Federal budget, U.S. foreign aid commitments are under congressional review. The National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) understands the need for this review and welcomes any effort to eliminate waste, corruption and misuse of funds. We support ongoing efforts in the Congress to restructure USAID, and other international humanitarian organizations, so that those involved in administering foreign aid funds are held accountable.

We support efforts to focus U.S. foreign aid on such programs as micro-enterprise development and child survival that have demonstrated the ability to make a real difference in the lives of those in need. We encourage the utilization of private, voluntary organizations, such as our own World Relief Corporation, which can supplement U.S. government funds with support from private donors, operate with minimal overhead, and work effectively to bring hope to people at the local level.

We strongly believe that any review of the U.S. foreign aid budget should safeguard our country's benevolence to those in desperate need. Although our country cannot solve all of the world's problems, our foreign aid should be available to care for victims of war and disaster, reduce chronic poverty, and assist with health care for those exposed to preventable illnesses.

We urge the U.S. Congress, therefore, to approve foreign aid budgets that will protect and strengthen our nation's long-standing tradition of humanitarian concern and bring hope to those who are displaced, hungry, and in need.

**NAE's 54th Annual Convention  
will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota  
March 3-5, 1996.**



FRC-7

## Evangelical Presbyterian Church

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OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

November 1, 1994

North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council  
303 Horsham Road, Suite G  
Horsham, PA 19044  
Attention: The Reverend Donald J. Duff, Secretary

Dear Brethren:

Greetings to you in your twentieth meeting, this first of November. I trust God will richly bless each moment of fellowship and all matters of business. I am truly sorry to have been unable to be with you as previously planned.

This office is in receipt of your communication of December 20, 1993 in which your Secretary informed us of the following, "That the Council invite the Evangelical Presbyterian Church to reapply to NAPARC."

In the above referenced letter, the Secretary has provided a reasonably accurate overview of the history of this matter during the years of 1988-1993. In 1990, a motion was adopted as follows: "That the Interim Committee be instructed to continue discussion with the Fraternal Relations Committee of the EPC over the next year in pursuance of their application for membership in NAPARC." I do not believe this opportunity ever materialized.

In the years following the above, turnover of committee chairmanship has made further communications somewhat more difficult. Perhaps we can work together to find new clarity. I must confess that the need "to reapply" creates a degree of confusion.

Let me suggest a possibility. Is it possible that our Fraternal Relations Committee could return with you to the intent of the 1990 motion and find an appropriate time between the present and next Spring in order to have substantive conversations as to precisely what procedures NAPARC would like our Assembly to follow in its continuing pursuit of membership in NAPARC. Perhaps a commission appointed by the Council could be established for this purpose. I think such would prove most helpful to us.

I am delighted to note from the Minutes of our past Assembly the following action: "Resolved, that the permanent Fraternal Relations Committee continue to pursue the question of membership in the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council."

Kindly grant the above suggestion your sincere consideration as one reasonable means for the resumption of constructive conversation. Thank you. I am

Yours in Christ,

L. Edward Davis,  
Stated Clerk

MINUTES  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - EPC  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BRAZIL - IPB

April 27-28, 1995  
Rio de Janeiro - Brazil

**Present:**

Mr. Vern Porter	Chairman, EPC/JCM
Mr. Richard Oestreicher	EPC/JCM
Rev. Guilhermino Cunha	Chairman, IPB/JCM
Rev. Wilson de Souza Lopes	IPB/JCM
Rev. Osvaldo Henrique Hack	IPB/JCM
Dr. Adonias Costa de Silveira	Board of Theological Education, IPB
Elder Custodio Filipe de Jesus Pereira	IPB - Recorder of Minutes
Rev. Olson Pemberton	Translator

**APRIL 27, 1995:**

The Joint Committee on Missions (JCM) of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Church of Brazil was called to order by the presiding chairman, Rev. Guilhermino Cunha on Thursday night, April 27, 1995 at the Presbyterian Cathedral in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Rev. Cunha served as chairman for the first day's meeting.

**I. PRELIMINARIES**

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Rev. Cunha welcomed the EPC delegation, emphasizing the love and friendship of the IPB for the EPC, and welcomed all to the scheduled two days of meetings. All present were introduced. At that time it was noted that the Rev. Dr. Bartlett Hess was absent, due to illness, and that Mr. Richard Oestreicher, World Outreach Director of the EPC, was attending his first meeting, having been appointed to fill his position effective September 1, 1994. It was also noted that this was the regular scheduled 1994 meeting of the JCM and was postponed to this date from October of 1994.

To begin the meeting the JCM attended a regular mid-week church service in the Presbyterian Cathedral, in which all members of the JCM participated. Messrs. Porter and Oestreicher spoke to those present and brought greetings to the IPB representatives. Rev. Cunha spoke to those present and brought greetings to the EPC representatives.



**DEVOTIONS:** After the church service, the Commission began its regular meeting in the Session Room of the Presbyterian Cathedral. Rev. Cunha opened the meeting by reading and commenting on I Corinthians 3:6-9. There followed a time of prayer to seek God's blessings for the JCM meetings, for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and for prayer for recovery for Dr. Hess and Mrs. Porter.

**STRUCTURE OF THE DAYS:** By mutual agreement it was decided that the morning, afternoon and evening meetings would be alternately chaired by Rev. Cunha and Mr. Porter: April 27th, evening - Rev. Cunha; April 28th, morning - Mr. Porter; April 28th, afternoon - Rev. Cunha; April 28th evening - Mr. Porter. Elder Custodio was appointed secretary ad hoc. The agenda was discussed and approved. The meeting ended at 9:30 p.m., with prayer by Mr. Oestreicher.

#### **APRIL 28, 1995:**

At 9:00 AM, in the Presbyterian Cathedral of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Rua Silva Jardim, 23, the joint Committee met with the following members present; representing the EPC, Mr. Vern Porter and Mr. Richard Oestreicher; representing the IPB, the Revs. Guilhermino Cunha, Wilson de Souza Lopes, and Osvaldo Henrique Hack. Also present were Elder Custodio Filipe de Jesus Pereira, ad hoc secretary, Elder Adonias Costa Silveira, representing the Board of Theological Education of the IPB, and the Rev. Olson Pemberton, interpreter. Mr. Porter presided.

**DEVOTIONS:** Mr. Porter led the devotional service, reading from Acts 15:36-41 and commenting on relationships and unity on the mission field. Mr. Oestreicher led in prayer.

## **II. INFORMATIONAL UPDATE AND REFLECTIONS**

### **A. The EPC:**

#### **1. Church-at-Large:**

Mr. Porter spoke about the EPC in general: though the EPC is a new denomination, through God's grace, it enjoys outstanding leadership and is committed to church planting both in the US and also in it's world vision. The EPC each year continues to receive new churches into its fellowship. There are approximately 180 churches now in the EPC. An example of effective church planting is the church recently started by Dr. Bartlett Hess, which has just been organized into a particular church.



## 2. Foreign Missions:

Mr. Porter, noted that God has provided EPC with an able Director of Missions, Mr. Richard Oestreicher. Dick Oestreicher then spoke of the EPC's work in Asia, Europe, and most recently in Latin America. The EPC now has approximately 50 missionaries. The World Outreach Committee has chosen Siberia, Kazakhstan, and, most recently, Argentina as major fields on which to concentrate. To these fields EPC will send our own missionaries, rather than to enter into a cooperative agreement with another missions sending agency. We are recruiting, preparing and sending teams, rather than individual missionary units, to these fields.

Missionaries are being prepared to work in China. EPC is working with several agencies who may assist to facilitate our work in China.

## 3. Home Missions:

Because we are a small denomination committed to church planting, an integral part of our national missions is the planting of churches in the US. The planting and development of these churches to bring them to the point of becoming a particular church is under the auspices of the National Outreach Committee. There has been an extensive search process taking place to select the National Outreach Director. This work of the church in the area of church planting and development has been somewhat hampered because of this staff vacancy.

Ministries to ethnic groups such as Thais in California or Cambodians in Colorado is a part of the mandate of the World Outreach Committee. It was noted that the EPC would like the opportunity to work with Portuguese ethnic congregations in the US and encouraged the IPB to let the EPC know if there are ethnic congregations that could be a part of the EPC fellowship in the US.

## 4. Ecumenical Relationships:

Mr. Porter related that there have been conversations between the EPC and other Reformed-Presbyterian Churches, such as the Associate-Reformed Presbyterian Church, the Christian Reformed Church, and the Presbyterian Church in America. The EPC has partnered in missions endeavors with some of these groups. Specifically in the area of missions and our relationships with the respective mission counterparts within these groups, we enjoy a fine spirit of Christian collegiality.

There was some discussion about the differences in some of the EPC churches, for example, in their styles of worship.

It was noted that this is true and that individual churches within the EPC may also have different doctrinal positions in regard to matters such as ordination of women as ruling elders and the charismatic movement.

*In Essentials, Unity; In Non-Essentials, Liberty: In All Things, Charity.*

*Unidade no essencial; Liberdade nos nao-essenciais; Caridade em tudo.*

**B. The IPB:**

1. Church-at-Large:

The Rev. Wilson, Stated Clerk of the IPB, reported. There has been a difficult period in the life of the IPB, but after the 1994 General Assembly (Supremo Concilio), the Church had a new vision of unity, one in the Spirit. All projects have been developed, none left incomplete. The candidates for the presidency of the IPB have been united in prayer; committees and commissions completed all 1994 projects, and a plan for 1995 was adopted.

The IPB is growing financially, materially, and spiritually, as well as in its national and overseas projects. Income for denominational programs has increased, and a non-deficit budget for 1995 was adopted.

A commission of the IPB organizes and coordinates social assistance projects in Brazil.

2. Foreign Missions: The Board of Foreign Missions now has work in Portugal, Mozambique, Spain, England, India, Bolivia, New Zealand, Peru, Austria, Angola, Ghana and Paraguay. In the latter country, the IPB and the Korean Church are planning the organization of the first Paraguayan presbytery.

3. Home Missions: Rev. Wilson spoke of the growing work of the Board of National Missions. He also noted that through the partnership of the EPC since the two denominations began cooperating in mission, a number of projects have been completed in the following states: thirteen projects have been concluded in Mato Grosso State, four projects in the south of Para State, two projects in Goias State, two projects in Para State, two projects in Acre State, two projects in Mato Grosso Do Sul State, two projects in Rio Grande Do Sul State, one project in Piaui State, one project in Minas Gerais State, and one project has been concluded in

Bahia State.

The many projects have primarily centered around church planting, usually in newly opened frontier areas, but more specifically have included: acquisition of land, construction of churches, construction of missionary and pastoral houses, and construction of schools and classrooms.

It was noted by members of the IPB delegation that as the IPB has gone into the frontier regions of Brazil, following the opening of these regions by the government, that the IPB has been requested by the government to build and operate schools. These schools have proved to be effective in reaching the new settlers in these frontier areas.

4. Ecumenical Relationships: The Rev. Cunha spoke of the IPB's openness toward other denominations, while remaining faithful to the Reformed standards. The IPB is in dialogue with the Presbyterian Churches of Chile and Argentina. There may, in the future, be cooperation on several projects, without necessarily having a cooperative agreement between the IPB and another Church. There have been conversations with the PCA specifically in regard to church planting.

A relationship is developing with one of the Korean Presbyterian denominations; there are conversations with another. The IPB has joined the Brazilian Evangelical Association (AEVB). There have been conversations with the Free Church of Holland and with conservative Churches in Scotland and England.

In Brazil, there has been a good dialogue with the Independent, Conservative, Fundamentalist, and United Presbyterian denominations, with a strengthening of ties with the first two. There have been some charismatic movements within the IPB, and an effort is being made to orient these as to the standards of the IPB.

5. Theological Education: Rev. Wilson told of the communications work of the IPB and of the Andrew Jumper Center for Theological Education. Changes in the six seminaries have improved the level of teaching. There is a National Confederation of (Brazilian) Presbyterian Schools, including those from the primary to the university levels. Teaching, technical, and administrative resources can be shared.

### III. PRESENTATION OF PROJECTS

#### A. Argentine Cooperation Project:

The Rev. Cunha presented this project, which has two basic objectives: church planting and theological preparation of Argentine pastors. It was discussed at length. This proposal suggests the EPC churches in Argentina and the IPB churches of Brazil cooperate in two areas of work. The first area of cooperation would be in the planting of churches in areas of common agreement. The second area of cooperation would be in making available the seminaries and post-graduate courses of study in Brazil to train pastors and leaders in reformed theological education for the EPC churches in Argentina.

It was mutually agreed that this proposal had significant merit and that the IPB and EPC would jointly propose it to the Argentine EPC churches.

The meeting was recessed at 1:10 PM. At 3:10 the meeting reconvened, under the presidency of the Rev. Cunha, with prayer by the Rev. Wilson.

#### B. Tocantins Project:

This is in the cities of Palmas and Taquaralto, in the new state of Tocantins. The principal emphases are evangelism and church planting.

There are social assistance projects, and a school is developing which will eventually have primary, secondary, and vocational courses.

The total cost of this project will be US\$ 277,777.78, with the IPB responsible for US\$ 114,388.87, and the local church for US\$ 65,361.15. It is requested that the EPC participate with US\$ 98,027.76.

#### C. Ghana Project:

This project, in Ghana near Togo, would greatly enhance the work of Missionary Rev. Ronaldo Almeida Lidorio, his wife Rossana and daughter, Viviane. This project would provide for six specific smaller projects:

1. A missionary position to be established in the Nabukora area (northeastern Ghana). This is the gateway to an unreached area.

2. To provide for a missionary to visit a new church planted in Crachi.
3. To plant a church in Nabu.
4. To plant a church west of Volta.
5. To organize a school in Koni to teach the people to read and write in their own language.
6. To finish the partial translation of the New Testament into the Lisachuln dialect.

The total cost of the Ghana Project will be US\$ 60,000.00 over a two year period of time.

**D. Dr. Andrew Jumper Center of Post-Graduate Theological Education:**

The presentation of this project was made by Elder Adonias, President of the Board of Theological Education of the IPB, who stressed the good development of the Center and its need to continue developing. The first phase of the scholarship program (to prepare teachers for the Center) is to end in 1997.

It was noted that in the Minutes of the Joint Committee for 1993, p.9, seven professors (Systematic Theology, Old Testament, New Testament, History, Apologetics, Ethics, and Contemporary Theology) are mentioned, whereas on p.10 of the same Minutes the number is six. A decision as to the number of teachers to be prepared under the scholarship program will be made in the Oct. 1995 meeting.

Scholarships were approved for Ricardo Gouveia and Davi C. Gomes.

Mr. Porter noted that, whereas US\$ 15,000.00 has been granted, the Minutes of the October 1993 meeting of the Joint Committee, pages 8 and 9, indicate the need is for US\$ 11,000.00 as a full annual scholarship and US \$5,500.00 as a half annual scholarship.

The EPC delegation expressed its concern with the fact that Davi Gomes is proposing taking pastoral counseling at Boston University which is not known for its programs in this discipline, and also because it is theologically liberal. This case will be examined by the IPB, and the EPC will be informed.

The IPB delegation declared that a scholarship would not be given for Davi Gomes to study at Boston University.

**E. Exchange Program for Youth and Adolescents:**

Elder Custodio presented the project, stressing its importance for missionary purposes, for strengthening the relations with the churches, and for the cultural experience.

The EPC delegation expressed its concern that evangelism become a part of the project objectives - that this project shouldn't just be another cultural exchange program.

**F. SAMMAR:**

This project, in Rubiataba, Goias, is to give assistance to "street" children and adolescents.

**G. The Geneva Study Bible:**

The publication of this Bible will be of extreme importance in Portuguese-speaking countries, since there are no Bibles (in Portuguese) with notes in the Reformed tradition. It is expected that this Bible can be ready by July, 1997.

The cooperation of the EPC in the initial phase of translation of the notes is essential. This first phase is budgeted at US\$ 13,044.00. It is requested that the EPC and the IPB be responsible for 50% each of the total costs of subsequent phases.

**IV. FUTURE CALENDAR EVENTS**

**A. NEXT JCM**

The next meeting of the JCM will be in Detroit, Michigan on October 23-24, 1995.

**B. Consultation on Theological Education**

The JCM meeting will be preceded by a Consultation on Theological Education, on 21 October 1995, also to be held in Detroit, Michigan. The following professors of the post-graduate course will be invited: Dr. Gerard Van Gronigen, Dr. Simeon Kistemaker, Dr. Moises Silva, and Dr. Fred H.

Klooster, as well as Dr. Samuel Rowen and others, who have mentored the scholarship students.

The voting members of the Brazilian delegation to the JCM will be the Reverends Guilhermino Cunha, Wilson de Souza Lopes, and Osvaldo Henrique Hack. Elder Adonias Costa da Silveira and Rev. Dr. Heber Carlos de Campos (Director of the Andrew Jumper Post-Graduate Center) will attend as observers and will attend the Consultation on Theological Education.

**C. 15th General Assembly of the EPC:**

The Rev. Guilhermino Cunha, as president of the IPB, was invited to attend the next General Assembly of the EPC, on June 21-24, 1995, in Charlotte, North Carolina.

**D. Visit of the Rev. Ronaldo Ludorio to the USA:**

It was proposed that the Rev. Ronaldo Ludorio be invited to visit the EPC in the United States in 1996 or 1997, to tell of the missionary work in Africa.

**E. The Perils of Being a Translator:**

There was some light-hearted banter concerning translation. The Rev. Olson Pemberton, expressed that occasionally he forgets into which language he is translating. The delegates of both EPC and IPB thanked the Rev. Olson Pemberton, official interpreter of the IPB, for his efficient participation.

The meeting was recessed for supper.

The meeting reconvened at 8:40 pm under the presidency of Mr. Vern Porter, with prayer by Rev. Pemberton.

**V. FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR 1996:**

The Rev. Guilhermino Cunha expressed appreciation, in the name of the Commission on Inter-Ecclesiastical Relations of the IPB, for the manner in which this meeting has progressed. He noted that this is the first time that, at the request of the EPC delegates, the IPB has suggested the amounts and priorities, with which the EPC delegates have concurred.

**A. Projects:**

The following projects, with amounts, were approved.  
Covering information is annexed.

**1. JMN (BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE IPB):**

Item "7.2: Tocantins Project" - information annexed with  
program prepared by the IPB for the Joint Committee.

- |               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| a) Palmas:    | US\$ 15,000.00 |
| b) Taquaralto | US\$ 10,000.00 |

**2. JME (Board of Foreign Missions of the IPB):**

Information annexed - Item "8.1 - Africa - Ghana"

- |                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| a) House for missionary: | US\$ 5,000.00  |
| b) Church construction:  | US\$ 10,000.00 |

**3. Andrew Jumper Post-Graduate Center:**

Installation project (annexed Item "9"): Considered as  
priority items the three students who will complete  
their courses next year.

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| a) Scholarships | US\$ 45,000.00 |
|-----------------|----------------|

**4. SAMMAR: (annexed "Item 12: SAMMAR"):**

US\$ 7,000.00
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**5. Geneva Study Bible: (annexed "Item 13"):**

US\$ 8,000.00
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**TOTAL VALUE OF ALL PROJECTS APPROVED:**

US\$100,000.00
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As soon as all projects were approved, Mr. Porter spoke of having felt the blessed hand of God present during the meetings. The EPC delegates felt there was no politics or manipulation, and that the agreements were reached with a wonderful spirit of Christian cordiality, reflecting the maturity of the EPC/IPB Agreement.

The Rev. Guilhermino Cunha expressed the gratitude felt by the IPB delegates for the warm attitude and friendship of the EPC



## Ministerial Vocation Committee Report

The Ministerial Vocation Committee met October 21-22, 1994 and March 16-18, 1995 at the Office of the General Assembly in Detroit. Members of the committee are Rev. Jerry Autry, Rev. William Moore, Elder Leon Niemann, Elder Billy Primm, Elder Rex Pike, and Mike Winship, chairman. Committee concluded its year with several new fires aglow. Chairman elected for the 1995-96 Assembly year is Rev. William Moore, pastor of Trinity Presbyterian Church, Plymouth, Michigan.

The 14th General Assembly gave us some homework and direction.



*Michael Winship, chairman*

1. To provide an annual **Newly Ordained Ministers Gathering** for fellowship and edification. This group of ministers and their spouses will gather at the 15th Assembly on Wednesday, June 21 for a three-hour event including dinner, followed by a speaker, Dr. Luder Whitlock, president of Reformed Theological Seminary. Dr. Whitlock will speak on the relationship of pastors and their sessions.
2. To offer an **annual growth experience for ministers**. This year, the host church is preparing the pre-Assembly workshop, with strategies for reaching the unchurched in our communities.
3. To implement a two-year trial **Pastoral Care Program** for pastors and their families. Much more is involved in our plans for caring for pastors. We are researching other denominations to see what they are doing to care for their pastors. We continue our effort to encourage presbyteries to explore the use of "ministers to pastors" in their own presbyteries or regional bounds.
4. To provide **statistical summaries** annually for General Assembly on the numbers of candidates, seminaries involved, testing and examinations. Such statistics will be included in the Stated Clerk's report.

The Ministerial Vocation Committee this year addressed a number of areas.

1. The Personal Information Form was edited and improved and is now available. All ministers in the denomination should have a current PIF completed and on file in the Assembly office.
2. Plans for reinvolvement in interdenominational anti-pornography and anti-abortion efforts are in process.
3. The committee continues to support the Andrew Jumper Scholarship Fund and will ask the Assembly to approve a \$2 per member asking to continue funding it.
4. Committee reviewed the status of our retired ministers as to their financial well-being.

and monitored the status of extraordinary candidates and chaplains. Three new chaplains were added to our roster this year: Jeffrey Han, Richard Overton, and George Yates.

5. Committee reviewed the status of our denominational pension and insurance programs.
6. The "face to face" aspect of General Assembly was discussed and reviewed as to improvements which can be made in bringing together search committees and potential candidates for vacant positions.
7. The new *Procedure Manual for Candidates Care and Ministerial Committees* was produced and distributed to the presbyteries.

The chairmen of the Ministerial Committees of the presbyteries were invited to and included in a workshop during the March, meeting of the committee. Topics of the workshop included a discussion in great spirit and depth on the care of pastors within the presbyteries and ways to improve it. The new *Manual* was reviewed and discussed, along with problem issues facing the presbyteries.

There are no recommendations forthcoming from the Ministerial Vocation Committee to the 15th General Assembly.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Winship, Chairman  
Ministerial Vocation Committee  
June, 1995

## Bethany Christian Services Report

### APPENDICES

In the gospel of John (Chapter 1:14), the Apostle notes "the word was made flesh and dwelt among us." The Father became flesh through Jesus' birth. He lived with us, hurt with us, experienced joy with us, and demonstrated the Father's love to us.

What a marvelous and incomprehensible gift!

In a different way, the love of our Father should also become flesh through each of us. A significant element of Jesus' ministry while on earth was His ministry of healing. Permeating that ministry was the demonstration of the love of the Father to those who were hurting. Then when Jesus ascended into heaven, He left a commission for us when He said, "Go ye into all the world," and "you shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, in all Judea, in Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth."

Jesus entrusted the ministry He began to us. In today's world we are surrounded by people who are in need. They need the caring love of Christians as a demonstration of the love the Father has for them. While each of us has the responsibility of caring as individuals, Bethany is uniquely suited to be a bearer of Jesus' love and mercy to those who are living with unintended pregnancies, and to Christian families who long to become parents through adoption.

Your endorsement of Bethany commissions us to represent you. You also empower us through your prayers and with your financial support.

In 1994, the Lord provided us with the opportunity of ministering to over 25,000 people. While a number this large can result in people becoming faceless, the 25,000 is made up of individual people: a young woman who feels that life no longer has purpose; a young couple whose life is fraught with turmoil at the prospect of childlessness; a young woman in a phone booth calling Bethany LIFELINE, desperately trying to find an alternative to abortion; or a child who lives with severe physical limitations but who desperately longs for the permanence of a loving adoptive family. What glorious opportunities to demonstrate the word becoming flesh.

You, as a denomination, as congregations, and as individual members were an indispensable part of making this ministry possible. You served as board members, as shepherding homes, as foster homes. You adopted, gave, and prayed. What Bethany accomplished in Jesus' name was accomplished because you cared with us.

The prayers offered on Bethany's behalf and in support of those to whom we minister were countless. They were felt and answered. We could point to situation after situation where answers came to seemingly hopeless complications because you and so many others prayed.

Once again, you responded-very generously to the financial needs of Bethany's ministry. In 1994, \$19,000,000 in revenue was needed to support our work. Projections indicates that close to \$91,000 in gifts were given by people or congregations who are associated with the EPC.

Bethany celebrated 50 years of ministry in 1994. We rejoiced in the Lord as we reflected back and as we reach ahead in planning. Through reaching ahead, we have established the following objectives which we hope to accomplish in 1995:

1. To expand our pro-life services into geographic locations where there is demonstrated need and opportunity.
2. To develop networking and promotional strategies which increase and enable agency-facilitated adoption with two-parent Christian families.
3. To reaffirm our commitment to serve all children who need a Christian adoptive home, with an emphasis on children living with special needs.
4. To encourage branch offices to explore the opportunity of expanding their Christian ministry through developing diversified services to children and families.
5. To further develop international services as part of our ministry to children and families.

Your continued interest and partnership will make the achievement of these goals possible...to assist the word in become flesh. Thank you again. We covet your continued involvement and support.

June, 1995

## Moderator's Report

Upon learning of the possibility I would be nominated to the high office of Moderator of the 14th General Assembly, I began to consider what specific message I would like to take to the Church if elected. Then the Assembly did elect me, and I have been extremely grateful for the opportunity you have afforded me to serve the Church.

As I considered my role as Moderator, I decided it should be ambassadorial, or pastoral. As a result I felt a strong urging to place emphasis on small congregations and their pastors, and secondly, to call the men of our denomination to a greater sense of responsibility to Christian leadership both in the home and in the Church. Therefore, I gladly undertook in my travels to make my first priority small congregations for the purposes of encouraging them and their pastors.



*William Johns, Moderator*

Pastors have been a primary concern of your Moderator because of the sometimes lonely and sometimes seemingly fruitless efforts of their labors. Thus, one of the messages I have attempted to urge upon congregations is to love their pastors and understand the uniqueness of their situation.

A year as Moderator of our denomination is filled with special experiences and blessings. My first blessing came on a visit to Mentor, Ohio to speak at the worship service welcoming Hope Evangelical Fellowship into the EPC, followed by a visit to Summer Jam - Florida.

It was my pleasure to attend meetings of eight of the nine presbyteries, and one of them twice. There is a risk in mentioning individuals, but I will take the risk. I treasure such memories as the visit to Covenant Presbyterian Church (Ann Arbor, Mich.) with Mark Vanderput and his congregation; with Dan Lacich and the North Park congregation (Wexford, Penna.); Ron Ragon and the Brainerd church in Chattanooga, Tenn.; Second Presbyterian, Church in Memphis, and Faith EPC, Alexandria with my predecessor and dear friend, Graham Smith. And then there was the joint meeting with Christ Fellowship and New Life Christian Fellowship in Pinehurst, NC; Central in St. Louis with Tim Brewer, and a reunion with close friend Jim Coleman, now at Bear Creek, Denver. I recall the delightful evening spent in Santa Maria, California with the faithful there, with the Morningside EPC in Phoenix and New Covenant in Tucson. And on and on it goes. If you wonder why I mention all of these, it is because there is a very special spirit abounding throughout. The numbers of the EPC may not have grown dramatically, but there is a wonderful spiritual dimension to our EPC that must not be overlooked. In all my travels, there was a wonderful spirit of love and hospitality, such as the congregation of Community EPC, Owosso, Mich., where Don Galardi is pastor and where new members joyfully speak of how this is the kind of church they had been looking for.

There is so much "right" in EPC that it challenges us to look at the "needs" or the "incompletes." There is the matter of limited fellowship with other EPC congregations, where great geographical distances separate congregations. This is not a new development. As we grow, this problem tends to be minimized. There is the problem of communications for which major strides have been taken with the first edition of *EPC Reflections* just off the press. As usual, a major concern is finances. In almost every aspect of denominational life, we are restricted by lack of finances, whether it be youth work, women's ministries, church planting, missions, administration, or publications. You name it and there is a need, but

financial limitations are the hurdle we must yet overcome.

On the positive side, the General Assembly office staff is dedicated, hardworking, and very capable. A spirit of teamwork exists amongst staff that bodes well for the future. There are needs for additional people in the Assembly office, needs under consideration which will be studied by a special task force being established by the Committee on Administration.

The Moderator has seen the Stated Clerk in a variety of situations over the past year and has come to an even higher level of regard for him. He is highly respected and esteemed both inside and outside our denomination. He is overworked and needs help. Ed Davis is a tremendous asset to the EPC.

One of the most exciting and educational experiences of the Moderator this year was a visit to St. Andrews Presbytery in Argentina, and to our sister denomination, the IPB, in Brazil. Most churches in St. Andrews Presbytery are small but moving to firmly establish an EPC presence in Argentina. Major progress has been made, as evaluated by my traveling partner, Graham Smith, who visited Buenos Aires one year earlier. The EPC can be pleased with the work our predecessors began there. Financial needs, however, continue to be great.

Our visit to San Paulo and Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, was hosted by Dr. Guilhermino Cunha, Moderator of the IPB. This has become a very mission-minded church, and we thoroughly enjoyed the hospitality. Incidentally, hospitality is a trademark of the Christians we met in Brazil and Argentina. We treasure the time spent with our South American neighbors.

I have had numerous opportunities to observe the work of Dick Oestreicher, World Outreach Director, and am impressed with the enthusiasm and skill with which this work of the Church is being handled.

On another subject, we are hearing a great deal these days about the virtue of *diversity*. It is true that diversity can strengthen an organization. It is also true that diversity, carried to the extreme, can be destructive. One of the very important concepts of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church is that there is liberty in non-essential matters. The third leg on which we stand is that we are to be charitable in all things. When diversity threatens to be divisive, therefore, we have a choice: shall we exercise our right to be different or shall we, in love, consider our brother whose views are different from our own? It seems to me the future offers opportunity for our diversity to become divisive. Let us emphasize the essentials on which we base our faith, and be charitable in all other matters.

My year as Moderator has been made possible by the efforts and support of many people. I am grateful to my home church, First Presbyterian Church of Rome, Georgia, for its prayers and tolerance of my frequent absences, especially my Sunday School class who have had the burden of frequent interruptions in the continuity of the study materials. I am grateful to Ed Davis for his patience during my learning time, and to Graham Smith and John Adamson who helped me in my indoctrination on the Executive Committee; and to Karen and Marilyn in the Assembly office who have so graciously attended to travel details and other matters; to pastors and laymen throughout the land whose churches and homes have been places of welcome and joy; to my children who have been such encouragers. Most of all, I am grateful to Mary, my wife who has traveled with me and when not able to travel with me, patiently abided my absence. She is a "rock" upon which I have often leaned.

Submitted in love,

William E. Johns, Moderator  
14th General Assembly  
June, 1995



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## National Outreach Committee Report

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Evangelism through church planting and revitalization of existing churches challenges the National Outreach Committee (NOC) of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC). Effective ministry and outreach through our churches is vital if we are to be salt and light as Jesus has challenged (Matthew 5:13). Individually and corporately, therefore, we must be committed to church growth through outreach and discipleship. It is in this growing conviction of what the Lord is calling our church to be that we submit the following report.



*Lee Kizer, Chairman*

Recognizing that evangelism and revitalization are the first priorities of church development, the NOC has developed and adopted a 4-part plan to include a church revitalization program, new church planting, seminary screening program, and efforts to establish an EPC presence in key cities. The church revitalization program is directed toward churches under 200 members and will provide growth opportunities with consultant help through ministries such as Lay Renewal in St. Louis. The church planting program was developed for churches over 400 members but less than 1000 to help in establishing daughter churches. The seminary screen program was included to recognize, recruit, and train possible church planters from reformed seminaries. Purpose of the fourth part of the plan is to partner with churches over 1000 members and presbyteries to establish an EPC presence in key cities where no EPC church currently exists. The presbytery committee chairmen support the plan and the NOC has adopted it for implementation.

The 1995 Church Planting Assessment Center (CPAC) was again a joint undertaking of the EPC and the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARP), with both denominations providing assessors and assessees. CPAC was held at the ARP Bonclarken Conference Center near Asheville, North Carolina in February.

NOC has undertaken a data base project under the direction of Dr. Frank Brown and Project Manager, Jim Currie. Called the Church Planting/Development Data Base, this project involves collecting data and compiling a profile to identify historical information regarding EPC church planting. This data should indicate why some churches failed and others succeeded, as well as identify the financial investment by both the presbyteries and General Assembly.

Reports were received from five churches currently receiving sustentation. These include Canyon Creek (Chandler, Ariz.), New Covenant Church (Tucson, Ariz.), New Hope Church (Pittsburgh, Penna.), Iglesia Presbiteriana, (Buenos Aires, Argentina), and Gualeguay Church, (Argentina). Canyon Creek organized as a particular church on April 2, 1995 and support from the NOC will cease October 31, 1995. NOC also gave a \$4,000 grant to the Central South Presbytery for the revitalization of Christ Presbyterian Church, Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

The NOC will provide registration fees for one mission pastor from each presbytery to attend "Church Planter '95," sponsored by the Church Planting Center and Mission to North America of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).

In response to a request for a feasibility study to plant an EPC church in Orlando, Florida, the following information was obtained. Orlando is a key city where opportunities abound to accomplish the church development purposes of the EPC. Demographic studies conducted by Dr. Bill Read indicate Seminole County is a growing area of Orlando. The northern portion of Seminole County has been referred to as the "crossroads of Florida," strategically located between Daytona Beach, Cape Canaveral, and Walt Disney World. Additionally, several major evangelical ministries including Campus Crusade for Christ, Pioneers, and Ligonier Ministries have decided to relocate corporate headquarters in Orlando. Reformed Theological Seminary (RTS) has made Orlando its home, and in this world class city, the EPC currently has no significant presence. Leadership is a vital consideration when deciding on a church plant, and after much prayer and consideration, NOC feels that Rev. Dan Lacich, pastor of North Park EPC in Wexford, Pennsylvania would be an outstanding church planter in Orlando. Funding of the Orlando project would initially come from General Assembly, the Florida Presbytery, a few key churches, and personal support raised by the church planter. The Committee on Administration has agreed to permit the focus of the 1995 Thanksgiving Offering to be directed to the Orlando project.

The NOC Search Committee for a Director of National Outreach has met on several occasions and continues the interview process. It is felt that a candidate will be selected soon.

To conform with General Assembly's position statement on presbytery viability, NOC feels that the presbytery boundaries between the Mid-Atlantic and Southeast Presbyteries be realigned to include the following seven churches as part of the Southeast Presbytery: Cleveland EPC (Abingdon, Va.), Christ Church (Anderson, S.C.), Community Bible Church (Highlands, N.C.), Plumtree EPC (Avery County, N.C.), Harvest Church (Asheville, N.C.), Grace Presbyterian Church and Cornerstone Presbyterian Church, both of Franklin, N.C.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

That the 15th General Assembly permit the realignment of presbyteries boundaries to include the following churches within the bounds of the Southeast Presbytery: Cleveland EPC, Christ Church, Community Bible Church, Plumtree EPC, Harvest Church, Grace Presbyterian Church, and Cornerstone Presbyterian Church.

Remember the words of the psalmist in Psalms 127:1a: *"Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it..."*

In His Service,

Lee E. Kizer, Chairman  
National Outreach Committee  
June, 1995



NOC-1

# **EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**APPENDICES**

## **CHURCH DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

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**NATIONAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

**DRAFT NO 2**

**FEBRUARY 1995**

## EPC CHURCH DEVELOPMENT PLAN

**Purpose:** To provide a specific plan of action to implement the objectives of the CHURCH DEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN (CDMP).

**EPC GOAL:** Experience a spiritual growth of its members through a dedicated discipleship revitalization program. Through the spiritual renewal of the members an increased outreach activity is expected to result in congregation membership growth. EPC should experience a 10% membership growth through the year 2000. The target denominational membership at the end of year 2000 is 70,000 members.

This plan has four (4) major parts:

- Part I. Church Discipleship Revitalization Program
- Part II. Church Growth Program
- Part III. Seminary Screening (Mentor Program) for church founders.
- Part IV. Establishing EPC presence in key cities of the United States

It is intended for this plan to be an integral part of the Church Development MASTER PLAN (CDMP). This plan should be continuously expanded and revised as the Holy Spirit provides guidance to fully use the counseling, consulting, and discipling resources.

The following goals of the CDMP are addressed by this plan:

Goal 1-1. To equip the church with an understanding of Reformed evangelism as the key to successful proclamation of the Gospel.

Goal 1-2. To develop pastors with Reformed commitment and giftedness.

Goal 1-4. To plant vibrant churches that will reproduce themselves.

Goal 2-1. To identify key population areas and people groups with high potential for EPC church planting and to identify specific strategies for reaching people of all racial and socioeconomic backgrounds with the Good News of the Gospel.

Goal 2-2. To define and identify unreached people groups with high potential for planting an EPC church.

Goal 3-1. To understand the EPC personality as it relates to the mission of reaching the unreached.

Goal 4-1. To use cohesive partnerships in building and developing a financial base for making the mission possible.

Goal 4-3. To train and resource leadership personnel at every level.

Goal 6-2. To select the highest caliber of potential leaders.

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."

Ephesians 3:20-21, NIV

**Part 1 - CHURCH DISCIPLESHIP REVITALIZATION PROGRAM (CRP).**

This part fulfills the CDMP Goals 1-1, 3-1, and 4-3. Provides presbytery workshops using key resource people to teach Reformed evangelism; develop an understanding of the EPC personality as it relates to the mission of reaching the unreached; and provides training and resource leadership personnel at every level;

**APPLICATION.** This part addresses EPC churches with membership under 200 and prioritizes the churches that have less than a 10% growth in membership, as listed in Sections B and C of Attachment 3. There were 20 churches with a current growth rate that will carry them past 200 members before or by year 2000, as listed in Attachment 2. They are encouraged to continue on their successful evangelical quest.

**APPROACH.** It is fully recognized that growth comes with the learning and understanding provided by the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. The major emphasis in this part is the encouragement and support provided to the churches by the Presbytery to reach out to the lost and disciple the found.

A. The Presbytery and National Outreach Committee of the General Assembly will provide the resources needed to help churches develop a master plan that identifies mission, vision, objectives, and goals.

B. The Presbytery and National Outreach Committee of the General Assembly will provide the resources needed to train lay people how to share their Reformed faith and follow through on other church responsibilities.

1. Example of Program cost by Lay Renewal

Ministries:

Cost per church:	\$ 800 Cost
Presbytery:	\$ 1,600 Per Church
Total Cost	\$ 2,200 Per Church

National Outreach Committee provide  
Presbyteries with matching dollar support.

Cost to Presbytery:	\$ 800 Per Church
Cost to NOC:	\$ 800 Per Church

2. Presbytery initial costs: (one time)

Leadership Retreat	\$400
Consultation for Master Plan	\$500
Materials	\$125
Total one time cost	\$1,200

C. Churches with membership numbers that a 10% growth rate will carry them to a 200 member goal, are listed in Attachment 2, and Section B of Attachment 3 for individual Presbyteries. It is suggested that priority be given to these churches as they have the greatest probability of reaching 200 members by the year 2000. There are 19 churches in this category.

D. There are a large number of smaller churches that, if provided with a challenge and necessary support, could attain 200 members by year 2000 with a growth rate greater than 10 percent. They are in Section C of Attachment 3.

E. The National Outreach Committee will support the Presbyteries in developing church leaders ownership of this process through the church development consultants.

F. The local church leaders will be equipped to continue the process of meeting their mission and fulfilling their vision.

G. The Presbytery Church Development Chairmen and the National Outreach Committee will select a church development consultant to provide the details of the process of discipleship revitalization.

EXPECTATIONS. To see the small churches be strengthened by good leadership and the desire to be evangelical in sharing their faith with their community. The membership of these churches are expected to meet the EPC Church Growth goal of 10% growth each year through 2000. By year 2000 there should be an additional 39 churches with a membership over 200.

## Part II - CHURCH GROWTH PROGRAM (CGP)

This part fulfills the CDMP goals 1-4; 2-2. To define and identify unreached people groups with high potential for planting an EPC church and plant vibrant churches that will reproduce themselves.

**APPLICATION.** Churches with membership over 400 but less than 1000, listed in Section A of Attachment 3. At the end of 1993 this amounted to 19 churches.

**APPROACH.** Each church begin to develop church planting plans to start a new church and help it develop into a stable, vibrant congregation. There is no specific model or strategy that must be adhered to, but there are proven methods which have been documented and the Presbytery Church Development and Support committee should provide the necessary guidance to plant a new church.

- A. It must be recognized that the Holy Spirit is the indispensable principle of all church planting strategies.
- B. Presbytery Church Development and Support Committee work with each church to train and encourage lay leaders and Pastors in this process.
- C. Each church establish a Church Development committee to coordinate all the logistics of planting a new church.
- D. The National Outreach Committee will coordinate each Presbytery need with graduating seminary students that have a high potential of skills necessary in the successful starting of a new church.
- E. Presbytery CDSC identify pastors who successfully pass the assessment center course to match with potential new church plants.
- F. The National Outreach Committee will work with each Presbytery to provide consultation and training where needed.
- G. The General Assembly office will assist in providing demographic data for specific population areas.
- H. The National Outreach Committee will identify successful pastors within the EPC that can be used as a resource for workshops to encourage and motivate other church leaders to develop church planting plans.

**EXPECTATIONS.** Each church be successful in planting a church and nurturing it to a vibrant evangelical church. This will add a minimum of 19 churches by year 2000.

### III. Seminary Screening (Mentor Program) for church founders.

This part fulfills the CDMP Goal 1-2 and Goal 6-2. To develop pastors with the Reformed commitment and giftedness. Evaluate the seminary curriculum to meet this goal; and evaluate the pastor by use of the assessment process to select the highest caliber of potential leaders.

APPLICATION. Recognized Reformed seminaries whose curriculum and ordained pastors have proven to be responsive to the uniqueness of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

APPROACH. Consider planting a church in the community of a Reformed seminary to mentor prospective successful pastors for the purpose of the EPC and this Church Development Plan. Coordinate the assignment of a mentoring pastor of an EPC church to qualified seminary students for the purpose of encouraging the development of church planting gifts in the student. (Note: To better identify the real purpose of such a pastor the word "church founder" will be used instead of church planter to infer that the pastor is committed to the new congregation as its founder and pastor for the long haul, not just an interim time.)

A. The National Outreach Committee will establish a subcommittee to maintain a close liaison with Reformed Seminaries. This subcommittee will identify qualified seminary students for possible church founders.

B. Recognize pastors in the field that would desire to plant a new church and have the necessary qualifications to be successful.

C. Maintain a coordination plan that aligns prospective graduates with churches that plan to plant a new church. This will require a match with the pastor and the Church Development Committee of the planting church.

D. Place selected seminary graduates and other persons under the care of Presbyteries, in a mentoring program with the church that is developing plans for a new church plant. The National Outreach Committee and Presbytery Church Development and Support Committees will develop a method of sharing costs for the mentoring process.

E. Maintain a working list of candidates for assessment center training.

EXPECTATIONS. It is expected that only the best qualified seminary graduates and field pastors would be the founders of new EPC Churches under this plan. That the excitement the Holy Spirit generates in the prospects of a new church reaching the lost will permeate the students, pastors and churches. That the EPC will attract only the best of church founders to execute this plan for church growth and discipleship revitalization.



#### IV. Establishing EPC presence in key cities

This part fulfills CDMP goals 2-1 and 4-1 by identifying key population areas and people groups for planting a major size new church. By using partnerships between the large churches of the EPC it will allow the building and developing of a financial base for making this plan successful.

APPLICATION. To the National Outreach Committee, Presbyteries, and churches with memberships in excess of 1,000 members.

APPROACH. Establish a strong EPC church in targeted cities where the Evangelical Presbyterian church is not represented or where a recognized Reformed seminary is located for the purpose of mentoring prospective church founders. This type of church plant is intended to begin with not less than 250 members.

- A. Revisit the EPC Key City Program for identifying possible target areas within the Continental United States. Revise the plan as necessary to determine the best locations and time table for planting a strong EPC church.
- B. The NOC work with the applicable churches to develop plans for executing a Key Cities Church Plant Program.
- C. Determine the size of the church plant desired and whether to plan for buildings and property purchase. Determine building and property ownership commitments.
- D. Develop church planting plans, logistics of contacting the unchurched in the area and advertising to ensure an attendance of 250 to begin the church plant.
- E. Simultaneously with the church planting plans will be the search for the highly qualified and experienced church founder who has the heart to be committed to growing with the church to maturity and see it through to viability for success.

EXPECTATIONS. That there will be a new major church plant within the Continental United States every 5 years, having one successful church plant by year 2000.



NOC-2

## Evangelical Presbyterian Church

29140 BUCKINGHAM AVENUE, SUITE 5 LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48154  
(313) 261-2001 Fax (313) 261-3282

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

April 13, 1995

The Clerks of Session  
EPC Churches

Dear Clerk of Session:

The National Outreach Committee has just committed itself to a major undertaking which should contribute significantly to learning how to do successful church planting better. To accomplish this goal, we need your partnership!

The Evangelical Presbyterian Church is a growing and changing organism. As the church matures, it is necessary to capture significant information about successful and unsuccessful church planting. From such we can learn. Dr. Frank Brown, past Moderator of the East Presbytery, has a passion for the importance of this learning, in addition to being a founding elder of a newly organized mission church.

Uniquely equipped by his own professional experience, Frank has designed a survey and analysis process with which to gather this information while key individuals are still available, then analyze the information to identify growth guidelines for the future. This process will then maintain itself for future experience.

The NOC has asked Jim Currie, an elder from Ward Church, to be its volunteer project director. His staff resource in the General Assembly Office will be Marilyn Bartel who can convey your questions about the project to Jim.

The survey process identifies you as the key point of contact for securing key resource persons in your congregation who can help provide the requested information. Perhaps you yourself are a key resource person. Jim and Frank will ask Presbytery stated clerks to help facilitate the flow of this information.

Please join us in partnership for this most needful task. Only our utmost efforts and reliable information will bring us to our goal.

Thankfully,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lee Kizer  
Chairman of National Outreach

\_\_\_\_\_  
Edward Davis  
Stated Clerk

cc: Presbytery Stated Clerks, Pastors

APPENDICES

NOC-3

T. Rogvoy Associates, Inc. ARCHITECTS

5735 TELEGRAPH ROAD SUITE 300  
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MICHIGAN 48301

TELEPHONE 810-540-7700  
FACSIMILE 810-540-2710

BERNARD K. DRANE, A.I.A.  
G. BRUCE BOORE, A.I.A.  
CHARLES K. LOOMIS, A.I.A.  
RICHARD L. WIDERSTEDT, A.I.A.  
JAMES T. ROLL, A.I.A.  
MARK CRANE, A.I.A.

DAVID W. BOLA, A.I.A.  
DONALD R. SHELDON  
CLAUDE E. OLESON, A.I.A.  
RICHARD J. CLEVE, A.I.A.

May 10, 1995

Mr. Carlton Baker  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
29140 Buckingham Avenue - Suite 5  
Livonia, Michigan 48154

Re: Loan Fund

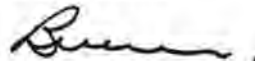
Dear Carlton:

This confirms my review of our present procedural requirements for organized E.P.C. Churches to obtain approval for loans to help secure property or help with building concerns. The consensus of several mortgage bankers that have looked at our program believe it is well structured and suggest we would be well served to let it stand as written.

There are, however, two (2) areas of concern that could be modified to meet special conditions. The first is simply increasing the amount available from Fifty Thousand (\$50,000.00) & 00/100 Dollars to One Hundred Thousand (\$100,000.00) & 00/100 Dollars. The second scenario would involve our providing a portion of the total amount approved by a certifiable lending institution done on a commercial basis. An example of this technique is a Church securing a loan limit of Five Hundred Thousand (\$500,000.00) & 00/100 Dollars and borrow Four Hundred Thousand (\$400,000.00) & 00/100 Dollars from the commercial carrier and the remaining One Hundred Thousand (\$100,000.00) & 00/100 Dollars from the E.P.C. General Assembly. Using this illustration, the sample Church would save some interest costs and reduce the total amount of money held against the property.

Please call if this is deemed worth pursuing.

In Christ's Service



G. Bruce Boore

cc: Edward Davis  
Dick Heidman

REM:GBB.001 / GRACE/SAND

APPENDICES

NOC-4

T. Rogvov Associates, Inc. ARCHITECTS

6735 TELEGRAPH ROAD SUITE 300  
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MICHIGAN 48301

TELEPHONE 810-540-7700  
FACSIMILE 810-540-2710

March 16, 1995

Mr. Carlton Baker  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
29140 Buckingham Avenue - Suite 5  
Livonia, Michigan 48154

Re: Loan Fund  
World Outreach Committee

Dear Carlton:

Over the last five (5) years, it has been my good pleasure to serve on the Loan Committee, one area of ministry my particular gifts help the task. During this time there has surfaced several areas of concern that impact the people requesting loans. The guidelines given to the Loan Committee by National Outreach are our policy and we do not deviate from them.

There have been times when applicants are seeking major loans, which our portion is minor; however, we must ask them to duplicate their effort to secure the additional portion of the loan requirements. It would streamline the process if an abbreviated form could be used and piggy back the application of the major loan sent to the commercial provider.

Another consideration would be to increase (as we of E.P.C. are able) the amount of the loan. The increased amount would be in the area of One Hundred Thousand Dollars cap, which falls far short of a major building program, but greatly expands the help extended to our members.

The criteria for applications are the responsibility of National Outreach, but if our committee can help, we are available.

In Christ's Service,



G. Bruce Boore  
Chairman Loan Committee

cc: Edward Davis

REM:95000.001

BERNARD R. DRANE, A.I.A.  
G. BRUCE BOORE, A.I.A.  
CHARLES K. LOONIS, A.I.A.  
RICHARD WIDERSTEDT, A.I.A.  
JAMES T. HOLL, A.I.A.  
MARK DRANE, A.I.A.

DAVID W. BOLLA, A.I.A.  
DONALD R. SHELTON  
CLAUDE E. OLSON, A.I.A.  
RICHARD J. CLEVE, A.I.A.

APPENDICES

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## Nominating Committee Report

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### PERMANENT COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

#### Administration

Class of 1998 RE Gary Fields (West)  
 RE Jan Bole (West)  
 TE Wally Hostetter (Midwest)

#### Board Of Pension And Benefits

Class of 1998 RE Charles Talbot (Midwest)  
 TE Russell Loudon (Central South)

#### Christian Education And Publications

Class of 1998 RE Barbara Mansfield (Midwest)  
 RE Carolyn Nystrom (Mid-America)

#### Fraternal Relations

Class of 1998 TE Charles Wickman (Mid-Atlantic)  
 RE Paul Heidebrecht (Mid-America)  
 Class of 1997 TE Bill Flannagan (Southeast)

#### Ministerial Vocation

Class of 1998 TE Bob Harvey (Mid-America)  
 RE Bill Goessling (Mid-America)  
 Class of 1997 TE William Moore (Midwest)  
 Class of 1996 RE Ed George (Florida)

#### National Outreach

Class of 1998 RE Ben Brychta (Southeast)  
 TE Lee Kizer (Mid-Atlantic)  
 RE Charles Overstreet (Mid-Atlantic)  
 Class of 1997 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Class of 1996 TE Tom Melton (West)

#### Permanent Judicial Commission

Class of 1998 RE James Rimmel (Midwest)  
 RE James Wall (Mid-Atlantic)  
 TE Ron DiNunzio (Florida)

**Theology**

Class of 1998    TE Michael Glodo (Florida)  
                          RE George Schneider (Southeast)

**Women's Ministries**

Class of 1998    Sandra Milis (Midwest)  
                          Jean Ward (Southeast)

**World Outreach**

Class of 1998    RE Emily Read (Midwest)  
                          RE Arnold Lindseth (Central South)  
                          TE William Meyer (Mid-Atlantic)  
                          TE Todd Hahn (Mid-Atlantic)

**Youth Ministries**

Class of 1998    TE Gary Koerth (Midwest)  
                          Bret Spiegelman (Central South)

# EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

News Release

29140 Buckingham Avenue, Suite 5 • Livonia, MI 48154 • (313) 261-2001 • Fax (313) 261-3282

## APPENDICES

### WAYNE HOFFMAN NOMINATED 15TH ASSEMBLY MODERATOR

The Reverend Wayne M. Hoffman has been nominated as Moderator of the 15th General Assembly.

Born in Lennox, South Dakota, Wayne committed his life to Christ at the age of 12. He is a 1957 graduate of the University of Dubuque, Dubuque, Iowa and earned his M.Div at the University of Dubuque in 1960. Ordained in the United Presbyterian Church in 1960, Wayne has served congregations in Grundy Center, Iowa, Luverne, Minnesota, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and in Waterloo and Des Moines, Iowa. In 1986, Wayne joined the EPC as an evangelist in Des Moines. His church, Westkirk EPC, became a particular congregation in 1987.



Wayne has written five books, including *Church Membership*, *Discipleship Training*, and *Preaching*, and has served as Adjunct Staff at the University of Dubuque Seminary, the College of St. Francis (Religion Department), and the North Central Career Development Center. He also served on the Pastor's Advisory Committee, Wartburg College and the Board of Trustees, Huron College. In radio ministry for 14 years, Wayne was also producer and host of a television program, *The Cutting Edge*.

Active in both the Presbytery of Mid-America and the General Assembly, Wayne has served as chairman of the Candidates Care Committee of the presbytery, and as a member of the permanent National Outreach Committee. He has twice served as chairman of standing committees at General Assembly. In the summer of 1993, when floods inundated the heartland of America, Wayne coordinated flood relief efforts of EPC churches across the country which offered financial help and services.

Wayne and his wife Helga celebrate their forty-second wedding anniversary on June 21. They are blessed with five children, all of whom are Christians active in the local church serving as elders and deacons, in women's ministry, youth leadership, and choir. Twelve wonderful grandchildren complete the family circle.

## ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEES

### ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Chairman Joseph Schluchter

RE Bill Allen  
TE Robert Barrett  
RE Richard Beatty  
TE Daniel Berry, III  
RE Ken Breckner  
RE Douglas Calhoun, Sr.  
RE Furman Crout  
TE Willard Davis  
TE Robert Dean  
TE Tony De Orio  
RE Roger Derksen  
RE Harlen Dewey  
TE Jim Dixon  
RE Richard Elm  
TE Bill Flannagan  
TE James Glasgow  
RE Nabil Hakim  
TE Dave Herbertson  
TE Gerry Hittenberger, Secretary

RE Norm Jackson  
TE Frank Kik  
TE Ian Lamont  
TE David Lovell  
TE Austin McCaskill  
RE Neil Matheson  
TE Bill Meyer  
RE Gerald Moser  
RE Kevin Ruark  
RE John Rudd  
TE Dick Robinson  
RE James Russell  
RE Charles Scott  
RE Alan Shaffer  
RE Phil Stump  
RE James Walker  
RE Frances Wall  
RE Les B. Williams

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Chairman Buck Oliphant

TE Louis Angone  
TE Greg Anthony  
TE Robert Bayles  
RE Rufus Davis  
RE Larry Dickerson  
RE Ron Grant  
TE Don Hardman  
RE Joe Hartzog  
TE Bruce Hoadley  
RE Charles Hoppe  
TE Art Hunt  
TE Jeffrey Jeremiah  
TE Ken Jones  
RE Frank Mathias

RE James Muhlig, III  
TE Terry Mulford, Secretary  
RE Bruce Oliver  
TE Tom Pitman  
TE Peter Preiser, Jr.  
RE Henry Redman  
RE Irvin Rinehart  
RE Tony Satterfield  
RE Ray Sawmiller  
TE Bill Sharp  
RE Bill Simmons  
TE William Solomon  
TE John Splinter  
TE Jim Wallace

### MEMORIALS AND APPRECIATION COMMITTEE

Chairman Howard Shockley

RE Lawrence Hersch  
RE Robert Kennedy, Sr.

RE Katie Lindsay  
RE James Orr  
TE Fred Stifel



**FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Chairman Chris Gibson

TE Nate Atwood  
 RE Edward Best  
 RE Hugh Blythe  
 TE James Brown, Jr.  
 TE Percy Burns  
 TE Tom Dages  
 RE Terry Edwards  
 TE Don Fortson  
 RE Frank Fourmy  
 RE Felton Hairr  
 RE Horace Heafner  
 TE Steve Johnson  
 TE Gary Koerth  
 TE David Massimi  
 RE Richard McQueen  
 RE Robert McRacken  
 TE John Mathieu, Secretary  
 RE Joe Meller

TE Kenneth Murray  
 RE Curtis Morris  
 RE Ann Norton  
 TE Ron Odum  
 RE Jeff Presseau  
 TE Russ Ragon  
 RE Frank Sanders  
 RE Mark Sheehan  
 RE John Shirey  
 RE Bill Smith  
 TE Bud Sparling  
 TE Rick Stauffer  
 TE Brad Strait  
 TE Michael Swart  
 RE Truman Todd  
 TE Brian Tweedie  
 RE Lyn van der Harst  
 TE Dean Wolf

**MINISTERIAL VOCATION COMMITTEE**

Chairman Sam Jones

RE John Allman  
 RE Bill Arnold  
 RE Charlotte Beatty  
 RE Glenn Boeshaar  
 RE J. Robert Brown  
 TE Paul Brown  
 RE Bill Bumford  
 TE Robert Camenisch  
 TE Aldo Fontao  
 TE Don Fortson, III, Secretary  
 TE Bob Garment  
 RE Charles Haden  
 RE Richard Hite  
 TE David Howard  
 RE Connie Jennings  
 TE Steve Jones  
 TE Tommy Jordan  
 TE Steve Kerhoulas  
 TE David Keyser  
 RE Herb Lenon

TE Russell Loudon  
 RE Ronald Mann  
 TE Donna McClellan  
 TE Tom Melton  
 RE Greg Middlemis  
 RE Paul Patterson  
 RE James Rimmel  
 RE Knox Sherer  
 TE Rick Slate  
 RE Lee Stertz  
 TE Rocky Thompson  
 TE Jim Thyne  
 RE Harold Uzzell  
 TE Don Van Dyke  
 TE Kirk Werner  
 TE George Wood  
 TE George Woodcock  
 TE George Yates  
 TE Brad Yorton

**PRESBYTERY REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Chairman Chuck Talbot

RE Freddie Berk  
 RE Michael Borron  
 RE Ted Dodasovich

RE Keith Finley  
 RE Harold Hegel  
 TE Steven Riser

**NATIONAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

Chairman Ed McCallum

RE Jim Allen  
 RE Robert Avis  
 TE Bob Beltz  
 RE Gregg Bettis  
 TE Randy Brown  
 RE Bruce Bryant  
 RE Steve Caldwell  
 RE Janet Carlton  
 TE John Cedar  
 TE Jeffrey Chadwick  
 TE Donovan Coley  
 RE Lawrence Evans  
 RE Bill Goessling  
 TE Todd Hahn  
 RE Thomas Henson  
 TE Clifton King  
 TE Dan Lacich

RE David Larson  
 RE Bert Loudon  
 TE Jim Martin  
 RE Cooper McWhirter, Jr.  
 TE Philip Muir  
 RE Bryan Nearn  
 TE Gil Odendaal  
 RE Charles Overstreet  
 RE Don Phillips  
 TE Ed Randal, Secretary  
 TE David Ruff  
 TE Ron Sadlow  
 RE Hugh Smith  
 TE David Steele  
 TE Bob Wilbur  
 TE Steve Wilkinson  
 RE Willis Willey

**OVERTURES AND RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE**

*(Committee was disbanded as there was no business referred to it. Committee members were reassigned by the Nominating Committee to other committees.)*

**WOMEN'S MINISTRIES COMMITTEE**

Chairman Ramona Chadwick

TE Bruce Anderson  
 TE Chuck Baynard  
 RE Joanne Becker, Secretary  
 RE Gene Bridges  
 RE Steve Brooks  
 TE Jerry Brundle  
 RE Alton Clark, Sr.  
 RE Rita Denniston  
 RE John Dyer  
 RE Ann Gibson  
 RE Dennis Graham  
 RE Joe Hallenbeck  
 TE David Hicks  
 TE Charles Hammett  
 RE Debbie Hess  
 TE Bartlett Hess  
 RE Dave Hoffman  
 TE Mark Hudson  
 RE John Israel

TE Steve Jennings  
 RE Joy Kelley  
 RE Gerald Kidd  
 RE Jeanene King  
 TE Travis Martin  
 TE Perry Mobley  
 RE Gordon Parkinson  
 TE Ron Pierce  
 TE John Quigley  
 TE Paul Rettew  
 RE Joyce Smith  
 RE Gordon Stanley  
 RE Hillard Strong  
 RE Norm Templeton  
 TE Rick Weiss  
 RE Robert Wood  
 RE Earle Woodbury  
 RE Robert Young

## THEOLOGY COMMITTEE

Chairman Graham Smith

TE Todd Atkins  
 RE Charles Brady  
 RE Ted Brandsma  
 TE Tim Brewer  
 TE David Brogren  
 TE George Callahan  
 TE Jimmy Carr  
 TE David Chadwick  
 TE James Coleman  
 RE John Davis  
 TE Sam Downing  
 TE Robbi Fischer  
 TE Donald Fortson, III  
 RE Jesse Franklin  
 TE Don Giesmann  
 TE Daniel Gilbert  
 TE Ken Glasier  
 RE John Hicks  
 TE Wally Hostetter  
 TE Chris Istrati

TE John Jennings  
 TE Jim Letizia  
 TE Bill Lindner, Jr.  
 RE Charles Leonard  
 RE Chuck Longmire  
 TE James Miller, Secretary  
 RE Bill Monroe  
 RE Ben Moore  
 RE Dave Nichols  
 TE Robert Norris  
 TE Ed Randal  
 RE Tony Register  
 RE George Schneider  
 TE Bruce Spear  
 TE Nancy Stewart  
 RE Charles Stokes, Jr.  
 TE Brian Tome  
 TE Jeffrey Van Kooten  
 RE Kenneth Vlietstra

## WORLD OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Chairman Doug Klein

RE Don Creamer  
 RE Thad Davis  
 RE John Dewald  
 RE Steve Eaves  
 TE Mike Frison  
 RE Al Guilstorf  
 TE Sam Harris, Secretary  
 TE Bob Harvey  
 RE Roy Hawthorne  
 RE James Haywood  
 RE Richard Heidtman  
 TE Bartlett Hess  
 RE Reade Joliff  
 RE Omer Johnson  
 TE Woody Johnson

RE Robert Julin  
 RE Frank Leslie  
 RE Jim Long  
 TE Mark Moore  
 RE Abram Norton  
 RE Carol Osborn  
 RE Linda Paulson  
 TE Bill Read  
 TE Julian Reese  
 TE Jeffrey Richards  
 TE Bryan Slater  
 RE Barry Smith  
 TE Peter Stam  
 TE Mark Vanderput  
 TE Sanders Willson  
 TE Rodger Woodworth

## YOUTH MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

Chairman Jan Bole

RE Richard Bowman  
 TE Bill Branham  
 RE King Brown  
 RE Ben Brychta  
 TE Ken Burbridge  
 TE Ronnie Burton

TE Jim Byrne  
 TE Ed Davis  
 RE Hadley De Puy  
 TE Bill Glassman, Secretary  
 TE Peter Hiett  
 RE Dick Hile

TE Bill Hyer  
RE Dan Jackson  
TE Andy Jackson  
RE Mike Mathews  
TE Bill McCaskill  
TE Ronald Meyer  
RE Mary Anne Munz  
TE Douglas Murphy  
RE Michael Owen  
TE John Patterson  
TE Ron Read

TE Joe Renfro  
TE Bruce Robinson  
RE Bill Roberts  
TE Sam Rowen  
RE David Satterthwaite  
RE Alan Smith  
RE Lew Soulsby  
TE Bob Stauffer  
RE Keith Thompson  
RE Theodore Tubbesing  
TE Charles Wickman  
RE Russ Wing

## Permanent Judicial Commission Report

The Commission met on June 2-3, 1995 in the General Assembly office.

