
MINUTES

of the
16th General Assembly

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

June 20-22, 1996
Englewood, Colorado

OFFICERS OF THE 16TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

MODERATOR:

Mr. Claude Russell
2270 S. Joliet Way
Aurora, Colorado 80014

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

**CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
7700 DAVIS DRIVE
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63105
JUNE 19-21, 1997**

MINUTES

of the

16th General Assembly

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



"Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?"

Psalm 85:6

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 this section appears at the end of the Journal.

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 resolutions, 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.

MODERATOR, 16TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY



Claude "Buck" Russell was elected Moderator of the 16th General Assembly.

Born in West Point, Mississippi, Buck was born again in October, 1976 at Faith Presbyterian Church, Aurora, Colorado where he holds his membership. Buck has served his church as a Ruling Elder, chairing Lay Development and Prime Time (senior adults) Committees, and serving on the Administration Committee and Pastoral Care Search Committees. Also a Deacon, Buck was vice-moderator of the Board of Deacons for two years.

Additionally, he and his wife Sandy were team teachers of the Bethel Bible Series for two years. He has been involved in numerous Bible studies, Sunday school classes, and koinonia groups. For eight years he has been chairman of the Prime Time Ministries of Faith Church.

Now in his eighth year as Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of the West, Buck also chaired its Nominating Committee for two years, and served on the Church Development Commission for one year.

Active on the General Assembly level, Buck was elected clerk of the Permanent Judicial Commission during his three-year term. He served on the Nominating Committee and was appointed its chairman for one year. At the 5th General Assembly (1985), he chaired the standing Administration Committee. For four Assemblies, Buck faithfully and capably carried out the duties of Recording Clerk, taking time out in 1993 to co-chair with his wife Sandy the Local Arrangements Committee of the 13th General Assembly.

Buck is retired from the US Air Force after thirty years of service (1942-1972). He achieved the grade of Colonel - Command Pilot. His last assignment was Chief Airman Assignment Division, USAF Military Personnel Center at Randolph AFB, Texas.

Buck and Sandy are the parents of four and grandparents of nine.

MODERATORS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

<u>Assembly</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Presbytery</u>	<u>Place of Assembly</u>
1 st	1981	Rev. Calvin Gray	Midwest	Livonia, Michigan
2 nd	1982	Elder Irvin Rinehart	West	Aurora, Colorado
3 rd	1983	Dr. James Van Dyke	Southeast	St. Louis, Missouri
4 th	1984	Elder Donald Harms	Midwest	Jackson, Mississippi
5 th	1985	Rev. James Morrison	East	Aurora, Colorado
6 th	1986	Elder Roger Vonder Bruegge	Central South	Livonia, Michigan
7 th	1987	Dr. E. Perry Mobley	Southeast	Rome, Georgia
8 th	1988	Elder Richard Heidtman	Midwest	Englewood, Colorado
9 th	1989	Dr. Andrew Jumper	Central South	St. Louis, Missouri
10 th	1990	Elder James Rimmel	Allegheny	Bethesda, Maryland
11 th	1991	Dr. William Flannagan	Central South	Livonia, Michigan
12 th	1992	Elder John Adamson	Central South	Memphis, Tennessee
13 th	1993	Dr. W. Graham Smith	East	Aurora, Colorado
14 th	1994	Elder William Johns	Southeast	Pompano Beach, Florida
15 th	1995	Rev. Wayne Hoffman	Mid-America	Charlotte, North Carolina
16 th	1996	Elder Claude Russell	West	Englewood, Colorado

STATED CLERK OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

<u>Years</u>	<u>Original Presbytery</u>
1981-	Dr. L. Edward Davis Midwest

TRUSTEES OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Class of 1999

Elder John Adamson Second Presbyterian 4055 Poplar Ave. Memphis, TN 38111 901/454-0034	Dr. David Chadwick Forest Hill EPC 7224 Park Road Charlotte, NC 28210 704/554-9037	Rev. Ronald Ragon Brainerd EPC 7 N. Tuxedo Ave. Chattanooga, TN 37411 423/698-3471
--	--	--

Class of 1998

Dr. Wally Hostetter Faith EPC 4285 S. Lapeer Rd. Lake Orion, MI 48359 810/340-1900	Elder Gary Fields 8926 S. Edgewood Lane Highlands Ranch, CO 80126 303/812-9000	Elder Jan Bole 1697 S. Kingston St. Aurora, CO 80012 303/751-3126
--	---	--

Class of 1997

Dr. Rhett Payne CrossPointe Comm. Church 2408 E. Trinity Mills #112 Carrollton, TX 75006 214/418-7449	Elder Joe Schluchter 875 Amersham St. Louis, MO 63141 314/647-0717	Elder Dick Heidtman 12301 E. Stanley Rd. Columbiaville, MI 48421 810/653-2072
---	---	--

Elder Claude Russell, Moderator
2270 S. Joliet Way
Aurora, CO 80014
303/751-0481

Rev. Wayne Hoffman, Chairman
Westkirk Presbyterian Church
2700 Colby Woods Drive
Des Moines, IA 50322
515/253-0330 Fax: same number

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

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MINUTES of the 16th General Assembly Evangelical Presbyterian Church

PART I

JOURNAL	1
Matters Received and Referred.....	22
(Communications, Resolutions, Descending Overtures Ascending Overtures and Recommendations)	
Journal Index.....	72

PART II

APPENDICES

Administration Committee Report.....	74
Board of Pension and Benefits Report.....	77
Audit: EPC Pension Plan.....	83
Audit: Group Insurance Plan.....	86
Budget: Administration.....	89
Budget: Benevolence Askings.....	90
Christian Education & Publications Committee Report.....	91
Communications, Overtures, Resolutions.....	93
Descending Overtures, vote of the Presbyteries.....	127
Financial Audit.....	129
Fraternal Relations Committee Report.....	141
Joint Committee on Missions Report.....	162
Ministerial Vocation Committee Report.....	173
Moderator's Report.....	184
National Outreach Committee Report.....	186
National Outreach Director's Report.....	190
Nominating Committee Report.....	193
Permanent Judicial Commission Report.....	199
<i>Proposed Book of Discipline</i>	201
Stated Clerk's Report.....	277
Theology Committee Report.....	302
Pastoral Letter on Reproductive Technology.....	306
Pastoral Letter on Organ Donation and Implantation.....	308
Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage.....	309
Pastoral Letter on Civil Disobedience.....	317
Women's Ministries Director's Report.....	321

Women's Ministries Committee Report.....	323
World Outreach Director's Report.....	325
World Outreach Committee Report.....	326
World Outreach Master Plan.....	331
World Outreach Master Plan Progress—5 Year Report.....	337
Missionary Evaluation Forms.....	344
Missionary Reports.....	359
Youth Ministries Director's Report.....	385
Youth Ministries Committee Report.....	388

PART III

DOCUMENTS

<i>Rules for Assembly</i>	392
Acts of the Assembly.....	402
Articles of Agreement Between EPC and IPB.....	452
Cooperative Agreement.....	456
Church Development Master Plan.....	458
Denominational Goals for Pastoral Care.....	460
Design for 2001.....	463
Geneva Statement (EPC/ARP).....	464
Medical Benevolence Fund.....	465
National Outreach Mission & Values.....	467
Women's Ministries Constitution for Local Churches.....	469
World Outreach Master Plan.....	471
World Outreach Presbytery Committee Description.....	475
Statements of Faith	
National Association of Evangelicals.....	476
World Evangelical Fellowship.....	476
Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability.....	477
World Alliance of Reformed Churches Constitution.....	478

PART IV

DIRECTORY

Officers of the General Assembly (permanent committees).....	482
Officers of the Presbyteries.....	487
Roster of Chaplains.....	489
Directory of the Churches and Ministers.....	492

PART V

ANNUAL FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL REPORTS.....	521
--	------------

MINUTES

of the

16th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JOURNAL

Minutes - Thursday morning

First Session

June 20, 1996

16-1 MORNING WORSHIP

Worship began at 8:30 a.m. in the sanctuary of Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church, Englewood, Colorado. Rev. Perry Mobley preached an inspiring sermon on "A Faith That Works," based on Hebrews 11. He emphasized this Assembly's theme, "Revive Us Again," noting revival is essential for our souls to be rekindled with fire from above. It is important to rely on the power of God, realizing that faith is not passive but always active.

Missionaries and chaplains present were asked to stand and be recognized. Special music was provided under the direction of Jonathan Brown, Director of Music.

16-2 CONVENING OF THE 16TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The 16th General Assembly was called to order by Rev. Wayne Hoffman, Moderator of the 15th General Assembly, at 9:45 a.m. and convened 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, 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 Rev. Sam Harris and Elder Llew Fischer who were then elected by acclamation. Bert Loudon, Local Arrangements chairman, made announcements relative to the events of the day.

16-3 DECLARATION OF QUORUM AND ASSEMBLY ENROLLMENT

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

Journal**Presbytery of the Central South**

<u>City</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Ruling Elders</u>
Atmore, AL	First	Stephen Jennings	Ronald Mann
Mobile, AL	Trinity	John Mathieu	Charles Stokes, Jr.
Anna, IL	First	Steve Wilkinson	John Haase
			Joe Plemon
Houma, LA	First	David Herbertson	Carol Cleveland
Zachary, LA	Zachary	David Hicks	Ed DeWeese
Cape Girardeau, MO	Christ Pres.	Art Hunt	
Brandon, MS	Lakeside	Greg Anthony	Bill Holmes
Laurel, MS	Westminster	Russell Loudon	James Russell
			Wayne Traylor
Tunica, MS	Tunica	Paul Husband	
Cordova, TN	Hope	Craig Strickland	John Adamson
Memphis, TN	Second	Sanders Willson	John Dewald
		Rocky Anthony	Wilton Hazelwood
		Paul Swets	Ron Hickman
			Charles Leonard
			Arnold Lindseth
			Bryan Nearn
			David Shores
Austin, TX	Crossroads	Michael Schulte	
Carrollton, TX	CrossPoint	Rhett Payne	Peter Jumper
Corpus Christi TX	Church of the King		Steven Hansen
Garland, TX	Providence	Clifton King	William Hoel
			Ronald Murray
Houston, TX	Christ EPC	Bob Petterson	Reese Baker
		Richard Kidd	Bob Brock
			James Giles
			John Lange
Katy, TX	Cornerstone	Allen Oliphant	
Marshall, TX	EPC of Marshall	Kirk Werner	Orin Littlejohn
			Hillard Strong
<i>Other ministers on the roll of presbytery.</i>		Steven Barrett	
		Mark Jumper	
		Ron Pierce	

Presbytery of the East

<u>City</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Ruling Elders</u>
Bethesda, MD	Fourth	Robert Norris	Robert Bowman
		James Byrne	Charles Brady
			Thomas Dolch
			Robert Drysdale
			John Griffith

Gaithersburg, MD · Voorhees, NJ	New Life Ashland	Ian Lamont	Samuel Jones Robert White Steele Stewart, Jr. Ken Bond Frank Johnson
Montgomery, NY Pittsburgh, PA Wexford, PA Alexandria, VA	Goodwill New Hope North Park Faith	Stewart Pohlman Rodger Woodworth Graham Smith	Roger Neubauer Zelda Artz Ted Tubbesing
Burke, VA Montclair, VA	Christ Church Montclair Comm.	Michael Winship Ken Jones	
<i>Other ministers on the roll of presbytery:</i>		Nancy Stewart	

Presbytery of Florida

<u>City</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Ruling Elders</u>
Brooksville	Faith	Stephen Brown	Gwynn Blair Steve Brooks Felix Sharpe Ramona Chadwick Connie Jennings Robert Douglas Debbie Hess
Daytona Beach Ft. Pierce Homestead	The Cornerstone Trinity First	Howard Chadwick Bob Garment Robert Hess	
Oviedo Plant City	Cypress Pointe EPC of Plant City	Dan Lacich Don Mason	Kenneth Holz Bob Robertson
<i>Other ministers on the roll of presbytery:</i>		Michael Glodo	

Presbytery of Mid-America

<u>City</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Ruling Elders</u>
Des Moines, IA Warrenville, IL	Westkirk Immanuel	Wayne Hoffman Bob Harvey	William Raisch Paul Heidebrecht Phyllis LePeau Carolyn Nystrom Larry Swinson
Lawrence, KS Overland Park, KS Overland Park, KS Bridgeton, MO St. Louis, MO	Grace Covenant Chapel Heartland Sutter Central	Bill Vogler Tom Ryan Craig McElvain Jerry Brundle Tom Ricks Douglas Graham John Splinter	Art Kaufmann Ted Beattie Ken Breckner Dexter Kuhlman Harold Hegel Joseph Schluchter Vern Schneider Alan Shaffer Lee Stertz

Journal!

Other ministers on the roll of presbytery: David Lovell
Sam Rowen

Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic

<u>City</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Ruling Elders</u>
Charlotte, NC	Covenant	Jimmy Carr	David Cadwell
Charlotte, NC	Forest Hill	David Chadwick	Charles Overstreet
		Robbie Fischer	Allen Roes
		Todd Hahn	Knox Sherer
		David Ruff	John Wilkie, Jr.
Charlotte, NC	St. Giles	Percy Burns	Frank Bynum
Monroe, NC	Lee Park	David Stewart	John Hicks
Shelby, NC	Covenant	Douglas Murphy	
Wilmington, NC	Myrtle Grove	James Glasgow	Sterling Dixon
			Tony Register
			Thomas Shafer
			Phil Stump
			Robert Warwick
Winston-Salem, NC	Reynolda	Perry Mobley (interim)	Edward Best
		Dick Robinson	King Brown
			John Sherard
			Frances Wall
			James Wall
Anderson, SC	Christ Church	Bill Hyer	
Florence, SC	Bethesda	Adger McKay, Jr.	
Florence, SC	Trinity	Travis Martin	
		Bill Meyer	Jim Allen
Gaffney, SC	Overbrook	David Brogren	Jim Johnson
Laurens, SC	Emmanuel	Ron Read	David Rilling
Lexington, SC	Cregmore	Jim Thyne	
Fredericksburg, VA	EPC	Wayne Wood	David Krantz
Hampton, VA	Northampton	Don Neighbours	Don Creamer
Salem, VA	Faith	Daniel Berry, III	Carlos Gonzalez
Virginia Beach, VA	Kempsville	Todd Atkins	Llew Fischer
		Charles Wickman	Alan Killingsworth
Bluefield, WV	Westminster	Jeffrey Chadwick	Robert Truitt
			Steve Ferris
Cross Lanes, WV	Perrow	Nathan Atwood	Timothy Probert
		Rick Stauffer	John Young
<i>Other ministers on the roll of presbytery:</i>		Frank Kik	
		William Read	

Presbytery of the Midwest

<u>City</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Ruling Elders</u>
Auburn, IN	St. Andrew	Donovan Coley, Sr.	Charlotte Beattie Richard Beatty John Cotner Ted Dodasovich Robert Wood
Ann Arbor, MI	Covenant		Dan Lanuti David Jonckheere Lorelei Mah
Ann Arbor, MI	Knox	Michael Frison	Percy Andrews
Brighton, MI	Cornerstone	Richard Alberta	Bill Bumford Jerald Dosh Richard Heidtman
Farmington Hills, MI	Grace	Gil Odendaal	Robert Healy
Flint, MI	Calvary	Tony De Orio	Roger Derksen
		Harold Polk, Jr.	Jim Jaros
Harrison Township, MI	Knox	Chris Gibson	Ken Casey
Lake Orion, MI	Faith	Wally Hostetter	Janet Carlton
		Doug Thompson	Ron Grant
Livonia, MI	Ward	Jimmy McGuire	Rich Halmekangas
		Neil Ellison	James Orr
		John Quigley	Phil Pelli
			Emily Reid
Plymouth, MI	Trinity	Bill Moore	Lynn van der Harst
South Lyon, MI	Fellowship	Steve Johnson	Peter Mastic
		Mark Hudson	Charles Talbot
Trenton, MI	First	Ian Leslie	Robert Barnhart
Troy, MI	Kensington	Steve Andrews	Ken Mitchell
Mentor, OH	Hope	Rick Peterson	Roy Schrameck
Youngstown, OH	Tabernacle	Bob Stauffer	
		James Brown, Jr.	
Waukesha, WI	Highview	Dennis Henn	Wendy Walker
<i>Other ministers on the roll of presbytery:</i>		Carlton Baker	
		Edward Davis	
		Glen Francis	
		Corbett Heimbürger	
		Stephen Kelley	
		Douglas Sherman	

Presbytery of St. Andrews

<u>City</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Ruling Elders</u>
Buenos Aires	La Mision	Marcelo Robles	

Journal

Buenos Aires

Olivos

Freddie Berk

Presbytery of the Southeast**City**Albany, GA
Marietta, GA
Rome, GA**Church**Gateway
Grace
First**Ministers**Bill Swafford

Bill Flannagan
Scott Jackson**Ruling Elders**Leonard Pilgrim
Bill Johns
William Pilson
Barry Smith
John WardDenniston, KY
Ft. Wright, KYCovenant
New BeginningGlenn Ferrell
Steven RiserHarry Allin
James SmithAsheville, NC
Highlands, NCHarvest
CommunityLee Kizer
Steve KerhoulasBill Cantrell
Frank Leslie
Bob Hacker
Marble Hensley
Richard Scarborough

Chattanooga, TN

Brainerd

Ron Ragon

Chattanooga, TN
Hixson, TNLookout Valley
ValleybrookRuss Ragon
Sam HarrisBen Brychta
George Schneider**Presbytery of the West****City**

Phoenix, AZ

Church

Morningside

Ministers

Rick Weiss

Ruling EldersBill Arnold
Norm Templeton
Gordon PiebengaTucson, AZ
Folsom, CA
San Jacinto, CA
Santa Maria, CANew Covenant
Faith EPC Mission
Valley Community
Santa MariaEd McCallum
John Cedar
Dean Wolf
Tom PitmanLaVerne Bender
Evelyn Cisney
Homer Graham
Nettie Graham
Grace Jarvis
John Stone
Norm Huebl
Cindy Jamieson
Mark Wildey
Dan Allbritton
Royce Davis
Marge Day
Beverly Havens
Jack Ingles
Carolyn Morz
Vern Porter
Armin Remke
Maryon Remke

Aurora, CO

Covenant Comm

Marc Huebl

Aurora, CO

Faith

Douglas Klein
Fred Stifel

Journal

Denver, CO
 Denver, CO
 Englewood, CO

Cornerstone
 New Covenant
 Cherry Creek

Ken Glasier
 Louis Angone
 Jeffrey Van Kooten
 Hugo Venegas

Claude Russell
 Vern Winkel
 Joe Huff

Brett Abernathy
 Ken Banks
 Joanne Becker
 Gregg Bettis
 Jan Bole
 Mack Galaznik
 John Israel
 Jeanene King
 Cecil Matthews
 Ann Norton
 Carol Osborn
 Steve Revenig
 Irvin Rinehart
 Mark Sheehan
 Clarold Morgan
 Hugh Smith
 Judy Christensen
 Tricia Wright
 Kim Hutchins
 Leon Niemann
 Chuck Berling
 Jerre Dixon
 Marlys De Vries
 Gary Fields
 Sam Searcy
 Ted Brandsma
 Earl Clark
 Michael Kluherz
 Ken Mitchell
 Walter Wimberly
 Bob Kuseski
 Gary Bunjer
 Albert Stancliff
 Paul Hamilton
 Gary Hole
 Ronald Bengelink
 Don Sytsma

Englewood, CO

Greenwood

Tom Melton

Fort Collins, CO

Christ Fellowship

Ed G. Davis

Golden, CO

Lookout Mountain

Peter Hiatt

Highlands Ranch, CO

Cherry Hills

James Dixon
 Bob Beltz
 Donna McClellan
 John Patterson

Lakewood, CO

Bear Creek

James Coleman
 David Flaig
 Bruce Spear

Loveland, CO
 Parker, CO

Faith
 Parker

James Murphy
 Erik Ohman
 Darryl Sparling
 Ed Randal

Redmond, WA

Northwest EPC

Renton, WA

First

Jeffrey Jeremiah

Other ministers on the roll of presbytery:

Sam Adamson
 Don Ashe
 James Bidderman
 Kent Bull
 David Fenska
 Calvin Gray
 Dan Hiatt
 Mark Moore

Greg Livingstone
 Bob Mossman
 Philip Muir
 Chris Smith
 Brad Strait
 John Taylor
 Stan Van Den Berg
 Brad Yorton

Final enrollment is as follows:

Ruling Elders:	197
Teaching Elders:	<u>159</u>
Total Commissioners:	356
Observers:	186
Total Assembly Registration:	542

Number of churches represented: 106

Commissioners excused: The following requests to be excused from the 16th General Assembly were received in writing:

Ruling Elders: Roger Alliman (Christ EPC, Houston, TX); Al Herweyer (Valleybrook, Hixson, TN); Les Williams (Christ Community, Bossier City, LA); Inge Snider and Arthur Ayars (Cornerstone, Franklin, NC); Steve Salisbury (Northwest EPC, Redmond, WA)

Teaching Elders: Bruce Anderson (Plumtree, Plumtree, NC); Ron Odum (Cornerstone, Franklin, NC); Bryan Slater (Myrtle Grove, Wilmington, NC); James Van Dyke (retired, Rome, GA); James Wallace (Christ Community, Bossier City, LA)

16-4 DOCKET ADOPTED

The docket for the day was adopted.

Docket

Thursday, June 20, 1996

First Session

- 8:30 a.m. Opening worship service
- Perry Mobley preaching
 - Introduction of chaplains and missionaries
- 9:20 a.m. Assembly convenes
1. Opening session. Constituting prayer. Election of Recording Clerks. Local arrangements and announcements. Call for quorum. Docket.
 2. Election of 16th 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 overtures. Adoption of 15th General Assembly (1995) Minutes.
 6. Report of the Stated Clerk. Matters received and referred. Committee instructions. Introduction of standing committee chairmen.

7. New churches. Face to Face.
 11:00 a.m. Pastors' Wives Luncheon and Tour
 12 Noon Box lunch (Cherry Creek)

Second Session

- 1:30-5:00 Assembly committees meet (Cherry Creek)
 2:30-5:00 Women's Ministries program (Marriott, Empire Room 2)
 7:30 p.m. Evening Worship Service
- Wayne Hoffman presiding
 - John Guest, Keynoter
 - Investiture of 16th Assembly Moderator
- Fellowship time following service (Great Hall)*

16-5 ELECTION OF 16TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY MODERATOR

Rev. Tom Ryan, chairman of the Nominating Committee was given the floor for the nomination of the 16th General Assembly Moderator. Following an opening prayer, Rev. Ryan introduced Rev. Doug Klein, pastor of Faith Presbyterian Church, Aurora, Colorado who gave the nominating speech for Elder Claude "Buck" Russell. Buck is a Ruling Elder at Faith Church, has served as Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of the West, and as Recording Clerk for past General Assemblies.

No other nominations were forthcoming from the floor. By acclamation, Elder Russell was elected Moderator of the 16th General Assembly. The gavel was passed to the new Moderator. Mr. Russell introduced his wife Sandy and expressed appreciation for the kind words on his behalf. After a warm reception by the Assembly, Rev. Hoffman asked Sandy to offer a word of prayer.

16-6 STATE OF THE CHURCH ADDRESS

Retiring Moderator Wayne Hoffman opened his report with prayer. He introduced his wife, Helga, and together they thanked the Assembly for the wonderful support they received during the past year. Their son, Jason Hoffman, was also introduced and spoke briefly of his personal appreciation for the great honor accorded his father.

STATE OF THE CHURCH ADDRESS

Rev. Wayne Hoffman, Moderator
 15th General Assembly

It is my great honor to speak with you—about you and me, about the condition of the church, the health of the family, the point of the compass. I am grateful to the Lord for His hand upon me, providing strength for the journey, joy in the task, and guidance for the Word and Sacrament. I am thankful to you for your confidence and support, receiving me with warmth, good humor, and a trusting spirit, proud to serve as ambassador for you and the Lord. The Lord has blessed me with an exceptional wife, a splendid companion, outstanding mother, Christian soul mate and cheerleader. I pastor an exceptional congregation whose support in this task has been constant and encouraging. This is the voice of an abundantly thankful man.

A year as Moderator does not qualify any among us as instant expert certified to render opinion or analysis, except from a personal vantage point. So it is with me. I regard this time as feedback from the quarterback.

I. First We are marked by intellectual acuity.

Many among us are shrewd enough to detect the subtle erosion of truth. Deconstructionists speak of "interrogating the text to uncover hidden agendas." The KGB (kerygma gospel blasters) ferrets out a favorite text to expose the secret sins of authorship. American universities were ostensibly founded to cultivate truth. Truth is not the issue anymore; power is. Church and culture no longer ask, "It is true?" but "What use is it?" and "How much is it worth?" In the words of a writer paraphrasing a punk rocker, "If nothing is true, everything is possible."

The new model for intellectual achievement is not the dazed couch potato watching TV. It is the virtual reality helmet which creates the illusion that we are in the middle of a computer generated world. We are the main characters in a world made by someone else. I am willing to allow culture to define my reality. Today's intellectual culture is admitting it has no foundation for truth and this is a genuine opportunity for Christians. We are aware of new possibilities for a Christian apologetic.

We believe there is something lurking beneath human consciousness more sinister than money, sex, and power. It is called sin. We believe that fallen human beings are motivated and disabled by a primal rebellion against God.

You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything—physical idols or intellectual constructions. We cannot know everything about God's revelation. What the Bible reveals is true, but not exhaustive. It does not reveal every truth about God or the world. The paradoxes of God's election and human responsibility, the mystery of the Trinity and Incarnation, the way Jesus took our sins into His own innocent body and atoned for them on Calvary—such truth we can only contemplate, and not expect to fully grasp them intellectually; rather, we can only melt in praise. We understand that the main problem is not interpreting the Bible, but acknowledging its authority, particularly when it conflicts with our own desires and obeying what the Lord teaches.

EPC is marked by intellectual acuity.

II. I believe EPC is marked by organizational solidarity.

A stated clerk of another Presbyterian body was asked, "What is it that bonds your denomination together?" I salute his candor and deplore the truth of his answer. He replied, "We are held together by polity. Not theology, nor common ministry, but polity."

I have seen organizational solidarity demonstrated. We understand how representative democracy works. We affirm the system of rule by elders, and we are characterized by a process which is thorough, disciplined, and caring. We matriculate candidates with care; pastoral calls are processed with ponderous profundity. Congregations are held accountable. Pastors are expected to provide leadership and that they do. The General Assembly Office understands well that we are not the typical federal system of rule-making with penalty and reward, nor of collect and redistribute, but is an office which serves admirably as an enabler and facilitator.

EPC works because we are not burdened with power-hungry men and women who seek to wield a political hammer struck on the anvil of Presbyterian skulls. We work because we are led by people who trust other people, by men and women who are willing to give valuable time and prayerful thought to the process of deliberate decision-making.

EPC is marked by organizational solidarity.

III. EPC is marked by spiritual vitality.

We live in a world where the human being, not God, is the measure of all things. The punk rockers says, "I belong to the Blank Generation. I have no beliefs. I belong to no community, tradition. I'm lost in this vast, vast world. I belong nowhere. I have absolutely no identity." If

there are no absolutes, if truth is relative, then there can be no stability, no meaning in life. If reality is socially constructed, then moral guidelines are only masks for oppressive power.

According to Ingrid Newkirk of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, "A rat is a pig is a dog is a boy." Her point is that a human child is not innately better and should have no higher privileges than a dog, a pig, or a rat. Thus, we have "the right to an abortion," a way to eliminate children, the defining mark of new world sensibility and the new radical politics.

Most EPC people are not fooled by style over substance or surface over interior. We are not beguiled by role-playing. Everyone is action. Everyone is affecting. The office worker dons his power suit as a corporate bureaucrat. After work, he plays another part with friends. He projects himself either as free spirit or weary cynic, and it is all an act.

Our time defines status by style. Headbangers listen to heavy metal; blacks listen to rap; the popular crowd listens to pop. Yuppies own the right brands and eat the trendiest cuisine. There is no stability. Fashions change. In-groups become out-groups. Friends drop each other; causes change and families are disposable. Our age encourages selfishness without individuality, subjectivity without identity, license without freedom. The contradictions of our time are born of the attempt to live without God who alone can redeem our wandering lostness. Those in EPC who have a personal relationship with Jesus understand this. We're not holding onto Him with white-knuckle determination. We are being held in His strong arms, buoyed by the confidence He will never let us go.

Jesus is our vitality, vigor, and strength. Our zest is the Lord's. What the world sees when it sees us is the outworking of the indwelling Lord Jesus Christ.

EPC is characterized by spiritual vitality.

IV. EPC is characterized by confessional integrity.

Many modern congregations are impatient with confessions. "Just give me the Bible and Jesus—that's all I need." A man got right in my face. He believed in Jesus. "I don't need systematic theology or Reformed theology. I have Jesus," I replied. "Do you believe in the sovereignty of God, that we are justified by faith alone in Jesus' atoning work, that God chooses a people for Himself, that Scripture alone is our only authority for faith and life, that the heart of man is so diseased with sin he is dead and unable to rise up out of his Lazarus casket and choose Jesus?" "Yes, I do. But what has that to do with Reformed theology?"

In a cold, cerebral age, we need to draw on our rich and comprehensive heritage to cultivate human emotions without compromising our theological integrity. In our emotional, existential, subjective age, we need to cultivate objective thinking. We properly criticize the feel-good theories of hot-tub religion.

Our classical confession stresses the transcendence of God; feel-goods stress His immanence, capable of change, a God in partnership with His creation. The confession sees the human race implicated in Adam's fall. Sin is not only something we do; sin is who we are. Feel-goods deny the universal fall. We are not guilty, they say, except we follow Adam's poor moral example.

The confession teaches there is no salvation apart from faith in the atoning work of Jesus Christ. Feel-goods teach many are saved apart from faith in Christ. Jesus is not sacrifice; He is our example. He shows us how to love each other. His death on Calvary makes us feel sorry for Him when we realize how much He suffered; it makes us feel God's love.

For feel-goods, evangelism simply educates people as to how much God loves them. God is a warm, fuzzy therapist. Feel-goods focus on moralism. Their facile optimism gives no comfort to tormented souls; they have no gospel of forgiveness. Feel-goods downplay absolutes and distrust transcendence. They desire religious pluralism so people of other cultures and

Journal

religions are saved. The mega-shift in theology strikes at the foundation of evangelical confession—the good news that Jesus Christ died on the cross to atone for our sins and offer us the free gift of salvation. At stake is the gospel itself.

Is the gospel there to boost our self-esteem? Is the pre-eminent value of Scripture to show us how much we are worth? Why preach about hell? How can hell make people happy or reform people? The real question is not, "How can I be saved?" but "How can I be happy?" Biblical churches with doctrinal integrity will have a stronger witness than muddled, eager-to-please-everyone congregations that do not stand for anything in particular.

Gene Vieth writes, "The church is not a theme park. The prevailing tendency in the American church is entertainment. Judging a worship service according to how entertaining it is misses the point. Choosing a church because we like the music or because the preacher tells good stories is dangerous. Worship is not entertainment, but coming into the presence of a holy God. A relationship with Christ is not contingent upon how good we feel. It is gathering at the foot of His cross."

Finally EPC is marked by vision complacency.

For the Christian faith to be a viable alternative, we must get our house in order. Both liberalism and religious consumerism have sold out to culture. The appeal to modern man has rendered the majority of American Christians impotent. If we capitulate to the spirit of the age and refuse to minister to the spiritual needs of people lost in the cultural maze, we will be sideline observers in the only game in town.

We will grow in numbers, dollars and ministry only to the extent that we, with prophetic boldness, proclaim the total Scriptures with fidelity, a witness God will honor in His own way. Human beings may destroy foundations, but that has no effect whatsoever on the sovereignty of God. He is in His holy temple, that is, His people. No matter what the culture does, the children of God have this absolute security, that God is in control and that He is present to work His will through His people.

Let the erosion of commitment stop here! Let a new resolve to prophetic ministry begin here. Let it begin now!

Martin Neimoller was a Reformed pastor whose leadership in the Confessing Church, which opposed Adolph Hitler, rendered him the Fuhrer's own personal prisoner. Neimoller preached the following: "Dear Brethren, the world says you must suit your message to the world, you must bring your creed into harmony with the present. Then you will again become powerful and influential. The salt has lost its savor. The Gospel must remain the *Gospel*; the Church must remain the *Church*; the Creed must remain the *Creed*; Evangelical Christians must remain *Evangelical* Christians. And we must not—for Heaven's sake—make a German church out of Christ's church."

God help us if we allow society to make evangelical Christians into American Christians and the Christian church into the American church. Though we are to pray for our nation and leaders, there is an insidious danger of confusing allegiance to America with allegiance to the Kingdom of God.

The call to obedience is from the Lord. If not us, then who? If not here, then where? If not now, then when? May God anoint you with the only power that makes sense!

16-7 PARTIAL REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Moderator called on Rev. Tom Ryan, chairman, who opened with prayer. Rev. Ryan explained the work of the standing committees of the Assembly, and that those who registered subsequent to the cut-off date of June 9 were not

assigned to a committee (cf. *Rules*, §8-2: "The Assembly Nominating Committee will elect committee personnel from commissioner registrations mailed ten days prior to the Assembly convening..."). The standing committee chairmen were then introduced.

Administration	Elder Leon Niemann (West)
Christian Education & Publications	Elder Dexter Kuhlman (Mid-America)
Fraternal Relations	Rev. Erik Ohman (West)
Memorials and Appreciation	Rev. Tom Dages (Midwest)
Ministerial Vocation	Rev. Richard Alberta (Midwest)
National Outreach	Rev. Craig Strickland (Central South)
Overtures and Resolutions	Rev. Russell Loudon (Central South)
Presbytery Review	Elder Earl Clark (West)
Theology	Rev. Wally Hostetter (Midwest)
Women's Ministries	Elder Evelyn Cisney (West)
World Outreach	Rev. Bill Vogler (Mid-America)
Youth Ministries	Rev. Sam Downing (Central South)

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

16-8 RATIFICATION OF DESCENDING OVERTURES

Stated Clerk Edward Davis presented the overtures descending from the 15th General Assembly for ratification. If an overture receives approval by three-fourths of the presbyteries, that overture is forwarded to the following Assembly for a simple majority ratification (cf. G.17-2). Votes of the presbyteries may be found on p.127.

The overtures adopted by the presbyteries follow. Overture 95-E, "On Amending G.3, D.1, and D.12 to Change the Word "Power" to "Authority" was not adopted by three-fourths of the presbyteries. Text of that overture may be found on page 22, 15th General Assembly **Minutes**.

• Overture 95-A: On Amending G.5-3 on the Election of Elders

Shall the **Book of Government**, 5-3E be amended in the first sentence by:

- 1) deleting the words "If it seems appropriate," and
- 2) substituting the word "authorize" for the word "approve" so that the sentence would then read: "The organizing body shall authorize the election of Ruling Elders."

Proposed wording

E. ~~If it seems appropriate~~, The organizing body shall ~~approve~~ authorize the election of Ruling Elders. If the new congregation desires, Deacons may also be elected. Further, a Search committee may be elected to begin the process of selecting a pastor. The organizing body shall further provide for the instruction, examination, ordination, and installation of the officers-elect. The organizing body shall make arrangements in

Journal

agreement with the new congregation, for the preaching of the Word and the administration of the sacraments, until such time as a Pastor has been duly elected and installed.

Grounds:

The Assembly felt the possibility of organizing a church without first preparing and ordaining Ruling Elders should not be encouraged. Assembly further concurred that the word "authorize" more clearly describes the action of permitting an election rather than ratifying its results.

(Received from the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic)

ON MOTION to ratify Overture 95-A.

- **Overture 95-B:** On Amending **D.12** on Removing Names From Church Membership Rolls

Shall the **Book of Discipline** be amended in Chapter 12 by adding the following as Section 12-5? (No Section 12-5 currently exists.)

Proposed wording

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.

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. The Permanent Judicial Commission, concerned that the original overture was not clearly expressed, further suggested the proposed wording above consist of mandatory language so that removal of names from the rolls becomes effective immediately upon receipt of written notice by the Clerk of Session. The Assembly concurred. *(Received from the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic)*

ON MOTION to ratify Overture 95-B.

- **Overture 95-C:** On Amending **G.11-12**, Providing Guidance for Out-of-Bounds Ministries

Shall the **Book of Government** be amended to add a second paragraph in **G.11-12** as follows? (No comparable paragraph currently exists.)

Proposed wording

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:

Ministers frequently move to begin new ministries, often outside EPC structures. A minister's work is most easily evaluated by the presbytery closest in geographic area. Contact with the presbytery in which a minister currently resides would ensure good communication, pastoral support, the prevention of potential misunderstanding, and assurance that the new ministry

did not conflict with the presbytery's strategy for mission. Provision for such procedure does not currently exist in the **Book of Government**. (From the Presbytery of the West)

ON MOTION to ratify Overture 95-C.

- **Overture 95-D** On Amending G.16-27B.2 on Time Limit Required to Submit Overtures to Amend the Constitution

Shall the **Book of Government**, 16-27B.2, be amended by substituting the number "30" for the number "60" in the first sentence?

Proposed wording

2. All proposals requesting amendment to the Constitution shall be communicated in writing to the Stated Clerk no later than 60 30 days prior to the convening of the next session of the General Assembly.

Grounds:

Such amendment will allow time for matters considered at spring presbytery meetings to be forwarded for consideration at the General Assembly of the same year. It brings the Constitution into conformity with general practice. (Received from the Permanent Judicial Commission)

ON MOTION to ratify Overture 95-D.

- **Overture 95-E** "On Amending G.3, D.1, and D.12 to Change the Word 'Power' to 'Authority'" was **not adopted** by three-quarters of the presbyteries.
- **Overture 95-F:** On Amending G.11-5F.2 to Change "Manse" to "Housing"

Shall the **Book of Government** be amended by substituting the words "Housing or housing allowance" for the words, "Manse or manse allowance" in G.11-5F.2?

Proposed wording

2. Manse Housing or ~~manse~~ housing allowance_____

Grounds:

This amendment changes the wording to agree with that in the Terms of Call form.

ON MOTION to ratify Overture 95-E.

16-9 THE STATED CLERK'S REPORT

Rev. Edward Davis brought his report to the Assembly. God continues to call us in mind and spirit as a family regardless of what else is going on in American Presbyterianism. Those churches who are to be a part of us will be. May we be the kind of people found to have no question as to the primacy of Christ.

The Clerk reviewed the statistical reporting of the churches, noting specifically that baptisms have increased as have the membership rolls. Currently 405 ministers hold membership in the EPC family, and in these ranks are ministers

Journal

who can turn our churches around mightily and reach our communities for Christ. We are blessed abundantly with these servants of God.

The Clerk referred to the congregational growth charts, indicating those totals the churches have reported over the past Assembly year. He noted with concern that there has been virtually no percentage gain in membership and that we must be emphasizing evangelism and growing. Attendance in Presbyterian churches is growing but with no corresponding growth in membership figures.

New churches welcomed this year were the following:

1. Cypress Pointe Community (Oviedo, Florida)
2. EPC of Plant City (Plant City, Florida)
3. Gateway Presbyterian Church (Albany, Georgia)
4. New Community Christian (Denver, Colorado)
5. Clayton Community Church (Clayton, California)
6. Courthouse Presbyterian (Cape May, New Jersey)

Churches dissolved or dismissed this year included:

1. First Presbyterian, Niceville, Florida (dismissed to PCA)
2. Trinity, Naples, Florida (dissolved)
3. Christ Our King, Aurora, Colorado (dismissed to Vineyard)
4. Christ Chapel, Chesterfield, Missouri (dissolved)

The Clerk reviewed the benevolence askings, noting that 1995 receipts totaled only 42% of goal. Per member giving increased 14% over 1995, while presbytery per member increased 2%. Ownership of our projects is lacking in our churches. In the area of presbytery development, the Clerk noted that to become more viable, we must understand and achieve the mission of the presbytery.

ON MOTION to receive the report of the Stated Clerk.

16-10 RECEIVING OF THE 15TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES

The minutes of the 15th General Assembly were received. As permitted by *Robert's Rules*,

- All additions and corrections shall be forwarded to the Committee on Administration;
- At next stated meeting [Fall, 1996], COA will take action to receive additions and corrections and to declare the 1995 **Minutes** complete.

16-11 MATTERS RECEIVED AND REFERRED

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

A. Communications

1. **Communication #96-1** from Rev. Wayne Hoffman, Moderator, 15th General Assembly, dated June, 1996 (p. 93)

— Referred to the floor (p. 37)

2. **Communication #96-2** from Rev. Leonard J. Hofman, Administrative Secretary, Christian Reformed Church, dated January 4, 1996 (p. 94)
 ___ Referred to Fraternal Relations Committee (p. 34, 35)
3. **Communication #96-3** from Cindi B. Repass, Director of Member Services, Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, dated December 5, 1996 (p. 95)
 ___ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 55)
4. **Communication #96-4** from Dr. Aldo J. Fontao, Presbyterian Church of St. Andrews, dated November 18, 1995 (p. 96)
 ___ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 55)
5. **Communication #96-5** from Agustin B. Vencer, Jr., International Director, World Evangelical Fellowship, dated March 30, 1996 (p. 97)
 ___ Referred to Fraternal Relations Committee (p. 34, 35)
6. **Communication #96-6** from Donald J. Duff, Secretary, North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council, dated December 23, 1995 (p. 99)
 ___ Referred to Fraternal Relations Committee (p. 34, 35)
7. **Communication #96-7** from Edward Davis, Stated Clerk, Evangelical Presbyterian Church, dated March 26, 1996 (p. 102)
 ___ Referred to Ministerial Vocation Committee (p. 67)
8. **Communication #96-8** from Edward Davis, Stated Clerk, Evangelical Presbyterian Church, dated January, 1996 (p. 103)
 ___ Referred to Christian Education & Publications Committee (p. 36)
9. **Communication #96-9** from Don Argue, Joseph Cardinal Bernardino, and Jerry Kirk, National Association of Evangelicals, dated March 19, 1996 (p. 104)
 ___ Referred to Ministerial Vocation Committee (p. 67)
10. **Communication #96-10** from Guilhermino Cunha, Presbyterian Church of Brazil, dated May 2, 1996 (p. 106)
 ___ Referred to Fraternal Relations Committee (34, 35)
11. **Communication #96-11** from Edward Davis, Stated Clerk, Evangelical Presbyterian Church, dated May 24, 1996 (p. 107)
 ___ Referred to Fraternal Relations Committee (p. 34, 35)
12. **Communication #96-12** from Alderi S. Matos dated May 6, 1996 (p. 108)
 ___ Referred to World Outreach Committee (p. 62)
13. **Communication #96-14** from Richard G. Malconian, Fidelity

Investments, dated June 3, 1996 (p. 109)

___ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 55)

14. **Communication #96-15** from Art Gay, World Relief, dated February 14, 1996 (p. 111)

___ Referred to World Outreach Committee (p. 62)

15. **Communication #96-16** from the National Association of Evangelicals, dated March, 1996 (p. 112)

___ Referred to Fraternal Relations Committee (p. 34, 35)

16. **Communication #96-17** from K. Eric Perrin, World Fellowship of Reformed Churches, dated December 22, 1996 (p. 113)

___ Referred to Fraternal Relations Committee (p. 34, 35)

17. **Communication #96-18** from Don. E. Galardi, Community EPC, Owosso, MI dated March 10, 1995 (p. 116)

___ Referred to Fraternal Relations Committee (p. 34, 35)

18. **Communication #96-19** from Don Argue, National Association of Evangelicals, dated June 6, 1996 (p. 117)

___ Referred to Fraternal Relations Committee (p. 34, 35)

B. Overtures

1. **Overture #96-A** from the Presbytery of St. Andrews, dated April 17, 1996 on extending boundaries of the St. Andrews Presbytery (p. 118)

___ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 56)

2. **Overture #96-B** from the Presbytery of the West, dated May 18, 1996 on amending by substitution Act of the Assembly, #93-17 (p. 119)

___ Referred to Overtures and Resolutions Committee (p. 40, 43)

3. **Overture #96-C** from the Presbytery of the Southeast, dated May, 1996 on the identifying marks of the Church (p. 121)

___ Referred to Theology Committee (p. 49)

4. **Overture #96-D** from the Presbytery of the Southeast, dated May 12, 1996 on opposing the ban on partial birth abortions (p. 123)

___ Referred to Overtures and Resolutions Committee (p. 41, 45)

5. **Overture #96-E** from the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic, dated October 27, 1995 on determining courses of study for extraordinary candidates (p. 124)

___ Referred to Ministerial Vocation Committee (p. 64)

6. **Overture #96-F** from the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic, dated April 29, 1996 on writing President Clinton on his veto of partial birth abortion ban (p. 125)
 ___ Referred to Overtures and Resolutions Committee (p. 42, 45)

Resolutions

1. **Commissioner's Resolution #96-A** from Rev. James Glasgow and Elder Tony Register, Myrtle Grove Presbyterian Church, Wilmington, North Carolina dated June 19, 1996 on boycotting the Disney Company (p. 126)
 ___ Referred to Overtures and Resolutions Committee (p. 42, 45)

D. Recommendations

From the COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION

- **Recommendation #1**
 That the *Rules for Assembly*, 8-9a, be amended by deleting item A, "Typed in double space," and by re-lettering items B and C.
 ___ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 56)
- **Recommendation #2**
 That the Assembly approve a name change from "Committee on Youth Ministries" to "Committee on Student and Young Adult Ministries."
 ___ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 56)
- **Recommendation #3**
 That the General Assembly approve the proposed 1997 Administration Budget of \$846,360 (p. 89).
 ___ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 56)
- **Recommendation #4**
 That the General Assembly approve the proposed 1997 Benevolence Askings of \$672,500 (p. 90).
 ___ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 57)
- **Recommendation #5**
 That the 1996 Thanksgiving Offering be designated to support the Orlando Church Project, Cypress Pointe Church.
 ___ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 57)
- **Recommendation #6**
 That the General Assembly set aside the limitation stated in G.16-21 so that the incumbent Stated Clerk may be eligible for consideration for an additional term of office.
 ___ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 57)

Journal

- **Recommendation #7**

That the *Rules for Assembly*, §10-4.2, be amended by adding the following sentences:

"Sessions and permanent committees are encouraged to submit qualified names. A committee may submit names for that committee only. The Endorsement for Nomination form shall be used and shall reflect official action of the Session or committee."

___ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 57)

- **Recommendation #8**

That the *Rules for Assembly*, §8-11.G-1 be amended by adding the following after the first sentence:

"Presbytery review year shall include those minutes approved by presbytery up to June 1 of each Assembly year."

___ Referred to the floor (p. 28)

- **Recommendation #9**

That the General Assembly approve the designing of a procedure to create a position description for an Assistant Stated Clerk, with financing arrangements, and with a view to having this person in place by the 18th (1998) General Assembly.

___ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 57)

From THE COMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS

- **Recommendation #10**

That Editor Donna Alberta, or her designated representative, ten (10) minutes of floor time at the 16th General Assembly for a brief presentation on *Reflections*.

___ Referred to Christian Education & Publications Committee (p. 35)

- **Recommendation #34**

That the General Assembly designate up to 100% of a minister's early and normal retirement pension or disability for 1996 and 1997 as housing allowance for United States income tax purposes (IRS Ruling 1.107-1) but only to the extent that the pension is used to rent or provide a home.

___ Referred to Administration Committee (p. 58)

- **Recommendation #35**

That the General Assembly add a Section §8-12 to the *Rules for Assembly* to read: "The minutes of each day will not be read at the beginning of each day of Assembly but will be proofread by a committee of three commissioners in consultation with the recording clerks of the Assembly. The committee of three shall be nominated by the convening Moderator and the minutes shall be posted in a public place where they can be read by interested commissioners."

___ Referred to the floor (p. 28)

From the COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL VOCATION

• Recommendation #11

That the Ministerial Vocation Committee be given another year to continue its work on Overtures **95-D** (on calls to serve outside the bounds of presbytery); **95-F** (on internships for prospective pastors); and **95-L** (on the renunciation of a church officer of the authority of his church).

— Referred to Ministerial Vocation Committee (p. 65)

• Recommendation #12

That the General Assembly respond to Overture 96-E in the negative in order that the General Assembly may continue its current policy and practice of referring extraordinary candidates to the Assembly MVC for guidance as to educational requirements.

Grounds: To adopt the overture would result in loss of uniformity and consistency in addressing educational needs of the candidate. From 1982, the Assembly has carried the responsibility for prescribing the educational requirements in the most even-handed and objective way. In 1983, the Assembly adopted the Handbook acknowledging the wisdom of this process for all candidates.

The issue of protracted time between the acceptance by the presbytery of an extraordinary candidate and the issuance of educational requirements, while real in the past, has been addressed.

It is incorrect to suggest that Act #82-07 conflicts with G, 12-2H. The current procedure does not remove from the presbytery the right of ordination. What it does is to assure all presbyteries that an objective standard will be maintained for those extraordinary candidates requesting ordination within the EPC.

The major concern regarding the present policy has been the time lapse in expediting the candidate in fulfilling his educational requirements. A second concern is that the process does not take into consideration the particular circumstances, background, and giftedness of the individual candidate. Both of these issues have been addressed by the MVC.

The Reformed heritage continues to remind us of the high calling of the Minister of the Word. Such a calling has always been understood to require high standards of preparation. Current policy helps objectively maintain these high standards.

The third "whereas" states that "some" committees are now capable of determining educational requirements. In other words, the resolution itself admits that not all committees are capable of examining extraordinary candidates.

— Referred to Ministerial Vocation Committee (p. 64)

• Recommendation #13

That the **Book of Government**, §11-5B be amended by deleting the words "carry on" and substituting the phrase "expedite its work as quickly as possible."

Proposed wording

§11-5B The Search Committee shall ~~carry on~~ *expedite its work as quickly as possible* in regular consultation with the Ministerial Committee of the Presbytery.

— Referred to Ministerial Vocation Committee (p. 65)

- Recommendation #14**

That the **Book of Government**, §12-2D, be amended by adding the italicized words to the following statement:

§12-2D "The Presbytery shall assign a Minister of the Word to serve as advisor to the Candidate, ordinarily *not* the Candidate's Pastor. The advisor shall *report regularly to the appropriate committee* on the progress..."

Grounds:

It gives the candidate an objective source of advice, particularly since a candidate is often employed by his or her pastor's congregation. The provision continues to include the pastor as part of the candidate's preparation program, and minimizes communication breakdowns which can occur over the length of an annual reporting term.

The candidate needs both a pastor and an advisor. His pastor will continue to shepherd the candidate during this time of preparation. The advisor will serve to encourage the candidate in his fulfillment of the requirements for ordination. By involving separate pastors in each role, the candidate's pastor is freed to continue his shepherding ministry without undertaking the additional role of administering the requirements of the ordination process, while the advisor can implement the requirements of the program without jeopardizing a pastoral relationship.

— Referred to Ministerial Vocation Committee (p. 65)

- Recommendation #15**

That the **Book of Government**, 13-5, be amended in the next-to-last sentence by substituting the proposed wording for the present wording.

Present wording

A person coming from any other tradition shall be examined in the same manner as a candidate for ordination.

Proposed wording

~~A person~~ *An ordained minister coming from any other tradition, a non-Reformed denomination or an independent congregation shall be examined in the same manner as a candidate for ordination as indicated in Section 13-2.*

Grounds:

This amendment is intended to assist presbyteries in responding to requests for transfer of ordination from non-Reformed sources, and from non-ecclesiastical credentialing organizations. It gives presbyteries the tools to more carefully consider the sources of ordination transfer requests.

— Referred to Ministerial Vocation Committee (p. 66)

• **Recommendation #16**

That the **Book of Government**, §16-27A.11, be amended by adding the following sentence: "If needful in Presbytery's judgment, Session may be provided with an opportunity to meet with the Committee." so that the section reads:

Proposed wording

11. Although no complaint may have been received, if in the judgment of the Committee a particular congregation may be having difficulties or appears to be failing in its mission, the Committee has the authority to investigate and to make recommendations to Presbytery. *If needful in Presbytery's judgment, Session may be provided with an opportunity to meet with the Committee.*"

___ Referred to Ministerial Vocation Committee (p. 66)

From the COMMITTEE ON THEOLOGY

• **Recommendation #17**

That the proposed Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage (p. 309-316) be substituted for the current Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage, and adopted as the Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage, and that it be sent to the presbyteries and churches for their guidance.

___ Referred to Theology Committee (p. 50)

• **Recommendation #18**

That the General Assembly adopt the proposed Pastoral Letter on Civil Disobedience (p. 317-320) and send it to the presbyteries and churches for their guidance.

___ Referred to Theology Committee (p. 51)

• **Recommendation #19**

That the General Assembly adopt the proposed Pastoral Letter on Reproductive Technology (p. 306-307) and send it to the presbyteries and churches for their guidance.

___ Referred to Theology Committee (p. 51)

• **Recommendation #20**

That the General Assembly adopt the proposed Pastoral Letter on Organ Donation and Implantation (p. 308) and send it to the presbyteries and churches for their guidance.

___ Referred to Theology Committee (p. 51)

From the COMMITTEE ON WORLD OUTREACH

• **Recommendation #21**

That the following changes be made to the **Missions Manual**:

Section 103.2 C. Sending Bodies/Call to a Particular Work (p.11)

Add the following new paragraphs:

For field areas where World Outreach has accepted a special responsibility, World Outreach shall develop a missions statement, assign a team leader, and recruit a team of missionaries.

Missionaries from other agencies desiring to serve on an EPC World Outreach team must be approved by the World Outreach Committee.

___ Referred to World Outreach Committee (p. 59)

- **Recommendation #22**

That the following changes be made to the **Missions Manual**:

Section 201.1 D. Doctrinal Qualifications (p.17)

Add a second paragraph as follows:

*Receive and adopt the **Westminster Confession of Faith** system of doctrine and the catechisms of this Church as contained and taught in the Holy Scriptures.*

___ Referred to World Outreach Committee (p. 59)

- **Recommendation #23**

That the following changes be made to the **Missions Manual**:

Section 201.1 F.1 Health Qualifications (p.18)

Substitute the following for the present wording:

Present wording

General physical health: WO shall provide necessary forms.

Proposed wording

General physical health: Candidates must secure medical clearance from a physician for their entire family. WO shall provide the necessary forms.

___ Referred to World Outreach Committee (p. 59)

- **Recommendation #24**

That the following changes be made to the **Missions Manual**:

Section 206.13 Final Travel Arrangements (p. 28)

Substitute the proposed wording for the present second paragraph:

Present wording

Travel arrangements shall be made by the office in consultation with the missionaries.

Proposed wording

All travel arrangements to the field shall be approved by the WO office in advance of ticketing if reimbursement is expected, in consulta-

tion with the missionaries and the cooperative agency, if there is one.

___ Referred to World Outreach Committee (p. 60)

• **Recommendation #25**

That the following changes be made in the **Missions Manual**:

Section 208.8 Cooperative Agreement (pp. 55-57)

In #8, add the following paragraph:

Whenever a change is being considered in the major thrust of the missionary's ministry assignment or field, the (agency) shall consult with EPC World Outreach prior to any decision. The concerns of both agencies will be given due consideration in reaching a mutually acceptable decision.

In #14, substitute the word "excluding" for the word "including" in the first sentence:

While on home service (~~including~~ *excluding* while traveling to and from the field), the missionary shall be under the jurisdiction of World Outreach."

In #17, amend the last sentence by adding the words "or quarterly" after the word "monthly;" and by adding the word "support" between the words "of" and "funds."

"The (agency) shall inform World Outreach monthly *or quarterly* of support funds designated for the missionary from other sources."

In #18, substitute the proposed section for the present wording:

Present wording

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.

Proposed wording

At the time of departure and periodic review, World Outreach will commit itself to a level of monthly support with adjustments, if necessary, to (agency) subject to available funds.

___ Referred to World Outreach Committee (p. 60-61)

• **Recommendation #26**

That the following changes be made in the **Missions Manual**:

Section 303.2 Home Service Responsibilities

Add two new paragraphs as follows:

Journal

All travel arrangements returning to the field shall be approved by the WO office in advance of ticketing if reimbursement is expected in consultation with the missionaries and the cooperative agency if there is one.

Home service missionaries must secure medical clearance from a physician for their entire family prior to returning to the field. WO shall provide the necessary forms.

___ Referred to World Outreach Committee (p. 61)

- **Recommendation #27**

That the **World Outreach Master Plan Progress - a Five Year Report** be adopted (p. 337).

___ Referred to World Outreach Committee (p. 61)

- **Recommendation #28**

That the new **World Outreach Master Plan** be adopted (p. 331).

___ Referred to World Outreach Committee (p. 61)

- **Recommendation #36**

That 10 minutes for a report from the World Outreach Director to the 16th General Assembly be given during the standing World Outreach Committee's presentation.

___ Referred to World Outreach Committee (p. 62)

From the BOARD OF PENSION AND BENEFITS

- **Recommendation #29**

That the General Assembly grant to the Trustees of the corporation authorization to select vendors of the various benefit and pension plans on recommendation from the Board of Pension and Benefits.

___ Referred to the floor (p. 31)

- **Recommendation #30**

That the General Assembly change the vendor for plan administration from Healthsource/Provident to a third party administrator, Benefits Services Inc., for medical benefits, long term disability insurance and life insurance, effective January 1, 1997.

___ Referred to the floor (p. 31)

- **Recommendation #31**

That the General Assembly approve changing vendors for long term disability insurance and life insurance from Metropolitan Life Insurance Company to UNUM Life Insurance Company for long term disability insurance and Healthsource/Provident to The Lafayette Life Insurance Company for life insurance.

___ Referred to the floor (p. 32)

Grounds for Recommendations #29, 30, and 31: The General Assembly has reserved unto itself the prerogative to approve any change in the benefits of the insurance plans. This has also been extended to any change of vendor. On occasion, however, a considerable savings can be effected by changing vendors on the first of the year before General Assembly meets in June. By waiting for approval in June, a change is generally not possible until the following January, thereby potentially causing a delay of one year while paying an unfavorable premium for coverage. This may cost our denomination thousands of dollars. The benefits would remain unchanged, even if a new vendor is chosen.

From the COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL OUTREACH

- **Recommendation #32**

That the General Assembly adopt the following Mission Statement and Values:

Mission Statement: To trust God to build a multiplying movement of growing churches which will so impact the lives of individuals and communities through the power of the Gospel that the heart of our nation is radically transformed.

Our mission can only be carried out by God's supernatural power as we express our dependence on Him through:

1. **Focusing** our passion on reaching people who have not yet responded to God's grace.
2. **Building** a structure for an enduring ministry that is consistent and reproducible.
3. **Devoting** our primary energies to setting people free to plant churches and effectively fulfill the Great commission.
4. **Staying** on the cutting edge of cultural trends while discovering and offering the most effective ways to apply the Gospel to them.

___ Referred to National Outreach Committee (p. 52)

- **Recommendation #33**

That the permanent National Outreach Committee be given the opportunity to make a 15-minute presentation as part of the standing committee report, an extension of 10 minutes to the 5-minute presentation normally granted.

___ Referred to National Outreach Committee (p. 53)

From the YOUTH MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

- **Recommendation #37**

That Dan Weidman, Director of Youth Ministries, be given 5 minutes for an informational presentation during the report of the standing Youth Ministries Committee.

___ Referred to Youth Ministries Committee (p. 47)

Journal

No recommendations were forthcoming to the General Assembly from

- 1. the Committee on Fraternal Relations;*
- 2. the Committee on Women's Ministries.*

16-12 PRODECURAL RECOMMENDATIONS CONSIDERED

The Stated Clerk presented procedural recommendation #8 and #35 to the floor for consideration.

Recommendations:

- A. That **Recommendation #8** "that the *Rules for Assembly*, §8-11.G-1 be amended by adding the following after the first sentence:
 "Presbytery review year shall include those minutes approved by presbytery up to June 1 of each Assembly year." ___Adopted
- B. That **Recommendation #35** "that the General Assembly add a Section 8-12 to the *Rules for Assembly* to read:
 "The minutes of each day will not be read at the beginning of each day of Assembly but will be proofread by a committee of three commissioners in consultation with the recording clerks of the Assembly. The committee of three shall be nominated by the convening Moderator and the minutes shall be posted in a public place where they can be read by interested commissioners" be adopted. ___Adopted

The Moderator appointed Rev. Jim Glasgow, Elder Carolyn Morz and Elder Royce Davis to serve as a committee to review the daily General Assembly minutes in consultation with the Recording Clerks.

16-13 FACE TO FACE AND WELCOMING OF NEW CHURCHES

The chairman of the Ministerial Vocation Committee, Rev. William Moore, presented the Face-to-Face report to encourage those seeking to fill openings and those seeking positions to meet "face to face." Index cards were provided to post openings on the bulletin board.

Rev. Wayne Hoffman recognized the new churches received this Assembly year, and presented each one with a certificate of welcome. (*Cf. Report of the Stated Clerk, p. 16, for list of new churches.*)

16-14 POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Rev. Ron Pierce was granted a point of personal privilege to express his deep appreciation for the tremendous outpouring of love and prayers after the death of his 16-year-old son following an auto accident. He said this support sustained him and his family during this tragedy. He concluded by relating that his son was wearing a T-shirt on the night of the accident which read, "I'm graduating to the University of Heaven." The Moderator led the Assembly in prayer for the Pierce family.

Rev. Shawn Robinson, pastor of the newly received Clayton Community Church, Clayton, California closed the session with prayer, as the Assembly adjourned for lunch.

MINUTES - THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Second Session
June 20, 1996

16-15 STANDING COMMITTEES MEET

Standing committees met in session from 1:30-5:00 p.m. By permission of the Moderator, the standing Women's Ministries Committee convened at 1:00 p.m. to enable Jan Juday, Director of Women's Ministries and Susan Nash, chairman of the permanent committee, to resource the committee prior to leaving for their afternoon program at the Marriott.

16-16 EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

The Assembly convened in worship at 7:30 in the sanctuary of Cherry Creek Church. Rev. Erik Ohman read from the Scriptures, and introduced John Guest, keynote speaker. Dr. Guest spoke on the topic, "The Whole Word, to the Whole Person, the Whole Time (Part I)." He emphasized Paul's charge to Timothy to preach the Word. It is more than passing sound information; it is challenging the people. There are just two times to preach—in season and out of season. Be urgent, insistent, and instant. Some ministers say the high point of their ministry was the day they were ordained and it's been all downhill since. Jesus warned that those who turn to Him will suffer and be rejected by the world. Regardless of the circumstances, continue to preach the Word, convince, rebuke and exhort. Go after the mind, the will and the emotions; preach with passion.

Order of Worship Thursday Evening, June 20, 1996

The Prelude		
Partita on "Lift High the Cross "		Crucifer
Choral Introit	Salmo 150	Ernani Aguiar
Opening Sentences		
Hymn		"Lift High the Cross"
Psalm 27		
Preparation to Prayer		Daystar
Silent Prayer		
Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession		
Concluding Prayer		
The Lord's Prayer		
Hymn		"Be Thou My Vision"
Installation of 16 th Assembly Moderator		
Offering		
Offertory Anthem	"Alleluia"	Ralph Manuel
Sermon	"The Whole Word, to the Whole Person, the Whole Time (Part I)"	
		John Guest
Hymn	"Come, All Christians, Be Committed"	
Dismissal		
Postlude	"Allegro Vivace (from Symphony VI) Charles Marie Widor	

MINUTES - FRIDAY MORNING

Third Session
June 21, 1996

16-17 MODERATOR'S SERVICE OF COMMUNION AND PRAYER

The Assembly met for worship at 9:30 a.m., following morning committee meetings. Rev. Wayne Hoffman, 15th Assembly Moderator, spoke on the topic, "Without God, There is Only Death" based on Proverbs 14:12, "There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death." Worship leaders were Wayne Hoffman and Graham Smith.

Rev. Hoffman noted that this is the post-modern age (post-1949) and that the world's is a philosophy of soap operas and moral values of "what seems right to me." Rev. Hoffman estimated that half the evangelicals in America believe that salvation is self-fulfillment. We must proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, and all other philosophy is from the enemy.

Order of Worship
Moderator's Service of Communion and Prayer
Friday, June 21, 1996

The Prelude	
The Introit	"O, The Glory of His Presence"
The Call to Worship	
The Hymns	"Emmanuel"
	"Glorify Thy Name"
	"Majesty"
The Responsive Reading	
The Prayer of Confession	
The Declaration of Pardon and Prayer	
The Gloria Patri	
The Epistle Lesson	Romans 4:13-25
The Gospel Lesson	Matthew 7:24-29
The Sermon	"Without God, There is Only Death" Rev. Wayne Hoffman
The Celebration of the Lord's Table	
Dismissal and Blessing	
Postlude	

Following the worship service was a season of ministry and prayer for personal concerns.

16-18 BUSINESS SESSION

The Assembly convened for business session at 11:30 a.m. with prayer. The docket for the day was adopted.

Docket
Friday, June 21, 1996

<i>Third Session</i>	
8:00 a.m.	Committees reconvene
9:30 a.m.	Moderator's Service of Communion and Prayer

- 10:45 a.m. Business Session
 Report of Board of Pension and Benefits
 Report of Fraternal Relations Committee. Introduction
 of fraternal delegates and guests.
 Report of Christian Education and Publications Committee
 12:00-1:15 Western barbecue for commissioners, observers, and guests
 12:00-2:30 Women's Luncheon (Marriott, Empire Rooms 2,3)
 Jean Fleming, speaker

Fourth Session

- 1:30-5:00 Business Session
 Special Order: Ad Interim Committee on Constitutional Review.
 Committee reports pending from previous session.
 Partial Report of Nominating Committee. Second reading and
 additional nominations. Nominations from 15th Assembly
 Moderator (Communication #96-1)
 Report of Theology Committee
 Report of National Outreach Committee
 Report of Administration Committee
 2:45-5:00 Women's Ministries Program (Marriott, Empire Rooms 4,5,6)
 3:30-3:35 Break
 7:30 Evening Worship Service
 John Guest, Keynote
 Commissioning of new missionaries

16-19 BOARD OF PENSION AND BENEFITS REPORT

Orin Littlejohn reported for the Board, following opening prayer. He summarized the state of the Pension Plan and the Group Insurance Plan.

- I. Business referred to the floor
 - A. **Recommendation #29**
 - B. **Recommendation #30**
 - C. **Recommendation #31**
- II. Recommendations from the Board
 - A. That **Recommendation #29**, "that the General Assembly grant to the Trustees of the Corporation (COA) authorization to select vendors for various benefit and pension plans on recommendation from the Board of Pension and Benefits" be adopted. ___ Adopted
 - B. That **Recommendation #30**, "that the General Assembly change the vendor for plan administration from Healthsource/Provident to a third party administrator, Benefits Services, Inc., for medical benefits, long term disability insurance, and life insurance, effective January 1, 1997" be adopted.

Question was raised as to whether the benefits would be lessened as a result of change in vendor and decrease in benefits. A third party administrator may not change benefits without approval of the General Assembly. It was also asked if less expensive options were being

investigated in order to find the best situation for our denomination. Chairman Littlejohn responded that all options had been considered and that no substantive changes were being made to the policy itself.

___Adopted

- C. That **Recommendation #31**, "that the General Assembly approve changing vendors for long term disability insurance and life insurance from Metropolitan Life Insurance Company to UNUM Life Insurance Company for long term disability insurance and Healthsource/Provident to The Lafayette Life Insurance Company for life insurance."

___Adopted

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

16-20 FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Rev. Erik Ohman, chairman, opened with prayer. Rev. Ohman asked that ARP fraternal delegate, Rev. Greg Slater, be given time to bring greetings. Rev. Slater reaffirmed the fraternal relationship developed between the EPC and ARP, noting that some joint events have been planned between our two fellowships. Though the two denominations have reached differing conclusions on the ordination of women as teaching and ruling elders, our two denominations are working together on other issues. He asked prayer for the ARP and for the Lord to send times of gracious refreshing to both denominations.

Rev. John Van Regenmorter brought greetings from the Christian Reformed Church. He noted that the CRC, formed in 1857, currently numbers over 200,000 members. He affirmed our mutual love for Christ and for the Reformed tradition. There is a renewed zeal in CRC for evangelism and outreach. Over the past eight years, growth through evangelism has reached over 22,000. 3170 were added last year alone through evangelism, the largest single annual number in the history of denomination. The way has been opened for women to serve as ruling and teaching elders, and racial and ethnic barriers in the churches have been crossed in order to bring more people into the Kingdom of God. *(Report of the Fraternal Relations Committee continues on page 34.)*

Following announcements, the Assembly recessed with prayer. The western barbecue was served at 12:20 p.m. on the grounds of Cherry Creek Church.

MINUTES - FRIDAY AFTERNOON

**Fourth Session
June 21, 1996**

16-21 ASSEMBLY RECONVENED

The Assembly reconvened with prayer at 1:30 p.m. The Moderator recognized Elder Jim Rimmel, chairman of **the Ad Interim Committee on Constitutional Review**, who reported for the committee following prayer.

Elder Rimmel summarized the history of the rewriting of the **Book of Discipline**, as instructed by the 14th General Assembly, to make it more user-friendly and up-to-date. He explained that this is not intended to be the final word on the revision, but a substantial beginning. Committee member Rev. Bud Sparling read from the Scripture as to the principle of discipline.

Motion was made "that the Assembly receive the **Proposed Book of Discipline** as an entire report without further amendment at this time; and that the requirement to read the report in its entirety be waived; and that *Rules for Assembly*, §13-3, be suspended in order that the report may be adopted as an entire report" be adopted.

Question was raised as to what it meant to "receive" the entire report. Elder Rimmel explained that in receiving the report, the **Proposed Book of Discipline** will be adopted as a substitute for the present **Book of Discipline**. Concern was raised that there has not been sufficient time to review the book in its entirety. Elder Rimmel indicated that the book, if adopted by the 16th Assembly, will become a descending overture to be considered by the presbyteries and subsequently ratified by the 17th Assembly before such time as it would become effective.

A substitute motion, made to receive the **Proposed Book of Discipline** as a study document for one year, was ruled out of order. The ruling of the chair was appealed. The chair's ruling was sustained by the Assembly.

A further motion was made to lay the entire matter on the table until the 17th General Assembly. The Clerk advised that the matter may be *postponed* to a specific time, but not *tabled* to a specific time. By consensus, the language of the motion was changed from "table" to "postpone."
 —Not adopted

ON MOTION to adopt the main motion.

ON MOTION to adopt the **Proposed Book of Discipline** as a whole.

ON MOTION that the Stated Clerk and chairman of the Ad Interim Committee be authorized to correct article and paragraph designations, punctuation and cross-references and to make such other technical and conforming changes as may be necessary to reflect the intent of the Assembly in connection with the **Proposed Book of Discipline**.

ON MOTION that the Ad Interim Committee on Constitutional Review, created by the 14th Assembly, be discharged of its responsibilities as of this Assembly.

The Ad Interim Committee was given an enthusiastic round of applause in appreciation for its excellent work on the **Proposed Book of Discipline**.

Journal

ON MOTION to receive the report as a whole.

16-22 DOCKET AMENDED

Rev. Jimmy McGuire, moderator of the Permanent Judicial Commission, asked the chair if the docket could be amended to permit the PJC to make a partial report on Friday afternoon following the report of the Nominating Committee.

ON MOTION to revise the docket to permit the PJC to make a partial report, and to reschedule, if need be, some of the other committee reports coming to the floor.

16-23 FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE (continued)

Chairman, Rev. Erik Ohman, opened the report with prayer.

- I. Business referred to committee
 - A. **Communication #96-2**, from Rev. Wayne Hoffman, Moderator, 15th General Assembly
 - B. **Communication #96-5** from Agustin B. Vencer, Jr., International Director, World Evangelical Fellowship, dated March 30, 1996
 - C. **Communication #96-6** from Donald J. Duff, Secretary, North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council, dated December 23, 1995
 - D. **Communication #96-10** from Guilhermino Cunha, Presbyterian Church of Brazil, dated January, 1996
 - E. **Communication #96-11** from Edward Davis, Stated Clerk, dated May 24, 1996
 - F. **Communication #96-16** from the National Association of Evangelicals, dated March, 1996
 - G. **Communication #96-17** from K. Eric Perrin, World Fellowship of Reformed Churches, dated December 22, 1996
 - H. **Communication #96-18** from Don E. Galardi, Community EPC, Owosso, Michigan, dated March 10, 1996
 - I. **Communication #96-19** from Don Argue, President, National Association of Evangelicals dated June 6, 1996
 - J. Minutes of the permanent Fraternal Relations Committee (November 27-29, 1995)
 - K. **NAE Convention Report**
 - L. **NAE: An Evangelical Manifesto**
 - M. **NAPARC: Minutes of November, 1995 meeting**

Fraternal delegate Rev. Johnny Ortiz brought greetings from the Association of Charismatic Presbyterian Churches of Puerto Rico. He introduced the other members of his delegation. Rev. Ortiz reviewed the background of his church and the need for a Presbyterian connection, bringing them to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. He indicated the churches in his fellowship have grown by 50%. Rev. Ortiz asked that we keep them in our prayers.