Present were Ron DiNunzio, Moderator; Hal Polk, Clerk; Elden Brieschke, Jim McGuire, Leonard Pilgrim, Vern Schneider, Stan Stanciliff, and Jim Wall. Excused was Frank Johnson. The Commission was joined in much of its work by Ed Davis, Stated Clerk.

The EPC constitution requires that all proposed amendments to the constitution be reviewed by the Permanent Judicial Commission prior to their consideration by General Assembly. This review is to include consideration of their clarity and conciseness as well as their consistency with the entire Constitution.

The Constitution also grants authority to the PJC to originate its own proposed amendments.

The following proposals come directly from the PJC:

### ● Proposal re G. 11-13

1. That the paragraph currently numbered §11-13 be removed.
2. That the paragraph currently numbered §11-14 be renumbered §11-13.
3. That the following be added to the *Book of Government* and numbered §11-14.

When a church officer, whether a Minister, Ruling Elder, or Deacon renounces the jurisdiction of this church in writing to the clerk or stated clerk of the governing body of jurisdiction, the renunciation shall be effective upon receipt. Renunciation of jurisdiction shall remove the officer from membership and ordained office and shall terminate the exercise of office.

The renunciation shall be reported by the clerk or stated clerk at the next meeting of the governing body, which shall record the renunciation, delete the officer's name from the appropriate roll, and take such other actions of an administrative character as may be required of the Constitution.

When a church officer, after consultation and notice, persists in a work disapproved by the governing body having jurisdiction, the governing body may determine by a 2/3 majority vote that the officer has renounced the jurisdiction of this church.

**Rationale:** Proposed amendments regarding this section of the *Book of Government* have been received. In the opinion of the PJC, the goals sought are better served in this manner. This language is considered more clear, concise, and consistent with the entire Constitution.

### ● Proposal re G.16-27B.2

That "60 days" be changed to "30 days."

**Rationale:**

1. Brings the Constitution into conformity with actual practice.
2. Allows presbyteries having mid-spring meetings to have recommendations for constitutional amendment considered by General Assembly of the same year.

The following proposals have been received, were studied by the Commission, and are reported here along with our recommendations.

● **95-A**

Recommendation: rejection

Rationale:

1. Proposed *Book of Discipline* §12-5 would introduce an administrative procedure to the *Book of Discipline*. This matter is more appropriately addressed by the *Book of Government*.
2. The proposed change in G.11-13 assumes the existence of D. 12-5.
3. The phrase "non-EPC ministry" ignores the authority of a presbytery over EPC ministers which may also be undertaken contrary to its counsel.
4. The word "shall" removes discretion from a presbytery and mandates action which may not be in the best interests of the Church or one of its Ministers.
5. The requirements of a simple majority (in G.11-13) and a 2/3 majority (in §12-5) would create an internal inconsistency in the Constitution.
6. The PJC recommendation regarding G.11-13 and 14 addresses the concerns expressed in this proposal in language deemed more clear, concise, and consistent with the entire Constitution.

● **Overture from the Presbytery of the West regarding G.11-13**

Recommendation: rejection

Rationale:

1. While it did not find this proposal wordy, unclear, or inconsistent, the PJC believes that the Constitution and civil relationships among the presbyteries already require what is proposed.
2. While being very sympathetic toward the situation giving rise to this proposal, it assumes a respect for our system of government. When that respect is lacking, adding paragraphs to the Constitution will not relieve the Church's frustration.

● **Overture from the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic regarding G. 12-5**

Recommendation: rejection as written

Proposal: accept as follows:

"The written request of any member to have his or her name removed from the rolls shall be effective upon its receipt by the Clerk of Session."

Rationale: The original proposal was deemed unnecessarily wordy and unclear.

- **Proposal from the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic regarding G. 5-3B.**

Recommendation: rejection as worded

Proposal: accept as follows

"The organizing body shall authorize the election of Ruling Elders."

**Rationale:**

While the language of the original proposal is clear, concise and consistent, the PJC is of the opinion that the word "authorize" more clearly describes the action of permitting an election rather than ratifying its results.

- **Proposal from the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic regarding G. 3-1, 3-2, 3-3; and D. 1-4 and 12-2**

Recommendation: rejection

**Rationale:**

It is the opinion of the PJC that the said proposed amendments are clear, consistent as to language and compatibility with other provisions of the Constitution. The PJC expresses its appreciation for the sensitivity of the recommendations, but perceives no compelling theological or legal reasons for the proposed changes at this time.

- **Request from an individual for an opinion concerning actions taken by the COA relative to the continuation of the existence of a presbytery reorganized by General Assembly.**

It was determined that the matter was not properly before the PJC. The PJC cannot respond to private requests for ruling. Accordingly, the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly was so informed.

The Stated Clerk requested the PJC to study the question, "Shall the constitutional act of other Reformed bodies be binding upon the EPC?" The Commission agreed to consider the question and placed it on the agenda for future meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Ron DiNunzio, Moderator

Harold K. Polk, Jr. Clerk

## Permanent Judicial Commission Report

The Commission met at 1:30 pm on Thursday, June 22, 1995.

Present were Ron DiNunzio, Moderator; Hal Polk, Clerk; Frank Johnson, Jim McGuire, Leonard Pilgrim, Vern Schneider, Stan Stancliff, and Jim Wall. Excused was Elden Brieschke.

Before the Commission was a proposed revision of the Book of Discipline produced by the special committee chaired by Jim Rimmel.

On motion the Commission unanimously concluded that this matter was not properly before the PJC because the 60-day requirement of the Book of Government (16-27-B-2) for proposed constitutional changes was not met. For this reason the Commission cannot comment, pro or con, on the merits or the demerits of the proposed revision.

Respectively submitted,



Ron DiNunzio, Moderator



Hal Polk, Clerk



Minutes of the Permanent Judicial Commission, Friday, June 23, 1995.

The Permanent Judicial Commission met in special session at 8:15 a.m. on Friday, June 23, 1995 to consider concerns raised regarding its action the previous day.

Present were: Ron DiNunzio, Moderator; Hal Polk, Clerk; Frank Johnson, Jim McGuire, Leonard Pilgrim, Vern Schneider, Stan Stancliff and Jim Wall. Excused was Elden Brieschke.

The Commission was joined by members of the Committee on Constitutional Review created by the 14th General Assembly for the purpose of writing a proposed revision to or substitution for our current Books of Government and Discipline. These were: Jim Rimmel, Chairman; Austin McCaskill and Bud Sparling.

The Commission heard a report from the Committee regarding its work, reasons for the delay in presenting its conclusions to the PJC and arguments for its sense of urgency in getting the final draft of its proposed revision before the 15th General Assembly then in session.

The Commission expressed its great respect for the Committee, appreciation for its work, and deep sympathy for the need for a major revision of the Book of Discipline.

However, the Commission reaffirmed its determination of the previous day that this matter was not property before the PJC at this time for the following reasons:

1. The time requirement of the Book of Government was not met;
2. The sheer volume of the work demands far more time for study by the PJC than is available in order to meet the Committee's request;
3. A cursory reading of the proposed materials revealed the presence of many small details appearing to require editorial attention;
4. A number of substantive changes—including perceived conflicts with other parts of the Constitution—necessitate thorough study and discussion before the PJC can fulfill its duty to the Assembly regarding proposed amendments to the Constitution.

## RECOMMENDATION:

For the foregoing reasons, and its awareness of the critical importance of the subject and practice of discipline in the Church--particularly its possible effects on the lives of our churches and on the reputations and careers of their officers--the PJC recommends to the 15th General Assembly that the life of the Committee be extended for one year. The purpose of this recommendation is that its implementation would give time for the Committee and the PJC to consult further regarding the proposed revision of the Book of Discipline; and for the Committee to extend its work to related portions of the Book of Government, and to prepare its report for the 16th General Assembly.

Respectfully submitted,



Ron DiMunzio, Moderator

Hal Polk, Clerk

## Report of the Stated Clerk

### APPENDICES

Fifteen years ago, God called our church into being. Those early footprints are still visible. The St. Louis conference. First General Assembly in Livonia. Francis Schaeffer. 11 churches and 36 ministers.

The enthusiastic community bonded to become a new people. Reformed in doctrine, Presbyterian in polity. Evangelical in spirit. Driven by its historic motto, "In essentials unity; In non-essentials, liberty; In all things, charity," the church marches on.

A Presbyterian denomination is comprised of several parts - congregations, presbyteries, and General Assembly. Representing the larger church, the General Assembly fulfills those goals and duties assigned by its people. The ministry of the Assembly between stated meetings, is carried forward through the oversight and coordination of the committee on administration, various program committees, and the office of the General Assembly.

The mission of the Assembly is "to glorify God by helping the presbyteries and congregations fulfill Christ's mission for His church in those regions and communities God calls them to serve." Vision is so important to the church. Our church finds itself uniquely positioned within the American Presbyterian community. And it is good to believe God has a specific plan for us. It is imperative for us to proceed with confidence, knowing the Lord has brought us to this place "for such a time as this."

Taking stock each year is like taking a picture. A family picture shows it all...blessings and blemishes. Who doesn't enjoy counting blessings? Dealing with weaknesses is another matter. In what follows, you will find a select number of statistical footprints which afford small snapshots of the family's life. A succinct overview of congregational growth in membership and attendance is provided for reflection (Attachment I, p. 78ff).

I.	ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP:	1992	1993	1994	% change
		51,221	52,345	52,241	

The inclusive membership

1. Active adult members	52,241
2. Members on baptized roll	4,258
3. Ministers on presbytery rolls:	<u>380</u>
	56,879

- II. **NUMBER OF CHURCHES** reported this assembly year is 177 (including both particular and mission churches).

1992	1993	1994	% change
172	174	177	+ 2%

**NEW CHURCHES** added this Assembly year:

1. Christ Presbyterian Church of Decatur (Decatur, AL)

2. Church of the King (Corpus Christi, TX)
3. New Covenant (New Castle, PA)
4. Allegheny Valley (Pittsburgh, PA)
5. New Life Christian (Laurinburg, NC)
6. New Harvest (St. Louis, MO)
7. Neighborhood Fellowship (Chandler, AZ)

Offsetting greater gain was the loss of the following:

1. New Beginnings (Greensboro, NC)
2. Grace EPC (Murfreesboro, TN)
3. Christ Community (Arcadia, CA)
4. New Covenant (Atlanta, GA) *DISMISSED*

III. **INTERNAL GROWTH** factors, when separated and considered individually, provide encouragement and yet call forth some degree of soul searching.

	<u>1993</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>% change</u>
Churches reflecting <u>gain</u> in membership	54%	51%	-6%
Churches reflecting <u>loss</u> in membership	28%	34%	+ 18
Churches reflecting no change	28%	15%	
Total professions of faith recorded during this period	1255	1438	+ 15%
Youth professions of faith	488	517	+ 23%
Adult baptisms	561	568	+ 1%
Sunday school enrollment	35,733	33,221	-7%

IV. A growing church is a **GIVING CHURCH**.

#### PER MEMBER DENOMINATIONAL GIVING:

<u>1992</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>% change</u>
459,042	551,565	567,139	+ 3%

In 1994, 85% of our churches participated in per member giving. In 1993, this figure was 89%. Of the participating churches, 111 (63%) reached their per member goal; 18 churches gave over and above their goals, providing substantial encouragement in so doing. Of 177 churches, 26 had no per member giving. Of the 26 churches, 8 were from the St. Andrews Presbytery.

\*NOTE: 1994 reflects first year of per member goal being changed from \$12 to \$15.

#### PRESBYTERY GIVING

<u>1992</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>% change</u>
609,866	549,571	603,700	+ 10%

## DENOMINATIONAL BENEVOLENCE GIVING

Approved Benevolence Askings Project		Goal	Actual
1.	Church Planting	30,000	41,875
2.	Church Loan Fund	50,000	23,387
3.	Per woman Asking	25,000	13,871
4.	'94 Faith Focus	30,000	25,471
5.	Ministerial Endowment Trust	5,000	1,386
6.	Minute Man Relief Fun	(as needed)	1,320
7.	Argentina Leadership Development	10,000	2,023
8.	Argentina Mission Director	35,000	20,255
9.	Argentina Pastoral Sustentation	12,000	12,000
10.	Argentina Leadership Training	15,000	7,550
11.	Argentina Church Planting	20,000	5,614
12.	Brazil Graduate Scholarships	40,000	35,443
13.	Brazil Graduate Library	5,000	24,300
14.	Brazil Foreign Missions	45,000	13,157
15.	Brazil, National Missions	32,500	967
16.	Military Avenue/World Impact	40,000	24,651
17.	Appalachian Project	6,000	3,914
18.	Siberian Project	20,000	3,730
19.	Romania, Bible Institute Scholarships	6,500	4,161
20.	Romania Institute Equipment	11,500	-0-
21.	Romania, Institute Operations	4,020	3,644
22.	Muslim Team Development	10,000	4,978
		452,520	273,697

Actual giving here reflects 61% of goal. Variation in response provides some indication of ownership. Giving response indicates need for greater mission interpretation. The late '94 presence of the Director of World Outreach coupled with a Director of National Outreach (Summer '94) should greatly enhance mission interpretation in our churches.

1. Missionary Support	665,983
2. World Outreach	184,162
3. Women's Ministries	39,342
4. Special Offerings	38,916
5. National Outreach	101,561
6. Other Designated Giving	21,151
	1,051,114

Total benevolence giving of \$1,051,115 may be contrasted with \$1,011,123 in 1993, a difference of 4%. Of the \$1,051,115, \$996,225 came from EPC churches. The difference of \$54,899 came from individual giving, most designated for personal missionary support.

Some Reflections

1. The dream of having a **CHURCH LOAN FUND** to which young churches may come for help in land acquisition and building began a few years ago. The Church Loan Fund is alive

and well! As of June, 1, 1995, the total of CLF assets was \$487,897. Six loans are out and three others are pending.

<u>LOAN</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
1. Westkirk (Iowa)	50,000	34,583
2. Heartland (Kansas)	50,000	32,070
3. La Mision (Argentina)	50,000	46,667
4. Faith (Ohio)	50,000	47,083
5. North Park (Penna.)	50,000	47,917
6. Elkton (Virginia)	50,000	47,917
CLF Cash Balance	231,660	
Loan Balance	<u>256,237</u>	
Fund Balance	487,897	

Achieving the goal of \$500,000 in CLF principle is close. The challenge now becomes the target of \$1,000,000. Present and past recipients of the CLF affirm its helpfulness. However, pending applications could significantly draw down the remaining monies available. Four additional loans in fact. Serious study is taking place as to increasing the amount available, simplifying the application process, and encouraging our churches to increase their giving to the fund.

2. Our church is an extended family, characterized by considerable breadth. The Assembly's mission and life is largely carried out through its committees. Questions arise as to how broadly based is permanent COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION. Note the following:

#### ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES - A DEMOGRAPHIC PICTURE

##### **4th-13th GENERAL ASSEMBLIES**

1. **Total Participants:** 728
2. **Gender Distribution**
  - a. Male: 90%
  - b. Female: 10%
3. **Regional Distribution**
  - a. East/Midwest: 42%
  - b. South: 36%
  - c. West: 22%
4. **Elder/Minister Distribution**
  - a. Ruling Elder: 52%
  - b. Teaching Elder: 41%
  - c. Neither: 7
5. **Generational Distribution**
  - a. Senior (Pre-1946): 82%
  - b. Boomers (1946-1964): 18%
  - c. Busters (1965 + ):-

##### **14th GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

1. **Total Participants:** 92
2. **Gender Distribution**
  - a. Male: 83%
  - b. Female: 17%
3. **Regional Distribution**
  - a. East: 8%
  - b. Midwest: 21%
  - c. Central South: 14%
  - d. West: 17%
  - e. Mid- America: 12%
  - f. Mid-Atlantic: 12%
  - g. Southeast 8%
  - h. Florida: 8%
4. **Elder/Minister Distribution**
  - a. Ruling Elder: 51%
  - b. Teaching Elder: 40%
  - c. Neither: 9%

5. **Generational Distribution**
  - a. Senior (pre-1946): 84%
  - b. Boomers (1946-1964): 15%
  - c. Busters (1964 + ): 1%
6. **Large Church Distribution**
  - a. Large churches (over 1,000): 42%
  - b. Mid/Small churches (under 1,000) 58%

3. The denominational **GROUP INSURANCE PLAN** is alive and well. Note the following:

**Insurance** (As of June 12, 1995)

Reserves:	\$1,724,251
Average enrollment 1995:	435
Employee enrollment (June, 1995)	436
Employees with dependents (June, 1995)	323

Claims paid in 1994:	\$1,507,346
Claims paid January-May, 1995	833,928

**Pension** (As of June 1, 1995):

Participating churches:	98
Individual participants:	454
Total assets	\$4,539,292
Employer contributions	\$3,706,765
Employee (salary reduction) contributions	832,528

4. A major concern is **PRESBYTERY DEVELOPMENT**. In the 13th General Assembly, a major statement on presbytery viability was adopted. Known as the *Position Paper on Presbytery Development*, the guidance provided therein has already influenced presbytery life. Overtures before this Assembly reflect the impact of such guidance. Presbyteries must be viable and pro-active in growth and ministry. Pro-activity obviously presupposes viability.

Every November, the Stated Clerks of the presbyteries gather for a workshop of instruction, problem solving, and mutual learning. Last November, the Clerks developed a proposed "Mission Statement" for further study:

### Presbytery Mission Statement

The presbyteries of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church are a gathered group of Ruling and Teaching Elders, Reformed in faith and practice, called by the Holy Spirit, and redeemed by the Grace of God through the person and work of Jesus Christ who is Head of the Church.

Working in geographical areas, prebyteries have jurisdiction over all that belongs to the worship and ministry of a group of churches within its bounds. In its spiritual oversight, the mission of presbyteries shall be:



1. To provide spiritual supervision, nurture, discipline, and pastoral care for persons involved in church and other approved ministries, as well as candidates preparing for ministry.
2. To establish, develop, and receive churches who affirm the basic principles of faith and life of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church which include:
  - a. the primacy of Jesus Christ;
  - b. the Bible as God's infallible Word;
  - c. The *Westminster Confession of Faith* as our Biblical and confessional foundation;
  - d. The presbyterian form of government as most effective for Christ's rule in the church;
  - e. evangelism as a priority established through the Great Commission; and
  - f. the spiritual and constitutional freedom essential to the work of the Holy Spirit.
3. To encourage and provide opportunities for churches to participate in the total work and mission of the church and its ministry to the world through missions, renewal, and ministries of compassion.
4. To provide resources for member congregations promoting effective evangelism, education, stewardship, officer training, missions, and other such programs that will advance the gospel and the work of the kingdom.

In presbyterian connectionalism, the key link is the presbytery. Study of the 1994-95 statistics in the "Congregational Growth Chart" (Attachment 2) is most concerning. Our presbyteries must be alive and growing. Impediments to such must be identified and resolved.

5. The EPC is proud of its relationship with **WORLD RELIEF**, the relief arm of the National Association of Evangelicals. Note the warm greeting sent by the president in Attachment 4.

Some years ago, the Assembly approved an annual appeal to our churches from World Relief. Materials for the 1995 offering will be sent to each church this summer. Henceforth, this appeal shall coincide with the Lenten season.

6. A few brief words of **APPRECIATION**. For a goodly time, Carlton Baker has able served the Assembly office. Between Bill Read and Dick Oestreicher, Carlton stood in the gap as Interim World Outreach director. Since Al Bennett's retirement, numerous responsibilities have shifted to Carlton. With his new wife, Carlton will this summer be moving into new ministries and considerable travel. We appreciate Carlton.

Whenever people call and wish to talk to the bookkeeper, Betty BeGole greets the inquiry with a smile. Betty is newly married and now living nearly an hour westward. We appreciate Betty.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward Davis, Stated Clerk  
June, 1995



# REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF PRESBYTERY REVIEW

14th General Assembly  
June 23-25, 1994

The Standing Committee of Presbytery Review convened at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 22, 1994, at New Covenant Church in Pompano Beach, Florida. The meeting was opened with prayer by Chairman Michael Glodo. Members present were Mr. Glodo, Leonard Pilgrim and Charles Overstreet. A majority of the commissioners registered and assigned the Committee being present, a quorum was declared. Due to the limited size of the Committee and the nature of the work, it was agreed the chairman would act as secretary.

*NOTE: The Committee was ordered convened by Stated Clerk L. Edward Davis before the beginning of the Assembly as provided for in Rules of Assembly 8-3. This early convening coupled with the below-described meeting of the Committee with presbytery stated clerks were directed toward providing a better report and maximizing the benefit of the review for presbytery stated clerks.*

After recessing at 5:00 p.m., the Committee met from 1:00-5:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 23; 8:30-9:30 a.m. Friday, June 24 and 8:00-9:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 25. Members present at these times were Michael Glodo, Charles Overstreet, Leonard Pilgrim and Charles Stokes. Preliminary reviews of minutes were concluded with the exception of St. Andrews and Allegheny presbyteries (see references below). Following this the Committee met individually with all available stated clerks of presbyteries to review initial findings. Those clerks available were Wilton Hazelwood (Central South), Buck Russell (West), Llew Fischer (Mid-Atlantic), Jerry Moser (East), Bob Garment (Florida) and Ed McCallum (Far West). In addition, Austin McCaskill met with the Committee on behalf of the Central South Presbytery. The findings reported below reflect clarifications achieved during that process. After the Committee concluded its work, Mr. Overstreet concluded in prayer.

## A. RESULTS OF REVIEW

The minutes of each presbytery were reviewed by two members of the Committee in according with Rules of Assembly 8-11-B. These reviews were performed for the purpose of review and control as set forth in Book of Government 16-3 and Book of Discipline 14-1 and 14-2. Notations and exceptions will be reported to the stated clerk of each presbytery. (Notations are

not required to be reported to the floor of General Assembly.) Exceptions found in presbytery minutes are as follows:

1. Allegheny Presbytery

- a. Minutes were not submitted to the Committee for review. See Recommendation #4 below.

*NOTE: Even though the Allegheny Presbytery has been dissolved, the effective date of that dissolution was 12/31/93.*

2. Presbytery of the Central South

- a. No reference to annual review of retired roll as required by Book of Government 15-9.
- b. Terms of call for candidate not included in minutes (p. 117).

3. Presbytery of the East

- a. No indication of annual review of terms of call of ministers.
- b. A motion was made clarifying the powers granted to an evangelist of presbytery without specifically stating the powers (p. 157).

4. Presbytery of the Far West

- a. Roll of called meeting of presbytery on 7/11/93 not indicated (p. 205).

5. Presbytery of Florida

None.

6. Presbytery of Mid-America

None.

7. Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic

- a. No reference to annual review of retired roll as required by Book of Government 15-9.

8. Presbytery of the Midwest

- a. No reference to annual review of retired roll as required by Book of Government 15-9.
- b. No terms of call stated for minister called (2/11/94).

A review was not performed due to the minutes being presented in Spanish. See Recommendation #3 below.

10. Presbytery of the Southeast

- a. Approval of candidate to labor out of bounds not specific as to length of time as required by Book of Government 11-12 (p. 473).
- b. No closing prayer indicated for called meeting (p. 486).

11. Presbytery of the West

- a. No reference to annual review of retired roll as required by Book of Government 15-9.

B. RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation #1

That the stated clerk of each presbytery report back to each following General Assembly the resolution of exceptions noted by the Assembly.

Recommendation #2

That the Presbytery of St. Andrews complete the English translation of minutes for this past Assembly year as provided for in their presbytery committee structures and submit those minutes to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly within 90 days. Further, that these minutes be presented for review to the 15th General Assembly.

Recommendation #3

That an edition of all minutes of presbyteries be maintained in English in addition to whatever other language(s) in which the court wishes to maintain records and that this edition be rendered in a timely fashion.

*NOTE: This recommendation is in anticipation of the welcome possibility of future non-English-speaking member churches.*

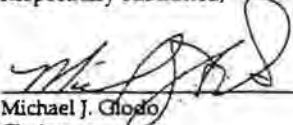
Recommendation #4

That the officers of record for last Assembly year of the Allegheny Presbytery be found in violation of Book of Government 16-19 and be instructed to submit to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly all minutes for presbytery meetings this past Assembly year within 45 days of the adjournment of this Assembly. Further, that these minutes be presented to the 15th General Assembly for review and control as per Book of Discipline chapter 14 and Book of Government 16-3, 16-5-D and 16-19.

**C. CONCLUDING REMARKS**

The Committee wishes to commend the work of presbytery stated clerks both in the fine level of work and for their love for the church reflected in the minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Michael J. Glodo  
Chairman



**Presbytery of the Southeast  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church**

6001 Hixson Pike • Hixson Tennessee 37343

Phone (615) 843-0314

FAX (615) 843-0314

Samuel M. Harris, Stated Clerk  
Bill Johnson, Treasurer

May 15, 1995

Standing Committee on Presbytery Review  
15th General Assembly  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
Charlotte, NC

Dear Friends:

The Standing Committee on Presbytery Review reported to the 14th Assembly two minor exceptions in the Minutes of the Presbytery of the Southeast:

1. Approval of candidate to labor out of bounds not specific as to length of time as required by BOG 11-12 (page 473)
2. No closing prayer indicated for called meeting (page 473)

These exceptions were reported by me, as Stated Clerk, to the 33rd Stated Meeting in October, 1994. This report can be found in the October 1994 Minutes under Item 33:19. It was moved and approved that these corrections be made in the records of Presbytery.

In the name of Jesus,

Samuel M. Harris



## PRESBYTERY OF THE WEST

11373 East Alameda Avenue

Aurora, Colorado 80012

Telephone (303) 364-7271

### MEMORANDUM

#### APPENDICES

TO: Stated Clerk General Assembly, E.P.C.

RE: Presbytery Review

DATE: December 27, 1994

1. This is in response to the Presbytery Review Committee Report from the 14th General Assembly of E.P.C.

- A. The following exception was reported. "No reference to annual review of retired roll as required by BOG 15-9."

Response: The annual review was completed in January 1994; however, it was not reported as such in Presbytery Minutes. Copy of the report of Annual Review was included as attachment #19 to the Presbytery of the West Minutes of October 8, 1994.

- B. The following notations were reported:

- (1) "No reference to Presbytery Review of exceptions and notations recorded at 13th General Assembly.

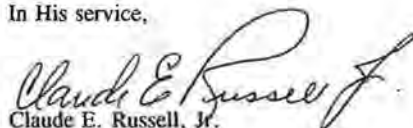
Response: Detailed report was submitted to the General Assembly Stated Clerk on March 4, 1994 with recommendations for change in method of Presbytery Review.

- (2) For a candidate transferring in from another reformed tradition, the areas of examination on view (views) no (not) clearly indicated.

Response: Candidates are examined on views and beliefs in areas outlined in BOG 13-2 and 13-4.

2. In the absence of any further instructions, this memo complies with the provisions of 8-11F of the Rules for Assembly of EPC.

In His service,

  
Claude E. Russell, Jr.  
Stated Clerk

# **PRESBYTERY OF THE EAST**

*of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church*

OFFICE OF THE STATED CLERK  
20660 Plum Creek Court  
Gaithersburg, MD 20882  
(301)330-3801 (Phone and FAX)

March 29, 1995

Rev. Edward Davis, Stated Clerk  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
29140 Buckingham Avenue  
Suite 5  
Livonia, MI 48154

**RE: RESPONSE TO PRESBYTERY REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Dear Ed:

The Presbytery Review Committee of the 14th. General Assembly reported two exceptions in the minutes for the Presbytery of the East. The following action was taken, in response to those exceptions:

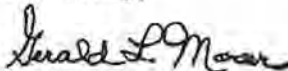
a. The Ministerial Committee of the Presbytery was informed of the absence of a review of Terms of Call for ministers and one was conducted in the Fall of 1994 and another will be conducted in May of 1995.

b. The exception concerning the specific powers of an Evangelist was not acted on by Presbytery, as the individual involved was recently approved as Pastor of that church.

In addition, all of the notations that the committee discussed with me have been corrected.

Please let me know if I need to provide any other information.

Sincerely,



Gerald L. Moser  
Stated Clerk

# ATTACHMENT 2

## CONGREGATIONAL GROWTH 1994 (by Presbytery)

CHURCH	1992	1993	1994	%	93 SUN A.M.	94 SUN A.M.
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### APPENDICES

CENTRAL SOUTH						
ATMORE PRESBYTERIAN	83	85	88	+4	100	90
CHRIST - DECATUR			(35)			
REDEEMER EPC *	42	48	65	+3.54	48	60
TRINITY EPC	74	68	55	- 19	39	41
RIVER OF LIFE *	0	54	55	+2	120	125
EPC - ANNA	137	140	150	+7	287	284
FIRST EPC - HOUMA	114	81	79	- 3	56	50
WESTMINSTER	36	35	39	+11	25	16
ZACHARY EPC	57	62	40	- 35		20
LAKESIDE PRESBYTERIAN	544	551	558	+1	330	315
COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN	89	88	49	- 44	70	50
WESTMINSTER - LAUREL	243	256	277	+8	200	190
LOUISVILLE - EPC	61	68	65	- 4	65	60
FIRST EPC - MERIDIAN	397	408	424	+4	250	150
TUNICA PRESBYTERIAN	137	135	133	- 1	95	90
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN	168	153	145	- 5	105	125
CHRIST-CAPE GIRARDEAU	50	50	(50)			
ATOKA PRESBYTERIAN	35	38	42	+11	50	50
HOPE EPC-GERMANTOWN	350	333	392	+17	275	295
SECOND PRESBYTERIAN	3447	3329	3303	- .78	970	943
CROSSROADS COMMUNITY	25	39	(39)		60	

\* Mission church status

Shaded - New churches rec'd in 1995

( ) Last available information

# **CONGREGATIONAL GROWTH 1994** (by Presbytery)

CHURCH	1992	1993	1994	%	93 SUN A.M.	94 SUN A.M.
GRACE - CARROLLTON	49	57	69	+21	100	125
CHURCH OF THE KING			(100)			
GOLDEN RULE	43	52	(52)		60	
PROVIDENCE EPC	45	59	70	+19	130	100
CHRIST - HOUSTON	635	677	686	+1	538	526
CORNERSTONE - KATY	59	58	55	- 5	50	55
EPC OF MARSHALL	145	166	177	+7	149	140
CHURCH OF THE SAVIOUR	68	58	(58)		75	
FIRST - WASKOM	27	29	27	- 7	20	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	7160	7110	7377	+4%	4267	3900
<b>EAST</b>						
FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN	2259	2285	2302	+.74	1315	1300
DUNDALK PRESBYTERIAN	268	275	276		170	170
NEW LIFE-GAITHERSBURG	42	40	48	+20	15	45
ASHLAND EPC	401	408	413	+1	260	260
GOODWILL PRESBYTERIAN	104	109	93	- 15	160	160
CALVARY EPC-BUTLER	290	283	194	- 32	-	78
NEW COVENANT			219			210
NEW HOPE-PITTSBURGH *			50			73
ALLEGHENY VALLEY *			(14)			
NORTH PARK EPC	535	523	546	+4	-	410
FAITH-ALEXANDRIA	220	202	222	+10	190	191

\* Mission church status

Shaded - New churches rec'd in 1995

( ) Last available information



# CONGREGATIONAL GROWTH 1994 (by Presbytery)

CHURCH	1992	1993	1994	%	93 SUN A.M.	94 SUN A.M.
CHRIST CHURCH	71	68	46	- 32	40	35
KING OF GLORY EPC	50	50	31	- 38		50
<b>TOTAL</b>	4240	4240	4454	+5%	2150	2982
<b>FLORIDA</b>						
FAITH EPC-BROOKSVILLE	297	330	348	+6	272	275
CORNERSTONE EPC	144	129	(129)		114	
FIRST EPC-HOMESTEAD	143	122	143	+17	110	120
ABUNDANT LIFE	36	36	35	- 2	34	25
TRINITY EPC-FT. PIERCE	107	112	122	+10	115	
TRINITY-NAPLES	34	44	35	-21		40
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN	239	256	(256)		161	
NEW COVENANT	1193	1284	1085	-15.5	1000	900
CHRIST COVENANT	96	92	117	+27	85	85
<b>TOTAL</b>	2289	2405	2270	-6%	1891	1445
<b>MID-AMERICA</b>						
FAITH EPC	7	7	(7)		12	
BALDWIN COMMUNITY	43	43	42	- 2	25	20
IMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN	231	263	264		250	260
WESTKIRK PRESBYTERIAN	184	225	249	+11	165	75
GRACE EPC	139	139	180	+30	285	350
COVENANT CHAPEL	240	241	228	- 5	400	(400)

\* Mission church status

Shaded - New churches rec'd in 1995

( ) Last available information

# CONGREGATIONAL GROWTH 1994 (by Presbytery)

CHURCH	1992	1993	1994	%	93 SUN A.M.	94 SUN A.M.
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WEST HIGHLANDS EPC *	65	65	41	- 40		77
HEARTLAND COMMUNITY	236	261	304	+17	730	910
SUTTER PRESBYTERIAN	114	99	106	+7	118	136
EMMANUEL EPC	215	205	205		112	109
CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN	2627	2701	2804	+4	1229	1356
CHRIST CHAPEL	72	80	53	- 34	50	75
NEW HARVEST *			28			30
<b>TOTAL</b>	4173	4379	4511	3%	3376	2998
<b>MID-ATLANTIC</b>						
COVENANT-ALBERMARLE *	25	24	27	+13	22	22
HARVEST CHURCH	44	60	80	+33	110	144
BRUNSWICK	30	31	33	+7	34	20
FELLOWSHIP OF CHRIST	105	108	123	+14	130	200
FOREST HILL-CHARLOTTE	1588	1649	1773	+7.5	2050	1290
GRACE CHAPEL EPC	45	27	39	+44	55	60
ST. GILES	407	368	362	- 2	398	322
CRAMERTON EPC	57	56	49	- 13	30	30
CHURCH OF THE SAVIOR *	35	35	(35)			
CORNERSTONE-FRANKLIN	74	79	79		76	76
GRACE EPC	58	75	71	- 5	60	60
LINWOOD PRESBYTERIAN	61	55	73	+33	40	45
COMMUNITY BIBLE	74	72	102	+42	160	260

\* Mission church status

Shaded - New churches rec'd in 1995

( ) Last available information

# CONGREGATIONAL GROWTH 1994 (by Presbytery)

CHURCH	1992	1993	1994	%	93 SUN A.M.	94 SUN A.M.
NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP			(21)			
NEW HOPE PRESBYTERIAN	52	53	45	- 15	30	20
LEE PARK PRESBYTERIAN	86	81	80	- 1	60	50
CHRIST FELLOWSHIP	0	41	51	+24	50	55
PLUMTREE PRESBYTERIAN	167	147	149	+1	105	105
COVENANT FELLOWSHIP	64	65	55	- 15	85	75
MYRTLE GROVE	1477	1442	1389	- 4	1300	858
FOREST HILLS - WILSON	71	77	81	+5	110	80
REYNOLDA	783	817	817			630
CHRIST CHURCH	69	77	77		130	130
FIRST EPC - CLOVER *	5	12	22	+83	19	20
BETHESDA PRESBYTERIAN	9	59	61	+3	45	45
TRINITY - FLORENCE	453	496	455	- 8.3	284	275
OVERBROOK COMMUNITY	63	86	92	+7	120	120
EMMANUEL - LAURENS	27	34	29	- 15	40	35
CREGMORE		29	33	+14		40
CLEVELAND-ABINGDON	60	62	62		45	40
EPC-ELKTON	67	68	83	+22	70	80
EPC OF FREDRICKSBURG *	34	34	39	+15		35
LEBANON	54	49	55	+12	90	95
NORTHHAMPTON	104	112	109	- 3	60	
CHRIST EPC-MIDLOTHIAN	46	51	43	- 16	35	38

\* Mission church status

Shaded - New churches rec'd in 1995

( ) Last available information

# CONGREGATIONAL GROWTH 1994 (by Presbytery)

CHURCH	1992	1993	1994	%	93 SUN A.M.	94 SUN A.M.
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WOODSIDE	45	44	44		62	35
FAITH EPC -SALEM	79	36	38	+6	27	27
KEMPSVILLE	1167	1327	1397	+5.3	1205	1208
WESTMINSTER-BLUEFIELD	553	565	548	- 3	377	322
PERROW PRESBYTERIAN	343	338	340	+1	525	519
<b>TOTAL</b>	8481	9039	9061	0%	8039	7466
<b>MIDWEST</b>						
ST. ANDREW EPC	0	50	64	+28	59	62
TRINITY EPC	166	173	171	- 1	128	120
COVENANT -ANN ARBOR	143	91	82	- 10	60	60
KNOX - ANN ARBOR	75	109	195	+79		400
CORNERSTONE-BRIGHTON	380	480	643	+34	825	1050
NORTH OAKS	55	55	42	- 24	55	80
MILITARY AVENUE *	65	71	71		40	100
GRACE CHAPEL	409	454	449	- 1	395	422
CALVARY PRESBYTERIAN	568	568	583	+3	424	410
KNOX-HARRISON TWP.	497	493	483	- 2	339	400
LAKE CITY EPC	69	80	79	- 1	90	90
WARD PRESBYTERIAN	4899	4743	4601	- 3	2983	2745
MT PLEASANT COMMUNITY	235	195	222	+14	250	313
COMMUNITY EPC	62	59	76	+29	100	140
TRINITY EPC	629	649	595	- 8	475	500

\* Mission church status  
 Shaded - New churches rec'd in 1995  
 ( ) Last available information

# CONGREGATIONAL GROWTH 1994 (by Presbytery)

CHURCH	1992	1993	1994	%	93 SUN A.M.	94 SUN A.M.
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## APPENDICES

OAKLAND AVENUE EPC	251	243	231	- 5	335	
FAITH EPC	219	239	250	+5	1100	1000
FELLOWSHIP EPC	130	158	197	+25		275
FIRST-TRENTON	770	796	797		505	
KENSINGTON COMMUNITY	185	225	355	+58	1070	1300
EPC - KIRTLAND	162	160	152	- 5	180	174
HOPE EPC -MENTOR	0		77			62
FAITH -RICHMOND	132	125	126	+1	140	200
TABERNACLE EPC	474	463	483	+4	366	415
EAST CROSSING *		58	58		75	35
HIGHVIEW EPC	0	82	86	+5	90	85
<b>TOTAL</b>	10575	10819	11168	+3%	10084	10438
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>						
HOPE EPC	21	48	60	+25	65	85
FAITH -LAVONIA	95	100	112	+12	42	70
GRACE - MARIETTA	107	110	85	- 23	100	75
FIRST - ROME	1047	1061	1075	+1	500	580
COVENANT COMMUNITY	100	100	(100)			
NEW BEGINNING	154	171	149	- 13	140	120
FIRST - LOUISVILLE *	34	12	18	+47		17
BRAINERD PRESBYTERIAN	558	516	479	- 7	270	205
LOOKOUT VALLEY	137	104	107	+3	70	70

\* Mission church status

Shaded - New churches rec'd in 1995

( ) Last available information

# CONGREGATIONAL GROWTH 1994 (by Presbytery)

CHURCH	1992	1993	1994	%	93 SUN A.M.	94 SUN A.M.
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VALLEYBROOK	123	119	124	+4	100	110
LYNN GARDEN	62	93	98	+5	120	160
MOUNT CALVARY	41	43	46	+7	50	73
NORTHSHORE	65	73	55	- 25	30	50
CHRIST - KNOXVILLE		26	27	+4		40
<b>TOTAL</b>	2544	2806	2535	-10%	1487	1655
<b>WEST</b>						
CANYON CREEK	150	200	300	+50	201	219
NEIGHBORHOOD EPC *			25			
MORNINGSIDE		147	142	- 3		110
NEW COVENANT-TUCSON	35	47	53	+13	60	70
THAI EPC	29	38	36	- 5	35	40
FAITH - FOLSOM *		18	18			50
HEMET VALLEY	32	31	43	+39	50	60
SANTA MARIA	99	84	76	- 10	53	45
CHRIST OUR KING	46	51	53	+4	75	70
COVENANT COMMUNITY	56	68	66	- 3	95	90
FAITH - AURORA	1492	1439	1305	- 9	933	932
BEAR CREEK EPC	582	550	564	+3	444	442
CORNERSTONE	206	223	231	- 4	240	185
CHERRY CREEK	1828	1785	1098	-38	1615	1400
CHERRY HILLS	3480	3650	3598	- 1	3400	3600

\* Mission church status  
 Shaded - New churches rec'd in 1995  
 ( ) Last available information

# CONGREGATIONAL GROWTH 1994 (by Presbytery)

CHURCH	1992	1993	1994	%	93 SUN A.M.	94 SUN A.M.
GREENWOOD	423	473	508	+7	595	650
CHRIST FELLOWSHIP	42	41	46	+12	80	90
LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN	81	153	187	+22	240	420
WEST BOWLES	354	404	484	+20	700	781
TRINITY EPC	345	164	158	- 4	185	185
FAITH - LOVELAND	347	336	360	+7	375	400
PARKER	152	183	203	+11	249	270
NORTHWEST EPC	29	34	31	- 9	61	67
FIRST EPC - RENTON	656	654	545	- 17	552	582
TOTAL	10464	10805	10130	- 6%	10238	10758
ST. ANDREWS						
CITY CHURCH - BUENOS	73	73	(73)			
METRO-BUENOS AIRES	75	75	(75)			
SAN ANTONIO DE PADUA	26	30	33	+1		25
OLIVOS	311	311	(311)			
PARANACITO	50	50	(50)			
QUILMES	29	38	35	- 8		25
TEMPERLEY	133	133	(133)			
BELGRANO	25	25	(25)			
TOTAL	722	735	735			50
GRAND TOTAL	49926	52345	52241	- 0.96	41532	41692

\* Mission church status

Shaded - New churches rec'd in 1995

( ) Last available information



## Mission Impossible?

can see it now...a message to all EPC churches from the General Assembly office:

*PLEASE REFRAIN FROM SENDING ANY ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OFFICE. AMPLE FUNDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR CARRYING OUT OUR MISSION OF BUILDING THE CHURCH THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.*

There is no greater mission of *the Church* than taking the Gospel of Jesus to the entire world. Indeed, the Good News must reach the whole world before Jesus returns. So building His Church worldwide is a very high priority...or is it? Can you imagine a Christian spirit so concerned about building the Church that we have to be told, "Stop bringing your money to the church?" That takes some imagination.

But it happened. 3,400 years ago God directed Moses to build the Tabernacle (the Church). In calling upon the people for resources He said, "Take from among you a contribution to the Lord; whoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it as the Lord's contribution."

God had selected two men, Bezalel and Ohaliab, to oversee the building of the Tabernacle. The people, who had just been delivered from slavery in Egypt, began to respond by contributing. After a time Bezalel and Ohaliab come to Moses and said, "enough, enough." So Moses issued a command and ordered the people to "refrain from bringing any more, for the material they had was sufficient and more than enough for all the work, to perform it." Such was the response of God's people long ago to His gracious delivering them from slavery.

God has since made provision for delivering us from the slavery of sin through Jesus' sacrificial giving of His life. *How then shall we respond?* The call has gone out to God's people; "Take from among you a contribution to the Lord; whoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it as the Lord's contribution." The gold is out there. The silver is out there. What has been lacking is enough willing hearts.

Let us hasten the day when the benevolent activities of the EPC are so addressed that "the people will be restrained from bringing any more."

What if Moses would have said, "*That's impossible.*" Exodus 35

Bill Johns  
Moderator, 14th General Assembly



Fifteen years ago, God called our church into being. Those early footprints are still visible. The St. Louis conferences, First General Assembly in Livonia. Francis Schaeffer. 11 churches and 36 ministers.

The enthusiastic community bonded to become a new people, Reformed in doctrine, Presbyterian in polity, Evangelical in spirit. Driven by its historic motto, "In essentials unity; In non-essentials, liberty; In all thing, charity," the church marches on.

A Presbyterian denomination is comprised of several parts - congregations, presbyteries and General Assembly. Representing the larger church, the General Assembly fulfills those goals and duties assigned by its people. The ministry of the Assembly, between stated meetings, is carried forward through the oversight and coordination of the committee on administration, various program committees, and the office of the General Assembly.

The mission of the Assembly is "to glorify God by helping the presbyteries and congregations fulfill Christ's mission for His church in those regions and communities God calls them to serve." Our giving to the larger church makes possible the successful accomplishment of this mission.

**Per member giving** supports the Administration Budget, enabling the General Assembly to provide essential services, Personnel support. Committee work. Vocation and informational services. Pension and insurance administration. Office overhead. To meet the 1995 goal of \$770,614, the '94 Assembly approved a \$15 per member asking.

**Per Member Askings**



**Benevolence giving** represents the vision and mission of the Assembly's program committees. Yearly, the Assembly evaluates and approves those askings which each ministry committee presents as essential to the programs for which it is responsible. The Benevolence Askings goal for 1995 is \$663,220, or \$12.50 per member.

**Benevolence Askings**



**Missionary support** represents the personal sustentation giving which enables our World Outreach missionaries to minister in those places to which God has called them.

The work of the General Assembly deserves your support! Each congregation is asked to prayerfully consider its financial support of the church's mission, in faithful per member giving along with those persons and programs to which you feel led to give.

*Edward Davis*

Edward Davis  
Stated Clerk



**Giving of  
Ourselves**

ATTACHMENT 4



June 7, 1995

Reverend L. Edward Davis, Stated Clerk  
The Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
29140 Buckingham Avenue, Suite 5  
Livonia, Michigan 48154

Dear Ed:

As you gather for your annual meeting, congratulations to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church for another year of service to our Lord Jesus Christ! The Board of Directors and worldwide staff of World Relief considers you a valuable partner in our common task.

In 1994, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church gave \$30,396.15 to the ministry of World Relief. Thank you! And please thank the people of the EPC publicly on behalf of all the lives you have touched through your generous giving.



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Please continue to pray for World Relief and its ministry. Also, please be in prayer that God will continue to provide the resources we need to continue to help the suffering in Jesus' name. We are and want to continue to be your relief and development agency.

Be assured of our prayers for you and the other great denominations of the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) as you gather together. We will pray for God's blessing as your plan for the future. May you continue in your faithful ministry to Him.

Sincerely,

Arthur Evans Gay  
President

AEG/be

*Great to see you Monday!*

APPENDICES

ARTHUR EVANS GAY, PRESIDENT

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## Theology Committee Report

The permanent Committee on Theology met September 23-24, 1994 and again January 20-21, 1995 at the General Assembly office in Livonia. There was another meeting tentatively scheduled for April, 1995 but it was canceled as we felt we had presented the General Assembly with enough matters to fill its available time this year and our schedules could not easily sustain an additional meeting.

Committee members are Rev. Michael Glodo, Rev. Paul Husband, Rev. Paul Johnson, Elder Vance Rutan, Elder James Russell, and Elder Philip Tiews, chairman.



*Philip Tiews, chairman*

### Matters currently before the Committee

The following matters were referred to the Committee by the 14th or previous General Assemblies:

1. **Marriage and the Family:** to develop a preliminary position paper or a series of papers on marriage, the family, and related issues.
  2. **Preliminary Position Paper on Capital Punishment:** the 14th General Assembly asked us to proceed with a re-write of this paper which has never been approved as a full position paper.
  3. **Fraternal organizations:** the 14th General Assembly asked us to consider preparing a statement offering possible caution and guidance regarding membership and participation in secretive fraternal organizations.
  4. **Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage:** the 14th General Assembly adopted this paper as a Preliminary Paper, but directed us to consider seven matters for possible amendments before a full position paper is brought back to the Assembly.
  5. **Position Paper on the Value of and Respect for Human Life;** the 13th General Assembly directed us to include a consideration of euthanasia as part of our regular review of this paper to insure that it is up to date and consistent with our other papers.
  6. **Position Paper on Abortion:** we believe this paper, which was adopted a number of years ago, ought to be reviewed to see if it needs revision to keep up with developments in the intervening years.
1. **Marriage and the Family**  
The genesis of this assignment was our revision a few years ago of the Westminster Confession of Faith, Chapter 24: Concerning Marriage Vows and Divorce. It was our judgment, confirmed by the Assembly leading to their assignment of this project, that the WCF statement on marriage is fairly spare and does not develop a positive vision

for Christian marriage. There are also many problems faced by Christians today in this area that need special attention. We had broken this work into at least four areas and thought we could possibly develop a paper on each or one paper with several chapters covering these topics:

- a) Positive statement on Christian marriage
- b) Divorce and remarriage
- c) Christian home and raising children
- d) Modern issues (e.g. reproductive technology)

We have successfully completed the Paper on Divorce and Remarriage but have not made real progress on the other areas. Last year the committee petitioned the 14th General Assembly to be relieved of the assignment to develop the remaining papers, but the Assembly declined to do so. With the press of other matters before us, we once again failed to make any progress on this assignment, although some assignments for study have been made. We hope that next year we shall show some headway. We have no recommendation to make to the 15th General Assembly on these topics.

## 2. Preliminary Position Paper on Capital Punishment

The Preliminary Position Paper on Capital Punishment was originally adopted by the 4th General Assembly (1984) and has never been finally approved to be a position paper. Last year we recommended that we simply drop the paper rather than undertake what we expected would be a major re-write. The 14th General Assembly once again declined and assigned us the task of revision. After considerable work, we developed a significantly revised paper which we feel offers a solid biblical discussion of this issue as well as an examination of various alternative positions adopted by Christians. It then recommends several conclusions as expressions of our position as a denomination. We therefore present our recommendation (#1) at the end of this report.

## 3. Fraternal Organizations

While concern about particular fraternal organizations might have been in the minds of some commissioners, the action taken by the 14th General Assembly did not request that the committee make a study of any individual fraternal organization. We were asked to:

...consider the preparation of a statement offering possible caution and guidance regarding membership and participation in secretive fraternal organizations, especially in regard to implicit religious or pseudo-religious aspects of their practice that may have bearing upon the authority and sufficiency of Scripture, the Person and Deity of Jesus Christ, the way of salvation, and the importance of solemn oaths...

Drawing from Scriptures, we developed a pastoral letter which attempts to give guidance to church members as they evaluate the question of membership in any secret fraternal organization so they can make an informed decision in good conscience. It also recognizes the responsibility of courts of original jurisdiction in discerning the character and other qualifications of officers of the church. Please refer to Recommendation #2 at the conclusion of this report.

#### 4. Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage

The 14th General Assembly adopted the paper on this subject proposed last year as a Preliminary Position Paper, but made several specific recommendations for expanding and improving it before it was returned:

1. a definition which affirms the covenantal aspects of marriage;
2. a strong statement be developed relating reconciliation to covenant faithfulness in relationships;
3. a strong statement regarding pre-divorced reconciliation to compliment [sic] the existing statement on post-divorce reconciliation;
4. consideration be given to expand statements on 'hardness of heart' as it is related to divorce and/or reconciliation;
5. while it is implied in the paper that divorce is not the unpardonable sin, expand the discussion of forgiveness and restoration as it relates to service and leadership in the Church by divorced or remarried persons;
6. review I Timothy 5:8 for possible inclusions as it relates to the issues of desertion and covenant faithfulness;
7. include a discussion of remaining unmarried in the context of the section entitled, "What about Remarriage?"

We took action on all these items and our responses have been worked into this revision. We now return the paper with further recommendations. Refer to Recommendation #3 at the conclusion of this report.

#### 5. Position Paper on the Value of and Respect for Human Life

It has been our opinion that the existing Position Paper on the Value of and Respect for Human Life was in need of updating and expansion. Many new and difficult issues in this area have surfaced in the years since this paper was adopted. We have wrestled with this project for a few years, and have benefited from having pastors, theologians, a medical doctor, and ruling elders with considerable pastoral experience on the committee who all made significant contributions to the discussion. In the end, the paper we have developed represents a significant expansion of our current position paper and so we offer a recommendation to the 15th General Assembly. Refer to Recommendation #4 at the conclusion of this report.

#### 6. Position Paper on Abortion

Due to the time spent on the above matters, we were unable to make any progress on reviewing this paper to see if it needs to be updated. We hope to make progress on this in the forthcoming year.

The Committee also took action to elect by unanimous vote Dr. James Russell to be chairman for the 1995-96 Assembly year.

It has now been my privilege to serve on the Theology Committee for six years, the last four as chairman, and I am due to rotate off the Committee. I want to take this opportunity, therefore, to say that serving on this committee has been the highlight of my experience with the EPC to date. Over those years, I have been privileged to know several of the fine pastors and ruling elders who make up the leadership of our Church. We have dealt with significant issues in both the society and the Church and in the midst of our work, we have experienced the work of the Spirit of God to bring guidance to our prayer, understanding to

the Scriptures, the ability to hear and understand one another, wisdom for the care of the Body of Christ and the proclamation of the Gospel to the world, and a deep experience of brotherhood in Christ. It has been far more than time spent on a productive committee; it has been an experience of the presence of God among His people, empowering us to serve His purposes. I am profoundly grateful to God for this opportunity, to the Assembly for entrusting me with this responsibility, and to my brothers on the Theology Committee over these years for manifesting Christ to me. Our prayer as a committee this year, as every year, is that what we offer may build up the Body and bring glory to God through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Recommendation #1:

That the General Assembly adopt the attached Preliminary Position Paper on Capital Punishment as an amendment by substitution for the current Preliminary Position Paper on Capital Punishment, and that it be sent to the churches for study.

### Recommendation #2:

That the General Assembly adopt the proposed Pastoral Letter regarding criteria for evaluating membership in secret fraternal organizations and send it to the presbyteries and churches for their guidance.

### Recommendation #3:

That the General Assembly adopt the attached revised Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage as an amendment by substitution for the current Preliminary Position Paper and adopt it as its Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage.

### Recommendation #4:

That the General Assembly adopt the attached Paper on the Value of and Respect for Human Life as an amendment by substitution for the current Position Paper on the Value of and Respect for Human Life.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip H. Tiews, Chairman  
Committee on Theology  
June, 1995

## A Preliminary Paper on Capital Punishment

[Approved Committee Draft]

### SYNOPSIS

Christians believe the Biblical teaching that every human being is created in the image of God, an image which elevates man and sets him apart from all the other animated creatures. This image has been sullied and polluted by the Fall, but nevertheless remains, so that human life is to be regarded as sacred. The sixth commandment, "You shall not murder," reflects that murder is an assault against God's image. As well, we believe that sin is serious and real and, as such, demands God's wrath. God hated sin so much that even Christ had to suffer and die when sin was laid upon Him.

Capital punishment is sanctioned by Scripture as being the appropriate punishment for the sin of intentional murder (Gen. 9:6). In the New Testament (Rom. 13:4) God gives the state the authority to administer this punishment. Indeed under this mandate, every state is obliged to include capital punishment in its legal system.

Scripture does not mandate that all who are convicted of murder must be given capital punishment. The Scripture does, however, warn that those who do murder are liable to capital punishment and that the governing civil authority has the right under God to administer this punishment. It ought always to be done with careful consideration of all the factors involved and with impartiality and equity.

### INTRODUCTION

Unlike so many ethical issues that confront us today, the issue of capital punishment is as ancient as it is modern, yet it continues to be a rather complex dilemma for our society and for the church as well. Is it immoral and cruel? Is it an outdated instrument of racism and class prejudice which neither prevents further crime (deterrence) nor rehabilitates the criminal? Is it a denial of human dignity and Christian love and mercy as well? Or is it divinely sanctioned, a just and appropriate response to certain crime(s), even necessary for the good of society? Such are the deeply ethical and emotional concerns that bind themselves to this ageless and yet timely issue.

### GENERAL DISCUSSION

As a church speaking to the issue of capital punishment, we seek only to shine the light of God's word upon it. We realize there are secular penal principles such as deterrence and rehabilitation that impact this issue significantly. However they will not be a part of our discussion. We feel that an ethical and moral issue such as this can only be resolved by relying on ultimate and absolute principles such as are found only in God's Word.

Before we begin our task of seeking out the particulars in the Bible that relate to this issue, let us first re-establish in our minds some general biblical truths that must remain ever before us in our study:

*The absolute reality and seriousness of sin and its consequences (Acts 2:23; 4:25-28; Romans 1:18--God hated sin so much that even Jesus Christ, His only Son Whom He loved must suffer and die when sin was laid upon Him.). The cross of Christ signifies equally God's wrath as well as His love.*



- 1 *The absolute sanctity of all human life* (Genesis 1:26, 27-God created man in His own image; Exodus 20:13; the sixth commandment: you shall not murder ). Murder is an assault against God's Own image.

*The absolute requirement by our Lord Himself to love your neighbor as yourself* (Matthew 22:37-40). We are to love each other as He loved us.

## A BIBLICAL VIEW OF CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

- 10 The common Hebrew word for crime and sin was the verb *hata'* and noun *het'*. Both have the double connotation of an offense against another human being (crime, e. g. Gen. 41:9) and sin against God (e.g., Deut. 19:15). The basic meaning of the word was "to miss the mark", "to err in regard to something," and this meaning was carried over to the sphere of offenses against man and God (the Law "missed or erred against"). The whole meaning of crime and punishment in the Old and New Testaments (Greek *hamartia* is the equivalent of *het'*) is built up around the dual meaning of this word. Thus the root of crime is sin and the final responsibility for crime rests with the sinner.

- 20 It is perhaps helpful to distinguish between "sin" and "crime." "Sin is disobeying or not conforming to God's law in any way." (WSC 14) "Crime" is all sin which is an offense against other human beings. While all crime is sinful, not every sin is a crime. An offense against God's Law is a crime when it is a social misdeed, punishable by the governing authorities. Sin, on the other hand, is always judged and punished by God. The civil magistrate cannot presume to punish a man's sin, but he is obligated to enforce penal sanctions against a man's crime. Thus a crime bears two punishments: one before the magistrate (as a social misdeed) and one before God Himself (as a sin).

In most modern murder cases the cornerstone defense of criminals is the supposition that they are not responsible for their crime. Rather they, too, are *victims* of their genes or environment. Examples of the latter would include lack of discipline or love in the home, failure of justice in society, evil companions, spousal or parent abuse, race, poverty, poor education, etc. The Bible disagrees however. Although these may be contributing factors, basically we sin because we are sinners and choose to sin. Therefore we alone are responsible.

- 30 All sin must be punished for God's righteousness requires it. There is no other way. Punishment is an aspect of God's own order, His way of dealing with sin. The main underlying principle of scriptural penology (whether civil or eternal) is not deterrence or rehabilitation, but retribution (Job 34:11; Ps. 18:25f; Ezek. 18:4, 20; Gal. 6:7). And the punishments which He prescribes for social sins are based on the same principle of retribution, restitution and compensation (Ex. 21:18-22:7; Lev. 6:4ff., 24:17-21; Deut. 19:21). Modern culture is averse to these principles of punishment and retribution; that is because they do not understand God nor do they understand the seriousness of sin.

- 40 We have distinguished between sin and crime. God punishes sin; man punishes crime. Man is not authorized to punish sin but he is authorized by God to punish crime. The Bible clearly teaches that the authority of human state governments and human parents to punish is given by God (Rom. 13:1-7; 1 Ptr. 2:13, 14; Eph. 6:1-3). God sets up kings and judges and deposes them (Dan. 2:21). In the Mosaic law God gives to certain human judges, kings and elders the authority to execute penalties for certain crimes (Deut. 25:2; 2 Chron. 9:8; Is.