Rev. Paul Fowler from the Presbyterian Church in America brought greetings

from his denomination which just completed its 24th Assembly. He praised God for the EPC and for what it is doing today. Mr. Fowler updated the Assembly on where the PCA is in church revitalization and campus ministry. The PCA is now on 45 campuses and large groups are now coming together for Bible study. On the international scene, PCA is sending missionaries to enable nationals to plant churches.

II. Recommendations from the committee:

- A. That the permanent committee investigate the possibilities of creating as many mutually beneficial and kingdom-enhancing denominational relationships, even if outside the Reformed family, as seems appropriate. ___Adopted
- B. That the minutes of the permanent committee be approved with notations being forwarded to the permanent committee. ___Adopted
- C. That items A-I and K-M be received as information. ___Adopted

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

Elder Paul Heidebrecht, chairman of the permanent Fraternal Relations Committee, then introduced fraternal guests, representatives of colleges.

- Dr. Richard Stanislaw, president of King College brought greetings and a brief description of the program at King. His advice is not to eat the seed corn, but to take the long view and encourage young people to attend King College. He asked for prayer for King College and its students.
- Dr. Randall Ruble, Dean of Erskine College was given privilege of the floor to talk about Erskine. He said there are matching scholarships available to any EPC student attending Erskine. He encouraged any who would like to know more about the program to talk with him today.
- Dr. Luder Whitlock, president of Reformed Theological Seminary, though unable to attend this session, sent greetings to the Assembly.

16-24 CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Elder Dexter Kuhlman, chairman, opened with prayer.

- I. Business referred to committee
 - A. **Recommendation #10**
 - B. **Communication #96-8**
 - C. Minutes of the permanent committee (September 28-30, 1995 and February 22-24, 1996)
- II. Recommendations from the committee
 - A. That **Recommendation #10** "that Editor Donna Alberta or a designated representative be allowed ten minutes of floor time at the

Journal

16th General Assembly for a brief presentation on *Reflections* magazine" be adopted. ___Adopted

In the absence of editor Donna Alberta, the chairman called on Rev. Bill Flannagan to present the new *Reflections* magazine to the Assembly and to bring a brief presentation of the magazine and its reason for being. Rev. Flannagan recalled the early years of the denomination and the pleas for a communication vehicle to keep the family informed and connected. He urged the churches to distribute a copy to each family, and to take steps to financially support the production of this magazine.

- B. That **Communication #96-8** (p. 103) be received as information. ___Adopted
- C. That the minutes of the permanent Christian Education and Publications Committee be approved with notations being forwarded to the permanent committee. ___Adopted

III. Informational items

The standing committee further recommended:

- A. "That the standing Administration Committee consider including a line item of \$54,000 in the 1997 Administration Budget to cover the cost of publishing *Reflections* magazine."

Grounds:

This magazine is an important tool for better communication within our EPC denomination. [Note: The standing Administration Committee did not approve this recommendation, citing that funds for this project are simply not available. Cf. p. 57]

- B. "That the intent of the permanent committee to secure two educators from the CEP committee and two EPC theologians to review three Christian Reformed Church curricula and to complete a one-page simplified evaluation form, as requested by the 15th General Assembly" be endorsed. ___Adopted

The permanent committee was commended for its fine work this Assembly year.

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

16-25 NOMINATING COMMITTEE (Partial)

Rev. Tom Ryan, chairman, opened with prayer and presented the second reading of the nominations for the permanent committees of the Assembly.

Rev. Ryan directed the Assembly's attention to **Communication #96-1** (p. 93), from Rev. Wayne Hoffman, Moderator of the 15th Assembly. In keeping with the requirements stated in the *Rules for Assembly*, §11-1a, Rev. Hoffman presented the following:

- A. Appointment of Elder Zelda Artz to be chairman of the 1996-97 Nominating Committee (cf., *Rules*, §10-2)
- B. Nomination to the Class of 1999, Committee on Nominations (cf. *Rules*, §10-3);
 - 1. Elder Kenneth Charles (Mid-Atlantic)
 - 2. Rev. Allen Oliphant (Central South)
 - 3. Rev. Gerald Brundle (Mid-America).

There being no further nominations from the floor, the above were elected by acclamation.

- C. Nomination of Elder Orin Littlejohn to be chairman of the Board of Pension and Benefits.

There being no further nominations from the floor, Elder Littlejohn was elected by acclamation.

16-26 PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION

A partial report of the PJC was presented by Rev. Jimmy McGuire, Moderator following opening prayer. He addressed the issue of Act of the Assembly #93-17 and the use of the word "full" in the last sentence. The PJC advised deleting the entire last sentence of the paragraph which reads, "The *Essentials* are to be subscribed to in addition to the full WCF."

ON MOTION to delete the entire last sentence of Act #93-17 as stated above.

The Stated Clerk was asked to give the history of the issue of what constitutionality the document *The Essentials* has, if any, and the appropriateness of its inclusion in G.14-1A.4 and G.14-1E.4 (ordination vows for teaching and ruling elders). Rev. Davis summarized the early work done to bring our **Book of Order** into being. Proposed to the First Assembly, the wording in the fourth ordination vow was "fundamentals of this system of doctrine." The Assembly amended it to read "fundamentals of the faith." A brief statement of faith known as *The Essentials* was adopted to stand alongside the Constitution. The Second General Assembly then substituted "essentials" for the word "fundamentals." The intent of the Assembly was to adopt the Westminster Confession of Faith for purposes of testimony and witness. It also adopted the brief statement of faith.

It is the conclusion of the Stated Clerk that the Assembly did not incorporate the document known as the "Essentials of the Faith" but rather left the scope of those vows to be understood in a more general sense. The earliest historic intent

Journal

of the fourth ordination vow was to have some means of evaluating the attrition of faith of those who had already been ordained to the office of minister, ruling elder or deacon.

Motion was made to instruct the Stated Clerk to amend G.14-1A.4 and G.14-1E.4 to put the words "essentials of the faith" in lower case letters and to remove bold print and italicized letters.

The Clerk apprised the Assembly that a motion to rescind the bolding of the words can be achieved by a 2/3 vote of commissioners. It was suggested that to "amend" would require a descending overture, and that a better option would be to "restore" or "correct" the wording to its original state.

Substitute motion was made that the Assembly declare the italicized, capitalized, emboldened print of G.14-1A.4 and G.14-1E.4 to be an error, and that this error be corrected in future editions of the **Book of Government**.

Main motion was withdrawn.

Question was raised as to the intent of this vow in G.14-1A.4 and G.14-1E.4. The Clerk explained that in vow #3 the issue is full subscription, or systemic subscription.

A point of order was made that this Assembly cannot amend the **Book of Order** by a simple majority. The Stated Clerk referred to the statement that the emboldening and italicized wording was likely done in error.

Motion to adopt the substitute motion as the main motion was defeated by a counted vote of 130 for, 133 against.

Motion was made that, in light of the **Book of Government** being in its current form without the authorization of the General Assembly, this matter be referred to the Permanent Judicial Commission for a ruling.

Point of order was made to appeal the Moderator's ruling defeating the substitute motion becoming the main motion, and the subsequent motion to adopt the main motion. Considerable discussion followed.

ON MOTION to sustain the Moderator's ruling.

ON MOTION to refer the entire matter to the PJC for further study and clarification.

16-27 ADJOURNMENT

Assembly adjourned with prayer at 5:15 p.m.

16-28 EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

The Assembly reconvened for worship at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Dr. John Guest continued his ministry on "The Whole Word, to the Whole Person, the Whole Time" (Part II). World Outreach missionaries Stephen and Belinda Kelley were commissioned for service with Arab World Ministries. Jonathan Brown, Director of Music, Mary Milligan, organist, and the Chamber Ensemble of Cherry Creek Church provided special music.

Order of Worship
Friday, June 21, 1996
7:30 p.m.

Prelude	Partita on "Be Thou My Vision" (Slane)	C. Callahan
Choral Introit	"Cry Out and Shout"	Knut Nystedt
Opening Sentences		
Hymn 345	"Crown Him With Many Crowns"	
Psalm 139		
Preparation to Prayer		Chamber Ensemble
Silent Prayer		
Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession		
Concluding Prayer		
The Lord's Prayer		
Hymn	"Here I Am, Lord"	
Commissioning of Missionaries		
Offering		
Offertory Anthem	Kyrieleis	John Leavitt
Scripture II Timothy 4:1-8		Rev. Douglas Klein
Sermon	"The Whole Word, to the Whole Person, the Whole Time" (Part II)	Dr. John Guest
Hymn	"Thou, Whose Purpose Is To Kindle"	
Dismissal		
Postlude	Prelude in F Major	Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel

MINUTES - SATURDAY MORNING

Fifth Session
June 22, 1996

16-29 MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Assembly convened with prayer for worship at 8:10 a.m. led by Dan Weidman, Director of Youth Ministries. Rev. Dan Lacich preached a message based on Luke 6 and John 12. Hymns sung were "Bless His Holy Name" and "Rise Up, O Men of God."

Rev. Lacich likened the church today to a person weakened by an abundance of food and lack of exercise. The church is consistently receiving but not giving of itself as it ought. He exhorted the church to broaden its horizons, to step out to minister in Jesus' name, and to sacrifice itself in order to be revived.

16-30 ASSEMBLY RECONVENED

The Moderator called the Assembly to order with prayer at 9:00 a.m. Rev. Brad Yorton asked for prayer for his wife, Sue, who has lupus. The Moderator excused

Journal

those commissioners who felt led to pray for her to leave the Assembly and meet briefly with the Yortons for a season of prayer. The Moderator granted another personal privilege to Rev. Phil Muir who reported, with praise to God, that a Wycliffe Bible Translators missionary, kidnapped some years ago by communist guerrillas, was released this week.

The docket for the day was adopted.

Docket Saturday, June 22, 1996	
<i>Fifth Session</i>	
8:00 a.m.	Worship Service Dan Weidman, Worship Leader Dan Lacich, Speaker
8:30 a.m.	Business Session 1. Opening prayer. Docket 2. Report of Overtures and Resolutions Committee 3. Report of Youth Ministries Committee 4. Report of Theology Committee 5. Report of Presbytery Review Committee 6. Report of National Outreach committee 7. Report of Administration Committee 8. Report of World Outreach Committee 9. Report of Ministerial Vocation committee
12 Noon	Box lunch
<i>Sixth Session</i>	
1:00 p.m.	Business Session 1. Committee reports pending from previous session 2. Final Report of Nominating Committee and elections 3. Report of Women's Ministries Committee 4. Report of Permanent Judicial Commission 5. Report of Memorials & Appreciation Committee
3:45 p.m.	Concluding worship (estimated time)
4:00 p.m.	Adjournment

16-31 REPORT OF OVERTURES AND RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Rev. Russell Loudon, chairman, was unable to be present for this report. Elder John Adamson reported on his behalf, opening with prayer.

I. Business referred to committee**A. Overture #96-B from the Presbytery of the West**

The Presbytery of the West has unanimously approved the following overture to amend Act of the General Assembly #93-17 by substituting the following:

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 not the standard of belief for candidates, ordination, or ministerial exams. While its doctrinal affirmations are taken from the Westminster Confession of Faith, it is not a substitute for the WCF. The "Essentials of Faith" is to be affirmed in addition to the Westminster Confession of Faith.

Justification:

1. The EPC is a vibrant denomination, and its potential witness within the broader family of American Presbyterianism is both promising and needed. While the intention of Act of the Assembly #93-17 was to clarify the relationship between the Westminster Confession of Faith and the "Essentials of the Faith," the effect of that Act has been to create tension and divisiveness within our church, which hurts our witness for Jesus Christ. Among the problems with #93-17:
 - a. It declares that the "Essentials of the Faith" is "not a part of the Constitution." However, the fourth ordination vow for Teaching Elders, Ruling Elders, and Deacons (in **Book of Government** §14-1A.4 and §14-1E.4) refers to the "Essentials of the Faith," thereby placing the "Essentials" in the Constitution.
 - b. The statement "The Essentials are to be subscribed to in addition to the full WCF" goes a step further than the third ordination question ("Do you sincerely receive and adopt the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Catechisms of this Church as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures?" **Book of Government** §14-1A.3 and §14-1E.3), and therefore alters the Constitution.
2. The overture, as stated, is consistent with the Constitution of the church, and properly clarifies:
 - a. the relationship of the Westminster Confession of Faith and the "Essentials of the Faith; and
 - b. their respective roles in the ordination and installation of officers in the church.

B. Overture #96-D from the Presbytery of the Southeast

Whereas the Evangelical Presbyterian Church has taken a pro-life stance since its inception; and

Whereas, according to Scripture, human life begins at conception (Psalm 139:13-16), and

Whereas, the President of the United States has vetoed the "Partial Birth Abortion Ban," overwhelmingly passed by Congress.

Therefore, we overture the 16th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church to go on record as opposing, in the strongest possible terms, the President's veto of the "Partial Birth Abortion Ban," and urge Congress to override his veto. Furthermore, that our denomination communicate its stand on this issue to the President, Vice-President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate.

C. Overture #96-F from the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic

Whereas **G.1-2.2** defines the invisible church; and President William J. Clinton has publicly professed Christ and we believe him to be a member of the Church invisible; and

Whereas **G.1-3** through 1-5 defines the visible Church; and President Clinton is a member in good standing of a Southern Baptist congregation, which this denomination recognizes as being a sister church in Christ; and

Whereas, we believe that the application of Scripture given to us in Matthew 18:15-19 and Galatians 6:1 transcend denominational and particular church boundaries; it is therefore the responsibility of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, individually and corporately, to apply these Scriptures to President Clinton; and

Whereas President Clinton is not a member of this denomination and not directly accountable to our courts, this does not exempt him from the admonition of his brothers in Christ outside his chosen denomination; and

Whereas, we believe President Clinton has violated the Sixth Commandment (Exodus 20:13) in his action whereby he placed his presidential veto on "The Partial Birth Abortion Ban" and not having direct access for the exercise of church discipline;

Therefore, this Presbytery overtures the 16th General Assembly to bring this charge to the attention of the particular church of which President Clinton is a member, (reportedly Emmanuel Baptist Church, 1000 Bishop Street, Little Rock, Arkansas 72202) requesting appropriate discipline within their established guidelines for errant brothers; and further that the General Assembly directly address President Clinton to rebuke him for violation of Scriptures and to appeal to him to publicly repent.

D. Commissioner's Resolution #96-A from Rev. James Glasgow and Elder Anthony Register, Myrtle Grove Presbyterian Church, Wilmington, NC:

Whereas, the Disney Company has profited for many years in part due to its reputation as a producer of wholesome entertainment which encourages right moral values;

Whereas, the Christian community in the past has supported the Disney Company due to its quality family entertainment;

Whereas, the Disney Company or its affiliates has produced a number of films that are hostile to traditional Christian beliefs and traditional family morals;

Whereas, the Disney Company has openly promoted a homosexual agenda which is inconsistent with the Christian faith and which is hostile to traditional family values.

Therefore, the 16th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church urges the Disney Company to abandon its conduct which is hostile to the Christian faith and traditional family values.

Further, the 16th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church calls on its members to boycott entertainment produced by the Disney Company, including theme parks, children's toys, movies, and other products until the Disney Company openly repents of its advocacy of a homosexual agenda and other conduct that is hostile to our faith.

II. Recommendations:

- A. That **Overture #96-B** not be adopted and in lieu thereof, that Act #93-17 be amended to read as follows:

Present wording

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. (G.14-1-A.4) (Minutes, 13-38)

Proposed wording:

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 be unable to subscribe to that portion of the ordination vows found in the **Book of Government**, §14-1A.3 and §14-1E.3. 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.~~

Grounds:

The conflict between Act of the General Assembly #93-17 and question #3 of the ordination vows of the **Book of Government** need to be resolved. The **Book of Government**, §14-1A.3 and §14-1E.4, requires acceptance of the WCF as the system of doctrine as contained in the Scriptures. Act #93-17 requires acceptance of the full WCF. Overture #96-B, attempting to correct the conflict between the two, actually weakens our standards. The proposed amendment to Act #93-17 corrects the differences by including the language of question #3 of the ordination vows into the amended version of Act #93-17.

Minority Report:

Rev. Bob Stauffer, member of the committee, was asked to bring the minority report to the floor. (Cf. *Rules*, §13-2)

It is the opinion of a minority of committee members that the issues raised in Overture 96-B and in the majority report are of such magnitude that more sustained and careful studies are imperative. The primary issue here is exactly how Reformed we want to be in regard to our level of subscription to the Westminster Confession of Faith. In light of the magnitude of the issues raised, it is our opinion that further study and input is essential from across our denomination and that this matter be referred for further study to the Committee on Theology.

Rev. Stauffer then moved a substitute motion "that in light of the magnitude of the issues raised, further study and input are essential from across our denomination and that this matter be referred for further study to the Committee on Theology."

—Not adopted

Discussion returned to the main motion. A motion to table this issue was not adopted.

ON MOTION to adopt the main motion by a counted vote of 223-26.

- B. That the Assembly adopt **Overture 96-D** with the following first sentence of the preamble substituted for the proposed first sentence of the preamble:

"Since its early days, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church has supported the sanctity of human life, and..."

Grounds:

The EPC has taken a clear stand on this matter with its "Position Paper on the Value of and Respect for Human Life." It is important we make our governmental officials aware that their action is in opposition to our stance.

—Adopted

The standing committee further recommended "that the 16th General Assembly encourage all commissioners to send this overture to their congressional senators/representatives."

—Adopted

- C. That the Assembly **not** adopt **Overture 96-F** from the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic on writing President Clinton on his veto of partial birth abortion ban.

Grounds:

- This matter has been dealt with by the adoption of Overture #96-D;
- It is also not appropriate for the EPC to suggest action by a church body or denomination.

—Adopted

- D. That **Commissioner's Resolution #96-A** be amended and adopted as follows:

Whereas, the Disney Company has profited for many years in part due to its reputation as a producer of wholesome entertainment which encourages right moral values;

Whereas, the Christian community in the past has supported the Disney Company due to its quality family entertainment;

Whereas, the Disney Company or its affiliates has produced a number of films that are hostile to traditional Christian beliefs and traditional family morals;

Whereas, the Disney Company has openly promoted a ~~homosexual~~ *morally destructive* agenda which is ~~inconsistent with the Christian faith~~ and which is hostile to traditional family values.

Therefore, the 16th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church urges the Disney Company to abandon its conduct which is hostile to the Christian faith and traditional family values.

Further, the 16th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church calls on its members to *recognize and grieve over these developments at Disney Company and lead them to take whatever action the Holy Spirit leads them to do in response.*

Grounds:

- a. Committee concluded that the biblical model is to call people to a principled response to evil, as individuals are Holy Spirit-led, rather than a specific response such as boycott mandated to the body as a whole. This way each member will be called to a personal response requiring a careful search of his or her heart in order to take Christ-led individual action. St. Paul, in his exhortation to the church at Corinth, reminds them that it is not the place of the church to judge or discipline those outside the Church.
- b. Since its beginning, the Disney Company has produced films that are unchristian at their core: witches, black magic, humanism, and an attack on the doctrine of sin and the need for repentance that is at the heart of a movie "Pollyanna." Why do we now feel that things have significantly changed at the Disney Company?

Motion was made to substitute the following for the main motion:

"That in light of recent actions by the Disney Corporation that are contrary to Scripture and detrimental to the family, and in view of the major role Disney Corporation plays in shaping our culture, we the members of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church do hereby resolve to make every sacrifice we can in order to plant more churches in the metro Los Angeles and metro Orlando areas, one goal of which will be to win as many employees of Disney Corporation to salvation in our glorious savior Jesus Christ as Providence allows. Thus we intend to change our culture not by protest but by the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit."

ON MOTION to withdraw the substitute motion.

ON MOTION to amend by deleting paragraph which reads:

"Therefore, the 16th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church urges the Disney Company to abandon its conduct which is hostile to the Christian faith and traditional family values."

ON MOTION to adopt as amended.

ON MOTION to adopt the following resolution and refer it to the permanent National Outreach Committee.

"That in light of recent actions by the Disney Corporation that are contrary to Scripture and detrimental to the family, and in view of the major role Disney Corporation plays in shaping our culture, we the members of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church do hereby resolve to make every sacrifice we can in order to plant more churches in the metro Los Angeles and metro Orlando areas, one goal of which will be to win as many employees of Disney Corporation to salvation in our glorious Savior Jesus Christ as Providence allows. Thus we intend to change our culture by the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit."

___Adopted

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

16-32 REPORT OF YOUTH MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

Rev. Sam Downing, chairman, offered prayer and brought his report to the Assembly. He asked Dan Weidman, Director of Youth Ministries to give a 10-minute overview of the year's activities, mission trips, and goals. Over the next five years, Dan hopes to see an 50% increase in participation in the activities offered to EPC young people.

I. Business referred to committee

A. **Recommendation #37**

B. Minutes of the permanent committee (October 6-7, 1995 and February 23-24, 1996)

II. Recommendations from the committee

A. That **Recommendation #37**, "that Dan Weidman, Director of Youth Ministries, be given five minutes for an informational presentation during the report of the standing committee to the Assembly" be adopted.

___Adopted

B. That the minutes of the permanent committee be approved with notations being forwarded to the permanent committee.

___Adopted

C. The standing committee recommended "that the permanent committee be challenged to determine direction in the following areas:

- To establish student curriculum guidelines to assist churches in the Christian nurture of their children.
- To establish a strategy for targeting more resources to establish student and young adult ministry as a top priority within the Church."

Journal**Grounds:**

Since over 80% of people who come to Christ do so before the age of 18, we should reassess the priority we are putting into our student and young adult ministries. Consideration should be given particularly to the amount of money we are providing to do the work of ministry.

The chairman further noted that in the 1995 benevolence askings, youth ministries finished dead last behind the Romanian van fund. To grow, it is imperative that we support youth ministries. He encouraged churches to financially support efforts to reach young people and families.

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

16-33 PRESBYTERY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Elder Earl Clark, chairman, reported to the Assembly following prayer. He commended committee members for their serious efforts, and noted that the presbytery stated clerks had done outstanding work this year. The St. Andrews Presbytery minutes, however, were not submitted and therefore not reviewed.

The 16th Assembly adopted an addition to the *Rules for Assembly*, §811, G.1, ("Presbytery review year shall include those minutes approved by presbytery up to June 1 of each Assembly year."), changing the context for those minutes to be included in the review process.

Central South

- A. Did not acknowledge and did not respond to the General Assembly regarding the last year's exceptions and notations.
- B. No annual review of changes in terms of call of ministers.
- C. No record of the appointment of the commission for the examination and reception of a new church.
- D. Record of approval of certain ministers for ordination without a statement of their calls.
- E. Presbytery minutes of 3/21/95 were not approved.
- F. No record noted of recently ordained minister's ministerial obligation form.

East

No exceptions.

Florida

- A. No documentation of action taken on motions found on pages 148, 150, 159, 165.
- B. No record of annual review of change in terms of call. *Rules*, §8-116(9).
- C. Commission appointed at the 15th stated meeting not dissolved after report at the 17th stated meeting. (G.16-26B)
- D. The minutes did not show that an annual review of the retired ministers roll had been done. (G.15-9)

- E. Presbytery did not acknowledge and did not respond to the General Assembly regarding last year's exceptions and notations. (*Rules*, §8-11F)

Mid-America

- A. Presbytery Review exceptions reported in 1995 not referenced in minutes, nor was any response received.
 B. Commissions have been properly created and recorded, but commission action reports are not part of minutes.
 C. Commissions not dismissed after completion of responsibilities.

Mid-Atlantic

No exceptions.

Midwest

No exceptions.

Southeast

The minutes did not record the dissolution of commissions. They were created properly, reports were a matter of record, but the commissions themselves never dismissed when their work was completed.

St. Andrews

No minutes presented.

West

Minister was reported to be part of the Presbytery of the Southeast when that was inaccurate. The minister was actually part of the Central South Presbytery (p. 336).

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

16-34 THEOLOGY COMMITTEE REPORT

Rev. Wally Hostetter, chairman, reported for the committee following prayer.

- I. Business referred to committee
 A. **Recommendation #17**
 B. **Recommendation #18**
 C. **Recommendation #19**
 D. **Recommendation #20**
 E. Minutes of permanent Theology Committee (September 29-30, 1995; January 26-27, 1996)
 F. **Overture #96-C:**
 The Presbytery of the Southeast, in its 38th Stated Meeting, May 11, 1996, voted to overture the 16th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church to change the **Book of Order** to coincide with "The Essentials of the Faith" as follows:

Whereas the **Book of Order** of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church cites historically held distinguishing marks of the true church in its opening chapter (G.1-1 through 1-5) by defining *"the true Church catholic...invisible and visible;"* with the *"visible Church"* being *"...bound together in its essential unity where scriptural discipline is practiced, where the Word is rightly proclaimed and where the sacraments are properly observed;"* with these marks described as *"fundamental integrity"* by which professing groups *"...shall be recognized as true parts of the Church;"* and

Whereas, "The Essentials of the Faith" of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church add to these marks of the true church when they state in paragraph 5 that *"The true Church...finds her visible, yet imperfect, expression in local congregations where the Word of God is preached in its purity and the sacraments are administered in their integrity; where scriptural discipline is practiced, and where loving fellowship is maintained;"* and

Whereas, the **Book of Order** and the "Essentials of the Faith" of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church do not consistently describe the essential identifying marks of the true Church, because the latter adds to the criteria *"...where loving fellowship is maintained;"* and

Whereas, when Christ spoke of what men ought to observe in His followers (the church), He made it clear that "love" (John 13:34,35) and "unity" (John 17:14-26) would be special marks:

Therefore, the Presbytery of the Southeast recommends that the **Book of Order**, §1-5, be changed to coincide with the "Essentials of the Faith" as follows:

Proposed wording

1-5 The Visible Church, though more or less divided and obscured, is bound together in its essential unity where scriptural discipline is practiced, where the Word is rightly proclaimed, and where the sacraments are properly observed, **and where loving fellowship is maintained.** Such groups who ~~maintain~~ **demonstrate** this fundamental integrity of the Church shall be recognized as true parts of the Church, the Body of the Lord Jesus Christ on earth.

II. Recommendations from the committee

- A. That **Recommendation #17**, "that the proposed Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage (pp. 309-316) be substituted for the

current Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage, and adopted as the Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage, and that it be sent to the presbyteries and churches for their guidance" be amended and adopted as follows:

1. Page 313, line 17, delete the words "mental or verbal" so the sentence reads: "Ongoing physical, ~~mental or verbal~~ abuse and attempted murder may be examples of actions which the Session may determine breaks the one-flesh principle."
2. Page 309, line 15 and p. 315, line 4 be amended to read, "Church Sessions *and Presbyteries* so the sentences read:
 - a. "Church Sessions *and Presbyteries* must exercise diligent care in considering divorced persons as candidates for church office."
 - b. "Church Sessions *and Presbyteries* must exercise special care in the case of persons considered for church office who have divorced or remarried on unbiblical grounds."
3. Page 313, line 35-36, strike the sentence which reads, "Therefore, the church cannot sanction remarriage in such a situation to anyone except the original spouse." ___Adopted

- B. That **Recommendation #18**, "that the General Assembly adopt the proposed Pastoral Letter on Civil Disobedience (pp. 317-320) and send it to the presbyteries and churches for their guidance" be adopted. ___Adopted

Further, the committee recommends "that the permanent Committee on Theology develop a purpose statement regarding this Letter, and that the committee also define the term 'Pastoral Letter.'" ___Adopted

- C. That **Recommendation #19**, "that the General Assembly adopt the proposed Pastoral Letter on Reproductive Technology (pp. 306-307) and send it to the presbyteries and churches for their guidance" be referred back to the permanent Committee on Theology, commending them for their courage in addressing the subject, but recommending that they gather further information so that the issue may be addressed in an adequate manner. ___Adopted
- D. That **Recommendation #20**, "that the General Assembly adopt the proposed Pastoral Letter on Organ Donation and Implantation (p. 308) and send it to the presbyteries and churches for their guidance" be adopted. ___Adopted
- E. That the minutes of the permanent Theology Committee be approved with notations being forwarded to the permanent committee. ___Adopted

Journal

- F. That **Overture 96-C** from the Southeast Presbytery to amend **G.1-5** be adopted:

§1-5 The Visible Church, though more or less divided and obscured, is bound together in its essential unity where scriptural discipline is practiced, where the Word is rightly proclaimed, and where the sacraments are properly observed, *and where loving fellowship is maintained*. Such groups who maintain *demonstrate* this fundamental integrity of the Church shall be recognized as true parts of the Church, the Body of the Lord Jesus Christ on earth. —Adopted

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

16-35 NATIONAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

Rev. Craig Strickland, chairman, offered prayer and reported for the committee.

- I. Business referred to committee
 - A. **Recommendation #32**
 - B. **Recommendation #33**
 - C. Minutes of the permanent committee (September 14-16, 1995 and March 7-9, 1996)
- II. Recommendations from the committee
 - A. That **Recommendation #32**, "that the General Assembly adopt the Mission Statement and Values" be adopted.

Mission Statement: To trust God to build a multiplying movement of growing churches which will so impact the lives of individuals and communities through the power of the Gospel that the heart of our nation is radically transformed.

Our mission can only be carried out by God's supernatural power as we express our dependence on Him through:

1. **Focusing** our passion on reaching people who have not yet responded to God's grace.
2. **Building** a structure for an enduring ministry that is consistent and reproducible.
3. **Devoting** our primary energies to setting people free to plant churches and effectively fulfill the Great Commission.
4. **Staying** on the cutting edge of cultural trends while discovering and offering the most effective ways to apply the Gospel to them.

Grounds:

A focused **Mission Statement and Values** represents an improved understanding of the work of the permanent committee and affords the denomination an opportunity to move into the future with a united front.

—Adopted

- B. That **Recommendation #33** "that the permanent National Outreach Committee be given the opportunity to make a 15-minute presentation as part of the standing committee report, an extension of 10 minutes to the 5-minute presentation normally granted" be adopted.

Grounds:

The standing committee believes it is appropriate for the Assembly to hear first-hand from church planters who are laboring in the field. Adopted

- C. That the minutes of the permanent committee be approved with notations being forwarded to the permanent committee. Adopted
- D. That the permanent committee review the **1989 Church Development Master Plan** prior to the 17th General Assembly and every five years thereafter and revise as necessary.

Grounds: There needs to be continuity from year to year on matters affecting the future of National Outreach. This review, especially next year, will tie the 1989 **Master Plan** and the **1996 Mission Statement and Values** together. Adopted

- E. That the permanent committee identify key cities for future church planting along with a rationale for their selection, and report their findings to the 17th General Assembly.

Grounds: Keeping focused information before the Assembly which describes potential future church development allows a clearer picture of planning for the future. Adopted

- F. That the permanent committee study and detail a strategy for increasing the funding for the Key Cities Program before the next General Assembly.

Grounds:

Funding for future church developments in Key Cities is woefully inadequate. The future of church planting in the EPC hinges on our ability to fund new works. Adopted

Rev. Corbett Heimburger, Director of National Outreach, apprised the Assembly of the work being done in National Outreach. Rev. Shawn Robinson, church planter for Clayton Community Church in Clayton, California brought an enthusiastic report of the work being done to build this new church. Rev. Heimburger offered prayer for Rev. Robinson and the Clayton church.

Rev. Dan Lacich, church planter at Cypress Pointe Church in Orlando, Florida updated the Assembly on the work there. Rev. Howard Chadwick, chairman of the Church Development Committee of the Florida Presbytery, offered prayer for

Journal

Dan and the Cypress Pointe Church. Rev. Heimburger asked commissioners to support the work of National Outreach in prayer and finances over the next year.

The standing committee commended the permanent committee for its vision and hard work in this important area in the life of our church.

ON MOTION to adopt the report of the National Outreach Committee.

16-36 FINAL REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Rev. Tom Ryan, chairman opened with prayer. He explained the process of electing candidates for the permanent committees, and encouraged clerks of session to forward the names of those people qualified to serve on committees. Rev. Ryan read the names of those people added yesterday at the third reading, including the name of Elder John Haase, nominated to WOC, Class of 1997, whose name was inadvertently omitted during the second reading.

ON MOTION to elect the following slate of nominees for permanent committees.

Committee on AdministrationClass of 1999

TE David Chadwick (Mid-Atlantic)
RE John Adamson (Central South)
TE Ron Ragon (Southeast)

Class of 1997

TE Rhett Payne, Central South

Committee on Christian Education and PublicationsClass of 1999

Sandy Hazelwood (Central South)
TE Bruce Demarest (West)

Class of 1997

Elizabeth Hicks (Central South)
TE Bruce Spear (West)

Committee on Ministerial VocationClass of 1999

TE Mark Jumper (Central South)
RE John Allman (Mid-Atlantic)

Committee on TheologyClass of 1999

TE Paul Johnson (West)
RE James Russell (Central South)

Board of Pension and BenefitsClass of 1999

RE Stewart Fleming (Midwest)
RE Bill Holmes (Central South)

Committee on Fraternal RelationsClass of 1999

TE Frank Kik (Mid-Atlantic)
RE James Currie (Midwest)

Class of 1997

TE Graham Smith (East)
RE Dexter Kuhlman (Mid-America)

Committee on National OutreachClass of 1999

TE Ian Lamont (East)
RE Sam Searcy (West)
TE Robert Stauffer (Midwest)

Committee on Women's MinistriesClass of 1999

Anne Blackley (Mid-Atlantic)
Susie McQueen (West)

Committee on World OutreachClass of 1999

- RE Vern Porter (West)
- TE Todd Hahn (Mid-Atlantic)
- RE Robert Healey (Midwest)

Class of 1997

- RE John Haase (Central South)

Permanent Judicial CommissionClass of 1999

- RE Evelyn Cisney (West)
- TE Harold Polk (Midwest)
- RE Harold Haddon (West)

Class of 1998

- TE Robert Hess (Florida)

Committee on Student and Young Adult MinistriesClass of 1999

- Kris Decker (Central South)
- RE Ken Roberts (West)

Committee to Evaluate the Office of the Stated Clerk

- RE Zelda Artz (East)
- TE Richard Little (Mid-Atlantic)

ON MOTION to adopt the report of the Nominating Committee.

16-37 ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Elder Leon Niemann, chairman, reported for the committee following prayer.

I. Business referred to committee

- A. **Communication #96-3** from Cindi B. Repass, Director of Member Services, Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, dated December 5, 1996
- B. **Communication #96-4** from Dr. Aldo J. Fontao, Presbyterian Church of St. Andrews, dated November 18, 1995
- C. **Communication #96-14** from Richard G. Malconian, Fidelity Investments, dated June 3, 1996
- D. **Overture 96-A**

In order to help the development of the churches which are at the moment out of bounds (since their pastors are about to become members of our presbytery), an extension of the limits is requested. Such an extension would include the provinces of Entre Rios and Santa Fe, added to the existing province of Buenos Aires. When this extension has developed, it is our hope these provinces should form part of a new presbytery, that of the "Litoral."

Grounds: At the moment, Rev. Robert Rodriguez Aliaga is in charge of a mission church in the city of Concepcion, province of Entre Rios, 200 miles north from Buenos Aires. He will be under examination to be part of St. Andrews Presbytery on May 17 next year. Pastor Antonio Gomez, in Rosario 100 miles northwest of Buenos Aires, is in charge of a church in that city and in good fellowship with us. Three daughter churches are arising dependent on this ministry.

The above named stated that a direct relation with our presbytery would be source of great trust and comfort. They asked for their inclusion within the bounds. The Presbytery dealt with the possibility of a Mission Presbytery, but voted the request for the extension.

Journal

- E. **Recommendation #1**
- F. **Recommendation #2**
- G. **Recommendation #3**
- H. **Recommendation #4**
- I. **Recommendation #5**
- J. **Recommendation #6**
- K. **Recommendation #7**
- L. **Recommendation #9**
- M. **Recommendation #34**

N. Minutes of the Permanent Committee on Administration:
(September 1, 1995, September 25-26, 1995, November 2-3, 1995, March 29, 1996)

II. Recommendations from the committee

- A. That **Communication #96-3** (p.95) regarding membership in the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability be received as information.
_____ *Adopted*
- B. That **Communication 96-4** (p. 96) from Rev. Aldo Fontao, Presbytery of St. Andrews, be received as information.
_____ *Adopted*
- C. That **Communication 96-14** (p. 109) from Fidelity Investments regarding recent changes in portfolio managers be received as information.
_____ *Adopted*
- D. That **Overture 96-A** be tabled until the 17th General Assembly. Further, that a consultation of representatives from the St. Andrews Presbytery and the General Assembly be convened by the permanent Committee on Administration in the Fall of 1996 for the purpose of gathering information so that a strategic plan for the future development of the Argentine church may be established.
_____ *Adopted*

Grounds: The committee did not believe it had sufficient data for making an informed decision.

- E. That **Recommendation #1**, "that the *Rules for Assembly*, §8-9a, be amended by deleting item A, 'Typed in double space,' and by relettering items B and C" be approved.
_____ *Adopted*
- F. That **Recommendation #2**, "that the General Assembly approve a name change from 'Committee on Youth Ministries' to 'Committee on Student and Young Adult Ministries'" be adopted.
_____ *Adopted*
- G. That **Recommendation #3**, "that the General Assembly approve the proposed 1997 Administration Budget of \$846,360" be approved with the following amendments:

1. That the words "Stated Clerk's Salary" be changed to "Stated Clerk's Compensation."

Grounds:

"Compensation" more accurately reflects the fact that this figure includes items other than "salary," (e.g., housing); and

2. That the permanent COA's budget report include the income projection in addition to the disbursement projection.

Grounds:

The investment dividends portion of our income may not be as great in the future due to market fluctuation. Therefore, it may impact our budget.

___Adopted

[Note: The Christian Education and Publications Committee's request that the COA amend the 1997 budget to include \$54,000 for Reflections magazine was not adopted. The COA was unwilling to consider amending the proposed budget for reasons that the EPC simply does not have the funds.]

- H. That **Recommendation #4**, "that the General Assembly approve the proposed 1997 Benevolence Askings of \$672,500" be adopted, but with the recommendation that the standing committee's chairman draft a letter to the General Assembly Office addressing whether these goals are realistic and can be communicated and supported be adopted. ___Adopted
- I. That **Recommendation #5**, "that the Thanksgiving Offering be designated to support the Orlando Church Project, Cypress Pointe Church" be adopted. ___Adopted
- J. That **Recommendation #6**, "that the General Assembly set aside the limitation stated in G.16-21 so that the incumbent Stated Clerk may be eligible for consideration for an additional term of office" be approved. ___Adopted
- K. That **Recommendation #7**, "that the *Rules for Assembly*, §10-4.2, be amended by adding the following sentences:
"Sessions and permanent committees are encouraged to submit qualified names. A committee may submit names for that committee only. The Endorsement for Nomination form shall be used and shall reflect official action of the Session or committee" be adopted. ___Adopted
- L. That **Recommendation #9**, "that the General Assembly approve the designing of a procedure to create a position description for an Assistant Stated Clerk, with financing arrangements, and a view to having this person in place by the 18th (1998) General Assembly" be adopted.

Motion was made to amend the recommendation:

- a. to add the words "and to report to the 17th General Assembly" after the word "arrangements" and
- b. to add the sentence, "Our desire is to have this person in place by the 18th General Assembly."

ON MOTION "that the General Assembly approve the designing of a procedure to create a position description for an Assistant Stated Clerk, with financing arrangements, and to report to the 17th General Assembly. Our desire is to have this person in place by the 18th (1998) General Assembly."

- M. That **Recommendation #34**, "that the General Assembly designate up to 100% of a minister's early and normal retirement pension or disability pension for 1996 and 1997 as housing allowance for United States income tax purposes (IRS Ruling 1.107-1) but only to the extent that the pension is used to rent or provide a home" be adopted. Adopted

- N. That the minutes of the permanent Administration Committee be approved, with notations being forwarded to the permanent committee. Adopted

In receiving the auditor's report, the standing Administration Committee instructed its chairman to draft a letter to the General Assembly Office urging additional clarification on the auditor's report for next year.

ON MOTION to adopt the report of the Administration Committee.

16-38 WORLD OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

Rev. Bill Vogler, chairman, offered prayer prior to presenting his report.

1. Business referred to committee
 - A. **Recommendation #21**
 - B. **Recommendation #22**
 - C. **Recommendation #23**
 - D. **Recommendation #24**
 - E. **Recommendation #25**
 - F. **Recommendation #26**
 - G. **Recommendation #27**
 - H. **Recommendation #28**
 - I. **Uniform Missionary Evaluation form**
 - J. **Communication #96-12** from Alder S. Matos, dated May 6, 1996 (p.
 - K. **Communication #96-15** from K. Eric Perrin, World Fellowship of Reformed Churches, dated December 22, 1995 (p.
 - L. **Recommendation #36**

M. Minutes of the permanent committee (September 7-9, 1995, January 4-6, 1996, and March 21-23, 1996)

II. Recommendations from the committee

- A. That **Recommendation #21**, "that the following changes be made to the **Missions Manual**, Section 103.2 C Sending Bodies/Call to a Particular Church" be adopted.

1. Add the following new paragraphs:

For field areas where World Outreach has accepted a special responsibility, World Outreach shall develop a missions statement, assign a team leader, and recruit a team of missionaries.

Missionaries from other agencies desiring to serve on an EPC World Outreach team must be approved by the World Outreach Committee.

Grounds:

This change will enable EPC to target particular regions of the world, consistent with the larger World Outreach goals even as we involve missionaries serving jointly with other mission organizations. Adopted

- B. That **Recommendation #22**, "that the following changes be made to the **Missions Manual**, Section 201.1D Doctrinal Qualifications" be adopted.

Add a second paragraph as follows:

Receive and adopt the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Catechisms of this Church as contained and taught in the Holy Scriptures.

Grounds:

Such provision will help ensure that EPC missionaries can really stand with us doctrinally and theologically.

Motion to amend section to bring language into conformity with G14-1A.3 so the section would read:

Receive and adopt the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Catechisms of this Church as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures. Adopted as amended

- C. That **Recommendation #23**, "that the following changes be made to the **Missions Manual**, Section 201.1F.1, Health Qualifications" be adopted. *(Proposed addition in italics)*

201.1F.1 General Physical Health: *Candidates must secure medical clearance from a physician for their entire family. WO shall provide the necessary forms.*

Grounds:

This change clarifies expectations for physical readiness to serve, particularly in remote areas.

___Adopted

Motion to reconsider Recommendation #23 was defeated.

- D. That **Recommendation #24**, "that the following changes be made to the **Missions Manual**, Section 206.13 Final Travel Arrangements" be adopted.

Substitute the proposed wording for the present second paragraph;

Present wording

Travel arrangements shall be made by the office in consultation with the missionaries.

Proposed wording

All travel arrangements to the field shall be approved by the WO office in advance of ticketing, if reimbursement is expected, in consultation with the missionaries and the cooperative agency, if there is one.

Grounds:

This change ensures that missionaries do not make a move onto the field before they have adequate support and final release by WOC. It also provides for explicit understanding between WOC, other mission agencies, and the missionary about financial responsibilities.

___Adopted

- E. That **Recommendation #25**, "that the following changes be made to the **Missions Manual**, Section 208.8 Cooperative Agreement" be adopted.

Section 208.8 Cooperative Agreement (pp. 55-57)

In #8, add the following paragraph:

Whenever a change is being considered in the major thrust of the missionary's ministry assignment or field, the (agency) shall consult with EPC World Outreach prior to any decision. The concerns of both agencies will be given due consideration in reaching a mutually acceptable decision.

In #14, substitute the word "excluding" for the word "including" in the first sentence:

"While on home service, ~~including~~ excluding while traveling to and from the field), the missionary shall be under the jurisdiction of World Outreach."

In #17, amend the last sentence by adding the words "or quarterly" after the word "monthly;" and by adding the word "support" between the words "of" and "funds." (*Proposed addition in italics*)

"The [agency] shall inform World Outreach monthly or quarterly of support funds designated for the missionary from other sources.

In #18, substitute the proposed section for the present wording:

Present wording

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."

Proposed wording

At the time of departure and periodic review, World Outreach will commit itself to a level of monthly support with adjustments if necessary, to [agency] subject to available funds.

___Adopted

- F. That **Recommendation #26** "that the following changes be made in the **Missions Manual**, Section 303.2 Home Service Responsibilities" be adopted.

Add two new paragraphs as follows:

All travel arrangements returning to the field shall be approved by the WO office in advance of ticketing if reimbursement is expected, in consultation with the missionaries and the cooperative agency if there is one.

Home service missionaries must secure medical clearance from a physician for their entire family prior to returning to the field. WO shall provide the necessary forms.

Grounds: These changes make the language of the manual consistent.

___Adopted

- G. That **Recommendation #27**, "that the **World Outreach Master Plan Progress—a Five-Year Report**" be adopted.

Grounds:

This provides a concise presentation and evaluation of WOC accomplishments since the initial **Master Plan** and ensures continued progress.

___Adopted

- H. That **Recommendation #28**, "that the **World Outreach Master Plan** be adopted."

JournalGrounds:

This provides an updated presentation of the **Master Plan** in light of progress already made (see Recommendation #27) reflecting changes in regions of the world being targeted. ___Adopted

- I. That the **Uniform Missionary Evaluation** form, replacing §312.2 and §312.3 in the **Missions Manual**, be approved.

Grounds:

This provides a more effective evaluation of a missionary's work. ___Adopted

- J. That **Communication #96-12** (p. 108) from Alderi S. Matos dated May 6, 1996 be received as information. ___Adopted
- K. That **Communication #96-15** (p. 111) from World Relief President Art Gay be received as information. ___Adopted
- L. That the minutes of the permanent committee be approved with notations being forwarded to the permanent committee. ___Adopted
- M. That **Recommendation #36** "that 10 minutes for a report from the World Outreach Director to the 16th General Assembly be given during the standing World Outreach Committee's presentation" be approved. ___Adopted

In keeping with Recommendation #36, Dick Oestreicher, Director of World Outreach, was then given the floor. He discussed the various facets of World Outreach work currently being done. The standing committee expressed the Assembly's deep appreciation of the efforts and work of both the director and the World Outreach Committee.

ON MOTION that each church be encouraged to make available to its members copies of the 5-year results and the new **World Outreach Master Plan**.

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

16-39 MINISTERIAL VOCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Rev. Richard Alberta, chairman opened with prayer and reported for committee.

- I. Business referred to committee

A. **Recommendation #12**

Overture 96-E from the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic

Whereas **G.12-2H** sets forth authority to the presbyteries to determine additional educational requirements, if any, for candidates seeking ordination under extraordinary circumstances; and

Whereas Act of Assembly #82-07 specifies that "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;" and

Whereas Act of Assembly #82-07, paragraph 3, is in conflict with G.12-2H; and

Whereas, this situation has been a source of extended discussion with expressions of dissatisfaction during a number of presbytery meetings over the years, especially centering on the protracted time that elapses from the time application is made to the MVC until the candidate is informed of additional education which must be completed prior to being considered for ordination;

Whereas it is recognized that in the early years the Ministerial Committees of the presbytery were gaining experience in dealing with the function of office; however, these committees have matured and some are now capable of determining educational requirements while still maintaining the high standards of ministers ordained in the EPC;

Therefore, this presbytery overtures the General Assembly to modify paragraph 3 of Act of Assembly, #82-07 to read:

"All exceptions to fulfilling standards for ordination (extraordinary circumstances) may be referred to a permanent committee on Ministerial Vocation for a recommended course of action including continuing education and reading requirements. The Presbytery of jurisdiction may, in conjunction with the Committee on Ministerial Vocation:

- 3-1 Mail necessary documentation (personal history, etc.) to the permanent committee for its review and counsel, and
- 3-2 Proceed with process of ordination after receiving and considering any request originated by the Presbytery for recommendations from the permanent Committee on Ministerial Vocation.

B. **Recommendation #11**

C. **Recommendation #13**

D. **Recommendation #14**

E. **Recommendation #15**

F. **Recommendation #16**

G. **Communication #96-7**

H. **Communication #96-9**

I. Minutes of the permanent committee (November 17-18, 1995 and March 14-16, 1996)

Journal

- II. Recommendations from the committee
 A. That **Overture 96-E** not be adopted.

Grounds:1. From Recommendation #12

The Ministerial Vocation Committee recommended that the General Assembly respond to Overture 96-E in the negative in order that the General Assembly may continue its current policy and practice of referring extraordinary candidates to the Assembly MVC for guidance as to educational requirements.

To adopt the overture would result in loss of uniformity and consistency in addressing educational needs of the candidate. From 1982, the Assembly has carried the responsibility for prescribing the educational requirements in the most even-handed and objective way. In 1983, the Assembly adopted the Handbook acknowledging the wisdom of this process for all candidates.

The issue of protracted time between the acceptance by the presbytery of an extraordinary candidate and the issuance of educational requirements, while real in the past, has been addressed.

It is incorrect to suggest that Act #82-07 conflicts with G.12-2H. Current procedure does not remove from the presbytery the right of ordination. What it does is to assure all presbyteries that an objective standard will be maintained for those extraordinary candidates requesting ordination within the EPC.

The major concern regarding the present policy has been the time lapse in expediting the candidate in fulfilling his educational requirements. A second concern is that the process does not take into consideration the particular circumstances, background, and giftedness of the individual candidate. Both of these issues have been addressed by the MVC.

The Reformed heritage continues to remind us of the high calling of the Minister of the Word. Such a calling has always been understood to require high standards of preparation. Current policy helps objectively maintain these high standards.

The third "whereas" states that "some" committees are now capable of determining educational requirements. In other words, the resolution itself admits that not all committees are capable of examining extraordinary candidates.

Journal2. From the standing committee:

Current procedures regarding extraordinary candidates have been streamlined. This overtire might result in a loss of uniformity and consistency in educational standards.

___Adopted

- B. That **Recommendation #11**, "that the Ministerial Vocation Committee be given another year to continue its work on Overtures **95-D** (on calls to serve outside the bounds of presbytery); **95-F** (on internships for prospective pastors); and **95-L** (on the renunciation of a church officer of the authority of his church)" be adopted.

The Permanent Judicial Commission found this recommendation to be in order.

Grounds:

More work is needed on this topic.

___Adopted

- C. That **Recommendation #13**, "that the **Book of Government**, §11-5B, be amended by deleting the words "carry on" and substituting the phrase "expedite its work as quickly as possible in consultation with the Ministerial Vocation Committee of Presbytery" **not** be adopted."

Grounds:

The Permanent Judicial Commission found the wording of this proposal to be contrary to the Constitution. While its wording appears to be merely procedural, it is the judgment of the Commission that it is actually conceptual. The word "expedite" represents a conceptual change directed at the speed with which a search committee must complete its work and is, therefore contrary to the Constitution.

The standing committee felt that the pastoral search process should not be hurried.

___Adopted

- D. That **Recommendation #14**, "that the **Book of Government**, §12-2D be amended by adding the italicized words to the following statement:, and adopted as amended:

"The Presbytery shall assign a Minister of the Word to serve as advisor to the Candidate, ordinarily *not* the Candidate's pastor. The advisor shall *report regularly to the appropriate committee* on the progress..."

Grounds:

The Permanent Judicial Commission found this recommendation to be in order.

The standing committee believed that frequent regular reports are essential. In addition, an advisor other than a candidate's pastor seems prudent.

A motion was made to amend by adding the words "and the candidate's pastor" between the words "advisor" and "shall" in the second sentence to read:

"The advisor and the candidate's pastor shall report regularly to the appropriate committee on the progress..."

ON MOTION to adopt as amended (counted vote of 112-37).

- E. That **Recommendation #15**, "that the **Book of Government**, §13-5, be amended in the next-to-last sentence by substituting the proposed wording (in italics) for the present wording" be **referred back** to the permanent Ministerial Vocation Committee for review of language and clarification of intent.

A person An ordained minister coming from any other tradition a non-Reformed denomination or an independent congregation shall be examined in the same manner as a candidate for ordination as indicated in Section 13-2.

Grounds:

The Permanent Judicial Commission recommended referring this proposal back to the permanent committee for rewording because the present language fails to accomplish its purpose. It appears that the criteria for determining how an ordained minister is to be examined by a presbytery is the nature or identity of the denomination or church that originally ordained him. The words "coming from" appear to refer to his most recent place of service.

The standing committee felt this amendment is intended to assist presbyteries in responding to requests for transfer of ordination from non-Reformed sources, and from non-ecclesiastical credentialing organizations. It gives presbyteries the tools to more carefully consider the sources of ordination.

—Adopted

- F. That **Recommendation #16** "that the **Book of Government**, §16-27A.11, be amended by adding the following sentence: "If needful in Presbytery's judgment, Session may be provided with an opportunity to meet with the Committee" so that the section reads:

11. "Although no complaint may have been received, if in the judgment of the Committee a particular congregation may be having difficulties or appears to be failing in its mission, the committee has the authority to investigate and to make recommendations to Presbytery. *If needful in Presbytery's judgment, Session may be provided with an opportunity to meet with the Committee.*"

be **referred back** to the permanent Ministerial Vocation Committee for review of language and clarification of intent.

JournalGrounds:

The Permanent Judicial Commission recommended referring this proposal back to the permanent Ministerial Vocation Committee for possible revision because its intent is neither clear nor concise. As it is written, it appears to add nothing of significance to the existing paragraph. ___Adopted

- G. That **Communication #96-7** (p. 102) from Edward Davis, Stated Clerk, dated March 26, 1996 be received as information. ___Adopted
- H. That **Communication #96-9** (p. 104) from Don Argue, Joseph Cardinal Bernardino, and Jerry Kirk, National Association of Evangelicals, dated March 19, 1996 be received as information. ___Adopted
- I. That the minutes of the permanent committee be approved with notations being forwarded to the permanent committee. ___Adopted
- J. The standing committee recommended that the **Book of Government**, §12-2H, after the word "person" to add the following:
 "In such a case the appropriate Presbytery committee shall request from the General Assembly Ministerial Vocation Committee a course of study for the candidate, which shall be completed before the candidate is ordained." so that the section reads:

§12-2H In extra-ordinary circumstances, a Presbytery, for reasons it judges adequate, may receive a Candidate for whom it may waive part or all of the total educational requirements for ordination. This action requires a two-thirds vote by Presbytery. When such a Candidate is received, it is appropriate to assign courses of independent study or study under some appropriate person. *In such a case the appropriate Presbytery committee shall request from the General Assembly Ministerial Vocation Committee a course of study for the candidate, which shall be completed before the candidate is ordained.*

Grounds: It is considered essential that the permanent Ministerial Vocation Committee manage the oversight of extraordinary candidates. ___Adopted

Rev. Paul Husband was invited to speak about the ministry of Second Chance in which his teenage son was involved for substance abuse and recovery. He presented a moving personal testimony and indicated he would be happy to talk with anyone who would like more information on the ministry.

The chairman offered prayer for the work of the Ministerial Vocation Committee and our churches. The Stated Clerk then led the Assembly in prayer for a commissioner who was experiencing chest pains.

Journal

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

16-40 WOMEN'S MINISTRIES COMMITTEE REPORT

In the absence of chairman Evelyn Cisney, Elder Grace Jarvis reported following prayer.

- I. Business referred to committee
 - A. Minutes of the permanent committee (October 13-14, 1995 and March 15-16, 1996)
- II. Recommendations from the committee
 - A. That the minutes of the permanent committee be approved, with notations being forwarded to the permanent committee. Adopted

ON MOTION to receive the Women's Ministries Committee Report.

16-41 PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION REPORT

Rev. Jimmy McGuire, Moderator, opened with prayer and reported for the Commission.

- A. A request was received for an opinion regarding the meaning of the word "commended" in G.5-5:

"Upon dissolution [of a church], any remaining members shall be commended to another congregation by the Presbytery."

The opinion of the PJC is that this word does not mean a formal transfer of membership.

Grounds:

1. It was noted that in a previous sentence in the same paragraph, the word "transfer" was used with reference to the property of a dissolved church. That is not the word which is used with respect to membership.
2. G.9-1 which gives to Sessions the "responsibility for receiving, dismissing, retiring to the inactive roll or otherwise determining membership in the particular church"; and
3. G.16-16 which enumerates the powers of presbyteries without granting the authority of transferring members from one church to another.

Advice on Recommendations #13-16 was given to the standing Ministerial Vocation Committee and can be found in its report to the Assembly.

ON MOTION to adopt the report of the Permanent Judicial Commission.

16-42 MEMORIALS AND APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairman Rev. Tom Dages offered prayer as he began his report. He read the names of those elders who have gone to be with the Lord in this Assembly year. A moment of silent prayer in their memory followed.

Following are the names of ruling elders and ministers who died this Assembly year:

1. Dr. Timothy Brewer (July 20, 1995) Central Presbyterian, St. Louis, MO
2. Elder Victor S. Badder (February, 1996) Trinity Presbyterian, Florence, SC
3. Elder Edward L. Bailey (January, 1996) Second Presbyterian, Memphis, TN
4. Elder John O. Branton (November, 1995) Second Presbyterian, Memphis, TN
5. Elder Furman Crout, First Presbyterian, Trenton, MI
6. Elder Howard T. Dail (September, 1995) Dundalk Presbyterian, Dundalk, MD
7. Elder Leo Christiansen (January, 1996) Sutter Presbyterian, St. Louis, MO
8. Elder C. Frank Fourmy, Jr. (November, 1995) Second Presbyterian, Memphis, TN
9. Elder James H. Fulmer, Sr. (February, 1996) Brainerd Presbyterian, Chattanooga, TN
10. Elder T. Holeman Graham, Jr. (January, 1996) Second Presbyterian, Memphis, TN
11. Elder John Grewell (March 1996), Faith Church, Rochester Hills, MI
12. Elder Clayton E. Howerton (November, 1995) Northampton Presbyterian, Hampton, VA
13. Elder Frank Armstrong Hunter, Bethesda Presbyterian, Florence, SC
14. Elder James Jackson (September, 1995) Second Presbyterian, Memphis, TN
15. Elder Eva Kriger (April, 1996) Faith Presbyterian, Aurora, CO
16. Elder Walter Kostaroff (June, 1996) Ward Presbyterian, Livonia, MI
17. Elder Lester Lansford (April, 1996) Lookout Valley Presbyterian, Chattanooga, TN
18. Elder Charles Maupin (September, 1995) Valley Community, San Jacinto, CA
19. Elder George McGird (May, 1996) Faith Presbyterian, Aurora, CO
20. Elder John C. Patton (May, 1996) Second Presbyterian, Memphis, TN
21. Elder Allan M. Peterson, Sr. (May, 1996) Second Presbyterian, Memphis, TN
22. Elder Wesley Y. Reed (February, 1995) Central Presbyterian, St. Louis, MO
23. Elder David R. Schatzer (September, 1995) First EPC, Renton, WA
24. Elder Milton H. Smith, Jr. (December, 1995) Second Presbyterian, Memphis, TN
25. Elder Samuel A. Thompson, Jr. (December, 1995) Second Presbyterian, Memphis, TN
26. Elder Harrison L. Taylor (October, 1995) Mt. Calvary Presbyterian, Kingsport, TN
27. Elder Fred A. Timm (July, 1995) New Covenant Presbyterian, New Castle, PA
28. Elder George M. Westbrook (August, 1995) First Presbyterian, Meridian, MS

The committee expressed gratitude on behalf of the Assembly to all at Cherry Creek Church who participated in this Assembly's planning: Bert and Mary Loudon, Local Arrangements Chairmen; Committee Chairmen Sheryl Smith (Administration); Ken and Barb Roberts (Transportation); Mel and Cindy Medema (Facilities); Verne and Frieda Van Kooten (Food Service); Jon and

Journal

Marylin Greeneisen (Housing); Carol Huston (Children and Youth); Jim and Paula Shira (Program); Candy McCune (Special Programs); Cecil and Barbara Matthews (Hospitality and Volunteer Support). Thanks to each and every volunteer who pitched in to make us feel welcome and well-provided for. Thanks to Jonathan Brown, the Sanctuary Choir and Chamber Ensemble for the wonderful music, and to John and Susan Wilson for the outstanding dramatic presentation. The hospitality and warm spirit shown us was delightful without exception. The beautiful Colorado scenery plus Cherry Creek's fine facility and ward hospitality made for a memorable 16th General Assembly.

Appreciation is heartily given to the chairmen and recording clerks of the standing committees who so capably administered their tasks, to the Moderators past and present, recording clerks Llew Fischer and Sam Harris, worship leaders and the General Assembly staff.

IN MEMORIAM

Timothy D. Brewer



Dr. Timothy D. Brewer, pastor of Central Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, Missouri went to be with his Lord on July 20, 1995. Ordained in 1986, Tim was a member of the Presbytery of the West. He was a graduate of Colorado State University (B.A.), Fuller Theological Seminary (M.Div.), and Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary (D. Min).

Tim joined the staff of Ward Presbyterian, Livonia, Michigan in 1986 to become founding pastor of its daughter church, Cornerstone EPC in Brighton, serving there until 1991. Active on both the presbytery and assembly levels, Tim was serving on the permanent Committee on Administration and its Executive Committee at the time of his death.

Surviving Dr. Brewer are his wife, Elizabeth, and their children Jordan, Matthew, and Kendall.

16-43 ADJOURNMENT

At 3:45 p.m., the Assembly concluded with a worship service. Rev. Howard Chadwick led the singing; Rev. Wayne Hoffman provided piano accompaniment. The Moderator adjourned the Assembly with prayer, and invited commissioners to the 17th General Assembly June 19-21, 1997 at Central Presbyterian Church in St. Louis, Missouri.

Journal**JOURNAL INDEX****A**

AD INTERIM COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW	
<i>Proposed Book of Discipline</i>	32
ADJOURNMENT	71
ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT	55
ASSEMBLY ENROLLMENT	1
Commissioners excused	8
Declaration of Quorum	1
Final enrollment	8
Presbytery of Florida	3
Presbytery of St. Andrews	5
Presbytery of the Central South	2
Presbytery of the East	2
Presbytery of the Southeast	6
Presbytery of the West	6

B

BOARD OF PENSION AND BENEFITS REPORT	31
---	----

C

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT	35
--	----

D

DOCKET, Friday, June 21	30
DOCKET, Thursday, June 20	8

F

FACE TO FACE	28
FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT	32

M

MATTERS RECEIVED AND REFERRED	
Commissioner's Resolution	19
Communications	16
Overtures	18
Recommendations	19
MEMORIALS AND APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT	69
MINISTERIAL VOCATION COMMITTEE REPORT	62
MINUTES, 15th General Assembly	16
MODERATOR, Election of	9
MODERATOR'S SERVICE OF COMMUNION AND PRAYER	30

N

NATIONAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT	52
NOMINATING COMMITTEE, Final Report	54
NOMINATING COMMITTEE, Partial Report	12, 36

O

OVERTURES AND RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE	40
--	----

OVERTURES, ASCENDING

Overture 96-A from St. Andrews Presbytery on extension of boundaries	18
Overture 96-B, from West Presbytery on Act #93-17	18
Overture 96-C from Southeast Presbytery on identifying marks of the church	18
Overture 96-D from Southeast Presbytery on partial birth abortion ban	18
Overture 96-E from Mid-Atlantic Presbytery on courses for extraordinary candidates	18
Overture 96-F from Mid-Atlantic Presbytery on partial birth abortion ban	19

OVERTURES, RATIFICATION OF DESCENDING

Overture 95-A	
On Amending G.5-3E on the Election of Elders	13
Overture 95-B	
On Amending D.12 on Removing Names from Church Membership Rolls	14
Overture 95-C	
On Amending G.11-12, Providing Guidance for Out-of-Bounds Ministries	14
Overture 95-D	
On Amending G.16-27B.2 on Time Limit Required to Submit Overtures to Amend the Constitution	15
Overture 95-E	
On Amending G.3, D.1 and D-12 to Change the Word "Power" to "Authority"	15
Overture 95-F	
On Amending G.11-5F.2 to Change "Manse" to "Housing"	15

P**PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION**

Partial report on Act #93-17	37
PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION REPORT	68
PRESBYTERY REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT	48

S

STATE OF THE CHURCH ADDRESS	9
STATED CLERK'S REPORT	15

T

THEOLOGY COMMITTEE REPORT	49
--	----

W

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES COMMITTEE REPORT	68
WORLD OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT	58
WORSHIP, Friday evening	39
WORSHIP, Saturday morning	39
WORSHIP, Thursday evening	29
WORSHIP, Thursday morning	1

Y

YOUTH MINISTRIES COMMITTEE REPORT	47
--	----

PART II
APPENDICES

Administration Committee Report

The Committee on Administration convened for two stated meetings: November 2-3, 1995 and March 29, 1996. The Executive Committee met four times. The COA proceeded according to the duties assigned to it in the *Rules for Assembly*. This report summarizes the actions of the committee.



Bill Johns, Chairman

1. Approved an upgrade and modernization of the General Assembly office computer system. The system is now operational.
2. Approved a recommendation to send simplified giving and spending reports to local churches, and to remind congregations of the importance of proportionate giving.
3. As a result of an insurance audit, various insurance anniversary dates have been unified.
4. Performance of staff members was reviewed and individuals commended for their spirit and quality of work.
5. Approved a recommendation that "program budgets for Assembly-sponsored conferences and events shall be available for review a minimum of sixty (60) days before the conference or event. Each budget shall be reviewed by the Financial Manager."
6. Approved the addition of \$1 per attendee registration fees for camps and conferences to insure adequate liability coverage.
7. Approved the requirement of a Certificate of Insurance for all public housing facilities used for General Assembly-sponsored events.
8. Approved hiring half-time secretarial assistance for Women's Ministries and Youth Ministries.
9. Clarified the policy on approval of expenditures for continuing education for General Assembly staff members. The study shall be directly related to the staff member's ministry.
10. The Committee affirmed the Christian Education and Publications Committee in its publication of Reflections as fulfilling a long-standing need in the denomination.
11. The Committee was asked to consider the purchase of an apartment in Almagul, Kazakhstan for a ministry center. Funds would come from the 1997 Benevolence Askings. Legal ramifications are being considered.
12. The Committee is considering options regarding a facility for General Assembly offices. We are currently in the fourth year of a five-year lease in the present location, with a rental of \$70,000 yearly. There is a month-to-month lease opportunity at the end of the five-year lease.

13. The following resolution was approved by the Committee:

"About seven months ago, our Stated Clerk received an exceptional employment opportunity. This position was a challenging position in the body of Christ. At that time, Dr. Davis and the Executive Committee entered into a covenant of prayer that our brother might know the mind of the Lord in this matter.

We are happy to announce that a decision has been made. The Rev. Dr. L. Edward Davis will continue in the office of the Stated Clerk.

With gratitude to the Lord for His guidance, we resolve to affirm the Stated Clerk in his decision to remain with us and pledge to him our unconditional support. We praise God for raising up this godly, competent, and respected servant of the Kingdom, and pray that he may continue to enjoy good health and lasting fulfillment in his significant ministry."

14. The committee elected Jan Bole to serve on the Executive Committee filling the vacancy created by the death of Tim Brewer.
15. Theme for the 1996 General Assembly is "Revive us Again," from Psalm 85:6: "Will you not revive us again that your people may rejoice in you?" Keynote speaker will be Dr. John Guest.
16. Committee approved designating the offering from the Moderator's Service of Communion and Prayer as an Urbana offering. World Outreach will administer the Urbana Student program.
17. Pursuant to the direction of the 14th General Assembly, the Committee appointed a committee to be known as the "2001 Committee." The mandate to the committee is "to develop a strategic plan to set forth the vision, goals, and programs of the General Assembly for the next several years. Plans should include goals, programs, activities, and priorities for the life of the plan."


The committee will be no larger than seven members. Five members were appointed in March: Wally Hostetter, Joe Schluchter, Sam Jones, Carl Hassell, and Bill Johns, chairman. Two additional members will be appointed at the June called meeting of the Committee.

18. The Committee expressed concern for the New Covenant Church in Pompano Beach, Florida in its financial situation. The church has made a number of efforts to place itself in a financial position designed to enable it to make some movement toward repaying loans made by several EPC churches during their legal troubles. The efforts have met with no success. Chairman Bill Johns will be making personal efforts with the pastor and session to urge movement towards repaying these loans.

Recommendations:

1. That *Rules for Assembly* 8-9a be amended by deleting item A, "Typed in double space," and re-lettering items B and C.
2. That the General Assembly approve a name change from "Committee on Youth Ministries" to "Committee on Student and Young Adult Ministries." This would broaden the scope of the committee's activities.
3. That the General Assembly approve the proposed 1997 Administration Budget of \$846,360.
4. That the General Assembly approve the proposed 1997 Benevolence Asking of \$671,500.
5. That the General Assembly set aside the limitation stated in G.16-21 in order to open the way for the incumbent Stated Clerk to be nominated for an additional term of office.
6. That the General Assembly approve the designing of a procedure to create a position description for an Assistant Stated Clerk, with financing arrangements, and with a view to having this person in place by the 18th (1998) General Assembly.
7. That the *Rules for Assembly*, 10-4.2 be amended by adding the following sentences:
 "Sessions and permanent committees are encouraged to submit qualified names. A committee may submit names for that committee only. The Endorsement for Nomination form shall be used and shall reflect official action of the Session or committee."
8. That the *Rules for Assembly*, 8-11, be amended by adding the following after the first sentence:
 "Presbytery review year shall includes those minutes approved by presbytery up to June 1 of each Assembly year."
9. That the 1996 Thanksgiving Offering be designated for the Orlando Church Project (Cypress Pointe Church).

Respectfully submitted,



William E. Johns, Chairman
June, 1996

The Board of Pension and Benefits

The Board of Pension and Benefits met on three occasions during the last year, in September 23 and December 9 of 1995 and again April 13 of this year. Routine business was conducted and a comprehensive review of the insurance and pension programs was undertaken.

The Pension Plan

Our Pension Plan continues to grow. We have heard very positive comments from our investors. One item especially appreciated is the ability to change the choice of funds with a phone call to a toll-free number (800-343-0860). Please see attachment for an updated synopsis of fund portfolio.

<u>Pension</u>		4-1-95
107	Churches Involved	
400	Employees Actively Participating	
116	Inactive or Withdrawn	

Total Contributions: \$6,271,054.82		

<u>EPC Portfolio</u>		
<u>Fidelity Fund</u>	<u>Employee Contribution</u>	<u>Employer Contribution</u>
Puritan	35,666.17	60,931.98
Magellan	363,088.34	1,969,251.16
Contrafund	85,789.25	333,234.84
Growth & Income	247,010.16	1,311,948.65
Intermediate Bond	52,517.68	266,232.21
Asset Manager	127,402.29	889,838.45
Money Market	145,929.14	382,214.50
	\$1,057,403.03	\$5,213,651.79

The EPC Group Benefits Plan

During the past year, requests have been received to again consider the possibility of offering dental coverage. The idea of dental insurance coverage has been turned down on two occasions. The Board, however, feels this option should be offered at least one more time with additional information available to church sessions who will be considering this coverage for their pastors.

The Board has perhaps neglected to emphasize the option that a pastor could actually be responsible for the increased premium himself. Dental insurance is not considered part of the basic health benefit that must be provided by the individual churches for their pastors but is an additional benefit. The churches will once again receive a mailing on dental insurance this fall.

Shortly after the last General Assembly, the group benefits plan moved to a four-tiered structure as opposed to the previous two-tiered structure. This has proven to be a great success and in many cases has resulted in a premium savings for our churches.

Two Tiered:	Family Coverage	Single Coverage
Four Tiered:	Family Coverage	Single Coverage
	Couple Coverage	Employee/Children

The Board has made some changes in the investment of the insurance reserve funds. The goal was to minimize risk and at the same time, derive as much income as possible. Please see statistical information attached.

The Board spent a great deal of time discussing ways of decreasing premium costs. After a thorough review of several different benefits plans as well as several new administrators, the Board would like to make the following recommendations:

Recommendations:

1. That the General Assembly grant to the Trustees of the Corporation (COA) authorization to select vendors for various benefit and pension plans on recommendation from the Board of Pension and Benefits.
2. That the General Assembly change the vendor for plan administration from Healthsource/Provident to a third party administrator, Benefits Services, Inc., for medical benefits, long term disability insurance and life insurance, effective January 1, 1997.
3. That the General Assembly approve changing vendors for long term disability insurance and life insurance from Metropolitan Life Insurance Company to UNUM Life Insurance Company for long term disability insurance and Healthsource/Provident to The Lafayette Life Insurance Company for life insurance.

Grounds: The General Assembly has reserved unto itself the prerogative to approve any change in the benefits of the insurance plans. This has also been extended to any change of vendor. On occasion, however, a considerable savings can be effected by changing vendors on the first of the year before General Assembly meets in June. By waiting for approval in June, a change is generally not possible until the following January, thereby potentially causing a delay of one year while paying an unfavorable premium for coverage. This may cost our denomination thousands of dollars. The benefits would remain unchanged even if a new vendor is chosen.