10:1; Jer. 22:2-3; 1 Kgs. 2:3). Indeed, even before the Mosaic law was given, for the crime of murder God gave the awesome responsibility of executing the death penalty to finite, sinful human beings (Gen. 9:6). Without doubt, there is risk here. Human beings with the best of intentions can make grievous mistakes. But by assigning this task to men, God confirms one aspect of their dominion as image bearers of God.

We can learn something about principles of God's justice as we reflect on the specific penalties of Old Testament law. Such laws derive from God so we know that the penalties are always just. Justice on a human level is a shadow of that great act of justice and mercy where Jesus Christ bore the just penalty for our sin. Hence, all the Old Testament penalties point forward to the justice of God at work in the sacrifice of Christ.

## CAPITAL PUNISHMENT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Early in the Old Testament, before the law was given to Moses, capital punishment was instituted by God for the crime of murder (Gen. 9:6). But even before this, some feel it was implied in the instance of God's mercy on Cain for the murder of Abel (Gen. 4: 10-15). "[Y]our brother's blood cries out to me from the ground... which received it from your hand," spoke the Lord to Cain (vv. 10, 11). This because the general principle of the seriousness of sin and the sanctity of all human life (the blood of man) was being violated. God had mercy on Cain and although He punished him severely, He "stayed the sword" of capital punishment and even marked Cain so that no "avenger of the blood" would kill him.

- 20 In Genesis 9:6 we come to the first and most definitive text in the Old Testament regarding capital punishment. "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made man." Several significant points need to be made regarding this passage. First, it is spoken immediately after the flood (which itself was global capital punishment) to Noah and his extended family which constituted all of mankind then and represented all of mankind to follow. This shows that we are dealing with a principle of universal scope and not merely with something especially tailored to Israel as a holy nation. Second, the same general principles of the seriousness of sin, the sanctity of all human life, the retribution in kind (blood for blood) and the uniqueness of mankind as made in God's image are corroborated and upheld. Third, the sword of the Avenger, namely capital punishment, applies only to the crime of murder. Fourth, here God for the first time gives authority to fallen man (still an image bearer) to punish on His behalf and in so doing establishes the authority of the civil magistrate. He could have kept all prerogatives to punish for Himself, but He choose not to do so.

- Later in the Old Testament under Mosaic law in Israel, because of the distinct, special holiness required of God's separated people, a person could be put to death for a total of eighteen crimes: (1) Murders--Exod. 21:12-14, 20; 22:2-3; Lev. 20:2; 24:17, 21; Num. 35:11-21, 30, 31; Deut. 19:11-13; (2) Accidentally causing the death of a pregnant woman or her baby if injured in the course of a fight--Exod. 21:22-25; (3) Killing of a person by a dangerous animal that had killed before, yet was not kept caged (both the owner and the animal were to be killed)--Exod. 21:28-30; (4) Kidnaping--Exod. 21:16, Deut. 24:7; (5) Rape of a married woman (but not rape of a virgin)--Deut. 22:25-29; (6) Fornication--Deut. 22:13-21; Lev. 19:20-22; (7) Adultery--Lev. 20:10, Num. 5:12-30, Deut. 22:22-24; (8) Incest--Lev. 20:11-12, 14; (9) Homosexuality--Lev. 20:13; (10) Sexual intercourse with an animal--Lev. 20:15-16; Exod. 22:19; (11) Striking a parent--Exod. 21:15; (12) Cursing a parent--Exod. 21:17, Lev. 20:9; (13) Rebelling against parents--Deut. 21:18-21; (14) Sorcery, witchcraft--Exod.

22:18; Lev. 20:27; (15) Cursing God--Lev. 24:10-16; (16) Attempting to lead people to worship other gods--Deut. 13:1-6; 18:20; Exod. 22:20; (17) Avenging a death despite acquittal by the law--Deut. 17:12; (18) Intentionally testifying falsely against someone in jeopardy of the death penalty--Deut. 19:16-19.

Under the Mosaic law, certain sins against God that did not involve one's neighbor also merited the death penalty. Violation of the fourth commandment (failure to keep the Sabbath) was such a sin (Exod. 32:14) as well as false worship (Deut. 13:1-18).

Does capital punishment have a solid theological and social basis in the Old Testament? Without a doubt it certainly does and is appropriate punishment for a number of crimes.

## CAPITAL PUNISHMENT IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

In the New Testament, there is no explicit text which directly mentions capital punishment and for this reason we as Christians must avoid being overly dogmatic on this issue. Having said that, there is one text in the New Testament where Paul is writing about the civil magistrate which says: "For he (the one in authority) is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant, an agent of wrath [retribution] to bring punishment on the wrongdoer." (Rom. 13:4) Although some interpret the sword in this passage as authority only, most would agree that it is used here in reference to capital punishment. The apostle Peter corroborates this assignment of authority and responsibility to punish as well (1 Ptr. 2:14, 15). It is here that the modern state derives its authority from God to punish crime. This authority is reserved exclusively for legitimate civil authority and is not given to individuals. Note: the modern state cannot pronounce pardon nor can it elicit justice for sins. Only God himself can do this. Only Christ's death on the cross can satisfy the divine penalty for sin. Further implied, here is not just the authority from God to the state, but the responsibility as well to the state to punish social crimes in accordance with God's principles which are righteous and just.

Does capital punishment possess the solid theological and social basis in the New Testament as in the Old? It seems the basis we find for it in the above passages is real but certainly less explicit than in the Old Testament. There are other passages that indirectly support capital punishment. On the other hand, there are passages in the New Testament which, in the opinion of some, indirectly weaken the case for it. This is where many Christians diverge on this issue.

Before we consider these texts, we can say that nowhere in the teachings of Jesus or of Paul is the capital nature of the crime of murder repudiated (i. e. the sixth commandment is not only reaffirmed by Jesus, but even intensified). In light of the principles outlined above, we may proceed to the three classic traditions that have developed in the Christian church with respect to this issue of capital punishment.

## CHRISTIAN VIEWPOINTS ON CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

### The Anabaptist Position

Christians in the Anabaptist tradition argue that the state's authority to punish wrongdoers is incompatible with the Christian's responsibility to show mercy. They feel that punishment and Christian mercy and love are incompatible--that they must practice mercy on the same

- 1 basis that the Lord has been merciful to them (Matt. 6:14-15; 18:21-35). Indeed, most prefer not to serve as officers of the state for this reason.

There are other Christians, as well, that share the view that capital punishment is not appropriate in the New Testament economy and many feel it should be abolished for similar reasons. Another passage often cited is John 8:1-11. Here the Pharisees bring a woman, caught in the very act of adultery, to Jesus who is teaching in the temple. "In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women; now what do you say?" After some questioning, He replied, "If any of you is without sin, let him be the first to cast a stone." No stoning occurred and Jesus condemned her not; dismissing her with the admonition to sin no more. Many feel that in this action Christ certainly relaxed the necessity of capital punishment in crimes appropriate for it under Mosaic law. Others feel he abrogated it altogether as well as civil Mosaic law. As important as His example here of setting aside the Law of Moses is His explicit teaching in the sermon on the mount (Matt. 5:38-42) which they feel abrogates the Old Testament principle of general equity between the crime and the punishment (Exod. 23:21-25, the eye for an eye demand).

Nor, according to opponents of the death penalty, did the apostles advocate the use of capital punishment. They interpret the sword in Romans 13:4 as a symbol of civil authority, much like an officer's badge today. It could be used as a policeman's weapon is used but not as an instrument of capital punishment. Christians holding to this position have voiced this argument in support of abolishing capital punishment in many Western industrialized nations, including the United States.

### The Theonomist Position

Christians in the theonomist position have views that extend to the other side of the spectrum. In other words, instead of feeling the New Testament makes capital punishment inappropriate as punishment for premeditated murder, they feel it is mandated as appropriate for the punishment of all eighteen crimes listed in Mosaic civil law demanding death. The primary text cited to support this view is Matt. 5:18. "I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not one jot or tittle will by any means disappear from the Law." They agree that the ceremonial laws of Moses have been set aside by Christ's death on the cross but that there is no basis to lump the civil law with the ceremonial law in this process. In other words, the moral law (the Decalogue and its extensions) and the civil laws (all of which we have listed with regard to capital punishment) are as valid today as they were in the Old Testament. God is the same yesterday, today and forever (immutable and moral) as is His Law, which is the essence of Him. What right do we have to pick and choose, not only punishments appropriate for equivalent crimes, but from among the covenants within the covenant of Grace as well, Noahic instead of Mosaic.

They rebut the reading of John 8 by saying that Jesus was admonishing the Pharisees to keep the law, not break it. The law required not only two witnesses but that both witnesses must be guiltless of the accused sin. Then and only then could they cast the first stones. They also doubt the canonical validity of John 8:1-11.

The sword in Romans 13 is seen as a symbol of capital punishment and the civil magistrate as having not only authority but the absolute obligation under God to use it as the perfect and just Law of God dictates, avenging divine wrath against criminals and giving an account on the Final Day of their service before God Himself. Theonomists know that the ills of

- 1 modern society run deep, as deep as the horrible depths of sin, and that the remedy must be equally deep and radical.

### The Reformed Tradition

Christians in the Reformed tradition believe that the principles of the seriousness of sin and the sanctity of all human life are reflected in the sixth commandment, as well as the universal imperative of Genesis 9:6 for retribution in kind (blood for blood) where capital punishment is sanctioned for murder. (WCF 20.4)

- 10 They see the "sword" in Romans 13:4 as a symbol, not only of authority, but as an instrument of capital punishment "to execute wrath on him that doeth evil" (20.4). To deny the civil magistrate "the power of the sword," i. e. capital punishment, is highly unbiblical (23.1). They also affirm that Christians may lawfully hold civil office and exercise the power of the sword (23.1).

They do not believe however that we continue under the ceremonial or civil Mosaic law, but that only the moral law (Ten Commandments and extensions) remains in effect; the ceremonial law being only a type or symbol of Christ's redemptive work and the civil laws terminating with the theocracy of Israel (19 3-5). Numerous scripture is cited including Mark 7:18-19; Heb. 9:1-9; Col. 2:14-17; Eph. 2:15; Acts 15:5, 10; Ps. 51:16, 17. Therefore the only crime for which capital punishment is appropriate and indeed required is that of premeditated murder (Gen. 9:6).

### 20 CONCLUSION

Although all of the above viewpoints on the issue of capital punishment contain genuine and credible theological insight, we believe the Reformed position best expresses biblical teaching. We believe, therefore, the state ought to include capital punishment within its penal system. Capital punishment cannot be immoral, non-Christian, or denying of human dignity because God Himself commanded it. On the other hand, God Himself did not insist on it in all cases. For example, Cain, the first murderer, was shown mercy as was King David. In the New Testament Christ stayed the execution of a powerless woman taken in the act of adultery. Therefore it cannot be wrong to show mercy.

- 30 Is there a solid theological basis for capital punishment? Yes. The death penalty is absolutely and biblically legitimate (Gen. 9:6, Rom. 13:4). For what crimes is it appropriate? It certainly is for the crime of intentional murder (Gen. 9:6) and may be for other crimes by logical and necessary inference from Scripture. (WCF 1.6)

The New Testament introduced a new approach to civil law. The theocracy was abolished as was the Mosaic civil law on which it was based. We live now in a democracy where church and state are separated by law. Therefore, all of the above crimes for which the death penalty was appropriate under Mosaic law are no longer relevant to us except the crime of murder (pre-Mosaic).

- 40 The legality of capital punishment is determined by state law and differs from state to state. We are under the authority of these states in this matter since God has established them (Rom. 13:1, 2; 1 Ptr. 2:13, 14). In light of this and the above stated conclusion that it cannot be wrong to show mercy, we believe that the state is not mandated to execute all criminals

- <sup>1</sup> convicted of premeditated murder. Indeed John Calvin argues that though moral standards are permanent, different states may legitimately differ in the punishments imposed for violation of moral standards (*Institutes of the Christian Religion* 4.20.16).

In summary, Scripture warns us that those who murder are liable to capital punishment and that the governing civil authority has the right under God to administer this punishment. However, it also has the right to extend mercy if fitting. It should always be done with careful consideration of all the factors involved and with impartiality and equity to all.

- If capital punishment is part of a reasonably just civic system and is used only in cases of premeditated murder with solid proof, it would enhance the fabric of good and justice in society.



## Pastoral Letter Regarding Criteria for Evaluating Membership in Secret Fraternal Organizations [Approved Committee Draft]

1 The 14th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church directed the permanent Theology Committee

to consider the preparation of a statement offering possible caution and guidance regarding membership and participation in secretive fraternal organizations, especially in regard to implicit religious or pseudo-religious aspects of their practice that may have bearing upon the authority and sufficiency of Scripture, the Person and Deity of Jesus Christ, the way of salvation, and the importance of solemn oaths, for consideration by the subsequent General Assembly.

10 In response to that directive, the permanent Theology Committee offers this letter of pastoral advice for individuals and courts of the church.

In the twentieth century, several evangelical and Reformed denominations have undertaken studies of specific secretive fraternal organizations.<sup>1</sup> Those studies generally have been carried out with zeal for God's truth and the honor and purity of Christ's bride, the church. They also have been marked by deep concern for the church's peace, for many members of those denominations have been members of the organizations under review and possess loyal commitments to those organizations, citing the public good they perform and the moral virtues of their purposes.

20 This letter of pastoral advice responds in terms of general principles and admonitions which, by virtue of its adoption by the General Assembly, the courts of the church should heed. The general nature of this letter is for two reasons. First, our directive was to consider the preparation of a statement on the *general subject* of secretive fraternal organizations, not to engage in an evaluative study of any specific one(s). Secondly, the Constitution of the church already provides the standards and processes by which to regulate membership in churches, sessions and presbyteries. The Committee finds these provisions sufficient and beneficial for the governing of the Church. We strongly urge the courts to make good and proper use of them with all sincerity and brotherly love (Rom. 12:10).

### Oaths and Vows

30 Participation in secretive fraternal organizations naturally involves the taking of oaths and vows, both with respect to commitment to the organization and secrecy surrounding some of its practices. Lawful oaths are part of religious worship (WCF 22.1). Only by the name of God should Christians swear any oath (22.2), but only on proper occasions should such oaths be taken at all (22.1, 22.3). The necessary elements of a lawful oath consist in a complete conviction of the truth of the oath being sworn, that is be good and just, and that the one swearing has the ability to perform what is sworn (22.3). These elements reflect the seriousness which attaches to such exercises.

<sup>1</sup> E. g. Presbyterian Church in America, Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod, Reformed Presbyterian Church, Christian Reformed Church, General Association of Regular Baptist Churches, Southern Baptist Convention.

- 1 However, lawful oaths are to be meaningful and helpful. They reflect the seriousness and importance of the occasion and the earnestness of the one swearing. Moreover, such vows (e. g. the Hippocratic oath, marriage vows) aid the swearer by binding the swearer to faithful conduct in the future when unforeseeable circumstances might tempt him to depart from his Christian duty. As such, lawful oaths can give confidence to others and ourselves of the weight of what we say, give expression to our faith in the God of Providence, and provide future help in doing what is right.

- Conversely, oaths can be harmful to us. An oath carries the implied imprecation of God's disfavor upon one who would break the oath, subjecting ourselves to God's judgment as if  
10 we are not true to our word (Exod. 20:7). Swearing by any but God is idolatry, since the oath professes the reality, presence and power of a false god.

In light of these aspects of taking oaths, we offer the following pastoral advice:

Oaths should be taken sparingly (Eccl. 5:4-6, Matt. 5:34-37). Because oaths bind future conduct in unforeseeable circumstances, oaths may come in conflict with one another. Unless required by lawful authority (WCF 22.3), oath swearing should be accompanied by healthy hesitation.

- Oaths should be taken sincerely. One should swear to nothing but what he is completely convinced is true (WCF 22.3). This requires careful consideration of what is being sworn. Because our Lord Himself is truth (John 14:6), we are bound to truth. Further, in days of  
20 great falsehood and insincerity in our world, the church of Christ should be even more aware of its identity as the pillar and support of the truth (1 Tim. 3:15). The dealings of Christians involve the integrity of the church. Serving God in sincerity and truth (Joshua 24:14) is the converse of idolatry. This involves not merely the truth of vows as they are understood in our minds, but as they are understood by those to whom they are sworn. A Christian may not swear to do things which those present would reasonably construe differently or swear to a god whom others would reasonably understand as a different god. Since oaths are only to be sworn to the one true God, only those who profess belief in Him may so swear. If unbelievers may comfortably swear a particular oath in the name of a god, it is idolatrous for a Christian to share in that oath. This is surely not the intention of well-  
30 meaning Christians, but they must look to the results of their actions and not solely their personal intentions.

### Officers and Members

- Members of congregations swear submission to the government and discipline of the church (G. 9-2). Members who swear oaths in conflict with their binding oaths to Christ and His church should receive proper pastoral care in being convicted of this. However, complete adherence to the standards of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church is not required of them. Officers of the church, on the other hand, take vows holding them to a higher standard. These vows include commitment to the standards, government and discipline of the Church. When these vows are taken insincerely or when other vows are taken which would  
40 stand in conflict with these, the officer sacrifices his integrity and the peace and purity of the church are eroded. Church officers are to be, above all others, people of truth. Furthermore, you shall select out of all the people able men who fear God, *men of truth*, those who hate dishonest gain; and you shall place these over them (Exod. 18:21). When officers show themselves to have taken their vows lightly, capriciously or insincerely, or when they enter

into other vows which would be in conflict with these, the Constitution prescribes measures which would correct those officers.

### Teaching and Practice

Although the taking of vows is a significant factor to be considered in the propriety of secretive fraternal organizations, it is those vows in connection with the teaching and practice of such organizations which may present serious difficulties for the Christian. Questions which should be asked include the following: Does the organization's teaching conflict with Scripture? Does it promote a false understanding of God or man? Are the deeds it commends and actually produces consistent with Christian conduct?

- 10 The good works that such organizations produce are often cited by proponents as the basis for their legitimacy. However, the benefit of their deeds does not equate with the merit of their teachings. If this were not so, many heretical sects of our day would also commend themselves.

As part of the subject of practice, the principle of secrecy must be considered. One must determine what the basis for that secrecy is. While it may serve as a binding force within the organization, it also may be a veil for exclusionary practices. Despite claims to the contrary, the practice of secrecy may indeed be to exclude people on the basis of race, class, political affiliation, religion, etc.

- 20 The most serious aspect to consider in the area of teaching and practice is whether the organization is a church. If so, its doctrine and practice must be subject to the standard of Scripture. Even if it meets biblical standards, it is not a member congregation of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and therefore makes for a direct conflict between its and the Church's interests.

Many secretive fraternal organizations would strongly deny that they were churches. However, in spite of claims to the contrary, an organization might be a *de facto* church, i. e. taking upon itself teaching and practice, either explicitly or implicitly, which belongs exclusively to Christ's church. The ecclesial or non-ecclesial function of the organization is decisive for participating or not.

- 30 If an organization prescribes teaching pertaining to God, His nature, the nature of man and the way in which God relates to man, it is accountable to the standards of Scripture. If a member is required to affirm belief in non-biblical positions on such matters, he is contradicting the word of God. Such matters, as matters of faith, belong to the church. And an organization which takes upon these matters of faith is taking upon itself the function of the church.

If in the practices of an organization it takes upon itself the functions of the church, it is a *de facto* church in spite of claims to the contrary. Such practices include corporate prayer and the administration of sacraments or pseudo-sacraments. Therefore, such an organization would be subject to the marks of a true church and, if found wanting, would rightly fall under condemnation. Those marks are 1) scriptural discipline practiced, 2) the Word rightly proclaimed, and 3) the sacraments properly observed (G. 1-5). But even if found true to those marks, membership in both the organization and the Evangelical Presbyterian Church would be in conflict because of the conflict of vows taken to both.

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## Other Considerations

Aside from the serious questions which should attend the subjects of vows, teaching and practice, several other considerations should be addressed in determining whether membership in a particular secretive fraternal organization is compatible with membership and/or officership in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. Does time spent, use of resources and commitment to relationships in the fraternal organization indicate that the member's first loyalties are there rather than to Christ and His Church? Or rather does Christ come first, as evidenced through behavior in these areas?

## Conclusion

- 10 An individual Christian must ask himself, in light of the above considerations, whether he can, of good conscience, commit himself to the ideals of a particular secretive fraternal organization. In a day when words tend to mean less, Christians must take seriously more than ever their own words and the words of others when they take vows. Even in the diligent keeping of those vows, Christians seriously err when those organizations take upon themselves the function of the church and when their teaching and practice diverge from biblical standards.

- 20 The courts of original jurisdiction must always be diligent in discerning the character and other qualifications of officers of the church. Sessions and presbyteries in particular must ensure observance of the high standards required of deacons, ruling elders and teaching elders. These standards must be attended to both in considering candidates for office and evaluating those holding office. It is certain that, unless the fidelity of the Church begin in its officers, it will not be found in its members.

1/18/95

## DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE

[Approved Committee Draft]

### SYNOPSIS

1 Marriage is a sworn fidelity, a solemn covenant between a man and a woman, entered into before God, whereby He joins them in a life-long companionship of love for and commitment to each other.

While God intends the marriage covenant should never be broken, it is broken by the death of either partner, or in the case of adultery or such willful desertion as can no way be remedied by the Church or civil magistrates. Such marital unfaithfulness is the grounds for a Biblical divorce.

God's call is to love and to forgive. Divorce is not necessitated in any event and sessions should exhort couples considering such a step to actively pursue reconciliation.

10 Divorce under any circumstances should not preclude continued attempts to reconcile. Those who remarry after an improper divorce commit adultery and are subject to church discipline. As with all other transgressions, these too are covered by the blood of Christ, and members may be restored to fellowship when guilt is acknowledged and true repentance for sin is expressed.

Church sessions must exercise diligent care in considering divorced persons as candidates for church office.

### INTRODUCTION

20 The confessional statement of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church on the subject of Divorce and Remarriage is found in the *Westminster Confession of Faith* (24.5,6,& 7) and in the *Book of Worship* §5-4, as follows:

It is the divine intention that persons entering the marriage covenant become inseparably united, thus allowing for no dissolution save that caused by the death of either husband or wife.

However, the weaknesses of one or both partners may lead to gross and persistent denial of the marriage vows; yet only in cases of extreme unfaithfulness (physical or spiritual), unfaithfulness for which there is no repentance and which is beyond remedy, should separation or divorce be considered. Such separation or divorce is accepted as permissible only because of the failure of one or both of the partners, and does not lessen in any way the divine intention for indissoluble union.

30 The remarriage of divorced persons may be sanctioned by the Church in keeping with the redemptive gospel of Christ, when sufficient penitence for sin and failure is evident, and a firm purpose of and endeavor after Christian marriage is manifested.

Divorced persons should give prayerful thought to discover if God's vocation for them is to remain unmarried, since one failure in this realm raises serious questions as to the rightness and wisdom of undertaking another union.

If the Minister has any questions about the readiness of a divorced person to remarry according to these principles, the Church Session should be consulted and its concurrence sought.

We affirm at the outset that any discussion of divorce and remarriage should be conducted in a spirit of genuine humility. Few experiences in life are more agonizing than the dissolution of a marriage. We realize that conclusions cannot be reached lightly, but only on the basis of a prayerful and diligent study of the teaching of God's Word. Difficult ethical problems arise in any divorce, and very few of these problems are so simple that right judgment can be easily made. Parties that are innocent are seldom to be found.

## MARRIAGE

Before considering the breakup of a marriage, let us look at the Biblical perspective concerning this relationship. In speaking of a husband and wife, Malachi says:

"...the Lord is acting as the witness between you and the wife of your youth, because you have broken faith with her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant. Has not the Lord made them one? ...So guard yourself in your spirit, and do not break faith with the wife of your youth. 'I hate divorce,' says the Lord God of Israel." (Mal. 2:14-16)

The prophet here makes the important point that marriage is not primarily a mutual contract between two people; it is rather a sworn fidelity, a solemn covenant between a man and a woman, entered into before God, whereby He joins them in a life-long companionship of love for and commitment to each other.

Scripture tells us that marriage is God-instituted from the beginning of creation (Gen. 2:18-24) and that marriage, from both the wife's and the husband's perspectives, reflects the relationship between Christ and His Church (Eph. 5:22-33). While this mystery is great (Eph. 5:32), at the very least we see that God is intimately involved in the marriage covenant.

## DIVORCE IN THE SCRIPTURE

We believe that, according to the dictates of Scripture, marriage is for life. Clearly, God's standard is chastity before marriage and fidelity afterwards, and Scripture teaches that divorce is always an abnormality arising out of human sinfulness.

But to say that God intended the marriage covenant should never be broken does not mean that the marriage union is therefore unbreakable. For example, it is broken by the death of either partner. Moreover, in Old Testament times, divorce was tolerated although not divinely approved. We discover from Deuteronomy 24:1-4 that Moses was not instituting or encouraging divorce; he was simply attempting to regulate it in a culture whose practice of it was out of control. It is important to note that the word *adultery* does not appear in these verses for the very good reason that under the Mosaic Law, the punishment for adultery was death by stoning. Divorce was obviously an established custom which is neither commanded nor condoned in this passage.

However, the Mosaic Law in general assumed the practice of divorce (Leviticus 21:7, 14, 22:13, Numbers 30:9, Deuteronomy 22:19,29). Divorces were even required when the post-exilic people of God who had married foreign women were commanded to put them away (Ezra 9-11; Neh. 9:2). Nevertheless, the Old Testament makes it very clear that God does not look favorably on divorce. Jesus said that Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. (Matt. 19:8-9)

As noted above, marriage is a sworn fidelity, whereby God joins a man and a woman in lifelong companionship. Nevertheless, divorce in the case of adultery is justifiable when covenant fidelity has been violated.

Why is adultery...cause sufficient for dissolving the bond of marriage? Because it is a radical breach of marital fidelity, violating the commitment of exclusive conjugal love. Why does the departure of an unbeliever in a mixed marriage leave the believer free to remarry? (1 Cor.7:15-16). Because it is a radical breach of marital fidelity, violating the commitment of lifelong companionship. **The exceptional circumstance common to both instances is willful repudiation of the marriage covenant.** (Jones, David Clyde. *The Westminster Confession on Divorce and Remarriage*, pp. 30-31; (emphasis added).

When Scripture says that a man shall cleave to his wife (Gen. 2:24), this is a covenantal term used elsewhere when the Israelites were challenged to cleave to the Lord with affection and loyalty (Joshua 22:5). The prophet Malachi affirms (Mal. 2:14-16) that it was because of the multiple divorces in Israel that God was withholding His blessing and no longer hearing their prayers.

In the New Testament, Jesus calls His people to be faithful to the clearly defined will of God as expressed primordially in Genesis 2:24, and quoted and enlarged upon by our Lord in Matthew 19:4-6:

"Haven't you read, He replied, that the Creator made them male and female and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So they are no longer two but one. Therefore, what God has joined together, let man not separate."

One renowned theologian shows the extreme importance of these words of our Lord when he says,

Now it was of course precisely the order of creation that Christ came to restore; therefore, the restoration of the order of creation should manifestly be taking place in His body the church, which is composed of new creatures, or renewed creations in Christ. The Christian Church, accordingly, has a special responsibility to bear witness in its practice as well as in its doctrine to the sanctity of the marriage bond. Of all the spheres of human society it least of all should show that ungodly hardheartedness which requires the divine standard to be accommodated to the debased level of man's fallen state. (Hughes, Philip E., *Christian Ethics in Secular Society*, p.158)

This is not to say that divorce is never sanctioned in the New Testament. But it is sanctioned only in circumstances of grave repudiation of the marriage covenant, namely adultery and willful, irremediable desertion. The original text of the *Westminster Confession*, as approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 1647, is very emphatic when it states, "Nothing but adultery or such willful desertion as can no way be remedied by the Church or civil magistrate is cause sufficient of dissolving the bond of marriage. The offended party in such circumstances is free to remarry, as if the offending party were dead."

In Matt. 5:31-32, 19:3-9, and Luke 16:18 Jesus cites marital unfaithfulness (usually translated simply adultery) as the sole grounds for divorce. This word, here translated adultery, refers not only to sexual sin but also to broader, severe covenant infidelity of the variety described in the following passages: Num. 14:33, Is. 1:21, Jer. 31, Ezek. 16 & 23, and Hos. 1:2. In Matt. 5:31-32, He says,

"It has been said, 'Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce,' But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, causes her to become an adulteress, and anyone who marries the divorced woman commits adultery."

- 10 This sin of marital unfaithfulness can be manifested in such sins as prostitution, incest, homosexuality, and persistent, intolerable abuse. It could mean not only sexual infidelity but also a broader infidelity including but not limited to violations such as habitual and severe spouse or child abuse, or a husband or wife who makes an attempt on the life of his or her spouse. Such acts are a terrible betrayal and repudiation of the marriage covenant and they effectively break the one flesh principle of marriage. In dealing with situations which involve significant abuse, church sessions should have the liberty to discern what would be the proper response of an abused spouse. The offended spouse surely should have permanent release from intolerable conditions.

- 20 In this passage (Matt. 5:31-32), our Lord is not contrasting His teaching with the Mosaic Law, but with the misinterpretation of the Pharisees and scribes. The Law of Moses decreed that divorce is tolerated and limited to certain causes--some physical or moral defect discovered in the wife. The man who would divorce his wife for good cause must give her a **certificate of divorce**. The Pharisees and scribes, on the other hand, said that the Mosaic Law urged --and indeed, **commanded**--a man to divorce his wife under certain conditions. The Law, of course, made no such stipulation. This position espoused by the Pharisees and scribes opened the door for the granting of divorces for all kinds of inadequate reasons, so long as the certificate of divorce was granted!

- 30 Jesus, on the other hand, emphasized the sanctity of marriage. What God has joined together, let man not separate. (Matthew 19:6) While the Pharisees and scribes said that the Law demanded divorce under certain circumstances, Jesus said no. The Law indeed commanded that a certificate of divorce be written, if there were to be a valid divorce. But that is a very different thing from saying that they must divorce. God's call to us is to love and to forgive. Therefore, **divorce is not necessitated even by adultery**. There must always be the possibility of forgiveness and reconciliation and this should be seriously pursued--indeed married couples who have experienced a break in covenant faithfulness should strive to repair their relationship through forgiveness, reconciliation and personal transformation before divorce proceedings are initiated. The story of Hosea illustrates God's active role in the marriage covenant and reflects God's covenant love for His people. In obedience to God's command, Hosea pursued Gomer and accepted her as God restored the covenant relationship. Likewise, the session should encourage the offended spouse to offer forgiveness and reconciliation with the hope of drawing the offending spouse back to right relationship in the marriage.

Pastors who become aware of potential divorce situations within the church, either through the parties involved or from outside sources, should encourage both partners to seek Christian marriage counseling, either from the church staff or from other qualified counselors. God's love, forgiveness, and healing power should be emphasized, especially where the of-



fending spouse (who committed the marital unfaithfulness) is repentant and the offended spouse is reluctant to forgive and unwilling to continue in the marriage.

## BIBLICAL AND UNBIBLICAL DIVORCE

Jesus taught that there is only one legitimate cause and reason for divorce: marital unfaithfulness, as defined above. In the light of this challenging statement, surely Christians cannot condone the easy accessibility to divorce in our contemporary society. Increasingly we must emphasize the lifelong commitment implicit in the marriage covenant, and especially in Christian marriage which should be a constant witness to God's order of creation and to the new order of recreation in Christ. Christ's teaching is that if a divorce takes place on any other grounds than that of marital unfaithfulness, it can have no sanction from God, and any new marriage which follows is an adulterous act, since from God's standpoint the original couple is still married to each other. Matthew 19:9 indicates that a valid divorce (on the grounds of marital unfaithfulness) entails the right to remarry.

Paul, in I Corinthians 7:12-15, cites the case of a man who becomes a Christian after marriage. His wife, however, remains an unbeliever but is willing to continue living with him. The injunction is that he is not to divorce her. But if she were to leave him, she is to be allowed to do so. Desertion is the destruction of the marriage which the Christian spouse was unable to prevent. The believer in such a case is not bound (that is, he or she is free to divorce and remarry); for Paul says, "God has called us to live in peace." (1 Cor. 7:15)

This implies that in the case of a serious breakdown of a marriage—even when both parties are believers and peace has given way to open warfare, as in the case of extreme incompatibility—it may be better for the couple to separate, temporarily at least, rather than to continue in a relationship that has become intolerable. But in such a circumstance, there should be no resort to divorce, let alone any intention of entering into a second marriage. In the case of such a separation, they are either to remain single, or earnestly work toward effecting a reconciliation (1 Cor. 7:10-11).

If there is hardness of heart and the parties are unable to reconcile and so proceed to divorce, the session must indicate that it strongly disagrees with that action, while maintaining lines of communication and love to both husband and wife. Even divorce should not preclude continued attempts at reconciliation, until one spouse remarries or refuses reconciliation in such a way as to reveal himself or herself to be, in effect, an unbeliever. Attempts to reconcile are mandatory after an unbiblical divorce—the session should exhort the spouse(s) under its jurisdiction to continue as long as reconciliation is possible. Reconciliation should be encouraged in the case of biblical divorce as well, that God may be glorified in the healing of relationships among his people.

## WHAT ABOUT REMARRIAGE?

May those involved in a divorce without Biblical grounds ever remarry? Or can the offending spouse in a biblical divorce ever remarry? Jesus explicitly teaches that those who are involved in a remarriage after an improper divorce commit adultery. Therefore, the church cannot sanction remarriage in such a situation to anyone except the original spouse. Although members may come under discipline for remarrying after an unbiblical divorce, there is always the prospect of restoration of that member if he or she demonstrates true repentance. The blood of Christ is sufficient for the sins of all true believers. The session should actively work towards this end.

However, when one of the spouses in a former union remarries, we may conclude that the other is free to remarry because the former marriage relationship has been permanently broken by the remarriage. The Church must be careful not to sanction unbiblical marriages; but, as noted above, when a former spouse has remarried, or refuses reconciliation in such a way as to reveal himself or herself to be, in effect, an unbeliever, remarriage to another person becomes a valid option for the other party in the light of I Corinthians 7. Before anyone remarries, even under these conditions, that person should demonstrate sufficient penitence for sin and failure, and manifest a firm purpose of an endeavor after Christian marriage.

The session should encourage anyone considering remarriage to participate in counseling to ascertain their penitence and desire for a Christian marriage. In addition, they should be encouraged to prayerfully consider if God may be calling them to remain unmarried, as Paul encourages in I Corinthians 7:8, and in view of that fact that one failure in this realm raises serious questions as to the rightness and wisdom of undertaking another union (WCF 24.7).

What about those cases in which people have been involved in an unbiblical divorce before becoming believers and have since remarried? Wise and loving pastoral oversight should encourage such individuals to seek God's gracious forgiveness, in the assurance that He will forgive them and accept their present marriage. Does this mean that in this case God has changed or lowered His standards? Not at all. But it does mean that even divorce and remarriage under such circumstances, serious though they are, are not unforgivable sins, but with all other transgressions, are covered by the blood of Christ.

## AFFIRMATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

We feel that further affirmations are relevant to this discussion:

1) Paul reminds us in II Corinthians 6:14-15, "Do not be yoked together with unbelievers...." What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? Such teaching clearly implies that it is not only unwise but indeed sinful for a Christian to enter into a marriage with a person who is not a Christian. It is incumbent upon churches to apprise our young people of the dangers inherent in being unequally yoked, and to encourage them to seek only Christians as potential spouses.

2) While all Christians are admonished to conduct themselves in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ (Philippians 1:27), those persons who are called to positions of leadership in the church have an especially solemn responsibility to behave in an exemplary manner in every area of their lives, including their sexuality. It is particularly incumbent upon teaching and ruling elders to set a Godly example. St. Paul insists that the elder must be above reproach, the husband of one wife (I Timothy 3:4-5), which implies that he must be faithful to the one flesh marriage covenant. A similar requirement is made for deacons (I Timothy 3:12).

Anyone who is divorced in accordance with Biblical principles, remaining single or having remarried, may serve as a church officer.

Church sessions must exercise special care in the case of persons considered for church office who have divorced or remarried on unbiblical grounds. In such situations, guilt must be

acknowledged and repentance for sin expressed. The persons concerned must have been rehabilitated sufficiently in the confidence and respect of other Christians as to be able to fulfill in an exemplary way the requirements of church office with regard to marital and family relationships.

Sessions should consider that even when such care is exercised, there may be circumstances in which it would be inadvisable, even though technically permissible, for such divorced or remarried persons to serve as church officers. Above all, sessions should follow Scriptural guidelines carefully in dealing with present or prospective church officers who have been divorced.

We believe that congregations within the Evangelical Presbyterian Church can take many helpful steps to minister the redemptive love of Christ to their members who go through the tragedy of divorce, and to reach out to those outside the Church who are suffering the aftermath of divorce. Some effective steps to be considered are:

- 1) Pastors preaching sermons regularly on topics which will strengthen family life within the church.
- 2) Churches expanding their educational and fellowship programs to include:
  - a) regular Bible studies on Christian marriage and the roles and responsibilities of husband and wife;
  - b) family seminars and marriage enrichment workshops;
  - c) regular couples retreats;
  - d) making available books on biblical marriage and family development.
- 3) Pastors undertaking continuing education in premarital and marital counseling.
- 4) Congregations requiring effective premarital counseling for all couples
- 5) Special counsel being given to those who have been divorced and are contemplating remarriage. In light of our church's doctrinal standards:
  - a. Is God's vocation for them that they remain unmarried since one failure in this realm raises serious question as to the rightness and wisdom of undertaking another union?

This question should be explored with sensitivity and an earnest desire to help them work through the implication of such a possibility.

- b. Assurance should be received that these persons have come, or desire to come, to genuine faith in Christ, in order that they may demonstrate sufficient penitence for sin and failure and manifest a firm purpose of and endeavor after Christian marriage. *WCF 24:6*)
- c. If the Church is satisfied that remarriage is justifiable, the candidates should be offered participation in a divorce recovery program in which past failure in marital relationships is honestly confronted, so that such realities as guilt, resentment, frustration, fear and anger resulting from the first marriage are not carried over as a time bomb to destroy the second marriage.



- 6) Pastors training mature Christian couples with strong marriages to assist in premarital counseling.
- 7) Congregations having a support group for those who have gone through a divorce and are seeking to redefine and reestablish their life within the fellowship of the church.

## APPENDICES

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## Position Paper on the Value Of And Respect For Human Life

[Approved Committee Draft]

### SYNOPSIS

The fundamental biblical principle that man is made in the image of God establishes the profound value and sanctity of human life. Because of the Fall, all humans are subject to suffering and death. While suffering is an intrusion into life, it is not without divine purpose, for it provides the opportunity for Christian witness, service and godly character development as we share in the sufferings of Christ.

Advances in medical science have greatly improved healing and relieved suffering, but have also presented many new dilemmas for patients and their families which must be faced in the light of God's word.

Because of the value and sanctity of human life, we stand against any effort such as suicide, assisted suicide and euthanasia which seek to terminate innocent human life outside of natural processes, even though the motive for such efforts may be a misdirected kindness. When faced with medical situations which could call for heroic measures, Christians should make a distinction between treatment that may prolong life in hopes of recovery and that which will only prolong the dying process. As Christians deal with difficult choices surrounding life and death, they should seek the support and counsel of the Church which should reach out with compassion and the truth of God's word.

### I. INTRODUCTION

We live in a day of profound ethical dilemmas as we consider such issues as suicide, assisted suicide, euthanasia, abortion, and capital punishment. The view one holds regarding the value and dignity of human life will determine where he stands on all of these issues. It is imperative that we fully understand the biblical principles which establish an ethical framework which will enable us to have confidence that we are following God's direction as we encounter these dilemmas.

We bear a tremendous responsibility to make biblically informed choices under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. One day "we must all appear before the judgment-seat of Christ." (2 Cor. 5:10.) Since we must all answer to God for the decisions we make concerning these life and death matters, we dare not act autonomously or base our decisions on what we think is right independently of God. (Isa. 55:8 KJV "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, saith the Lord.")

### II. BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES

**A. The Image of God (Imago Dei):** The stamp of the image and likeness of God has set apart human life as unique, distinctive and profoundly valuable. God demands that we preserve and protect human life because it is the only form of life that He created in His own image. "Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, in our likeness....'" (Genesis 1:26,27 NIV.) Only human life can walk, talk, and fellowship with the Creator, because it is the only life that possesses the image of God. This is the source of man's great value and dignity, made astonishingly "a little lower than God and crowned with glory and honor." (Psalm 8:5 NAS.)

- 1 The value which we place on human life cannot be determined by one's productiveness to society or by any other arbitrary standard set by man. The tendency of a technological culture to assign value to an individual based on his or her function (what he or she can do, rather than who he or she is) is totally unacceptable. We must look to our Creator's declaration in Gen. 1:31 (NAS) "God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good."

10 God reaffirms the value and dignity of all human life through the incarnation of Jesus Christ "who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bondservant, and being made in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross." (Phil. 2:6-8.) The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ on behalf of His people and the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit who now abides within all Christians also attest to the supreme value God has placed on human life. Can anyone doubt the dignity God has bestowed on human life, since He declares that the human body of believers is actually the dwelling place of God the Holy Spirit? (1 Cor. 6:19-20 NAS) "... your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God... you were bought with a price....")

- 20 **B. The Right Of God As Creator To Rule Over Life And Death:** God, as our Creator, is the giver and sustainer of all life. Since God is the giver of life, He reserves to Himself alone the right to take it: "It is I who put to death and give life." (Deuteronomy 32:39.) "The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away." (Job 1:21.) In Psalm 139:13 & 16 (NAS), David acknowledged the sovereignty of God in numbering the days of his life: "For Thou didst form my inward parts; Thou didst weave me in my mother's womb... in Thy book they were all written, the days that were ordained for me, when as yet there was not one of them."

Former Surgeon General Dr. C. Everett Koop sums up the problem of a culture which no longer looks to the Bible for its values: "Our society, having lost its understanding of the sanctity of human life, is pushing the medical profession into assuming one of God's prerogatives, namely, deciding what life shall be born and when life should end."<sup>1</sup> The eternal Word of God declares that life is a sacred and priceless gift, beyond the purview of mere human beings to decide its beginning or end.

- 30 God, as our Creator, has given life to us as a gift and a sacred trust. Therefore, it should be received with thanksgiving and protected from those who would seek to usurp God's control of life and death through abortion, suicide, assisted suicide and active euthanasia.

**C. The Prohibition Of God: "You shall not murder." (Ex. 20:13 NAS.):** Question and answer 136 of the Westminster Larger Catechism points out our obligations in fulfilling the Sixth Commandment:

**Q.** 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;... and whatsoever else tends to the destruction of the life of any.<sup>2</sup>

- 40 The sixth commandment clearly rules out the lawfulness of suicide, assisted suicide, and active euthanasia. Suicide is the direct and intentional taking of one's own life: murder of self.<sup>3</sup> Assisted suicide is the enabling of one to take his own life and is considered assisted

murder. Active euthanasia is the willful and active taking of someone's life and is clearly a violation of this commandment.

**D. The Problems Of Suffering, Death And Dying:** Some argue that the motive of alleviating suffering justifies suicide, assisted suicide or euthanasia. But we can never justify the taking of life on the basis of suffering. The church must oppose any effort to terminate innocent life outside the natural processes even though the motive may be a misdirected kindness.

Because we live in a fallen world (Gen. 3), suffering is a harsh reality. But as we examine the healing ministry of our Lord Jesus, we can only conclude that God is on the side of healing. We have a God-given drive to resist suffering and death and to seek to alleviate physical and emotional pain. It is right to seek to lessen the sting of suffering through pain-killing medications which help make those who are suffering as comfortable as possible. It is permissible in the case of terminal illness to use painkillers which carry the risk of shortening life, so long as the intent is to relieve pain effectively rather than to cause death. (Prov. 31:6 "Give strong drink to him who is perishing.") The proper application of medical science, as demonstrated by much of our hospital and hospice care, can in most cases enable patients to live and die without extreme suffering.

Hope and meaning in life are possible even in times of great suffering. As Christians, we must entrust our lives to a wise, kind and loving heavenly Father who has promised that "all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose." (Rom. 8:28.) While suffering is an intrusion into our lives, it is not without divine purpose; for it provides the opportunity for Christian witness, service, and godly character development as we share in the sufferings of Christ. (1 Peter 4:12-13 & Philippians 3:10.) Suffering often becomes the means by which Christians demonstrate to others the sufficiency of God's grace. (2 Cor. 12:9 NIV "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness.")

When death is likely to occur within a short period of time, we can look to the example of the patriarchs. When Jacob saw that he was in the dying process, he gathered his sons around him to deliver his final blessings and instructions (Gen. 49:1-33). When Joseph was about to die he also called for his brothers and reminded them of God's promises (Gen. 50:24-26).

It is rare in our milieu to witness this kind of deathbed gathering. Why? Because in the United States today, three out of four people die in a hospital or a nursing home surrounded by strangers. Technological intervention in the process of dying could very easily undermine important ministerial functions of the terminally ill in a misguided zeal to prolong life at all costs. One of the great fears of dying patients is their being left alone or neglected. The environment of noisy machines and blinking lights of intensive care units is often substituted for the intimacy of loved ones.<sup>4</sup>

Since past generations did not have the technology to keep people alive artificially, most deaths occurred at home. This gave meaning to the personal aspects of death. Surrounded by family and friends, dying people were invited to repent of their sins, bless their children, ask forgiveness, bid farewell, and make recommendation. Of course, death remained then, as now, the most stressful of human events, but it "occurred as a natural experience, expected, and understood."<sup>5</sup>

- 1 Even though we now have the technological means to make dying easier, our society is increasingly seeking to make active euthanasia more palatable. Euthanasia, until recently, was commonly understood to refer to the practice of passively allowing the dying process to take place. Today, proponents of the "Right to Die" Movement seek to differentiate euthanasia by blurring the distinction between "passive" and "active." Passive euthanasia has never really been a moral problem, for it is simply allowing the process of dying to take its natural course as the medical team seeks to provide adequate pain management. Active euthanasia, on the other hand, means intervention by someone to take an action which would hasten the patient's death. The church must speak out against these evils as active
- 10 euthanasia rapidly gains popular approval.

Advocates of active euthanasia, suicide, and assisted suicide continue to point to man's need to die with dignity. They argue that the lack of physical or mental abilities precludes death with dignity since they assume that man's dignity is derived from mental and physical abilities. But the Word of God clearly reveals that man possesses dignity and honor by virtue of the fact that he was created in the image of God. Man's dignity does not depend on his mental or physical condition. Each person, no matter how infirm and socially useless he or she may appear to be, deserves to be accepted as a person of dignity created in the image of God.

- At one extreme we find the proponents of active euthanasia, and at the other extreme we
- 20 find vitalists who demand that in each and every case life must be preserved at all costs. A biblical perspective of death and dying must be established in order to counter these extreme views.

Question 85 of the Larger Catechism asks: "Death, being the wages of sin, why are not the righteous delivered from death, seeing all their sins are forgiven in Christ?" The answer gives us a wonderful summary of the theology of the death of believers in Christ:

The righteous shall be delivered from death itself at the last day, and even in death are delivered from the sting and curse of it; so that, although they die, *yet it is out of God's love*, to free them perfectly from sin and misery, and to make them capable of further communion with Christ in glory, which they enter upon. (WLC 85, emphasis

30 added)

Revelation 14:13 also tells us of the blessing of Christians when they die: "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on! 'Yes,' says the Spirit, 'that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them.'" The curse of the fall of Adam and Eve has been turned into blessing because of the death, burial and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- The Apostle Paul tells us that he was willing to be absent from the body in order to be present with the Lord (2 Cor. 5:8), for that is very much better" (Phil. 1:23) than continuing to live on this earth. Paul, already experiencing a deep and rich fellowship with Christ, clearly indicates that personal fellowship with Christ will be magnified at the death of the saints. Of course, this does not mean that one is not to seek to live out his life to its full extent as long as God gives the opportunity. Paul's longing for that "much better" estate does
- 40 not undercut the value and significance of the present life. Paul's main concern (Phil. 1:19-26) is the exaltation of Christ in his body whether by life or by death. For Paul to live on in the flesh means fruitful labor for him, and he is convinced that it is "more necessary" for his fellow Christians for him to continue his earthly ministry. In the same way, we must regard

1 this present life on earth as a great gift from God to be lived to its full extent in fruitful labor in serving others.<sup>6</sup>

Unlike spiritual death, which is an absolute evil, physical death is only a relative evil in a fallen world. Physical death for the Christian is not an enemy always to be fought at all times. The conviction that physical life must be preserved at all times is fundamentally idolatrous from the standpoint of biblical theology. God tells us in Hebrews 9:27 that "it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment." In Eccl. 3:1,2 the Preacher says, "There is an appointed time for everything... A time to give birth, and a time to die." Thus, there is no moral or biblical obligation to prolong death when one is clearly in the dying process. 10 There is a time to resist death, but there is also a time to cease resisting. As Steward Alsop said, "A dying man needs to die, as a sleepy man needs to sleep, and there comes a time when it is wrong, as well as useless, to resist."<sup>7</sup>

The Bible teaches that we can glorify God by death as well as by life. According to Phil. 1:20 our ultimate purpose in life or in death must be the glory of God. The first question and answer in the Westminster Shorter Catechism demonstrates this beautifully:

Q. What is man's primary purpose?

A. Man's primary purpose is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, in willingly laying down his life for His people, gives us the greatest demonstration and example of a death which was motivated by love and the glory of God. 20 (Jn. 12:27; 15:13.)

### III. HEROIC MEASURES

A. **Definition:** "Heroic measures" refers to the use of extreme emergency measures to prolong a patient's life when vital processes cease to function. Few topics in medicine are more complicated, more controversial, and more emotionally charged than the decision of whether or not to forego life-sustaining treatment for the hopelessly ill.

B. **Problem:** Because of our technological advances in the medical field, we now encounter perplexing moral questions that earlier societies never had to face. Heroic measures may extend the life of the patient, but it may also extend the suffering of the patient and family members. Financial debt and a difficult legal climate add to the complexity of this situation. 30 We are faced with profound ethical dilemmas. For example, does God demand, in every situation, that all medical options available be used to extend the life of one who is dying? Or would God have us, at times, to refuse extraordinary medical procedures and allow the patient to die? If a person is taken off a respirator and allowed to die has the sixth commandment been violated? The answers to these dilemmas depend upon a clear distinction being made between prolonging life when there is hope of recovery and postponing the dying process when it is hopeless.

On the one side, heroic measures are indispensable to the practice of modern medicine. Many individuals have been restored to health by their application. On the other side, this technology may be applied thoughtlessly with the tragic consequences of lengthening the dying process and adding unnecessary suffering and expense for the patient and family.<sup>8</sup> 40



## 1 C. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. We cannot provide simple formulas and conclusions that fit every encounter with heroic measures. On the contrary, we find that it is impossible to give a specific direction for every conceivable circumstance, and we realize that decisions will differ. We can be sure that "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in time of trouble." (Ps. 46:1). God has promised to give us wisdom if we will ask in faith. Ministers should be consulted to pray with and for the patient to help him to determine God's will in the application of heroic measures. Often God will give us the wisdom we need through the counsel of caring doctors. The patient and family should prayerfully and carefully weigh any decision to go  
 10 against the counsel of the trusted physician since he would be expected to have the best advice in these situations. In many situations a distinction can be made between treatment that will heal and restore the patient to health and treatment that will only prolong the dying process. The patient and family should ask appropriate questions to obtain this information, since for various reasons a physician may not make this distinction when various options of medical treatment are presented. Pastors or other elders should be consulted as patient and family carefully and prayerfully consider these options.<sup>9</sup>
  2. "Necessary means of preservation of life" must not be withheld from the patient. Negative judgments about the "quality of life" of an unconscious or otherwise disabled patient have led some to propose withholding nourishment in order to end the patient's life. Medi-  
 20 cal treatment that is clearly efficacious to heal or restore must not be refused.
  3. The Bible does not teach that people are obligated morally always to accept treatment that would sustain life artificially. For example, there does not seem to be an absolute moral obligation to undergo chemotherapy or to receive kidney dialysis in certain cases. In the case of irreversible diseases (like certain forms of cancer), the patient may in good conscience refuse treatment that may briefly lengthen his life if he believes that his quality of life would be greatly impaired.
- A decision to withdraw medical support from a patient is terribly difficult, especially when it seems likely that death will be hastened by that decision. Nevertheless, a decision to withdraw life support is more often based upon better evidence than a decision to initiate  
 30 life support. These heroic measures are often begun in an emergency situation when physicians must make decisions quickly about patients, but with limited information. Over the next few days, or weeks with continued observation and additional information, however, they may discover that utilization of a respirator or feeding tube would be futile treatment which would only prolong the dying process. Initially these procedures were started when there was some reasonable hope of the patient's recovery.<sup>10</sup>
- Although heroic measures have been started, they do not necessarily have to be continued. Since there is "a time to die," it is morally permissible to discontinue life support when doctors agree that there is no hope of recovery.
4. Physicians should be chosen with these principles in mind. It is possible to have your  
 40 doctor know your desires for each family member. "Do Not Resuscitate" orders are often an appropriate way to avoid heroic measures, because hospitals are required to resuscitate all patients who die suddenly unless such orders are on the patient's chart.<sup>11</sup>

5. The advantages and disadvantages of available legal measures should be explored with a trusted lawyer, if possible. This action can prevent many of the dilemmas that occur with terminally ill patients.

6. Our Lord Jesus gave us two helpful guidelines. First, He enunciated "The Golden Rule," "Do to others as you would have them do to you," (Lk. 6:31) and the great summary commandment, "Love your neighbor as yourself," (Mk. 12:31). Numerous surveys have demonstrated the fact that most people do not want extraordinary treatment for themselves when there is no real hope of recovery. Nevertheless, when faced with a decision on behalf of close relatives or friends, they often want more for others than they would do or want done for themselves. Love for our neighbor demands that "in proxy decision-making, we should apply the same biblical standards of justice, mercy, and faithfulness to others that we want and expect to be applied to ourselves."<sup>12</sup>

We encourage spouses and family members to draw upon the biblical and theological principles outlined above as they seek to discern God's will in regard to heroic measures. After appropriate biblical reflection, we urge that families pray together and openly discuss what they desire concerning the various choices of medical treatment before being confronted with the actual experience of such a decision. We also encourage families to meet with their minister, Christian friends and physician about their concerns regarding care and to become educated about their conditions in order to permit informed decision-making. Sooner or later each one of us, either directly or indirectly, will face decisions regarding our own or a loved one's medical condition(s).

#### IV. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CHURCH REGARDING THE SANCTITY OF LIFE

1. It is incumbent upon our churches to address the temptations of suicide, assisted suicide and active euthanasia. The greatest deterrent to these evils is to introduce those at risk to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Only then will they experience the abundant and meaningful life that our Lord came to give (Jn. 10:10 "I came that they might have life and have it abundantly.")

2. In recent years the incidence of suicide, especially among teenagers and young adults has become alarming. We can blame the media's glorification of alcohol, drugs and sexual promiscuity, but we must see to it that our churches are ready to provide practical help. Perhaps the incidents of suicide can be reduced if we will seek to help those in our communities to attain a strong sense of belonging in their families and churches. As Peter tells us "love covers a multitude of sins." (1 Peter 4:8.) Both the Old and New Testaments encourage the building of strong, interdependent families in which each family member is treated with dignity as one who has profound value and worth to God. If adequate support by the covenant community of the church, the family, and competent pastoral care givers is provided, the mental suffering of loneliness, fear, depression, and anguish, which is often more painful than physical suffering, can be alleviated. This support can significantly reduce the number of those at risk for suicide, assisted suicide, and euthanasia. Those who have a strong sense of belonging to family and church which provide love, care, and biblical morality are much more secure and are able to cope with suffering far better than those who lack similar nurturing.

3. We must not deliberately end the life of an individual through medical or any other means. But when the God-given powers of the body to sustain its own life can no longer function and physicians conclude that there is no real hope for recovery even with life-sup-



port instruments, a Christian may in good conscience withhold heroic measures and "let nature take its course." To try desperately to maintain the vital signs of one for whom death is imminent is not consistent with a Christian ethic that mandates respect for the dying, as well as for the living.

4. Families should discuss the option of bringing the irreversibly terminal patient home to die. This will enable the patient, the family, and loved ones to experience the meaning, blessing, and convenience of being in the place they are most comfortable and familiar. Often home care is superior to that of an institution. Patients will normally get better attention and have more interaction in their own home. Editor Paul Gilchrist lists other benefits:

Serious infections that are a hazard in institutions are avoided. The patient will get more rest away from the frequent intrusion of needles, pills, tests, noisy instruments, and other interruptions that often continue twenty-four hours a day. Numerous studies indicate that hospital care, and even intensive care units, provide little or no medical benefit for some conditions. Careful discernment is needed to determine when to use these facilities and when not to.<sup>13</sup>

Most communities now have some type of hospice movement. Hospice is an agency designed to help patients and/or their families adjust to the idea of a loved one having a terminal illness. This group of dedicated individuals serves as an aid--physically, emotionally, and psychologically--to help individuals cope with the process of dying. Our local churches are encouraged to participate in this much needed ministry.

5. As the statesman Edmund Burke said, "All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing." We urge Christians to make known in the marketplace their convictions on the value of and respect for human life. As Christians, we should make this biblical position known by whatever means possible, as we seek to be salt and light to our culture in the present confused state of affairs surrounding euthanasia, suicide, and assisted suicide. By God's grace we may be able to help shape public opinion and formulate appropriate legislation regarding medical ethics and practices which will be in harmony with the teachings of the Bible.

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<sup>1</sup>C. Everett Koop, *The Right to Live, the Right to Die*. Wheaton: Tyndale House Publishers, 1976, p. 143

<sup>2</sup>The *Westminster Larger Catechism* cites the following proof texts: Acts 16:28; Gen. 9:6; Exod. 21:14; Deut. 20:1; Exod 22:2; Matt. 25:42,43

<sup>3</sup>See Recommendation #2.

<sup>4</sup>Paul R. Gilchrist, ed. "Report on the Heroic Measures Committee," *PCA Digest Position Papers 1973-1993*. Atlanta: Presbyterian Church in America, p. 386

<sup>5</sup>J. Gordon Melton, ed. "Death and Dying," in *The Churches Speak On: Euthanasia*. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 1977. p. 136

<sup>6</sup>Gilchrist, p. 380.

<sup>7</sup>R.C. Sproul. *Surprised by Suffering*. Wheaton, IL.: William Tyndale Publishers, 1989. p. 46

<sup>8</sup>Gilchrist, p. 381

<sup>9</sup>Gilchrist, p. 382

<sup>10</sup>Gilchrist, p. 383

<sup>11</sup>Gilchrist, p. 386

<sup>12</sup>Gilchrist, pp. 382-83.

<sup>13</sup>Gilchrist, pp. 286-87

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## Women's Ministries Director's Report

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### APPENDICES

I am happy to report that Women's Ministries is on an exciting and challenging course in the EPC. We are committed to making Women's Ministry both relevant to the lives of EPC women through the timeless truths in God's word, without ignoring the changing nature of our roles as women in the 90's. At times, this would seem to bring us into direct conflict with what has "always been;" nevertheless it is our desire to affirm these wonderful roots. At the same time, we hope to encourage new and vibrant offshoots in ministry.

Toward that end, much of my work this year has involved a listening and learning process. I have had numerous opportunities to encourage start-up ministries in both new and existing churches, but there is not a satisfactory network of people to give this the "hands-on" attention it deserves. Adequate training for leadership is also non-existent on the denominational level, and should be integral to all we do so the process of training can filter down to the most basic unit of ministry, the local church. Women of the 90's are eager to get into the thick of mis-

sions rather than sit on the sidelines, hence an interest in hands-on short term projects to both inspire and mobilize local congregations toward significant efforts on behalf of missions. These are only a few of the gleanings of this past year as I've traveled to five of the presbyteries and talked with so many of our women by phone.

In addition to being the listener/learner, my work has involved planning and implementing areas as well: editing the Fall/Winter edition of *Woman to Woman*, General Assembly program coordination, development and promotion of Faith Focus through materials and speaking opportunities, National Women's Conference planning, Impact Offering planning and promotion, Bible study promotion, and general communication to contacts through mailings. All these have given me the opportunity to affirm the old, while encouraging the new.

This has been a rewarding yet challenging year for me where at times I have felt like that fly on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel who saw only pieces of the magnificent whole, and struggled to comprehend it all. Yet it is my desire to see the whole exquisite picture as it emerges with all its nuances effectively giving glory to our Lord.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Juday  
Director of Women's Ministries



*Jan Juday, Director of Women's Ministries*

## Women's Ministries Committee Report



*Susan Nash, chairwoman*

The Committee on Women's Ministries met twice during the year (March and October). Planning was done for the major functions of the Committee: GA Women's Ministries Program, EPC National Women's Conference, Bible study, and Faith Focus selection. Training for presbytery chairmen and funding issues were discussed. At the 14th General Assembly (1994), Jan Juday was introduced as the Director of Women's Ministries. The Committee met Jan at General Assembly and began working with her at the October meeting.

Following is a list of the work of the Committee.

### Women's Ministries Program at General Assembly, 1995

- Pre-Assembly training for presbytery chairmen on June 21, 3:30-5:00 led by Susan Nash

#### Thursday, June 22

- Workshop: "A Woman for all Seasons and a Season for Every Woman" by Donna McClellan
- Pastors' Wives Luncheon with Mary Lance Sisk, speaker

#### Friday, June 23

- "My Father's Closet"--a time of small group prayer led by Evelyn Wilson
- A special group for wives of church planters
- Women's Luncheon with Marilyn Chadwick, speaker
- Past chairmen of the permanent Women's Ministries Committee to be recognized and presented with a Manual
- Workshop on "A Passion for His Word," by Elizabeth Hicks. Bible study selections will be presented at this time.