Respectfully submitted,



Orin Littlejohn, M.D., Chairman
Board of Pension and Benefits

jmb

Insurance Funds

Merrill Lynch Claims	\$ 700,420
Merrill Lynch Administration	7,009
Smith Barney Money Market	429,373
Vanguard Bond Index	213,878
Invesco Industrial Income	33,675
T. Rowe Price Equity Income	35,161
Lindner Dividend Fund	33,528
Vanguard Windsor II	33,528
*Long Term Reserves	130,000
	\$1,615,977

Berger 100
Columbia Special
Crabbe Huson Special
Kaufman Fund
PBHG Growth Fund
Roberts Stephens Value & Growth
Rowe Price Science & Technology

Baron Asset Fun
Janus Fund
Mutual Series Fund (M Shares)
Neuberger & Berman Guardian
State Street Bank & Trust (110)

Statistics

Families with Medical Coverage	323
Singles with Medical Coverage	106
Total Employees Covered	429

Claims Data

1992 Claims	\$1,208,000
1993 Claims	\$1,400,000
1994 Claims	\$1,507,000
1995 Claims	\$1,987,335

Claims for Jan through Apr 1996: \$673,863

FIDELITY GROWTH AND INCOME

The Fidelity Growth and Income fund seeks high total return through a combination of current income and capital appreciation. Investments are mainly in equity securities of companies that pay current dividends and offer potential growth of earnings.

Total return for 1996 through April 30 is 6.44%.

Total Return %

1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
-6.80	41.84	11.54	19.53	2.27	35.38

FIDELITY ASSET MANAGER

Fidelity Asset Manager seeks high total return with reduced risk over the long term. This is accomplished with an allocation of assets among stocks, bonds, and short-term instruments of U.S. and foreign issuers, including emerging markets.

Total return for 1996 through April 30 is 2.54%.

Total Return %

1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
5.38	23.64	12.75	23.29	-6.60	18.16

FIDELITY INTERMEDIATE BOND

The objective of Fidelity Intermediate Bond is high current income. The fund invests mainly in bonds rated BBB or better and maintains a dollar-weighted average maturity of between three and ten years. Yield will fluctuate with market conditions.

Total return for 1996 through April 30 is 1.36%.

Total Return %

1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
7.54	14.50	6.08	11.96	-2.01	12.81

FIDELITY MONEY MARKET

Fidelity 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.

Yield: 1994 3.27%
1995 5.46%

FIDELITY MAGELLAN

The Fidelity Magellan Fund has as its objective capital appreciation. The fund invests mainly in common stock and securities convertible into common stock of domestic, foreign and multinational issuers of all sizes.

Total return for 1996 through April 30 is 2.44%.

Total Return %

1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
-4.51	41.03	7.01	24.66	-1.81	36.82

FIDELITY CONTRAFUND

The objective of Fidelity Contrafund is capital appreciation. It is considered a broad-based stock fund that seeks out undervalued or out-of-favor companies both in the U. S. and abroad. Securities purchased by the fund may be considered speculative.

Total return for 1996 through April 30 is 9.01%.

Total Return %

1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
3.94	54.92	15.89	21.43	-1.12	36.28

FIDELITY PURITAN

The Fidelity Puritan fund seeks high income consistent with preservation of capital. Investments are made in a broadly diversified portfolio of high-yielding common stocks, preferred stocks and bonds of any quality. Puritan is considered to be a conservative growth and income fund.

Total return for 1996 through April 30 is 4.47%.

Total Return %

1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
-6.35	24.46	15.43	21.45	1.78	21.46

BPB-1

KARL L. DRAKE, PC
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

3775 KIMMEL ROAD
HORTON, MICHIGAN 49246

(517) 563-8856 TELEPHONE
(517) 563-2552 FACSIMILE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the General Assembly of the
Evangelical Presbyterian Church

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets and changes in net assets arising from cash transactions of Evangelical Presbyterian Church Pension Plan as of and for the years ended December 31, 1995 and 1994. 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 audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits 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 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 audits provide 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 Pension Plan as of and for the years ended December 31, 1995 and 1994, on the basis of accounting described in Note A.



Karl L. Drake, PC
Certified Public Accountant

February 29, 1996

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PENSION PLAN
STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
For the years ended December 31, 1995 and 1994

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
ADDITIONS TO PLAN ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO:		
Contributions	\$ 1,319,880	\$ 1,151,524
Dividends and Interest	294,894	154,011
Transfers in	85,987	222,852
Gain <Loss> in Market Value	<u>825,148</u>	<u><196,778></u>
	<u>2,525,909</u>	<u>1,331,609</u>
DEDUCTIONS FROM PLAN ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO:		
Pension Payments	167,550	127,093
Account Fees	<u>5,621</u>	<u>5,056</u>
	<u>173,171</u>	<u>132,149</u>
NET INCREASE	2,352,738	1,199,460
NET ASSETS		
Cash and Investments - Beginning of Year	<u>3,612,095</u>	<u>2,412,635</u>
Cash and Investments - End of Year	\$ 5,964,833 =====	\$ 3,612,095 =====

The Accompanying Notes are an integral part of these statements.

**EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PENSION PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 1995 and 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, 1995 and 1994, the Plan's assets were invested in Merrill Lynch and Fidelity investment accounts as follows. All assets are valued at market value.

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
Merrill Lynch	\$ 20,365	\$ 28,264
Fidelity Money Market	499,254	344,027
Fidelity Asset Manager	1,101,281	777,163
Fidelity Intermediate Bond	295,573	266,394
Fidelity Growth & Income	1,390,540	796,245
Fidelity Contrafund	320,425	104,335
Fidelity Magellan	2,253,909	1,262,815
Fidelity Puritan	<u>83,486</u>	<u>32,852</u>
	\$ 5,964,833	\$ 3,612,095
	=====	=====

KARL L. DRAKE, PC
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

3775 KIMMEL ROAD
HORTON, MICHIGAN 49246

(517) 563-8856 TELEPHONE
(517) 563-2552 FACSIMILE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the General Assembly of the
Evangelical Presbyterian Church

We have audited the accompanying statements 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, 1995 and 1994. 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 audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits 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 audits provide 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, 1995 and 1994, on the basis of accounting described in Note A.

Karl L. Drake

Karl L. Drake, PC
Certified Public Accountant

February 29, 1996

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MEDICAL INSURANCE PLAN
STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
For the years ended December 31, 1995 and 1994

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
ADDITIONS TO PLAN ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO:		
Premiums	\$ 2,154,437	\$ 2,220,780
Dividends and Interest	134,044	109,970
Gain <Loss> in Market Value	<u>60,464</u>	<u><146,804></u>
	<u>2,348,945</u>	<u>2,183,946</u>
DEDUCTIONS FROM PLAN ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO:		
Claims	2,008,347	1,488,213
Premiums	376,847	373,744
Administrative Expenses	<u>71,099</u>	<u>43,446</u>
	<u>2,456,293</u>	<u>1,905,403</u>
NET INCREASE <DECREASE>	<107,348>	278,543
NET ASSETS		
Cash - Beginning of Year	<u>1,802,668</u>	<u>1,524,125</u>
Cash - End of Year	\$ 1,695,320 =====	\$ 1,802,668 =====

The Accompanying Notes are an integral part of these statements.

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MEDICAL INSURANCE PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 1995 and 1994

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:

		1995	1994
Claims Account	Merrill Lynch	\$ 716,646	\$ 58,982
Administration Account	Merrill Lynch	12,175	22,385
Short-Term Reserves	Merrill Lynch	-0-	870,871
	Vanguard Wellesley	21,787	16,901
	Vanguard Bond Fund	214,131	189,691
	T. Rowe Price	22,089	16,621
	Lindner Funds	19,913	16,383
	Invesco Funds	20,880	16,398
Long-Term Reserves	Smith Barney	331,854	297,283
	Smith Barney	335,845	297,153
		<u>\$1,695,320</u>	<u>\$1,802,668</u>
		=====	=====

1997 PROPOSED ADMINISTRATION BUDGET

	1995 Budget	1995 Actual	1996 Budget	1997 Proposed
Personnel Disbursements				
Stated Clerk Salary	58,600	58,600	61,600	67,760
Program Staff Salaries	183,800	189,230	176,425	182,600
Support Staff Salaries	82,900	42,977	108,900	112,700
Staff Insurance/Pension	66,514	56,980	65,000	68,000
Executive Expense Allow	7,300	7,282	7,300	7,300
Staff Travel/Expenses	27,000	21,909	30,000	32,000
Executive Travel	20,000	21,448	20,000	25,000
Taxes/Workman's Comp	26,000	22,462	26,000	26,000
Officer/Director Liability	<u>3,500</u>	<u>1,757</u>	<u>3,500</u>	<u>2,500</u>
	475,614	422,645	498,725	523,860
Administration Disbursements				
Contingencies	5,000	68,875	4,000	5,000
Telephone	17,000	17,515	17,000	20,000
Office Supplies	8,000	7,152	8,000	9,000
Printing & Promotion	30,000	26,769	35,000	37,000
Postage	22,000	18,369	24,000	24,000
Technology Support	10,000	8,603	10,000	10,000
Financial Audit	5,000	3,000	5,000	5,000
Professional Fees	2,000	866	2,000	2,000
Miscellaneous	4,000	3,615	4,000	4,000
Office Development	12,000	1,459	18,000	10,000
Committee travel/expense	55,000	55,571	55,000	60,000
GA Administration	15,000	18,751	15,000	18,000
Staff Technical Training	2,000	-0-	2,000	2,000
Pension Fund Administration	10,000	5,881	6,000	6,000
Fraternal Relations	12,000	11,138	12,000	12,000
Presbytery Devel/Support	7,000	4,191	7,000	6,000
Leadership Development	1,000	415	1,000	1,000
Christian Ed/Resource	1,000	106	1,000	1,000
Buckingham Rent	64,000	62,168	68,000	70,000
Buckingham Utilities	7,000	5,860	7,000	7,500
Buckingham Maint/Insurance	5,000	8,900	6,000	11,000
Van Expense	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,287</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
	295,000	330,491	309,000	322,500
<u>GRAND TOTALS</u>	770,614	753,136	807,725	846,360

1997 PROPOSED BENEVOLENCE ASKINGS

National Outreach Committee

Key Cities	50,000	
Church Planting	100,000	
Church Loan Fund	<u>25,000</u>	
Total:		175,000

Ministerial Vocation Committee

Andrew Jumper Scholarship Fund	106,000	
Newly Ordained Ministers Event	<u>3,000</u>	
Total:		109,000

Student and Young Adult Ministries Committee

Student and Young Adult Ministries	8,000	
Total:		8,000

Women's Ministries Committee

Faith Focus	25,000	
Per Woman Asking	<u>25,000</u>	
Total:		50,000

World Outreach Committee

Argentina		
Field Development	15,000	
Leadership Development	10,000	
Church Planting Team	50,000	
IBBA Library Development	5,000	
Spanish Resource Center	1,500	
Brazil:		
Theological Scholarships	50,000	
Foreign Missions (Angola)	24,000	
Foreign Missions (Ghana)	13,000	
Geneva Bibles (Portuguese)	8,000	
SAMMAAR (street children)	5,000	
Muslim Team Development	10,000	
Siberia Team Ministry	15,000	
Kazakhstan Team Ministry	15,000	
China Seminary	50,000	
Field Development	5,000	
Urban - World Impact/Military Avenue	30,000	
Ethnic - Appalachia Project	5,000	
Missionary Project: Praying for Japan book (Walker)	9,000	
Missionary Project: Kazakhstan Field Apartment (Burns)	<u>10,000</u>	
Total:		330,500
GRAND TOTAL:		\$672,500

Christian Education and Publications Committee Report

The committee met twice during the 1995-96 Assembly year: September 28-30, 1995 and February 23-24, 1996. Committee members are Barbara Byron (Southeast), Elizabeth Hicks (Central South), Mark Hudson (Midwest) chairman, Barbara Mansfield (Midwest), Jim Miller (West), and Carolyn Nystrom (Mid-America).

Matters Referred from the 16th General Assembly:

The Christian Education and Publications Committee was 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 to the churches in a simplified form.

A task force composed of CE&P members Carolyn Nystrom and Elizabeth Hicks plus two theologians will meet following the 16th General Assembly to review the first curricula. The task force will evaluate three Christian Reformed Church materials, and develop a simplified evaluation form to assist churches to evaluate Christian Education material. In addition, a one-page task force statement of purpose will be developed by this task force.

Denominational Publications:

The fourth issue of *Reflections* is being published in time for Assembly. We rejoice with editor Donna Alberta over the reception and success of the first three issues of this upbeat, creative, and informative publication. Donna and the CE&P committee seem to have discovered just the right blend to appeal to our national membership.

As you remember from previous Assemblies, we have been asking for our own publication. Did we ever think it would look this great, express our family unity this well, and combine informative articles with news of the EPC plus just the right measure of theology? Thanks to all our contributors, columnists, staffers from the EPC office, guest writers, and EPC members who volunteered their own work. Indeed we can only hope that we can maintain the level Donna has set for the EPC.

During the past two years, the committee, with the help of our trusted editor, writers, the Christian Reformed Church publication house and distribution, have sent out approximately 30,000 magazines per issues to our churches at an average cost of \$16,000 per issues.



Mark Hudson, Chairman

The cost breakout for the first issues are this:

#1	35,000 copies	Cost: \$17,500 (Includes one-time design fee)
#2	30,000 copies	Cost: \$14,700
#3	31,000 copies	Cost: \$18,000

(includes 4 extra pages plus "pass the buck" insert)

For a minimum amount we have produced an excellent publication for every family of all our churches. In the third issue, we included a stapled envelope/request form for financial support called "Pass the Buck!" Individuals and church sessions can give one-time gifts or plan to Pass the Buck! annually by including *Reflections* in their budgets.

Our committee reviews each issues with editor Donna Alberta. We also plan future feature articles as well. At each meeting we review the entire past issue, working to improve the publication. The fourth issue will reach your church soon. Your continued encouragement, contribution of articles, financial support especially through your church budget, and quick distribution completes the cycle.

General Assembly:

A *Reflections* table will be placed in the exhibit area. Lay Renewal Ministries will display curriculum reviewed by the committee as well as the Scripture Press series, *Encouragers for Men*. These six books are men's small group material the committee recommends.

Topics under discussion:

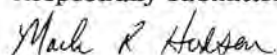
- Updating and rewriting the New Creation brochure
- Developing a men's ministry
- Expanding and improving our relationship with Lay Renewal
- Stewardship tracts.

Carolyn Nystrom was elected chairman for the Christian Education and Publications Committee for 1996-97. Projects dates for committee meetings are September 27-28, 1996, and February 28-March 1, 1997.

Recommendations:

1. That Editor Donna Alberta be allowed ten (10) minutes of floor time at the 16th General Assembly for a brief presentation on *Reflections*.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark R. Hudson, Chairman
June, 1996



COMMUNICATION 96-1

Evangelical Presbyterian Church

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

OFFICE OF THE CENTRAL ASSEMBLY

APPENDICES

June, 1996,

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. Nomination: Elder Orin Littlejohn, chairman, Board of Pension and Benefits.
2. Nominations: Nominating Committee, Class of 1999
Elder Kenneth Charles, Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic
Rev. Buck Oliphant, Presbytery of the Central South
Rev. Gerald Brundle, Presbytery of Mid-America
3. Appointment: Elder Zelda Artz, chairman, 1997 Nominating Committee

It is my blessing and privilege to place these names before the Assembly and in so doing, to commend these fine people for service to our denomination and to our Lord.

In Christ,

Wayne Hoffman, Moderator
15th General Assembly

COMMUNICATION 96-2

APPENDICES



CHRISTIAN
REFORMED
CHURCH
IN
NORTH
AMERICA

Rev. Leonard J. Hofman
Interchurch Relations
2237 Radcliffe Circle Drive, SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

January 4, 1996

Dr. L. Edward Davis, Stated Clerk
Evangelical Presbyterian Church
29140 Buckingham Avenue #5
Livonia, MI 48154-4572

Dear Brother Edward:

Greetings in this New Year in the name of our Lord!

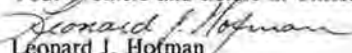
This letter is being sent to assure you that we have not failed to keep you and the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC) in mind in the weeks following the meetings in Philadelphia of the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council (NAPARC). We share with you our keen and deep disappointment in the decision of NAPARC to once more postpone the decision relative to admitting the EPC to membership.

We commend you and the representatives of the EPC who accompanied you for your thorough and patient presentation to NAPARC in connection with your application for membership. Both your insistence that you have a right to belong and your request for patience seemed well-stated and appropriate.

We want to encourage you in your desire to fulfill your ecumenical responsibilities and we express the hope that you will keep on pressing for membership. The relationship between the EPC and the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA) remains strong, and we cherish the continuation of our mutual ecclesiastical fellowship.

Looking forward to another year, and more, of Christian fellowship and cooperation, we are

Your brothers and sisters in Christ,


Leonard J. Hofman
Administrative Secretary

COMMUNICATION 96-3

EVANGELICAL
COUNCIL FOR
FINANCIAL
ACCOUNTABILITY

December 5, 1995



Dr. L. Edward Davis
Evangelical Presbyterian Church
29140 Buckingham Avenue #5
Livonia, MI 48154

Dear Dr. Davis:

It is my pleasure to inform you that your 1995 Annual Membership Review (AMR) has been approved. The Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) recognizes the resolve with which Evangelical Presbyterian Church continues to demonstrate and practice good faith compliance with the *ECFA Standards of Responsible Stewardship*.

The annual AMR required of all ECFA members is not to be taken lightly. It is the means by which ECFA is able to affirm your organization's commitment to financial excellence, Christian ethics, and accountability. The ECFA Review and Compliance staff take this responsibility very seriously, and approval of an AMR does not come until and unless compliance with each ECFA Standard is confirmed.

In 1995, ECFA will continue its commitment to serve its members and the donor public, consistent with the ECFA mission "to help Christ-centered evangelical nonprofit organizations earn the public's trust through their ethical practices and financial accountability." Be on the alert for information concerning ECFA's Regional Workshops; our one-day, no-frills conferences bringing valuable resources and information to our members' own "backyards." ECFA may conduct one in your area soon.

Please look over the enclosed update to your Member Profile and notify the ECFA office immediately if any changes are necessary.

May God richly bless you as you faithfully serve Him through the ministry of Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cindi Repass".

Cindi B. Repass
Director of Member Services

Enc.

APPENDICES



COMMUNICATION 96-4

IGLESIA
PRESBITERIANA
SAN ANDRES

APPENDICES

November 18, 1995

Committee On Administration
Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Dear brothers:

This short note is to thank you in a very, very special way for your kind invitation to participate during 1995 of the C.O.A meetings. I've enjoyed each minute of the time and I've learned a lot.

Thank you once again. I consider this experience as a real privilege.

God bless you all.

In His Service.

Aldo J. Fontao
Pastor

nar

COMMUNICATION 96-5

WORLD EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP

141 Middle Road, 05-05 GSM Bldg.
Singapore 188976
Fax: 65 338 3756

To: MEMBERS, WORLD EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP
From: AGUSTIN "Jun" B. VENCER, JR.
International Director, WEF
Subject: 10TH WEF GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Date: March 30, 1996

MEMORANDUM

APPENDICES

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. The theme is: THE WORLD FOR JESUS CHRIST: *Faith For The Future.*

Dates. This is to reconfirm to you that our 10th WEF GENERAL ASSEMBLY will be on May 8 (evening) to 15 (evening), 1997.

Venue: It will be held at the Central Heights Church, Abbotsford, British Columbia, Canada. Abbotsford, located about a two-hour drive from Vancouver, has about 107,000 population of whom 50% attend church on a Sunday.

Pre-GA Meetings. Preceding the General Assembly will be the GENERAL SECRETARIES' STRATEGIC CONSULTATION of Regional and National Evangelical Fellowship. It will start lunch of May 6 and ends afternoon of May 8.

The Commissions and Affiliate Bodies are planning also their respective pre-General Assembly meetings. Specifics will be announced later.

Accommodation. The cost of accommodation, board and lodging, is estimated to be around US\$30 (dormitory) and \$50 (hotel) a day per delegate on a two-person per room basis. Because delegates and guests pay their own accommodation, they are given an option to make a choice. They can request our Office for reservation ahead of time. A third option is to be billeted as guests in Christian homes in Abbotsford. Delegates from a Country may also request to be all accommodated on the same Dormitory or Hotel. It will be considered as space would allow.

Travel. Travel to Vancouver will be the responsibility of the delegates. Those flying in to Vancouver will be met at the Airport and will be brought to Abbotsford by bus. It is important therefore that our Office receive your flight information ahead of time.

Visa. Delegates and guests who need a visa to enter Canada may request our Office for a Letter of Invitation. Check with the Canadian Embassy in your Country for requirements. If you need further assistance, please contact our office.

Delegates. Our WEF By-laws says:

"Each Full Member shall be represented by not more than three delegates of such Full Member. Each Full Member shall have one vote. Full Member shall notify the International Director before commencement of business of the General Assembly who the voting delegates from the Full Members shall be."

The Associate Members shall designate their own delegates. They shall have voice in the General Assembly.

Guests may be allowed to attend the General Assembly, at their own cost, provided endorsed by a Member Body. The endorsement must be received by the Office at least three months before the Assembly.

What to bring: Bring your national flag and have a national costume with you.

Diet Restriction & Medical Problems. Please inform our Office of any diet or medical problems that you may have so that we can prepare for these and serve you better.

Sunday Service. We have a Speakers' Bureau who will try to make arrangement for delegates who would like to preach in a church on the Sunday of May 4, 11, & 18, 1997.

Update. Attached, as part of this Circular, is an Update on the 10th WEF General Assembly for further information. Regular Bulletins will be sent to you.

Agenda. During the General Assembly, we will receive reports from our Officers, discuss proposed Amendments to our By-laws, elect the members of our International Council, and such other item as may be presented to the Assembly.

On the election, the By-laws says:

"At each meeting of the General Assembly it shall elect at least eleven members of the International Council to serve until their successors have been elected. Such members shall so far as reasonably possible represent different regions. In addition, two Members-at-Large shall be elected to achieve a better representation of gender, age, ministry or other considerations which representation has not been achieved by the election of members already elected by region."

Please send to the International Director, suggested Agenda items for consideration by the Executive Committee.

Registration. The Registration Form will be sent to you along with the next Circular.

Please pray and plan to attend the General Assembly. Shalom.



COMMUNICATION 96-6

NORTH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN AND REFORMED COUNCIL

Dr. David H. Engelhard, Chairman
2850 Kalamazoo Ave. S.E.
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

The Rev. Jack C. Whytock, Vice Chairman
155 Charles Lutes Rd., Magnetic Hill RR #7,
Moncton, New Brunswick, CANADA E1C 8Z4

The Rev. Donald J. Duff, Secretary
Box P
Willow Grove, Pennsylvania 19090

The Rev. Robert A. Henning, Treasurer
3711 Premier Dr.
Columbus, IN 47203-9657

December 23, 1995

Evangelical Presbyterian Church
The Rev. L. Edward Davis, Stated Clerk
29140 Buckingham, Suite 5
Livonia, MI 48154

Dear Ed,

It was good to see you again at NAPARC. A few things have happened since then, not the least of them, the fact that a week after NAPARC I became a grandfather for the first time.

At NAPARC the following motion was passed:

That action on the motion to receive the Evangelical Presbyterian Church into membership in NAPARC be postponed to NAPARC 1996, and that the Secretary be requested to send to the interchurch relations committees of the member churches, a summary of past NAPARC actions concerning the EPC together with the response provided by the EPC to the Interim Committee on November 28, 1995 to the matters that NAPARC asked the EPC to "reconsider" at NAPARC 1988.

As Secretary I must do some research to fulfill this mandate. I wrote to you a letter on December 20, 1993 in which I tried to summarize how things seem to stand with regard to NAPARC and the EPC. You wrote a letter to NAPARC on November 1, 1994 and gave somewhat of a history of things. I have tried to use these letters and other material to put together a "summary of past NAPARC actions regarding the EPC."

I plan to write to the interchurch committees of the member churches of NAPARC somewhat as follows. Would you please look this over and let me know if it is accurate and if it needs more? =====

Summary of Past NAPARC Actions Concerning the Evangelical Presbyterian Church

In 1987 the Evangelical Presbyterian Church requested membership in NAPARC. The Council that year said the request came too late to deal with it but did ask the Interim Committee to make a report by August 15, 1988. At the meeting of the Council in 1988 there was a report and the Council "postponed with regret at this time" the application for membership asking the

EPC to reconsider three things in the light of Scripture and the Reformed Standards as well as the books of church order of the member churches. The three things were:

1. the continuance of such extraordinary gifts as prophecy and tongues;
2. the ordination of women to ruling and teaching office(s);
3. the changes in Chapter 24 of the Confession of Faith regarding divorce

At the meeting of the Council in 1990 there was a letter from the Evangelical Presbyterian Church dealing with questions asked of them by the Council. The Interim Committee seems to have had a discussion with representatives of the EPC but the EPC General Assembly had not replied to NAPARC. A motion was finally passed as follows:

That the Interim Committee be instructed to continue discussions with the Fraternal Relations Committee of the EPC over the next year in pursuance of their application for membership in NAPARC.

At the meeting of the Council in 1991 a letter was received from the Chairman of the Fraternal Relations Committee of the EPC saying the General Assembly had sent his letter to its Committee on Theology which "means that the application of the EPC for membership is effectively on hold until such time as our assembly fulfills the requirements of the interim committee." The Council received the letter for information.

At the meetings of the Council in 1992 and 1993 there were no further communications for the EPC regarding their application for membership. At the Nineteenth Meeting of NAPARC (November 10, 1993) the following motion was passed:

That the Council invite the Evangelical Presbyterian Church to reapply to NAPARC.

At the meeting of NAPARC in 1994 a communication was received from the Stated Clerk of the EPC stating he was unable to attend the meeting. He referred to the action taken in 1990 in which the Interim Committee was "to continue discussion with the Fraternal Relations Committee of the EPC" and said "In the years following the above, turn over of committee chairmanship has made further communications somewhat more difficult." The Stated clerk proposed going back to the motion of 1990 and having a meeting of the Interim Committee and the Fraternal Relations Committee of the EPC. This was done on November 28, 1995 and the Interim Committee recommended to the Council the following "

That the Interim Committee put on the docket of NAPARC 1995, without a recommendation for or against, the following:

That NAPARC approve the application of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church for membership and that constitutional procedures be followed.

This motion was made at the NAPARC meeting on November 29, 1995 and then a procedural motion was passed as follows:

That action on the motion to receive the Evangelical Presbyterian Church into membership in NAPARC be postponed to NAPARC 1996, and that the Secretary be requested to send to the interchurch relations committees of the member churches, a

summary of past NAPARC actions concerning the EPC together with the response provided by the EPC to the Interim Committee on November 28, 1995 to the matters that NAPARC asked the EPC to "reconsider" at NAPARC 1988.

At the meeting of the Interchurch Relations Committee of the EPC and the Interim Committee of NAPARC as well as the meeting with NAPARC itself the following information was given:

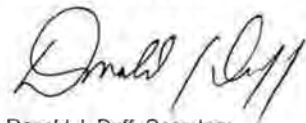
1. A one page paper entitled "Report of Theology Committee, 12th General Assembly, June 26, 1992.
2. A pamphlet entitled "Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage."
3. A Packet containing:
 - a. Position Paper on the Holy Spirit
 - b. Position Paper on the Ordination of Women
 - c. Position Paper on Homosexuality
 - d. Position Paper on Abortion
 - e. Position Paper on Aids/HIV
 - f. Position Paper on Value of and Respect for Human Life
 - g. The Essentials
 - h. Questions asked most often about the Evangelical Presbyterian Church
 - i. Who We Are Distinctives of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church
 - j. Women's Ministries
 - k. A New Creation The Evangelical Presbyterian Church
 - l. Evangelical Presbyterian Church Youth Ministries

Delegates to NAPARC should have received this information. There may not have been enough to go around to all delegates but I would hope at least one delegate from each member church received this information and can make it available to the interchurch relations committee of his church. If you do not have this material or you need additional pieces let me know and I will get it for you from the EPC.

Please remember that NAPARC 1995 essentially put on the docket for NAPARC 1996 the question concerning the application of membership of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. Please be sure to have all the materials you need to study ahead of time and be prepared to vote on this matter in 1996.

Let me know what I need to add or subtract from this letter. I will hold off sending it out until I hear from you. I trust you will have a good Christmas and may the lord bless you in the coming New Year.

Yours in Christ's service,



Donald J. Duff, Secretary



COMMUNICATION 96-7

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 26, 1996

TO: EPC Ministers
FROM: Edward Davis, Stated Clerk *ed*
RE: Service Forms and Acts of the Assembly

Enclosed you will find this year's edition of the **Acts of the Assembly**, to be included in your *Book of Order*. This document includes actions of the Assembly through the 15th General Assembly (1995).

Also enclosed are the new **Service Forms**, published by the Committee on Christian Education and Publications. These provide some guidance and suggestions on conducting the various special services of the congregation - the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, the reception of new members, and the ordination and installation of ministers, ruling elders, and deacons. These should be placed behind the "Forms" tab in your *Book of Order*.

COMMUNICATION 96-8

PREFACE to the SERVICE FORMS

The Service Forms which follow are offered for guidance. They cover many of the main recurring worship experiences in the life of our congregations. As far as has been practical, their wording is taken from the constitutional documents of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, supplemented where necessary from the broader Reformed tradition. Incidental instructions are printed in italics within the forms.

The Christian Education and Publications Committee, which compiled the forms, hopes that in some measure these will also contribute to the wider ministry of Christian education. Through the use of the "ordination preamble" in the services of ordination and installation of officers, for example, worshipers will hear a brief summary of the doctrine of the church and of ordained office.

We welcome your input and comments concerning these Service Forms.



Dr. L. Edward Davis
Stated Clerk
Evangelical Presbyterian Church

January, 1996

March 19, 1996

Dr. L. Edward Davis
Evangelical Presbyterian Church
29140 Buckingham Ave. #5
Livonia, MI 48154-4572

National Office:
450 Gunderson Drive
Carol Stream, IL 60188
Phone: 708-665-0500
Fax: 708-665-8575
E-mail: NAE@xc.ing

Don Argue, Ed.D.
President

Dear Ed:

I am joining with the co-chairs of the Religious Alliance Against Pornography (RAAP), to invite you to participate in an important private summit of senior United States religious leaders in Washington, D.C., November 21-22, 1996.

RAAP is an inter-faith alliance of religious leaders which was founded in 1986. Members include senior representatives of the Protestant, Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, Jewish and Mormon communities dedicated to the elimination of illegal hard-core and child pornography, which are not protected by the First Amendment. Collectively, RAAP has been deeply involved in helping guide efforts to address these issues responsibly. We have found that these materials contribute to a host of other problems, including sexual violence against women, disintegrating family life, child prostitution and child molestation. Thankfully, we have also been blessed to enjoy some measure of success in heightening the awareness of our faith groups and educating public policy leaders about the seriousness of these problems. Our overriding objective as religious leaders has been to combat the evil of this pornography through education and motivation. We know you share our deep concerns in this area.

Sadly, illegal pornography is now a multi-billion dollar per year industry which markets sexually explicit material, and often depicts violence toward women and children in its products. Such horrendous materials increasingly enjoy extraordinary distribution worldwide (including children) through new technologies and the Internet. The United States has become the primary supplier of abusive pornography to the rest of the world.

In the midst of this worsening situation, the enforcement of child exploitation and obscenity laws is becoming an increasingly difficult and challenging task. New technologies, while offering a host of promising features for society, also facilitate easier trafficking in children and women. Nations and their citizens are now debating whether the burden of protecting children from pornography rests exclusively with parents or whether the law has a significant role to play as a disincentive to abusive behavior. Many of these debates reflect new cultural shifts in attitudes, new forms of complex communications media, and a growing ambivalence on the part of many citizens towards exploitation of their fellow humans. As religious leaders, we have a responsibility to educate persons of faith for productive participation in these moments of cultural uncertainty.

Moreover, the problem of pornography and its attendant societal impact in human relationships will continue to worsen without massive educational and motivational efforts on the part of faith groups. If cultural attitudes toward pornography are to change, we believe that initially, they can

be changed most easily within the faith communities where there is a common commitment for human dignity and *against* exploitation. The problem of sexual exploitation cries out for deeper moral discussion and for citizens with a heightened awareness of their communal *responsibilities* as an essential partner to their private *rights*.

In the midst of this cultural uncertainty, we believe it is essential to hold an invitation-only summit of United States religious leaders. The summit will provide concrete educational resources for use in faith groups, opportunities for private debate and discussion of complex issues, opportunities for collective public action, and with God's blessing, an increased commitment to addressing this problem as a priority within faith communities -- on the part of both senior leaders and the grass-roots level. We will start on the evening of November 21 with dinner, concluding in the late afternoon of November 22.

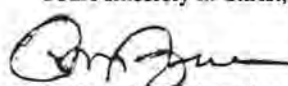
We believe you need to be an essential participant in this summit, and thus hope you are able to accept our personal invitation. The strong participation of the evangelicals, along with main-line Protestant, Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, Jewish and Mormon communities in the national conference will be important to its success.

We have enclosed a copy of the summit background and goals, as well as a registration form for your use. We would be grateful if you let us know as soon as possible if you will be able to join us and help bring needed leadership to our efforts. One of us will be calling in the next few weeks to answer any questions you may have about the summit.

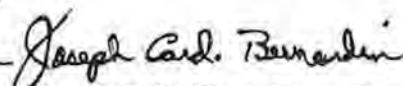
We look forward to the prospect of discussing these complex and troublesome issues together as we work to eliminate this scourge throughout the world.

We are,

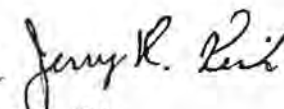
Yours sincerely in Christ,



Dr. Don Argue, President
National Association
of Evangelicals



Joseph Cardinal Bernardin
Archbishop of Chicago
Co-Chairperson, RAAP



Dr. Jerry R. Kirk
President, Natl. Coalition for the
Protection of Children & Families
Co-Chairperson, RAAP



COMMUNICATION 96-10

IGREJA PRESBITERIANA DO BRASIL
 Presidência do Supremo Concílio

May 2, 1996.

To
 Dr. Edward Davis, Stated Clerk
 Evangelical Presbyterian Church
 29140 Buckingham Ave, Suite 5
 Livonia, MI 48154
 U.S.A.

Dear Brother and friend,

This is to express deep appreciation for Rev. Wayne Hoffman's visit. It was very positive and meaningful to our partnership. His message before the Executive Board was outstanding. His preaching at the Presbyterian Cathedral caused a tremendous impact. Many responses over the radio. Praise God!

Herewith you find our Journal Brasil Presbiteriano. Wayne is in the front page.


I want you, please, to indicate when in October will be the most convenient dates for the JCM to meet.

There will be a meeting of our CRIE in early June. I wonder if we can have the dates by then.

The books you sent were given to the Seminaries library and received with joy and gratitude.

Thank you always.

In Christ,


 Rev. Guilhermino Cunha
 Moderator

"Unidade no essencial; liberdade nos não-essenciais; caridade em tudo".

Rua Silva Jardim, 23 - Centro
 Rio de Janeiro, RJ - CEP 20.050-060

Tel. (021) 240-8466
 Tel. (021) 262-2330

Fax (021) 240-8374
 Fax (021) 220-4805



COMMUNICATION 96-11

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 24, 1996

Reverend Guilhermino Cuhna
Moderator
Igreja Presbiteriana Do Brasil
Rua Silva Jardim, 23 - Centro
Rio de Janeiro, RJ - CEP 20.050.060

My dear brother,

Thank you for your correspondence of May 2; it speaks with the warmth that is so much a reflection of your heart.

I appreciate and thank you for the enclosed information. We further accept your appreciation for Moderator Hoffman's visit. The Evangelical Presbyterian Church is unusually blessed with a variety of men highly gifted by the Lord.

Regarding the dates for the forthcoming JCM, permit me to reconfirm the dates agreed to last October - October 17 through 19 of this year. These are the dates on which we are planning. Please confirm their continuing acceptability to you. The persons coming this fall will most likely be Richard Ostreicher, Bill Johns and Perry Mobley. More on all of this later.

God bless you dear brother as you stay faithful to Him and provide leadership to your outstanding church.

In Christ,

Dr. Edward Davis
Stated Clerk

cab

COMMUNICATION 96-12

May 6, 1996

Dr. L. Edward Davis
Stated Clerk
Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Dear Dr. Davis:

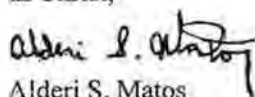
I am writing in order to express my deep appreciation to you and to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church for the generous financial assistance granted to me during my doctoral studies in Boston.

Right now I am working hard to complete my dissertation so that I can graduate by the end of next September. I am looking forward to my return to Brazil and the beginning of my teaching activities at the Jumper Graduate School of Theology.

I have the impression that my current sustentation is confirmed until June. If that is the case, I respectfully request that it be extended for an additional quarter, that is, until the end of my studies in September.

Thank you again for your valued support. May the Lord bless you abundantly in your work for His church.

In Christ,



Alder S. Matos

27 Albion Street
Somerville, MA 02143
(617) 623-1467



COMMUNICATION 96-14

Fidelity Investments® Tax-Exempt Services Company

A division of Fidelity Investments Institutional Services Company, Inc.

82 Devonshire Street, M3J
Boston, MA 02109-3614
(508) 787-7171 (800) 841-3363
Fax (508) 480-0921

Richard G. Malconian
President

June 3, 1996

Mr. Edward Davis
Evangelical Presbyterian Church
29140 Buckingham Avenue
Suite 5
Livonia, MI 48154

Dear Mr. Davis,

It is likely you have already heard the news about some recent portfolio manager changes at Fidelity Investments®. It is very important to us that you know all the details about these changes and understand how Fidelity is taking the greatest care in making sure the realignment of portfolio managers is seamless.

The announcement made to the press on Thursday, May 23 talked about a number of portfolio manager changes. One of the major changes is that Bob Stansky, current manager of Fidelity Growth Company and Fidelity Advisor Equity Growth Fund, and Leader of Fidelity Growth Group, will be taking over Fidelity Magellan Fund. He will replace Jeff Vinik who is stepping down from this position to start his own money management company. These changes are effective as of June 3, 1996.

Within the next several days, a notification will go out to your plan participants. To help answer any questions they may have, we have enclosed a fact sheet that provides you with the biographies of the portfolio managers and their new assignments.

I hope you find this information helpful. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us. Our Retirement Specialists at 1-800-343-0860, are available to answer your participants' questions. As always, we're committed to working in tandem with you to achieve the very best results for retirement investors.

Sincerely,

Richard G. Malconian

For more complete information about Fidelity mutual funds, including fees and expenses, call for free fund prospectuses. Please read them carefully before you make your investment choices.

FIDELITY INVESTMENTS PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT REASSIGNMENTS

For your information, we have listed below the major changes to Fidelity's portfolio management team. These changes will become effective June 3, 1996. We have also included biographies of the fund managers with new assignments.

If your participants have any questions, please encourage them to call our Retirement Specialists at 1-800-343-0860. They are available from 8am to 8pm (ET) Monday through Friday.

Fund or Area	Manager as of 6/3/96	Current Manager
Magellan® Fund	Bob Stansky	Jeff Vinik
Growth Company Fund	Larry Greenberg	Bob Stansky
Retirement Growth Fund	Fergus Shiel	Michael Gordon
Trend Fund	Abby Johnson	Fergus Shiel
OTC Portfolio	Charles Mangum	Abby Johnson
Convertible Securities Fund	Robert Bertelson	Charles Mangum
Growth Group Leader	John McDowell	Bob Stansky

Robert E. Stansky

New Assignment: Magellan Fund

Bob Stansky currently manages Fidelity Growth Company Fund, Fidelity Advisor Equity Growth Fund, and Fidelity Venture Equity Trust, which is an insurance annuity trust. Mr. Stansky is also the Growth Fund Group Leader.

Mr. Stansky joined Fidelity in 1983 as a research analyst and subsequently became a research assistant for Fidelity Magellan Fund from 1984 to 1987. After that, he managed Fidelity Select Defense and Aerospace Portfolio and Fidelity Emerging Growth Fund. Mr. Stansky was named to his current funds: Fidelity Growth Company Fund as well as Fidelity Advisor Equity Portfolio: Growth in 1987. He began managing Fidelity Venture Equity Trust when it was launched in 1991. Mr. Stansky became the Growth Fund Group Leader in March 1996.

Before joining Fidelity, Mr. Stansky was a research assistant in the Fixed Income Department of Kidder, Peabody & Company.

Born in 1955, Mr. Stansky received a Bachelor of Science degree in 1978 from Nichols College in Dudley, Massachusetts, and an MBA from New York University in 1983. Mr. Stansky is also a Certified Public Accountant.



Art Gay

COMMUNICATION 96-15

February 14, 1996

Rev. L. Edward Davis
Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Committee on World Outreach
29140 Buckingham Street, No.5
Livonia, MI 48154

Dear Edward,

Thank you, Evangelical Presbyterian Church, for such generous support of World Relief in 1995. In order to express our appreciation, I would like to honor you with our Open Hands award at this year's National Association of Evangelicals convention.

The convention will be held in Minneapolis from March 3-5, 1996. We will be presenting Open Hands Awards to you and to other friends who have provided a generous level of support to World Relief in 1995. On Monday night, March 4, a short ceremony will immediately follow that evening's public session, which is scheduled to begin at 7:00 and end at 8:45. Luis Palau will be delivering the night's message.

I hope that you, or your representative, will be able to attend this presentation. It is an expression of our deep gratitude for your support -- and a thank you for your partnership with World Relief.

With deep gratitude,

Art Gay
President

P.O. Box WRC
Wheaton, Illinois 60189

Phone: 708-665-0235
TLX: 3729253 FAX: 708-653-8023

NAE PRESS RELEASE

National Association of Evangelicals, P.O. Box 28, Wheaton, IL 60189
Phone: 708-665-0500; FAX: 708-665-8575; Email: NAE@xc.org; WWW: <http://nae.goshen.net>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(photo available)

Contact: Maxine Hummel
708-665-0500

NEW NAE CHAIRMAN

Leonard Hofman Named Chairman of National Association of Evangelicals

CAROL STREAM, Ill.—Leonard Hofman was elected chairman of the board of the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) at the association's 54th annual convention in Minneapolis, Minn., on March 4, 1996. He serves as general secretary emeritus of the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA) and as administrative secretary of Interchurch Relations for the CRCNA. Hofman and his wife, Elaine, have four children—three daughters and a son—and 11 grandchildren.

Hofman served as the general secretary of the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA) from 1990 to 1994. His years of service in the CRCNA have included secretary of the Board of Trustees of Calvin College and Seminary, chair of the Synodical Interim Committee, an officer of the general synod, and the stated clerk from 1982 to 1990. Hofman received degrees from Calvin College and Calvin Theological Seminary in Grand Rapids, Mich., and pastored five Christian Reformed churches from 1951 through 1982.

During his years as a member and officer of the board and executive committee of NAE, Hofman has chaired the membership committee, the awards committee, the bylaws committee, and co-chaired the search committee for the current president of NAE. In 1994 he was program coordinator for NAE's 52nd annual convention in Dallas/Fort Worth which focused the association's attention on the theme, "God's Truth Transforms."

At the NAE closing banquet, after the passing of the gavel from outgoing NAE chairman David Rambo (Christian and Missionary Alliance), Hofman included the following in his remarks to the convention:

"According to the Statement of Vision of the NAE, we have taken a *stand* and have been given a *voice*. Not a voice that will clamor for attention alongside of the divergent currents of our time, but a prophetic voice that calls people back to God and to salvation in Jesus Christ. ...

... Sensing the presence of the Spirit of God among us and within us, may we be empowered to confront the all opposing voices with a bold witness, confident that our God will supply all our need according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus, as though he is saying to a nation and a world, through us, 'Be still and know that I am God,' and 'O, be reconciled to God.' ...

... Carrying forward the hopes and aspirations of those who walked with and before me, I appeal to you as fellow Christians to build and bring forward a National Association of Evangelicals, constituted of young people and older, of women and men, people of every culture or ethnic background, that speaks to our time and our tomorrows with an Evangel that warns, and cuts, and heals, and brings hope. In this age of information may we be found on the front lines of technology, occupying a place in cyberspace with Good News that is right on line."

NAE is comprised of approximately 42,500 congregations nationwide from 47 member denominations and individual congregations from an additional 26 denominations, as well as several hundred independent churches. The membership of the association includes 245 parachurch ministries and educational institutions. Through the cooperative ministry of these members, NAE directly and indirectly benefits over 27 million people.

COMMUNICATION 96-17



World
Fellowship
of Reformed
Churches

K. Eric Perrin,
President

Ramiro Laureano G.,
Vice President
(Mexico)

Ludgero B. Morals,
Vice President
(Brazil)

Harm Cruz F.,
Executive Director
for Latin America

Abner Lopez P.
Paul R. Gilchrist,
Secretary

Cecilio N. Lajara,
Wilson S. Lopes
Treasurer

December 22, 1995

Mr. Paul Heidebrecht
Emmanuel Presbyterian Church
29 W 260 Batavia Road
Warrenville, IL 60555

Dear Paul:

Thank you for your kind note of December 7. I was delighted to have the opportunity to meet you and the others at the NAPARC meeting. I left that meeting with a great deal of frustration over NAPARC's response to the EPC. It is something that I have a hard time understanding.

I hope I will be able to do a bit of talking behind the scenes to discover if there is any realistic hope of NAPARC receiving the EPC next year. At this moment, it seems remote, but it might be possible. One can never tell.

At any rate, I appreciate your interest in the World Fellowship of Reformed Churches. With this letter I am enclosing two reports, one of our recent trip to Chiapas, Mexico and the other of the organization of the Latin American fellowship as a branch of WFRC. This will be helpful information for your committee. I hope that God will lead us to closer relations with regard to the World Fellowship. Perhaps in that way we can go on to new levels of cooperation and mutual ministry that NAPARC would never permit us to do.

May God bless you in this Christmas season.

For Christ's Kingdom,

K. Eric Perrin
President

Enc: Chiapas Report & CLIR
cc: L. Edward Davis

For * Immediate * Release
NEW ORGANIZATION UNITES
LATIN AMERICAN PRESBYTERIANS

APPENDICES

A new fellowship of Presbyterian and Reformed churches in Latin America was formed in Miami during the last week in September. Twenty-eight participants representing eleven nations and fourteen denominations, composed of over two million members, met at the Shenandoah Presbyterian Church (PCA) and officially constituted the *Confraternidad Latinoamericana de Iglesias Reformadas (C.L.I.R.)*. C.L.I.R. is the South American branch of the World Fellowship of Reformed Churches (WFRC).

The World Fellowship of Reformed Churches is a network of evangelical Presbyterian and Reformed denominations, a joint creation of The Presbyterian Church in America, The National Presbyterian Church of Mexico and The Presbyterian Church of Brazil. "The World Fellowship is not a council or a tight organization in the traditional model," says K. Eric Perrin, President of the WFRC and Chairman of the PCA's Interchurch Relations Committee. "Rather, we have attempted to create a fellowship that would be a catalyst to connect those who have ministry resources with those who have few resources but who possess vision for evangelism, missions, church planting and training pastors." Perrin said there are ministries, institutions and congregations who have the ability and desire to be involved in ministry, but those who could most benefit don't know how to get in touch. "We exist to empower God's people through cooperation and partnership."

At the C.L.I.R. meeting, significant time was given to the various denominations to share their vision, needs and available resources. The participants met in regional groups and planned how they could cooperate with each other. "Nothing like this has happened before among evangelical Presbyterians in Latin America," Perrin says. One of the greatest needs expressed is for training and educational materials. Several American ministries operating in Latin America were present including Sola Fide, Evangelism Explosion, Logoi, Spanish House Publishers and World Literature Ministries of the Christian Reformed Church. In addition, participants were exposed to opportunities available through Knox Seminary, Covenant Seminary and the Daniel Iverson Study Center. Many of the C.L.I.R. denominations operate seminaries and the participants exchanged information with each other.

In addition, resources for church planting were presented. The PCA's Mission to the World has a cooperative agreement with The National Presbyterian Church of Mexico to help train church planters and is working out cooperative efforts with the Brazilians. However, "Partnership is part of what we want to encourage among the Latin American denominations themselves," Perrin said. Steps in that direction were taken at the meeting. At the C.L.I.R. meeting, four commissions were established: Church Planting; Leadership and Discipleship; Resources and Ministries; and, Theology. The commissions will be participating in seminars scheduled next year in Chiapas, Mexico. The Brazilians have sent missionaries to several Latin American countries and have begun working with other Presbyterians in those nations.

In the past year, WFRC enabled Covenant College President Frank Brock to do an education seminar in Brazil. The World Fellowship also sponsored pastor training seminars in Costa Rica.

In an attempt to address issues of religious intolerance, C.L.I.R. and the World Fellowship accepted an invitation from the Communications Secretariat of Mexico, a consortium of seventeen Mexican denominations, to attend a high-level meeting in the Mexican State of Chiapas this November. Eleven thousand refugees, 9000 of whom are Presbyterian evangelicals, have been driven from their homes in Chiapas in recent months. World Fellowship leaders plan to meet with the Governor of Chiapas and the Roman Catholic Bishop Samuel Ruiz, and appeal for social justice for evangelical believers.

Participants at the C.L.I.R. meeting included: The National Presbyterian Church of Mexico; The Reformed Presbyterian Church of Mexico; The Presbyterian Church of Brazil; The National Presbyterian Church of Chile; The Evangelical and Reformed Presbyterian Church of Peru; The Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Guatemala; Christian Reformed denominations in Puerto Rico, Honduras, Costa Rica and El Salvador; a Reformed Baptist from Cuba; and, The Presbyterian Church in America.

Officers of the World Fellowship of Reformed Churches and C.L.I.R. include: K. Eric Perrin (USA); Ramiro Laureano (Mexico); Abner Lopez (Mexico); Harim Cruz (Mexico); Ludgero Morais (Brazil); Paul Gilchrist (USA); Cecilio Lajara (USA); and others from various nations. In addition to the ten Latin American countries present in Miami, C.L.I.R. has strong interest from Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador and Bolivia. It is well on the way to becoming the largest organization of Reformed believers in Latin America.

WFRC plans to expand to other parts of the world as means and opportunity permit. Perrin says the World Fellowship has numerous contacts from Reformed churches around the world. Now that C.L.I.R. has been firmly established, WFRC will proceed with expanding the network in other areas. WFRC is associated with the World Evangelical Fellowship which has national evangelical associations in 104 countries.



Community Evangelical Presbyterian Church

March 10, 1996

Evangelical Presbyterian Church
29140 Buckingham Ave., Suite 5
Livonia MI 48154

Dear Commissioners of the General Assembly:

I attended the 1995 Synod meeting of the Christian Reformed Church held in Grand Rapids. The Fraternal Relations Committee and General Synod gave me a warm welcome as is their custom. In addition, I spoke briefly with Dr. David Englehard, the CRC General Secretary.

I found the overall atmosphere a little better then last year. However, the Synod still appears to be divided over the women's ordination issue. This year's Synod reversed the 1994 Synod by allowing women to teach and preach. This was done by circumventing their Book of Order. It was a solid victory for the proponents of woman's ordination. The vote was 112 - 66 to accept the majority report. Many who were in opposition expressed to me that they were caught off guard. It is clear that the opposition will mount another offensive during the upcoming year. Their argument will be centered upon the 1995 Synod's "violation" of the CRC Book of Order regarding the word "male."

Some expressed to me that the women's ordination question is now laid to rest. However, judging from the interaction in the dining hall, I doubt if this conclusion is warranted.

The Synod discussed a variety of issues during their deliberation, but everything was overshadowed by the women's ordination question. Therefore, it remains the centerpiece of my report, as it was last year.

I recommend the EPC continue to hold this historic church up in prayer. Having been in attendance two years in a row, I can see that this division is not going to be healed any time soon. Even though the Synod of 1995 has resolved the issue on paper, this observer still sees the probability of polarization in the future. We should continue to remain faithful in our prayers for them.

Don E. Galardi

COMMUNICATION 96-19



National Office
450 Gundersen Drive
Carol Stream, IL 60188
Phone: 708-665-0500
Fax: 708-665-8575
E-mail: NAE@xc.org

Don Argue, Ed.D.
President

APPENDICES

June 6, 1996

Dr. L. Edward Davis
Evangelical Presbyterian Church
29140 Buckingham Ave., #5
Livonia, MI 48154-4572

Dear Dr. Davis:

Greetings to all in attendance at the meeting of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Denver, Colorado, June 20-22, 1996. The Evangelical Presbyterian Church and the National Association of Evangelicals have worked together for years. As God leads, the future is very optimistic!

We congratulate Dr. L. Edward Davis on his election as secretary of NAE. I know he will serve with distinction.

The United States has lost its moral compass. The seeds of moral relativism sown in the 1960's have now come to harvest. The Old Testament prophet, Isaiah, warned that there would come a day when people would call right as though it were wrong and things that are obviously wrong as though they are right.

In spite of the great decline in moral values, there are powerful indicators that we are on the verge of great renewal in the nation. God has always called his people to work together with a united voice (John 13:34-35, John 17:20-23).


When the church comes together, the world takes notice. When we are separate, the enemy rejoices.

I am pleased to report that we are seeing unprecedented cooperative efforts among evangelicals. Renewal is happening!

Due to previous commitments, I am not able to be in attendance with you at this meeting.

On behalf of NAE - our executive officers, Board of Directors, 49 member denominations, 43,000 churches and 297 para-church ministries, we send our warmest Christian greetings to all delegates and friends in attendance.

Blessings, your friend,


Don Argue
President

OVERTURE 96-A

Presbytery of St. Andrew's

FAX DATE April 17th 1996
FROM Juan Jose Mejias - Stated Clerk
TO Ed. Davies - Stated Clerk EPC Office.

TO THE OFFICE of the
 GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the
 EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 Stated Clerk: Dr. Ed. Davies

The Presbytery of St. Andrews met on Saturday 13th of April and decided to present before the General Assembly the following

OVERTURE

In order to help the development of the churches which are at the moment out of bounds (since their pastors are about to become members of our Presbytery), an extension of the limits is requested.

Such an extension would include the provinces of Entre Rios y Santa Fe, added to the existing province of Buenos Aires.

When this extension has developed, it is our hope that this province should form part of a new presbytery, that of the "Litoral".

REASONS

- At the moment Rev. Roberto Rodriguez Aliaga is in charge of a Mission Church in the city of Concepcion, province of Entre Rios 200 miles north from Buenos Aires. He will be under examination to be part of St. Andrew's Presbytery on May 17th next.
- Pastor Antonio Gomez, in Rosario 100 miles north-west of Buenos Aires, is in charge of a church in that city and in good fellowship with us. Three daughter churches are arising dependant on this ministry.
- The above named stated that a direct relation with our Presbytery would be source of great trust and comfort. They asked for their inclusion within the bounds.
- The Presbytery dealt with the possibility of a Mission Presbytery but voted the request for the extension.



OVERTURE 96-B

PRESBYTERY OF THE WEST

11373 East Alameda Avenue

Aurora, Colorado 80012

Telephone (303) 364-7271

May 18, 1996

Memo To: General Assembly Office
Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Subject: Overture to amend by substitution an Act of the General Assembly, EPC.

The Presbytery of the West has unanimously approved the following overture to amend Acts of the General Assembly 93-17, by substituting the following:

Overture:

Amend, by substitution Acts of Assembly 93-17 to read as follows:

"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 not the standard of belief for candidates, ordination, or ministerial exams. While its doctrinal affirmations are taken from the Westminster Confession of Faith, it is not a substitute for the WCF. The "Essentials of Faith" is to be affirmed in addition to the Westminster Confession of Faith."

JUSTIFICATION:

- 1.) The EPC is a vibrant denomination, and its potential witness within the broader family of American Presbyterianism is both promising and needed. While the intention of Acts of the Assembly 93-17 was to clarify the relationship between the Westminster confession of Faith and the "Essentials of the Faith," the effect of that Act has been to create tension and divisiveness within our church, which hurts our witness for Jesus Christ. Among the problems with 93-17:
 - a. It declares that "The Essentials of the Faith" is "not a part of the Constitution." However, the fourth ordination vow for Teaching Elders, Ruling Elders and Deacons (in Book of Government 14-1A.4 and 14-1E.4), refers to the "Essentials of the Faith," thereby placing the "Essentials" in the Constitution.
 - b. The statement "The Essentials are to be subscribed to in addition to the full WCF," goes a step further than the third ordination question ("Do you sincerely receive and adopt the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Catechisms of this Church, as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures?" Book of Government 14-1A.3 and 14-1E.3), and therefore alters the Constitution.

- 2.) The overture, as stated, is consistent with the Constitution of the church, and properly clarifies:
- a. the relationship of the Westminster Confession of Faith and the "Essentials of the Faith," and,
 - b. their respective roles in the ordination and installation of officers in the church.

This proposed overture is forwarded for consideration at the 16th General Assembly meeting, June 20-22, 1996.

In His Service,


Claude E. Russell Jr.
Stated Clerk



OVERTURE 96-C

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

The Presbytery of the Southeast, in its 38th Stated Meeting, May 11, 1996, voted to overture the 16th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church to change the Book of Order to coincide with "The Essentials of the Faith" as follows:

WHEREAS, the Book of Order of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church cites historically held distinguishing marks of the true church in its opening chapter (BOG 1-1 through 1-5) by defining "*the true Church catholic ...invisible and visible;*" with the "*visible Church*" being "*...bound together in its essential unity where scriptural discipline is practiced, where the Word is rightly proclaimed and where the sacraments are properly observed.*" with these marks described as "*fundamental integrity*" by which professing groups "*shall be recognized as true parts of the Church*," and

WHEREAS, "The Essentials of the Faith" of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church add to these marks of the true church when they state in paragraph 5 that "*The true Church ...finds her visible, yet imperfect, expression in local congregations where the Word of God is preached in its purity and the sacraments are administered in their integrity; where scriptural discipline is practiced, and where loving fellowship is maintained,*" and

WHEREAS, The Book of Order and The Essentials of the Faith of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church do not consistently describe the essential identifying marks of the true Church, because the latter adds to the criteria "*...where loving fellowship is maintained,*" and

WHEREAS, when Christ spoke of what men ought to observe in His followers (the church), He made it clear that "*love*" (John 13:34, 35), and "*unity*" (John 17:14-26) would be special marks;

THEREFORE, The Presbytery of the Southeast recommends that The Book of Order, BOG 1-5, be changed to coincide with The Essentials of the Faith, as follows:

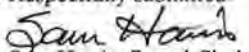
Current wording of BOG 1-5:

"The Visible Church, though more or less divided and obscured, is bound together in its essential unity where scriptural discipline is practiced, where the Word is rightly proclaimed, and where the sacraments are properly observed. Such groups who maintain this fundamental integrity of the Church shall be recognized as true parts of the Church, the Body of the Lord Jesus Christ on earth "

Proposed wording of BOG 1-5:

"The Visible Church, though more or less divided and obscured, is bound together in its essential unity where scriptural discipline is practiced, where the Word is rightly proclaimed, ~~and~~ where the sacraments are properly observed, *and where loving fellowship is maintained*. Such groups who ~~maintain~~ *demonstrate* this fundamental integrity of the Church shall be recognized as true parts of the Church, the Body of the Lord Jesus Christ on earth."

Respectfully submitted:


Sam Harris, Stated Clerk

Presbytery of the Southeast



OVERTURE 96-D

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

Overture to the 16th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Whereas: The Evangelical Presbyterian Church has taken a Pro-life stance since its inception, and

Whereas: According to Scripture, human life begins at conception (Psalm 139:13 - 16), and

Whereas: The President of the United States has vetoed the "Partial Birth Abortion Ban," overwhelmingly passed by Congress,

Therefore: We overture the 16th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church to go on record as opposing, in the strongest possible terms, the President's veto of the "Partial Birth Abortion Ban," and urge Congress to override his veto. Furthermore, that our denomination communicate its stand on this issue to the President, the Vice-President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Majority Leader of the U. S. Senate.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sam Harris, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of the Southeast

Approved by the Presbytery of the Southeast, at its 38th Stated Meeting,
May 12, 1996, Knoxville, TN.



OVERTURE 96-E

Evangelical Presbyterian Church

PRESBYTERY OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

Llew Fischer, Stated Clerk

October 27, 1995

Presbytery approved the following overture for consideration by the 16th General Assembly:

Whereas, BG 12-2 H. sets forth authority to the presbyteries to determine additional educational requirements, if any, for candidates seeking ordination under extra-ordinary circumstances; and,

Whereas, Act of Assembly 82.07, specifies that "All exceptions to fulfilling standards for ordination (extra-ordinary circumstances) will be referred to permanent Committee on Ministerial Vocation for a recommended course of action, including continuing education and reading requirements"; and,

Whereas, Act of Assembly 82.07, paragraph 3, is in conflict with BG 12-2 H.; and,

Whereas, this situation has been a source of extended discussion with expressions of dissatisfaction during a number of presbytery meetings over the years, especially centering on the protracted time that elapses from the time application is made to the HVC until the candidate is informed of additional education which must be completed prior to being considered for ordination;

Whereas, it is recognized that in the early years the Ministerial Committees of the presbytery were gaining experience in dealing with the functions of office; however, these committees have matured and some are now capable of determining educational requirements while still maintaining the high standards of ministers ordained in the EPC;

Therefore, this Presbytery overtures the General Assembly to modify paragraph 3 of Act of Assembly 82.07 to read;

"All exceptions to fulfilling standards for ordination (extraordinary circumstances) may be referred to permanent committee on Ministerial Vocation for a recommended course of action including continuing education and reading requirements. The Presbytery of jurisdiction may, in conjunction with the Committee on Ministerial Vocation;

- 3-1. Mail necessary documentation (personal history, etc.) to the permanent committee for its review and counsel, and
- 3-2. Proceed with process of ordination after receiving and considering any request originated by the Presbytery for recommendations from the permanent Committee on Ministerial Vocation.

Respectfully,

Llew Fischer
Llew Fischer



OVERTURE 96-F Evangelical Presbyterian Church

PRESBYTERY OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

Llew Fischer, Stated Clerk

April 29, 1996

Presbytery approved the following overture for consideration by the 16th General Assembly:

Whereas, BG 1.2-2 defines the invisible church; and President William J. Clinton has publicly professed Christ and we believe him to be a member of the church invisible; and,

Whereas, BG 1.3-5 defines the visible church; and President Clinton is a member in good standing of a Southern Baptist congregation, which this denomination recognizes as being a sister church in Christ; and,

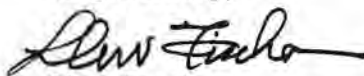
Whereas, We believe that the application of Scripture given to us in Matthew 18:15-19 and Galatians 6:1 transcend denominational and particular church boundaries; it is therefore the responsibility of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, individually and corporately, to apply these Scriptures to President Clinton; and,

Whereas, President Clinton is not a member of this denomination and not directly accountable to our courts, this does not exempt him from the admonition of his brothers in Christ outside his chosen denomination; and,

Whereas, We believe President Clinton has violated the Sixth Commandment (Exodus 20:13) in his action whereby he placed his presidential veto on "The Partial Birth Control Ban"; and not having direct access for the exercise of church discipline,

Therefore, this Presbytery overtures the 16th General Assembly to bring this charge to the attention of the particular Church of which President Clinton is a member, (reportedly Emmanuel Baptist Church, 1000 Bishop Street, Little Rock, Arkansas 72202) requesting appropriate discipline within their established guidelines for errant brothers; and further, that the General Assembly directly address President Clinton, to rebuke him for violation of Scriptures, and to appeal to him to publicly repent.

Respectfully,


Llew Fischer

APPENDICES

COMMISSIONER'S RESOLUTION #96-A

APPENDICES

Whereas, the Disney Company has profited for many years in part due to its reputation as a producer of wholesome entertainment which encourages right moral values;

Whereas, the Christian community in the past has supported the Disney Company due to its quality family entertainment;

Whereas, the Disney Company or its affiliates has produced a number of films that are hostile to traditional Christian beliefs and traditional family morals;

Whereas, the Disney Company has openly promoted a homosexual agenda which is inconsistent with the Christian faith and which is hostile to traditional family values.

Therefore, the 16th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church urges the Disney Company to abandon its conduct which is hostile to the Christian faith and traditional family values.

Further, the 16th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church calls on its members to boycott entertainment produced by the Disney Company, including theme parks, children's toys, movies, and other products until the Disney Company openly repents of its advocacy of a homosexual agenda and other conduct that is hostile to our faith.

Date: June 19, 1996

Dr. James M. Glasgow, Teaching Elder
Myrtle Grove Presbyterian Church
Wilmington, North Carolina

Anthony L. Register, Ruling Elder
Myrtle Grove Presbyterian Church
Wilmington, North Carolina

DESCENDING OVERTURES
The Vote of the Presbyteries

	Central South	East	Florida	Mid-America	Mid-Atlantic	Midwest	Southeast	St. Andrew	West	
Overture 95-A: On Amending G5-3E on the Election of Elders	40-0	14-0	25-0	24-0	77-0	43-0	43-0	9-0	46-0	Passed
Overture 95-B: On Amending D12 on Removing Names From Church Membership Rolls	38-0	14-0	24-0	17-7	79-0	43-0	45-0	9-0	46-0	Passed
Overture 95-C: On Amending G.11-12 Providing Guidance for Out of Bounds Ministries	40-0	14-0	24-0	22-0	81-0	43-0	44-0	10-0	46-0	Passed
Overture 95-D: On Amending G16-27B.2 on Time Limit Required to Submit Overtures to Amend the Constitution	39-0	14-0	26-0	24-0	81-0	43-0	47-0	9-0	46-0	Passed
Overture 95-E: On Amending G3, D1, and D12 to Change the Word "Power" to "Authority"	40-0	14-0	1-23	19-5	81-0	41-2	21-22	10-0	17-23 (6 abstain)	Lost
Overture 95-F: On Amending G11-5F.2 to Change "Manse" to "Housing"	40-0	14-0	19-6	19-4	88-0	43-0	43-0	9-0	46-0	Passed

This page has been left blank intentionally.

3775 KIMMEL ROAD
HORTON, MICHIGAN 49246

(517) 563-8856 TELEPHONE
(517) 563-2552 FACSIMILE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the General Assembly of the
Evangelical Presbyterian Church

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial position of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (a non-profit organization) as of December 31, 1995, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the year 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 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 that our audit 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, 1995 and the changes in net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

As discussed in Note 2 to the financial statements, in 1995 the Organization changed its method of accounting for contributions and its method of financial reporting and financial statement presentation.

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements taken as a whole. The supplementary information on page 11 is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Karl L. Drake

Karl L. Drake, P.C.
Certified Public Accountant

February 29, 1996

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
December 31, 1995
(With Comparative Totals for 1994)

ASSETS

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
Current Assets		
Cash and Equivalents:		
Unrestricted	\$ 2,150,724	\$ 1,941,493
Restricted	1,695,320	1,802,668
Investments	233,595	197,730
Inventory	25,155	25,109
Prepaid Expenses	-0-	1,347
Total Current Assets	<u>4,104,794</u>	<u>3,968,347</u>
Property and Equipment		
Furniture and Equipment	93,356	64,549
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u><55,605></u>	<u><44,245></u>
Net Property & Equipment	<u>37,751</u>	<u>20,304</u>
Other Assets		
Notes Receivable	293,670	274,083
Deposits	<u>6,129</u>	<u>6,129</u>
Total Other Assets	<u>299,799</u>	<u>280,212</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 4,442,344</u> =====	<u>\$ 4,268,863</u> =====

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 22,123	\$ 13,180
Accrued Expenses	<u>1,045</u>	<u>10</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>23,168</u>	<u>13,190</u>
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	314,210	281,095
Temporarily Restricted	4,063,762	3,935,502
Permanently Restricted	<u>41,204</u>	<u>39,076</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>4,419,176</u>	<u>4,255,673</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	<u>\$ 4,442,344</u> =====	<u>\$ 4,268,863</u> =====

See Accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements.

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For The Year Ended December 31, 1995
(With Comparative Totals for 1994)

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Temporarily Restricted</u>	<u>Permanently Restricted</u>	<u>1995 Total</u>	<u>1994 Total</u>
REVENUES					
Contributions	\$ 685,351	\$ 1,386,091	\$ -0-	\$ 2,071,442	\$ 2,055,464
Investment Income	90,924	249,774	2,128	342,826	58,666
Literature Sales	39,053	-0-	-0-	39,053	27,573
Program Income	21,880	2,651,727	-0-	2,673,607	1,969,224
Other Income	9,933	-0-	-0-	9,933	31,720
Assets Released					
From Restrictions	<u>4,159,332</u>	<u><4,159,332></u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>5,006,473</u>	<u>128,260</u>	<u>2,128</u>	<u>5,136,861</u>	<u>4,142,647</u>
EXPENSES					
Program Expenses	4,234,953	-0-	-0-	4,234,953	2,980,607
General & Adminis.	711,636	-0-	-0-	711,636	592,674
Fund Raising	<u>26,769</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>26,769</u>	<u>24,966</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>4,973,358</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>4,973,358</u>	<u>3,598,247</u>
INCREASE <DECREASE> IN NET ASSETS	33,115	128,260	2,128	163,503	544,400
NET ASSETS BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>281,095</u>	<u>3,935,502</u>	<u>39,076</u>	<u>4,255,673</u>	<u>3,711,273</u>
NET ASSETS END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 314,210</u>	<u>\$ 4,063,762</u>	<u>\$41,204</u>	<u>\$ 4,419,176</u>	<u>\$ 4,255,673</u>

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
For the Year Ended December 31, 1995
(With Comparative Totals for 1994)

APPENDICES

	PROGRAM SERVICES			
	Medical <u>Ins. Plan</u>	<u>Pension</u>	World <u>Outreach</u>	Church <u>Assistance</u>
Compensation	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --
Employee Benefits	--	--	--	--
Payroll Taxes	--	--	--	--
Repairs and Maintenance	--	--	--	--
Travel	--	--	--	--
Committee Expenses	--	--	--	--
Contingencies	--	--	--	--
Printing and Promotion	--	--	--	--
Professional Fees	--	--	--	--
Rent and Property Taxes	--	--	--	--
Interest	--	--	--	--
Depreciation	--	--	--	--
Office Supplies	--	--	--	--
Telephone	--	--	--	--
Utilities	--	--	--	--
Insurance	--	--	--	--
Postage	--	--	--	--
Development	--	--	--	--
Fraternal Relations	--	--	--	--
Support and Training	--	--	--	--
General Assembly Expense	--	--	--	--
Miscellaneous	--	--	--	--
Premiums	376,847	--	--	--
Claims	2,008,347	--	--	--
Administrative Expense	49,953	5,881	--	--
Restricted Expenses	--	--	1,319,246	35,834
Literature	--	--	--	--
Totals	<u>\$2,435,147</u> =====	<u>\$5,881</u> =====	<u>\$1,319,246</u> =====	<u>\$35,834</u> =====

<u>Special Projects</u>	<u>Church Loan</u>	<u>General & Adminis</u>	<u>Fund Raising</u>	<u>1995 Total</u>	<u>1994 Total</u>
\$ --	\$ --	\$290,806	\$ --	\$ 290,806	\$ 249,428
--	--	64,262	--	64,262	50,159
--	--	22,462	--	22,462	30,654
--	--	18,791	--	18,791	5,732
--	--	43,357	--	43,357	30,754
--	--	55,571	--	55,571	44,628
--	--	4,805	--	4,805	3,264
--	--	--	26,769	26,769	24,966
--	--	3,866	--	3,866	6,110
--	--	61,168	--	61,168	54,045
--	--	--	--	--	--
--	--	14,307	--	14,307	12,202
--	--	7,152	--	7,152	7,288
--	--	17,515	--	17,515	14,509
--	--	5,860	--	5,860	6,956
--	--	1,757	--	1,757	3,076
--	--	18,369	--	18,369	17,248
--	--	10,010	--	10,010	27,965
--	--	11,138	--	11,138	7,501
--	--	10,868	--	10,868	23,736
--	--	15,000	--	15,000	15,559
--	--	3,615	--	3,615	4,738
--	--	--	--	376,847	373,744
--	--	--	--	2,008,347	1,488,213
--	859	--	--	56,693	46,497
437,986	--	--	--	1,793,066	1,017,831
--	--	30,957	--	30,957	31,444
\$437,986	\$859	\$711,636	\$26,769	\$4,973,358	\$3,598,247
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the Year Ended December 31, 1995
(With Comparative Totals for 1994)

APPENDICES

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Increase in net assets	\$ 163,503	\$ 544,400
Adjustments to reconcile increase in net assets to cash flows from operating activities:		
Depreciation	14,307	12,202
Gain on sale of assets	-0-	<16,949>
Changes in Assets and Liabilities:		
Decrease <Increase> in inventory	<46>	16,559
Decrease <Increase> in prepaid expenses	1,347	1,023
Increase <Decrease> in accounts payable	8,943	8,721
Increase <Decrease> in accrued liabilities	1,035	<955>
Decrease <Increase> in notes receivable	<19,587>	<186,818>
Decrease <Increase> in deposits	-0-	-0-
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	<u>169,502</u>	<u>378,183</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from Sale of Fixed Assets	-0-	82,135
Purchase of Fixed Assets	<31,754>	-0-
Purchase of Investments	<u><35,865></u>	<u><197,730></u>
NET CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	<u><67,619></u>	<u><115,595></u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>
INCREASE <DECREASE> IN CASH	101,883	262,588
CASH - BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>3,744,161</u>	<u>3,481,573</u>
CASH - END OF YEAR	\$ 3,846,044 =====	\$ 3,744,161 =====
OTHER DISCLOSURES		
Cash used for:		
Income taxes	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Interest	-0-	-0-

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 1995

NOTE 1 - NATURE OF ACTIVITIES

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

PROMISES TO GIVE

Contributions are recognized when the donor makes a promise to give to the Organization that is, in substance, unconditional. Contributions that are restricted by the donor are reported as increases in unrestricted net assets if the restrictions expire in the fiscal year in which the contributions are recognized. All other donor-restricted contributions are reported as increases in temporarily or permanently restricted net assets depending on the nature of the restrictions. When a restriction expires, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets.