#### Saturday, June 24

- Women's Committee will be available for counseling with individual churches on "How to Start or Breathe Life into a Women's Ministry."

### National Women's Conference (July 20-23, 1995 in Grand Rapids, Michigan)

Presbytery of the Midwest hosts this conference, with Sandy Millis as chairman. Margaret Jensen and Jan Carlberg (mother-daughter team) are the speakers. Thirteen workshops will be led by EPC women from various presbyteries. Music team is composed of Carole Halmakangas and Carol Bleich. The Stated Clerk and 15th General Assembly Moderator will be invited to participate in the communion service Sunday morning. Representatives from the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church are also invited. A translator will be employed to assist women coming from St. Andrews Presbytery in Argentina. Books will be handled by Lay Renewal Ministries (Linda Vonder Bruegge).

### 1997 Women's Conference

Committee voted that the next Women's Conference will be hosted by the Presbytery of the West.

**Faith Focus**

- 1994: Committee was apprised of Elena Bogdan's new relationship with the EPC. They voted to send the funds raised for the Emmanuel Bible Institute despite Elena's separation from the EPC.
- 1995: Committee advised that the name of the new denomination publication would be *EPC Reflections*. First issue is anticipated in June, prior to General Assembly. Women's Ministries is to have two pages.
- 1996: Committee voted to approve the Prayer and Training Conference in Cyprus sponsored by EPC missionary Iqbal Massey. Committee will clarify guidelines.
- 1997: Committee voted that the National Outreach Committee will be given opportunity to present two proposals for the Faith Focus monies.

**Curriculum Selection for 1995-96**

- Old Testament: *NIV Life Application Study on I Samuel* (Tyndale Publishers)  
 New Testament: *NIV Life Application Study on Romans* (Tyndale Publishers)  
 Topical: *Steadfast Faith in Times of Turmoil* by Michelle Booth (Victor Books)

**Funding**

Committee voted to receive an "Impact Offering" on Mother's Day through the local churches. This offering was planned in conjunction with the Committee on Youth Ministries. Offering will be divided equally between Women's and Youth Ministries.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan C. Nash, Chairman  
 Women's Ministries Committee  
 June, 1995

## World Outreach Director's Report

In Acts 13, the Antioch Church sent out their first missionary. In Chapter 14, Paul reports back to the church. This is my first report back to our church. It's been an incredible 9 1/2 months. I think I know how St. Paul felt.

During this time the Lord has allowed me to personally meet most of what constitutes EPC World Outreach. That includes 17 of our 27 single and couple missionaries, 3 of our 9 presbyteries, churches in 4 presbyteries, and 6 of our 13 cooperative and fraternal agencies. In addition, three international trips have taken me to visit mission work in 6 nations. It is a great Lord we worship and serve through a wonderful church.



*Richard Oestreicher, World Outreach Dir.*

### EPC FIELDS AND MISSIONARIES

In our early years, World Outreach focused its attention on cooperative agreements under which our missionaries served on the field. This worked well and got us off to a running start. Now we have identified three locations for special EPC missionary efforts. God is giving us people interested in serving in these locations.

<u>EPC Field</u>	<u>Persons Assigned</u>	<u>Missionaries &amp; Candidates Also Related to Team (not assigned)</u>
Tyumen, Siberia	Jim & Sally Foote	Jonathan & Fozia Young Jan Johnson
Almaty, Kazakhstan	Dan & Catherine Burns	Bill & Janie Hampton Ellis & Katherine Deibler Kundan & Iqbal Massey
Argentina		Chris & Melody Istrati Chris Meeks (and fiancé, Gina)

In addition, the Lord has opened a door through which we are able to send English teachers and other professionals to China. Jim and Lisa Steele have applied for this opportunity.

### NEW MISSIONARIES

We are happy to have appointed three new missionaries. Nancy Foster and Dan and Jan Clark will be commissioned at this General Assembly. Five couples who are candidates are also represented at this General Assembly.

**FOCUS**

I was talking with a potential candidate earlier this month and was especially happy to say that 25 of our 49 missionaries are involved in Muslim ministry. By next June, the World Outreach Committee expects to make a decision on a Muslim target field for an EPC missionary team.

**NEW FORUMS FOR EPC MISSION INTERACTION**

There were 2 new mission events this year. The Missions Consultation drew together 40 EPC mission pastors and directors, mission elders and committee chairmen for 2 days. This is the first occasion where our churches have come together to discuss missions. Everyone appreciated the chance to learn from one another.

The second new forum was the first Conference for World Outreach Missionaries. About 30 of our people came a day early to General Assembly to meet each other and be encouraged in our mutual tasks and association together.

**PUBLICATIONS AND INTERPRETATION**

In addition to significant involvement in *Reflections* (the new EPC magazine), the monthly Prayer Calendar, and the annual Denominational Giving Guide, we have completed the first year of a quarterly World Outreach publication. This piece has been a great way to inform the leadership in our churches about developments and progress in mission efforts.

**PROGRESS**

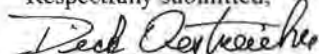
In summary, this year, under God's blessing we've seen:

- ◆ New fields
- ◆ New missionaries
- ◆ A tremendous amount of new candidates interested in serving with World Outreach
- ◆ New forums for mission involvement
- ◆ New ways to communicate with our churches
- ◆ Good progress on an arrangement being worked out to send adults and retired persons on short-term volunteer mission assignments.

**A PERSONAL REQUEST**

My wife, Bobbi, and I appreciate the wonderful fellowship and support we receive from the entire church. We do need your prayers for our life and service to the Lord and to His church.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard Oestreicher  
World Outreach Director



## World Outreach Committee Report

The World Outreach Committee met in three scheduled meetings since the 14th General Assembly: September 8-10, 1994, January 5-7, 1995, and March 23-25, 1995. Members of the World Outreach Committee (WOC) are:

Gene Kissinger	Ann Norton
Arnold Lindseth	Emily Reid
Perry Mobley	Sam Rowen
Roger Vonder Bruegge	Vern Porter, Chmn.



*Vern Porter, chairman*

The global mission of the EPC is to plant, develop, and nurture the Church of Jesus Christ in those cultures and people groups where the particular opportunity and our ability to respond most closely coincide. The Lord will fulfill this vision, in His grace, as we covenant together to pray and "ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest field."

Of utmost significance for the World Outreach Committee was the appointment of Mr. Richard Oestreicher as World Outreach director, effective September 1, 1994. With Dick providing outstanding leadership to the committee, we have been able to focus on our mission statement and have taken steps to see the **Master Plan** fully implemented.

Dick led a Missions Consultation May 5-6, 1995. Approximately 40 missions leadership personnel from churches across the denomination participated in the consultation. The consultation ended with a concert of prayer for the work of World Outreach and for its missionaries and the fields in which they labor.

The 15th General Assembly marks the **First Annual Conference for World Outreach Missionaries**. This event, held earlier this week on Tuesday night and Wednesday June 20-21, 1995, will provide an opportunity for missionaries who are in the States on home service to participate in a missions conference and allow them to be present for a General Assembly. A number of missionaries are attending this GA. Try to meet them all!

### MISSIONARIES

We currently have 49 missionaries. They are:

<u>Missionary</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Location</u>
Antonucci, Rob and Iris	Frontiers	Central Asia
Barany, Dick and Linda	AIM	Africa
Burns, Dan and Catherine	EPC	Central Asia
Clark, Dan and Jan	Frontiers	Muslim World
Deibler, Ellis and Katherine	Wycliffe	US
Foote, Jim and Sally	EPC	Siberia
Foster, Nancy	Frontiers	USA
Grimaldo, David and Marijane	World Impact	Detroit
Haines, John and Margy	Arab World Ministries	France
Hamd, Robert and Joyce	Arab World Ministries	Middle East
Johnson, Jan	EPC	TBD
Livingstone, Greg and Sally	Frontiers	Muslim World



Marshall, David and Ruann	OC International	Taiwan
Massey, Kundan and Iqbal	United World Mission	CIS
McCurry, John and Carlene	Frontiers	Arab Gulf
Meeks, Chris	ARP	Mexico
Mindling, Tim and Karen	InterServe	Central Asia
Muir, Phil and Margaret	Wycliffe	US
North, Tim	AWM	Israel
Padgett, Leroy and Kathy	SERVE	TBD
Robles, Marcelo	EPC	Argentina
Robles, Miguel and Azucena	EPC	Argentina
Rowen, Sam and Ruth	Send International	US (China)
Sparling, Bud and Carol	Youth for Christ	US
Walker, Dave and Deb	OC International	Japan
Williamson, Andy and Rosemary	In transition	TBD
Young, Jonathan and Fozia	United World Mission	Siberia

The following missionaries are in transition:

1. **Elena Bodgan's** service with World Outreach has been completed by mutual agreement (salary and benefits will continue through July). She is working to develop a new support base and another agency with which to associate her ministry.
2. **Tim North**, restored to health following a bout with hepatitis, is shifting his focus from Muslims in sub-Sahara Africa to Muslim ministry among Palestinians in Bethlehem. Arabic language study in Jordan is scheduled for this fall.
3. **Leroy and Kathy Padgett** were forced to leave Romania because of the refusal of the government to renew their visa. They are now pursuing an arrangement to represent SERVE with a special ministry emphasis to EPC churches. At SERVE they will concentrate on Sending Experienced Retired Volunteers Everywhere.
4. **Andy and Rosemary Williamson** have concluded that God's plan for their immediate future does not include Muslim ministry in Africa. Rosemary's health is not improving (Chronic Fatigue Syndrome). They will remain in Australia.

The World Outreach Committee has approved the following missionaries who are currently in public ministry, and discovering prayer and financial support:

1. **Dick and Linda Barany:** Kenya, Africa - Africa Inland Mission (AIM)  
National leadership development, including those committed to reach Muslims.
2. **Dan and Jan Clark:** London, England - Frontiers  
Field office services for Muslim ministries
3. **Nancy Foster:** Mesa, Arizona - Frontiers  
US office services for Muslim ministries

The WOC is working with the following missionary candidates:

1. **Steve and Madeline Grossman:** Agency: Middle East Media  
Target field: Cairo  
Background: Administration, MK
2. **Bill and Janie Hampton**  
Target field: EPC team - Kazakhstan  
Education: (Bill) Trinity Seminary - graduated 6/95  
Home church: Christ EPC, Houston
3. **Matt and Michelle Klakulak:** Agency: Pioneers  
Target field: North India's Muslims  
Home church: Cornerstone EPC. Denver

The WOC is working with the following prospective candidates:

1. **David and Lorraine Hoffman** Argentina
2. **Chris and Melody Istrati** Argentina
3. **Joe and Deb Wojnarowski** Tyumen, Siberia

## MINISTRIES

### Siberia

World Outreach continues working with prospective candidates to be part of the team to be placed in Tyumen for the purpose of ministering to the Muslim/Tatars and the intellectual community. World Outreach Director Dick Oestreicher will make a survey trip to Tyumen this summer. Several of the prospective candidates will be part of this survey trip. Pray particularly that the Lord will lead in the selection of a team leader for this work.

Jan Johnson who resigned from the Romanian project, will be one of those going to Tyumen this summer as she considers if God would have her serve in some role with the Tyumen mission team.

### Romania

This past year, all World Outreach work in Romania was concluded. Two missionary units, Elena Bodgan and Leroy and Kathy Padgett, had previously been assigned to work in different areas of Romania. Elena, through mutual agreement with World Outreach, has decided to leave World Outreach and so that missionary relationship has been dissolved. Leroy and Kathy were denied a visa renewal by the Romanian government, and thus had to leave the country.

### World Impact Detroit/Military Avenue

Rev. Randy Brown, pastor of Military Avenue Church (Detroit) and his wife Barbara are working in cooperation with World Impact to reach people for Christ. In this area of high crime and unemployment, Dave and Marijane Grimaldo also serve as EPC missionaries, leading a very effective youth ministry. Effectiveness of this ministry is greatly enhanced by volunteers from suburban churches who assist in distributing food and sharing Christ in the inner city.

### China

In China, World Outreach is assisting in the training of pastors. This is being done by assisting in the renovation of facilities at two seminaries. In addition, WOC is assisting at the seminaries in library development, educational exchange of faculty members, one-year teaching assignments by North America faculty, short-term assignments, and student scholarships.

World Outreach has just been approved to become a member agency of Friends of China. This relationship will aid WOC in sending English teachers and other professionals to China.

### Argentina

Argentina has been selected as a field by World Outreach, and will send missionaries to Argentina. Plans have begun for building a team to minister there.

### Brazil/JCM

World Outreach Director, Dick Oestreicher, and Vern Porter, WOC chairman attended the April 27-28, 1995 meeting of the Joint Committee on Missions in Brazil. This meeting of the JCM had been scheduled for the fall of 1994, but had to be postponed until this date.

The JCM was formed in 1985 by the Presbyterian Church of Brazil (IPB) and the EPC to help each other in the propagation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Through this effective partnership in missions, the EPC and the IPB have focused on finding ways to help the IPB develop its national leadership and extend its ministry in Brazil and abroad.

We have assisted in developing educational leadership at the doctoral level for the Andrew Jumper Theological Center in Sao Paulo. At the national level, churches and presbyteries have been planted in frontier regions of the country newly opened by the Brazilian government. In 1985 the IPB had no foreign missionaries but now has workers in Portugal, Mozambique, Spain, England, India, Bolivia, New Zealand, Peru, Austria, Angola, Ghana and Paraguay. Through God's grace we are very close to completing our current goals for the partnership with the IPB. Pray the Lord might reveal His will for the next steps.

### Kazakhstan

The following mission statement has been adopted:

#### KAZAKHSTAN MISSION STATEMENT

The Evangelical Presbyterian Church, by God's grace called to enter the Almaty region of Kazakhstan, shall seek to establish the Reformed faith, expressed in those forms congenial to the prevailing culture and using the strategic means most appropriate.

The mission shall be accomplished by the achievement of the initial goals:

- A. Establish viable bodies of Reformed believers within the Almaty region.
- B. World Outreach shall recruit, train, and deploy a team of missionaries with the combined gifts and talents necessary to achieve this goal.

To facilitate the realization of this mission statement, Dan Burns has been appointed as provisional team leader in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

Several documents approved by World Outreach as operational guidelines/documents are available from the World Outreach office. These are a) Indigenous Church Principles; b) World Outreach Candidate Processing Procedure; c) Provisional Statement of a Well-Planted Church; and d) Memo of Understanding template to be used by WOC teams.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the following addition be made to the *Missions Manual*  
In **Section 201.1 K, Spouse**, add the following item (p. 19):  
"When single missionaries plan to marry, the prospective spouse shall be expected to submit all applications forms and meet stated World Outreach qualifications."
2. That the following addition be made to the *Missions Manual*:  
In **Section 201.1 Exceptions**, add the following paragraph as "O."  
"O. Any exceptions to these qualification must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the World Outreach Committee."
3. That the following addition be made to the *Missions Manual*:  
In **Section 304.2 Emergency Medical Leave**  
1. Eliminate existing paragraph 304.2 (p. 67) and in its place, substitute the following paragraph:

304.2 Ordinarily a missionary is expected to obtain the permission of the field director to leave the field of assignment due to illness or injury. When an emergency leave is necessary, the following guidelines will take effect:

#### I. FOR AN EPC MISSIONARY

1. The travel necessary as a result of the need for medical attention will be the expense of World Outreach. The World Outreach office will seek to apply denominational resources as appropriate.
2. The Director of World Outreach, in consultation with the appropriate medical personnel, can decide:
  - a. To which country the missionary should be transported for proper care. If this decision is not acceptable to the family, then additional expense for travel to another country will be negotiated with the family.
  - b. Whether the missionary should be accompanied by another missionary, family, friend, or medical person and will be at the expense of World Outreach.
  - c. The appropriate length of medical leave.
3. Decisions about financial obligations during medical leave can be made by the Director of World Outreach in consultation with the missionary, insurance and pension agencies, the appropriate field personnel, and if necessary, with the World Outreach Committee.
4. Ordinarily the missionary will return to the field to complete his/her term of service. However, circumstances may warrant an alternate plan. This can be worked out with the Director of World Outreach, the missionary, the appropriate field personnel and with the approval of the World Outreach Committee, since it would involve a change in the Terms of Call.
5. If circumstances are such that dependents are left on the field, then appropriate and adequate arrangements for their guardianship must be made before departing.

#### II. FOR AN EPC MISSIONARY IN COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH ANOTHER AGENCY

1. Ordinarily, the agency with whom the missionary has a cooperative agreement will be the first to know of and therefore respond to such an emergency.
2. Such agency is expected to:
  - A. Keep the Director of World Outreach fully informed;
  - B. Follow the guidelines as spelled out above in consultation with the Director of World Outreach.
3. The expense for such emergency medical care will be borne by the appropriate agency as spelled out in the Terms of Call and the Cooperative Agreement and, if there be such, a Memo of Understanding."

4. That the following addition be made to the *Mission Manual*:  
In Section 311, add the following as paragraph 311.4 (p. 75):

**311.4 Permanent Re-Entry**

Missionaries permanently returning from the field are encouraged to participate in a re-entry program such as the one Missionary Internship provides or something similar. Funds will be included in the missionary's Terms of Call under a category of re-entry expense."

5. That the following addition be made to the *Missions Manual*:  
1. Delete Section 400.2.2 (p. 87), and in its place, substitute the following paragraph:

**400.2.2**

Of funds exceeding three months support, an amount not exceeding 50% of the excess may be available for projects recommended by the World Outreach Director and approved by the World Outreach Committee.

6. That the following addition be made to the *Missions Manual*:  
In Section 400, add the following as paragraph 10 (p. 89):

**400.10 Vehicles**

World Outreach includes a standard vehicle in the terms of call for career missionaries serving and residing overseas. The initial vehicle will be included in the outgoing costs at \$14,000 or an amount approved by the World Outreach Director. The initial amount of the vehicle will be held in escrow until the actual purchase of the vehicle. Twenty percent of the cost of the replacement vehicle will be put into the annual terms of call and set aside for future purchase. Vehicle registration and insurance will be in the name of the missionary and operational costs will be assumed by the missionary."

7. That Africa Inland Mission be approved as a cooperative agency.
8. That Middle East Media be approved as a cooperative agency.
9. That the Memo of Agreement between BEE, International, and the Evangelical Presbyterian Church be approved.
10. That the Assembly grant World Outreach a ten-minute portion of time on the docket for Dick Oestreicher to speak about the work of World Outreach.

Respectfully submitted,



Vern Porter, Chairman  
World Outreach Committee  
June, 1995

## Missionary Reports



Rob and Iris are missionaries with Frontiers. They began their term in Central Asia in October '92 to minister to unreached Muslims with the goal of church planting. In April '93 they were able to move into their original target country to live. Rob began to work with the IAM Noor Eye Hospital as an administrator for the out-patient clinics and the hospital. Iris began teaching English at the clinics to the medical staff as well as helping in the pharmacy.

Robert committed his life to Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior as a young adult. He received his BA in Psychology from the University of Delaware in 1987. In 1988, he joined the Caleb Project after spending a summer overseas working with Muslims in Indonesia. He worked with the Caleb Project

mobilizing Christians to go into world missions for three years, and met his wife Iris during this time. Robert began studying for his MA in World Christianity at the Denver Seminary in the fall of 1991.

Iris received Christ as her personal savior when she was a young child. She was raised as a child of missionary parents in Mali and Ivory Coast, West Africa, where her parents served for 14 years. Iris served as a short-term missionary for two years doing friendship evangelism among Muslims. She received her BA in Elementary Education from the University of Nebraska in 1985 and also studied at Grace College of the Bible in Omaha. She received her certificate for teaching English as a second language (TESOL) from the William Carey International University. During college, she had a wide variety of Christian ministry experiences -- music, teaching many age groups, leading prayer groups, and a youth group ministry. Prior to leaving for Central Asia to begin their missions work, Iris taught English to foreign students.

The Antonuccis have a daughter and are expecting a second child this July. The children will be 16 months apart, keeping everyone busy. The eye hospital moved to a different city to be free from bombings and work is going well. The team is being gathered to the new city and language studies continue. Iris has an English class with five nurses and a literacy class for some neighbors.



**World Outreach Missionaries**  
**Dick and Linda Barany**  
**Serving with Africa Inland Mission**  
**Kenya**

Dick and Linda Barany are EPC World Outreach missionaries who will serve in Kenya through a cooperative agreement with Africa Inland Mission (AIM). Their goals are to educate African pastors and evangelists, reach Muslim people on the coastal area of Mombasa, and disciple church leaders. They will minister in Marsabit and then Pwani Bible Institute in Mombasa, Kenya.

Dick was the founding pastor of Burlington Faith Chapel in Burlington, Wisconsin in 1973. He attended Bethel Theological Seminary in Minnesota where he met Linda Johnson, and they both felt the call of God to missions. After graduation Dick served in the PC(USA). In 1992 he earned a Doctor of Ministry degree in Church Renewal and Church Growth from Fuller Theological Seminary. He transferred his ordination to the EPC Presbytery of the East in 1993.

Linda grew up in a Christian home in Barrington, Rhode Island and experienced short-term missions in Haiti and Zaire. She has a nursing degree from the University of Rochester and a Master of Arts in Theological Studies from Bethel Seminary. Dick and Linda have three children: Mark (7-23-80), Christina (10-17-81), and Benjamin (2-1-92). The two older children will attend Rift Valley Academy in Kijabe, Kenya.

The Baranys will depart for Kenya when their support package is complete.





**World Outreach Missionaries**  
Dan and Catherine Burns  
in Central Asia

Dan and Catherine Burns are EPC missionaries serving in Central Asia. Dan has learned Russian well enough to preach in Russian, and he does so at the weekly University Fellowship. Results from a summer evangelistic thrust will give direction for the place and type of their first church. The ultimate goal is to see a team of missionaries in this city and the establishment of many churches which would form a presbytery. Dan also teaches part time at a local seminary.

Dan accepted Christ as a sophomore in high school through the ministry of Young Life. He was involved in Campus Crusade for Christ at Rice University and graduated in 1987 with a BA in Biblical Studies. He served as the Senior High Youth Director for First Presbyterian Church in Houston from 1987-1991. Dan graduated from Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary with an M. Div. in 1992 and was ordained in the EPC in January of 1993. He has short-term missions experience in Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Poland, Nigeria, and Central Asia.

Catherine accepted Christ in high school through the youth ministry of her local church. After her first year of college, Catherine made a commitment to live every day of her life for the Lord. She spent the next two summers in Switzerland with Athletes in Action, using athletics as a platform for sharing the gospel. Catherine graduated from Rice University with a BA in English in 1988. She also served in youth ministry at First Presbyterian Church from 1988-1991.

When Dan and Catherine were married in January of 1989, they made a commitment to serve the Lord overseas. Since then, the Lord has given them three children, Jackie (3-21-90), Daniel (10-25-91), and Allison (12-21-94). They are members of Christ EPC, Houston, Texas. Their prayer is that God will use their family to bring the gospel to the people of Central Asia during this pivotal moment in the history of this region.



**World Outreach Missionaries**

Dan and Jan Clark  
Serving with FRONTIERS  
In the Muslim World



Dan and Jan Clark will serve as short-term missionaries in the International Headquarters of Frontiers near London, England. They will be part of the support staff for teams in the fields reaching Muslims for the Lord. Having had a heart for missions for years, Dan and Jan find this opportunity a perfect fit with their skills and gifts.

During their years at Ward Presbyterian Church and Grace Chapel EPC in Michigan, the Clarks have been Stephen Ministers, Deacons, leaders of several Marriage Enrichment Retreats and an adult Sunday school class, and small group leaders for membership classes. They ministered in the Telephone Listening Center, on Missions Committees and the Nominating Committee, in addition to leading home Bible study groups and teaching 4-year-olds.

The Clarks have 7 children and 8 grandchildren spread from Boston to Singapore. Jan worked at EPC's Office of the General Assembly before becoming the office manager of Grace Chapel. Dan has worked for a vender of the automotive industry for the past 14 years. Working together in this new ministry has great appeal to both Dan and Jan.



### **World Outreach Missionaries**

Ellis and Katherine Deibler  
Serving with Wycliffe Bible  
Translators in Waxhaw, NC

In 1954, the year following his marriage to Katherine, Ellis Deibler both received his B.D. from Fuller Theological Seminary and accepted a call as assistant pastor at what is now an EPC congregation, the First Presbyterian Church of Trenton, MI. Three years later Katherine and Ellis joined Wycliffe Bible Translators, accepting assignment in Papua, New Guinea. There they did linguistic, literary, and Bible translation work in the Alekano language until 1979.

In 1973 Ellis received his PhD in linguistics from the University of Michigan. Together the Deiblers finished translations of the New Testament in both the Alekano and Yaweyuha languages, as well as a panorama of the life of Christ in the Tokano language. Ellis became very involved in translation consultant work, serving as chairman of the translation department in the Papua, New Guinea branch (Wycliffe's largest) for many years.

Ellis' primary responsibility is the preparation of a special set of helps (Semantic Analyses) on specific books of the Bible that will enable translators everywhere to do a better job in less time with less consultant help. Romans was completed last year, and he is now working on Hebrews. Ellis is an international consultant for Wycliffe, lecturing on or checking translations in a dozen countries, preparing helps for translators worldwide. In 1994 he traveled extensively in the Central Asian Republics for consultation and ministry.

The Deiblers have 5 children and a number of grandchildren.



## World Outreach Missionaries

Jim and Sally Foote  
Serving in Siberia

Jim and Sally Foote were appointed by EPC's World Outreach Committee in February 1993 to be our short-term EPC missionaries to western Siberia. The Footes have coordinated a series of short-term teams of pastors, Christian educators, and lay people from EPC churches to western Siberia in 1993 and 1994. Two more trips are scheduled this summer. The Footes are now preparing for two years of on-field service in Tyumen, and the World Outreach Committee is working towards preparing a missionary team for this area.

Jim and Sally have made several trips to western Siberia and have established many contacts with believers and non-believers throughout the Tyumen Region. The response to the Gospel presentations in this area has been overwhelming with literally thousands of people expressing an interest in Christ, asking for Bibles, and requesting help in starting churches.

Their first trip to this area came about after Dr. Thomas Wang (President of the Great Commission Theological Seminary and Chairman of the AD2000 Movement) spoke at the Missions Conference of their home church, Cornerstone EPC in Brighton, Michigan. Dr. Wang asked Jim and Sally to return with him to Siberia in December 1991 to observe the situation there first hand. With encouragement from their Missions Committee and many Christian friends at Cornerstone, the Footes agreed to go.

Jim and Sally joined Ward Church in Livonia, Michigan, in 1980. They served at Ward in various capacities until 1986 when they joined the team from Ward which organized a daughter church (Cornerstone EPC) in Brighton. Sally has served as the treasurer at Cornerstone. Jim has served on the session as missions elder and is has been a member of the World Outreach Committee of the EPC. The Footes have three grown children.

### **World Outreach Missionary**

Nancy Foster  
Serving with FRONTIERS  
In the Muslim World



Nancy Foster has been an active member of Second Presbyterian Church in Memphis, Tennessee since 1979. In her years of service at the church she has taught children, was a Stephen Minister for four years and participated in several Evangelism Explosion clinics. She also held several leadership roles in the singles Sunday School class.

Nancy has been serving as Services Manager for Frontiers' U.S. Sending Base in Mesa, Arizona since June 1994. She oversees many details involved in the smooth operation of a busy office staffed by 40 workers, with a steady stream of visitors arriving from points all over the world.

Frontiers teams work toward planting churches among Muslims in North Africa, the Middle East, and across the Asian continent. The U.S. Sending Base, which is Nancy's office, participates by recruiting, equipping, and providing operational support to Frontiers missionaries from the States. As a behind-the-scenes worker, Nancy feels a sense of participation in the many exciting ways God is advancing His kingdom through Frontiers workers.

## World Outreach Home Missionaries

David and Marijane Grimaldo  
Serving with World Impact  
in Southwest Detroit

David and Marijane Grimaldo are EPC home missionaries ministering to the youth in the inner city in Southwest Detroit through a cooperative agreement with World Impact. They both grew up in Southwest Detroit. They were married in 1980 and have three children: Michael, Danielle, and Jacob.

Marijane accepted Christ as a child and David as an adult through co-workers. Living in their neighborhood in Southwest Detroit they were aware of the hopelessness that surrounded the area, and God laid a burden on their hearts for the people. They felt a call to minister to the youth they saw hanging out on the street corners without much to do.

David and Marijane are members of Military Avenue EPC in Detroit. They began serving the youth there in 1989, building relationships with junior and senior high unchurched teens to present the gospel to them. They lead special events such as bike trips, camps, overnights, and work projects. To help the new Christians become grounded in the Christian faith and disciple them into a body of believers, they lead weekly Bible studies and conduct leadership training for these youth. Marijane has also ministered as Sunday School teacher and women's Bible study teacher as well as working with the food program at Military Avenue. At some events, their numbers reach 50 teens.

Through clubs, Bible studies, special events, and personal contacts, their goal is to spread the gospel to the unchurched teen and to disciple those who make commitments to Christ.





**World Outreach Missionaries**  
John and Margy Haines  
Serving with Arab World Ministries  
in France

John and Margy are EPC missionaries working with Arab World Ministries in France. John was raised in Virginia. He came to know Christ at the University of Maryland. After engineering studies, he graduated from Columbia Bible College where God spoke to him about the Muslim world. In 1987 he obtained his Masters degree in Missions.

Margy comes from Maryland. After completing studies in Elementary Education at the University, where she was active in the InterVarsity group with John, she joined him at Columbia. They were married in 1962.

In 1964, they went to North Africa. Later they were assigned to France. John has been active in evangelism and participates in mission leadership. He and Margy often lead seminars for North African believers. They present Muslim awareness seminars for French Christians on a regular basis. They have done evangelism in youth teams in France, and every year they schedule a Bible course follow-up/teaching trip into North Africa. God has blessed these visits with fruit.

John has been working on completing his "Toolbox for Muslim Evangelism". This is a manual geared to reaching younger Muslims in the US, France and other western countries. It is being translated into French. John knows of no other book which addresses this specific need.

John and Margy are members of EPC's Fourth Presbyterian Church in Bethesda, Maryland. They have two children, John and Joy, both married.





**World Outreach Missionaries**  
**Robert and Joyce Hamd**  
**Serving with Arab World Ministries in the Middle East**

Robert and Joyce Hamd were appointed by EPC's World Outreach Committee in January 1994 to be our missionaries in the Middle East. They are working toward church planting among unreached Muslims in a closed Arab country, serving with Arab World Ministries through a cooperative agreement.

An American-born Lebanese, Robert grew up in a Druze-Muslim home. At the age of fourteen he accepted Christ while at a Christian summer camp. As he grew in his walk with the Lord, he was drawn back to his own people, the Arabs. Robert holds his B.A. in communications and Near-Eastern studies and is fluent in both the language and culture of the Middle East.

Joyce grew up in a Christian home. From a young age she wanted to be a missionary. After graduating from high school she worked with Youth With A Mission and traveled throughout the South Pacific and Southeast Asia.

It was her love for the Muslim people which drew Joyce to an evangelism conference where she met Robert. They were married in August 1988 and have two small boys, Benjamin and Joseph. A third child is expected in November. Robert taught classes to various churches on reaching Muslims. Joyce shared the love of Christ with several Muslim lady friends. They were both active in their home church, Ward Presbyterian, in its Sunday evening Arabic service and in outreach to Muslims. Robert served on Ward's Outreach Committee and on the board for SALAM (Sincere Active Love for Arabs and Muslims). God has especially called and prepared the Hamds for their challenging work in the unreached Arab world.

Since arriving on the field in January 1994, the Hamds have been studying language intensively. Their next assignment will be in developing Muslim media communications from a base in France.



**World Outreach Missionaries**  
Jan Johnson  
Awaiting Assignment



Jan Johnson was approved by the World Outreach Committee as an EPC missionary in June of 1993. She is currently exploring with World Outreach the opportunities for assignment to the Tyumen, Siberia team. She will visit the area late this summer.

Jan accepted Christ in 1974 during her final year of college. Since that time she has grown steadily in grace as her faith and trust in her Savior have deepened. She was drawn closer to Him and His place and purpose for her life through Bible studies, a comprehensive theological and Biblical study program at Bethel Theological Seminary, special mission trips into cross-cultural situations, and her everyday life experiences. Jan found Jesus to be her Shepherd and friend as well as her Savior and Lord.

During seminary days she discovered her gifts of teaching and gospel communication. These gifts were confirmed during different mission trips to Kenya and Bulgaria. God began to place a special burden on her heart for those without Christ as she began to see herself in a missionary role to a class or congregation as a shepherd, servant, and facilitator.

**World Outreach Missionaries**

Greg and Sally Livingstone

Serving with Frontiers in the Arab Muslim World

Greg and Sally Livingstone are EPC missionaries working with Frontiers supervising church planting efforts among Muslims in North Africa, the Middle East, Central Asia, the Indian sub-continent, and Southeast Asia. Greg serves as General Director of Frontiers.

Greg heard the gospel and received Christ in Aspen, Colorado, where he was finishing high school. He then earned a Th.B, B.A. and M.A. at Wheaton College. He studied Islamics at the Near East School of Theology in Beirut, Lebanon, and earned his Doctorate in Missiology at Biola University's School of Inter Cultural Studies.

Sally, from a Presbyterian home, met Greg at Wheaton when she was a pre-med student. Together they helped launch Operation Mobilization's work in India. The Livingstones then formed and "coached" ministry teams in Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt, Yemen, and Libya before returning to the US. Greg was the North American Director of Arab World Ministries from 1977 - 1982.

In 1982, the Livingstones moved to Pasadena, California to found a rapid deployment church planting agency which became FRONTIERS -- today over 400 missionaries serve on over 50 teams.

Greg and Sally are based at Frontiers' International Headquarters near London, England. From this base, Greg is able to keep in touch with the teams of missionaries who are ministering in the Muslim world. This, of course, involves a tremendous schedule of international travel. They are also involved in a local outreach to Muslim immigrants.

Greg and Sally have three children: Evan, David, and Paul, born in India, Germany, and Lebanon.



## World Outreach Missionaries

David and Ruann Marshall  
Serving with OC International  
Taiwan

David and Ruann Marshall are EPC missionaries ministering under a cooperative agreement with OC International. They began their term of service in Taiwan in July 1985. The focus of the OC International team in Taiwan is "to disciple the nations by equipping nationals", and working through the local churches to assist in evangelizing and discipling others.

The Marshalls have just completed their second term of service which began in a church planting ministry with nationals and ended with service on the faculty of Morrison Academy, the Christian school for missionary kids in Taiwan. In addition, there is a serious discipleship program and ministries to challenge the kids to missionary service.

Ruann also teaches seventh grade Bible. Some of the students are from local non-Christian families. The Marshalls help these students who may face persecution from their family when they accept the Christian faith.

David has traveled through several areas of mainland China to document the existence of some of China's main people groups and their need for gospel proclamation and ministry. He also has been involved in exploring a possible ministry in Nepal.

David and Ruann were married in 1975, during college days at Central Michigan University. David then taught high school biology and math for four years before the family headed east for David to attend Gordon-Conwell. For three years he served in Hampton, New Hampshire, and was ordained as an EPC pastor in 1985. The Marshalls have four daughters: Gloria, Brenda, Andrea, and Kelly.





## World Outreach Missionaries

Kundan and Iqbal Massey

Serving with United World Mission in the Muslim World

Kundan and Iqbal Massey were appointed by EPC's World Outreach Committee in June 1993 to be missionaries to the Muslim world through a cooperative agreement with United World Mission. Working primarily in the Central Asian Republics, formerly part of the Soviet Union, they train nationals in the work of evangelism and church planting. Their goals include establishing training centers, holding pastors conferences and using other means to equip nationals in the work of Christ. On the occasion of Kundan and Iqbal's 30th anniversary of service to the Lord, Dr. Bill Bright said, "This special couple has introduced tens upon thousands of people to Christ and have trained thousands who have in turn introduced tens upon thousands to our Lord. Kundan and Iqbal have had one of the most fruitful ministries with Muslims of any one else I know in this world."

The Masseys make two extended trips to the Central Asian Republics each year. Their gifts in evangelism and discipleship are focused on unreached Muslims. Each trip yields conversions. Kundan and Iqbal follow up with people by teaching how to study the Bible, how to worship, and how to pray. The Masseys always have more invitations for their good work than they can handle.

Kundan and Iqbal are natives of Pakistan. Kundan is an ordained minister trained at Fuller Seminary, and he has a fervent desire to reach the Muslim world with the message of God's love through Jesus Christ. He accepted Christ as his personal Savior while in Pakistan. A few short months later he made a commitment to dedicate his life to bringing Muslims to the foot of the cross. For forty years Kundan has been faithful to that promise. He has led training conferences throughout the Muslim world. He is the author of the book Tide of the Supernatural. He is an individual with a positive expectation in the miracles of the Almighty. He is a man of vision, with an optimistic philosophy that nationals are the key people to reach their own people. Kundan has a vision to train hundreds and thousands of nationals and send teams of these trained specialists, along with the proper tools, into areas where few if any believers exist.

Iqbal is an amazing woman. In addition to being a supporting wife always encouraging and sharing in the work of her husband, she has developed her own effective and extensive ministry. Like her husband she carries a profound burden and a fervent desire to reach the unreached peoples of Islam. God has envisioned and enabled Iqbal to initiate thousands of prayer groups throughout the world. She has spoken at numerous international conferences where she has led seminars and workshops. Her investment in prayer has resulted in starting approximately 2000 separate prayer groups throughout the Muslim world.

The 1996 Faith Focus project from EPC Womens' Ministries will assist a major prayer conference gathering women from many Middle Eastern nations.

## World Outreach Missionaries

John and Carlene McCurry

Serving with Frontiers in the Arab Muslim World

John and Carlene are missionaries with Frontiers. They departed for the field in January 1992 to begin working toward forming a church planting team to work among Muslims in the Arab Gulf. Their country of ministry does not grant missionary visas, so they had to enter the Gulf State through secular employment. Several other couples have begun to work closely with the McCurrys and share their same vision of church planting in this country.

Their target is the indigenous Arab people of the region. These people have never had a church, nor even an opportunity to hear the Gospel in a way they can understand. As a team is formed, it will be committed to long-term work in the region, living among the Arab people, presenting the Gospel, not just in culturally relevant words, but also in lifestyle. Their goal is to see vital, worshiping, growing congregations of Arab Muslim converts established. As the team leader, John is responsible to recruit team members, provide vision, develop strategy for the team, and to ensure team needs are met while on the field. In the next few months, they will move from the foreigners compound into a typical neighborhood in order to meet and know people better.

John and Carlene came to Christ early in their lives and spent several summers in Mexico. They traveled, studied, and ministered in Pakistan, India, Kuwait, Bahrain, Yemen, Egypt and Jordan. John has a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology from UCLA and a Masters degree that enables him to teach English as a second language.

This young couple has willingly responded to a burden they feel God has placed on their hearts to take the gospel to Arab Muslims who live in the Arab Gulf. Everything they have done so far has become stepping stones to achieve this great goal of ministry in this part of the world.

John and Carlene have two children: Caleb John, born September 6, 1991, and MacKenzie Marie born November 17, 1992.





## World Outreach Missionary

Chris Meeks

With the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church  
Mexico

In September 1993 Chris Meeks began his missionary term serving in Mexico under the auspices of the EPC and the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church World Witness. He is involved in evangelism and church planting in Guadalajara of the "Altiplano" region, which is located in the central part of Mexico.

Chris grew up in a Christian home where he heard of the love of Christ at an early age. At the age of 8, he received Jesus as his Lord and Savior. At the University of Kansas, he became involved with Campus Crusade for Christ and spent a summer in Hawaii on one of Crusade's summer projects, participating in beach evangelism. It was during this summer project that Chris received his call into the ministry. After graduating in 1988 with a BS in Business Administration, he began his theological and missiological training at Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi. He graduated with a Master of Divinity in Missions in 1991.

Chris had short-term missions experience in Holland, and Argentina. In the Spring of 1989 the Lord directed his attention to Latin America. Chris proclaims the Good News of Christ among the Spanish speaking people of Central and South America through drama, open air evangelism, and home Bible study groups. The first beginnings of a new church can already be seen.

On July 8, Chris will marry Georgina (Gina) Guzman at Central Presbyterian Church in St. Louis. Gina is an active Christian from Guadalajara, Mexico. They will work together in developing the new church.



**World Outreach Missionaries**  
Tim and Karen Mindling  
Serving with Interserve in Central Asia

Tim and Karen are EPC missionaries who are working with Interserve among Muslims in Central Asia. Tim was raised in a Christian home, but his faith in Jesus Christ really grew in obedience and discipline while a student at Hope College in Holland, Michigan. Tim has a BA in Business Administration and a M. Div. degree from Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary. Tim's call to missionary work has been confirmed by two overseas mission trips. On one of these trips he met Karen, his future wife.

Karen accepted Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord at age 19 while attending nursing school. She was confronted by the challenge of the enormous needs in the Muslim world while on a special short-term missionary assignment in South Asia. This was for her a reconfirmation of her call to serve as a missionary among the Muslims.

Both Tim and Karen have moved regularly in their missionary assignment and have been able to use their professional training of administration and nursing in their ministry in Central Asia under Interserve. Tim is the administrator of the local eye hospital, and Karen assists. Currently Tim continues his work getting a new eye clinic functioning. Karen will continue her work on a language and orientation program for new partners. Holidays are special opportunities to present the Christian meaning and significance at the hospital and in their home.

In 1993, they returned home on medical leave because of Tim's fainting spells. After further testing in the US, the doctors diagnosed Tim as having a rare type of migraine which they were able to treat with medication. Tim and Karen returned to their field of ministry in March 1994. While Tim's headache problem is not totally gone, he is able to function and work almost normally.

The Mindlings have two children: Abigail, born August 17, 1990, and Timothy David, born May 6, 1992. Another child is due in November.



**World Outreach Missionaries**

Phil and Margaret Muir  
Serving with Wycliffe Bible Translators  
in the U.S.

Phil and Margaret Muir grew up in Christian and Presbyterian families and received Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior in childhood. They met at Maryville College (Tennessee) and were married while Phil attended McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. Phil served as pastor of United Presbyterian churches in Buffalo, NY, Seattle, WA, and Birch Run, MI, before accepting a call to be associate pastor of Bear Creek Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Lakewood, CO. While there, the Muirs left the PCUSA and joined the EPC. In 1983, the Lord brought a deep concern for world evangelism to Phil through a 2-week mission study tour of India. In 1985, the Muirs were sent out by Bear Creek Church to serve in administrative support ministry with Wycliffe Bible Translators. In 1986, they were accepted as EPC missionaries by the World Outreach Committee. The Muirs have two grown children: Steve and Ruth Anne.

The Muirs represent Wycliffe opportunities and progress in churches throughout the Midwest from Wycliffe's Chicago regional office. They assist missionaries in developing their prayer and financial support. Margaret plans and encourages prayer groups and provides information for prayer needs for missionaries. Phil and Margaret also make themselves available to Wycliffe fields offering pastoral care and encouragement on a short-term basis.

**World Outreach Missionaries**  
Tim North  
Serving with Arab World Ministries  
Among Palestinians



Tim started his missionary service with SIM International in Niger in September 1992 to minister to unreached Muslims through agricultural development leading to the establishment of new churches. He is now with Arab World Ministries looking toward service in the Middle East.

Tim grew up in a strong Christian home in Michigan and accepted Christ as a young boy. He was challenged to go into missions as a senior in high school after attending a missions conference. He saw how God could use his interests and abilities in building the Church. He went to college with the idea of acquiring a practical skill he could apply on the mission field and studied agriculture as a

specialty. He received a B.S. in Agriculture in 1985 from Michigan State University and then his Master in Missions in 1988 from Columbia Biblical Seminary. Service in Niger showed Tim that he enjoys interacting with people more than working with agricultural projects. This led Tim to change his field and his field agency. Tim will begin Arabic language study in the Middle East in a few months and later move to Bethlehem, Israel to work among Palestinian Arabs.

Tim is a member of Ward Presbyterian Church. He was an active member in the youth groups, and later in the college and career ministries as a leader. He served as an intern in the Missions Department at Ward and has taught both youth and adult groups. During the summer of 1987 he participated in an evangelistic summer team in Belgium. In the summer of 1990 he accompanied the senior high and college classes from Ward to Jamaica where they worked teaching daily vacation Bible school in a local church.

In December 1993, Tim returned home from Niger on medical leave for treatment of Hepatitis A. Recuperation is fully complete and Tim looks forward to his next term of service.

**World Outreach Missionaries**

Leroy and Kathy Padgett

With SERVE in the U.S.

Short-term development among retired people



In 1993 the Padgetts were approved by the World Outreach Committee for ministry in Romania. The pilgrimage for Leroy and Kathy has taken them into some delightful harvest fields, and in these days the Lord has heavily laid upon their hearts the opportunities for retired people to serve meeting mission needs around the world.

During their college years, Leroy and Kathy were a team. They were into music, sponsored youth groups, went on mission trips and taught Sunday school. In 1973, Leroy was captured by Jesus Christ and experienced new birth in a glorious way. Kathy had become a Christian much earlier, at nine years of age, and she grew up participating in all sorts of Christian activities. Leroy and Kathy's life together reads like a veritable kaleidoscope of Christian ministry.

In 1988 this couple began to sense the call on their lives for missionary service. In 1989 they began a three-year term of missionary service with United World Mission in Africa. Their assignment was ministry at Dakar Academy in Senegal. They served next with EPC in Romania at the Bible School at Severin and at an orphanage run by national Christians.

Leroy and Kathy will represent SERVE (Sending Experienced Retired Volunteers Everywhere) opportunities in EPC churches throughout the nation and other churches in Colorado and Wyoming. They would love to put a group from your church into a short-term work project.

## World Outreach Missionaries

Marcelo Robles

Serving in Argentina



Marcelo Robles is an EPC missionary laboring in evangelism and church planting in Argentina. He is working with his father, Rev. Miguel Robles, in an intensive plan to establish new EPC churches in the greater metro area of Buenos Aires. This is part of EPC's goal to assist our Presbyterian brethren in Argentina to be a viable, healthy, growing, independent Presbyterian church.

Marcelo was raised in the home of a pioneer church planter, evangelist, and pastor. His parents brought him up in the midst of an active pastoral and missionary ministry. He

accepted Jesus as his Savior at an early age. When he was 13, he began to assist his parents in their evangelistic street meetings, church planting activities, and one-on-one evangelism. He is a gifted musician and helps with his guitar in the area of music and worship.

By the time he was 21, Marcelo had become a Certified Public Accountant. An opportunity came for Marcelo to study at Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi. In the spring of 1989 he received his Master of Divinity degree, and he was ordained in Argentina. Marcelo will return to Reformed Seminary this fall and will complete the requirements for a Doctorate in Missiology next spring.

Marcelo has been in close contact with the present revival and growth of the evangelical community in Argentina. He sees the lack of sound Biblical teaching and training, especially in the lives of new converts. He is convinced that his theological training at RTS in the doctrines of the Reformed faith will enable him to make a great contribution in the area of new church planting and pastoral ministry and leadership in the huge city of Buenos Aires. In addition to his service in the new church that is developing, Marcelo is interim pastor at the Belgrano Church and teaches courses at a national seminary in the interior.

Reports from Marcelo indicate a large increase in the numbers of those accepting Jesus as Savior. Attendance has grown substantially necessitating a move to a larger facility for their services.

**World Outreach Missionaries**

Miguel and Azucena Robles  
Argentina

Miguel and Azucena Robles were appointed by EPC's World Outreach Committee in 1992 to be EPC missionaries serving in Argentina. This couple has been involved in pastoral ministry in Argentina for more than 30 years. They have established a new EPC church in the center of Buenos Aires. Miguel was one of the charter members of EPC's St. Andrews Presbytery. Marcelo, their son, is working with them. Their goal is that their new church (La Mision) will be a mother church for additional EPC churches in this great metro area of Buenos Aires. La Mision normally has well over 100 people attending every Sunday evening and is growing regularly. They are in the process of becoming an organized church.

Miguel and Azucena have had exciting ministry experiences in their years of service in Argentina. They met in Bible School, were married, and began their family. In 1973, Miguel was the Director of a unique Bible Institute for young people who had come out of severe social problems. As each of these young people committed their lives to Christ, Miguel and Azucena took special legal action by adopting them. This grew to a very large family of 50 to 60 converted young people! Each learned to work and many of them went to secular school as well as the Bible School. Miguel remembers these as the "difficult years". Persecution was rampant in Argentina. This couple was threatened with death by a guerilla organization -- leave or be killed. Many of the youths were put into homes. Others went with Miguel and Azucena to Paraguay where they began to work as missionaries.

Miguel and Azucena have two children -- Marcelo, who is also an EPC missionary assisting his parents in their church planting ministry, and Adriana, their married daughter. Adriana and her husband, who has completed seminary and will soon be ordained by the St. Andrews Presbytery, are part of the Robles church planting team.



## World Outreach Missionaries

Sam and Ruth Rowen

Serving with SEND International

U.S. and China



Sam and Ruth Rowen were appointed by the World Outreach Committee as EPC missionaries in September 1992. After teaching missions for two years at Reformed Theological Seminary, they accepted a position to serve with SEND International. The responsibilities now relate to planning strategies for China, especially in the area of pastoral theological education. An extended stay in China is projected in the near future.

The challenge of active involvement in the critical missionary opportunities of China brought the Rowens out of the academic world back to the world of missions where they have spent most of their active ministry.

Sam and Ruth are both from Pennsylvania. Sam grew up in Philadelphia and Ruth spent her formative years in Lancaster County. They were converted to Christ as teenagers and sought to do the will of God. After high school, Sam was in the army during the Korean conflict and Ruth went to work. They met as students at Philadelphia College of Bible. After graduation Sam went on to further studies at Wheaton College, Westminster Theological Seminary, and Michigan State University. They have three adult children: Lisa, Pamela, and Sam, Jr.

Sam and Ruth Rowen have been involved in missionary work for 27 years. They first went to teach at the Jamaica Bible College in Mandeville, Jamaica under the auspices of Worldteam. Sam taught Bible and theology and Ruth taught English. Sam also served four years as the Assistant to the General Director of the Mission.

For 20 years they served on the faculty of Missionary Internship in Michigan during which they helped to prepare over 4,000 missionary appointees from various evangelical missionary agencies. Sam developed much of the curriculum for the missionary candidates; Ruth developed the curriculum for the families and children. Together they wrote a book to help families prepare for overseas experience. From 1987-89 they lived in Hong Kong to assist English teachers in China and to assist various organizations with their needs for research in evangelism and church planting.



**World Outreach Missionaries**  
 Bud and Carol Sparling  
 Serving with Youth for Christ



Bud and Carol Sparling have a great story to tell of the way they have been led step by step in their walk and work for Christ since they came to know Christ and came together as husband and wife. Their ministry journey has taken them into far away places as they have worked with youth. Bud served as a chaplain in the US Army, as a hospital chaplain, back into civilian life as an associate pastor, organizing pastor, and a senior pastor. He is now Pastor of Christian Nurture and Missions at Parker Presbyterian Church in Parker, Colorado.

Both Bud and Carol are products of Christian families. They met at a Presbyterian church while in college and began their life-long relationship while in a summer program at Point Barrow, Alaska, in 1957. They both earned their baccalaureate degrees from the University of Washington.

The Sparlings have been part of the EPC from its beginnings. Bud is the founding pastor of Covenant Community EPC and has served two other EPC churches in the Denver area. Carol is a registered dietitian who enjoys her personal ministry of spiritual direction and prayer. She has completed an M.A. in Agency Counseling from the University of Northern Colorado.

In February 1993 Bud and Carol were approved by EPC's World Outreach Committee to be EPC missionaries on a half-time basis in a cooperative agreement with Youth for Christ. Bud is serving as a pastor/chaplain to Youth for Christ missionaries worldwide. This unique half-time missionary role has the goal and purpose to visit EPC and YFC missionaries in the field to provide general pastoring, counseling, encouragement, prayer support, make observations and provide counsel and advice when situations require care and consideration. The Sparlings are asked to make at least three international trips per year. When these travels take them near EPC missionaries, they stop in and provide pastoral care to our missionaries at their field locations.

## World Outreach Missionaries

Dave and Deb Walker  
Serving with OC International  
Japan

Dave and Deb Walker were appointed as EPC missionaries in 1988, and they departed for Japan to begin their first term of service with OC International (formerly Overseas Crusades). After the initial two years of language study, they began to use their gifts and ministry to compliment the other members of the OC team in Japan. The focus of their combined efforts is to motivate, train and mobilize the national church to reach its own people for Christ. Dave's task is to build personal relationships with national pastors and become a source of encouragement and a resource for help.

Dave grew up in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. He attended Central Michigan University, where he graduated in 1977 with a B.S. in Education. He taught special education four years before attending Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary. He graduated from there in 1985 with a Master of Arts in Theological Studies. He has also pastored a church in Hampton, New Hampshire for two years.

Deb also grew up in Michigan. After high school, she attended Providence Hospital School of Nursing where she earned her Registered Nurse Diploma. She continued working as a nurse in acute care after she and Dave were married in 1977. Later she became involved in the field of geriatrics.

The Walkers have had good success in their language work. Dave has worked on special church growth research with different Japanese churches to help them evangelize and grow.

The Walkers returned to Japan in 1993 for their second term of service. Dave has been active in a growing prayer movement in Japan, meeting with pastors and church leaders, asking the Lord for a spiritual awakening in a thirsty land.

The Walkers have two children: Sarah and Seth.



**World Outreach Missionaries**  
 Andrew and Rosemary Williamson  
 To Serve in Africa with SIM



A shared vision of bringing God's Word to people who have never heard it drew Andy and Rosemary together. At the time they were students at Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi.

Andy is from Michigan. For twelve years he evangelized college students and trained others to do the same with University Christian Outreach in Michigan and overseas in London and Belfast. In 1982 he also helped start EPC's Covenant Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor, Michigan, as a founding member and elder. After graduating from seminary, he was ordained as an EPC minister of the Word and commissioned for missionary service.

Rosemary is from Sydney, Australia. She has always had a love for the Scriptures and a keen interest in languages. She graduated from the University of Sydney with a degree in Early English Literature and Language. She taught mathematics for a while and then studied linguistics and Bible translation with Wycliffe Bible Translators.

Andy and Rosemary left for Australia in 1993 to continue their support raising and spend some time with Rosemary's family before departing for Ethiopia. Rosemary has been receiving medical care for problems with joint pain and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. She has seen little improvement in her condition, and the doctors have advised that she and Andy remain in Australia for an indefinite period. The Williamsons will probably be on a leave of absence for several years, during which time Andy will continue his doctoral level education. They hope that God will eventually allow them to serve in Ethiopia.

**World Outreach Missionaries**  
**Jonathan and Fozia Young**  
Serving in Russia with United World Mission



In December 1993, the World Outreach Committee approved Jonathan and Fozia Young as EPC missionaries to work as church planters among the Muslim Tatar people of western Siberia and the Volga River Basin in Russia. They will work in cooperative agreement with the United World Mission. Their experience and background have uniquely prepared them as they begin their work with Russian pastors, assisting in their outreach to Muslims. They will also engage in direct evangelism to Muslims in the community.

Jonathan grew up in the Detroit area in a Christian home. When he was 17, his parents committed to full-time missionary service in Liberia, West Africa. After graduating from Houghton College in New York, he went to teach in a mission school on the Hawaiian island of Maui and worked in a church planting ministry there. In 1982 he went to Liberia, West Africa, and taught in the American Embassy School. After his return to the Detroit area in 1985, he worked in the Royal Oak School District and administered the district's alternative high school program. He has been active on mission committees in local churches.

Fozia, who is Indian and Arab, grew up in a Muslim home in Nairobi, Kenya. She accepted Christ during her senior year of University in Canada largely as a result of her brothers' witness. She worked in her family's large business in Nairobi until she and her brothers were faced with an ultimatum from the family to revert to Islam or leave the country. They decided they had to leave the country under those circumstances. Fozia came to the US and earned her masters in Teaching English as a Second Language at Columbia Graduate School and Seminary in South Carolina. Upon graduating, she was offered a job in the Outreach office of Ward Presbyterian Church in 1988. She and Jonathan met at a missions conference in 1988 and were married in 1991.

Both Fozia and Jonathan looked for the place where God wanted to use them in missions. Combining interests, they felt called to Muslim people in the former Soviet Union. Through contacts with EPC missionaries Jim and Sally Foote in the Tyumen area of western Siberia, Jonathan and Fozia learned of the 7.5 million Muslim Tatar people with no western missionary presence among them. They seek to see these people brought to Christ and incorporated into reproducing churches throughout areas of Tatar concentration.

The Youngs departed for Russia in the fall of 1994. They are busy working on learning Russian in Novosibirsk. They are also working on learning Tatar customs and ethnology. Following completion of Russian language study, Jonathan and Fozia will move to a city where there is a Tatar community and begin learning their language.

## Youth Ministries Director's Report

It is my privilege to report to the Assembly concerning Youth Ministries in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. This has been year filled with the blessings of God.

*"Stand up and praise the Lord your God, who is from everlasting to everlasting." Nehemiah 9:5*

### 1994 Events

On the heels of the 14th General Assembly came three events which God used in wonderful ways to impact students' lives. Appalachian Impact was the first of these events. A student commented near the end of the trip, "It made me realize that in order to reach people for Jesus you need to meet them where they are by loving them first." I believe this young person understands the heart of Jesus and incarnational ministry better than most. On Thursday that week we held a community outreach cookout. More than fifty from the community played, ate, sang, listened to VBS kids (from the community) perform songs and recite memory verses, and heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ presented by Glenn Ferrell. Praise the Lord. It was a superb week of ministry.

*"...that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Philippians 2:10-11*

The second and third events were Summer Jam (Florida) and Summer Jam (Colorado), respectively. This year over 60 students made first time commitments or re-commitments to the Lord. Though Jesus and His Gospel are clearly presented all week long, on Wednesday we have a commitment time when we emphasize calling students into a relationship with Jesus through faith. During this time I was standing on a chair in the back of the conference room praising God for his harvest when a young man, who was literally weeping, came and stood next to me, then fell to his knees. After several minutes he stood up and I asked him if he wanted to talk. He told me, "I brought a friend with me to Summer Jam who I have been praying for for two years and he just gave his heart to Jesus!" I couldn't respond. So I just gave him a hug. Summer Jam is an incredible tool.

### 1995 Summer Events

Along with the above events, we have added two mission trips for 1995. One is a junior high *Appalachian Impact* trip. The other, *Mission Mexico*, is a Mexican border trip to Reynosa. More than 200 students and 50 adults will participate in this summer's mission trips along with 750+ people attending Summer Jam. Pray specifically and consistently for the spiritual impact of each of these trips.

*"...being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." Philippians 1:6*

### Going The Distance : Regional Retreats

These retreats were born out of a need expressed by some youth workers to have an event like Summer Jam during the school year. The purpose is to provide small and medium sized

churches with effective, Christ-centered regional retreats, ministering to junior and senior high students. These retreats will take place during the school year and will...

- provide spiritual encouragement for students and adults.
- provide a mid-year opportunity to participate in a Summer Jam-like event.
- be cost-effective by connecting the youth of several churches.
- include programming so youth workers can spend more time with their students and less time on details.
- Allow students and youth workers from EPC churches in the same region to interact, and develop an ongoing relationship.

We will conduct up to four retreats in '95-'96 school year.

*"Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification."*  
Romans 14:19

### Youth Ministry Conference

In September we host a youth workers conference. In 1994 the purpose of the conference was changed from a planning meeting to a time of spiritual encouragement, loving fellowship, ideas sharing, and inspiration for youth ministry. Twenty-seven attended at least a portion of our three days together. It was one of the best resources I have given local church youth ministries and youth workers, and it was one of the sweetest times of fellowship I have had while working with the EPC.

This year's conference will be held September 14-16 in Wrightsville Beach, NC near Myrtle Grove EPC (Wilmington). As commissioners, when you report information regarding this 15th General Assembly, please highlight the Youth Workers Conference. Encourage your youth workers to attend. Offer to help them financially. It will be an investment in them as well as your church's youth ministry.

*"After that whole generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation grew up, who knew neither the Lord nor what he had done for Israel."* Judges 2:10

### Young Adult Ministry

Generation X, Baby Busters, the Millennial Generation, Thirteeners. No matter how you label them, this generation of young adults is in serious danger of being lost from the church. As in the days of the judges, a whole generation of young adults is at risk of growing up without knowledge of God and without a relationship with Him. They are the product of a very different upbringing, and they have different motivations and goals. The EPC must target and develop methods to reach this generation if it is to expand into the next century. The Committee on Youth Ministries and Lay Renewal Ministries have partnered together to develop the first step to help EPC churches reach this generation. This will include training and equipping seminars and ongoing consultations for the churches. In addition, we are networking with churches who have already developed a ministry targeting this generation. We are excited by the potential of these young adults. But to reach them we must meet them where they are. More on this subject will be presented during the Assembly.

*"It was He who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up..."* Ephesians 4:11-12



## Training and Equipping

Today the EPC has 140 churches running some form of youth ministry. Of those, 60 are able to support a staff person to direct their ministry. The remaining 80 are led primarily by lay people. Thus, I believe one key to making a difference for the next generation will be the training and equipping of adult volunteers who have the desire and gifts to work with youth in their churches. This is where we must begin. If we do this well we will multiply our efforts. If we don't, our losses will multiply and affect the future of the church. If your church could benefit from this, please contact me.