CONTRIBUTED SERVICES

During the year ended December 31, 1995, the value of contributed services meeting the requirements of recognition in the financial statements was not material and has not been recorded.

ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Donations of property and equipment are recorded as support at their estimated fair value. Such donations are reported as unrestricted support unless the donor has restricted the donated asset to a specific purpose. Assets donated with explicit restrictions regarding their use and contributions of cash that must be used to acquire property and equipment are reported as restricted support. Absent donor stipulations regarding how long

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 1995

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT (continued)

those donated assets must be maintained, the Organization reports expirations of donor restrictions when the donated or acquired assets are placed in service as instructed by the donor. The Organization reclassifies temporarily restricted net assets to unrestricted net assets at that time. Property and equipment are depreciated using the straight-line method. Depreciation expense for the year 1995 totaled \$14,307.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION

In 1995, the Organization elected to adopt Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 117, "Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Organizations." Under SFAS No. 117, the Organization is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets, and permanently restricted net assets. In addition, the Organization is required to present a statement of cash flows. As permitted by this new statement, the Organization has discontinued its use of fund accounting and has, accordingly, reclassified its financial statements to present the three classes of net assets required. This reclassification had no effect on the change in net assets for 1995.

CONTRIBUTIONS

The Organization also elected to adopt SFAS No. 116, "Accounting for Contributions Received and Contributions Made," in 1995. In accordance with SFAS No. 116, contributions received are recorded as unrestricted, temporarily restricted, or permanently restricted support depending on the existence and/or nature of any donor restrictions. This new statement had no effect on the Organization's change in net assets for 1995.

INCOME TAXES

The Organization is a not-for-profit organization that is exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

INVENTORY

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

KARL L. DRAKE, P.C

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 1995

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

INVESTMENTS

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 rates. The churches make principal and interest payments on a monthly basis. Details of this account consist of the following:

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
Ashville EPC	\$ 4,100	\$ 4,500
Heartland	29,570	34,167
Westkirk	31,666	36,667
Argentina	44,167	50,000
Faith EPC	44,167	49,166
North Park EPC	45,000	49,583
Elkton EPC	45,000	50,000
Tabernacle EPC	<u>50,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>
Total	\$293,670 =====	\$274,083 =====

NOTE 4 - NET ASSET RESTRICTIONS

At December 31, 1995, temporarily restricted net assets consisted of the following:

World Outreach	\$ 585,674
Church Development	134,312
Church Loan	507,969
Programs	1,140,487
Medical Insurance Plan	<u>1,695,320</u>
	\$ 4,063,762 =====

At December 31, 1995, permanently restricted net assets consisted of the following:

Ministerial Endowment	\$ 41,204 =====
-----------------------	--------------------

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 1995

NOTE 5 - 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.

Following is a summary of transactions for the self insurance program for 1995 and 1994.

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
Premiums collected	\$ 2,154,437	\$ 2,220,780
Interest income	134,044	109,970
Gain <loss> in mkt. value	60,464	<146,804>
Premiums paid	<376,847>	<373,744>
Claims paid	<2,008,347>	<1,488,213>
Transfer to medical benevolence fund	<21,146>	-0-
Administrative expense	<u><49,953></u>	<u><43,446></u>
Excess <deficiency> of revenues over expenses	\$ <107,348> =====	\$ 278,543 =====

NOTE 6 - 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 1995 and 1994 were \$20,181 and \$16,450 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
December 31, 1995

NOTE 7 - CHANGES TO PRIOR YEAR FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Certain 1994 amounts have been reclassified to conform to current year's financial statement presentation.

NOTE 8 - 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:

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 1995 and 1994 was \$55,255 and \$54,045, respectively.

NOTE 9 - 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, 1995, cash and cash equivalents included the following:

	<u>Carrying Value</u>	<u>Book Value</u>
Petty Cash	\$ -0-	\$ 200
Comerica Bank Account	177,357	42,530
Merrill Lynch Accounts	728,820	728,820
Smith Barney Shearson Accounts	924,733	928,495
Benham Accounts	628,793	628,793
Invesco Account	20,880	20,880
Lindner Account	19,914	19,914
T. Rowe Price Account	22,089	22,089
The Vanguard Group Accounts	<u>1,354,323</u>	<u>1,454,323</u>
	<u>\$ 3,876,909</u>	<u>\$ 3,846,044</u>
	=====	=====

Of these amounts, \$100,000 is covered by FDIC insurance, \$2,062,883 is covered by SIPC insurance, and \$854,323 is covered by insurance maintained by the brokerage companies. The remaining \$859,703 is uninsured.

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SCHEDULE OF UNRESTRICTED REVENUES AND NON-PROGRAM EXPENSES
BUDGET TO ACTUAL
For the Year Ended December 31, 1995

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
REVENUES			
Contributions	\$ 708,915	\$ 685,351	\$ <23,564>
Investment income	35,000	90,924	55,924
Literature sales	-0-	39,053	39,053
Program income	15,000	21,880	6,880
Other income	11,699	9,933	<1,766>
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 770,614	\$ 847,141	\$ 76,527
	=====	=====	=====
EXPENSES			
Compensation	\$ 325,300	\$ 290,806	\$ 34,494
Employment benefits	73,814	64,262	9,552
Payroll taxes	26,000	22,462	3,538
Repairs and maintenance	16,000	18,791	<2,791>
Travel	47,000	43,357	3,643
Committee expenses	55,000	55,571	<571>
Contingencies	5,000	4,805	195
Printing and Promotion	30,000	26,769	3,231
Professional fees	7,000	3,866	3,134
Rent and Property taxes	64,000	61,168	2,832
Depreciation	-0-	14,307	<14,307>
Office supplies	8,000	7,152	848
Telephone	17,000	17,515	<515>
Utilities	7,000	5,860	1,140
Insurance	3,500	1,757	1,743
Postage	22,000	18,369	3,631
Development	21,000	10,010	10,990
Fraternal relations	12,000	11,138	862
Support and training	12,000	10,868	1,132
General assembly	15,000	15,000	-0-
Misc	4,000	3,615	385
Literature purchases	-0-	30,957	<30,957>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 770,614	\$ 738,405	\$ 32,209
	=====	=====	=====

FRATERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Fraternal Relations Committee met November 27-29, 1995, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council (NAPARC). The committee completed its business by phone conference on May 14, 1996.

NAPARC Membership

The main item on the committee's agenda this past year was to urge representatives of NAPARC to act upon our application for membership. To this end, the entire committee attended the NAPARC November, 1995 meeting as observers (the EPC delegation included L. Edward Davis, Horace Heafner, Paul Heidebrecht, Wayne Hoffman and Charles Wickman). We were given opportunity to speak to the council and to address concerns raised by various NAPARC members. We reminded the Council that the EPC had applied for membership in 1988, but no action had been taken since then except to postpone a decision.

Three major issues were raised in 1988 in relation to our application for membership which were considered obstacles to approval at that time. We reviewed with the Council our current position on each of these issues:

- 1) The question of charismatic gifts within the EPC.

In 1991, our General Assembly adopted a letter written by then-chairman, Dr. Robert Norris, to NAPARC chairman (at that time), Dr. John Carson, which stated clearly our position that prophecy and tongues do not constitute canonical revelation. This position was further articulated in 1992 when the General Assembly adopted four interpretative statements to accompany our Position Paper on the Holy Spirit and charismatic gifts. These statements placed the gift of prophecy in subjection to the Holy Scriptures and to the local Session. Our response to the Council was that we had clarified our position as requested and that it was not in conflict with any of the Confessions which are the foundation of the NAPARC constitution.

- 2) The ordination of women as officers within the church.

We acknowledged the difficulty that NAPARC member denominations have had with this issue, but stated our conviction that we do not regard this issue as "essential". At the inception of the EPC, we determined to allow local congregations to choose their own leadership and to leave the matter of ordaining women as teaching elders to the presbyteries. Our recent assemblies have shown no inclination to change their view on this matter. We did not have to point out that the Christian Reformed Church, a member of NAPARC, had adopted a fairly similar position at its 1995 Synod. We did state for the record that the Confessions are not gender-specific on the matter of choosing officers and that in historic Presbyterianism, the right of the congregation to select its elders is clear.

- 3) The statement on Marriage and Divorce in our Confession of Faith.

In 1988, NAPARC expressed its discomfort with chapter 24 of our version of the Westminster Confession and in particular, the phrase "the marriage dies at the heart and the union becomes intolerable." In 1994, the Assembly revised chapter 24 and removed this phrase entirely. We reported this action and also presented our Position Paper on remarriage. We indicated our appreciation to NAPARC for encouraging us to strengthen our position on this matter.

In addition to the above three issues, Council members raised several other issues with us:

- 4) The practice in some EPC congregations of providing baby dedications as an alternative to infant baptism.

We indicated this was a temporary accommodation for families with Baptist backgrounds, but that the Reformed view of baptism was being preached and practiced by our pastors. We did not believe disciplinary procedures were needed to bring these congregations into full compliance.

- 5) The modern language version of the Westminster Confession and the inclusion of chapters on the Holy Spirit and the love of God and Missions.

We reviewed the history of the EPC's particular version of the Confession.

- 6) The designation in our constitution of "rights irrevocably reserved to a particular church" (election of its officers, ownership of property, calling of its own pastors, etc.).

This was a concept unfamiliar to some of the Council members.

After deliberation, the Council voted by a 4-3 margin to postpone action on our application until their November, 1996 meeting. All voting was by delegation. The Council also requested that documentation for our positions on charismatic gifts, the ordination of women, and divorce and remarriage, be sent to NAPARC members' respective inter-church committees for their study. The Fraternal Relations Committee expressed their sincere disappointment at the Council's failure to act, but has complied with the Council's request for documentation.

It should be noted that the NAPARC constitution requires two-thirds of the member denominations to approve an application for membership. This means 5 of 7 denominations must approve. Given the reaction of at least three of the denominations in NAPARC to our application, there is little reason to expect approval of our application. Also, at the November, 1995 NAPARC meeting, action was taken to create a category of "suspension" that several members intended to propose for the CRC, following their decision to allow for the ordination of women.

The Fraternal Relations Committee believes we should await the final decision of the Council on our application even if we do not expect a positive response. We have sought membership in NAPARC because of the benefits of identification with the conservative Presbyterian Reformed cause. We believe the EPC belongs in NAPARC and that NAPARC needs the EPC. If the Council chooses to exclude moderate conservative bodies like the EPC (and possibly the CRC), they should be expected to state their position openly. The EPC's application for membership is a defining moment for NAPARC and we do them a service by pressing them to respond.

World Fellowship of Reformed Churches

In its report to the 15th General Assembly, the Fraternal Relations Committee indicated its desire to explore membership in a more conservative worldwide alliance of Reformed and Presbyterian bodies. Two such alliances are presently in the process of formation. The EPC continues to maintain its membership in the World Alliance of Reformed Churches even though other conservative Presbyterian bodies have withdrawn.

The Committee met with representatives of the new World Fellowship of Reformed Churches, formed in 1994 by the Presbyterian Church in America, the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico and the Presbyterian Church of Brazil. The WFRC functions as an international fellowship of Presbyterian and Reformed Churches under the umbrella of the World Evangelical Fellowship (WEF) with a common commitment to world evangelization.

The next meeting of WFRC will be held in conjunction with the WEF General Assembly scheduled for May, 1997, in Vancouver, British Columbia. The Committee plans to send its chairman to represent the EPC at WEF and to further investigate the WFRC.

Association of the Charismatic Presbyterian Churches

The Fraternal Relations Committee continues to cultivate our fraternal relationship with the Association of the Charismatic Presbyterian Church in Puerto Rico. Rev. Johnny Ortiz has addressed our Assembly the past two years on behalf of the Association. We were able to send Dr. William Read to represent the EPC at the Association's first General Assembly held in December, 1995, in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Dr. Read spoke warmly and enthusiastically:

"I was given my opportunity to present fraternal greetings. I gave these greetings for our EPC General Assembly...greetings from the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic...greetings from my local EPC Church in Gaffney. I used some of the items that were sent to me from the GA office. I held up our EPC Packet explaining that items contained therein would tell them everything they ever wanted to know about the EPC. In turn I held up items produced by our EPC Women, our EPC Youth, our latest issue of Reflections and invited participation of their women and young people, if possible, at future events that would be held on the mainland in '96."

Dr. Read reported that "The membership of these six churches in Puerto Rico, at present, does not exceed 350 adult communicant members. Those who are members, are very well educated and appear to be well off financially. Several of these Churches are located in areas that are very resistant to the gospel proclamation, and their growth and expansion will be very slow and full of different kinds of problems. The charismatic dimension of these Churches seems to be moderate in nature and well controlled. I heard no speaking in tongues, no prophetic utterances, no extremism whatsoever. What I saw was a contemporary expression of the typical Latin American culture in its most delightful/spontaneous outpouring of sincere praise and adoration in a very personal way. It was a genuine expression of love, devotion, and commitment to their Lord, Savior, and to their King of Kings."

Rev. Ortiz has been invited to visit the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic this fall. He will be our guest at the 16th Assembly as well. The Committee is pleased at the progress we have made in developing our fraternal relationship with the Association. We intend to encourage continued contact between our two bodies.

Face to face dialogue is essential to increase understanding and appreciation for what God is doing in his church. The task of building interchurch relations is slow and demanding. The Fraternal Relations Committee believes in the value of these relationships, both for our denomination's benefit and for what we can contribute to others.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul H. Heidebrecht, Chairman
Fraternal Relations Committee
May, 1996

**National Association of Evangelicals Convention
March 3-5, 1996
Minneapolis, Minnesota**

This year the EPC was represented at the National Association of Evangelicals Annual Convention by Dr. Edward Davis, Dr. Graham Smith, and Miss Susan Nash. All three representatives were also on the Board of Administration.

The theme of the convention this year was "Reaching America—One Voice in Unity." The new style of leadership offered by Dr. Don Argue was noticeable in the format of the convention. A desire to have leadership that is younger, more black and more female was explicitly expressed. Currently, the convention is attended prominently by older white men. Instead of the Commission luncheons that have previously been held, dividing attendees into interest groups, there was one luncheon with a speaker for all attendees. Afternoon workshops were held, with interaction encouraged.

The keynote speakers all carried out the theme of evangelizing America in unity. Both racial and denominational unity were encouraged. The keynoters were Jill Briscoe, Joseph Stowell, Gilbert Patterson, John Perkins, Luis Palau, Leith Anderson, and Bill McCartney. In various formats and styles, all challenged the church to be united across racial and denominational lines in the mission of reaching America with the gospel. Briscoe gave a stunning talk on the "singing and playing harps to the Babylonians" as a metaphor for the attracting power of the stories of our God's power among unbelievers. Stowell focused on the call to a unified mission among denominations without sacrificing our distinctives. He laid a powerful challenge at the feet of the church to show the love of Christ to each other in order to be believable to the watching world. Gilbert Patterson and John Perkins, each effective in his own way, challenged the church to move beyond racial barriers as a testimony to the will and power of God. Luis Palau spoke of the joy of the gospel and its universal directive. Leith Anderson spoke of using today's culture in order to spread the gospel. Bill McCartney spoke at the final convention banquet and gave testimony to what he thinks is a revival among the pastors of this nation. The speakers were the highlight of the convention.

Also important were the "shoulders" rubbed from various denominations. One evening, dinner was spent with representatives from other Reformed denominations—Presbyterian Church in America, Christian Reformed Church, and Reformed Church in America, to mention some. This provided an opportunity to speak about, among others things, the decision of the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council (NAPARC) with regard to the EPC. Susan Nash had opportunity to meet with Susan Hunt, Director of Women's Ministries in the PCA headquarters, to compare notes and get a report on the regional conferences the PCA has done over the last year.

An Evangelical Manifesto: A Strategic Plan for the Dawn of the 21st Century” makes a call to the Church to actualize the Great command of John 13 & 17 in the strategy of realizing the Great Commission, and presents NAE’s part is within the mission of the church as a whole in the United States of America.

The Manifesto stems from examination and reflection on the part of many Christian leaders in the United States who sense the call of God to be used in a new and profound way to reach this country for Christ.

The purpose of the manifesto includes:

- To share the vision and describe how NAE can effectively be a catalyst to bring the evangelical community in America to gather to reach the nation for Christ.
- To make a public call to the evangelical community of all races, theological tradition, and all structure supporting the local church.
- To declare NAE’s commitment to be a catalyst for evangelical cooperation.
- To maximize a truly evangelical impact on evangelicals, the church, and the culture for the honor and glory of Jesus Christ. The manifesto was presented to convention attendees during the NAE business session.) See document, p. 171ff.

During the business meetings of NAE, such matters were discussed as the moving of the headquarters of NAE from Wheaton to Washington, DC. Don Argue reported on meetings he had with President Clinton. The President had been invited to address the convention. Although he was not in attendance he did send his greetings.

The Statement of Conscience of the National Association of Evangelicals Concerning Worldwide Religious Persecution,” released January 23, 1996, reflects NAE’s deep concern for the religious freedom of fellow believers as well as people of every faith. It encourages Christians to work tirelessly to bring about action by our government to curb worldwide religious persecution.

The document says the persecution of religious believers is “an increasingly tragic fact in today’s world.” The Statement of Conscience declares in part, “We are dismayed that the United States government has been indifferent to its obligation to speak out against reigns of terror now being plotted and waged against Christians. At the same time we confess our own culpability in failing to do all within our power to alleviate the suffering of those persecuted for their religious beliefs.”

Leonard Hofman, retired Stated Clerk of the CRC, assumed the office of chairman of NAE for the upcoming year (see Communication #96-16, p. 32). His address on the night of the final banquet expressed energy and direction. Edward Davis, our own Stated Clerk, was elected Secretary of NAE for a three-year term.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Nash
June, 1996

AN EVANGELICAL MANIFESTO

A Strategic Plan for the Dawn of the 21st Century

This is a *kairos* moment for the church of Jesus Christ. At the close of the 20th century, the church exists in a world tortured by polarization, selfishness, indifference and godlessness. Furthermore, the church, particularly the body of Christ in America, despite its significant influence and ministry, has been so infected by such sins that it has a witness and ministry for Christ that is far less than it could or should be. In this day, however, this critical need for greater unity and godliness among Christians is being met with a surging desire for just such a transformation. And, it is springing up across the breadth of the church.

It could well be that the body of Christ is ready now to allow the pastoral prayer of the Son of God in John 17:20-23 to renew itself dramatically in our lives.

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one; I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me." This could result in a sharpened witness for Christ and a strengthened service to those in need.

The National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) is well positioned to serve a strategic role in this renewal because of the breadth of its association. NAE is comprised of approximately 42,500 congregations nationwide from 47 member denominations and individual congregations from an additional 26 denominations, as well as several hundred independent churches.

The membership of the association includes 245 parachurch ministries and educational institutions.

Through the cooperative ministry of these members, the National Association of Evangelicals directly and indirectly benefits over 27 million people.

Through NAE's headquarters in Carol Stream, Illinois, and its Office for Governmental Affairs in Washington, D.C., through its subsidiary, World Relief Corporation, and five affiliates—

- Evangelical Fellowship of Mission Agencies
- National Religious Broadcasters
- Christian Stewardship Association
- Evangelical Child & Family Agency
- National Association of Christian Child & Family Agencies

—NAE has a long history of service to its members, the broad church of Jesus Christ and to those in need around the world.

Although NAE's commitment to service is worldwide, its membership is drawn from the evangelical community in the United States. This membership represents a substantial portion of the diversity within the body of Christ in this country. The unifying characteristic of NAE's membership is found in their agreement with NAE's brief statement of faith and their support of the association's mission statement.

This manifesto presents both a call to the whole body of Christ in the United States of America and the commitment of the National Association of Evangelicals to that call.

The desired results of this call to action are to glorify God, to strengthen our witness to those who do not know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, to maintain our nation's religious freedom, and to expand and improve our ministry to the world.

NAE Statement of Faith

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 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.

The Board of Directors and the vast leadership network of NAE are committed to the five calls for action listed below and urge evangelicals from all quarters to join in a commitment to these:

- Call for Prayer
- Call for Repentance & Reform
- Call for Unity & Cooperation
- Call for Evangelism
- Call for Cultural Impact

Further, this manifesto is being distributed widely in the hope other members of the body of Christ will make such commitments a part of their lives.

To expand and expedite NAE's commitment to unity, Don Argue, president of NAE, has appointed a task force that will recommend new courses of action designed both to advance the biblical mandate for unity within the body of Christ and to improve NAE's ability to assist its own membership in such growth. This task force will represent the great diversity found in the body of Christ including age, gender, race, church tradition, and ministry focus.

TODAY'S CALL FOR ACTION

Call for Prayer— Prelude to Effective Ministry

"Have faith in God," Jesus answered. "I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins." (Mark 11:22-25)

We call on evangelicals everywhere to pray—for unity and for the spread of the gospel.

We call on evangelicals everywhere to pray—worshipping and praising God, calling on him, confessing our sin and need for his grace, seeking his wisdom and counsel, interceding for others, and offering ourselves to him and his service.

We call on evangelicals everywhere to pray—alone, with family, with friends and colleagues, and with the church.

We encourage leaders of local, regional, and national endeavors to come together first to pray, before strategizing and before any plans are set.

We encourage our constituency to be involved in programs which encourage prayer:

- World and national days of prayer
- Concerts of prayer
- Church prayer meetings
- Small groups which emphasize prayer.

There are numerous prayer networks and prayer ministries forming throughout the United States. NAE will serve its members by assisting them in their awareness of the growing prayer movements of America.

NAE will continue to produce and make available the World Day of Prayer worship guide, which provides an evangelical structure for this worldwide observance; and the NAE Christian Citizenship Ministry manual, which provides a suggested structure for Christian action built on our citizen obligations of voting and prayer.

Call for Repentance and Reform

"...if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land." (2 Chron. 7:14)

As an association that serves as a voice for evangelicals we humbly and publicly make the following confession.

We confess that although we have been conscientious in our response to the mandate of the Great Commission to go and make disciples (Matt. 28:18-20 & Mark 16:15), we have too often failed to live out and actualize the mandate of a loving unity which testifies to our Lord Jesus (John 13:34-35 & John 17:21-22).

We confess that although we value unity and united evangelical action, we too often do more to build our own ministries than to cooperate at making it difficult for someone in our own neighborhoods to be lost for eternity.

We confess, that in our pursuit of faithfulness, we have too often accommodated the spirit of this world which elevates a political correctness over the more difficult tasks of critical reflection and repentance.

We confess that although we have assented to Christian truths as embodied in our statement of faith, we have been unwilling to be confronted redemptively with the implications of biblical truth on life and faith.

We confess that although we exist to serve the ministry of the local church, we have done little to advance a wholly biblical understanding of the church and her Lord's mandates—in evangelism or in reconciliation.

We call the church to repentance in the pursuit of revival and renewal through prayer and fasting, and through faithfulness to God in every aspect of our lives as commanded in Scripture.

We call on the church to pursue the fruit of the Spirit manifested in reconciliation—to God and to each other. We call on the church to lead our nation in biblically directed racial and ethnic reconciliation, providing a glimpse of the worshipping people of God as pictured in the book of Revelation.

We call on the church to edify the most basic social structure created by God—the family—in ministry, programming, and support and use of its human resources.

Call for Unity and Cooperation— The Command Actualized

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:34-35)

We call on the evangelical community to work together diligently based on our common commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and only Savior. Furthermore, as long as the truth is not compromised, we urge evangelicals, in a demonstration of love, to work alongside others who may not necessarily have an evangelical identity on various specific issues.

NAE will facilitate and support united evangelical endeavors in upholding the authority of the Bible, in evangelism, and in demonstrable unity which are based on biblical truth. We will do this locally, regionally, and nationally.

A. Local & Regional Action

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria..." (Acts 1:8)

The ministry of the church is essentially local. Therefore NAE first calls on evangelicals in local and regional areas to provide and carry out strategic cooperation in prayer, evangelism, and discipleship in order to reach the lost of the particular area. NAE encourages the local church to demonstrate godly, reconciling love as together, God's Word is proclaimed. NAE will avail itself and its networking services to any extent, if desired, in any area committed to such united action.

We encourage the use of a strategy which includes these five principles in an approach of cooperation without compromise:

- Focus on the absolutes of the Christian faith.
- Promote the ministry of Christ and His Word above our own ministry or method.
- Pray to raise the level of the Holy Spirit's activity in your area.
- Appreciate one another's respected interpretations of Scripture.
- Practice supportive speech and actions toward one another.

The National Association of Evangelicals will assist and take the lead as appropriate in the facilitation of target areas with the intentional approaches to local and regional cooperative evangelism.

NAE will freely cooperate in appropriate ways to fulfill the Great Commission and to live out the command to demonstrate loving unity—for the sake of the lost. In so doing we will seek to advance first, the gospel, and secondly, the ministry of the local church.

B. National Action

"... and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

We call on evangelical denominations and movements to operate in cooperation without compromise—maintaining our particular distinctives, yet standing together on the basis of the command of our Lord Jesus Christ found in John 13:34-35.

We freely offer the associated network strength of the National Association of Evangelicals in order to facilitate evangelism and discipleship on a national basis.

We call on the vast expertise of the membership of two of our affiliates—the Evangelical Fellowship of Mission Agencies and the National Religious Broadcasters—to consider their respective roles in cooperative strategies which would enhance local church-based evangelistic ministry.

We acknowledge our part in the international evangelical community through our participation as one of the 110 national members of World Evangelical Fellowship.

Call for Evangelism—The Mandate Realized

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matt. 28:18-20)

We call on evangelical churches, denominations, and ministries to work together according to Christ's paradigm of reconciling love on an integrated agenda of cooperative evangelism and discipleship.

The implications of this call require more than the agenda of one local church. This call requires evangelicals to come together across biblical value-based, broad horizons of cooperation to reach the lost.

NAE will offer its networking services to these cooperative efforts so that the world which needs Christ will be confronted with his love and truth.

Call for Cultural Impact

"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." (Matt. 5:13-16)

We call on the evangelical community to be faithful and rely wholly on the power of God to transform our lives, our churches, and our communities. The church can make no greater impact on the world than in simply being the faithful, vibrant, worshipping, evangelizing, and loving community which Christ has redeemed.

The National Association of Evangelicals will continue to offer its strategic assets in the pursuit of biblical justice (i.e., ministry to the poor) through its various offices, cooperative ministries, and programs, and commend them to the use of the church.

We encourage our constituency to engage fully their dual citizenship (heaven and earth), exercising one's rights and privileges freely to pray and participate in our nation's democratic form of government. NAE offers the Christian Citizenship Ministry to assist in this endeavor.

NAE will encourage local churches and denominations to support the call of World Relief Corporation as they minister through emergency relief in times of war and natural disaster. Working through local evangelical churches, physical aid and spiritual witness are provided on our behalf.

NAE will foster cooperative ministry through NAE's subsidiary and affiliates.

NAE's programs, conferences, and annual conventions all seek to nurture, encourage, and facilitate fidelity to the Word of God—Incarnate, Revealed, and Proclaimed.

"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." (Eph. 3:20-21)

EPILOGUE Evangelical Aspirations

Billy Graham has played a strategic and an integral role in the National Association of Evangelicals for almost five decades. He shared the following comments which appropriately serve as this manifesto's epilogue.

It is my fervent prayer that the evangelical community will take seriously the command of the Great Commission in the manner which Jesus described in his great priestly prayer—cooperating without compromise, so that the world might believe! The challenge before us calls for a strategic united evangelistic effort as we have never undertaken before.

The world in our time is said to have made discipleship harder. But it has also made evangelism easier. Today's world is said to be multiplying crises all around us. But we must never forget that, for the

gospel, each crisis is an opportunity. So it is important that we speak and act in hope. The night has not yet fallen. The culture is far from closed. Many of the previous Western people are more open at more moments in their lives than perhaps at any time in history.

But we must ask ourselves: Is all we do still accompanied by prayer and fasting, or have our modern insights, tools, and technology made them redundant? Are we still burdened by a passion for those who do not know Christ or have our neighbors become statistics and the abstract "unreached"?

Is our faith integrated and applied in all our lives or is it relevant only in the private world? Is it still our heart's desire to know and love God above all else or is it enough simply to be an evangelical?

We need to re-examine ourselves to see where there is more laxity and worldliness in our churches than we realized. We need to recover the first things of the gospel in both our doctrine and our lives. We need to re-integrate truth and theology into all our lives so that we are a community defined by truth, united by truth. We need to re-dedicate ourselves to the primary task of winning and making disciples of Jesus Christ in our generation. Today's world waits to see our response to questions and challenges such as these.

Evangelicalism has a future to the extent that we evangelicals ourselves are drawn by the gospel, are defined by the gospel, and are declaring and demonstrating the gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in word and deed.

I wholeheartedly concur with Don Argue when he says that the National Association of Evangelicals is strategi-

cally positioned to be a catalyst for such cooperation. We should reaffirm our faith, as NAE has done through the years. The National Association of Evangelicals has stood true and faithful to the Evangel. NAE has lifted high the cross of Christ, NAE has declared the Resurrection, and NAE has believed in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And our efforts will not go unrewarded. Through his prophet, our God declared,

"As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it" (Isa. 55:10-11).

Our faithful united witness may or may not result in a new understanding of the name "evangelical" by the culture and media. Our faithful united witness might result in visible Christian worship of our Lord in the public celebrations of the year A.D. 2000 rather than merely a glorification of another epoch of human achievement and existence. But our faithful united witness will result in revival and reconciliation and renewal. Let us go forward in faith together—and the very gates of hell cannot prevail!" □

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the National Association of Evangelicals is to extend the kingdom of God through a fellowship of member denominations, churches, organizations, and individuals, demonstrating the unity of the body of Christ by standing for biblical truth, speaking with a representative voice, and serving the evangelical community through united action, cooperative ministry, and strategic planning.

An Evangelical Manifesto: A Strategic Plan for the Dawn of the 21st Century
©1990 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
PO Box 24, Wheaton, IL 60189
Phone: 708-465-0100; Fax: 708-465-8375
e-mail: nae@nae.org; www.naeonline.org

STATEMENT OF CONSCIENCE

of the National Association of Evangelicals concerning
Worldwide Religious Persecution

January 23, 1996

Foreword

This Statement of Conscience of the National Association of Evangelicals reflects our deep concern for the religious freedom of fellow believers, as well as people of every faith. We invite others to join us to work tirelessly to bring about action by our government to curb worldwide religious persecution.

Facts

The persecution of religious believers has become an increasingly tragic fact in today's world. In many countries, moreover, Evangelical Protestants and Catholics have become special targets of reigns of terror initiated by authorities who feel threatened by Christian faith and worship. Such authorities, often motivated by anti-Western, anti-democratic ideologies, also persecute Christians as a means of threatening the freedom of all persons subject to their authority.

Incidents of religious persecution are legion:

- In many Islamic countries, where militant and xenophobic Islamist movements seek to capture the soul of a historically tolerant Islamic faith, and where the demonization of Christians also serves to intimidate Muslims seeking freedom from repressive regimes.
- In China, Cuba, Laos, North Korea and Vietnam, where remnant Communist regimes feel threatened by persons whose Christian faith places them under an authority transcending governments, and where the persecution of Christians also serves to intimidate non-Christian dissenters.
- In other parts of the world, where persons of evil intent rightly understand that the survival of churches undermines their aims, because these churches affirm the human dignity of all persons created in God's image and acknowledge their ultimate accountability to a transcendent God.
- In countries and regions where the demonization of powerless Christian scapegoats often serves to vent, foment, and popularize hatred of the West and the United States.
- Imprisonment and torture of persons for simply attending Christian worship services or Bible studies.
- Establishment of government-controlled "religious associations" and criminal prosecution and torture of members of "unlicensed" Christian churches.
- Refusal to permit Vatican appointments of Catholic bishops and refusal to allow nonapproved bishops to appoint local priests.
- Encouragement and appeasement of unpunished mob violence against Christians conducting burial and other religious services.
- Encouragement and appeasement of unpunished looting and burning of businesses and homes of practicing Christians.
- Church burnings and systematic official refusals to allow the building of new churches or church repairs.
- Encouragement and appeasement of systematic beatings of children who attend Christian schools.
- Literal sale into slavery of Christian children abducted by government forces.
- Refusal to distribute food to Christians in famine-stricken areas unless they agree to renounce their faith.
- Wide dissemination, often with government support, of scurrilously hateful, deliberately provocative, anti-Christian tapes, books and tracts.
- Imprisonment of Christians for the mere possession of Bibles.
- Prosecution, torture and even murder of practicing Christians under infamous and broadly construed "blasphemy" laws.
- Prosecution, torture and even murder of Christian converts and the children

and grandchildren of such converts, under equally infamous and broadly construed "apostasy" laws.

Principles

If people are to fulfill the obligations of conscience, history teaches the urgent need to foster respect and protection for the right of all persons to practice their faith.

If people are to fulfill the obligations of conscience, history cries out for an end to today's wrongful silence, by Christians as well as others, in the face of mounting persecution of Christian believers.

If governments are to be worthy of the name, or responsive to their national interests and the interest of their people, lessons of history mandate uncompromising hostility to religious persecution.

If, though it is true, the United States government cannot end all evil throughout the world, it can nonetheless adopt policies that would limit religious persecution and ensure greater fulfillment of inalienable and internationally recognized rights to freedom of religious belief and practice.

Call to Action

It is lamentable that persecution of religious believers is pervasive around the world.

We are dismayed that the United States government has been indifferent to its obligation to speak out against reigns of terror now being plotted and waged against Christians. At the same time, we confess our own culpability in failing to do all within our power to alleviate the suffering of those persecuted for their religious beliefs.

We know that the United States government has within its power and discretion the capacity to adopt policies that would be dramatically effective in curbing such reigns of terror and protecting the rights of all religious dissidents. As a matter of conscience, therefore, we

respectfully call for the following actions to be taken by the government of the United States:

I. Public acknowledgment of today's widespread and mounting anti-Christian persecution and the adoption of policies condemning religious persecution whether it results from official policy or from unchecked terrorist activity.

To that end, we respectfully recommend that the following steps be taken:

- A major policy address by the President initiating a new public diplomacy commitment to openly condemn anti-Christian persecution wherever it occurs and further announcing a lesser reliance on today's private diplomacy and case-by-case appeals to curb such persecution.
- Issuance of instructions to all Ambassadors or surrogates to meet regularly with willing church leaders and dissidents in countries where religious persecution occurs.
- Appointment of a knowledgeable, experienced, and compassionate Special Advisor to the President for Religious Liberty charged with preparing a report indicating needed changes in policies dealing with religious persecution, and recommending remedial action.
- Issuance of instructions to the United States delegate to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights to regularly and forcefully raise the issue of anti-Christian and other religious persecution at all appropriate Commission sessions.
- Issuance of instructions to consular officials acknowledging the mounting evidence of religious persecution and instructing them to provide diligent assistance when the victims of religious persecution seek refugee status.
- Issuance of instructions to senior officials engaged in trade or other international negotiations, when dealing with officials of countries that engage in religious persecution, to vigorously object to such religious persecution and to link negotiations with the need for constructive change.

II. Issuance by the State Department's Human Rights Bureau and related government agencies of more carefully

researched, more fully documented and less politically edited reports of the facts and circumstances of anti-Christian and other religious persecution.

To that end, we respectfully recommend that the following steps be taken:

- Issuance of instructions to human rights officers to distinguish between the treatment of different Christian groups within countries and no longer to assume that all such groups are similarly dealt with.
- Issuance of instructions that Human Rights Bureau annual reports are to make explicit findings of whether anti-Christian or other religious persecutions occur, thereby eliminating from such reports any "option of silence" regarding such persecutions.
- Clarifying and upgrading the role of embassy human rights officers in countries where anti-Christian or other religious persecution is ongoing and pervasive, and ensuring that such officers carefully monitor religious liberty violations on an ongoing and prioritized basis.

III. Cessation of the indifferent and occasionally hostile manner in which the Immigration and Naturalization Service often treats the petitions of escapees from anti-Christian persecution.