*"So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."* II Corinthians 4:18

## The Future

One of the questions the Committee on Youth Ministries and I have wrestled with recently is, "Is what we are doing in EPC Youth Ministries making a difference?" It is easy to judge success based on what we are doing versus what we are getting done. Yet, no matter how difficult, we must evaluate the ministry based on significant contribution to the Kingdom of God. For example, though it is exciting to involve almost 1000 students in ministry this summer, are we really making a difference in their lives and for the Kingdom? We desire to run cutting edge ministry, but what does it take? What are we willing to do? What are we willing to give up? We are evaluating. Pray that God would give us discernment, creativity and a boldness to take some risks.

*"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."* I Thessalonians 5:16-18

## In Closing

I thank God for the opportunity to serve Him in the EPC. It has been a privilege. The Youth Committee is doing an outstanding job under Gary Koerth's chairmanship, and the General Assembly staff is most gracious and supportive. I have been blessed to serve with such a quality group.

On a personal note, I rejoice in the addition of my third child this past November 20. What a blessing my family is to me. Pray for my family as I am traveling six weeks this summer. Also, continue to pray for me as I look to the future and discern God's leading in EPC Youth Ministries.

May God bless you as you minister by His grace.

Dan Weidman  
Director of Youth Ministries  
June, 1995



## Youth Ministries Committee Report



Gary Koerth, chairman

The Committee on Youth Ministries met twice this Assembly year, once in October and again in April, at the General Assembly Office in Livonia, Michigan.

*"For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations." Psalm 100:5*

It amazes me to see how God continues to pour out blessings on EPC Youth Ministries. Regardless of obstacles that seem to stand in our way, God faithfully blesses and gives incredible victory even in tough times. To see so many teenagers respond to the love of Jesus Christ is awesome. I wish each person reading this report could experience all we've experienced in youth ministry this year. Surely there will be many challenges, but God has opened the doors in our churches and communities like never before. EPC youth

programs are bursting at the seams and God's love is being heard and accepted. Praise God for his faithfulness even when we are weak! I am claiming this scripture for the generations of teenagers with whom we will work someday. We pray God will be faithful to *all* generations and we will see a great revival regardless of how this generation is labeled.

### Summer Jam

EPC's summer conference for high school students has been a huge success for many years. The Committee is constantly evaluating and fine-tuning the program to keep it on the edge for Jesus Christ. Last year we overflowed Florida Jam with more than 450 young people. Colorado Jam had more than 300 attending. Summer Jam '95 looks like another amazing year. By the time you read this report, '95 Florida Jam will be at capacity. Colorado registrations are steadily coming in, but openings are still available.

We are, however, struggling to find a new location for Florida Jam. Present location is excellent, but the ballroom where we meet is at capacity at 450. We hope to find a new location in the Tampa area, but food costs hindered us from pursuing a facility seating almost 1,000. We struggle to keep the price of a quality program down so our students can afford the conference. Please pray that God will give us wisdom and a great solution. Pray God will once again open hearts and bring new maturity in Christ.

### Missions

Four years ago, EPC youth missions were just a thought and a strong desire in the Committee. God has truly done great things over the years. *Appalachian Impact* has grown beyond all initial expectations. This mission trip has not only impacted the Hazel Green, Kentucky community, but has also changed the lives of teenagers and adults from EPC churches around the country. The trip has been at capacity for the last two years, and as of mid-May this year's trip is full (with three churches on a waiting list!). We have added a junior high *Appalachian Impact* trip which will start this year with about 40 junior highers.

A new addition to youth missions this year is a project called "Mission Mexico," taking place July 30 through August 5. We feel this trip will be an awesome display of God's love reaching into our lives and out to the people in Mexico. Capacity will be 100 people; to date, 90 registrations have been received.

It is obvious to our committee that a strong need exists in our churches for youth missions. The committee continues to add and explore new possibilities for the future. Praise God for

churches who desire to share God's love with others. Please pray for wisdom on where God would have us expand our vision for youth mission work.

### Youth Leaders

The annual youth leaders retreat will be held again this year in Wrightsville, North Carolina September 14-16. Detailed information was sent to every EPC church in early May. The conference is open to all youth pastors, youth leaders or youth sponsors. Last year was a great time of planning, encouragement, fellowship and prayer. This year, Keith Naylor (last year's Summer Jam speaker) will minister to and encourage youth leaders. If your youth leader has never attended, we strongly recommend you encourage him or her to do so this year. They won't be sorry! We also recommend that your church help make the way possible for your youth leader through funding from your budget.

### Generation X

About a year and a half ago, the Committee on Youth Ministries began addressing the problem of reaching Generation X for Christ. Much time and effort were put into studying a strategy to help our churches reach this generation. Through these efforts, the EPC has established a cooperative working relationship and strategy with Lay Renewal Ministries. We want each church to take a serious look at this problem and consider stepping out in faith with time and resources to consider solutions Lay Renewal Ministries offers. We hope a group of pastors with a heart for young adult ministry will be willing to promote concerted efforts of education, training and ministry for such a ministry in the denomination. This will be accomplished through training and equipping workshops in each presbytery or other identified regions. Strategy and groundwork will be presented on the floor of the Assembly.

### EPC Youth Ministry Vision

The Committee on Youth Ministries spent much time this year discussing the needs of our churches. It is our desire to meet any need you may have concerning youth ministry. We want to keep youth ministries on the cutting edge for Jesus Christ, and we need your feedback, joys, and concerns to do it. Our goal is to contact each church over the next few months to hear how you are doing and to discuss what we can do for you. Please call us if we can help in any way, even if it just means praying on the phone with you!

### EPC Youth Director Dan Weidman

It is noteworthy to say that many other areas of denominational youth ministry have been identified and addressed through the Office of the General Assembly. Dan has assisted the Committee in various ways and given direction, vision, and organization to help youth ministries reach even more teenagers this year for Jesus Christ. His efforts are greatly appreciated. He is a blessing to all who come in contact with him.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The future growth, maturity, and effectiveness of EPC Youth Ministries hinges on the development of the junior and senior high and young adult ministries. Areas of development may include improved outreach to Baby Busters, missions experiences, leadership development and training, newsletters and other related programs. Therefore, the Committee on Youth Ministries requests that \$8,000 be included in the 1996 Benevolence Askings Budget to accomplish these development goals.

Respectfully submitted,



Gary Koerth, Chairman  
Committee on Youth Ministries  
June, 1995

**PART III**

**DOCUMENTS**

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## Rules for Assembly

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### (As amended through the 15th 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 two 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. An address 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. (cf. Acts 82-09)
- 4-2 The Stated Clerk shall perform the duties assigned by the **Book of Government** and by the **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. 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 sixty (60) days prior to the opening of General Assembly. No overtures received by the Stated Clerk less than sixty (60) days 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:
  - A. Administration - concerning administrative matters
  - B. World Outreach - concerning world missions
  - C. National Outreach - concerning home missions and evangelism
  - D. Christian Education & Publications - concerning Christian education and publications
  - E. Ministerial Vocation - concerning preparation and care of ministers
  - F. Presbytery Review - concerning Presbytery ministry and action
  - G. Fraternal Relations - concerning other denominations and agencies
  - H. Memorials and Appreciation - concerning appreciation
  - I. Overtures and Resolutions - concerning communications
  - J. Theology - concerning theological matters under study
  - K. Women's Ministries - concerning ministries for the women of the church
  - L. Youth Ministries - concerning ministries for the youth of the church
- 8-2 The Moderator will appoint chairmen and secretaries of each Assembly committee. Representation on each committee shall be presbyterial. The Assembly Nominating Committee will elect committee personnel from Commissioner registrations mailed ten days 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:
  - A. At the assigned time, each committee shall assemble in its assigned place, review material in hand and begin its work.
  - B. Each committee shall be available to reconvene to consider additional matters referred from the Assembly floor.
  - C. 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:
- A. A list of all items referred to and considered by the committee;
  - B. A statement of all issues discussed;
  - C. 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 corresponding permanent committee shall be submitted to the Assembly committee for review.
- 8-7 Informational presentation of special aspects of work reported by a particular Assembly committee shall be limited to five (5) minutes. The Moderator may extend this time up to an additional ten (10) 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:
- A. Typed in double space;
  - B. Proofed and signed by chairman of committee and thereafter given to Stated Clerk for permanent record;
  - C. 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 A. Presbytery **Minutes** shall be examined for conformity to:
- 1. the constitutional standards of the church, as to substance of the action recorded.
  - 2. appropriate standards as to the use of the English language.
- B. Each set of Presbytery **Minutes** must be read by at least two members of the Committee on Presbytery Review.
- C. The findings of the Committee with respect to the **Minutes** of each Presbytery shall be reported under the following categories as appropriate:
- 1. **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.
  - 2. **Exceptions:** Violations of constitutional standards of actions which in substance appear not to conform to EPC standards should be reported here.
- D. 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.
- E. Notations and exceptions in the Committee's report shall be handled as follows:
- 1. Notations shall be forwarded to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery without being read to the Assembly or recorded in its **Minutes**.



2. Exceptions shall be read before the Assembly, recorded in its **Minutes**, and disposed of as the Assembly determines.
- F. The Presbyteries shall take note in their **Minutes** of exceptions and notations conveyed from the Assembly of the disposition they have made of such.
- G. **Guidelines for Presbytery Minutes**
  1. Date, time, place of meeting, Presbytery must meet at least three (3) times a year. (G.16-17). 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.
  2. Meeting opened and closed with prayer.
  3. Declaration of quorum (G.16-18).
  4. Accurate record of motions passed and actions taken (G.16-19).
  5. Minutes should be typed with complete sentences, correct spelling and bound in hard cover.
  6. Minutes should be signed by Stated Clerk and Moderator.
  7. Minutes should reflect an accurate record of candidates received and dismissed.
  8. Minutes should reflect an accurate record of ministers received and dismissed including proper examination procedures leading to ordination and/or installation.
  9. Record of approved pastoral calls and any changes in calls and the granting of permission to labor outside the bounds of Presbytery (G.16-16.A).
  10. Minutes must reflect an annual review of sessional records.
  11. Minutes must reflect establishing, dissolving, dividing, uniting, receiving, and dismissing of churches (G.16-16.E).
  12. Minutes must reflect observations of and carrying out of General Assembly injunctions and instructions.
  13. Overtures to the General Assembly must be recorded.
  14. Minutes will reflect any judicial cases before Presbytery and the disposition thereof in accordance with the **Book of Discipline**.
  15. Minutes will include all actions of Presbytery appointed commissions.
  16. Minutes should include annual approved Presbytery budget and related financial reports.

## IX. Permanent Committees and the Permanent Judicial Commission

- 9-1 The ministries of the Assembly shall be conducted primarily through permanent committees and the Permanent Judicial Commission, to wit:
  - A. Committee on Administration
    1. Chaired by most immediate past Moderator.
    2. Committee Membership: Moderator, Stated Clerk, immediate past Moderator, immediate past Chairman, nine elected members, plus the chairmen of other permanent committees. The chairmen from other committees shall have voice but no vote.
    3. Functions in the following ways:
      - a. Administrative oversight
        - Oversight and coordination of Administration Committee with World Outreach, Christian Education, Ministerial Vocation, National Outreach, Women's Ministries and Youth Ministries Committees.
        - Responds to emergency and disaster situations
        - Serve as Directors of the corporation

- b. 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
    - Property and liability insurance
  - c. All other business of ecclesiastical matters not specifically assigned to any other committees.
- B. World Outreach Committee
  - 1. To be comprised of nine members on a three-year, three class system, with the Moderator and Stated Clerk to serve as ex-officio members. The permanent Nominating Committee will nominate replacement members from within EPC membership. Members may serve a maximum of two terms and then may not be reelected without at least one year's break. WOC members are to include three Teaching Elders and six Ruling Elders. The WOC is to meet at least twice a year, including the General Assembly.
- C. National Outreach Committee
  - 1. 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.
  - 2. Duties: to give oversight and planning to the domestic ministries in church planting, evangelism, and church development.
- D. Committee on Ministerial Vocation
  - 1. Membership to be six members; chairman elected by committee.
  - 2. Monitors and aids ministerial committees of local Presbyteries.
  - 3. Assists in placement of pastors and helps churches to find pastors.
  - 4. Provides information on colleges and seminaries.
  - 5. Examines extraordinary candidates.
  - 6. Oversees theological testing.
- E. Women's Ministries Committee
  - 1. Membership shall be comprised of six women, currently active members of the EPC and as geographically representative as possible of the entire denomination. No more than one person from any given Presbytery may be elected.
  - 2. Duties: to provide an atmosphere for the women of the church to mature spiritually and to recognize and develop their God-given gifts.
- F. Christian Education & Publications Committee
  - 1. To be comprised of six members, two of whom may be non-elders qualified in Christian Education and who are active members of EPC churches. Chairman to be elected by committee.
  - 2. Duties:
    - a. Curriculum development
    - b. Provide resources for church/Christian day schools (all levels)
    - c. Provide assistance in Sunday School development and operation
    - d. Publications other than curriculum
    - e. Camp and conference development
    - f. Lay leadership development
    - g. Worship and music resources

G. Youth Ministries Committee

1. Membership to be comprised of two Teaching Elders and four Ruling Elders in three rotating classes of two each. Two of the four Ruling Elder positions on the Youth Ministries Committee may be filled with non-ordained EPC youth ministers who are active members of EPC churches.
2. Duties: to be responsible for conference ministries, youth curriculum resourcing, youth ministry resources and other youth related concerns for grades 7-12.

H. Committee on Theology

1. Membership shall be comprised 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.
2. 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.

I. Fraternal Relations Committee

1. Membership to consist of six members plus the immediate past Moderator, the Moderator, and the Stated Clerk as members ex-officio. The chairman is to be selected by the committee.
2. 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. The committee shall receive, study, and pursue only such fraternal matters as may be referred to it by the General Assembly and shall report annually to the General Assembly on all matters referred and the development of existing fraternal relationships.

J. 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, 16-27.B*

- 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 except as noted. 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 the classes according to the vacancies 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. Persons not yet elected to the forthcoming year shall not be eligible.

#### **X. Committee on Nominations**

10-1 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**.

10-2 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.

10-3 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.

#### **10-4 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 March 31 of that year. After March 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 thirty days prior to the meeting of the General Assembly.

2. To nominate to the Assembly persons for vacancies of all Assembly permanent committees.
3. To name from the commissioners to the Assembly those who will serve on the various standing committees of the Assembly.

#### **XI. The Board of Pension and Benefits**

- 11-1 The Board of Pension and Benefits shall oversee the administration of the denominational Pension Plan and the Group Insurance Plan.
  - 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 members of the Board 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 serve as trustees under the Pension Plan adopted by the Assembly; to administer the Group Insurance Plan; to administer the proceeds of the "Gratitude Gift;" to make annual report of its proceedings to the Assembly.

#### **XII. New Business**

- 12-1 Any matter presented in any form which has not been received by the Stated Clerk prior to the opening of the General Assembly shall be treated as new business.
- 12-2 New business must be presented to the Assembly by noon of the second day of business. The Committee on Administration may assist the Stated Clerk in referring all new business coming to the Assembly.

#### **XIII. Parliamentary Procedure**

- 13-1 Except as otherwise specifically provided in these **Rules, Robert's Rules of Order** shall be the standard in parliamentary procedure.
- 13-2 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 comment. The Assembly may waive the reading of any particular report by a majority vote of commissioners present. When a minority 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 the portion of the majority report affected.
- 13-3 Each recommendation in each report must be read, considered, and acted on separately.
  1. The chairman moves the adoption.
  2. The Moderator asks, "Is there objection or question?"
  3. Hearing no objection or question, the Moderator states, "It is adopted." (Procedure known as "Short Form of Voting.")

13-4 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 fifteen (15) minutes unless extended. A simple majority may extend debate in additional five (5) minute increments. No Commissioner may speak longer than three (3) minutes at one time.
5. Debate shall be free, open, and responsible with equal time being given to proponents insofar as possible.

13-5 All motions shall be presented in writing and read before the vote.

**XIV. Amendment or Suspension of Rules**

- 14-1 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.

# ACTS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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Committee personnel to be recommended by presbyteries	86-13	3
Director of Resource Management position approved	90-06	4
Establishment of General Assembly Office	82-01	3
Evaluation Committee approved for GA Office personnel	90-07	4
Location of General Assembly office	82-02	3
	92-03	4
Outreach Department divided into World and National Outreach	92-22	4
Site for construction of General Assembly Office approved	88-01	4
Stated Clerk of General Assembly provided for	82-09	3
Women's Ministries Director (half-time) position approved	90-01	4
Youth Ministries Director (half-time) position approved	90-02	4
Youth Ministries Director position (full-time) approved	91-04	4

### CONFESSIONAL MATTERS

Baptism guidelines for church court other than session	89-01	5
"Chicago Statement" adopted as resource	88-19	4
Children and participation in the Lord's Supper, a pastoral letter	93-08	5
Children's Catechism (modern version) endorsed	88-20	4
<i>Essentials of the Faith</i> adopted	81-01	4
<i>Essentials of the Faith</i> , purpose of, clarified	93-17	6



	Reference	Document Page
<i>Essentials, Westminster Conf., Shorter Catechism in Book of Order</i>	87-03	4
<i>Westminster Confession of Faith (Summertown edition) adopted</i>	84-01	4
<i>Westminster Confession of Faith Commentary endorsed</i>	92-06	5
<b>PRESBYTERIES</b>		
Allegheny Presbytery constituted	86-04	7
Boundaries amended to exclude Bluefied, WV	92-10	9
Dissolved	93-06	10
Called meetings, number required	81-02	6
	88-02	8
Candidate application forms (presbytery) approved	83-03	7
Candidate "Session Approval Forms" approved	83-04	7
Commissions, role of	91-05	8
Committee (permanent) members' names to be sent to presbyteries	85-02	7
Communion: Non-EPC minister may be approved to serve in EPC church	94-22	11
Covenanting with educational institutions approved	88-06	8
Goals for meetings	81-03	6
Illinois and Texas churches choose presbytery	82-06	7
Minutes to be presented to General Assembly in English	95-19	11
Position Statement on Presbytery Development,	93-05	9
Presbytery of Central South constituted	83-12	7
Boundaries amended to include Missouri	85-03	7
Boundaries amended to include southern Illinois	86-05	8
Boundaries amended to include Kansas City (KS) metro area	87-08	8
Boundaries amended to include Kansas east of Hwy 81	88-05	8
Boundaries amended to include entire Nashville area	92-08	9
Boundaries amended to exclude certain Arkansas counties	92-09	9
Divided into two presbyteries	91-06	9
Boundaries amended to include "boot heel" counties of Missouri	94-12	11
Presbytery of the East constituted	82-04	6
Boundaries amended to include Washington, DC		
and contiguous counties of Virginia	84-11	7
Boundaries amended to include Loudon &		
Prince William Counties	85-04	7
Boundaries amended to include eastern Ohio	84-12	7
Boundaries amended to include entire states of New York	93-06	10
& Pennsylvania		
Divided into two presbyteries	86-04	7
Presbytery of Far West constituted	83-10	7
Dissolved	93-07	10
Presbytery of Florida constituted	90-11	8
Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic constituted	88-04	8
Bluefied, WV church assigned to Mid-Atlantic Presbytery	92-10	9
Boundaries amended to include entire state of West Virginia	93-06	10
Boundaries amended to move five North Carolina churches		
to Presbytery of the Southeast	95-10	11
Presbytery of Mid-America constituted	91-06	9
Boundaries amended to include certain Arkansas counties	92-09	9
Boundaries amended to exclude "boot heel" counties of Missouri	94-12	11
Presbytery of the Midwest constituted	81-08	6
Boundaries amended to exclude state of Missouri	85-03	7
Boundaries amended to exclude Illinois south of I-70	86-05	8
Boundaries amended to exclude state of Illinois	91-06	9
Boundaries amended to include entire state of Ohio	93-06	10
Presbytery of the South constituted	82-05	6
Divided into two presbyteries	83-12	7
Presbytery of the Southeast constituted,	83-12	7
Boundaries amended to include state of Florida	88-03	8
Boundaries amended to exclude state of Florida	90-11	8

	Reference	Document Page
Boundaries amended to add five North Carolina churches	95-10	11
Divided to constitute Southeast and Mid-Atlantic Presbyteries	88-04	8
Presbytery of St. Andrews constituted	87-11	8
Boundaries amended to include province of Buenos Aires	90-09	8
Presbytery of the West constituted	81-08	6
Boundaries amended to add Washington and Idaho	87-07	8
Boundaries amended to exclude Kansas City, KS metro area	87-08	8
Boundaries amended to include Kansas west of Hwy 81	88-05	8
Boundaries amended to include California and Arizona	93-07	10
Ruling Elders to be recommend for committee membership	86-13	8
Session is deposed; Presbytery to provide pastoral assistance but may not otherwise act except in certain cases	94-24	11
Session encouraged but not mandated to hear information from Presbytery committee following inquiry	94-23	11
Terms of call forms (ministers) approved	83-06	7
Women's Ministries Committee formation encouraged	93-16	10
World Outreach Committees formation encouraged	92-11	9

### OFFICE OF THE MINISTER

Assistant Pastor, presbytery voting member	85-06	13
Candidates Educational Equivalency Program (CEEP)	83-07	12
Chaplains, presbytery of membership	88-07	13
Christmas offering approved for needy ministers, missionaries	85-08	13
	87-14	13
Compensation, annual review for	83-01	12
Co-pastor, office not recognized	85-05	13
Exception to co-pastor ruling for Myrtle Grove Church	90-19	13
Examinations for ordination, policy on retaking failed tests	91-03	13
Face-to-Face - opportunities for seeking churches and ministers	83-02	12
Gratitude Gift offering approved	87-14	13
Growth experience for persons in ministry approved as annual event	94-27	14
Insurance: Churches urged to assume deductible and co-insurance as part of ministers' terms of call	82-10	12
Insurance Plan mandatory for ministers in EPC churches	81-06	11
Manual for Candidates for Gospel Ministry approved	84-03	13
Ministerial Endowment Fund approved	84-15	13
Newly Ordained Ministers Gathering approved as annual event	94-26	14
Personal Information Form provided	83-05	12
Plan for pastoral care of ministers, families, congregations to be studied	86-03	13
Reading list for candidates requested	92-18	14
Reading list for candidates approaching ordination approved	93-18	14
Sacramental authority		
Administration of sacraments only by ordained ministers	84-02	12
By certain licensed candidates	84-07	13
By lawfully ordained minister in good standing of another denomination may serve communion with consent of Presbytery	94-22	14
Scholarship Fund (Andrew A. Jumper) endorsed	92-07	13
Terms of call for ministers to include EPC insurance plan	81-04	11
To include 18% benefit for insurance and pension	81-05	11
"Uniform Procedures on Candidacy, Licensure, and Ordination" adopted	82-07	11
Amended to delete section on licensure	94-25	14

### NATIONAL OUTREACH

Church Loan Fund concept approved	83-11	14
	86-12	14
Church Loan Fund administration guidelines authorized	89-10	15
Church Loan Fund, loans to begin	89-11	15

	Reference	Document Page
Church Loan Fund policies amended on repayment clause	90-10	15
Church Loan Fund, church members encouraged to include in wills	89-09	15
Church planters assessment process endorsed	88-12	14
Investors Church Development Loan Fund approved	89-12	15
Master Plan for Church Development approved	89-13	15
Mission to the Nation established	82-03	14
National Outreach Department approved for Assembly Office	92-22	15
Redirect benevolence funds for church planting	92-15	15
Solicitation policy for church planting projects adopted	92-21	15

### WORLD OUTREACH

Argentina Declaration affirmed	94-18	17
Bible League approved as mission agency	94-17	17
Cooperative Agreements approved		
Africa Inland Mission	95-15	17
Arab World Ministries	92-13	16
Logoi	86-14	16
Interserve	90-13	16
Frontiers	91-07	16
Middle East Media	95-16	18
Missionary Internship	85-12	15
Overseas Crusade	85-13	15
Pioneers	95-17	18
Send International	92-14	16
SERVE	95-18	18
Sudan Interior Mission (SIM)	92-12	16
United World Mission	93-11	17
World Impact	93-10	17
Wycliffe	86-11	16
Youth For Christ, USA	93-09	17
Definition of approved mission agency	87-02	16
Ethnic and urban ministries in North America		
assigned to World Outreach	84-04	15
Literacy and Evangelism, an approved mission agency	93-12	17
LOGOI/FLET endorsed for use in Argentina	90-18	16
Middle East Reformed Fellowship (MERF), status approved	87-01	16
MERF approval withdrawn	91-08	16
Missionaries in cooperative agreement may choose insurance plan	93-13	17
Missionaries: plan to be formed to help in reentry from the field	94-19	17
National pastors not required to participate in EPC group insurance plan	93-14	17
Redirect benevolence funds for EPC World Outreach	92-15	16
Trans World Radio approved as mission agency	90-14	16
<i>World Outreach Manual</i> , Part I adopted	83-13	15
<i>World Outreach Manual</i> , Part II, adopted	84-15	15
<i>World Outreach Manual</i> , Part III, adopted	86-22	16
World Outreach presbytery committees, formation urged	92-11	16
World Outreach Master Plan approved	88-13	16

### FRATERNAL MATTERS

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church fraternal		
Relationship approved	85-10	18
More extensive relationships with ARP approved	89-19	19
Statement of Commitment, EPC & ARP	91-10	20
Geneva Statement, EPC & ARP	92-01	20
Yearly exchange of fraternal delegates approved	92-02	20
Christian Reformed Church fraternal relationship approved	87-10	19

	Reference	Document Page
More extensive relationships with CRC approved	89-19	19
Definitions of fraternal relationship approved	84-06	17
	88-14	19
Family conference with ARP to be explored	93-03	21
Fraternal relationships with evangelical Reformed bodies to be pursued	82-11	17
Fraternal relationships with Presbyterian groups to be pursued	85-11	18
National Association of Evangelicals, application made	81-07	17
NAE Director Billy Melvin extended thanks for 28 years of service	94-02	21
North American Presbyterian & Reformed Council (NAPARC)		
Membership to be pursued	87-09	18
Dialogue to become member to continue	89-21	20
Response on Holy Spirit and charismatic gifts	92-16	20
Membership application to be continued	94-04	21
PC(USA) requested to rescind charges against EPC (1988)	88-16	19
Presbyterian Church in Ireland, relationship to be pursued and explored	94-03	21
Protest lodged with WARC against PC(USA) action (1988)	88-18	19
Puerto Rico, fraternal relations established with Association of the Charismatic Presbyterian Churches of Puerto Rico	94-01	21
Reformed Church in America and Presbyterian Church in America to be studied for fraternal relationship	89-20	19
Solicitation of churches for denominational affiliation, policy	88-15	19
Statement on handling interdenominational and other disputes	88-17	19
World Alliance of Reformed Churches (WARC)		
Application for membership endorsed	84-05	17
Strengthen relationships with member denominations	89-21	19
FRC to explore membership in alternate organizations	94-05	21
World Evangelical Fellowship (WEF), application for membership endorsed	86-16	19

### FISCAL MATTERS

Adoption of "benevolence giving goals" for congregations	87-20	23
Calendar year shall be fiscal year	82-08	21
Christmas offering approved	85-08	22, 3
Church Loan Fund to be established	83-11	22
Church Loan Fund - presbytery repayment guarantee	90-10	23
Church Loan Fund criterion on fee rates amended	94-13	25
Fiscal policy defined	83-08	21
Interest, principles on lending money	90-12	23
Medical Benevolence Trust promotion approved	90-16	24
Ministerial Endowment Fund approved	84-15	22
Pension Plan administrative expenses funded by Administration Budget	89-05	23
Per member asking set at \$5	81-09	21
Per member asking raised to \$8	83-08	21
Per member asking raised to \$10	89-18	23
Per member asking raised to \$12	92-23	25
Per member asking raised to \$15	94-14	25
Reflections funding or subscription program to be designed	95-08	25, 28
Scholarship matching fund program endorsed for Erskine College and Seminary	95-11	25
Solicitation policy set for church planting projects	92-21	24
Special offerings; materials to be sent five weeks prior to projected date	95-01	25, 28
Staff development funded by benevolence giving	85-07	22
Women's Ministries "Second Mile Giving"	86-07	23
Women's Ministries half-time Director funded through Faith Focus	90-01	23
Youth Director (half-time) funded through benevolence giving	90-02	23

## PROGRAM MATTERS

	Reference	Document Page
Abortion, Preliminary Position Paper adopted	84-14	24
Position Paper adopted	86-20	25
Aging, Task Force recommendations	86-08	25
AIDS/HIV, Position Paper adopted	94-20	27
Bethany Christian Services, agency approved	89-16	27
Booklets on baptism and the Reformed faith endorsed	88-24	26
Capital Punishment, Preliminary Position Paper adopted	84-14	24
Preliminary Position Paper rescinded	95-12	28
Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy, a resource	88-19	26
Children's Catechism (modern version) endorsed	88-20	26
Christian Education Resource Network to be established	89-17	27
Christian Education Task Force to be formed to evaluate curricula according to EPC standards	95-09	28
Conference (biannual) approved for ministers young in the ministry	88-23	26
Covenanting between presbyteries and colleges approved	88-06	26
Curricula distinctly Reformed to be recommended to the churches	90-04	27
Curriculum publishers consistent with EPC beliefs endorsed	88-22	26
Divorce and Remarriage, Preliminary Position Paper adopted	94-21	28
Family conference with ARP to be explored	93-03	27
Holy Spirit, Position Paper adopted	86-21	26
Homosexuality, Preliminary Position Paper adopted	84-14	24
Position Paper adopted	86-20	26
Replacement Position Paper adopted	94-20	28
Hotels - policy where pornographic movies are shown	87-05	26
Lay Renewal Ministries approved as resource	88-21	26
Mission experiences, short term, endorsed for senior high students	90-03	27
New members curriculum for adults and youth to be developed	90-05	27
Officer Training Program approved	87-04	26
Officer Training Manual endorsed	92-05	27
Ordination of Women, Preliminary Position Paper adopted	84-14	24
Position Paper adopted	86-20	26
Pornography, Preliminary Position Paper adopted	88-27	26
Problems of Suffering, Death, and Dying, Position Paper adopted	95-14	28
Reading list approved for candidates approaching ordination	93-18	27
Reflections funding or subscription program to be designed	95-08	25, 28
Regional Pastor, joint project approved	92-17	27
Retreat and camping facility to be researched	92-04	27
Research set aside until funds are available	94-10	28
Screening procedures for childcare workers approved	94-11	28
Secret Fraternal Organizations, Pastoral Letter Regarding Criteria for Evaluating Membership, adopted	95-13	28
Sonlife Strategy model approved for youth ministries	88-26	26
Special offerings: materials to be sent five weeks prior to projected date	95-01	25, 28
Subcommittees on Evangelism and Caring established	92-20	27
Value of Human Life, Preliminary Position Paper adopted	84-14	24
Position Paper adopted	87-21	26
Westminster Confession of Faith Commentary endorsed	92-06	27
Westminster Catechism, resources for teaching children and youth	93-04	27
Women's Ministries Committee formation encouraged for presbyteries	93-16	27
Women's Ministries Constitution for local churches adopted	88-28	26
Youth Ministries to research retreat/camping facilities	92-04	26
Youth Speakers Bureau approved	88-25	26
Youth summer conference concept adopted	86-09	25

## BOARD OF PENSION AND BENEFITS

	Reference	Document Page
<b>Group Insurance Plan</b>		
Administration placed under Board of Pension & Benefits	90-08	32
	91-01	31
Adopted children to be covered when custody begins	94-07	32
Approved for ministers	82-10	29
Carrier changed to Provident for health and life coverage	87-19	30
CHAMPUS participants exempted	87-15	29
Conversion option eliminated	95-04	33
Dependents of retired and disabled employees may be covered by medical plan	94-08	32
Deductibles for medical coverage reduced	90-15	31
"Disabled employee," category created and defined	92-28	32
Eligibility for medical coverage extended	90-17	31
Enrollment for churches of record 12/21/93 may be reconsidered	94-09	32
Exceptions to required participation	88-08	30
	88-09	30
Extended health coverage for 3 months after termination	93-02	31
Geographical 3-tier system for premiums begun	89-14	31
"Gratitude Gift" offering approved	87-14	29
Immunizations, coverage for eligible dependent children	95-03	33
Insurance Plan mandatory for ministers in EPC churches	81-06	29
Long term disability cap raised to \$40,000	86-18	29
Medical Benevolence Fund approved	89-15	31
Medical Benevolence Trust approved in concept	90-16	31
Medical Benevolence Fund document adopted	92-29	32
Medicare: Board to determine cost of medical coverage for Plan participants not covered by Medicare	94-06	32
Missionaries in cooperative agreement may choose EPC insurance plan or sending agency's plan	93-13	31
National (world outreach) pastors not required to participate in EPC Pension Plan	93-14	32
Organ transplants, coverage defined	92-25	31
Pancreas added to list of covered organ transplants	95-05	33
Pre-existing conditions clause amended	87-16	29
Premium structure for medical plan revised to four categories	95-06	33
Procedures for diagnostic tests covered at 80% are added	92-27	32
Radial keratotomy excluded	87-17	30
Retired persons eligible to participate in medical plan	86-19	29
"Retiree" redefined	91-02	31
Second surgical opinion requirement eliminated	92-26	31
Self-funded plan by The Travelers approved	84-08	29
Social Security, medical plan excludes persons who have opted out	95-02	32
Terms of call for ministers to include EPC insurance plan	81-04	28
To include 18% benefit for insurance and pension	81-05	29
80% participation of each church staff encouraged	88-10	30
for Group Insurance Plan		
<b>Pension Plan adopted</b>	89-02	30
Administrative expenses funded by Administration Budget	89-05	30
Adoption Agreements accepted from churches	89-04	30
Enrollment period extended	92-19	31
Board of Reference formation approved	89-06	30
Board of Reference eliminated	95-07	33
Board of Pension & Benefits, removal from office	89-03	30
Group Insurance Plan, Pension Board oversees	90-08	31
	91-01	30
Restated Pension Plan adopted	93-01	31
Retirement age defined as 59 1/2	92-24	31
TSA program approved and participation urged	87-12	29

## 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, 1985 (Italicized print indicates a subsequent change in an act.)

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 81-10 The document, *Rules for Assembly*, is adopted, governing procedures for carrying out the business of the General Assembly. *Rules* may be amended as desired by each General Assembly (**Minutes**, 1-6).
- 81-11 The provisional *Book of Worship* is ratified (**Minutes**, 1-22).
- 81-12 The provisional *Book of Government* is ratified (**Minutes**, 1-22).
- 81-13 The *Book of Discipline* is adopted (**Minutes**, 1-29).
- 83-02 Opportunity is to be provided at each General Assembly for pastors seeking a call to meet with churches and ministries seeking to issue a call (**Minutes**, 3-37).
- 83-09 The General Assembly endorses a three-fold statement of purpose for its meetings:
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" (**Minutes** 4-38).
- 84-10 An Ad Interim Committee on Theology is established 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). *Assembly voted in 1988 to establish a permanent Committee on Theology thus discontinuing Ad Interim Committee.*
- 85-01 All heads of committees, boards, agencies, or commissions, whether male or female, are to be designated as "chairman," and the Assembly shall refrain from usage of term "chairperson" (**Minutes**, 5-25).



- 86-01 The General Assembly approves establishment of a permanent Committee on Theology, to be comprised of three Teaching Elders and three Ruling 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 to welcome input from the constituency regarding said matters (**Minutes**, 6-28).
- 86-06 Establishment of a permanent Committee on Women's Ministries is approved, with one representative from each presbytery (appointed initially by the Moderator) to serve a 3-year term after which the regular electoral process of rotation of class will be used (**Minutes**, 6-52). *Assembly of 1989 regularized election process with eligibility being extended to any active church member.*
- 86-15 Formation of an historical foundation is approved, and a committee to oversee its development shall be appointed with instructions 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).
- 87-05 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).
- 89-07 The Assembly approves amending the Articles of Incorporation by adding a section on volunteer directors' liability limitations (**Minutes**, 9-48).
- 89-08 The Assembly directs that future General Assemblies be held during a time in June which does not include the weekend of Father's Day (**Minutes**, 9-48).
- 90-20 The 12th General Assembly is ordered to convene from Thursday evening through Monday afternoon on a trial basis with the subsequent Assembly to evaluate this time frame (**Minutes**, 10-45). *(The 13th Assembly approved convening on the Thursday in June following Father's Day through Saturday. Cf. Act 93-15.)*
- 90-21 The Assembly approves a reporting procedure for the Permanent Judicial Commission in reference to overtures and recommendations as follows:
1. PJC will send a written report to the Assembly relative to any overture or recommendation purposing to change the Constitution.
  2. Report will be assigned to a standing committee.
  3. Standing committee will provide the Assembly a written copy of referred matters along with PJC recommendations after which the committee's recommendations will be presented (**Minutes**, 10-46).
- 91-09 The Assembly instructs the Office of the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly to index and print the *Acts of the Assembly* for inclusion in the *Book of Order* binder under a new section entitled, "Rules and Acts of the Assembly" to be updated following each General Assembly (**Minutes**, 11-40).
- 93-15 The Assembly shall meet on Thursday through Saturday, to convene the Thursday in June following Father's Day. (**Minutes**, 13-28)

- 94-15 The Committee on Administration is instructed to develop a strategic plan to set for the vision, goals, and programs of the General Assembly for the next several years, to include goals, programs, activities and priorities for the life of the plan. (*Minutes*, 14-26)
- 94-16 Committee on Administration is instructed to investigate alternative formulas for allocating the costs of General Assembly operations among the churches and take appropriate action to implement the agreed upon alternative. (*Minutes*, 14-26)
- 94-26 The Assembly shall hold annually a Newly Ordained Ministers Gathering annually beginning in 1995, and provide a speaker addressing current issues facing young ministers, along with a time of informal sharing. (*Minutes*, 14-37)
- 94-27 In keeping with the *Denominational Goals for Pastoral Care*, approves holding an annual "growth experience for persons in ministry focusing on spiritual, emotional, marital, family and church life" beginning with the 15th General Assembly (1995). (*Minutes*, 14-37)

#### OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 82-01 The General Assembly approves the establishment of an Office of the General Assembly and authorizes 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). (*In 1992, the Assembly affirmed locating the permanent Assembly Office in the Detroit metropolitan area. Cf. Act 92-03.*)
- 82-09 The General Assembly shall provide an amount sufficient for salary and housing, insurance, pension, travel, and entertainment to establish a permanent position of Stated Clerk (*Minutes*, 2-50).
- 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*, 5-43). (*See Act 87-14, Board of Pension and Benefits, for subsequent Assembly action, the Gratitude Gift.*)
- 85-09 The Christian Education and Publications Committee is authorized to develop, for sale to the churches, standardized forms such as certificates for infant baptism, church membership, etc. (*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 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 pertinent documents are to be transmitted to each member of the Nominating Committee prior to its meeting (*Minutes*, 6-70). (*Cf. Rules*, §10, for description of permanent Committee on Nominations.)

- 88-01 The Assembly approves the purchase of a 10-acre parcel of land adjacent to and owned by Trinity Presbyterian, Plymouth, Michigan for future construction of the General Assembly Office (**Minutes**, 8-64).
- 90-01 The Assembly approves position of half-time Director of Women's Ministries and grants an exception to its fiscal policy (Act 83-08) permitting the position to be funded for a period not exceeding three years through the Women's "Faith Focus" benevolence asking (**Minutes**, 10-24).
- 90-02 The Assembly approves a half-time Director of Youth Ministries position and granted an exception to fiscal policy (Act 83-08) permitting the position to be funded by benevolence giving for a period not exceeding five years (**Minutes**, 10-25). *The 1991 Assembly approved establishment of full-time Director of Youth Ministries. Cf. Act 91-04.*
- 90-06 The position of Director of Resource Management (Business Administrator) for the Office of the General Assembly is affirmed (**Minutes**, 10-28).
- 90-07 The General Assembly approves the establishment of an Evaluation Committee for the annual evaluation of the Stated Clerk, and to review with the Stated Clerk the evaluation of the General Assembly staff. Committee will report annually to the Administration Committee (**Minutes**, 10-28).
- 91-04 The General Assembly approves the establishment of a full-time Director of Youth Ministries (**Minutes**, 11-27). (Cf. Act 90-02.)
- 92-03 The Assembly approves the continuation of the General Assembly Office in the Detroit, Michigan area, specifically one of the western suburbs, and to continue monitoring the needs of and services to the particular churches to determine any shifts in location criteria (**Minutes** 12-25).
- 92-22 The Assembly approved the division of the Department of Outreach into two departments: World Outreach and National Outreach. Each is to have its own director (**Minutes**, 12-46).

### 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). (*Act 93-17 further clarifies the purpose of the Essentials.*)
- 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 exclude 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).
- 88-19 The Assembly adopts as resource for its congregations "The Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy" (**Minutes**, 8-56; text of statement pp. 70-73 of **Minutes**).
- 88-20 The Assembly endorses for distribution to its churches *The Children's Catechism: A New Modern Version*, published by Summertown Texts, Signal Mountain, Tennessee (1988) (**Minutes**, 8-55).

- 89-01 Baptisms at some court of the church other than the session shall be done only by a Pastor and at least one Ruling Elder from the same particular church (*Book of Worship*, 3-2E) and shall conform to the stipulations of the *Book of Worship* on baptism. As members of the EPC, members of the court may participate in the responses to the questions proposed to a congregation. Further, it may not be done unless:
1. One of the parents is a member in good standing of a particular church which is a true branch of the visible Church and to which notification of the baptism is made in accordance with W3-2G1.
  2. Or, if the only presenting parent is a member of the presbytery and therefore does not belong to a particular church, that person shall stipulate prior to the baptism in what particular church the baptized person shall be enrolled. It is not within the jurisdiction of a presbytery or the General Assembly to authorize baptisms since that is a duty of a session. However, a baptism may be performed at such a court provided the above considerations are met. (*Minutes*, 9-52)
- 92-06 The Assembly encourages the use of the *Westminster Confession of Faith Commentary* (Summertown Texts) in EPC churches (*Minutes*, 12-27).
- 93-08 Assembly adopts "Pastoral Letter on Children and the Lord's Supper" as guidance to the churches on the subject of young children and their participation in the sacrament of communion, and that Roger Beckwith's article (*Westminster Theological Journal*, Fall, 1975) "Age of Admission to the Lord's Supper," should accompany this letter (*Minutes*, 13-26 ).

#### PASTORAL LETTER ON CHILDREN AND THE LORD'S SUPPER

The permanent Committee on Theology issues this pastoral letter to the General Assembly in response to its request for guidance on the subject of young children and their participation in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Administration of and participation in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper must be done in accordance with Scripture as expressed in the *Westminster Confession of Faith*, Chapters 27 & 29, the *Westminster Shorter Catechism*, Questions 96 & 97, and the *Westminster Larger Catechism*, Questions 168 through 177.

The history of the Reformed tradition on this matter is fairly clear that young children have not been admitted to the Lord's Supper. However, the early church until the twelfth century did permit the practice. In recent years, greater interest has developed among the Reformed denominations in allowing such to participate.

It is the conclusion of this committee that Scripture, as explained by our confessional standards, permits only those who are of faith in Christ to participate in the Lord's Supper. Further, none who are of saving faith in Christ are to be prevented from it (*WLC*, 173). Those who do participate must be able to discern the nature of the sacrament (*WLC*, 170 & 174), must prepare themselves for worthy participation (*WLC*, 171 & 173), and be able to engage in self-examination at the time of and following participation (1 Cor. 11: 26-30, *WLC*, 175).

The Session of the church is charged with the responsibility to discern the credibility of the profession of those who wish to participate in the Lord's Supper, regardless of age. This is explained in the *Westminster Larger Catechism*, #173.

Q. May any who profess the faith and desire to come to the Lord's Supper be kept from it?

A. Such as are found to be ignorant or scandalous, notwithstanding their profession of the faith, and desire to come to the Lord's Supper, may and ought to be kept from that sacrament, by the power which Christ hath left in his church, until they receive instruction and manifest their reformation.

The advice of this committee is that, though a local session is not required to admit young children to participate in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, it may permit them if the following criteria are met:

1. The child has been administered the sacrament of Christian baptism.
2. The child presents a credible profession of faith as determined initially by his or her parents, and determined ultimately by the Session of the church.
3. The child is able to evidence to the Session a basic understanding of the nature of the sacrament as it is set forth in the Scriptures and in the Constitution of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

The Session must still continue to exercise diligence in its covenant responsibilities toward those children who are admitted to the Lord's Supper. The Session may or may not choose to admit the child into active membership at that time.

**93-17 The Assembly sustains the opinion of the Permanent Judicial Commission concerning the purpose of the *Essentials of the Faith*:**

The purpose of the *Essentials of the Faith* is to provide an explicit and concise expression of the essentials of the Christian faith, but also leave room for Christians to disagree on non-essentials. It is never to be used as an explicit standard for a minimal core of beliefs for candidates, ordination, or ministerial exams. It is not to duplicate the *Westminster Confession of Faith*, or to be construed as a substitute for the *WCF*. Because it is not part of the Constitution, it is never to be used as such. Theoretically, a person could affirm the *Essentials*, as all knowledgeable Christians would do, but disagree with the *WCF*. Such a person would be unacceptable as a Teaching or Ruling Elder in the EPC, being out of accord with its Constitution. On the other hand, a person cannot affirm the *WCF* and disbelieve any part of the *Essentials*. The *Essentials* are to be subscribed to in addition to the full *WCF* (G14-1A.4). (*Minutes* 13-38)

## PRESBYTERIES

**81-02 Presbyteries shall meet at least twice during the year and a third time during the General Assembly (*Minutes*, 1-24). *Modified in Act 88-02 to require minimum of three annual meetings but not during General Assembly.***

**81-03 Presbyteries shall have as their goals for presbytery meetings 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).

**81-08 The first two presbyteries are constituted: The Presbytery of the Midwest and the Presbytery of the West. The boundaries are as follows:**

1. Presbytery of the Midwest consists of the states of Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and Missouri.
2. Presbytery of the West consists of Colorado and the states north, south, and west of Colorado. (*Minutes*, 1-24)

**82-04 The Presbytery of the East is constituted and shall include the states of Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington, DC (*Minutes*, 2-32).**

**82-05 The Presbytery of the South is constituted 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 "Call for Pastor or Associate Pastor" form for ministerial terms of call (**Minutes**, 3-48).
- 83-10 The Presbytery of the Far West is constituted 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 Boundaries of the Presbytery of the East are extended to include those churches which fall within the bounds of the greater Washington, DC metropolitan area and the Fairfax County, Arlington County, and Alexandria areas of Virginia (**Minutes**, 4-40).
- 84-12 Boundaries of the Presbytery of the East are extended to include those churches in eastern Ohio which lie east of Interstate 77 (**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 amended to include the state of Missouri (**Minutes**, 5-29).
- 85-04 The counties of Loudon and Prince William (Virginia) shall be added to the Presbytery of the East (**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, New York, to Chambersburg, Pennsylvania 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.
- Presbytery of the East 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, Fairfax, and the cities of Alexandria and Fairfax (**Minutes**, 6-51).

- 86-05 The EPC, Anna, Illinois is placed within the bounds of the Central South Presbytery. Bounds of the Presbytery 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 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 pertinent documents are to be transmitted to each member of the Nominating Committee prior to its meeting (**Minutes**, 6-70). (Cf *Rules*, §10, for description of permanent Nominating Committee.)
- 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).
- 88-02 Presbyteries shall meet at least three times per year (**Minutes**, 8-64).
- 88-03 The entire state of Florida is placed within the bounds of the Southeast Presbytery (**Minutes**, 8-31).
- 88-04 The Presbytery of the Southeast is divided into two smaller presbyteries: The Mid-Atlantic Presbytery and the Presbytery of the Southeast. Mid-Atlantic Presbytery shall include the states of North Carolina, South Carolina, and the portions of Virginia previously included in the Southeast Presbytery. Southeast Presbytery shall include the states of Florida, Georgia, and the eastern portions of Tennessee and Kentucky. (**Minutes**, 8-31)
- 88-05 The boundaries of the Presbytery of the Central South are amended to include that section of Kansas which lies east of Highway 81 to include all of the city of Wichita. Western portion of Kansas remains with the Presbytery of the West (**Minutes**, 8-31).
- 88-06 The Assembly approves the concept of presbyteries covenanting with colleges and other educational institutions but disapproved the General Assembly entering into such agreements (**Minutes**, 8-55).
- 90-09 Boundaries for the Presbytery of St. Andrews shall consist of the province of Buenos Aires (**Minutes**, 10-36).
- 90-11 The Presbytery of Florida is established, encompassing the state of Florida. The boundaries of the Presbytery of the Southeast are adjusted accordingly (**Minutes**, 10-36).
- 91-05 A commission can be created only by an appointing court to serve as a commission for a limited time as specified by presbytery. No committee of presbytery shall have continuing authority to serve as a commission except as specifically authorized by G.16-26B and G.16-27A.12. No committee has the authority to create commissions. The rationale is that a committee is not a court of the church (**Minutes**, 11-35).



91-06 The Presbytery of the Central South is divided into two presbyteries:

1. **Central South:** Northern boundary extends from I-65 at (but excluding) Louisville, along the Ohio River to the confluence of the Wabash and Ohio Rivers, westward along Highway 13 to Murphysboro, Illinois, then due west to the Mississippi River. Then is extended from the Mississippi River due west of Murphysboro south to the Arkansas state line. Across the northern state line of Arkansas westward to the western state line.

South on the Arkansas state line to the junction of the present boundary at the Texas state line. Boundaries of the continuing Presbytery of the Central South would remain as presently established.

2. **Mid-America:** Southern boundary follows I-40 from and including Oklahoma City to the Arkansas state line. Northward on the Arkansas state line to the junction of the Missouri-Arkansas state line, then eastward to the Mississippi River.

North along the Mississippi River to the point due west of Murphysboro, Illinois, and due east to Murphysboro along Highway 13 to the confluence of the Ohio and Wabash Rivers. Northward along the eastern boundary of Illinois and westward across the northern state line of Illinois to the Iowa state line. Northward on the eastern state line of Iowa and westward on the northern Iowa state line to the western state line. Southward on the western Iowa state line to the present junction of the Kansas state line. Westward to US 81 and southward along US 81 (I-135, I-35) to and including Oklahoma City (*Minutes*, 11-37).

92-08 The Assembly amends the boundaries of the Central South and Southeast Presbyteries so that the Nashville metropolitan area is included in its entirety in the Central South Presbytery.

The boundaries of the Central South Presbytery shall be as follows: From the Kentucky-Tennessee state line at I-65 east to the Sumner-Macon County, Tennessee line; south on the Sumner-Macon county line to the intersection of Wilson County; south on the Wilson-Trousdale, Wilson-Smith, and Wilson-DeKalb county lines to the Wilson-Rutherford county line; west on the Wilson-Rutherford county line to the intersection of US 231; south on US 231 to the Tennessee-Alabama state line; west on the Tennessee-Alabama state line to the intersection of the Alabama-Georgia state line (*Minutes*, 12-29).

92-09 Boundaries of the Presbyteries of Mid-America and Central South are amended so that the Arkansas counties of Benton, Washington, Carroll, Boone and Madison are included in the Presbytery of Mid-America (*Minutes*, 12-29).

92-10 Assembly approves amending the boundaries of the Allegheny Presbytery to exclude the city of Bluefield, West Virginia and its county, assigning the designated area to the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic (*Minutes* 12-29).

92-11 Presbyteries are encouraged to establish World Outreach Committees to accelerate the foreign missions endeavor throughout the denomination (*Minutes*, 12-42).

93-05 The Assembly adopts "Position Statement on Presbytery Development:"

*Position Statement On Presbytery Development*

The purpose of this position statement is to be a guide to the General Assembly in making decisions concerning the establishment of new presbyteries or the realignment of current boundaries.

The Church as the body of Christ is composed of all those persons who profess Jesus as their Lord and Savior, together with their children. The church on earth is not limited to particular forms of government or denominational structures; nevertheless, the government of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church shall be presbyterian in form. Such is government by Elders meeting in church courts in regular gradation. The Evangelical Presbyterian Church believes the perfecting of the visible church is best established where the scriptural doctrine of government by Elders gathered in church courts is practiced. The courts of the church shall be the Session, the Presbytery, and the General Assembly. Presbytery shall be composed of all Ministers belonging to it, and two Ruling Elders for each Minister drawn from the particular churches within its bounds.

The Presbytery has jurisdiction over all that belongs to the worship and ministry of a group of churches within the designated bounds. In its spiritual oversight, the mission of the Presbytery shall be:

1. The nurture and care of persons called to the office of Minister, and oversight of all transactions pursuant to call.
2. The provision of spiritual discipline according to the *Book of Discipline*.
3. The oversight of church Sessions through annual review.
4. The maintenance of peace and unity within the congregations.
5. The establishment and development of churches.
6. The encouragement of evangelism, renewal and ministries of compassion within the congregations and Presbytery.
7. The active participation in the life of the General Assembly.
8. The organization of the Presbytery for maximum advancement of the Gospel and the Kingdom.
9. The provision of resources to member congregations promoting effective evangelism, education, stewardship, officer training and the like.

In pursuit of its mission, the question naturally arises as to what constitutes a viable Presbytery. Viability may be defined as "the ability with maximum efficiency to achieve a stated mission." The basic components of a viable Presbytery within the Evangelical Presbyterian Church shall be understood as the following:

1. **LEADERSHIP:** A Presbytery must have adequate personnel resources to support the local church as well as Presbytery's committees and commissions.
2. **FINANCIAL RESOURCES:** Sufficient resources must be available to support the mission and life of a Presbytery. A minimum budget of \$100,000 ('93 dollar basis) per year is necessary.
3. **COMMITMENT:** Leadership and resources are of little value if the solid commitment of Teaching and Ruling Elders of each church to the connectional form of government is absent.
4. **DEMOGRAPHICS:** The minimum requirements for a Presbytery need to be:
  - a. a large church (1000 + members);
  - b. twelve organized churches;
  - c. a composite membership base of 2,500.
5. **OFFICE OF THE STATED CLERK:** The Stated Clerk shall be provided with office equipment and necessary support staff to carry out the duties of the office as defined in the Presbytery by-laws.
6. **GEOGRAPHIC PROXIMITY:** Presbytery boundaries should be established to keep travel distances between churches to a reasonable minimum. (*Minutes*, 13-25)

93-06 Assembly approves dissolution of the Allegheny Presbytery, realigning the state of West Virginia with the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic; the states of New York and Pennsylvania to the Presbytery of the East; and the state of Ohio to the Presbytery of the Midwest (*Minutes*, 13-25).

93-07 Assembly approves dissolution of the Presbytery of the Far West, realigning the states of California and Arizona with the Presbytery of the West (*Minutes*, 13-25).

93-16 Presbyteries are encouraged to consider having a Women's Ministries Committee, and to devise an effective means of coordinating the input of that committee with the other committees of the Presbytery (*Minutes*, 13-35).

- 94-12 The Assembly approves redrawing presbytery boundaries of the Mid-America and Central South Presbyteries, so as to move the extreme southeastern portion of Missouri (including the "boot heel" counties of Cape Girardeau, Bollinger, Wayne, Carter and Oregon) from the Presbytery of Mid-America to the Presbytery of the Central South. (*Minutes*, 14-25)
- 94-22 A lawfully ordained minister in good standing of a non-EPC church may be authorized to serve communion in an EPC church, with the concurrence of the Presbytery. (PJC opinion, *Minutes*, 14-36)
- 94-23 While a Session is encouraged in the spirit of church unity to receive information from a Presbytery committee resulting from a committee inquiry, the Session cannot be forced to hear information from a Presbytery committee. (PJC opinion, *Minutes*, 14-36)
- 94-24 In cases where a Session has been deposed, an Administration Commission of Presbytery shall be authorized to provide pastoral assistance to the congregation, but shall not otherwise act, even temporarily, with sessional powers defined in G.16-10 with the following exceptions:
1. To call and conduct a congregational meeting (G.8-1B) within 30 days;
  2. To train, if necessary, those elected as required in G.12-3,
  3. To examine those elected, as required by G.13-7,8, and 9.
  4. To promptly and in a manner consistent with G.13-7 and 14-1E,F install those favorably examined.
- Every effort shall be made to preserve the church's right to elect its own officers. (PJC opinion, *Minutes*, 14-36)
- 94-28 Presbytery minutes shall be maintained in English in addition to any other language the court wishes to maintain, and this edition shall be rendered in a timely fashion. (*Minutes*, 14-38). [*The 15th General Assembly reaffirmed this action. (Minutes 15-39)*]
- 95-10 Boundaries of the Mid-Atlantic and Southeast Presbyteries are realigned to move five churches formerly in the Mid-Atlantic Presbytery into the Southeast Presbytery. These churches are Community Bible Church (Highlands, NC), Plumtree (Plumtree, NC), Grace and Cornerstone (both of Franklin, NC) and Harvest Church (Asheville, NC). (*Minutes*, 15-28) [*COA clarified geographic boundaries encompassing the above to be that portion of North Carolina west of State Routes #221 and #194.*]

#### 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 be not 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 and Ordination:*
1. 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.
2. All exceptions to fulfilling standards for ordination (extraordinary circumstances) will be referred to permanent 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 Committee on Ministerial Vocation:

2-1. Mail necessary documentation (personal history, etc.) to the permanent committee for its review and counsel, and

2-2. Proceed with process of ordination only after receiving recommendations from permanent Committee on Ministerial Vocation.

- 3. Persons seeking membership within a presbytery may be received as enrolled members only upon evidence of a call endorsed by the presbytery.
- 4. Terms of call: The amount of annual vacation time: one month.
- 5. Terms of call: The amount of time to be given for study leave: two weeks, cumulative up to six weeks. *[The 14th General Assembly amended this document, originally adopted in 1982 (Minutes 2-42), by dropping "Licensure" from the title as well as paragraphs 1, 4, and 5 having to do with licensure.] (Minutes, 14-37)*

## DOCUMENTS

- 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**, 2-52).
- 83-01 The Committee on Ministerial Vocation shall annually provide the presbyteries a letter encouraging each session to annually review 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 ministries seeking to issue a call (**Minutes**, 3-37).
- 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**, 3-48).
- 83-07 The denomination shall provide an approved "Candidates Educational Equivalency Program" (CEEP) 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 sustains 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 entitled "Uniform Procedures on Candidacy, Licensure, and Ordination" (**Minutes** 1983) shall be amended accordingly (**Minutes** 4-23).

- 84-03 General Assembly approves for printing 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. Act 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).
- 84-15 The Ministerial Endowment Fund is established to meet specific, extraordinary financial needs of Ministers of the Word, missionaries and other full-time Christian workers who are members of or working under the auspices of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (Minutes, 4-23).
- 85-05 The General Assembly sustains the Permanent Judicial Commission's opinion regarding the office of co-pastor as being non-existent. Relationships between Teaching Elders and EPC congregations sanctioned by the *Book of Government* are those of Pastor, Associate Pastor, and Assistant Pastor (Minutes, 5-40).
- 85-06 Assistant Pastors are full voting members of their presbyteries (Minutes, 5-40).
- 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, 5-43). (Cf Act 87-14 for establishment of Christmas "Gratitude Gift" offering.)
- 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).
- 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).
- 88-07 Chaplains are encouraged to hold membership in the presbytery allowing the greatest participation and most effective ministry (Minutes, 8-41).
- 90-19 The Assembly grants to the Myrtle Grove Presbyterian Church (North Carolina) a one-time exception to Act #85-05 in order that the present co-pastors of Myrtle Grove may be received when church and pastors are dismissed to the EPC by virtue of Article 13. Such exception shall not be understood as precedent-setting and shall pertain exclusively to this church and these two pastors only (Minutes, 10-43).
- 91-03 *The Candidates Care Manual* in Section II "Ordination Exams," shall be amended by requiring that in the event an exam is not sustained, it may not be retaken sooner than 30 days thereafter. If a third retest is necessary, it may not be administered until at least six months have elapsed (Minutes, 11-33).
- 92-07 The Assembly endorses the Andrew A. Jumper Scholarship Fund for ministerial students at Reformed Theological Seminary and encourages the church sessions to participate in its support (Minutes, 12-28).



- 92-18 The Assembly directs the Ministerial Vocation Committee, in consultation with the Theology Committee, to compile a reading list for candidates approaching ordination, with focus on the areas of theology and sacraments, the Reformed tradition, and the Reformed office of Minister of the Word (**Minutes**, 12-45).
- 93-18 The Assembly approves the "Recommended Reading List for Ordination Preparation" to be used in the task of preparing candidates approaching ordination examinations, especially in the areas of the Reformed tradition and the Reformed office of the Minister (**Minutes**, 13-39).
- 94-22 A lawfully ordained minister in good standing of a non-EPC church may be authorized to serve communion in an EPC church, with the concurrence of the Presbytery. (**Minutes**, 14-36)
- 94-25 The document "Uniform Procedures on Candidacy, Licensure, and Ordination" is amended to delete sections having to do with licensure (paragraphs 1,4, and 5), and redesignating the remaining sections accordingly. Document is renamed "Uniform Procedures on Candidacy and Ordination." (*Cf. Act #82-07*) (**Minutes**, 14-37)
- 94-26 The Assembly shall hold annually a Newly Ordained Ministers Gathering beginning in 1995, and provide a speaker addressing current issues facing new ministers, along with a time of informal sharing. (**Minutes**, 14-37)
- 94-27 In keeping with the *Denominational Goals for Pastoral Care*, approves holding an annual "growth experience for persons in ministry focusing on spiritual, emotional, marital, family and church life" beginning with the 15th General Assembly (1995). (**Minutes**, 14-37)

#### NATIONAL OUTREACH

- 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).
- 88-12 Assembly endorses the concept of an assessment process designed to identify gifted persons called and qualified for church planting (**Minutes**, 8-31).
- 89-09 The Assembly authorizes the Church Development Committee to conduct a campaign to encourage members of the EPC to include the Church Loan Fund in their wills (**Minutes**, 9-45).

- 89-10 The Assembly directs the Church Development and Administration Committees to jointly develop detailed administrative guidelines for the managing of the Church Loan Fund, and qualifications for churches and presbyteries requesting loans, and of assigning priorities to such requests. No requests for loans may be made until the presbyteries and churches have been advised of the guidelines. (*Minutes*, 9-48)
- 89-11 The Assembly authorizes the Church Development Committee to begin making loans to established EPC churches and to presbyteries in this Assembly year with appropriate fees to cover administrative costs and to provide challenge contribution goals from such churches and presbyteries to help build the Fund, enabling them to make more loans to needy congregations (*Minutes*, 9-48).
- 89-12 The Assembly approves the establishment of an Investors Church Development Fund and authorizes the Church Development Committee to prepare a preliminary plan to present to the 10th General Assembly (1990) and to select subcommittee members with expertise in this field as needed (*Minutes*, 9-45).
- 89-13 The Assembly approves for implementation the *Master Plan for Church Development* (*Minutes*, 9-45).
- 90-10 The Church Loan Fund policies shall be amended to include the following: "A presbytery shall contractually guarantee timely repayment of principal and fees upon the recommendation of its Church Development Committee following its determination that the loan is a sound financial venture (*Minutes*, 10-36).
- 92-15 The Assembly adopts resolution encouraging each local church to (a) redirect 10% of their non-denominational benevolence budgets to the EPC, designated for World Outreach and/or new church development; and (b) increase their support for all missions by 10% (*Minutes*, 12-46).
- 92-21 Policy is established that financial solicitations of any type for support of an EPC church planting project be limited to the organizing context for the project, viz. daughter church project to its mother church, presbytery plant to its presbytery, Assembly supported plants to Assembly approved National Outreach Committee (formerly called Church Development Committee) benevolence projects (*Minutes*, 12-46).
- 92-22 The Assembly approves division of the Department of Outreach into the National Outreach Department and the World Outreach Department (*Minutes*, 12-46).

### WORLD OUTREACH

- 83-13 *World Outreach Manual, Part I (Theology and Practice of Missions)* is adopted by the Assembly (*Minutes*, 3-46).
- 84-04 Oversight of Ethnic and Urban Ministries in North America shall be given to the permanent Committee on World Outreach (*Minutes*, 4-24).
- 84-15 *World Outreach Manual, Part II (The Handbook for Candidates)* is adopted (*Minutes*, 4-24).
- 85-12 Cooperative agreement is approved between the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and Missionary Internship (*Minutes*, 5-24).
- 85-13 Cooperative agreement is approved between the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and Overseas Crusade (*Minutes*, 5-24).



- 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).
- 86-22 *World Outreach Manual, Part III (Handbook for Missionaries)* is adopted (**Minutes**, 6-67).
- 87-01 The Assembly grants approved mission agency status to the Middle East Reformed Fellowship (MERF) (**Minutes**, 7-30). (*Cf. Act 91-08 for subsequent action*)
- 87-02 The General Assembly adopts definition of approved mission agency as follows:
- \* 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)
- 88-13 The General Assembly adopts the *World Outreach Master Plan* (**Minutes**, 8-43).
- 90-13 Cooperative agreement is approved between the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and InterServe (**Minutes**, 10-37).
- 90-14 Trans World Radio is ratified as an approved mission agency according to the standards set forth in Acts 87-02 (**Minutes**, 10-37).
- 90-18 The Assembly endorses the LOGOI/FLET program as an acceptable equivalency program of theological education for ministerial candidates pursuing ordination in Argentina (**Minutes**, 10-43).
- 91-07 Cooperative agreement is approved between the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and Frontiers. (**Minutes**, 11-36).
- 91-08 The Assembly withdraws approved agency status of the Middle East Reformed Fellowship (**Minutes**, 11-36). (*Cf. Act 87-01*)
- 92-11 The Assembly encourages presbyteries to establish World Outreach Committees to accelerate the foreign missions endeavor throughout the denomination (**Minutes**, 12-42).
- 92-12 Cooperative agreement is approved between the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and Sudan Interior Mission (SIM) (**Minutes**, 12-42).
- 92-13 Cooperative agreement is approved between the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and Arab World Ministries (**Minutes**, 12-42).
- 92-14 Cooperative agreement is approved between the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and SEND, International (**Minutes**, 12-42).
- 92-15 The Assembly adopts resolution encouraging each local church to (a) redirect 10% of their non-denominational benevolence budgets to the EPC, designated for World

Outreach and/or new church development; and (b) increase their support for all missions by 10% (**Minutes**, 12-46).

93-09 Cooperative agreement is approved between the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and Youth For Christ, USA (**Minutes**, 13-27 ).

93-10 Cooperative agreement is approved between the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and World Impact (**Minutes**, 13-27 ).

93-11 Cooperative agreement is approved between the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and United World Mission (**Minutes**, 13-27 ).

93-12 The Assembly grants approved mission agency status to Literacy and Evangelism, International (**Minutes**, 13-27)

93-13 World Outreach missionaries in cooperative agreements may choose insurance coverage with either the EPC or their sending agency. In unique situations, other alternative coverage approved by World Outreach Committee may be appropriate (**Minutes**, 13-27).

93-14 National pastors under appointment by World Outreach are not required to participate in the EPC Pension Plan (**Minutes**, 13-28).

94-17 The Bible League is granted approved mission agency status. (**Minutes**, 14-33)

94-18 The Assembly affirms the Argentine Declaration.

#### *Argentine Declaration*

Whereas we, the participants in the Argentine Consultation, thank God that in his providence our denomination, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, has become a redemptive instrument for the Presbytery of St. Andrews, whereby an awareness of purpose and mission, within Reformed doctrine, has revitalized the life of its member churches. We further trust that this process in the years ahead will be one of mutual blessing and resound to the glory of God.

The participants of the Consultation make the following declaration:

1. The Argentine Consultation reaffirms the principle of connectionalism as expressed within the EPC. It further reaffirms that the Church is best established where the scriptural doctrine of government by elders gathered in church courts is practiced.
2. The Consultation upholds the necessity to put this principle into practice in every aspect with reference to the St. Andrews Presbytery, emphasizing the principle of reciprocity.
3. The Consultation further states its vision for Argentina as follows:
  - a. To develop a self-governing evangelical Presbyterian church;
  - b. To establish a church displaying the following characteristics:
    1. Rooted in the Word of God, based on the best Reformed/Presbyterian tradition.
    2. Guided by the Holy Spirit.
    3. Continually growing in sanctification.
    4. Permanently developing missionary activity.
    5. Interdependent, multi-formed and diverse in its unity. (**Minutes**, 14-33)

94-19 World Outreach is instructed to develop a re-entry plan or procedure for missionaries and their families returning from the field. (**Minutes**, 14-33)

95-15 Cooperative agreement is approved between the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and Africa Inland Mission (**Minutes**, 15-35).

- 95-16 Cooperative agreement is approved between the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and Middle East Media (**Minutes**, 15-35).
- 95-17 Cooperative agreement is approved between the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and Pioneers (**Minutes**, 15-35).
- 95-18 SERVE (Sending Experienced Retired Volunteers Everywhere) is recognized as an approved mission agency (**Minutes**, 15-35).

### 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).
- 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 more 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 Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, and send a delegate to its Synod every other year beginning in 1986 (**Minutes**, 5-47). *Cf. Act 88-14 for definition of this relationship. The 12th General Assembly approved an annual exchange of delegates. Cf. Act 92-02)*
- 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 (**Minutes**, 6-74).
- 87-09 The Evangelical Presbyterian Church shall seek membership in the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council (**Minutes**, 7-51).
- 87-10 The Evangelical Presbyterian Church shall enter into a fraternal relationship with the Christian Reformed Church (**Minutes**, 7-51).
- 88-14 Definition of fraternal relationship established by the 5th General Assembly is as follows:
1. exchange of fraternal delegates at major assemblies;
  2. occasional pulpit supply;
  3. intercommunion;
  4. joint action in areas of common responsibilities;
  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 (**Minutes** 8-50).
- 88-15 The Assembly states that the official policy of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church is, as it has been, not to solicit churches to leave the Presbyterian Church (USA) or any other denomination. Further, that the Evangelical Presbyterian Church shall limit itself to responding to churches requesting information about the EPC (**Minutes**, 8-50).
- 88-16 In a spirit of brotherly concern, the 8th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church requests that the Presbyterian Church (USA) reconsider its action relative to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and consider rescinding said action until such time as the Evangelical Presbyterian Church receives information from the Presbyterian Church (USA) about the charges leveled against the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and these charges can be responded to after investigation (**Minutes**, 8-50).
- 88-17 The Evangelical Presbyterian Church will take every measure possible to handle all matters of disputes between her and all others, the just and the unjust irrespectively, before Christian mediators and will eschew civil litigation unless she is named as the defendant (**Minutes**, 8-50).
- 88-18 The Stated Clerk shall convey to the World Alliance of Reformed Churches (WARC) a protest on behalf of the 8th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church regarding the action of the 200th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) to censure and condemn the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, a sister denomination in the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, without adequate communication and without an attempt to resolve the alleged problems between our bodies; and further, we request the World Alliance of Reformed Churches assist the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in resolving this dispute between sister denominations in the World Alliance of Reformed Churches. (**Minutes**, 8-50)
- 89-19 The Assembly instructs the Fraternal Relations Committee to explore with both the Christian Reformed Church and the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church the possibilities of more extensive relationships and/or cooperative ministries (**Minutes**, 9-49).
- 89-20 The Assembly instructs the Fraternal Relations Committee to explore the desirability and feasibility of establishing fraternal relationships with the Reformed Church in America and with the Presbyterian Church in America (**Minutes**, 9-49).

- 89-21 The Assembly instructs the Fraternal Relations Committee to continue dialogue with NAPARC concerning our application for membership in the organization; to continue to strengthen our relationship with member denominations in the World Alliance of Reformed Churches; and to continue to affirm our relationship with the National Association of Evangelicals (Minutes, 9-49). (Cf. Act 87-09)
- 91-10 The Assembly approves a statement of commitment between the EPC and the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church authorizing the Interchurch Relations Committees to continue meeting for the purposes of finding areas of mutual commitments, discovering areas of differences and exploring ways of resolving those differences, exploring new and creative ways of working together. They shall report back to the respective parent bodies each year, until such time as either committee may ask to be discharged from this duty, or until the appointing body may discharge the committee from such duty (Minutes, 11-26). (Cf. Act 92-01 for the Geneva Statement.)
- 92-01 The Assembly approves *The Geneva Statement*, to be added to the joint statement adopted by the EPC and the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (Minutes, 12-21). (Cf. Act 91-10)

### *The Geneva Statement*

Being persuaded from Scripture that all Christians are united together as one body in Christ, we acknowledge our responsibility to God and one another to labor together in the work of Christ so as to promote the peace, purity, and unity of the church, and the advancement of Christ's Kingdom in the world.

We share a common understanding of the Scriptures as expressed in the *Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms*, for laboring together in ministry. Recognizing that some differences exist between us in our understanding of certain issues concerning God's will for his church, we also recognize that that which we hold in common far outweighs that which differentiates us. It is understood that our common labors shall not compromise the consciences of either church. The integrity of each church concerning its standards and policies must be maintained and respected.

We therefore pledge ourselves to labor together in love to advance the work of Christ in both our common and separate ministries, seeking to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

We promise that if ever we should offend one another in our common labors, we shall do everything possible to resolve the matter and to maintain cooperation. We commit ourselves to labor in support of our church courts, faithfully reporting our activities to the appropriate board or agency, and our respective committees concerning interchurch relations.

We further believe that such practical fraternity, apart from any quest for organizational union will be pleasing to God and promote the advancement of the Gospel in the world. For these reasons we commit ourselves to this Agreement of Cooperation which is to be attached to the joint statement previously adopted by our churches.

- 92-02 The Assembly approved an annual exchange of fraternal delegates to the meetings of the EPC and Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, rather than the present alternating year exchange (Minutes 12-21) (Cf. Act 85-10).
- 92-16 The Assembly responds to questions raised by the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council (NAPARC) concerning our stance on charismatic gifts by referring them to the Position Paper on the Holy Spirit, along with the following interpretive statements:
1. The Evangelical Presbyterian Church holds that baptism in or with the Holy Spirit is to be identified with regeneration and adoption;
  2. The Evangelical Presbyterian Church views the gifts of the Holy Spirit as these are specified in such passages as I Corinthians 12, Romans 12, Ephesians 4,



and I Peter 4 as valid for the church at the present time.

3. The Position Paper on the Holy Spirit distinguishes between the Word of God on the one hand, and the gifts of the Spirit, including the gift of prophecy, on the other. Whatever the exercise the gift of prophecy may involve, it is plain that its exercise is subject to the Holy Scriptures and to the local session.
4. Clearly the implication of the Position Paper on the Holy Spirit is that because preeminence is ascribed to the Holy Scriptures, one would have to draw a very sharp distinction between the Bible (the Word of God) and any other form of revelation mentioned in the New Testament. (Minutes, 12-44)

- 93-03 Assembly instructs the Christian Education Committee to explore with the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church the feasibility of a joint family conference to be held at Bonclarken Conference Center (Minutes, 13-18).
- 94-01 The Assembly establishes fraternal relations with the Association of the Charismatic Presbyterian Churches in Puerto Rico as defined in Acts #84-06 and #88-14. (Minutes 14-18)
- 94-02 The Assembly extends a resolution of thanks to Dr. Billy Melvin upon his retirement as director of NAE, expressing appreciation for 28 years of faithful service to NAE. (Minutes 14-18)
- 94-03 The Assembly instructs the Fraternal Relations Committee to pursue and explore fraternal relations with the Presbyterian Church in Ireland to include, but not be limited to possible world outreach. (Minutes, 14-18)
- 94-04 The Fraternal Relations Committee is instructed to continue to pursue membership in the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council (NAPARC). (Minutes, 14-18)
- 94-05 The Assembly instructs the Fraternal Relations Committee to study the membership of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and ascertain if any alternate organizations are available for churches in the Reformed world. (Minutes, 14-18)

### FISCAL MATTERS

- 81-09 Assembly adopts suggested guideline of \$5 "per member" contribution by EPC congregations (Minutes, 1-24).
- 82-08 The fiscal year of the Assembly shall be a calendar year (Minutes, 2-50).
- 83-08 **Fiscal Policy: Unified Budget Proposal**  
The administration and operation of the General Assembly ought to be supported entirely by per member giving.

Aside from Assembly operations, the programs and activities of the Assembly in such areas as world missions, new church development, etc., are to be supported by the benevolence offerings of the various congregations as follows:

1. Each committee shall make a request to the Assembly through the Administration Committee for specific project funding in the succeeding year.
2. Upon the Assembly's approval, this shall become the Benevolence Askings

of the denomination.

3. Local congregations may give to this objective in the following manner:
  - a. Undesignated giving to all objectives which gifts shall be applied according to the percentage of the budget for each program.
  - b. 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% of benevolence, undesignated gifts shall then be distributed according to the 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 sessions.

To move toward 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 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 Administration 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.

As soon as practical, through the Administration Committee, the budget for the following year and a preliminary budget for the year after that shall be presented to the General Assembly each year.

All financial appeals by any committee, agency, or persons must be submitted to the Administration Committee for prior approval (**Minutes**, 3-53).

- 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).
- 84-15 Ministerial Endowment Fund is established to meet specific, extraordinary financial needs of Ministers of the Word, missionaries, and other full-time Christian workers who are members of or working under the auspices of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. The Stated Clerk and chairmen of the World Outreach and Ministerial Vocation Committees are appointed administrators of the Fund, responsible for making specific grants from the income of the Fund (**Minutes**, 4-23).
- 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 Administration 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 authorized EPC churches to receive such an offering whose funds shall be administered by the permanent Committee on Administration (**Minutes**, 5-43).



- 86-07 The Assembly endorses the concept of "2nd Mile Giving" for Women's Ministries to be part of the Benevolence Askings 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 the suggested per member contribution for the Assembly's Administration Budget.

Each session and congregation is assured that such per member goal is not an assessment but only a suggestion, and that contributions to approved Assembly benevolences 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 of 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).

- 89-05 The Assembly decides that the Administration Budget will bear the administrative expenses of the Board of Pension and Benefits and the Pension Plan for the next two years (*Minutes*, 9-48).
- 89-18 Per member asking is raised from \$8 to \$10 (*Minutes*, 9-48).
- 90-01 The Assembly approves a half-time Director of Women's Ministries and granted an exception to its fiscal policy (Act 83-08) permitting the position to be funded for a period not exceeding three years through the Women's "Faith Focus" benevolence asking (*Minutes*, 10-24).
- 90-02 The Assembly approves a half-time Director of Youth Ministries position and granted an exception to fiscal policy (Act 83-08) permitting the position to be funded by benevolence giving for a period not exceeding five years (*Minutes*, 10-25).
- 90-10 The Church Loan Fund policies shall be amended to include the following: "A presbytery shall contractually guarantee timely repayment of principal and fees upon the recommendation of its Church Development Committee following its determination that the loan is a sound financial venture (*Minutes*, 10-36).
- 90-12 The Assembly approves and endorses the following eight principles regarding the propriety of lending money at interest:
1. It is always right and honoring to God that the church make gifts and/or interest-free loans to mission congregations situated in severely disadvantaged areas, and to congregations in need of special assistance.
  2. The Old Testament prohibition of usury had in view Israel as a national entity, a commonwealth, a body politic unique in its position in redemptive history, a prohibition which therefore cannot be directly applied to the New Testament church. Here we take the general position clearly set forth in *The Westminster Confession of Faith* (Chapter XIX, "Of the Law of God" paragraph iv); "To them [i.e., Israel] also as a body politic, he gave sundry judicial laws, which expired together with the state of that people, not obliging any other, now further than the general equity thereof may require."

3. The prohibition of usury, or the lending of money at interest, through never absolute (for example, interest could be charged when loans were made to non-Israelites) was designed by God for the commonwealth of Israel, and intended to govern its life in the period prior to the coming of Christ and the fulfilling of the law by him (Matthew 5:17-18). The principle of love which underlay that prohibition continues to be relevant to the lives of believers and to the life of the church. We believe, however, that the laws themselves are no longer directly applicable "further than the general equity thereof may require."
  4. The preservation of the value of the principal by means of the charging of interest, given administrative costs and the prevalence of inflation, and even some increasing of the principal itself for the good of Christ's kingdom, cannot be said to be a violation of biblical teaching for the reasons set forth in the preceding statements.
  5. Underlying the Old Testament teaching on interest and its New Testament implications is always the great truth that relations among believers in the area of finance, the lending of money, and the charging of interest, as in all others, are to be governed by the requirements of love, equity, and justice.
  6. Given the principles enunciated in this paper, we believe that in administering the funds available for loans to congregations, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church must take into consideration the diverse nature of those congregations applying for assistance. It is clear, for example, that some congregations are in a much more favorable position to repay loans with interest than is the case with others. What may be applicable in one set of circumstances may not be at all applicable in another.
  7. It is clear from the Scriptures (I Timothy 6:10) and from Christian history that churches, as individuals, are not immune to the temptations of avarice. Those responsible for the administration of funds belonging to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church will remember the importance of proceeding with caution in this area and profit from the example of biblical teaching as well as from the broader history of the church.
  8. It is our conviction that a loan with interest ought not to be extended to a person, or persons, lacking collateral or the ability to repay the sum borrowed. Further, in our view a clear distinction must be made between a mission or ministry supported by the church through gifts given without any expectation of repayment, and support extended to church extension projects or congregations seeking to purchase property and construct a building. It is entirely proper to grant assistance to new or existing congregations by means of a loan to which interest is attached and which is to be repaid on a mutually agreeable schedule. (Minutes, 10-36).
- 90-16 The Assembly conceptually endorses the Medical Benevolence Trust with the understanding that the actual Trust Agreement would be presented to the 11th Assembly. Approval to begin promotion of the Trust is given (Minutes, 10-41).
- 92-21 Policy is established that financial solicitations of any type for support of an EPC church planting project be limited to the organizing context for the project, viz. daughter church project to its mother church, presbytery plant to its presbytery, Assembly supported plants to Assembly approved National Outreach Committee benevolence projects (Minutes, 12-46).

- 92-23 The Assembly approves an increase in the per member asking from \$10 to \$12 (**Minutes** 12-46).
- 94-13 The Church Loan Fund Criterion #1 is amended to read: "Fee rate: The original rate shall be established at the time the loan is made for a period of one (1) year and renewed on each succeeding anniversary date, and shall be based upon prevailing money market rates." (**Minutes**, 14-25)
- 94-14 Assembly approves an increase in the per member asking from \$12 to \$15. (**Minutes**, 14-26)
- 95-01 The General Assembly Office is instructed to provide information relative to special offerings at least five weeks in advance of the projected date of the offering (**Minutes**, 15-20)
- 95-08 Permission is granted the Christian Education and Publications Committee to design a subscription or funding program for *EPC Reflections*, to begin with the June, 1996 issue. (**Minutes**, 15-23)
- 95-11 Assembly approves the matching scholarship program offered to EPC students by Erskine College, and a mailing to introduce the program. (**Minutes**, 15-29)

### PROGRAM MATTERS

- 84-14 The General Assembly adopts Preliminary Position Papers on Homosexuality, The Value Of and Respect For Human Life, Capital Punishment, Abortion, and The Ordination of Women (**Minutes**, 4-38). (Cf. Acts 86-20 and 87-21) [*The 15th General Assembly (1995) rescinded its Preliminary Position Paper on Capital Punishment. Cf Act 95-12.*]
- 86-08 The Task Force on Aging shall continue its work with the goal of implementing the following recommendations 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 church's 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 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 lifestyles to improve their physical, emotional, and spiritual health (**Minutes**, 6-60).
- 86-09 The Youth Ministry concept for summer youth conference is adopted. (**Minutes**, 6-60)

- 86-20 Position Papers on Abortion, The Ordination of Women, and Homosexuality are adopted (**Minutes**, 6-35, 6-36, and 6-37 respectively). (Cf. Act 84-14)
- 86-21 Position Paper on the Holy Spirit is adopted (**Minutes**, 6-33).
- 87-04 The Assembly approves the development of an officer training program for the 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).
- 87-21 Position Paper on the Value Of and Respect For Human Life is adopted (**Minutes**, 7-36). (Cf. Act 84-14)
- 88-06 The Assembly approves the concept of presbyteries covenanting with colleges and other educational institutions, but disapproved the General Assembly entering into such agreements (**Minutes**, 8-55).
- 88-19 "The Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy" is adopted as a resource for its congregations (**Minutes**, 8-56; text of statement pp. 70-73 of the **Minutes**).
- 88-20 The Assembly endorses for distribution to its churches *The Children's Catechism: A New Modern Version*, published by Summertown Texts, Signal Mountain, Tennessee (1988) (**Minutes**, 8-55).
- 88-21 The Assembly endorses the work and ministry of Lay Renewal Ministries as an excellent resource for EPC churches to use (**Minutes**, 8-31).
- 88-22 The Assembly adopts the concept of endorsing curriculum publishers consistent with our theology and beliefs, and the subsequent marketing of such materials (**Minutes**, 8-55).
- 88-23 The Assembly approves holding a biannual conference for all ministers with fewer than five years experience in pastoral ministry (**Minutes**, 8-41).
- 88-24 The Assembly endorses for its churches two booklets: *What is the Reformed Faith*, by John R. de Witt, and *Baptism*, by Francis Schaeffer (**Minutes**, 8-60).
- 88-25 The Assembly approves the establishment of a Youth Speakers Bureau for the purpose of providing quality speakers for both local church and presbytery functions (**Minutes**, 8-54).
- 88-26 The Sonlife Strategy for Youth Discipleship is endorsed as a Biblical, practical, uniform model for youth ministry in the local church (**Minutes**, 8-54).
- 88-27 A Preliminary Position Paper on Pornography is adopted, to be sent to the presbyteries for further theological and Biblical reflection to the end that a position paper may be adopted (**Minutes**, 8-60).
- 88-28 A proposed "Constitution for Women's Ministries" is adopted, and the churches are encouraged to work toward implementation of such constitution. (**Minutes**, 8-42)

- 89-16 **Bethany Christian Services** is approved as an agency for ministry to unmarried mothers and the unborn, providing alternatives to abortion including adoption services. Bethany is commended as deserving of the prayers of our people as well as worthy of financial support from those of our people who feel so led (**Minutes**, 9-39).
- 89-17 The Assembly approves the establishment by the Christian Education & Publications Committee of a Christian Education Resource Network utilizing qualified regional (3 regions) people who will serve as (1) interpreters of the committee's goals for presbyteries in the region, and (2) phone resources for churches in the presbytery needing consultations, and (3) assistance for presbyteries in workshop development (**Minutes**, 9-39).
- 90-03 International and domestic short-term mission experiences for senior high young people shall be made available through the Youth Ministries Committee (**Minutes**, 10-25).
- 90-04 Committee on Christian Education shall make every effort to inform churches of available curriculum which is distinctly Reformed, such as Great Commission Publications and Christian Reformed Church materials (**Minutes**, 10-26).
- 90-05 Committee on Christian Education is instructed to develop a curriculum for prospective new church members, one for youth and one for adults, which shall include Presbyterian history, doctrine, and polity (**Minutes**, 10-26).
- 92-04 Youth Ministries Committee is requested to research the establishment of a denominational retreat and camping facility, using Montreat and Young Life as models for this ministry (**Minutes**, 12-26).
- 92-05 The Assembly commends the *Officer's Training Manual* by Dr. Andrew Jumper for use in EPC churches, and recommends its printing in a spiral-bound format (**Minutes**, 12-27).
- 92-06 The Assembly encourages the use of the new *Westminster Confession of Faith Commentary* (Summertown Texts) in EPC churches (**Minutes**, 12-27).
- 92-17 Pilot project for a regional pastor is approved, to be sponsored jointly by the General Assembly and Mid-Atlantic Presbytery (**Minutes**, 12-45).
- 92-20 Establishment of two subcommittees is approved:
1. Evangelism, a subcommittee of National Outreach;
  2. Caring, a subcommittee of Ministerial Vocation (**Minutes**, 12-46).
- 93-03 Christian Education and Publications Committee is instructed to explore with the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church the feasibility of a joint family conference to be held at Bonclarken Conference Center (**Minutes**, 13-18).
- 93-04 Christian Education and Publications Committee is instructed to develop resources for utilizing the *Westminster Catechism*, and for teaching Reformed distinctives to children and youth in local churches (**Minutes**, 13-23).
- 93-16 Presbyteries are encouraged to consider having a Women's Ministries Committee, and to devise an effective means of coordinating the input of that committee with the other committees of the Presbytery (**Minutes**, 13-35).
- 93-18 The Assembly approves the Recommended Reading List for Ordination Preparation,



to be used in the task of preparing candidates approaching ordination examinations especially in the areas of the Reformed tradition and the Reformed office of the Minister (**Minutes**, 13-39).

- 94-10 The Assembly tables the instruction to research the establishment of a denominational camp and retreat facility until such time as resources or facilities are available. (Cf. Act 92-04) (**Minutes**, 14-24)
- 94-11 The Assembly encourages its churches to establish procedures whereby those who work with children may be screened for any felony or child abuse incidents, and to have policies and guidelines concerning these areas. Resources are Christian Ministry Resources, 1/800/222-1840 and the Presbytery of the West. (**Minutes**, 14-24)
- 94-20 Position papers on AIDS/HIV and Homosexuality are replaced by new editions on these subjects (**Minutes**, 14-35)
- 94-21 A Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage is adopted and sent to the churches for study, and the Assembly instructs the Theology Committee to include a more thorough study in this paper on the following subjects:
1. A definition which affirms the covenantal aspects of marriage.
  2. A strong statement relating reconciliation to covenant faithfulness in relationships.
  3. A strong statement regarding pre-divorce reconciliation to compliment the existing statement of post-divorce reconciliation.
  4. Expand statements on "hardness of heart" as related to divorce and/or reconciliation.
  5. Expand the discussion of forgiveness and restoration as it relates to service and leadership in the Church by divorced or remarried persons.
  6. A review of I Timothy 5:8 for possible inclusion as it relates to the issues of desertion and covenant unfaithfulness.
  7. A discussion of remaining unmarried in the context of the section entitled, "What About Remarriage?" (**Minutes**, 14-35)
- 95-01 The General Assembly Office shall provide information relative to special offerings at least five weeks in advance of the projected date of the offering (**Minutes**, 15-20)
- 95-08 Permission is granted the Christian Education and Publications Committee to design a subscription or funding program for *EPC Reflections*, to begin with the June, 1996 issue. (**Minutes**, 15-23)
- 95-09 The Christian Education and Publications Committee is instructed to form a task force composed of Christian educators and theologians to review and evaluate various curricula and make evaluations based on EPC standards, making this evaluation available to the churches in a simplified form. (**Minutes**, 15-23).
- 95-12 The Assembly rescinds its Preliminary Position Paper on Capital Punishment (cf. Act 84-14). (**Minutes**, 15-31)
- 95-13 A Pastoral Letter Regarding Criteria For Evaluating Membership in Secret Fraternal Organizations is adopted (**Minutes**, 15-31).
- 95-14 A Position Paper on the Problems of Suffering, Death, and Dying" is adopted (**Minutes**, 15-31).

#### BOARD OF PENSION AND BENEFITS

- 81-04 Terms of call for any minister of member churches shall provide for participation

in the denominational hospitalization and disability 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 be not 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 Denominational group insurance plan providing health, disability, and life coverage shall be mandatory for all ministers within member churches. (**Minutes**, 1-36)
- 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**, 2-52).
- 84-08 General Assembly adopts the self-funding group insurance plan offered by The Travelers 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).

- 86-18 The denominational group insurance plan shall be amended by increasing the cap for long term disability insurance from \$25,000 to a \$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**, 7-53).
- 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 Persons otherwise required to be covered by the denominational group insurance plan may 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 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 those employees is also eliminated (**Minutes**, 7-53).

- 87-17 Group Insurance 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 life coverage is changed from The Travelers to the Provident Life and Accident Insurance Company. Disability insurance coverage remains with The Travelers (**Minutes**, 7-54).
- 88-08 Assembly amends participatory requirements for group health insurance plan by requiring participation of all ministers on the rolls of presbyteries with the exception of:
1. missionaries laboring in cooperative agreements with mission agencies;
  2. ministers laboring in institutional agencies providing their own group insurance plan;
  3. ministers afforded group insurance coverage as part of retirement benefits from a previous employer;
  4. ministers without call, and ministers laboring less than 20 hours in a place of ministry (**Minutes**, 8-24).
- 88-09 Non-ordained eligible employees of EPC churches shall be expected to participate in the denominational group insurance plan on a contributory basis with the exception of employees whose spouses carry certifiable medical insurance able to cover all eligible dependents, and employees offered group insurance coverage as a part of retirement benefits from a previous employer (**Minutes**, 8-24).
- 88-10 Churches are requested to move conscientiously toward (or maintain) at least 80% of non-ordained eligible employees participating in the plan to preserve the integrity and continuance of the Plan (**Minutes**, 8-24).
- 89-02 The Assembly adopts the Evangelical Presbyterian Church Pension Plan and Adoption Agreement as presented, with an amendment allowing the Board of Pension and Benefits to work with special cases, giving them the authority to make decisions for the General Assembly (**Minutes**, 9-22). (*The 13th General Assembly adopted a restated Pension Plan. Cf Act 93-01*).
- 89-03 The Assembly approves the recommendation that members of the Board of Pension and Benefits be subject to removal from office in the same manner as set forth in Chapter 6 (*Book of Discipline*), with the Permanent Judicial Commission acting in the place of session or presbytery (**Minutes**, 9-22).
- 89-04 The Board of Pension and Benefits is authorized to accept Adoption Agreements from churches for a period of three years from and after January 1, 1990, or three years after a church is established as a particular Evangelical Presbyterian Church, whichever is later. An Adoption Agreement from a judicatory shall be accepted within three years from and after January 1, 1990 or within three years from and after the date of employment of its first employee, whichever is later (**Minutes**, 9-22).
- 89-05 The Assembly decides that the Administration Budget will bear the administrative expenses of the Board of Pension and Benefits and the Pension Plan for the next two years (**Minutes**, 9-48).
- 89-06 Formation is approved of a Board of Reference to provide information and advice to the Board of Pension and Benefits. Board of Reference should be appointed by the Board of Pension and Benefits from the broad constituency of the denomination to

- advise it concerning the acceptance, operation, and effectiveness of the Plan (**Minutes**, 9-22).
- 89-14 The Assembly approves a three-tier system based on regions (zip codes) to determine premium costs for the medical portion of the Group Insurance Plan (**Minutes**, 9-33).
- 89-15 The Assembly approves the establishment of a General Assembly benevolence fund for medical care costs, concentrating its benevolence health care efforts on ministers without call, mission church pastors, and retired ministers and their families (**Minutes**, 9-33).
- 90-08 The Group Insurance Plan shall be placed under the Board of Pension and Benefits no later than the summer of 1991 (**Minutes**, 10-28).
- 90-15 The Group Insurance Plan (medical portion) is amended to reduce the yearly deductibles from \$250 per year to \$150 per individual, and from \$500 to \$300 per family. The maximum yearly coverage for outpatient treatment of mental and nervous conditions, substance abuse, and biofeedback was reduced from \$2000 to \$1500. Substance abuse treatment was added to the category of nervous, emotional, or mental disorders for which a lifetime cap of \$50,000 exists. (**Minutes**, 10-39)
- 90-16 The Assembly conceptually endorses the Medical Benevolence Trust with the understanding that the actual Trust Agreement would be presented to the 11th Assembly. Approval to begin promotion of the Trust is given (**Minutes**, 10-39).
- 90-17 The Group Insurance Plan (medical portion) is amended to make ministers of fraternal bodies laboring within EPC congregations as missionary-in-residence or graduate school student-in-residence eligible for participation if such are understood as full-time staff in the life of the church (**Minutes**, 10-39).
- 91-01 The Board of Pension and Benefits shall assume administration of the Group Insurance Plan effective upon adjournment of the 11th General Assembly (**Minutes**, 11-14). (*Cf. Act 90-08*)
- 91-02 The Group Insurance Plan shall be amended so that the definition for retired employees shall be "A Retired Employee is one who has reached the 60th birthday and has served at least five (5) years in an EPC presbytery approved ministry." (**Minutes** 11-25)
- 92-19 The Assembly extends the initial period of enrollment and submission of EPC Pension Adoption Agreements for churches of record as of January 1, 1990 from December 31, 1992 to December 31, 1993 (**Minutes**, 12-46).
- 92-24 Pension Plan is amended to provide that normal retirement age shall be 59 1/2, rather than age 60. (**Minutes**, 12-13)
- 92-25 Group Medical Plan is amended to provide coverage for transplants of the following human organs only: cornea, kidney, liver, heart, lung and bone marrow. Total dollar amount payable for all charges related to organ transplants is limited to \$500,000 per person per lifetime. (**Minutes**, 12-13) [*Cf. Act 95-05*] *The 15th Assembly added pancreas to the list of organs for which transplant expenses will be covered. Minutes, 15-22*
- 92-26 Requirement for second surgical opinion is eliminated, and Group Medical Plan will cover only up to 80% of second surgical opinions obtained. Additionally, all surgical procedures covered by the Plan are covered at 80%. Plan shall continue to pay 100%

for pre-admission tests. (**Minutes**, 12-13)

- 92-27 Group Medical Plan extends normal co-pay of 80% to the following procedures: clinical breast examination between the ages of 20 and 40, and every year after age 50; Mammography every year after age 50; sigmoidoscopy every three years after age 50; prostatic specific antigen test every year after age 50. (**Minutes**, 12-13)
- 92-28 An additional class of employees, "Disabled Employees" is created and defined under the Group Medical Plan as follows: "A disabled employee is one who has been determined to be totally disabled. To be totally disabled, the employee must be unable to perform all of the normal duties of her or her regular occupation or employment for pay or profit. This must be due to the disability. Such a person may continue to participate in the medical portion of the EPC Plan indefinitely by contributing the appropriate monthly premium." (**Minutes**, 12-13)
- 92-29 The Medical Benevolence Fund document is adopted (cf. Documents, p. 362) (**Minutes**, 12-13)
- 93-01 General Assembly adopts a restated Pension Plan, replacing the Plan adopted in 1989 (**Minutes**, 13-12). (*Cf. Act 89-02*)
- 93-02 Board of Pension and Benefits is authorized to extend health insurance coverage for EPC employees up to three months following month of termination, with a prepaid premium increase of 5% to cover administrative costs and a \$.50 per participant per month charge for the privilege of conversion. (**Minutes**, 13-12)
- 93-13 World Outreach missionaries in cooperative agreements may choose insurance coverage with either the EPC or their sending agency. In unique situations, other alternative coverage approved by World Outreach Committee may be appropriate (**Minutes**, 13-27).
- 93-14 National pastors under appointment by World Outreach are not required to participate in the EPC Pension Plan (**Minutes**, 13-28).
- 94-06 Board of Pension and Benefits is instructed to investigate and determine actual cost of medical coverage for persons on the Plan not covered by Medicare at time of retirement. (**Minutes**, 14-22)
- 94-07 The Group Insurance Plan shall provide benefits for adopted children at the time effective custody takes place. (**Minutes**, 14-22)
- 94-08 The Group Insurance Plan shall provide medical coverage to dependents of retired and disabled employees. (**Minutes**, 14-22)
- 94-09 Board of Pension and Benefits may review and enroll churches of record December 31, 1993 who wish to participate in the Pension Plan but who, because of extenuating circumstances, did not enroll during the period of eligibility. (**Minutes**, 14-22)
- 95-02 Group Medical Plan is amended to exclude persons who have opted out of the Social Security System and who are not otherwise eligible or entitled to Social Security or Medicare coverage, upon retirement or attainment of age 65 (whichever occurs later). Coverage, however, may be continued upon participation in the Medicare Voluntary Enrollment Plan, Parts A and B, and upon payment of the required monthly premium to both Medicare Voluntary Enrollment Plan and the EPC Medical Benefits Plans. (**Minutes**, 15-22)

- 95-03 The Group Insurance Plan (medical portion) is amended to add a section under "Preventative Care" to cover 80% of eligible expenses after the deductible is met, for immunizations for eligible dependent children to age 16. (**Minutes**, 15-22)
- 95-04 Group Medical Plan is amended to omit the current conversion option for medical care benefits. As of January 1, 1995 conversion charges increased by 400% for major medical coverage, 300% for comprehensive coverage, and 100% for hospital and surgical coverage. (**Minutes**, 15-22)
- 95-05 The Group Medical Plan is amended to include pancreatic transplants on the list of organ transplants covered. (**Minutes**, 15-22) *Cf. Act 92-25 for list as originally adopted.*
- 95-06 Assembly approves a revised premium structure for the Group Insurance Plan (medical portion) effective August 1, 1995 so that four categories ("employee only," "employee/spouse," "employee/children," and "employee/spouse/children") replace the former "single" and "family" categories. (**Minutes**, 15-22)
- 95-07 Assembly rescinds 1989 action (*cf.* 89-06) establishing a Board of Reference. (**Minutes**, 15-22)

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## Articles of Agreement

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**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 the 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.



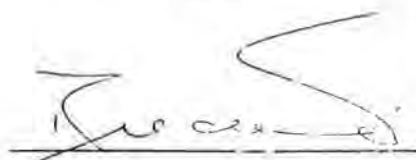
Rev. Andrew A. Jumper  
Chairman



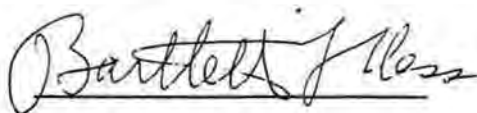
Rev. Boanerges Ribeiro  
Chairman



Rev. L. Edward Davis  
Stated Clerk



Dr. Paulo Brede Filho



Rev. Bartlett L. Hess

Jose Arantes Costa

## Cooperative Agreement \*

**COMMITTEE ON WORLD OUTREACH**  
**Evangelical Presbyterian Church**  
**29140 Buckingham Avenue, Suite 5**  
**Livonia, Michigan 48154**

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (name of agency).
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 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (agency).
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. \_\_\_\_\_ (agency) shall supervise the securing of visas and make other arrangements necessary for beginning field work.
7. World Outreach shall be the sponsoring agency for financial and prayer support of the missionary.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ (agency) 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 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (agency).
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 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (agency).
13. The missionary's field director will initiate home service planning in consultation with World Outreach and also with \_\_\_\_\_'s U. S. Director.  
 (agency)
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 home service responsibilities, consideration will be given by World Outreach to assignments, projects, additional study or training requested by \_\_\_\_\_ (agency). Progress and activity information during home service will be provided for \_\_\_\_\_ (agency).
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 coor-

dination, 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 \_\_\_\_\_ (agency) 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 \_\_\_\_\_ (agency). World Outreach support checks will be issued to \_\_\_\_\_ (agency) at that level. Semi-annually, in January and July, both \_\_\_\_\_ (agency) 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:

Director: \_\_\_\_\_ Richard Oestreicher, World Outreach Director

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Agency) \_\_\_\_\_ World Outreach

\*World Outreach has cooperative agreements with the following agencies:

1. Arab World Ministries
2. Frontiers
3. Interserve
4. Logoi
5. Middle East Media
6. Missionary Internship
7. Overseas Crusades
8. Pioneers
9. Send International
10. SERVE
11. United World Mission
12. World Impact
13. Wycliffe Bible Translators
14. Youth For Christ, USA

## Church Development Master Plan

### CHURCH DEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN

#### MISSION STATEMENT

The North American Mission of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church shall be to establish and develop churches in strategic communities and people groups which have not been reached for Christ and who are most responsive to the uniqueness of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

#### GUIDELINES

In our faithfulness to God's calling, we as Reformed and Evangelical people commit ourselves to the following:

1. The growth and expansion of the Kingdom of God.
2. The prioritizing of reaching the unreached.
3. The prioritizing of those locations that are high growth areas for us.
4. The pursuit of this mission in cohesive and mutually accountable partnership of General Assembly, presbyteries, and congregations with priority on responsiveness to opportunity.
5. The joint partnership with our fraternal churches in order to achieve our common mission for Jesus Christ.
6. The pursuit of excellence in the context of our mission or the glory of Christ.

#### Goal 1-1

To equip the church with an understanding of Reformed evangelism as the key to successful proclamation of the Gospel.

##### Objectives

- A. Provide presbytery workshops using key resource people to teach Reformed evangelism.
- B. Make available instructional materials regarding Reformed evangelism.

#### Goal 1-2

To develop pastors with Reformed commitment and giftedness.

##### Objectives

- A. Evaluate the effectiveness of present seminary curriculum of the above goal.
- B. Evaluate the pastor by use of the assessment process with reference to the above goal.

#### Goal 1-3

To understand how God is at work in North America today.

##### Objectives

- A. Develop an understanding of the signs and wonders movement.
- B. Develop an understanding of North American churches and agencies which are reaching the unreached with a generational ministry.

#### Goal 1-4

To plant vibrant churches that will reproduce themselves.

##### Objectives

- A. Develop congregational strategies for church planting.
- B. Develop a key city strategy, including prioritizing.

#### Goal 2-1

To identify key population areas and people groups with high potential for EPC church planting and to identify specific strategies for reaching people of all racial and socioeconomic backgrounds with the Good News of the Gospel.

##### Objectives

- A. Evaluate and understand EPC strength and presence in key population areas as targets for church planting.
- B. Evaluate and understand key populations with no EPC presence but with high potential as targets for church planting.

#### Goal 2-2

To define and identify unreached people groups with high potential for planting an EPC church.

##### Objectives

- A. Resource and train people to conduct demographic studies for targeted areas.

- B. Conduct demographic studies of people groups in key target areas.
- C. Develop a metro cluster strategy for church planting.

#### Goal 3-1

To understand the EPC personality as it relates to the mission of reaching the unreached.

#### Objectives

- A. Develop an understanding of the EPC corporate personality to provide guidance for reaching the unreached.
- B. Study and understand the successful church planting history of the EPC.

#### Goal 4-1

To use cohesive partnerships in building and developing a financial base for making the mission possible.

#### Objectives

- A. Conduct a comparative study of churches of other denominations to identify models of success.
- B. Plan conferences enabling presbyteries and congregations to understand "in consultation with each other" (*Book of Government*, Chapter 5-1).

#### Goal 4-2

To develop and maintain a system of open effective communication among governing bodies of the church.

#### Objectives

- A. Publish a denominational newsletter.
- B. Encourage presbyteries in developing and/or maintaining an effective newsletter.

#### Goal 4-3

To train and resource leadership personnel at every level.

#### Objectives

- A. Hold an annual leadership conference on church planting.
- B. Provide persons experience in church planting development to equip presbyteries and congregations.

#### Goal 5-1

To develop working relationships with leadership personnel in church development within other fraternal bodies.

#### Objectives

- A. Participate annually in NAPARC Home Mission Consultation.
- B. Participate annually in strategic church planting Conferences.

#### Goal 5-2

Comity: To develop cooperative strategies with other denominations.

#### Objectives

- A. Study NAPARC paper on comity for possible adoption.
- B. Develop sensitivity to other Reformed or evangelical ministries in target areas.

#### Goal 6-1

To understand excellence as it provides direction in the context of our mission.

#### Objectives

- A. Determine the proper resources of leadership and ministry potential before making a final commitment to a target area.
- B. Publish and distribute case studies on church planting for denominational distribution.
- C. Inform EPC leadership who are not church planters in our mission of church planting.
- D. Encourage each presbytery to develop a manual or plan for planting and developing churches.

#### Goal 6-2

To select the highest caliber of potential leaders.

#### Objectives

- A. Equip and oversee the training of church planters.
- B. Develop an EPC Assessment Center.

*"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." (Ephesians 3:20-21, NIV)*

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## Denominational Goals for Pastoral Care

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### 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 or her professional and personal life. Numerous health problems are now understood as stemming directly from stress and/or stress-induced illnesses. The impact on the individual's spiritual life can be devastating. The Sixth General Assembly assigned the Ministerial Vocation 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 counselors 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.

### DOCUMENTS

**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:** Affirm 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 National Outreach 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 1987-88.
- 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 1987-88.
- 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 congregation's life and mission in 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.

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## The Geneva Statement

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*Agreement of Cooperation between the Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
and the  
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church*

Being persuaded from Scripture that all Christians are united together as one body in Christ, we acknowledge our responsibility to God and one another to labor together in the work of Christ so as to promote the peace, purity, and unity of the church and the advancement of Christ's Kingdom in the world.

We share a common understanding of the Scriptures, as expressed in the **Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechism** for laboring together in ministry. Recognizing that some differences exist between us in our understanding of certain issues concerning God's will for His church, we also recognize that which we hold in common far outweighs that which differentiates us. It is understood that our common labors shall not compromise the consciences of either church. The integrity of each church concerning its standards and policies must be maintained and respected.

We therefore pledge ourselves to labor together in love, to advance the work of Christ in both our common and separate ministries, seeking to maintain the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace.

We promise that if ever we should offend one another in our common labors, we shall do everything possible to resolve the matter and to maintain cooperation. We commit ourselves to labor in support of our church courts, faithfully reporting our activities to the appropriate board or agency, and our respective committees concerning inter-church relations.

We further believe that such practical fraternity, apart from any quest for organizational union, will be pleasing to God and promote the advancement of the Gospel in the world. For these reasons we commit ourselves to this **Agreement of Cooperation**, which is to be attached to the joint statement previously adopted by our churches.

*Adopted June, 1992  
12th General Assembly*

The 11th General Assembly (1991) together with the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church authorized the Interchurch Relations Committees to continue meeting for purposes of finding areas of mutual commitments, discovering areas of differences, and exploring ways of resolving those differences, exploring new and creative ways of working together. They shall report back to the respective parent bodies each year, until such time as either committee may ask to be discharged from this duty, or until the appointing body may discharge the committee from such duty.

*Adopted June, 1991  
11th General Assembly*

## Evangelical Presbyterian Church Medical Benevolence Fund

**Background:** In 1989, the General Assembly approved the establishment of a General Assembly benevolence fund for medical care costs, and that the EPC concentrate its benevolence health care efforts on ministers without call, mission church pastors, and retired ministers and their families (**Minutes**, §9-33).

In 1990, the Assembly conceptually endorsed the Medical Benevolence Trust with the understanding that the actual Trust/Fund Agreement would be presented to the 11th Assembly (cf. Fund policy document below). Approval to begin promotion of the Trust/Fund was given (**Minutes** §10-39).

The goal of \$200,000, set by the 10th General Assembly, was reached in July, 1992, and the Fund activated at that time.

### The Medical Benevolence Fund (Act 90-16)

#### Eligibility for Medical Benevolence Fund

- A. Ministers without call
  - 1. One (1) year maximum
  - 2. Until such time as tentmaking income exceeds \$20,000 gross effective salary, or medical benefits become available in tentmaking
  - 3. Eligibility effective
- B. Mission church pastors
  - 1. Mission church may not be a daughter church
  - 2. One (1) year maximum
  - 3. Maximum gross effective salary may not exceed \$20,000
- C. Retirees (present needs covered by Gratitude Gift)

#### MBF Principal Funded By:

- A. Initial start-up \$78,300
  - 1. Travelers reserve carryover, a phased payment of \$65,250 to be completed by July, 1990
  - 2. Annual balance: Insurance Administration Fund as of 12/31/89, \$13,050. (Estimated between \$15,000 and \$25,000 for 1990)
- B. Ongoing principal development
  - 1. Annual balance of Insurance Administration Fund
  - 2. Individual ("strong") church contributions
  - 3. Moderator's Communion Service, beginning 1991

#### Administration of MBF

- A. Ministerial Committee of presbytery makes application to trustees of MBF
  - 1. Trustees to be two Ruling Elders and one Teaching Elder. Nominated by COA and elected by General Assembly. First group of trustees begin with a staggered term, one for one year, one for two years, and one for three years. Trustees will

not be eligible for succession. To be elected at June, 1991 General Assembly, with terms to start when Fund goal is met. Applications to be made from presbytery, c/o Director of Resource Management.

2. Application is contractual.
3. Schedule for receiving application:
  - a. Quarterly in January April, July, October
  - b. Distribution on a percentage basis of income available
  - c. First income distribution at least six (6) months after principal goal is met.
4. Starting principal will be \$200,000.
5. This expresses a concept that the presbytery would have an equal interest and responsibility as General Assembly and therefore should be partners. The specifics of this arrangement would be worked out in the Trust instrument.

For the Committee on Administration,

L. Edward Davis, Stated Clerk

## Women's Ministries Constitution For Local Churches

### Evangelical Presbyterian Church

#### Article I

##### Name

This organization shall be known as WOMEN'S MINISTRIES OF \_\_\_\_\_  
 CHURCH, PRESBYTERY OF \_\_\_\_\_,  
 THE EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

#### Article II

We subscribe to the Statement of Faith of the Evangelical Presbyterian denomination. The foundation of this statement of Faith is given here:

All Scripture is self-attesting, and being Truth, requires our unreserved submission in all areas of life. The infallible Word of God, the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, is a complete and unified witness of God's redemptive acts culminating in the incarnation of the Living Word, the Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible, uniquely and fully inspired by the Holy Spirit, is the supreme and final authority in all matters on which it speaks.

##### Statement of Purpose

Ephesians 4:12: "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the Body of Christ..."

Central to Women's Ministries is the affirmation of women as being loved and called by God into a personal relationship with Him through our Lord Jesus Christ, and the nurture of women in the knowledge of Him and His plan for each individual life. Therefore, the purpose of Women's Ministries of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church is to provide an atmosphere for the women of the church to mature spiritually and to recognize and develop their God-given gifts.

#### Article III

The membership of Women's Ministries shall be open to all women of the church. The participating membership may be divided into small groups for personal maturing and ministry.

#### Article IV

The officers of Women's Ministries shall be members of the local church. The officers of Women's Ministries may be designated according to the needs of the local church. Suggestions are President, Vice-President (one or more), Secretary (one or more), Spiritual Nurture, Leadership Development, Community Outreach, Christian Values (issues of the day) and Mission Coordinator.

## Article V

### Representative to Women's Presbytery Representative Council

Each church shall be represented by at least one woman at the Women's Presbytery Representative Council.

Each local church is encouraged to send at least one woman to the Women's Conference, which will be held on an every third year schedule.

## Article VI

### Standing Committees

Standing committees may be appointed as needed. Suggestions are Study, Prayer, Finance, Nursery, Hospitality, Nominating, Local Church Service, Publicity, Special Events.

## Article VII

### Relationships

Women's Ministries shall be under the jurisdiction of the Session of the local church. Women's Ministries will maintain a relationship of mutual support and concern with EPC at the Presbytery and General Assembly levels.

## Article VIII

### Finances

The work of Women's Ministries may be financed through regular pledges, voluntary offerings, church budget, and/or fundraising as approved by the Session.

## Article IX

Meetings may be scheduled as desired and needed, by the women in the individual congregations.

## Article X

This Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by two-thirds vote of those present and voting, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been submitted at least two weeks in advance.

## Article XI

### Parliamentary Authority

*Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, shall be the parliamentary authority in matters not addressed in this Constitution.

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**World Outreach Master Plan**


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# Master Plan


**Evangelical  
Presbyterian Church**

29140 Buckingham Avenue, Suite 5  
Livonia, Michigan 48154  
Phone: 313-261-2001  
Fax: 313-261-3282

**PURPOSE STATEMENT**


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.

**DIRECTIONAL STATEMENT**

1. EPC is committed to the establishment and development of indigenous Reformed churches in each people group within its priority areas of the world.
2. EPC is committed to church planting evangelism and affirms its mission through both word and deed.
3. EPC is committed to the participation of every church and church member in the program of WO and believes the key to lay mobilization is the use of spiritual gifts.
4. EPC's WO resources shall be administered in an efficient and effective manner, with the exercise of wise stewardship, sound management, and full accountability.
5. EPC is committed to engage in relationships with domestic and foreign churches in which a unified mission/fraternal effort will result in greater effectiveness.
6. EPC-WO shall act only in keeping with the Word of God, the confessional standards, and the **Book of Order** of the EPC.
7. EPC shall endeavor in its global mission to be open and responsive to the renewal movement of the Holy Spirit throughout the world.
8. EPC shall accept the responsibility to continue faithful in proclaiming the Gospel to the nations until the Lord returns.



## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

World Outreach is committed to develop its mission program with clear intentionality. It shall minister in Latin America, the Pacific Rim, the Muslim World, the North American Urban Ministry Field, and the countries of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. Preference shall be given to world-class cities, unreached peoples, and responsive people groups.

**Key:** Each goal stated below is followed by a list of objectives. Short-term objectives are targets for EPC's 15th anniversary (1996). Long-term objectives are beyond that.

### GOAL I

#### MISSION EDUCATION IN THE EPC

In order for the EPC to be a mission oriented denomination, it is appropriate to encourage and promote a mission vision for the EPC. The primary tasks of World Outreach shall be to nurture denominational mission consciousness in churches and presbyteries.

##### *Short-Term Objectives*

- I.1 To plan and conduct at least one trip each year for service and education in areas where World Outreach is at work.
- I.2 To provide mission-awareness and candidate-development resources for use by EPC congregations.
- I.3 To promote and encourage participation in national and regional mission conferences such as Urbana.
- I.4 To encourage each congregation to have an annual "Mission Conference" or "Mission Day".
- I.5 To prepare and distribute a World Outreach supplement for ACME's "Mission Policy Handbook", encouraging every congregation to develop its own mission statement, policy, and objectives.
- I.6 To encourage each EPC presbytery to establish its own World Outreach Committee to accelerate the foreign missions endeavor throughout the denomination.

##### *Long-Term Objectives*

- I.7 To plan World Outreach seminars, workshops, and conferences through which clusters of congregations as well as entire presbyteries shall be encouraged to cooperate and strengthen their mission commitment.
- I.8 To provide cross-cultural internship opportunities (length 2-12 months) for EPC seminarians.

### GOAL II

#### MISSION IN PARTNERSHIP

To fulfill more effectively the Biblical mandate, World Outreach shall develop mission partnerships with other Reformed and Presbyterian churches in North America and abroad. Partnerships shall also be developed with other compatible church, educational and parachurch agencies through which World Outreach goals may be reached.

##### *Short-Term Objectives*

- II.1 To become well informed and highly supportive of what our sister churches in North American Presbyterian and Reformed Churches (NAPARC) are doing in world missions.
- II.2 To affirm cooperative agreements already established and increase the church's understanding of the purpose, strategy, and procedure of those cooperating agencies.
- II.3 To establish agreements with agencies which meet the criteria of World Outreach and which are capable of becoming instruments to help the church achieve its goals:
  - 1) By deploying church-planting missionaries
  - 2) By deploying support personnel
  - 3) By providing services and assistance

**Long-Term Objectives**

- II.4 To establish a working agreement with a seminary or institution for leadership training in each area where EPC has deployed church-planting missionaries.
- II.5 To establish agreements with NAPARC members for cooperatively deploying church planting teams.
- II.6 To establish a mission partnership with a Reformed denomination, which shall include the deployment of EPC personnel in Asia.

**GOAL III****ARGENTINA**

In cooperation with the St. Andrews Presbytery in Buenos Aires, World Outreach shall engage in church planting in Argentina. The goal shall be to establish a fully indigenous Presbyterian denomination in Argentina.

**Short-Term Objective**

- III.1 To select areas appropriate for the establishment of additional presbyteries.

**GOAL IV****BRAZIL**

The EPC and the Presbyterian Church of Brazil (IPB) established a joint agreement for a partnership in missions (Articles of Agreement, 1985). The planning and oversight of this agreement is the responsibility of the **Joint Committee for Missions (JCM)**, a body composed of three representatives elected from each church. The JCM makes recommendations to the General Assembly through the World Outreach Committee.

**Short-Term Objectives**

- IV.1 To provide funds and support for the development of new IPB presbyteries.
- IV.2 To establish and maintain graduate level scholarships to train faculty for IPB seminaries.
- IV.3 To provide visiting professors and other mission specialists to aid the IPB in leadership development and in mission planning.
- IV.4 To provide funds and support to strengthen and extend the foreign missions program of the IPB.

**GOAL V****MISSION PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT**

As a missionary sending agency, World Outreach shall emphasize sending teams to plant churches.

**Short-Term Objectives**

- V.1 To develop processes and tools for personnel and human resources management in recruiting, screening, training, deploying, and evaluating, and in providing member care.
- V.2 To define a "church planting team" — its purpose, composition, structure, functions, and relationships.
- V.3 To develop a process for building and deploying church planting teams.

**Long-Term Objectives**

- V.4 To have 101 missionaries in the field by the year 2001.
- V.5 To develop policies and structures for integrating internationals into World Outreach church planting teams.
- V.6 To encourage short-term missionary service (one to two years) where consistent with World Outreach objectives.

**GOAL VI****BI-VOCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Recognizing that most of the world's population lives in countries closed to direct missionary witness ("restricted access nations"), World Outreach shall send trained personnel to such areas. The primary purpose of these individuals shall be their commitment to church planting or church growth within the context of their business or professional assignment.

**Short-Term Objectives**

- VI.1 To develop a program for selecting, training, deploying and supporting bi-vocational missionaries in "restricted access nations".
- VI.2 To deploy five units to serve as teachers or specialists in China.
- VI.3 To deploy ten units to work in the Muslim world.

## GOAL VII NORTH AMERICAN ETHNIC CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

World Outreach shall coordinate strategic church development among the ethnic population in North America.

### *Short-Term Objectives*

- VII.1 To develop resources which will help presbyteries effectively integrate present ethnic congregations into the life and fellowship of the presbytery.
- VII.2 To develop a national plan for ethnic church planting, including the use of missionaries from churches with whom World Outreach works.

## GOAL VIII RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT

Consistent with World Outreach's commitment to mission in both word and deed, its ministry shall include projects which assist long-term development as well as emergency relief. World Outreach shall endeavor to work through local churches, thereby opening doors for gospel proclamation.

### *Short-Term Objectives*

- VIII.1 To establish and support relief and development projects in areas where World Outreach has church planting ministries, preferably in cooperation with other Reformed and Presbyterian agencies.
- VIII.2 To establish and support relief and development projects in communities in North America where EPC congregations are being established or are ministering.
- VIII.3 To cooperate with approved evangelical organizations engaged in broad relief and development ministries.

## GOAL IX NORTH AMERICAN URBAN MINISTRIES

Because the inner city neighborhoods of North America are in great need of the gospel, World Outreach shall develop and/or support ministries to extend and strengthen the influence of the church into these areas.

### *Short-Term Objectives*

- IX.1 To study inner city ministries within and outside the denomination, in order to determine what makes such a ministry effective.
- IX.2 To begin one new ministry by the end of 1993. This will involve the following steps:
  - Choose a location
  - Determine the form of the ministry
  - Recruit a leader
  - Raise support

## GOAL X EASTERN EUROPE AND THE FORMER SOVIET UNION

Believing that the Holy Spirit has moved in a mighty way to open the door of opportunity for the proclamation of the gospel and the building of the Kingdom in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, World Outreach will develop ways for individual congregations and the denomination as a whole to respond to this opportunity.

### *Short-Term Objectives*

- X.1 To investigate ministries now being conducted in this geographic area by other Reformed denominations and mission agencies.
- X.2 To recommend at least two appropriate ministries to EPC churches for consideration of their support.
- X.3 To deploy ten missionaries to work in this geographic area.

Rev. 1992

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## Presbytery World Outreach Committees

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### Committee Description

#### 1. World Outreach Missionaries

##### *Recruitment*

- Encourage prayer for the identification of World Outreach missionary candidates.
- From among both the members of presbytery and its congregations, seek out and encourage potential candidates to consider World Outreach service.
- Encourage and assist candidates in the application process.
- Disseminate current information on World Outreach's specific needs for new missionaries.

##### *Support*

- Urge the churches of the presbytery to help support all World Outreach missionaries through the World Outreach Office.
- Encourage each church to include in its mission committee policy a statement which gives preferential support consideration to World Outreach missionary appointees.

##### *Contact*

- Insure adequate communication is maintained between churches and the missionary on field.

##### *Home Service*

- Plan, in cooperation with World Outreach Committee, strategic opportunities for World Outreach missionaries to share their work with presbytery.
- Meet with, for reporting and review, each missionary on home service who is a member of presbytery.

#### 2. Interpretation and Support of World Outreach Projects

- Encourage regular representation from the presbytery on World Outreach mission trips, helping the participants share broadly on their return.
- Establish and pursue the goal of preferential support for World Outreach projects by every church in the presbytery.
- Provide on request, information on current World Outreach projects, their progress, and their support status.

#### 3. Ethnic Church Development

- Encourage representatives of presbytery to visit any EPC ethnic congregations or mission churches within the presbytery.
- See opportunities for integrating ethnic congregations into the life and fellowship of the presbytery.

#### 4. Mission Education

- Plan World Outreach seminars, workshops, and conferences whereby clusters of churches or the entire presbytery will be encouraged to cooperate, thereby strengthening their mission commitment.
- Encourage every congregation to have a periodic mission conference or mission day, sharing resources with one another as appropriate.
- Distribute information on the mission program of World Outreach.

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## Statement of Faith

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**National Association of Evangelicals**  
**PO Box 28**  
**Wheaton, Illinois 60189**  
**708/665-0500**

1. We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.
2. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
3. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.
4. We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful man, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.
5. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.
6. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.
7. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

**World Evangelical Fellowship**  
**PO Box WEF**  
**Wheaton, Illinois 60189**  
**Phone: 708/668-0440**

1. We believe in the Holy Scriptures as originally given by God, divinely inspired, infallible, entirely trustworthy; and the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct...
2. One God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit...
3. Our Lord Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, His virgin birth, His sinless human life, His divine miracles, His vicarious and atoning death, His bodily resurrection, His ascension, His mediatorial work and His personal return in power and glory...
4. The salvation of lost and sinful man through the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ by faith apart from works, and regeneration by the Holy Spirit...
5. The Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the believer is enabled to live a holy life, to witness, and work for the Lord Jesus Christ...
6. The unity of the Spirit of all true believers, the Church, the Body of Christ...
7. The resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life, they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.

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## Statement of Faith

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**Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability**  
**PO Box 17456**  
**Washington, DC 20041-0456**  
**Phone: 800/3BE-WISE**

1. We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.
2. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
3. We believe in the deity of Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.
4. We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful men, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.
5. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.
6. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost, they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.
7. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

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## Constitution

### World Alliance of Reformed Churches

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#### Preamble

The one foundation of the church is Jesus Christ, the Lord, in whom God's Word became flesh and to whom the Scriptures bear witness; and the church on earth; though composed of many members, is one body in the communion of the Holy Spirit, under the headship of the one Lord, Jesus Christ.

#### Article I - Name

The name of the organization, hereinafter called the Alliance, shall be: *The World Alliance of Reformed Churches (Presbyterian and Congregational)*, and in shorter form, *The World Alliance of Reformed Churches*.

#### Article II - Membership

Any Church which accepts Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, holds the Word of God given in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the supreme authority in matters of faith and life; acknowledges the need for the continuing reformation of the church catholic; whose position in faith and evangelism is in general agreement with that of the historic Reformed confessions, recognizing that the Reformed tradition is a biblical, evangelical and doctrinal ethos, rather than any narrow and exclusive definition of faith and order, shall be eligible for membership.

United churches which share this understanding of the nature and calling of the church shall be eligible for membership.

Membership in the Alliance does not restrict the relationship of any church with other churches or with other inter-church bodies.

#### Article III - Purposes

The purposes of the Alliance shall be:

1. to further all endeavours to proclaim the Word of God faithfully, and to order the life and worship of the church in obedience to God's Word;
2. to further the work of evangelism, mission and stewardship in all their aspects, to promote common study of the Christian Faith and its implications;
3. to encourage the diversity and familial character of ministries in the church under the one Head, Jesus Christ;
4. to widen and deepen understanding and community among the member churches and churches eligible for membership and to help them to fulfill their own responsibilities in the service of Christ;
5. to further intercourse between the member churches, through mutual visitation, through the dissemination of information, and by other practicable means;
6. to unite the forces of the member churches in common service wherever needed and practicable;
7. to help member churches which may be weak, oppressed or persecuted; and through all available channels to stimulate and provide aid to needy churches among them;
8. to promote and defend religious and civil liberties wherever threatened throughout the world;



9. to facilitate the contribution to the ecumenical movement of the experiences and insights which churches within the Alliance have been given in their history, and to share with churches of other traditions within that movement, and particularly in the World Council of Churches, in the discovery of forms of church life and practice which will enable the people of God more fully to understand and express together God's will for his people.

#### **Article IV - General Council**

##### **1. Composition and Meetings**

The General Council shall consist of delegates appointed by the member churches in such numbers as shall be specified in the By-Laws. The General Council shall meet ordinarily once in five years. The Executive Committee may convene the General Council on its own initiative and shall do so at the request of one third of the member churches. The time, place and programme may be determined by the General Council or in the *interim* by the Executive Committee.

##### **2. Functions**

The General Council shall have power to make and administer policies, plans and programmes in accordance with the purpose of the Alliance; to elect officers, members of the Executive Committee, Departments, Commissions and Committees; to adopt and amend a Constitution and By-Laws; to consider all matters brought before it by member churches; and to give oversight to the affairs of the Alliance. None of these provisions shall limit the autonomy of any member church.

#### **Article V - Executive Committee**

##### **1. Composition and Meetings**

- a. The General Council shall elect an Executive Committee from the delegates to that General Council, the members to hold office from their installation until their successors are elected and installed in office.
- b. The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of the Alliance and twenty-five members elected by the General Council. The executive officers shall be corresponding members of the Executive Committee.
- c. If any member of the Executive committee is unable to attend a particular meeting of the Committee, an alternate may be appointed under provision in the By-Laws.
- d. The times, places, and plans of meetings of the Executive Committee shall be according to the provisions in the By-Laws or as specified from time to time by the General Council or the Executive Committee.

##### **2. Functions**

The Executive Committee shall exercise general oversight of the work of the Alliance between the meetings of the General Council, shall represent and, if necessary, speak for the Alliance between meetings of the General Council and perform all duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution and in the By-Laws or committed to it by the General Council. It shall have power to fill all vacancies in the offices of the Alliance and in its own membership which may occur between meetings of the General Council.

#### **Article VI - Officers of the Alliance**

The General Council shall elect the following officers from the delegates to that General Council to hold office from their installation until their successors are elected and installed in office.

1. A President
2. Three Vice-Presidents
3. Moderators of Departments

### **Article VII - Executive Officers**

The Executive Committee shall elect the following executive officers, each of whom shall hold office for a fixed term of years and be eligible for re-election:

1. A General Secretary
2. One or more Associate Secretaries or Departmental Secretaries
3. One or more Assistant Secretaries
4. A General Treasurer
5. An Area Secretary and Area Treasurer for each Area which may be organized, upon nomination of the Area.

The terms of office of Associate Secretaries, Departmental Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries shall be not more than five years.

The General Secretary shall be the chief executive officer and shall be responsible to the General Council and to the Executive Committee to direct and co-ordinate the work of the Alliance.

### **Article VIII - Departments, Commissions and Committees**

1. The General Council may establish Departments.
2. The General Council or the Executive Committee may establish Commissions and Committees.

### **Article IX - Organization of Areas**

In order to promote the closest possible community and cooperation among member churches in particular areas of the world and the effectiveness of the total work of the Alliance, the General Council may authorize the organization of an Area by the member churches in any given area of the world. The number, bounds, and names of the Areas shall be determined by the General Council and ordinarily shall be set forth in the By-Laws of the Alliance. The organization of an Area shall be effected by the member churches within the area in conformity with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Alliance, under By-Laws drawn up in the Area and ratified by the General Council or the Executive Committee.

### **Article X - Legal Status**

The General Council and the Executive Committee shall take the steps necessary to qualify the Alliance to own and deal with property, both real and personal.

### **Article XI - Principal Office**

The principal office of the Alliance shall be in Geneva, Switzerland.

### **Article XII - Amendments**

1. This Constitution may be amended by a two thirds affirmative vote of the delegates in attendance at any meeting of the General Council, providing the proposed amendment has been transmitted to the members of the Executive Committee, to each member Church, and to the Moderator of each Area, at least one year before it is voted.
2. The By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote of the delegates in attendance at any meeting of the General Council.

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**PART IV**

**DIRECTORY**

# Officers of the General Assembly

## Directory of Permanent Committees

### COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION

<p>RE Gary Fields 8926 S. Edgewood Ln Highlands Ranch, CO 80126 303/892-8081</p>	<p><i>Class of 1998</i></p> <p>RE Janet Bole 1697 S. Kingston St. Aurora, CO 80012 303/751-3126</p>	<p>Dr. Wally Hostetter Faith EPC 4285 S. Lapeer Road Lake Orion, MI 48359 810/340-1900</p>
	<p><i>Class of 1997</i></p> <p>RE Dick Heidtman 12301 E. Stanley Rd. Columbiaville, MI 48421 810/653-2072</p>	<p>TE Daniel Lacich North Park EPC 600 Ingomar Road Wexford, PA 16090 412/367-5000</p>
	<p><i>Class of 1996</i></p> <p>TE James Van Dyke 1 Westlyn Place Rome, GA 30165 706/235-0616</p>	<p>RE Earl Clark 5350 Yellowstone Littleton, CO 80123 303/795-6508</p>
<p>TE Graham Smith, Past Chmn. Faith Presbyterian Church 6076-B Franconia Road Alexandria VA 22310 703/278-3800</p>	<p><i>Ex-officio Members</i></p>	<p>RE Bill Johns, Chairman 103 Brentwood Drive Rome, GA 30165 706/234-1919</p>
	<p>TE Wayne Hoffman, Moderator Westkirk EPC 2700 Colby Woods Drive Des Moines, IA 50322 515/253-0330</p>	<p>TE Edward Davis Stated Clerk 29140 Buckingham #5 Livonia, MI 48154 313/261-2001</p>
	<p><i>Advisory Members</i></p> <p>TE Mark Hudson Christian Education &amp; Publications 25700 Crocker Blvd. Harrison Township, MI 48045 810/469-8500</p>	<p>TE Ed G. Davis National Outreach PO Box 272592 Ft. Collins, CO 80527 303/223-0682</p>
<p>RE Vern Porter World Outreach 11373 E. Alameda Ave. Aurora, CO 80012 303/364-7271</p>		<p>Ms. Susan Nash Women's Ministries 4055 Poplar Avenue Memphis, TN 38111 901/454-0034</p>
		<p>TE Rick Stauffer Youth Ministries 5345 Big Tyler Road Cross Lanes, WV 25313 304/776-1511</p>
<p>TE Bill Moore Ministerial Vocation 10101 W. Ann Arbor Road Plymouth, MI 48170 313/459-9550</p>		

## COMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS

### *Class of 1998*

RE Barbara Mansfield.  
14342 Blue Skies  
Livonia, MI 48154  
313/746-7440

RE Carolyn Nystrom  
38 W 566 Sunset  
St. Charles, IL 60174  
708/377-1777

### *Class of 1997*

TE James Miller  
10150 E. Belleview Ave.  
Englewood, CO 80111  
303/779-9909

RE James Vanek  
PO Box 475  
Horse Shoe, NC 28742  
704/891-1074

### *Class of 1996*

TE Mark Hudson, Chairman  
25700 Crocker Blvd.  
Harrison Township MI 48045  
810/469-8500

Ms. Barbara Byron  
1517 Arrow Wood Road  
Knoxville, TN 37919  
615/539-4427

## COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL RELATIONS

### *Class of 1998*

RE Paul Heidebrecht, Convener  
29W260 Batavia Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555  
708/393-4400

TE Charles Wickman  
805 Kempsville Road  
Virginia Beach, VA 23464  
804/495-1913

### *Class of 1997*

TE Bill Flannagan  
101 E. Third Avenue  
Rome, GA 30161  
706/291-6033

RE Joseph Schluchter  
7700 Davis Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63105  
314/727-2777

### *Class of 1996*

RE Horace Heafner  
3628 Heritage Lane  
Fairfax City, VA 22030  
703/235-3900

TE David Chadwick  
7224 Park Road  
Charlotte, NC 28210  
704/554-9037

## COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL VOCATION

### *Class of 1998*

TE Bob Harvey  
29W260 Batavia Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555  
708/393-4400

RE Bill Goessling  
416 West Point Ct.  
St. Louis, MO 63130  
314/963-7933

### *Class of 1997*

TE William Moore  
10101 W. Ann Arbor Road  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
313/459-9550

RE Leon Niemann  
1729 S. Flower Street  
Lakewood, CO 80232  
303/985-0120

### *Class of 1996*

TE Jerry Autry  
314 Dolan Avenue  
Mill Valley, CA 94941  
415/381-1323

RE Ed George  
45 Bay in the Wood  
Daytona Beach, FL 32119  
904/761-8010

# COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL OUTREACH

TE Lee Kizer PO Box 9176 Asheville, NC 28815 704/299-4909	<i>Class of 1998</i> RE Ben Brychta 4627 Sherry Lane Hixson, TN 37343 615/756-3500	RE Charles Overstreet 7224 Park Road Charlotte, NC 28210 704/554-9037
TE William Read 1502 W. Rutledge Ave. Gaffney, SC 29341 803/478-5010	<i>Class of 1997</i> RE Bruce Boore 35561 Lark Harbor Farmington Hills, MI 48335 810/540-7700	TE Ed Davis, Chairman PO Box 272592 Ft. Collins, CO 80527 303/223-0682
TE Woody Johnson 8905 McRae Tampa, FL 33637 813/980-3496	<i>Class of 1996</i> RE Bill Smith 545 N. Woodlawn St. Louis, MO 63122 314/822-3316	TE Tom Melton 5600 E. Belleview Ave. Englewood, CO 80111 303/843-0281

# COMMITTEE ON THEOLOGY

TE Michael Glodo Reformed Theological Seminary PO Box 945120 Maitland, FL 32794 407/875-8388	<i>Class of 1998</i>	RE George Schneider 102 Wisley Way Ooltewah, TN 37363 615/855-6502
TE Paul Husband PO Box 1095 Tunica, MS 38676 601/363-2100	<i>Class of 1997</i>	RE Vance Rutan 3830 Lakeview Drive Pfafftown, NC 27040 910/969-1251
TE Paul Johnson 11217 SE 181st St. Renton, WA 98055 206/255-4821	<i>Class of 1996</i>	RE James Russell, Chairman 3228 Franklin Avenue Laurel, MS 39441 601/649-2341

# COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Mrs. Sandra Milis 16772 Bloomfield Livonia, MI 48154 313/522-3229	<i>Class of 1998</i>	Mrs. Jean Ward 785 Stewart Road Aragon, GA 30104 706/235-3407
Ms. Susan Nash, Chairman 4055 Poplar Avenue Memphis, TN 38111 901/454-0034	<i>Class of 1997</i>	Mrs. Geri Hittenberger 3311 NW 9th Avenue Pompano Beach, FL 33064 305/781-3170
TE Donna McClellan 3651 S. Colorado Blvd. Englewood, CO 80110 303/781-0091	<i>Class of 1996</i>	Mrs. Evelyn Wilson 816 Roberta Circle Florence, SC 29501 803/665-6075



## COMMITTEE ON WORLD OUTREACH

### *Class of 1998*

TE Bill Meyer  
PO Box 3865  
Florence, SC 29502  
803/665-8022

RE Arnold Lindseth, Jr  
5440 Sycamore Grove Lane  
Memphis, TN 38120  
901/525-0272

RE Emily Reid  
PO Box 250424  
Franklin, MI 48025  
810/626-4284

### *Class of 1997*

TE Perry Mobley  
17000 Farmington Road  
Livonia, MI 48154  
313/422-1150

RE Ann Norton  
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Englewood, CO 80110  
303/770-7380

RE Robert Brock  
3131 W. Alabama, #301  
Houston, TX 77098  
713/526-1188

### *Class of 1996*

TE Todd Hahn  
7224 Park Road  
Charlotte, NC 28210  
704/554-9037

RE Roger Vonder Bruegge  
1777 W. Adams  
St. Louis, MO 63122  
314/822-3338

RE Vern Porter, Chairman  
11373 E. Alameda Ave.  
Aurora, CO 80012  
303/364-7271

## COMMITTEE ON YOUTH MINISTRIES

### *Class of 1998*

TE Gary Keerth  
2432 S. Raccoon Road  
Youngstown, OH 44515  
216/792-3897

Mr. Bret Spiegelman  
4055 Poplar Avenue  
Memphis, TN 38111  
901/454-0034

### *Class of 1997*

Ms. Kathy Bakeman  
1050 W. Hamlin Road  
Rochester Hills, MI 48309  
810/651-4910

TE Rick Stauffer, Chairman  
5345 Big Tyler Road  
Cross Lanes, WV 25313  
304/776-1511

### *Class of 1996*

RE Rick Bernard  
38911 Lapham  
Livonia, MI 48152  
313/478-8122

RE Mark Floyd  
3003 Vancouver  
Baton Rouge, LA 70819  
504/272-9508

## BOARD OF PENSION AND BENEFITS

### *Class of 1998*

RE Charles Talbot  
37899 Ann Arbor Trail  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
313/722-8200

TE Russell Loudon  
PO Box 6435  
Laurel, MS 39440  
601/649-8033

### *Class of 1997*

RE Orin Littlejohn, Chairman  
2810 Acadia  
Marshall, TX 75670  
903/935-7101

RE Leland Curtis  
451 Oakwood Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63119  
314/725-8788

### *Class of 1996*

RE Stewart Fleming  
5623 Woods Lane  
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236  
313/886-2371

RE William Holmes  
104 Suncrest Place  
Brandon, MS 39042  
601/992-9826

# PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION

TE Ron DiNunzio  
200 Mount Fair  
Brooksville, FL 34601  
904/796-4969

RE Albert Stancliff  
16281 Parkside Drive  
Parker, CO 80134  
303/841-4082

TE Harold K. Polk, Jr.  
6100 Richfield Road  
Flint, MI 48506  
810/736-4100

*Class of 1998*  
RE James Wall  
PO Box 56 6740 Shadyside Lane  
Tobaccoville, NC 27050  
910/983-5301

*Class of 1997*  
Dr. James McGuire, Moderator  
17000 Farmington Road  
Livonia, MI 48154  
313/422-1150

*Class of 1996*  
RE Frank Johnson  
136 Chaucer Place  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08003  
609/795-1108

RE Jim Rimmel  
123 Lakhani Drive  
Canfield, OH 44406  
216/726-9064

RE Leonard Pilgrim  
3837 Montford Drive  
Chamblee, GA 30341  
404/457-9704

RE Vern Schneider  
4 Exmoor Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63124  
314/241-5845

# NOMINATING COMMITTEE

RE Homer Graham  
1121 S. College Drive  
Santa Maria, CA 93454  
805/925-8083

TE Arthur Hunt  
416 S. Kings Highway, #1  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703  
314/334-6292

RE Ron Hickman  
4055 Poplar Avenue  
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901/454-0034

*Class of 1998*  
RE Connie Jennings  
611 Palm Beach Road  
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407/286-7466

*Class of 1997*  
RE Zelda Arta  
1220 S. Buchanan St.  
Arlington, VA 22204  
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*Class of 1996*  
TE Tom Ryan, Chairman  
10500 Barkley, Suite 201  
Overland Park, KS 66212  
913/341-4700

TE David Massimi  
336 W. Main Street  
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614/765-4175

RE William Pilson  
206 Dodd  
Rome, GA 30165  
706/291-1771

TE Richard Little  
2539 Merrimont Drive  
Winston-Salem, NC 27106  
919/765-2335

# JOINT COMMITTEE FOR MISSIONS

TE Bartlett Hess, Chairman  
1514 Eisenhower Pkwy. #5  
Ann Arbor, MI 48108  
313/973-5669

RE Richard Oestreicher  
Director of World Outreach  
29140 Buckingham Avenue, Suite 5  
Livonia, MI 48154  
313/261-2001

RE Vern Porter  
11373 E. Alameda Ave.  
Aurora, CO 80012  
303/364-7271

# MEDICAL BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Leroy Cole  
9500 Gale Lake Road  
Goodridge, MI 48438  
810/658-5373

Rev. William Meyer  
PO Box 3865  
Florence, SC 29502  
803/665-8033

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## Officers Of The Presbyteries

---

### CENTRAL SOUTH

**Moderator:** Mr. Norman Cox  
1518 Montpelier St.  
Mobile, AL 36693  
334/456-4571

**Stated Clerk:** Rev. Dennis Flach  
2520 Gunda  
Jackson, MS 39204  
601/372-2625 (FAX: same number)

### EAST

**Moderator:** Rev. Ian Lamont  
Ashland EPC  
33 E. Evesham Avenue  
Voorhees, NJ 08043  
609/429-8844 (phone and fax)

**Stated Clerk:** Mr. Jerry Moser  
20660 Plum Creek Ct.  
Gaithersburg, MD 20882  
301/977-5048 (phone and fax)

### FLORIDA

**Moderator:** Mr. Doug Calhoun  
New Covenant Community Church  
3311 NW 9th Avenue  
Pompano Beach, FL 33064  
305/781-3170

**Stated Clerk:** Rev. Robert Garment  
Trinity EPC  
5150 Oleander Avenue  
Ft. Pierce, FL 34982  
407/468-0869 (phone and fax)

### MID-AMERICA

**Moderator:** Rev. Tom Ryan  
Covenant Chapel EPC  
10500 Barkley, Suite 201  
Overland Park, KS 66212  
913/341-4700

**Stated Clerk:** Mr. Kenneth Breckner  
7500 Wydown  
Clayton, MO 63105  
314/725-8548 FAX: 314/854-0168

### MID-ATLANTIC

**Moderator:** Mr. Jerry Kidd  
624 Reasor Drive  
Virginia Beach, VA 23646  
804/523-5680

**Stated Clerk:** Mr. Llew Fischer  
3164 Golf Colony Drive  
Salem, VA 24153  
703/389-8719 FAX: 703/389-8719

### MIDWEST

**Moderator:** Rev. Mark Hudson  
Knox Presbyterian Church  
25700 Crocker Blvd.  
Harrison Township, MI 48045  
810/469-8500 FAX: 810/469-1616

**Stated Clerk:** Mr. Alton Bennett  
29140 Buckingham Avenue, Suite 5  
Livonia, MI 48154  
313/261-3574 FAX: 313/261-3282

### SOUTHEAST

**Moderator:** Mr. George Schneider  
102 Wisley Way  
Ooltewah, TN 37363  
423/499-1914

**Stated Clerk:** Rev. Sam Harris  
Valleybrook Presbyterian Church  
6001 Hixson Pike  
Hixson, TN 37343  
423/843-0314 (phone and fax)

### WEST

**Moderator:** Rev. George Wood  
Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church  
10150 E. Belleview Ave.  
Englewood, CO 80111  
303/779-9909 FAX: 303/771-1506

**Stated Clerk:** Mr. Claude Russell  
Faith Presbyterian Church  
11373 E. Alameda Avenue  
Aurora, CO 80012  
303/364-7271 FAX: 303/361-6725

## ST. ANDREWS

**Moderator:**

Rev. Alec I. Mowatt

Iglesia Olivos

Acassuso 1131

1636 Olivos, Pcia.

Buenos Aires, Argentina

011-54-1-790-0974

**Stated Clerk:** Rev. Juan Jose Mejias

San Antonio de Padua Mission Church

Godoy Cruz 99

(1718) San Antonio de Padua

Pcia. Buenos Aires, Argentina

0220-26802

---

## Roster of Chaplains

---

### MILITARY CHAPLAINS

#### ACTIVE DUTY

June, 1995

**BARRETT, Steven E.**

MAJ, US Air Force

Military Address:

60 AW/HC

Travis, AFB, CA 94535-5000

Phone:

Autovon 828-4611

707/424-3217

Residence:

8158 Scottsdale Drive

Sacramento, CA 95628

916/682-5138

**HAN, JEFFREY T.**

LT JG, US Navy

Military Address:

NCTAMS West Pac

PSC 488 Box 144

FPO AP 96537-1840

Phone:

671/632-5591

**INGLES, Mark S.**

CAPT., US Air Force

Military Address:

2854 ABG/HC

Tinker AFB, OK 73125-5000

Phone:

405/734-2111

Residence:

2005 Goldenrod Lane

Midwest City, OK 73130

Phone:

405/741-1990

**JUMPER, Mark**

LCDR, CHC, USN

Military Address:

Naval Air Station Dallas

Chaplains Office

Building 231

Dallas, TX 75211

**MEYER, Ronald F.**

LT. CMDR, US Navy

Residence:

945 Lunahai Place

Kailua, HI 96734

Phone:

808/477-5098

# Roster of Chaplains

## OVERTON, Richard

LT, CHC, USN

Military Address: Naval Air Station, North Island  
Chaplains Office, Box 25  
San Diego, CA 92135  
619/545-8213

## YORTON, M. Bradley

LT, US Navy, MCCDC

6170 600th Avenue West  
Oak Harbor, WA 98277  
Phone: 360/257-2414  
360/240-0319

## RESERVE/GUARD

## BRAGA, Henry N.

CHAP, CPT, US Air Force

6061 12th Avenue SW

Naples, FL 33999

Military Unit: 301 Air Rescue Squadron  
Homestead Air Force Base  
Homestead, FL

## CASE, W. Ronald, Sr.

LTC, US Army Reserve

Residence: 3437 Fairhaven Road  
Rock Hill, SC 29730  
803/366-9590 or 6345

Military Unit: Fort Bragg Army Hospital  
Fort Bragg, NC

## MCCREADY, Douglas

MAJ, Army National Guard

Residence: 1333 Rothley Avenue  
Roslyn, PA 19001  
215/884-9428

Phone: 215/884-9428  
Military Unit: HQ, 28th Infantry Division, Artillery  
Hershey, PA

## MUSSELMAN, Thomas L.

MAJ, Army National Guard

Residence: PO Box 1033  
Franklin, NC 28734-1033  
Phone: 704/369-8187

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## Roster of Chaplains

---

**RALSTON, Robert E.**

CPT., US Army Reserve

Residence: 13991 E. Oxford Place  
Aurora, CO 80014  
Phone: 303/693-5739  
Military Unit: 5502 Aug H, FAMC  
Aurora, CO

**YATES, George R.**

US Army Reserves

Residence: RD #8 Box 814  
New Castle, PA 16105  
Phone: 412/652-8062  
Military Unit: 99th ARCOM  
Oakdale, PA

### CIVIL AIR PATROL

**BALNICKY, Robert G.**

LTC, CAP

Residence: 14080 Marguerite Drive  
Madeira Beach, FL 33708  
Phone: 813/397-2385  
Military Unit: Deputy Chaplain  
Southeast Region  
Civil Air Patrol



# Directory of the Churches and Ministers ( 1995)

## OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

29140 Buckingham Avenue Suite 5  
Livonia, Michigan 48154  
Phone: 313/261-2001 FAX: 313/261-3282  
E-Mail: 76155,3570@Compuserve

Dr. L. Edward Davis (Barbara), Stated Clerk  
(Voice mail: 313/458-6369)  
Mr. Dick Oestreicher (Bobbi), Director of World Outreach  
Rev. Corbett Heimburger, (Kathryn) Director of National Outreach (314/205-2266;  
Fax: 314/205-2540)  
Mr. Dan Weidman (Lisa) Director of Youth Ministries  
Mrs. Janet Juday (Bill), Staff Associate for Women's Ministries  
Mrs. Amy Barnhart (Bob), Finance Manager  
Mrs. Marilyn Bartel (David), Executive Assistant  
Mrs. Janet Bain (Malcolm), Benefits Administrator  
Mrs. Judy Dosh (Jim), Executive Secretary  
Mrs. Karen Davenport (Mark) Executive Secretary  
Mrs. Sharen Rose (David), National Outreach Secretary  
Mrs. Mary Warner (Andy), Arrangements Coordinator  
Mrs. Donna Shumate (Steve), Receptionist

## ALABAMA

First Presbyterian Church  
208 E. Horner  
Atmore, AL 36502  
Rev. Steve Jennings (Mary)  
334/368-5453  
Redeemer EPC (mission church)  
1916 2nd Avenue North  
Irondale, AL 35210  
Rev. David Keyser (Judith)  
205/956-2007 FAX: 205/956-4437  
E-mail: 75250.3475@compuserve.com

Christ Presbyterian Church of Decatur  
C/O Dr. Ron Bell, Evangelist (Jane)  
Route 4 Box 382  
Somerville, AL 35670  
205/351-1638

Trinity Presbyterian Church  
5817 Grelot Road  
Mobile, AL 36609  
Rev. John Mathieu (Kathy)  
334/343-1414

River of Life Mission Church  
PO Box 4064  
Montgomery, AL 36103-4064  
Dr. Dick Druary (Sherry)  
205/832-4194

*Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*  
Rev. Ron Pierce (Brenda)  
2710 Highpoint Blvd. North  
Mobile, AL 36618  
334/456-8739

## ARIZONA

Canyon Creek Community Church (mission project)  
116 N. Roosevelt Road, Suite 126  
Chandler, AZ 85226  
Rev. Timm Jackson (Karen)  
602/940-9700 FAX: 602/940-9754

Morningside Presbyterian Church  
3312 E. Campbell  
Phoenix, AZ 85018  
Rev. Richard A. Weiss (Bethany)  
602/956-6969 FAX: 602/956-6925  
E-mail: RWEISS9329@aol.com

New Covenant Church  
PO Box 41805  
Tucson, AZ 85717  
Rev. Ed McCallum (Nan)  
520/327-4023 FAX: same number; call first  
E-mail: EdMcCallum@aol.com

Neighborhood Fellowship of EPC  
Box 3993  
Chandler, AZ 85244  
602/464-0420 FAX: 602/834-1974

*Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*  
Rev. James Bidderman (Chriss)  
PO Box 574  
Springerville, AZ 85938  
520/333-5725

## ARKANSAS

Faith EPC  
1719 North Ruppel Road  
Fayetteville, AR 72703  
Rev. Paul A. Westberg (Martha)  
501/582-3123

## CALIFORNIA

Thai Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
10035 E. Washington Street  
Bellflower, CA 90706  
(Vacant)  
310/804-4906

Faith EPC (mission church)  
PO Box 926  
Folsom, CA 95763-0926  
Rev. John Cedar (Dian)  
916/353-1331

Hemet Valley EPC  
23895 Kirby  
San Jacinto, CA 92543  
Dr. Dean Wolf (Arlene)  
909/654-3981

Santa Maria Community Church  
210 W. Fesler  
Santa Maria, CA 93454  
Rev. Tom Pitman (Diana)  
805/928-7622

### *Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*

Rev. Don Ashe (Pamela), Interim Supply  
Calvary Baptist Church, Pasadena  
4953 Almarin Ave.  
Lacandana, CA 91011  
818/962-6526

Chaplain (Maj.) Steve Barrett (Carolyn)  
60 AW/HC  
Travis AFB, CA 94535-5000  
707/424-3217

Rev. David Fenska (Milinda)  
Fillmore Bible Church  
461 Central Avenue  
Fillmore, CA 93015  
805/524-3344

Chaplain, LT JG Jeffrey Han  
NC TAMS Westpac Chapel  
PSC 488 Box 144  
FPO AP 96537-1840  
671/632-5591

Rev. Robert Newby (Vicki)  
134 Little Oaks  
Encinitas, CA 92024  
619/943-8727

Chaplain, (Lt.) Richard Overton, CHC, USN  
Naval Air Station, North Island  
Chaplains Office, Box 357033  
San Diego, CA 92135  
619/545-8213

Rev. Stan Van Den Berg (Mary Elizabeth)  
Covenant Presbyterian Church  
1855 Orange-Olive Road  
Orange, CA 92665  
714/998-6650

## COLORADO

Covenant Community Presbyterian Church  
15161 E. Hampden Avenue  
Aurora, CO 80014-3905  
Rev. Marc Huehl (Tina)  
303/699-2272

Faith Presbyterian Church  
11373 E. Alameda Avenue  
Aurora, CO 80012  
Rev. Douglas Klein (Carol)  
Rev. Fred Stifel (Gail)  
Rev. Timothy Philibosian (Lyn)  
303/364-7271 FAX: 303/361-6725

Cornerstone Community Church  
2171 S. Trenton St. #222  
Denver, CO 80231  
Rev. Ken Glasier (Helen)  
Rev. Neil Ellison (Deborah)  
303/337-0222 FAX: 303/745-7142

Greenwood Community Church  
5600 E. Belleview Avenue  
Englewood, CO 80111  
Rev. Tom Melton (Jill)  
Rev. Stephen Fisher (Lisa)  
303/843-0281

Cherry Creek Presbyterian  
10150 E. Belleview Avenue  
Englewood, CO 80111  
Dr. James F. Miller (Karen)  
Rev. George Wood (Amy Elizabeth Marie)  
Rev. Bradley Strait (Cathleen)  
Rev. Hugo Venegas (Holly)  
Rev. Jeffrey Van Kooten (Liz)  
303/779-9909 FAX: 303/771-1506

Christ Fellowship Church  
PO Box 272592  
Ft. Collins, CO 80527  
Rev. Ed G. Davis (Donna)  
303/223-0682

Lookout Mountain Community Mission Church  
166 S. Lookout Mountain Road  
Golden, CO 80401  
Rev. Peter Hiett (Susan)  
303/526-9287

Cherry Hills Community Church  
3900 E. Grace Boulevard  
Highlands Ranch, CO 80126  
Dr. James Dixon (Barbara)  
Dr. Robert L. Beltz (Allison)  
Rev. Richard Savidge (Nancy)  
Rev. Donna McClellan  
Rev. Louis Angone (Ginger)  
Rev. John Patterson (Mary Ellen)  
303/791-4100 FAX: 303/761-8058

Bear Creek EPC  
3101 S. Kipling  
Lakewood, CO 80227  
Rev. James Coleman (Gail)  
Rev. Bruce Spear (Susan)  
Rev. Tom Dages (Julie)  
303/986-5511 FAX: 303/986-8972

West Bowles Community Church  
12325 W. Bowles  
Littleton, CO 80127  
Rev. George Kirsten (Glenda)  
303/972-4904 FAX: 303/972-9157

Trinity EPC  
90 E. Orchard Avenue  
Littleton, CO 80121  
Rev. Fred V. Lian (Kerrie)  
Rev. Brad Carson (Melissa)  
Rev. Ross O'Dell (Lisa)  
303/798-6387

Faith Evangelical Church  
2707 N. Wilson  
Loveland, CO 80538  
Dr. James Murphy (Barbie)  
303/663-0522 FAX: 303/669-2149

Parker Presbyterian Church  
PO Box 1262  
Parker, CO 80134  
Rev. Erik Ohman (Debra)  
Rev. Darryl "Bud" Sparling (Carol)  
303/841-2125 FAX: 303/841-2076

*Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*

Rev. J. Kent Bull (Barbara)  
Strasbourg Community Church  
PO Box 556 56155 Sunset St.  
Strasbourg, CO 80136  
303/622-4600

Dr. Bruce Demarest (Elsie)  
Denver Seminary  
8212 S. Peninsula Drive  
Littleton, CO 80120  
303/790-4710

Rev. Daniel Gardinier (Deborah)  
Wellington Federated Church  
PO Box 355  
Wellington, CO 80549  
303/568-3884

Rev. Jon K. Hokama (Susan)  
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship  
2340 South Corona Street  
Denver, CO 80210  
303/871-9574

Rev. Chris Istrati (Melody)  
with the Caleb Project  
11566 E. Cornell Circle  
Aurora, CO 80014  
303/743-0785

Rev. Donald Kearby  
6891 S. Albion St.  
Littleton, CO 80122  
303/779-9053

Rev. Joel Olson (Linda)  
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship  
3181 S. York Street  
Englewood, CO 80110  
303/762-9355

Rev. Claude "Doug" Overall (Valerie)  
Denver General Hospital  
481 S. Xenia St.  
Denver, CO 80237  
303/436-7729

Rev. Brian Post  
Dillon Community Church  
PO Box 2110  
Dillon, CO 80435  
303/468-5411

Rev. Richard Van Pelt (Janet)  
Alongside, Inc.  
2055 S. Emerson  
Denver, CO 80210  
303/778-1095

Rev. Young J. Woo  
Korea Dae-Sin Presbyterian Church of Denver  
17919 E. Oxford Place  
Aurora, CO 80013-3329  
303/766-1419

Rev. Gary Wooley (Ann)  
Campus Crusade for Christ, Europe  
3108 S. York  
Englewood, CO 80110  
303/761-3482

#### FLORIDA

Faith EPC  
200 Mount Fair  
Brooksville, FL 34601  
Dr. Ron DiNunzio (Jeanna)  
904/796-4969 FAX: same number

Cornerstone EPC  
1835 Taylor Road  
Daytona Beach, FL 32124  
Rev. Howard Chadwick, II (Ramona)  
904/788-4870

Trinity EPC  
5150 Oleander Avenue  
Fort Pierce, FL 34982  
Rev. Robert Garment (Mary)  
407/468-0869 FAX: same number

First Presbyterian Church  
47 NW 16th Street  
Homestead, FL 33030-3207  
Rev. Robert Hess (Debra)  
305/247-9326 FAX: 305/247-2686  
CompuServe: 75201,513

Abundant Life Christian Fellowship  
105 Commerce Street, Suite 105  
Lake Mary, FL 32746  
Rev. Bob Wilbur (Barbara)  
407/323-2436

Trinity EPC of Naples, Florida  
1725 C.R. 951 #108  
Naples, FL 33999  
(Pulpit vacant)  
813/455-5970

First Presbyterian Church  
1800 John Sims Parkway  
Niceville, FL 32578  
Dr. Michael Swain (Libby)  
904/678-2521

New Covenant Church  
3311 NW 9th Avenue  
Pompano Beach, FL 33064  
Dr. George Callahan (Bonnie)  
Rev. Jim Letizia (Linda)  
305/781-3170 FAX: 305/781-8382

Christ Covenant Church  
8905 McRae  
Tampa, FL 33637  
Rev. Woody Johnson (Reville)  
813/980-3496

#### *Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*

Rev. John M. Eubanks, Chaplain (Sue Ellen)  
VA Medical Center, West Palm Beach  
13790 Paddock Drive  
Wellington, FL 33414  
407/882-8262 ext. 1957

Rev. Michael Glodo (Vicki)  
Assistant Professor of OT, and Dean of Students  
Reformed Theological Seminary  
PO Box 945120  
Maitland, FL 32794-5120  
407/875-8388 FAX: 407/875-0879  
E-mail: 74164.563@Compuserve.com

Rev. Ron Tamburri, Chaplain (Veronica)  
Department of Corrections  
Gainesville Drug Treatment Center  
PO Box 936  
Gainesville, FL 32602  
904/955-2001, ext. 164 FAX: 904/955-1675

Rev. Richard Vroon  
C/O World Team  
PO Box 143030  
Coral Gables, FL 33114  
305/446-0861

# GEORGIA

Hope EPC  
PO Box 116, 406 S. TN St.  
Cartersville, GA 30120  
Rev. Rocky Thompson (Cindy)  
404/382-0517 FAX: same number

Faith Presbyterian Church  
Box 91  
Lavonia, GA 30553  
Dr. Joseph Renfro (Susan)  
706/356-4173

Grace Community Presbyterian  
1837 Bill Murdock Road  
Marietta, GA 30062  
Rev. Ray Barfield (Pearl)  
706/977-7487

First Presbyterian Church  
101 E. Third Avenue  
Rome, GA 30161  
Dr. William M. Flannagan (Joyce)  
Rev. Scott Jackson (Kimberly)  
706/291-6033 FAX: 706/291-0924

# HAWAII

## *Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*

Rev. Ronald Meyer, Chaplain, USN (Lelia)  
945 Lunahai Pl.  
Kailua, HI 96734  
808/477-5098

# ILLINOIS

Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
315 South Street  
Anna, IL 62906  
Rev. Stephen Wilkinson (Suzanne)  
618/833-5225

Baldwin Community Presbyterian  
209 West Church Street  
Baldwin, IL 62217  
(Pulpit vacant)  
618/785-2476

Immanuel Presbyterian Church  
29W260 Batavia Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555  
Rev. Robert Harvey (JoAnn)  
Rev. Charles Gosling (Delores)  
708/393-4400

## *Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*

Rev. Steve Haas (Susan)  
Willow Creek Community Church  
67 E. Algonquin Road  
S. Barrington, IL 60010  
708/765-5000

Dr. Peyton Marshall (Cappi)  
1190 Parker Avenue  
Downers Grove, IL 60516  
708/960-4926

Dr. Robert O. Woodburn (Barbara)  
Moody Bible Institute  
820 North LaSalle Drive  
Chicago, IL 60610  
312/329-4000

# INDIANA

St. Andrew EPC  
PO Box 6041  
Auburn, IN 46706-6041  
Rev. Donovan Coley (Grace)  
219/925-8464

Trinity Presbyterian Church  
Box 638  
Columbia City, IN 46725  
Rev. Lawrence Schmoekel (Ann)  
219/244-5494

## *Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*

Rev. Timothy Weddell (Kathleen)  
Speed Memorial Church  
328 U.S. Highway #31  
Speed, IN 47172-1397  
812/246-5789

# IOWA

Westkirk Presbyterian Church  
2700 Colby Woods Drive  
Des Moines, IA 50322  
Rev. Wayne Hoffman (Helga)  
515/253-0330 FAX: 515/253-0596

## KANSAS

Grace EPC  
5030 W. 15th, Suite C  
Lawrence, KS 66049-3875  
Rev. Bill Vogler (Karen)  
913/843-2005

West Highlands Presbyterian Church  
10240 Noland Road  
Lenexa, KS 66215  
Rev. Robert Bayles (Amy)  
913/642-7809

Covenant Chapel EPC  
6520 W. 110th St., Suite 200  
Overland Park, KS 66212  
Dr. Tom Ryan (Pam)  
Rev. Kevin Sharpe (Julie)  
913/663-3095 FAX: 913/663-3097

Heartland Community Church  
8301 Lamar Avenue  
Overland Park, KS 66207-1572  
Rev. Craig McElvain (Laurel)  
Rev. Craig Babb (Debbie)  
913/341-5820

### *Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*

Rev. Doug Nuenke (Pam)  
Doulos Ministries  
PO Box 442474  
Lawrence, KS 66044  
913/842-9273

Rev. Bill Springston (Mary)  
1507 Osage St.  
Leavenworth, KS 66048  
913/651-0270

## KENTUCKY

Flatrock Covenant Church  
PO Box 98  
Denniston, KY 40316  
Rev. J. Glenn Ferrell (Barbara)  
606/768-6734

New Beginning Presbyterian Church  
Suite 135 Lookout Corporate Center  
1717 Dixie Highway  
Ft. Wright, KY 41011  
Dr. Steven Riser (Alyce)  
606/344-0443

First Presbyterian Church  
100 W. Ormsby Avenue  
Louisville, KY 40203-2818  
(Pulpit vacant)  
502/634-8651

## LOUISIANA

Christ Community Church  
1013-A Gould Drive  
Bossier City, LA 71111  
Rev. Jim Wallace (Penny)  
318/747-3301

First Presbyterian Church  
414 Barrow Street  
Houma, LA 70360  
Rev. David Herbertson (Ann)  
504/873-8136 FAX: 504/851-0140

Zachary Presbyterian Church  
4455 Church St. Box 314  
Zachary, LA 70791  
Rev. David Hicks (Elizabeth)  
504/654-2972

## MARYLAND

Fourth Presbyterian Church  
5500 River Road  
Bethesda, MD 20816  
Dr. Robert Norris (Caren)  
Dr. Willard Davis (Rosemary)  
Rev. James Byrne (Jenny)  
301/320-3600 FAX: 301/320-6315

Dundalk Presbyterian Church  
1969 Merritt Boulevard  
Dundalk, MD 21222  
Rev. Paul Brown (Mai)  
410/284-3250 Fax: same number or 410/284-3252

New Life Presbyterian Church  
PO Box 3964  
Gaithersburg, MD 20885-3964  
Rev. David Howard (Jana)  
301/963-2051 Fax: 301/330-3801

### *Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*

Rev. Ebenezer Afful (Susie)  
511 W. Northern Parkway  
Baltimore, MD 21210  
410/323-3800 ext. 213

Rev. Taik Hee Kim  
349 North Pearl Street, #401  
Brockton, MA 02401  
508/584-1680

Rev. Robert Maseroni (Joan)  
9609 McAlpine Road  
Silver Spring, MD 20901  
301/587-2912

Rev. Nancy Stewart (Steele, Jr.), Chaplain  
Shady Grove Adventist Hospital  
12501 Exchange Court South  
Potomac, MD 20854  
301/762-0866

# MICHIGAN

Covenant Presbyterian Church  
230 Collingwood 160B  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103  
Rev. Mark Vanderput (Mary Jane)  
313/761-1999

Knox Presbyterian Church  
1514 Eisenhower Place  
Ann Arbor, MI 48108  
Dr. Bartlett Hess (Margaret)  
Rev. Michael Frison (Tama)  
313/973-5669 FAX: 313/973-5672

Cornerstone EPC  
9455 Hilton  
Brighton, MI 48116  
Dr. Richard Alberta (Donna)  
Rev. Peter Preiser, Jr. (Valerie)  
Rev. Brian Tweedie (Debbie)  
810/227-9411 FAX: 810/227-5981

North Oaks Community Church  
PO Box 445  
Clarkston, MI 48347  
Rev. John Mathers (Patricia)  
810/625-7332 FAX: same number

Military Avenue EPC  
1002 N. Military Ave.  
Detroit, MI 48209  
Rev. Randall Brown (Barbara)  
313/842-7188

Grace Chapel  
27996 Halstead  
Farmington Hills, MI 48331  
Dr. Gil Odendaal (Elmarie)  
Dr. Anthony De Orio (Janet)  
Rev. William Miller (Dianne)  
810/488-0151 FAX: same number

Calvary Presbyterian Church  
6100 Richfield Road  
Flint, MI 48506  
Rev. Harold K. Polk, Jr. (Karla)  
810/736-4100

Knox Presbyterian Church  
25700 Crocker Blvd.  
Harrison Township, MI 48045  
Rev. Chris Gibson (Debbie)  
Rev. Mark Hudson (Nancy)  
810/469-8500 FAX: 810/469-1616

Lake City EPC  
PO Box 829 303 E. Park St.  
Lake City, MI 49651  
Rev. Don Van Dyke (Carole)  
616/839-2948

Faith EPC  
4285 S. Lapeer Road  
Lake Orion, MI 48359  
Dr. Wallace Hostetter (Linda)  
Rev. Douglas Thompson (Linda)  
810/340-1900 FAX: 810/340-1901

Ward Presbyterian Church  
17000 Farmington Road  
Livonia, MI 48154  
Dr. James McGuire (Lucy)  
Rev. David Brown (Marsha)  
Rev. James Killgore (Grace)  
313/422-1150 FAX: 313/422-5259

Mt. Pleasant Community Church  
1400 W. Broomfield Road  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858  
Rev. William Lindner, Jr. (Mary Lynn)  
517/773-3641

Community EPC  
114 N. Ball Street  
Owosso, MI 48867  
Rev. Don Galardi (Diedre)  
517/725-6930



Trinity Presbyterian Church  
10101 W. Ann Arbor Road  
**Plymouth, MI 48170**  
Dr. William Moore (Lucinda)  
Rev. William Branham, Jr. (Kristen)  
313/459-9550 FAX: 313/459-0562

Oakland Avenue EPC  
404 Oakland Avenue  
**Pontiac, MI 48342**  
Rev. Tom Dages (Julie)  
810/858-2577

Fellowship EPC  
22200 Pontiac Trail  
**South Lyon, MI 48178**  
Rev. Steve Johnson (Elaine)  
810/437-2222

First Presbyterian Church  
2799 West Road  
**Trenton, MI 48183**  
Dr. Donald Giesmann (Sara)  
Rev. Ian Leslic (Deborah)  
313/676-1510 FAX: 313/676-6202

Kensington Community Church  
PO Box 99335  
**Troy, MI 48099**  
Rev. Steve Andrews (Paula)  
810/299-5800 FAX: 810/299-5804

*Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*

Rev. Phillip Burch (Carolyn)  
2283 Howe Road  
Burton, MI 48519  
810/230-9544

Rev. Lynn Eastman  
1260 Woodkrest Drive  
Flint, MI 48504  
810/891-1018

Dr. Douglas Sherman (Jean)  
1463 MacGregor Lane  
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

**MISSISSIPPI**

Lakeside Presbyterian Church  
PO Box 5007 101 Parkway  
**Brandon, MS 39047-5007**  
(Pulpit vacant)  
601/992-2835 FAX: 601/992-5018

Covenant Presbyterian Church  
515 Lehmberg Rd.  
**Columbus, MS 39702**  
Rev. William McCaskill (Cindy)  
601/328-3882

Westminster Presbyterian Church  
PO Box 6435  
**Laurel, MS 39440**  
Dr. Russell Loudon (Suzanne)  
601/649-8033 FAX: 601/649-6452

Louisville Presbyterian Church  
North Church Avenue PO Box 506  
**Louisville, MS 39339**  
(Pulpit Vacant)  
601/773-5647

First Presbyterian Church  
PO Box 362  
**Meridian, MS 39302**  
Rev. Robert Horel (Elaine)  
Rev. John Quigley (Kerry)  
601/693-1133

Tunica Presbyterian Church  
PO Box 1095  
**Tunica, MS 38676**  
Dr. Paul Husband (Dixie)  
601/363-2100

First Presbyterian Church (EPC)  
PO Box 366  
**West Point, MS 39773**  
Rev. Sam Downing (Leanne)  
601/494-3858 FAX: 601/494-7072

*Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*

Rev. Dennis Flach  
First Cumberland Presbyterian Church  
940 McDowell Road  
Jackson, MS 39209  
601/372-2625

**MISSOURI**

Sutter Presbyterian Church  
3500 Fee Fee Road  
**Bridgeton, MO 63044**  
Rev. William McConkey (Hula)  
314/770-1944 FAX: same number

Christ Presbyterian Church  
416 S. Kings Highway, #1  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703  
Rev. Arthur Hunt (Linda)  
314/334-6292

Emmanuel Presbyterian Church  
17126 Old Manchester Road  
Grover, MO 63040  
Rev. Bruce Stanek (Roberta)  
314/458-2823

Central Presbyterian Church  
7700 Davis Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63105  
(Pulpit vacant)  
Rev. David Elliott (Nancy)  
Rev. John Splinter (Marcia)  
Rev. Tom Ricks  
Rev. Douglas Graham  
Rev. Gerald Brundle (Barbara)  
314/727-2777 FAX: 314/854-0168

New Harvest (mission church)  
8834 Madge Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63144  
Rev. David Boswell (Debra)  
314/727-8605

*Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*

Rev. David Lovell  
Lay Renewal Ministries  
3101 Bartold  
St. Louis, MO 63143  
800/747-0815

**NEW JERSEY**

Ashland EPC  
33 E. Evesham Ave.  
Voorhees, NJ 08043  
Rev. Ian Lamont (Linda)  
Rev. Bruce Hoadley (Muriel)  
609/429-8844 FAX: 609/429-8844

**NEW YORK**

Goodwill Presbyterian Church  
2117 Route 208  
Montgomery, NY 12549  
Rev. Stewart Pohlman (Joan)  
914/457-5959 FAX: 914/457-3780

**NORTH CAROLINA**

Covenant EPC (mission church)  
1410 Spring Haven Circle  
Albemarle, NC 28001  
Rev. David Steele (Lois)  
704/982-9750

Harvest Church  
PO Box 9175  
Asheville, NC 28815  
Rev. Lee Kizer (Janet)  
Dr. Howard Shockley (Margaret)  
704/299-4909 FAX: same number

Brunswick Presbyterian Church  
PO Box 303  
Brunswick, NC 28424  
Rev. Ron Glover (Patricia)  
910/640-0800

Fellowship of Christ  
1788 Kildaire Farm Road  
Cary, NC 27511  
Rev. David McLean (Sheila)  
919/380-1019

Forest Hill, An Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
7224 Park Road  
Charlotte, NC 28210  
Dr. David Chadwick (Marilyn)  
Rev. Robbi Fischer (Janet)  
Rev. David Ruff (Mary Ann)  
Rev. Todd Hahn (Jane)  
704/554-9037 FAX: 704/553-8106

Covenant Community Church  
5835 Winburn Lane  
Charlotte, NC 28226  
Dr. James Carr (Vicki)  
704/544-9129

St. Giles Presbyterian Church  
2027 Emerywood  
Charlotte, NC 28210  
Rev. Percy Burns (Sara Jo)  
704/553-1977 FAX: 704/552-6531

Cramerton Presbyterian Church  
152 8th Avenue  
Cramerton, NC 28032  
Rev. Rick D. Slate (Karin)  
704/824-0301

Church of the Savior (mission church)  
C/O Mr. Ken Davis  
2379 Stewart Drive  
Durham, NC 27705  
(Pulpit vacant)  
919/419-1313

Cornerstone EPC  
70 Trimont View Drive  
Franklin, NC 28734  
Rev. Ronald Odum (Donna)  
704/369-5229

Grace Presbyterian Church  
PO Box 1033  
Franklin, NC 28734  
Rev. Thomas Musselman (Alice)  
704/369-6800

Linwood Presbyterian Church  
1010 S. Linwood Avenue  
Gastonia, NC 28053-6656  
Rev. John Jennings (Sandra)  
704/865-4065

Community Bible Church  
Chestnut at 4 1/2 Street  
PO Box 1486  
Highlands, NC 28741  
Rev. Steve Kerhoulas (Candice)  
704/526-4689

New Life Christian Fellowship  
PO Box 2137  
Laurinburg, NC 28353  
Rev. Robert Dean  
910/277-7658

New Hope Presbyterian Church  
1162 Willow Oaks Trail  
Matthews, NC 28105  
(Pulpit vacant)  
704/283-9706

Lee Park Presbyterian Church  
717 E. Park Drive  
Monroe, NC 28110  
(Pulpit vacant)  
704/289-8057

Christ Fellowship EPC  
PO Box 5094  
Pinehurst, NC 28374  
Dr. Don Hardman (Barbara)  
910/295-6004

Plumtree Presbyterian Church  
Highway 19 East PO Box 65  
Plumtree, NC 28664  
Rev. Bruce Anderson (Ellen)  
704/765-6919

Covenant Fellowship EPC  
PO Box 2462  
Shelby, NC 28151-2462  
Rev. Douglas Murphy (Phyllis)  
704/481-0306

Myrtle Grove Presbyterian Church  
800 Piner Road  
Wilmington, NC 28409  
(Pulpit vacant)  
Rev. Kenneth Burbridge (Mary)  
Rev. James Glasgow (Suzanne)  
Rev. Bryan Slater (Ann)  
910/791-6179 Fax: 910/392-7196

Forest Hills Presbyterian Church  
PO Box 3994 1001 Forest Hill Road  
Wilson, NC 27895  
(Pulpit vacant)  
919/291-5587

Reynolda Presbyterian Church  
2200 Reynolda Road  
Winston-Salem, NC 27106  
(Pulpit vacant)  
Rev. Richard Robinson (Caroline)  
910/723-0716; FAX: 910/727-0708

*Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*

Rev. Stephen Crotts (Catherine)  
Christ Church (independent)  
PO Box 2665  
Burlington, NC 27216  
910/226-1727

Dr. S. Donald Fortson, III  
Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary  
5970 Fairview Road, Suite 512  
Charlotte, NC 28210  
704/552-8115

Dr. Frank Kik (Phyllis)  
Professor of Practical Theology  
Reformed Theological Seminary  
PO Box 4159  
Charlotte, NC 28226  
704/531-2429

Dr. Jeffrey Richards (Debbie)  
Columbia International University  
237 Richmond Road  
Salisbury, NC 28144  
704/637-0123

#### NORTH DAKOTA

##### *Minister Laboring Out of Bounds*

Rev. Jerry Van Curler (Elizabeth)  
First Congregational Church  
Kulm, ND 58456  
701/647-2708

#### OHIO

Evangelical Presbyterian Fellowship  
10001 Chillicothe Rd.  
Kirtland, OH 44094  
Rev. Hugh Gowman (Grace)  
216/256-1001

Hope Evangelical Church  
7501 Mentor Avenue  
Mentor, OH 44060  
Rev. Richard Peterson (Karen)  
216/946-3649

Faith EPC  
336 W. Main Street Box 345  
Richmond, OH 43944  
Dr. David Massimi (Carolyn)  
614/765-4175

Tabernacle Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
2432 S. Raccoon Road  
Youngstown, OH 44515  
Dr. Robert Stauffer (Deborah)  
Rev. Gary Koerth (Cynthia)  
Rev. James Brown, Jr. (Judy)  
216/792-3897 FAX: 216/792-2347

##### *Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*

Rev. Gene Huntzinger  
Plain Congregational Church  
16011 W. Poe Road  
Bowling Green, OH 43402

Rev. David Kubal  
Fellowship of Christian Athletes  
C/O Tabernacle Presbyterian Church  
2432 S. Raccoon Road  
Youngstown, OH 44515  
216/792-2010 or 800/889-TEAM. FAX: 216/792-8004

#### OKLAHOMA

##### *Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*

Chaplain, Capt. Mark Ingles, USAF  
PSC-3 Box 5277 (51FW)  
APO AP 96266

Rev. John Taylor (Kathy)  
Literacy and Evangelism International  
1800 S. Jackson  
Tulsa, OK 74107  
918/622-7934

#### PENNSYLVANIA

Calvary Presbyterian Church  
123 E. Diamond St.  
Butler, PA 16001  
Rev. Bill Glassman (Patricia)  
412/283-6070

New Covenant EPC  
R.D. #4 Box 1  
New Castle, PA 16101  
Rev. George Yates (Jane)  
412/652-8062 FAX: 412/654-2455

New Hope EPC (mission church)  
2710 Shadeland Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212  
Rev. Rodger Woodworth (Wende)  
412/766-2728

North Park EPC  
600 Ingomar Road  
Wexford, PA 15090  
Rev. Daniel Lacich (Barbara)  
Rev. Robert Barrett (Lanette)  
Rev. Brian Tome (Elizabeth)  
412/367-5000 FAX: 412/367-8022  
E-mail: Compuserve 74152,342 AOL Dan Lacich  
*Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*

Rev. Robert Cappel  
935 Treasure Lake  
DuBois, PA 15801  
814/375-3429

Chaplain Douglas McCready (Dianne)  
Army National Guard  
1333 Rothley Avenue  
Roslyn, PA 19001  
215/884-9428

Dr. Larry Reinertsen (Carol)  
1112 Oak Street  
Carlisle, PA 17013  
717/258-5441

#### **SOUTH CAROLINA**

Christ Church  
3120 Highway 81 North  
Anderson, SC 29621-4043  
Rev. William Hyer (Michelle)  
803/226-2979

First EPC  
246 Rainbow Circle  
Clover, SC 29710  
Rev. Doyle "Chuck" Baynard (Mollie Ann)  
803/222-4876

Bethesda Presbyterian Church  
3541 E. Palmetto  
Florence, SC 29506-4015  
Rev. Travis Martin (Carol Ann)  
803/669-1945

Trinity Presbyterian Church  
Box 3865  
Florence SC 29502-3865  
Rev. William Meyer (Nancy)  
Rev. David Brogren (Lynn)  
803/665-8022 FAX: 803/669-4247

Overbrook Community Church  
919 Overbrook Drive  
Gaffney, SC 29341  
Rev. Ron Read (Linda)  
803/487-5551

Emmanuel Church (mission group)  
410 S. Harper Street  
Laurens, SC 29360  
Rev. James Thyne, Evangelist (Karen)  
803/984-4076

Cregmore EPC  
PO Box 21631  
Lexington, SC 29221-1631  
Dr. R. Wayne Wood (Suzanne)  
Rev. David Hughes (Karolee)  
803/561-9571

#### **TENNESSEE**

Presbyterian Church  
PO Box 68  
Atoka, TN 38004  
Rev. David Moncla (Beverly)  
901/837-3500

Brainerd Presbyterian Church  
7 North Tuxedo Avenue  
Chattanooga, TN 37411-3793  
Rev. Ronald Ragon (Judith)  
Rev. Steve Jones (Sarah)  
423/698-3471 Fax: 423/698-3473

Lookout Valley Presbyterian Church  
435 Patten Chapel Road  
Chattanooga, TN 37419  
Rev. Russ Ragon (Sandy)  
423/821-3419

Hope Presbyterian Church  
1930 Exeter Road  
Germantown, TN 38138  
Dr. R. Craig Strickland (Lee)  
Rev. Eli Morris (Patty)  
Rev. Michael Moses (Angie)  
901/755-7721 FAX: 901/754-7605

Valleybrook Presbyterian Church  
6001 Hixson Pike  
Hixson, TN 37343  
Rev. Sam Harris (Sandy)  
Rev. Bill Sharp (Sheila)  
423/843-0314 FAX: same number

Lynn Garden Presbyterian  
240 Bert Street  
Kingsport, TN 37665  
Rev. James S. Hoilman (Debbie)  
423/245-1779

Mt. Calvary Presbyterian Church  
1369 Warpath Drive  
Kingsport, TN 37664  
Rev. Tommy Jordan (Karen)  
423/245-3769

Christ Presbyterian Church (EPC) (mission church)  
6709 Albunda Drive  
Knoxville, TN 37919  
Rev. Julian Reese, Evangelist (Melanie)  
423/558-5773

Northshore Presbyterian Church  
9443 Northshore Drive  
Knoxville, TN 37922  
(Pulpit vacant)  
423/694-8374

Second Presbyterian Church  
4055 Poplar  
Memphis, TN 38111  
Rev. Sanders L. Willson (Allison)  
Rev. Rocky Anthony (Tracy)  
Rev. Marty Fields  
Rev. Ron Sadlow (Sarah)  
Rev. Paul Swets ((Janiece)  
901/454-0034 FAX: 901/327-1204

# TEXAS

Crossroads Community Church  
6788 Highway 290 West  
Austin, TX 78735  
Rev. Mike Schulte (Suzanne)  
512/288-7606

Grace Church (EPC)  
2408 E. Trinity Mills Road, Suite 112  
Carrollton, TX 75006  
Dr. Rhett G. Payne, III (Donna)  
214/418-7449

Church of the King  
1010 Annapolis Drive  
Corpus Christi, TX 78404  
Rev. Jack Carter (Kathy)  
512/852-1810

Golden Rule Presbyterian Church  
PO Box 4  
Elysian Fields, TX 75642  
(Pulpit vacant)  
903/633-2567

Providence Presbyterian Church  
350 Oaks Trail #100  
Garland, TX 75043  
Rev. Clifton King (Robbi Linn)  
214/203-9153 FAX: 214/475-3131

Christ EPC  
3131 W. Alabama Suite 301  
Houston, TX 77098  
Dr. Robert Petterson (Joyce)  
Rev. Richard Kidd (Bridget)  
713/526-1188 FAX: 713/526-4833

Cornerstone Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
20501 Katy Freeway, Ste. 138G  
Katy, TX 77450  
Dr. Buck Oliphant (Lynn)  
713/579-1080 FAX: 713/579-7997

EPC of Marshall  
4700 Victory Drive  
Marshall, TX 75670  
Rev. N. Kirk Werner (Sue Carol)  
903/935-7898

Church of the Saviour  
4905 F.M. 2920  
Spring, TX 77388-3112  
(Pulpit vacant)  
713/355-7044

First Presbyterian Church  
PO Box 667  
Waskom, TX 75672  
(Pulpit vacant)  
903/687-3408

## *Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*

Rev. Gerald Kelly (Deborah)  
The Don & Sybil Harrington Cancer Center  
1500 Wallace Blvd.  
Amarillo, TX 79106

Rev. James Martin (Stacey)  
Bible World Seminars  
Israel, Turkey, Greece Study Programs  
PO Box 2687  
Amarillo, TX 79105-2687  
806/373-2637 FAX: 806/373-2710

Rev. Dick Pickens (Nancy)  
PO Box 90908  
Austin, TX 78736  
512/288-0333

Rev. Daniel Situka  
4518 Keota Drive  
Austin, TX 78749

Rev. Hugh White (Joyce)  
Prayer Life Seminars, Inc.  
630 Meadowbrook  
Corpus Christi, TX 78412  
512/993-7651

## VIRGINIA

Cleveland Presbyterian Church  
18076 Cleveland Church Road  
**Abingdon, VA 24210**  
(Pulpit vacant)  
540/628-2086

Faith Presbyterian Church  
6076-B Franconia Road  
**Alexandria, VA 22310**  
Dr. Graham Smith (Margaret)  
703/971-3800 FAX: 703/971-3803

Christ Church  
6602 Degen Drive  
**Burke, VA 22015**  
Rev. L. Michael Winship (Shirley)  
703/455-2700

Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
PO Box 154  
**Elkton, VA 22827**  
Rev. James B. Martin (Dee)  
540/298-2120

EPC of Fredericksburg  
C/O Mr. Jesse Franklin  
503 Lewis Street  
**Fredericksburg, VA 22401**  
(Pulpit vacant)  
540/373-6378

Lebanon Presbyterian Church  
Route 1 Box 126  
**Greenwood, VA 22943**  
Rev. Paul Rettew (Nancy)  
540/456-6719

Northampton Presbyterian Church  
1217 Todds Lane  
**Hampton, VA 23666**  
Rev. Daniel M. Berry, III (Lydia)  
804/826-1305

King of Glory EPC (mission church)  
12423 Hedges Run Drive, Suite 216  
**Lake Ridge, VA 22192**  
Rev. Kenneth Jones, Evangelist (Pamela)  
703/680-5314

Christ Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
10700 Academy  
**Midlothian, VA 23112**  
Rev. Charles Hammett (Merelyn)  
804/276-7593

Woodside Presbyterian Church  
2321 Roanoke Ave SW  
**Roanoke, VA 24015**  
Rev. Bruce Robinson (Mary Ellen)  
540/344-8606

Faith EPC  
900 8th Street  
**Salem, VA 24153**  
Rev. Todd Atkins (Michelle)  
540/387-1911

Kempsville Presbyterian Church  
805 Kempsville Road  
**Virginia Beach, VA 23464**  
Dr. Charles Wickman (Patricia)  
Rev. Andrew Jackson (Barbara)  
804/495-1913 FAX: 804/495-1141

### *Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*

Rev. Milton Hines, Jr. (Sarah)  
2228 Criston Drive  
Newport News, VA 23602  
804/249-5450

Dr. Arthur Lindsley  
2844 Monroe Street  
Falls Church, VA 22042  
703/533-7752

## WASHINGTON

Northwest EPC (mission church)  
17820 NE 101st Court  
**Redmond, WA 98052**  
Rev. Edwin K. Randal (Mary)  
206/881-3689

First EPC  
19800 108th Avenue SE  
**Renton, WA 98055**  
Dr. Jeffrey Jeremiah (Cindy)  
206/859-8998 FAX: 206/859-4730



*Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*

Rev. James Rosenquist (Connie)  
Calvary Chapel  
2009 4th Street  
Port Townsend, WA 98368  
206/385-6469

Rev. M. Bradley Yorton, LT, US Navy  
6170 600th Avenue West  
Oak Harbor, WA 98277  
360/257-2414

**WEST VIRGINIA**

Westminster Presbyterian Church  
PO Box 1258  
**Bluefield, WV 24701**  
Rev. Jeffrey Chadwick (Donna)  
304/325-9121

Perrow Presbyterian Church  
5345 Big Tyler Road  
**Cross Lanes, WV 25313**  
Rev. Nathan Atwood (Helen)  
Rev. Jack Maxwell (Elizabeth)  
Rev. Richard Stauffer (Daneen)  
304/776-1511

**WISCONSIN**

East Crossing (mission church)  
PO Box 7093  
**Madison, WI 53707**  
Rev. Matt Arndt, Church Planter  
Rev. Craig Robertson, Church Planter  
608/246-8838

Highview EPC  
115 Swartz Court  
**Waukesha, WI 53188**  
Rev. Dennis Henn (Susan Lee)  
414/574-0825

**PRESBYTERY OF ST. ANDREWS**

Belgrano  
Conesa 2216  
(1428) Capital Federal  
**Buenos Aires, Argentina**  
(Pulpit vacant)  
011-54-1-781-8882

Centro  
Belgrano 579  
(1067) Capital Federal  
**Buenos Aires, Argentina**  
Dr. A. William Robertson (Ruth)  
011-54-1-331-0308

La Mision de la I.E.P.  
Av. Varela 1153  
1406 Capital Federal  
**Buenos Aires, Argentina 1000**  
Rev. Miguel Robles (Azucena)  
Rev. Marcelo Robles  
011-54-1-602-8300

Olivos  
Acassuso 1131  
(1636) Olivos  
**Pcia. Buenos Aires, Argentina**  
Rev. Kenneth M. Murray (Carmelita)  
Rev. Aldo J. Fontao (Marisa)  
011-54-1-790-0974

Quilmes  
Brown 831  
(1878) Quilmes  
**Pcia. Buenos Aires, Argentina**  
(Pulpit vacant)  
011-54-1-253-4810

San Antonio de Padua Mission Church  
Godoy Cruz 99  
(1718) San Antonio de Padua  
**Pcia. Buenos Aires, Argentina**  
Rev. Juan Jose (Juanjo) Mejias (Amalia)  
0220-26802

Temperley  
Gral. Paz 191  
(1834) Temperley  
**Pcia. Buenos Aires, Argentina**  
Rev. Julio C. Lopez (Mabel)  
011-54-1-244-0847

Paranacito Church (mission church)  
Entre Rios s/n  
(2823) Paranacito  
**Prov. de Entre Rios, Argentina**  
Sr. Osvaldo R. Gershman, Evangelist (Graciela)

*Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds*

Rev. Robert Thomas (Margaret)  
10523 E. Voax Drive  
Sun Lake, AZ 85248  
602/895-6478

**WORLD OUTREACH PERSONNEL**

Robert and Iris Antonucci  
(with Frontiers)  
C/O Clair & Mayann Longuevan  
2208 Dakota Drive  
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Rev. Dick and Linda Barany  
(with Africa Inland Mission in Kenya)  
205 E. Campbell Avenue  
Sherrill, NY 13461  
315/363-8085

Rev. Dan and Catherine Burns  
(with Frontiers in Central Asia)  
C/O John and Margaret Burns  
10 Stillforest  
Houston, TX 77024

Dan and Jan Clark  
(with Frontiers)  
36512 Marler  
Livonia, MI 48154  
810/464-4159

Rev. Ellis and Katherine Deibler  
(with Wycliffe)  
7901 Fawn Lane  
Waxhaw, NC 28173  
704/843-3804

Jim and Sally Foote  
2801 W. Buno  
Milford, MI 48380  
313/685-2132 Fax: 313/685-1143

Nancy Foster  
(with Frontiers)  
325 N. Stapley Dr.  
Mesa, AZ 85203  
602/834-1500

David and Marijane Grimaldo  
8838 Lane  
Detroit, MI 48209  
313/841-5499

Rev. John and Margaret Haines  
(with Arab World Ministries)  
16, Rue George Courteline  
31100 Toulouse  
France  
011-33-61-590117

Robert and Joyce Hamd  
(with Arab World Ministries)  
(Address not available)

Jan Johnson  
1160 Queens Lane Apt. 9  
Anoka, MN 55303

Dr. Greg and Sally Livingstone  
Frontiers  
PO Box 4 High Wycombe  
Bucks HP14 3YX  
England, UK  
011-44-494-484391 FAX: 011-44-494-485917

John and Carlene McCurry  
(with Frontiers)  
C/O Robyn Yates  
16608 Marcross Court  
Chesterfield, MO 63001

Rev. David and Ruann Marshall  
Reh Ho Road, Sec. 3, Lane 54 #7  
Taichung 40613  
Taiwan, ROC  
011-886-42-351-527

Rev. Kundan and Iqbal Massey  
PO Box 6310  
Limassol, Cyprus  
Party phone: 011-3575-376-494  
FAX: 011-357-5375-210

Rev. Chris and Gina Meeks  
Ixtepete 3344  
Pinar de la Calma  
Zapopan, JAL  
45070 Mexico

Rev. Timothy and Karen Mindling (with InterServe)  
C/O IAM  
PO Box 1167  
Peshawar, Pakistan  
(Note: Sensitive address. NO church letterhead; plain envelope)

Rev. Philip and Margaret Muir  
(with Wycliffe Bible Translators )  
1400-B Woodcutter Lane  
Wheaton, IL 60187  
708/495-1307 FAX: 708/495-1326

Mr. Tim North  
40426 Newport  
Plymouth, MI 48170

Leroy and Kathy Padgett  
PO Box 326  
Parker, CO 80134-0326  
303/841-0218

Dr. Samuel and Ruth Rowen  
(with SEND, International)  
372 Rimini Court  
Palatine, IL 60067  
708/705-8635 FAX: same as phone

Rev. Darryl ("Bud") and Carol Sparling  
(with Youth for Christ)  
11631 E. Colorado  
Aurora, CO 80012  
303/751-7196

Rev. David and Debbie Walker  
(with Overseas Crusade)  
3-12-18 Sengen Cho  
Higashi Kurume-shi  
Tokyo 203 Japan  
011-81-424-75-0440 FAX: 011-81-424-72-3382

Rev. Andrew and Rosemary Williamson  
327 Blaxland Road  
Ryde 2112  
Australia

Jonathan and Fozia Young  
(with United World Mission)  
630064 Novosibirsk - 64  
ul. Valtutina 33/2 kv. 53  
Russia

#### SERVING OVERSEAS (OUT OF BOUNDS)

Rev. Robert Carner (Carol)  
Melton Community Presbyterian  
PO Box 94  
Labrador, QLD 4214 Australia  
075-715-676

Rev. John Fain, III (Dawn)  
Jl. Setrasari 3 Kav 21  
Bandung Jabar  
Indonesia

Rev. Daniel Gilbert (Mary Beth)  
5 Marcus Road  
Kinellar, Aberdeen  
Scotland AB2 0SF

Rev. Richard J. Konieczny (Kathleen)  
Jl. Parakletos 678  
Kakaskasen III, Tomohan  
Sulawesi Utara 95362  
Indonesia

Rev. Torrey Olsen (Kimberly)  
World Vision  
BP 47 Gao  
Mali, West Africa  
223-22-38-20

Rev. Richard Vroon (Rebecca)  
Via Pisani Dossi, #4  
02134 Milano  
Italy 39  
39-2-2640480

#### RETIRED MINISTERS

Rev. Richard Adelman (Lib)  
116 Bayou Drive  
Niceville, FL 32578  
904/678-6900  
*Presbytery - Florida*

Chap., Col. Jerry D. Autry (Jackie)  
314 Dolan Avenue  
Mill Valley, CA 94941  
415/381-1323  
*Presbytery - West*

Rev. Carlton Baker (Nancy)  
12153 Shenandoah  
South Lyon, MI 48178  
313/437-4216  
*Presbytery - Midwest*

Dr. Robert Balnicky (Annette)  
14080 Marguerite Drive  
Madeira Beach, FL 33708  
813/397-2385  
*Presbytery - Florida*

Rev. Malcolm Brown (Marjorie)  
2536 Wolting, PO Box 102  
New Era, MI 49446  
616/861-2529  
*Presbytery - Midwest*

Dr. Sterling Edwards  
4239 Chickamauga Road  
Birmingham, AL 35213  
*Presbytery - Central South*

Dr. James Emery (Gennet)  
W723 Briar Cliff Court  
Spokane, WA 99218  
509/468-8178  
*Presbytery - West*

Rev. Bruce Ferry (Delores)  
122 N. Green St.  
Tehachapi, CA 93561  
805/823-0226  
*Presbytery - West*

Rev. S. Donald Fortson, II (Mac)  
201 Greene Drive  
Black Mountain, NC 28711  
704/669-1130  
*Presbytery - Mid-America*

Rev. Bill Gainey (Elizabeth)  
2212 Red Fox Court  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129  
615/890-6680  
*Presbytery - Southeast*

Rev. Calvin Gray (Gloria)  
13487 Purdue  
Morrison, CO 80465  
303/697-1212  
*Presbytery - West*

Rev. Henry Grubbs  
1925 River Oaks Road  
Abilene, TX 79605  
915/692-0262  
*Presbytery - Central South*

Rev. Glenn Hickman (Lila)  
1331 Kingswood Dr.  
Alma, AR 72921  
501/632-3473  
*Presbytery - Central South*

Rev. Dan Hielt (Evelyn)  
6875 S. Prince Circle  
Littleton, CO 80120  
303/798-5439  
*Presbytery - West*

Rev. Jimmie Hollandsworth (Dorothy)  
928 Peyton Street  
Roanoke, VA 24019-4321  
703/885-6702  
*Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic*

Rev. C. Lowry Horner (Grace)  
PO Box 869 10 Rolling Hills Road  
Hedgesville, WV 25427  
304/754-7522  
*Presbytery - East*

Dr. Roy Howes  
22457 Peter Grub Road SE  
Renton, WA 98055  
206/432-8175  
*Presbytery - West*

Rev. Paul Johnson (Barbara)  
11217 SE 181st Street  
Renton, WA 98055  
206/255-4821  
*Presbytery - West*

Dr. Richard Little (Shirilee)  
2539 Merrimont Drive  
Winston-Salem, NC 27106  
910/765-2335  
*Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic*

Rev. Frank Meyer (Judith)  
1694 Gate House Circle #B2  
Colorado Springs, CO 80904  
719/633-6599  
*Presbytery - West*

Rev. James H. Mills, Jr. (Betty)  
31 Main Street  
Crisfield, MD 21817  
301/968-3266  
*Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic*

Rev. Paul Moon (Marie)  
2174 Parkinson  
Waterford, MI 48328  
*Presbytery - Midwest*

Rev. Mark Moore (Nancy)  
423 S. Worchester Way  
Aurora, CO 80012  
303/364-6805  
*Presbytery - West*

Dr. Wayne Mouritzen (Gaye)  
12222 SW 143rd Lane  
Miami, FL 33186-6000  
305/655-5018  
*Presbytery - Florida*

Rev. W.T. Permenter (Marie)  
Route 2 Box 471-B  
Shelbyville, TX 75973  
409/598-4704  
*Presbytery - Central South*

Dr. William R. Read (Lenore)  
1502 W. Rutledge Avenue  
Gaffney, SC 29341  
803/487-5010  
*Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic*

Rev. Robert Shaffer (Jane)  
1816 Vista Lane  
Timonium, MD 21093  
410/252-0425  
*Presbytery - East*

Rev. Alvin W. Smith, Jr.  
270 Baywood Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15228  
412/561-9192  
*Presbytery - East*

Rev. Peter Stam (Jeanelle)  
1209 Bay Side Circle West  
Wilmington, NC 28405  
*Presbytery - East*

Dr. James Van Dyke (Rosemary)  
1 Westlyn Place  
Rome, GA 30165  
706/235-0616  
*Presbytery - Southeast*

Rev. George Woodcock (Miriam)  
27665 Yvette Drive  
Warren, MI 48093  
810/755-5886  
*Presbytery - Midwest*

## MINISTERS WITHOUT CALL

Rev. Samuel Adamson  
2614 W. Serendipity Circle, 318C  
Colorado Springs, CO 80917  
719/475-5889  
*Presbytery - West*

Rev. David Anderson (Peggy)  
110 Fairland Cr.  
Nitro, WV 25143  
304/776-7313  
*Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic*

Rev. Henry Braga (Sally)  
555 Windsor Place #201  
Naples, FL 33942  
941/352-2628  
*Presbytery - Florida*

Rev. Michael Brown (Becky)  
1522 Granville  
Burlington, NC 28424  
919/227-0288  
*Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic*

Rev. Thomas Burbridge (Jo Ann)  
14000 Richfield  
Livonia, Michigan 48154  
313/464-9466  
*Presbytery - Midwest*

Rev. Ron Burton (Nancy)  
4905 Spring Meadow Lane  
Monroe, NC 28110  
704/283-9706  
*Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic*

Rev. Robert Camenisch (Kay)  
417 Danville Avenue  
Stanford, KY 40484-1152  
606/365-3605  
*Presbytery - Central South*

Rev. Walter R. Case, Sr. (Barbara)  
811 Augustus Lane  
Rock Hill, SC 29730  
803/366-9590  
*Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic*

Rev. Steve Conrad (Suzy)  
2033 South Ong Street  
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**PART V**

**ANNUAL STATISTICAL AND FINANCIAL REPORTS  
OF THE CHURCHES**

# ANNUAL REPORTS

## CENTRAL SOUTH

					GAINS			LOSSES							
CHURCHES	LOCATION	ELDERS	DEACONS	12/31/93 MEMBERSHIP	PROFESSION OF FAITH	CERT.	OTHER	CERT.	DEATHS	OTHER	12/31/94 MEMBERSHIP	SS ENROLLMENT	ADULT BAPTISMS	INFANT BAPTISMS	YOUTH PROFESSORS
1 Atoka Presbyterian	Atoka, TN	3	3	38	3	1	1	0	1	0	42	40	1	0	3
2 Christ EPC	Houston, TX	10	10	677	17	17	25	44	2	4	686	959	3	22	1
3 Christ Presbyterian	Decatur, AL														
4 Christ Presbyterian	Cape Girardeau, MO														
5 Church of the Saviour	Spring, TX														
6 Church of the King	Corpus Christi, TX														
7 Cornerstone Presbyterian	Katy, TX	7		58	5	13	0	7	1	13	55	49	1	2	
8 Covenant Presbyterian	Columbus, MS	6	0	88	0	0	0	15	1	23	49	23	0	0	
9 Crossroads Community	Austin, TX														
10 EPC of Marshall	Marshall, TX	6	6	166	6	1	14	1		9	177	125	4	7	5
11 First EPC	Anna, IL	7	9	140	2	9	1	0	2	0	150	171	2	0	0
12 First Presbyterian	Atmore, AL	4	4	85	6	1	3	1	1	5	88	109	1	3	5
13 First Presbyterian	Houma, LA	2	2	61	0	4	0	5	1	0	79	41	0	2	0
14 First Presbyterian	Meridian, MS	12	12	406	3	23	2	3	10		42	128	3	9	2
15 First Presbyterian	Waskom, TX	4		24		4		1			27	14	0	0	0
16 First Presbyterian	West Point, MS	6	6	153	0	9	1	7	4	7	145	116	0	4	0
17 Grace Church	Carrollton, TX	4		57	5	2	6	3			69	52	2	5	3
18 Golden Rule	Elysian Fields, TX														
19 Hope Presbyterian	Germantown, TN	11	10	333	30	17	17	5	0	0	392		5	20	11
20 Lakeside Presbyterian	Brandon, MS	11	12	551	11	9	26	15	0	24	558	240	2	9	9
21 Louisville Presbyterian	Louisville, MS	0	0	69	0	0	0	2	1	1	65	17	0	0	
22 Providence Presbyterian	Garland, TX	9		59	1	1	17			8	70	57	3	2	
23 Redeemer EPC	Irondale, AL			48	7	3	9	2			65	23	1	0	7
24 River of Life	Montgomery, AL	10		54		4	3	4	2		55	105	0	3	
25 Second Presbyterian	Memphis, TN	46	50	3,329	22	27	41	69	36	11	3,303	2,425	1	37	16
26 Trinity Presbyterian	Mobile, AL	6	1	68		5				18	55	26	0	0	
27 Tunica Presbyterian	Tunica, MS	6	9	135	5	1	0	4	2	2	139	106	1	2	4

28	Westminster Presbyterian	Bossier City, LA	2		35			4				39	18	0	0	
29	Westminster Presbyterian	Laurel, MS	9	9	243	5	27	7	3	2	0	277	200	1	0	5
30	Zachary Presbyterian	Zachary, LA	3		57	0	0	0	0	2	15	40	50	0	0	0

Shaded : Churches received in 1995

# ANNUAL REPORTS

CENTRAL SOUTH		RECEIPTS		DISBURSEMENTS					TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	ENDING BALANCE
CHURCHES	BEGINNING BALANCE	TITHES & OFFERINGS	OTHER INCOME	LOCAL CAUSES	PRESBYTERY	PER MEMBER GIVING	EPC BENEVOLENCES	NON-EPC MISSIONS			
1 Aroka Presbyterian *	15,613	35,898	3,340	44,087	456	456	0	670	39,236	45,682	8,425
2 Christ EPC	96,609	306,456	278,578	772,347		8,124	20,539	47,167	1,275,035	1,072,710	292,935
3 Christ Presbyterian											
4 Christ Presbyterian											
5 Church of the Saviour											
6 Church of the King											
7 Cornerstone Presbyterian	210,822	85,058	22,094	158,239	900	900	0	2,348	107,153	162,387	155,588
8 Covenant Presbyterian	8,928	58,178	1,767	54,752	735	350	550	0	58,946	59,010	9,864
9 Crossroads Community											
10 EPC of Marshall	18,975	146,894	51,679	180,066	2,505	1,764	6,876	5,620	198,569	196,831	20,713
11 First EPC	47,356	137,311	69,897	193,374	2,145	1,906	2,253	2,470	207,208	206,231	48,339
12 First Presbyterian	29,473	169,455	15,303		1,500	1,020	3,517	17,682	184,759	141,484	72,747
13 First Presbyterian	18,984	87,939	1,124	85,286	1,170	1,016	1,091	5,613	89,063	98,252	8,776
14 First Presbyterian *	121,075	341,634	100,931	368,138	7,401	0	0	40,407	442,565	423,761	139,879
15 First Presbyterian	8,876	24,987	27,810	48,572		360	8		52,797	48,940	12,732
16 First Presbyterian	23,305	122,226	7,972	113,095	2,550	3,018	1,555	5,199	130,198	125,418	28,085
17 Grace Church *	9,407	159,568	325,568	187,500	855	692	0	0	247,578	189,147	67,838
18 Golden Rule											
19 Hope Church	60,205	489,563	155,182	540,614	5,085	4,068			644,745	557,335	147,615
20 Lakeside Presbyterian	109,902	440,628	172,847	459,457	8,180	6,528	14,003	81,158	813,475	569,304	154,073
21 Louisville Presbyterian *	34,180	50,599	23,659	67,659		0			74,287	74,397	34,070
22 Providence Presbyterian	1,224	133,239	15,639	128,501	855	708	540	2,735	148,878	133,339	16,763
23 Redeemer EPC	43,384	142,592		72,207	304			7,372	142,592	118,326	67,650
24 River of Life	19,281	126,981		106,372			1,200	18,325	146,262	125,897	20,365
25 Second Presbyterian		3,548,583	1,315,380	3,902,773	51,125	39,948	108,425	821,952	4,864,063	4,913,169	
26 Trinity Presbyterian	14,393	71,295	33,016	104,806	1,020	816	1,924		104,911	108,322	10,392
27 Tunica Presbyterian	25,920	91,872	7,835	99,117	2,055	1,536	485		99,707	103,193	22,434

28	Westminster Presbyterian	13,825	39,937	653	28,700	432	432	25	332	40,590	40,910	13,605
29	Westminster Presbyterian *	385,953	308,932	10,451	240,892	5,975	3,120	23,750	23,983	319,365	299,021	406,316
30	Zachary Presbyterian	185,298	50,120	5,740	55,474	795	975	1,230		44,379	58,474	151,203

\* Figures not verified prior to printing

Shaded - Churches received in 1995

# ANNUAL REPORTS

## EAST

	CHURCHES	LOCATION	ELDERS	DEACONS	12/31/93 MEMBERSHIP	GAINS			LOSSES			12/31/94 MEMBERSHIP	SS ENROLLMENT	ADULT BAPTISMS	INFANT BAPTISMS	YOUTH PROFESSORS
						PROFESSION OF FAITH	CERT.	OTHER	CERT.	DEATHS	OTHER					
1	Allegheny Valley	Pittsburgh, PA														
2	Ashland EPC	Voorhees, NJ	12	7	408	34	0	3	3	5	24	413	132	0	18	8
3	Calvary EPC	Butler, PA	9	13	283	0	1	1	12	10	69	194	46	0	1	0
4	Christ Church	Burke, VA	2	7	58	0	4	0	2	0	24	46	29	0	1	0
5	Dundalk Presbyterian	Dundalk, MD	12	9	275	16		1	5	1	10	276	189	0	3	3
6	Falih Presbyterian	Alexandria, VA	15	9	202	8	11	4	0	1	0	222	140	0	1	6
7	Fourth Presbyterian	Bethesda, MD	24	30	2,285	107		0	41	11	38	2,302	1,732	8	42	6
8	Goodwill Presbyterian	Montgomery, NY	8	9	109	1	0	0	0	2	15	93	64	7	0	0
9	King of Glory	Woodbridge, VA	3	3	18	5	1	7				31	32	2	1	5
10	New Hope	Pittsburgh, PA											71			
11	New Covenant	New Castle, PA														
12	New Life Presbyterian	Gaithersburg, MD	5	4	39	9	0	0	0	0	0	48	23	2	1	7
13	North Park EPC	Wexford, PA	9	10	523	17		22	3	1	12	546	293	2	10	0

Shaded - Churches received in 1995

## EAST

CHURCHES	BEGINNING BALANCE	RECEIPTS		DIS- BURSEMENTS					TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL DIS- BURSEMENTS	ENDING BALANCE
		TITHES & OFFERINGS	OTHER INCOME	LOCAL CAUSES	PRESBYTERY	PER MEMBER GIVING	EPC BENEVOLENCES	NON-EPC MISSIONS			
1 Allegheny Valley											
2 Ashland EPC	50,185	276,949	15,815	232,895	1,500	4,909	8,900	21,140	298,765	313,164	29,786
3 Calvary EPC	2,786	82,695	92,021	149,802	950	1,849	8,970	8,750	174,717	170,222	7,281
4 Christ Church	18,891	67,995	377	65,426	142	818	1,220	3,600	68,373	71,204	16,060
5 Dundalk Presbyterian	25,848	165,231	9,504	127,245	500	3,300	1,723	19,982	176,136	157,352	44,831
6 Faith Presbyterian	212,693	322,974	206,044	500,392	500	3,000	13,096	23,574	529,018	548,562	201,149
7 Fourth Presbyterian	3,085,681	2,221,055	1,182,872	3,603,742	5,500	20,000	33,013		3,403,927	4,075,821	3,413,987
8 Goodwill Presbyterian	0	112,878	2,676	89,132	220	1,100	2,407	15,312	115,554	115,554	0
9 King of Glory	10,000	43,000	2,000	41,000			725		45,000	46,525	8,475
10 New Hope	8,399	28,792	56,807	62,024		408			85,599	62,432	31,566
11 New Covenant											
12 New Life Presbyterian	12,031	74,017	11,641	87,740	80	378		102	85,658	88,300	9,389
13 North Park EPC	56,000	580,580	65,025	545,343	1,100	6,800	1,800	53,134	645,605	632,718	68,889

Shaded - Churches received in 1995



# ANNUAL REPORTS

## FLORIDA

CHURCHES	LOCATION	ELDERS	DEACONS	GAINS			LOSSES			12/31/84 MEMBERSHIP	SS ENROLLMENT	ADULT BAPTISMS	INFANT BAPTISMS	YOUTH PROFESSORS
				12/31/93 MEMBERSHIP	PROFESSION OF FAITH	CERT.	OTHER	CERT.	DEATHS	OTHER				
1 Abundant Life EPC	Lake Mary, FL	3		36	0	2	1	4	0	0	35	22	0	0
2 Christ Covenant	Tampa, FL	7		92	16		7				117	111	2	12
3 Cornerstone EPC	Daytona Beach, FL													
4 Faith EPC	Brooksville, FL	6	12	230	8	6	18	9	5	0	348	170	5	6
5 First Presbyterian	Homestead, FL	9		122	11		25	5	4	6	143	60	11	5
6 First Presbyterian	Niceville, FL													
7 New Covenant	Pompano Beach, FL	11	16	1,294	5		90	3	2	269	1,055	172	16	5
8 Trinity EPC	St. Pierce, FL	8		112			10				122	90		
9 Trinity EPC	Naples, FL	2	5	44	0	2	0	0	1	10	35	25	0	2

**FLORIDA**

	CHURCHES	RECEIPTS			DISBURSEMENTS					TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	ENDING BALANCE
		BEGINNING BALANCE	TITHES & OFFERINGS	OTHER INCOME	LOCAL CAUSES	PRESBYTERY	PER MEMBER GIVING	EPC BENEVOLENCES	NON-EPC MISSIONS			
1	Abundant Life	4,750	40,290	31	55,116	0	0	480	1,380	54,189	57,976	963
2	Christ Covenant *	928	120,716	22,210	134,818	3,992	1,150	3,992		152,927	152,893	962
3	Cornerstone EPC											
4	Faith EPC	36,091	295,630	36,770	314,730	1,999	3,999	4,424	5,249	322,600	320,461	40,230
5	First Presbyterian	74,475	78,687	202,881	241,506	4,600	1,342	650	2,815	281,568	350,913	5,120
6	First Presbyterian											
7	New Covenant *	15,034	1,111,595	5,805	964,176	3,625	3,768	625	128,317	1,117,390	1,131,036	1,369
8	Trinity EPC *	16,996	138,622	30,449	186,661	1,344	1,344	1,883		189,072	181,234	4,835
9	Trinity EPC	2,930	41,718		42,627					41,718	42,627	2,022

\* Figures not verified prior to printing

# ANNUAL REPORTS

## MID-AMERICA

	CHURCHES	LOCATION	ELDERS	DEACONS	12/31/93 MEMBERSHIP	GAINS			LOSSES			12/31/94 MEMBERSHIP	SS ENROLLMENT	ADULT BAPTISMS	INFANT BAPTISMS	YOUTH PROFESSORS
						PROFESSION OF FAITH	CERT.	OTHER	CERT.	DEATHS	OTHER					
1	Baldwin Community	Baldwin, IL	6	2	43	0	0	0	0	1	0	42	44	0	2	
2	Central Presbyterian	St. Louis, MO	27	36	2,701	42	105	76	51	22	47	2,804	1,016	15	47	21
3	Christ Chapel	Chesterfield, MO	6	10	80	5	0	0	0		22	53	38		2	0
4	Covenant Chapel	Overland Park, KS	6		241	2	28	4	46	1	0	228	360	2	5	0
5	Emmanuel Presbyterian	Grover, MO														
6	Faith EPC	Fayetteville, AR														
7	Grace EPC	Lawrence, KS	8	4	139		17	29	0	0	5	180		1	7	0
8	Heartland Community	Overland Park, KS	7		261	55		0		2	10	304	346	27	40	0
9	Immanuel Presbyterian	Warrenville, IL	12	10	263	25		0		1	23	264	235	2	4	7
10	New Harvest Community	St. Louis, MO			0			28				28	39	0	1	
11	Sulter Presbyterian	Bridgeton, MO	7	16	99	2		5		2		106	101	9		
12	West Highlands EPC	Lenexa, KS														
13	Westkirk Presbyterian	Des Moines, IA	12	9	225	24	17	7	5	5	14	249	143	2	3	

MID-AMERICA		RECEIPTS			DISBURSEMENTS					TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	ENDING BALANCE
CHURCHES	BEGINNING BALANCE	TITHES & OFFERINGS	OTHER INCOME	LOCAL CAUSES	PRESBYTERY	PER MEMBER GIVING	EPC BENEVOLENCES	NON-EPC MISSIONS				
1 Baldwin Community *	7,573	12,704	16,162	8,520	900	900			28,866	20,961	15,478	
2 Central Presbyterian	2,070,212	2,942,436	839,827	3,244,721	63,108	32,412	57,548	289,037	3,782,273	3,785,051	2,067,434	
3 Christ Chapel *	19,623	82,333	56,600	122,671	440			5,006	138,933	128,717	30,212	
4 Covenant Chapel *		300,662	283,450						584,113			
5 Emmanuel Presbyterian												
6 Faith EPC												
7 Grace EPC	184,888	173,744	120,324	186,721	1,120	1,568	849	10,150	294,069	210,269	268,689	
8 Heartland Community	7,353	692,930	225,030	127,245	2,328	3,132		38,307	917,960	839,186	71,421	
9 Immanuel Presbyterian *	53,715	275,460	199,860	350,431	2,058	3,084	1,200	27,925	415,322	394,482	74,555	
10 New Harvest Community		48,350	50,000	22,360					98,350	22,360	75,990	
11 Sutter Presbyterian *	51,019	105,920	48,874	95,400	800	1,200	200	31,256	164,794	128,855	48,273	
12 West Highlands EPC												
13 Westkirk Presbyterian	54,483	109,983	114,629	191,855	1,000	2,700	1,643	2,397	224,612	199,595	79,500	

\* Figures not verified prior to printing

# ANNUAL REPORTS

## MID-ATLANTIC

	CHURCHES	LOCATION	ELDERS	DEACONS	12/31/93 MEMBERSHIP	GAINS			LOSSES			12/31/94 MEMBERSHIP	SS ENROLLMENT	ADULT BAPTISMS	INFANT BAPTISMS	YOUTH PROFESSORS
						PROFESSION OF FAITH	CERT.	OTHER	CERT.	DEATHS	OTHER					
1	Bethesda Presbyterian	Florence, SC	5		59	0	4	0	2	0	0	51	32	0	0	0
2	Brunswick Presbyterian	Brunswick, NC	4	4	28	2	1	2	0			33	26	1	0	1
3	Christ Church EPC	Anderson, SC	5	5	77	2	2	4	2		5	77	127	2	3	
4	Christ EPC	Midlothian, VA	5		43	0	1	0	0		1	43	41		0	
5	Christ Fellowship	Pinehurst, NC	7	0	41	1	8	1	0		0	51		1	0	
6	Church of the Saviour	Gurham, NC														
7	Cleveland Presbyterian	Abingdon, VA	3	0	62		1	2		1	2	62	61		1	
8	Community Bible	Highlands, NC	3		72	5	27	0	2			102	60	1	0	5
9	Cornerstone Presbyterian	Franklin, NC	5	0	79		2	2	4			79	4			
10	Covenant EPC	Albemarle, NC	4	1	24	0	3	0	0			27	19			
11	Covenant Fellowship	Shelby, NC	4	2	65	2	0	5	0	1	17	55	88	2		
12	Cramerton EPC	Cramerton, NC	5	3	56	0	0	0	0	1	5	49	31			
13	Cremore Church	Lexington, SC	2		0	25	16	0	2	1	5	39	38			8
14	EPC	Elkton, VA	6		58	4	8	6	1		2	53	70	2		
15	EPC of Fredricksburg	Fredricksburg, VA										39				
16	Emmanuel Presbyterian	Laurens, SC	2		29	4	1	0	0	2	3	29	21	1	1	1
17	Faith EPC	Salem, VA	4	1	36	0	1	1	0			36	23			
18	Fellowship of Christ	Cary, NC	8	7	108			16		1		123	93	1	1	
19	First EPC	Clover, SC			12	10	1		1			22	18			1
20	Forest Hill Presbyterian	Charlotte, NC	21	18	1,649	8	126	90	85	8	7	1,773	976	2	35	
21	Forest Hills EPC	Wilson, NC	7	0	83	4	8			1	13	81	44	5	2	
22	Grace Chapel EPC	Charlotte, NC	4	0	27	4	7	1	0		0	39			1	4
23	Grace EPC	Franklin, NC	5	5	75	2	2	8			15	71	61	1		2
24	Harvest Church	Asheville, NC	6	5	60	3	0	28			11	80	94	6		
25	Kempsville Presbyterian	Virginia Beach, VA	12	18	1,327	22	30	40	15	3	4	1,397	648	8	5	18
26	Lebanon Presbyterian	Greenwood, VA	3	3	49	3	11	5	4		9	55	62	1		
27	Lee Park	Monroe, NC	6	5	61	0	2	0	2	1	0	80	60			

28	Linwood Presbyterian	Gastonia, NC	8		55	16	4			2		73	45	16	0	14
29	Myrtle Grove Presbyterian	Wilmington, NC	18	15	1,442	20	50	77	28	5	167	1,389	580	21	18	20
30	New Life Christian	Laurinburg, NC														
31	New Hope Presbyterian	Matthews, NC	5		47		1		3			45	22		1	
32	Northampton Presbyterian	Hampton, VA	10		112	3	3	3	0	2	10	109	66			0
33	Overbrook Community	Gaffney, SC	4	6	86	2	6	6	5		3	92	96	8	3	2
34	Parrow Presbyterian	Cross Lanes, WV	13	10	338	0	8	13	2	3	17	340	241	0	6	0
35	Plumtree Presbyterian	Plumtree, NC	9	0	147	1	2	1	0	2	0	149	164	1	0	1
36	Reynolds Presbyterian	Winston-Salem, NC	18	18	817	13	41	20	10	7	57	817	247	7	10	7
37	St. Giles	Charlotte, NC	6	7	368	14	20	6	1	2	43	362	248	8	0	13
38	Trinity Presbyterian	Florence, SC	9	9	496	6	13	12	49	1	22	455	417	3	9	0
39	Westminster Presbyterian	Bluefield, WV	15	15	565	5	12	6	22	9	10	548	191	5	1	1
40	Woodside Presbyterian	Roanoke, VA	3	0	44	1	0	0	0	1	0	44	35	1	0	1

Shaded - Churches received in 1995

# ANNUAL REPORTS

## MID-ATLANTIC

	CHURCHES	BEGINNING BALANCE	RECEIPTS		DIS- BURSEMENTS					TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL DIS- BURSEMENTS	ENDING BALANCE
			TITHES & OFFERINGS	OTHER INCOME	LOCAL CAUSES	PRESBYTERY	PER MEMBER GIVING	EPC BENEVOLENCES	NON-EPC MISSIONS			
1	Bethesda Presbyterian	5,129	84,821	8,247	58,892	120	744	100	2,985	73,069	69,735	8,462
2	Brunswick Presbyterian	21,118	23,426	8,330	34,335	120	500	402	138	91,757	35,677	17,190
3	Christ Church EPC *	18,042	225,806	203	201,990	16,050	1,950		3,823	226,009	223,819	20,231
4	Christ EPC	6,530	75,479	5,001	56,518	1,200	612	788	10,436	80,480	69,555	17,455
5	Christ Fellowship	9,155	46,599	7,217	46,578	93	492	50	3,911	55,818	51,124	13,850
6	Church of the Saviour											
7	Cleveland Presbyterian	27,380	26,588	48,074	69,941		759	64	1,590	74,662	76,068	25,974
8	Community Bible	51,049	179,894		126,232	1,800	914	2,850	11,285	179,894	143,081	87,862
9	Cornerstone Presbyterian	41,637	75,329	15,356	89,290	1,800	948	1,505	6,637	91,285	100,180	32,742
10	Covenant EPC	5,938	22,168	8,691	29,765	300	300			30,859	30,366	6,431
11	Covenant Fellowship *	20,014	70,246	11,386	54,275			2,442	6,394	81,632	65,111	36,535
12	Cramerton EPC *	6,952	55,239		46,065	1,120	672	1,468		55,239	53,044	11,147
13	Cregmore Church	0	43,147	0	43,064		87			43,147	43,147	
14	EPC	12,473	80,482	176,627	250,318	2,000	1,500	400	812	257,109	256,631	12,951
15	EPC of Fredricksburg	8,252	6,243		5,110		204			6,243	5,742	8,753
16	Emmanuel Presbyterian *	6,002	21,575	45,518	60,820	200	198	15		67,094	61,233	11,863
17	Faith EPC	13,363	65,379	6,444	60,048	1,283	374	879		71,824	62,584	22,604
18	Fellowship of Christ	23,270	151,456	74,458	198,691	220	1,320	60	7,076	225,915	243,210	5,975
19	First EPC	4,616	29,848	1,487	18,491	400	144	276	10,728	31,335	30,040	5,911
20	Forest Hill Presbyterian	572,003	2,898,802	68,217	2,405,012	18,864	19,725	13,558	305,654	2,967,010	2,999,573	539,449
21	Forest Hills EPC *	45,459	56,783	24,769	122,181	142	855	100	3,282	81,553	126,580	459
22	Grace Chapel EPC	23,613	53,906	9,539	61,246	135	338	1,050	1,500	63,446	67,659	19,360
23	Grace EPC *	22,137	79,048	9,721	78,537	500	500	210	1,735	88,770	82,003	28,904
24	Harvest Church	13,563	85,462	39,972	118,516	600	720	600	11,183	125,434	131,619	7,378
25	Kempsville Presbyterian	243,733	1,428,958	2,694	1,053,387	20,000	14,000	10,400	236,761	1,431,652	1,367,719	307,666
26	Lebanon Presbyterian	12,006	60,840	11,819	45,210	500	600	1,574	3,500	72,659	54,310	30,355
27	Lee Park	18,795	53,432	4,322	53,275	2,552	1,597	1,998	2,133	57,754	62,605	13,944



28	Unwood Presbyterian	1,334	51,882		59,747	400	660	1,449		51,892	62,256	980
29	Myrtle Grove Presbyterian	464,032	1,105,297	114,826	925,640	13,000	25,741	14,651	152,854	1,220,124	1,132,887	551,269
30	New Life Christian											
31	New Hope Presbyterian	24,451	15,702	14,884	32,573	68	408			20,586	33,049	21,988
32	Northampton Presbyterian	8,626	77,953	7,379	82,029	1,000	1,344	500	530	85,322	85,403	8,555
33	Overbrook Community	22,174	144,345	31,231	167,352	1,200	1,032	3,278	6,712	175,576	179,574	18,176
34	Parrow Presbyterian	35,174	410,084	21,994	303,003	1,680	4,080	4,410	62,421	468,252	415,285	52,967
35	Plumtree Presbyterian	29,853	119,818		70,459	3,600	1,764	1,200	25,200	119,818	111,762	37,909
36	Reynolds Presbyterian	110,100	1,048,300		859,124	16,500	12,300	14,400	135,716	1,048,300	1,039,040	119,360
37	St Giles	115,418	564,673	20,502	320,688	7,736	4,416	8,764	82,430	585,175	552,298	148,285
38	Trinity Presbyterian	298,340	546,613	37,231	318,356	13,500	5,500	40,659	137,310	583,844	526,124	296,080
39	Westminster Presbyterian	29,137	560,490	46,833	349,451	4,600	6,215	16,955	193,404	607,323	588,125	48,335
40	Woodside Presbyterian	12,644	27,428	384	22,595		529		300	27,812	23,424	17,022

Shaded = Churches received in 1995

\*Figures not verified prior to printing

# ANNUAL REPORTS

## MIDWEST

MIDWEST					GAINS			LOSSES								
	CHURCHES	LOCATION	ELDERS	DEACONS	12/31/93 MEMBERSHIP	PROFESSION OF FAITH	CERT.	OTHER	CERT.	DEATHS	OTHER	12/31/94 MEMBERSHIP	SS ENROLLMENT	ADULT BAPTISMS	INFANT BAPTISMS	YOUTH PROFESSORS
1	Calvary Presbyterian	Flint, MI	15	21	564	24	7	15	0	2	25	583	271	3	15	14
2	Community EPC	Owosso, MI	2	2	59	0	0	17	0	0	0	76	85	3	0	0
3	Cornerstone Pres.	Brighton, MI	15	54	460	105	83	0	6	1	23	543	416	14	32	3
4	Covenant Presbyterian	Ann Arbor, MI	6	6	91	0	0	0	5	1	3	82	73	0	1	0
5	East Crossing	Madison, WI	6	0								58	26		7	0
6	Evangelical Pres. Fellow.	Kirland, OH	8	12	150	0	0	0	0	3	21	152	119	29	0	0
7	Faith EPC	Richmond, OH	9	9	125	1			0	0	0	126	68	0	1	0
8	Faith EPC	Rochester Hills, MI														
9	Fellowship EPC	South Lyon, MI	7	11	158	29	14		4			197		3	3	3
10	First Presbyterian	Trenton, MI	12	36	796	8	14	14	4	8	23	797	489	4	9	2
11	Grace Chapel	Farmington Hills, MI	11	27	454	9	20	23	6	1	50	449	474	2	12	0
12	Highview EPC	Waukesha, WI	9	0	82		6		2			88	50	0	3	0
13	Hope Evan. Fellow.	Mentor, OH	8	6	0	18	59		0	0	0	77	45	0	1	0
14	Kensington Community	Troy, MI	4		238	73	44	8	0	0	0	355	413	31	29	0
15	Knox Presbyterian	Ann Arbor, MI		8	109	26	10	56	2	1	3	195	290	3	5	12
16	Knox Presbyterian	Harrison Twp., MI	12	0	493	10	14	5	8	2	26	483	432	2	10	8
17	Lake City EPC	Lake City, MI	5		80	0	0	0	0	1	0	79	42	0	1	0
18	Military Avenue EPC	Detroit, MI	1		71	2					2	71				
19	Mt. Pleasant Community	Mt. Pleasant, MI	9	13	195	12		22	1	0	6	222	289	2	1	0
20	North Oaks Community	Clarkston, MI	5		55	2		7	6		18	42	37	2	2	1
21	Oakland Avenue EPC	Pontiac, MI	9	20	243	0	0	0	0	12	0	231	173	0	0	0
22	St. Andrew EPC	Auburn, IN	8	8	50	5	5	5	0	1	0	64	89	0	1	4
23	Tabernacle EPC	Youngstown, OH	11	18	455	31	57	0	4	2	54	483	243	1	2	23
24	Trinity Presbyterian	Columba City, IN	12	12	163	12			2	2		171	135	3	9	8
25	Trinity Presbyterian	Plymouth, MI	13	22	569	26	27	20	9	1	37	595	442	5	16	25
26	Ward Presbyterian	Livonia, MI	33	225	4,743	89	62	135	72	27	336	4,601	5,255	45	73	39

MIDWEST		RECEIPTS			DISBURSEMENTS				TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	ENDING BALANCE
CHURCHES	BEGINNING BALANCE	TITHES & OFFERINGS	OTHER INCOME	LOCAL CAUSES	PRESBYTERY	PER MEMBER GIVING	EPC BENEVOLENCES	NON-EPC MISSIONS			
1 Calvary Presbyterian	176,852	305,575	244,814	550,461	4,136	6,818	4,840	5,150	550,389	581,603	145,838
2 Community EPC	69,017	128,108	11,950	98,522	550	800	1,025	9,204	140,058	122,978	86,198
3 Cornerstone Presbyterian	310,512	895,331	375,174	1,080,550	4,140	5,760	47,587	80,442	1,270,506	1,243,124	337,894
4 Covenant Presbyterian	52,019	100,903	22,957	98,819	593	1,082	3,293	5,726	123,860	127,740	48,133
5 East Crossing	920	73,335	1,200	81,536					85,335	81,536	4,719
6 Evangelical Pres. Fellow.	51,734	207,085	23,225	170,642		2,000	1,250	22,690	230,210	198,282	83,762
7 Faith EPC	126,237	109,813	121,105	307,150	1,500	1,500	1,630	7,700	240,918	333,199	33,958
8 Faith EPC											
9 Fellowship EPC	29,575	223,035	14,901	194,850	1,264	1,980	22,732	11,380	237,937	234,318	33,194
10 First Presbyterian	46,132	592,366	231,143	596,507	2,340	2,340	8,965	181,683	823,509	799,003	70,638
11 Grace Chapel	84,028	561,582	186,717	893,983	3,632	5,448	37,106	40,784	748,299	798,043	34,282
12 Highview EPC	9,213	70,854	37,554	57,413	82	450	1,168	2,390	108,408	63,653	53,968
13 Hope Evang. Fellow.	900	94,014	8,323	83,752			1,250	12,435	102,337	98,937	4,300
14 Kensington Community*	558,174	1,140,430	590,788	868,351		4,500		20,000	1,750,216	892,851	1,415,539
15 Knox Presbyterian	156,860	424,242	232,845	369,019	546	928	17,746	20,526	657,087	405,851	408,096
16 Knox Presbyterian	92,966	550,996	53,015	384,450	3,000	5,916	2,200	171,028	604,011	572,394	124,583
17 Lake City EPC	17,472	78,974	23,200	75,498	684	960	2,159	22,172	102,174	101,463	18,189
18 Military Avenue EPC *	32,259	48,559	42,100	94,662	321	1,052	3,600		90,759	100,661	22,357
19 Mt. Pleasant Community	36,417	244,301	63,149	247,215	0	0	3,974	31,060	307,451	290,265	53,604
20 North Oaks Community *	17,784	63,660	692	45,340		660			64,352	47,000	35,136
21 Oakland Avenue EPC	34,266	250,678	13,368	226,490	250	2,873	700	41,859	264,044	271,972	26,338
22 St. Andrew EPC	11,057	74,219	3,857	37,918	60	660	1,760	14,100	78,076	55,758	33,378
23 Tabernacle EPC	156,550	141,893	184,329	538,768	4,020	6,055	3,440	43,525	586,322	605,808	135,053
24 Trinity Presbyterian	2,682	85,982	33,216	109,944	466	2,083		6,972	119,198	120,265	1,615
25 Trinity Presbyterian *	196,040	691,894	195,024	673,858	4,552	6,828	24,578	61,856	896,918	820,787	262,171
26 Ward Presbyterian *	2,819,718	3,848,900	1,634,987	4,569,065	38,337	56,844	147,200	504,381	5,483,887	5,491,857	2,811,748

\* Figures not verified prior to printing

# ANNUAL REPORTS

## SOUTHEAST

CHURCHES	LOCATION	ELDERS	DEACONS	12/31/93 MEMBERSHIP	GAINS			LOSSES			12/31/94 MEMBERSHIP	SS ENROLLMENT	ADULT BAPTISMS	INFANT BAPTISMS	YOUTH PROFESSORS
					PROFESSION OF FAITH	CERT.	OTHER	CERT.	DEATHS	OTHER					
1 Braunert Presbyterian	Chattanooga, TN	12	18	516	3	18	14	45	8	20	479	166	1	5	1
2 Christ Presbyterian	Knoxville, TN			6		25	2				27	35		2	0
3 Covenant Community	Dennison, KY														
4 Faith Presbyterian	Lavonia, GA	5	5	100	12		7	2	1	4	112	39	12	1	10
5 First Presbyterian	Louisville, KY	2		12		2			1		13				
6 First Presbyterian	Rome, GA	27	18	1,061	14	50	10	43	11	5	1,075	446	4	9	14
7 Grace Presbyterian	Marion, GA	9	9	110		2		10	1	21	85	57		3	
8 Hope EPC	Gaithersville, GA			43	4	11	5	3			60	75	3	1	2
9 Lookout Valley Pres	Chattanooga, TN	6	6	104	2	3	2	1	3	0	107	37	0	0	2
10 Lynn Garden Pres	Kingsport, TN	8		93			6	1			98	88	1	1	
11 Mount Calvary Pres	Kingsport, TN	5	8	45		1	1		1		46	32			
12 New Beginning Pres	Fl. Wright, KY	9	9	171		5	1	4	3	22	149	97		4	
13 New Covenant	Atlanta, GA	2	10	139	4	7	11	5	1	10	145	126	2	2	4
14 Northshore Presbyterian	Knoxville, TN	6		73			4	22			55	20		1	
15 Valleybrook Presbyterian	Hixson, TN	8		119	0	2	5	1	1		124	102	0	3	0

## SOUTHEAST

SOUTHEAST		RECEIPTS		DISBURSEMENTS					TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	ENDING BALANCE
CHURCHES	BEGINNING BALANCE	TITHES & OFFERINGS	OTHER INCOME	LOCAL CAUSES	PRESBYTERY	PER MEMBER GIVING	EPC BENEVOLENCES	NON-EPC MISSIONS			
1 Brainerd Presbyterian	14,121	485,983	53,568	361,903	9,990	7,040	3,222	10,234	519,551	395,476	138,196
2 Christ Presbyterian	0	45,300	29,595	69,550	200	200	300		74,895	69,250	5,645
3 Covenant Community											
4 Faith Presbyterian	0	18,446	6,000	24,446					24,446	24,446	0
5 First Presbyterian	116	11,770	5,000	18,894	0	0	0	0	19,770	18,894	922
6 First Presbyterian	189,646	989,491	926,435	906,199	81,018	12,708	23,140	128,579	1,909,926	1,216,142	883,430
7 Grace Presbyterian	7,000	100,200	19,000	116,000		1,200	70	430	119,200	117,700	8,500
8 Hood EPC	915	59,038	38,746	56,438	2,200	408			97,784	59,046	39,659
9 Lookout Valley Pres.	5,285	54,117	26,788	76,729	200	800	167	2,373	90,905	84,269	11,921
10 Lynn Gordon Pres.	23,516	69,824	9,654	66,647	1,150	1,250		3,542	79,478	71,589	31,405
11 Mount Calvary Pres.	361	44,543	19,999	58,198	100	525	292	928	64,542	60,043	4,860
12 New Beginning Pres.	40,898	156,845	2,246	142,261	1,342	2,052	1,886	9,876	161,091	157,417	44,572
13 New Covenant	1,532	271,748	43,235	220,924	4,555	1,991	6,869	65,349	314,983	308,569	7,947
14 Northshore Presbyterian	24,565	46,492	18,491	36,039	20,000		15	85	64,960	58,139	31,366
15 Valleybrook Presbyterian	4,322	120,544	116	121,179	600		3,000	0	123,780	124,779	3,923

# ANNUAL REPORTS

## WEST

	CHURCHES	LOCATION	ELDERS	DEACONS	12/31/93 MEMBERSHIP	GAINS			LOSSES			12/31/94 MEMBERSHIP	SS ENROLLMENT	ADULT BAPTISMS	INFANT BAPTISMS	YOUTH PROFESSORS
						PROFESSION OF FAITH	CERT.	OTHER	CERT.	DEATHS	OTHER					
1	Bear Creek	Danver, CO	11	30	550	24	22	7	5	1	33	564	380	13	3	18
2	Canyon Creek Community	Phoenix, AZ												3	16	
3	Cherry Creek Presbyterian	Englewood, CO	18	112	1,785			137			824	1,098	1,035	2	56	
4	Cherry Hills Community	Englewood, CO	12	65	3,650	57	61	137	72	11	224	3,598	1,500	86	22	54
5	Christ Fellowship	Ft. Collins, CO	3	0	41	11	2			1	7	48	89		8	
6	Christ Our King	Aurora, CO	5		51	0	0	6	0	0	6	53	85	0	0	0
7	Cornerstone Community	Danver, CO	5	0	224	0	0	8	0	0	1	231	190	5	4	0
8	Covenant Community	Aurora, CO	5	12	65	4	1				4	65	81			
9	Faith Evangelical	Loveland, CO	11	9	336	6	8	12	0	2	0	360	242	5	1	5
10	Faith Presbyterian	Folsom, CA	3	9	18	6	8				0	18	25			
11	Faith Presbyterian	Aurora, CO	19	100	1,429	32	10	51	19	9	199	1,305	469	5	37	
12	First EPC	Renton, WA	15	16	677	13	13	14	9	5	158	545	306		11	3
13	Greenwood Community	Englewood, CO	10		473	13	35					508	475			
14	Hemet Valley	San Jacinto, CA	6	5	31	15	35			3		43			1	0
15	Logkout Mountain Commun.	Golden, CO	7	12	151	15		42			6	187	286	1	3	0
16	Morningside Pres.	Phoenix, AZ	9	15	146			2	2	4		142	84		1	
17	Neighbourhood Fellowship	Chandler, AZ														
18	New Covenant Pres.	Tucson, AZ	3	3	47	1	4	5	0	1	3	53		0	1	0
19	Northwest Presbyterian	Redmond, WA	3	3	34	1	2		0		5	31	80			
20	Parker Presbyterian	Parker, CO	7	15	182	3	6	19	10			203	133	3	5	0
21	Santa Maria Community	Santa Maria, CA	3	9	84	1	0	0	0	1	8	76	40	1	0	0
22	Thal EPC	Belilower, CA	7	4	38	1	0	1	0		3	36	36			
23	Trinity EPC	Littleton, CO	7	15	164	4	2	7	0	1	18	158	165	0	7	0
24	West Bowles Community	Littleton, CO	4	6	404	8	46	30	4			484	296	22		

Shaded - Churches received in 1995

WEST		RECEIPTS		DISBURSEMENTS					TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	ENDING BALANCE
CHURCHES	BEGINNING BALANCE	TITHES & OFFERINGS	OTHER INCOME	LOCAL CAUSES	PRESBYTERY	PER MEMBER GIVING	EPC BENEVOLENCES	NON-EPC MISSIONS			
1 Bear Creek	12,931	533,466	154,813	583,319	4,000	6,600	12,672	94,338	688,279	700,929	281
2 Canyon Creek Community	41,577	190,362	106,596	250,156		500			236,958	250,556	87,879
3 Cherry Creek Presbyterian	1,946,278	2,102,415	98,169	2,075,452	12,000	21,420	42,644	397,419	2,200,584	2,548,929	1,597,933
4 Cherry Hills Community	1,724,920	4,257,721	2,185,079	8,615,997	15,000	33,600	59,458	902,078	16,342,794	9,626,131	8,441,482
5 Christ Fellowship	9,791	115,933	47,665	121,277	462	420	486	315	163,798	132,233	41,356
6 Christ our King	106,940	79,442	3,523	76,457	900	900		5,270	82,965	82,527	106,378
7 Cornerstone Community*	13,357	217,975	28,866	201,158	1,670	2,050		1,000	246,841	227,337	132,861
8 Covenant Community	20,368	110,304	980	106,709	0	0	857	222	111,284	109,788	21,664
9 Faith Evangelical *	72,304	351,227	102,257	248,105	1,704	4,022	1,050	115,962	453,484	370,890	154,989
10 Faith Presbyterian	2,154	37,750	2,269	39,924				300	40,019	40,224	1,948
11 Faith Presbyterian	153,222	1,716,386	107,074	1,460,525	4,679	17,294	7,300	116,779	1,823,460	1,647,343	329,240
12 First EPC	39,342	491,602	87,071	497,965	29,200	10,250	4,100	6,920	578,673	580,570	37,445
13 Greenwood Community	33,098	760,247	524,707	1,110,054	4,000	2,838	2,250	37,868	1,264,954	1,189,494	129,558
14 Home Valley	46,898	48,625	10,310	57,922		372	475		58,935	58,769	47,064
15 Lookout Mountain Comm.	11,208	248,983	62,818	250,754	1,000	1,836		124,474	311,201	265,064	58,345
16 Morningside Pres.	7,574	131,074	9,868	90,874	1,500	885		16,937	140,942	121,596	26,920
17 Neighbors Fellowship											
18 New Covenant Pres.	30,685	58,959	37,018	58,792	480	564	950	1,135	65,977	65,292	61,370
19 Northwest Presbyterian	18,382	54,954	8,433	48,781	300	408		775	63,287	53,189	28,580
20 Parker Presbyterian *	150,543	240,580	146,883	276,529	2,427	2,585		27,865	387,463	313,506	224,500
21 Santa Maria Community	21,068	77,542	2,170	53,931	2,120	1,010	1,304	395	79,712	58,760	42,020
22 Thal EPC	19,227	49,583	1,936	46,128		540	12	4,088	51,519	50,768	19,978
23 Trinity EPC	27,643	222,465	67,275	258,359	2,700	1,312	7,295	15,743	289,740	290,266	27,115
24 West Bowles Community	69,851	626,232	289,205	751,518	600	4,810		34,229	915,437	793,557	191,731

\* Figures not verified prior to printing

Shaded - Churches received in 1995



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## NOTES

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