To that end, we respectfully recommend that the following steps be taken:

- Issuance of an Attorney General's Bulletin to INS hearing officers acknowledging mounting anti-Christian persecutions in many parts of the world, and directing such officers to process the claims of escapees from such persecution with priority and diligence.
- Issuance of instructions by the Attorney General and the Secretary of State directing preparation of annual INS reports describing its processing of religious refugee and asylum claims.
- Issuance of regulations requiring access to written opinions from INS hearing officers clearly stating the grounds for any denial of religious refugee and asylum claims.
- Establishment of INS listening posts in countries to which refugees from anti-Christian persecution frequently flee.
- Cessation of INS and State Department delegation of complete responsibility for refugee processing functions to interna-

tional and United Nations agencies.

- Development and issuance of training guidelines for INS personnel on issues specifically related to religious persecution.

IV. Termination of non-humanitarian foreign assistance to governments of countries that fail to take vigorous action to end anti-Christian or other religious persecution, with resumption of assistance to be permitted only after a written finding is made by the President that the countries have taken all reasonable steps to end such persecution, and arrangements are made to ensure that religious persecution is not resumed.

Conclusion

Religious liberty is not a privilege to be granted or denied by an all-powerful State, but a God-given human right. Indeed, religious liberty is the bedrock principle that animates our republic and defines us as a people. We must share our love of religious liberty with other peoples, who in the eyes of God are our neighbors. Hence, it is our responsibility, and that of the government that represents us, to do everything we can to secure the blessings of religious liberty to all those suffering from religious persecution.

We appeal not only to our own government, but to the governments of every nation that would be free, to treasure religious freedom. A people cannot be truly free where the elemental justice of religious freedom is abridged or denied. If justice is to "roll on like a river," religious persecution around the world must cease.

Therefore, before God, and because we are our brother's keeper, we solemnly pledge:

To end our own silence in the face of the suffering of all those persecuted for their religious faith.

To address religious persecution carried out by our Christian brothers and sisters whenever this occurs around the world.

To withhold assistance by our member denominations to those countries that fail to take action to end religious persecution.

To do what is within our power to the end that the government of the United States will take appropriate action to combat the intolerable religious persecution now victimizing fellow believers and those of other faiths. □

Statement of Conscience of the National Association of Evangelicals Concerning Worldwide Religious Persecution
©1996 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
PO Box 28, Wheaton, IL 60189
Phone: 708-865-0500; Fax: 708-865-0573
e-mail: nae@nae.org; web: <http://nae.org/nae.htm>

NORTH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN AND REFORMED COUNCIL

Dr. David H. Engelhard, Chairman
2850 Kalamazoo Ave. S.E.
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

The Rev. Jack C. Whytock, Vice Chairman
155 Charles Lutes Rd., Magnetic Hill RR #7,
Moncton, New Brunswick, CANADA E1C 8Z4

The Rev. Donald J. Duff, Secretary
Box P
Willow Grove, Pennsylvania 19090

The Rev. Robert A. Henning, Treasurer
3711 Premier Dr.
Columbus, IN 47203-9657

December 22, 1995

Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Rev. L. Edward Davis, Stated Clerk
29140 Buckingham, Suite 5
Livonia, MI 48154

Dear brethren:

The following are actions taken by NAPARC in the meeting of November 28-29, 1995. I am sending this letter along with the *Minutes* of the meeting for your information.

1. The following procedural motion was passed:

That action on the motion to receive the Evangelical Presbyterian Church into membership in NAPARC be postponed to NAPARC 1996, and that the Secretary be requested to send to the interchurch relations committees of the member churches, a summary of past NAPARC actions concerning the EPC together with the response provided by the EPC to the Interim Committee on November 28, 1995 to the matters that NAPARC asked the EPC to "reconsider" at NAPARC 1988.

2. That the dues be set at \$150.00 for 1996.

3. That consideration be made by each denomination, through its interchurch relations committee, as to how the Westminster Fund is to be used and report suggestions to the Council at the annual meeting in 1996. (Note: the Treasurer reported that there is a balance of \$8,162.87 in the Westminster Assembly Commemoration Conference Fund.)

4. It was moved to adopt the constitutional change proposed in communication #3 and to send it to the member denominations for approval. That constitutional change is as follows:

That Article V, section 3 of the Constitution of the NAPARC be amended as follows:

Admission to, suspension from, restoration to (after suspension), and termination of membership shall be proposed by recommendation of the Council to the member churches by two thirds of the ballots cast; and this proposal recommendation must then be approved adopted within three years by the approval of two thirds of the major assemblies of the member churches. A proposal to suspend or terminate the membership of a member church may be initiated only by a major assembly of a member church. A suspended church may send delegates to meetings of the Council but they shall not vote nor may that church be represented on the Interim Committee.

5. It was moved that the first recommendation in communication #14 be adopted in the following form:

That NAPARC request the major assemblies of the member churches to remind their congregations and regional assemblies of the terms of the *GOLDEN RULE COMITY AGREEMENT* which, by virtue of their denominational commitment, they have promised to observe.

That *GOLDEN RULE COMITY AGREEMENT* is as follows:

GOLDEN RULE COMITY AGREEMENT

Comity has meant different things to different people. The representatives of the home missions agencies and committees or boards of our denominations resist territorial statements on comity in light of the social and cultural complexity of North American society and the great spiritual need of our many countrymen who are apart from Jesus Christ. Out of a concern to build a Church of Jesus Christ rather than our own denominations and to avoid the appearance of competition, we affirm the following courteous code of behavior to guide our church planting ministries in North America:

1. We will be sensitive to the presence of existing churches and mission ministries of other NAPARC churches and will refrain from enlisting members and take great care in receiving members of those existing ministries.
2. We will communicate with the equivalent or appropriate agency (denominational missions committee or board, presbytery missions or church extension committee, or session) before initiation church planting activities in a community where NAPARC churches or missions exist.
3. We will provide information on at least an annual basis describing progress in our ministries and future plans.
4. We will encourage our regional home missions leadership to develop good working relationships.

6. It was moved that the second recommendation in communication #14 be adopted in the following form:

That NAPARC encourage the respective denominational agencies having responsibility for the ministries of church education and North American missions to actively participate in the 1996 annual NAPARC consultations at the senior leadership level.

You should know that the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church said in their letter "We will gladly make the arrangements for the annual NAPARC consultations on Christian education and/or North American missions in 1996."

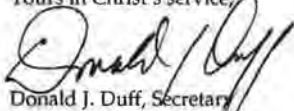
7. It was moved that the matter of joint NAPARC assemblies (communication #15) be postponed to NAPARC 1996.

8. With regard to communication # 16 from the CRCNA the following procedural motion was made:

That the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary be constituted a committee to draft Standing Rules for NAPARC and its Interim Committee, and that the recommendations of the CRCNA in its communication (#16) to NAPARC 1995 be referred to the committee, and that the committee be requested to report to NAPARC 1996.

9. It was determined to request the Reformed Presbyterian Church North America to host the next meeting of the Council and to arrange for a key note speaker for the dinner to be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania November 19 & 20, 1996.

Yours in Christ's service,



Donald J. Duff, Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-FIRST MEETING OF THE
NORTH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN AND REFORMED COUNCIL**
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
November 28-29, 1995

I. CALL TO ORDER

The North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council met at the Ramada Airport Inn in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania at 1:28 p.m. The Chairman, Dr. Myung Doh Kim, called the meeting to order. He read Psalm 123 and led in prayer.

II. WELCOME TO THE REFORMED CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES

The Chairman formally welcomed the delegates from the Reformed Church in the United States as that denomination is received into membership in the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council. The Rev. Norman Hoeflinger responded for the RCUS.

Note: All the member churches of NAPARC voted on the matter of membership for the Reformed Church in the United States and each church has informed the Secretary that they voted in the affirmative.

III. ROLL CALL

Denomination	Delegates:
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARPC)	John J. Doudoukjian Milton C. Fisher David J. Vickery Jack C. Whytock
Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA)	David H. Engelhard Leonard J. Hofman Edward A. Van Baak
Korean American Presbyterian Church (KAPC)	Myung Doh Kim
The Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC)	Richard A. Barker Donald J. Duff Richard B. Gaffin, Jr. Thomas E. Tyson
Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)	K. Eric Perrin William Edgar (present on Wednesday) Paul R. Gilchrist Henry Lewis Smith
Reformed Church in the United States (RCUS)	Norman C. Hoeflinger Ronald L. Potter
Reformed Presbyterian Church North America (RPCNA)	Robert A. Henning Bruce C. Stewart John H. White

A quorum was declared to be present.

The following observer churches were represented:

American Presbyterian Church	John Morrow
Evangelical Presbyterian Church	L. Edward Davis Horace Heafner Paul Heidebrecht Wayne M. Hoffman Charles A. Wickman
Presbyterian Reformed Church	Sherman Isbell
Protestant Reformed Churches	Robert D. Decker

Date printed December 15, 1995

IV. ADOPTION OF DOCKET

The proposed docket for the meeting as amended by the Interim Committee was presented as follows:

- I. Call to Order
- II. Welcome to the Reformed Church in the United States
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Adoption of Docket
- V. Election of Officers: Chairman, Vice-chairman, Secretary, Treasurer
- VI. Reports from Various Member Churches
- VII. Reports from Observer Churches
- VIII. Election of Additional Members to Interim Committee
- IX. Approval of Minutes
- X. Communications:
- XI. Treasurer's Report
- XII. Interim Committee Report
- XIII. Old Business
- XIV. Reports on Conference/Consultation Held
- XV. New Business
 - a. Proposals to change the constitution from the OPC
 - b. Missions to North Korea from KAPC
 - c. "Golden Rule" Comity Agreement and NAPARC consultations
 - d. Joint Assemblies in 1999
 - e. Recommendations of the CRC
- XVI. Arrangements for Next Meeting (place, time, invitees)
- XVII. Adjournment

Adopted

V. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

The following nominations were placed before the Council by the Interim Committee, and all were elected.

Chairman	David H. Engelhard (CRCNA)
Vice chairman	Jack C. Whytock (ARPC)
Secretary	Donald J. Duff (OPC)
Treasurer	Robert A. Henning (RPCNA)

VI. REPORTS FROM MEMBER CHURCHES

Each of the member churches reported as follows with each report followed by a time of prayer for the church which had reported.

Denomination	Reporter	Report Paper
ARPC	John H. Doudoukjian	
KAPC	Myung Doh Kim	Paper A
OPC	Donald J. Duff	Paper B
FCA	Paul R. Gilchrist	Paper C
RCUS	Norman C. Hoeflinger	Paper D
RPCNA	Robert A. Henning	Paper E
CRCNA	David H. Engelhard	Paper F

VII. RECESS

During the reports given above there was a recess from 3:10 to 3:20 p.m.

VIII. REPORTS OF OBSERVER CHURCHES

American Presbyterian Church	John Morrow	Paper J
Evangelical Presbyterian Church	Wayne M. Hofman	Paper G
Presbyterian Reformed Church	Sherman Isbell	Paper H
Protestant Reformed Church	Robert D. Decker	Paper I

IX. RECESS

The meeting was recessed at 5:24 p.m. with prayer led by the Chairman. That evening a banquet was held at the Ramada Airport Inn with the Rev. William Shishko, pastor of the Franklin Square, NY Orthodox Presbyterian Church, as a speaker on the subject "Raising Calvinists With the Heart of Luther."

Wednesday, November 29, 1995

X. RECONVENE

The meeting was reconvened at 8:26 a.m. by the Chairman who called the meeting to order and read Revelation 21:1-4 and led in prayer.

XI. THE MATTER OF MEMBERSHIP OF THE EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The docket was amended to allow the Council to take up the question of the application of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. (Item XIII)

The recommendation of the Interim Committee concerning the EPC was moved namely:

That NAPARC approve the application of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church for membership and constitutional procedures be followed

The following procedural motion was made:

That action on the motion to receive the Evangelical Presbyterian Church into membership in NAPARC be postponed to NAPARC 1996, and that the Secretary be requested to send to the interchurch relations committees of the member churches, a summary of past NAPARC actions concerning the EPC together with the response provided by the EPC to the Interim Committee on November 28, 1995 to the matters that NAPARC asked the EPC to "reconsider" at NAPARC 1988.

A motion was made to divide the question and vote on the two parts in reverse order.

The previous question was moved on all motions pending before the council.

XII. RECESS

A council recessed from 10:15 until 10:30 a.m.

XIII. THE MATTER OF MEMBERSHIP OF THE EPC (cont.)

A motion was made that voting on the pending questions be by unit vote of the members.

The motion concerning the previous question was put to the council.

Adopted

ARPC	Yes	PCA	Yes
CRCNA	Yes	RCUS	Yes
KAPC	No	RPCNA	Yes
OPC	No		

Adopted

The motion to divide the question and reverse the order was put to the council.

ARPC	No	PCA	Yes
CRCNA	Yes	RCUS	No
KAPC	No	RPCNA	Yes
OPC	No		

Failed

The procedural motion was put to the council. Before it was voted on Henry L. Smith led the council in prayer.

ARPC	Yes	PCA	No
CRCNA	No	RCUS	Yes
KAPC	Yes	RPCNA	No
OPC	Yes		

Adopted

XIV. ELECTION OF ADDITIONAL MEMBERS TO INTERIM COMMITTEE

The election of additional members of the Interim Committee was as follows:

KAPC	Myung Doh Kim
PCA	K. Eric Perrin
RCUS	Norman C. Hoeflinger
RPCNA	Andrew K. Schep

XV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Interim Committee recommend the approval of the Minutes of the meetings of the Interim Committee on November 1, 1994 and the meeting of NAPARC of November 2, 1994 as distributed and corrected.

Adopted

XVI. COMMUNICATIONS:

The Secretary reported he had received the following communications:

	Date	From	Concerning
1.	12-07-94	From Rev. Myung Doh Kim	Council business
2.	12-29-95	From Robert A. Henning	Finances
3.	06-23-95	From OPC	RCUS and a proposed amendment to the Constitution
4.	06-28095	From CRC	Meeting dates
5.	06-28-95	From K. Eric Perrin	Meeting dates
6.	06-29-95	From Rev. Myung Doh Kim	Meeting dates
7.	06-29-95	From Rev. Myung Doh Kim	RCUS and Foreign Missions
8.	07-12-95	From ARPC	RCUS
9.	07-28-95	From Robert A. Henning	Concerning dues
10.	07-28-95	From Robert A. Henning	Dues and council business
11.	07-31-95	From CRC	RCUS
12.	08-31-95	From Rev. Myung Doh Kim	Requesting some information
13.	09-15-95	From PCA	RCUS
14.	09-20-95	From OPC	"Golden Rule" Comity Agreement and NAPARC consultations
15.	09-25-95	From K. Eric Perrin	Joint Assemblies in 1999
16.	10-03-95	From Leonard J. Hofman	Various recommendations for how to operate
17.	10-05-95	From Robert D. Decker	Requesting information
18.	10-14-95	From Robert A. Henning	RCUS
19.	11-14-95	ARPC	Delegates to NAPARC
20.	11-24-95	KAPC	North Korean missions

Communications were assigned to places on the docket as follows:

1, 4, 5, 6, 12, 17, and 19 received for information

3a, 7a, 8, 11, 13, and 18 to II

2, 9, 10 to IX

7b, 14, 15, 16, and 20 to XV (see XXI)

XVII. TREASURER'S REPORT

Robert A. Henning, Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's report as follows:

NAPARC'S General Fund

Balance - November 2, 1994

\$5,664.82

Receipts from Dues:

ARPC	\$200.00	
CRC	200.00	
KAPC	200.00	
OPC	200.00	
PCA	200.00	
RPCNA	200.00	
Interest from checking	39.08	
Interest on CD	120.95	
Total receipts	\$1,360.03	1,360.03
Total responsible for		\$7,024.85

Expenditures:		
NAPARC meeting in 1993	\$1,060.18	
Donald J. Duff, Secretary	200.00	
Secretarial help	<u>250.00</u>	
Total Expenditures	1,510.18	-1,510.18
Balance - November 18, 1995		<u>\$5,514.67</u>

Westminster Assembly Commemoration Conference Fund as of November 2, 1994

Balance - November 2, 1994	\$7,846.53	
Income:		
Interest on CD	<u>316.34</u>	
Balance as of November 18, 1995	<u>\$8,162.87</u>	<u>\$8,162.87</u>

Total Funds on hand in all accounts as of November 18, 1995 **\$13,677.54**

The Treasurer's report included the following recommendations which are given here as amended by the Council:

1. That \$4,500.00 be transferred from the Westminster Assembly Conference Fund to NAPARC'S General Fund. Adopted
2. That the treasurer's action of collecting \$200 from member denominations for 1995 instead of \$400 be sustained. (The Interim Committee recommended to NAPARC the adoption of recommendation #2.) Adopted
3. That the dues be set at \$150.00 for 1996. Adopted
4. That consideration be made by each denomination, through its interchurch relations committee, as to how the Westminster Fund is to be used and report suggestions to the Council at the annual meeting in 1996. Adopted

XVIII. REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS CONSULTATION

Robert A. Henning gave a report on the Foreign Missions Consultation that had taken place on November 27-28, 1995 in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania.

XIX. ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING (PLACE, TIME, INVITEES)

The Interim Committee NAPARC recommended that the Presbyterian church in America host the next meeting of NAPARC. It was determined instead to request the Reformed Presbyterian Church North America to host the next meeting of the Council and to arrange for a key note speaker for the dinner to be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania November 19 & 20, 1996

Adopted

The Interim Committee recommended that the following be invited as observers to the next meeting:

American Presbyterian Church	Hungarian Reformed Church
Bible Presbyterian Church	Lithuanian Evangelical Reformed Church
Canadian Reformed Churches	Netherlands Reformed Church
Evangelical Presbyterian Church	Orthodox Christian Reformed Churches
Free Church of Scotland	Presbyterian Reformed Church
Free Reformed Churches of North America	Protestant Reformed Churches
Heritage Netherlands Reformed Congregations	

XX. JACK WHYTOCK ASSUMES THE CHAIR

Since the Chairman, David H. Engelhard, had to leave the Vice-Chairman, Jack Whytock assumed the chair for the rest of the meeting.

XXI. NEW BUSINESS

1. It was moved to adopt the constitutional change proposed in communication #3 and to send it to the member denominations for approval. That constitutional change is as follows:

That Article V, section 3 of the Constitution of the NAPARC be amended as follows:

Admission to, suspension from, restoration to (after suspension), and termination of membership shall be proposed by recommendation of the Council to the member churches by two thirds of the ballots cast; and this proposal recommendation must then be approved adopted within three years by the approval of two thirds of the major assemblies of the member churches. A proposal to suspend or terminate the membership of a member church may be initiated only by a major assembly of a member church. A suspended church may send delegates to meetings of the Council but they shall not vote nor may that church be represented on the Interim Committee.

ARPC	Yes	PCA	Yes
CRCNA	Abstain	RCUS	Yes
KAPC	Yes	RPCNA	Yes
OPC	Yes		

Adopted

2. Missions to North Korea. (communications #7 and 20) The Foreign Missions Consultation has this on their docket for 1996.

3. It was moved that the first recommendation in communication #14 be adopted in the following form:

That NAPARC request the major assemblies of the member churches to remind their congregations and regional assemblies of the terms of the *GOLDEN RULE COMITY AGREEMENT* which, by virtue of their denominational commitment, they have promised to observe.

Adopted

It was moved that the second recommendation in communication #14 be adopted in the following form:

That NAPARC encourage the respective denominational agencies having responsibility for the ministries of church education and North American missions to actively participate in the 1996 annual NAPARC consultations at the senior leadership level.

Adopted

4. It was moved that the matter of joint NAPARC assemblies (communication #15) be postponed to NAPARC 1996.

Adopted

XXII. ORDER OF THE DAY EXTENDED

On motion the order of the day was extended 15 minutes.

XXIII. NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

5. With regard to communication # 16 from the CRCNA the following procedural motion was made:

That the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary be constituted a committee to draft Standing Rules for NAPARC and its Interim Committee, and that the recommendations of the CRCNA in its communication (#16) to NAPARC 1995 be referred to the committee, and that the committee be requested to report to NAPARC 1996.

Adopted

XXIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned with the reading of Psalm 130 and prayer led by Jack Whytock at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald J. Duff, Secretary

For your information

Place and times of Synods and Assemblies in 1996

The 1996 meetings of the Assemblies/Synods are scheduled as follows:

ARPC	Bonclarken, Flat Rock, NC	June 10-12, 1996
CRCNA	Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI	June 11-21, 1996
KAPC	Philadelphia, PA	June 18-21, 1996
OPC	Geneva College, Beaver Falls, PA	June 6-13, 1996
PCA	Fort Lauderdale, FL	June 18-21, 1996
RCUS	Eureka, SD	May 20, 1996
RPCNA	*No synod in 1996	
*RPCNA will hold an International Conference, Calvin College		July 26-August 2, 1996

Dr. Myung Doh Kim told us at NAPARC about the following and has sent the information to me. He says:

it was a great honor and pleasure for me to preside over some of the seminars commemoration the 350 Anniversary of the Seating of the Westminster Assembly, in London, England, September 23-25, 1993. To give thanks to God for the work of the Assembly, to stimulate interest in its remarkable documents, and to promote unity among Reformed churches around the world, all the 12 seminars given by prominent men of God were taped for distribution. The title is known as *350th Anniversary Celebration of the Westminster Assembly*. The Banner of Truth Trust published a beautiful hard bound book entitled *To Glorify and Enjoy God* edited by two men of God, Dr. John Carson of the ARPC and Dr. David Hall of the PCA. Here is how to order:

TAPES Ask for the *350th Anniversary Celebration of the Westminster Assembly* Price around \$50
 Sound Word Associate
 430 Boyd Circle
 PO Box 2035 Mall Station
 Michigan City, Michigan 46360
 Phone: (219) 879-7753

Book: John Carson and David Hall, Eds. *To Glorify and Enjoy God*,
 London, England: Banner of Truth Trust, 1994, 338 p.
 ISBN 08 5151 668 8

Logos Bookstore
 4012 Hillsboro Rd.
 Nashville, TN 37215
 Voice 800-925-6467 FAX 615-297-5388

Nota Bene: Original price \$34.70 (including S&H)
 December price \$28.11 (including S&H)

**Minutes
Joint Committee on Missions Meeting
EPC/IPB
Detroit, Michigan
October 23-24, 1995**

Present:

Dr. Bartlett Hess	Chairman, EPC JCM
Dr. Edward Davis	EPC Stated Clerk
Rev. Wayne Hoffman	EPC Moderator (10-23)
Mr. Richard Oestreicher	EPC World Outreach Director
Mr. Vern Porter	EPC World Outreach Committee Chairman
Mrs. Judy Dosh	Minutes Recorder
Rev. Guilhermino Cunha	Chairman, IPB JCM
Rev. Wilson de Souza Lopes	IPB JCM
Rev. Osvaldo Henrique Hack	IPB JCM
Dr. Andonias Costa de Silveira	IPB, Board of Theological Education
Custodio Filipe de Jesus Pereira	IPB - Minutes Recorder

October 23, 1995

Dr. Hess, chairman for the day, opened the meeting with devotions and prayer. He also reviewed the history of the IPB/EPC relationship, focusing on how God had brought us together and is still making the relationship effective in the experience of both churches.

Rev. Cunha thanked the EPC for the Saturday, October 22, Theological Consultation. Appreciation was expressed for the presence and role of the EPC Moderator, Rev. Wayne Hoffman.

Overview of the Church (IPB)

Rev. Cunha gave an overview of the IPB noting statistics on number of churches and members in their written report.

The Moderator's Vision for the IPB

Rev. Cunha shared his vision for the IPB which now has an approved four year action plan to move toward the year 2000. This includes five major items:

1. Missions - growth and expansion of the IPB
Their goal is to promote discipleship, have a presbyterian church in every district in Brazil and to plant new churches in the big cities. They want to double the number of presbyterians by 2000 and plant 300 new churches.
2. Education
Academic Education
- MacKenzie University has approximately 28,000 students and will be opening a new branch.

- The IPB has over 100 Presbyterian schools alongside their churches. The National Federation of Presbyterian Schools works with the IPB.

Theological Education

- attention to six seminaries
- organize another Bible institute (currently have three)
- train lay people to be church planters (men and women)
- stress the need to invest in seminary teachers to have at least a masters degree.

Christian Education

- The IPB now has a publishing house for Christian education materials for Sunday School.
- The IPB currently sells their Sunday School materials to six different denominations.

3. Updating the Presbyterian manual of the denomination
 - need general guidelines for worship style for their churches with room for liberty
 - will include revision of all by-laws, etc.
 - believe it is possible for the current administration to offer an update, however the presbyteries will vote on this in July '96.
 - desire lighter, less bureaucratic administrative structure.
4. Church Administration

An administrative re-engineering should be promoted to avoid duplication of efforts and costs.
5. Social Work of the Church

There is a proposal for 10-15 modest houses to be made available for the IPB's retired ministers. A pension program is being prepared for retired pastors. A small medical clinic is also needed.

Rev. Wilson Lopes gave support that the Moderator's vision was precise. He then underlined some practical principles of the IPB. There is now a very positive unity of spirit among the IPB board and they are able to reach unanimous consensus by their board members on major subjects. The IPB now has a transparent style of administration which they have strived toward for some time. This is a less political church in which everyone is given the same total information leaving no room for manipulation. They believe this openness is pleasing to God and for the good of the church.

Regarding expansion of the church, they will map areas and refer responsibility to the local churches and presbyteries to plant new churches where needed. The IPB's first missionary conference for church planters will take place November 14-17, 1995. In the first quarter of 1996 they will have their evangelization conference for the denomination.

Communications - The IPB's newspaper which is a monthly publication for the Presbyterian family was passed around the table. This was started last year and is sent out under subscription. They have a new church directory which includes the address and phone of all churches, pastors, etc.

There is a proposed plan for pastors institutes. Every seminary should have a pastors institute annually to update knowledge of their pastors and improve the quality of their pastors' ministry.

There was discussion on the logo on the IPB newspaper which is very similar to the EPC logo. Ed Davis reviewed the history and origination of the logo. Rev. Cunha stated they were very inspired by our logo and decided it was what they needed. He believes the logo is bringing their church together in spirit.

The IPB invited the EPC JCM members to attend their mission conference November 11-17 and presented the EPC team with gifts. Rev. Hoffman was invited to the IPB Executive Committee meeting March 12-18, 1996 to speak to the committee, preach in one or two churches and be a guest at a seminary. The IPB will take care of expenses. They will write to Rev. Hoffman with a suggested itinerary program. The IPB presented each EPC JCM member with a gift.

A description of the IPB Executive Committee was given. Their General Assembly meets every 4th year and will meet in July 1998. Their Executive Committee meets every year in March. Discussed the possibility of moving the Brazil JCM meeting to March rather than October in the year the IPB General Assembly convenes and also having the U.S. JCM meeting near the time of the EPC General Assembly.

The JCM adjourned for lunch at noon and reconvened at 1:45.

Interchurch Matters

1. World Reformed Fellowship (WRF). Rev. Lopes attended the meeting last year in Costa Rica and gave the report. The PCA is involved in forming the WRF to bring together all Reformed churches. The IPB feels that any future partnership with the PCA needs to be under this WRF.
2. PCA - The IPB is talking with Mr. Paul Kooistra (PCA) about partnership in church planting with the IPB. This is to be approved in the IPB March '96 meeting. They have an experiment with a local church and the PCA. They are now planting two churches together and split the costs equally. A Brazilian was selected, assessed and approved to be one of the church planters.

The Spanish River PCA church in south Florida has a real vision for church planting. They are now doing church planting in Brazil and Mexico. They supply the seed money. Funding is decreased to the new church plant each year until the fifth year and then they are on their own. Their Flamingo Church plant is moving into their second year. They have property and a house where they are meeting now. The idea of the partnership church planting is that of a local church to local church partnership.

Dr. Davis shared how the EPC does an annual assessment center with the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARP) and how it has helped us in selecting church planters. He explained that Dr. Thomas Graham was the originator of the assessment center and distributed the EMQ article by Dr. Graham.

3. PC(USA) - The IPB has a fraternal relationship with this body with no further steps for agreement planned.
4. Rev. Cunha shared that there is a movement of the spirit of God bringing together some of the different Presbyterian churches in Brazil. There was a meeting of boards in September which was very fraternal, and he believes there is a will to start walking closer to each other with the possibility to merge into one denomination in the future.

Dr. Davis spoke on the history of WRF. Dr. Cunha requested that we write the history he gave on the WRF for their perspective as they consider partnership with this organization.

Dr. Davis explained that NAPARC is a national association of like minded, conservative, Reformed Presbyterians. The EPC has been an observer for 12 years because NAPARC has been unwilling to receive us as members because of our openness to women in office. The EPC may soon decide to discontinue pursuing membership in NAPARC.

Overview of the Church (EPC) - Dr. Hess

The EPC now has about 175 churches including 12 large churches and many small ones. Our churches continue to flourish. Some of our fastest growing churches are in the Detroit area. One Denver area church is experiencing tremendous growth after recently moving into a new facility. Some of our larger churches have been seeking new pastors for a while, but these positions are now filled. One church is still struggling from the death of two pastors.

Ecumenical Relationships - Dr. Hess

The PC(USA) continues to be a challenge to itself. Issues are: still debating whether or not to ordain homosexuals and pluralism. When the PCA and the EPC were formed, faith and freedom were basic issues. The PCA and the EPC stand together in matters of faith. The PCA would limit the scope of freedom. The PC(USA) has many conservative evangelical churches and members. If the PC(USA) continues to move in a liberal way, more churches will be looking for a new church home. These churches would feel more at home in the EPC than the PCA. The EPC needs to maintain a strong faith and Christ like freedom.

Foreign Missions - Mr. Oestreicher

The World Outreach Committee was established in 1982. Mr. Oestreicher served as the chairman for the first six years and became the World Outreach Director one year ago. He reported that World Outreach now has 55 missionaries and most of them are ministering within the 10/40 window. Sixty percent of our missionaries are focused on Muslim ministries. Our number of missionaries grew by 17% in the past year. Though most of our missionaries are connected to other agencies, EPC now has three of its own missionary teams.

Copies of the World Outreach Master Plan were passed around the table and Mr. Oestreicher reviewed Goal IV - Brazil with the IPB. He noted the objectives listed and commented that we are doing well on completing them.

The IPB team asked about goal IV.2 in the Master Plan - training faculty for IPB seminaries. They noted that seminaries is plural and questioned that. The IPB also asked about an earlier agreement that each IPB seminary library was to be adopted by an EPC presbytery to provide books. Vern Porter checked past minutes and found a statement in the '93 minutes

about books for the Graduate Center Library. Dr. Davis suggested we would review our minutes and files and come back to the subject. He also suggested that EPC Women's Ministries might be interested in such a project for their '97 Faith Focus program.

Matters Referred from Theological Consultation

Each member of the IPB and EPC JCM team stated their positive feelings about the consultation. The historical perspective was especially appreciated by the IPB team.

Recommendations from the Theological Consultation

Notes from the consultation were reviewed to recall the recommendations from Saturday's meeting. There was discussion on how projects were presented at the last JCM meeting and then each team caucused to discuss the method of project presentation and determination.

October 24, 1995

The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m. with devotions by Rev. Cunha, chairman for the day. He shared from Psalm 133 with the thought that when we have unity of mind and spirit, God blesses us and we grow spiritually. Mr. Oestreicher led in prayer. Rev. Cunha then gave a plan for the day how reports and projects would be presented first with a question time after.

Report from the Board of Theological Education - Rev. Costa de Silveira

This board was established in 1978. A plan was presented to the General Assembly for a post graduate program to be established gradually. The IPB is lacking well prepared professors in all their seminaries. Training for these people to a masters degree is urgently needed. A post graduate program was prepared for the IPB, and it was decided to make Sao Paulo a first priority because the Andrew Jumper Graduate Center was already underway. The board has determined at least one professor with a doctorate degree is needed in each area. A dialogue between the Board of Theological Education and CRIE has made it possible to continue the program.

The board has been careful in selecting candidates for the scholarship program. They all report to the board on a regular basis and are all doing well. Contact with professors and ThM students show that all are satisfied with the program. Many pastors from all areas of Brazil are asking how they can apply for the masters degree program. The board is aware it is vital to prepare all professors well for seminaries, and this is a result of EPC's support.

The board realizes it is not sufficient to train professors. We must also equip the seminaries with a basic library of updated books, journals and periodicals. A reference library is also needed for the Graduate Center. MacKenzie Institute has helped with funds for the post graduate center library; however they can't count on them for basic libraries in other seminaries.

Home Missions Report - Rev. Lopes

The board is striving to fulfill their program of filling as many spaces as possible where no Presbyterian churches exist. EPC has helped to implement some of these churches and we are working together in some pioneer areas. The IPB has a great effort in the state of Tocantins. This is a tremendous challenge for the church. The Methodist church is doing

social work, the Independent church is planting churches, and the Presbyterian church has been asked by the government to establish schools. Over 10,000 square meters have been assigned to the Presbyterian church to start churches and schools. The IPB is working in the cities of Palmas (the capitol), Porto Nacional, and Taquaralto.

Foreign Missions Report - Rev. Hack

The IPB does its major foreign missions work in three countries: Paraguay, Bolivia, and Ghana.

- **Concepcion, Paraguay**

Rev. Hack visited there in September and took materials including an overhead projector, copy machine for the church. EPC funded a car that is used to pick up people from remote areas to go to church and is used by the pastor for visitations. There is also a school project going on because the city requested an evangelical school.

- **Ascunson, Paraguay**

The IPB has two churches here. They also have a school functioning alongside the church being planted and are starting a clinic. Many people are moving here and looking for jobs, so these churches are expected to grow. This is a new frontier that is opening which borders Brazil and Paraguay.

- **Bolivia**

There is a great need to buy land for a pastor's house and church. They have a ministry for the street children that meets in a tent. There is also some challenge to open new work in the cities of La Pas and Santa Cruz. Bolivia is an open door to Brazil.

- **Ghana, Africa**

Several churches have been planted here which have gathered around 300 believers, and there is a challenge to build a school and a temple. They have a missionary couple there. The missionary wife helps with health needs for about 450 people per month and also assists with spiritual guidance and Bible teaching. The missionary is well received. One leader of witchcraft was converted to Christ.

Youth Report - Elder Custodio Pereira

The IPB has a great desire to pursue a student mission exchange by inviting a group of teenagers and youth to help in the missionary work and/or help the social institutions maintained by the IPB. The offer is for any churches in the EPC. Brazil families will provide housing and food with transportation to be paid by the visitors.

Geneva Bible Report - Rev. Cunha

This project is important for all the churches in all Portuguese speaking communities. This Bible has notes for Reformed theology. Ligonier Ministries is giving the IPB the right to publish the Geneva Bible. Rev. Cunha has been on the national board of the Bible Society of Brazil for ten years. They are very open to the project and will provide one half the cost of the project, with the IPB providing the other half of the cost. Initially 25,000 - 30,000 copies of the Bible will be printed. This Bible is similar to the Revised Standard Version and is translated directly from the original Hebrew and Greek.

Summary of Proposed Projects Presented by the IPB for 1997

Home Missions

Theological Scholarships for Brazilian Students	\$40,000+
Ricardo Gouveia	
David Gomes	
Ethics (Student name to be determined)	
Libraries for Brazilian Seminaries (\$5,000 each)	\$25,000
Tocantins State	
School facilities in Palmas	\$30,000
Build pastor's house in Taquaralto	\$25,000
Sanctuary in Taquaralto	\$30,000
Sanctuary in Porto Nacional	\$30,000
Build walls and fences for land in 3 cities	\$ 5,000
SAMMAAR (ministry to street children)	\$
Student Mission Exchange	No cost to EPC
Geneva Bible	\$10,000
Angola (missionary assistance)	\$27,825

Foreign Missions

Paraguay (School in Concepcion)	\$95,000
Bolivia	
Quillacollo (house for missionaries)	\$30,000
Cochabamba (land & temple construction)	\$35,000
Cochabamba (Compassion-roof for church yard)	\$ 5,000
Ghana, Africa	
Missionary center	\$ 5,000
Printing of New Testament in local languages	\$10,000
Assist field with vehicle maintenance, etc.	\$ 5,000

Recommendations from the IPB JCM - Rev. Cunha

1. That the core faculty (Phase I) of the Andrew Jumper Graduate Center shall be understood to be as follows:
- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Systematic Theology | Heber de Campos | In place |
| 2. New Testament | A. Lopes | In place |
| 3. Old Testament | M. Meister | Finish end of '96 |
| 4. History | A. Mattos | Finish mid '96 |
| 5. Apologetics | D. Gomes | Finish July '97 |

JCM Minutes

October 23-24, 1995

6. Contemporary Theology	R. Gouveia	Finish Jan. '97
7. Ethics	?	?
8. Missiology*	A. Nascimento	In place

*It is understood that Dr. Nascimento shall teach Missiology in the short-term future at Campinas Seminary in accordance with the guidance of the Board of Theological Education.

2. That a Board of Theological Reference shall be established subsequent to completion of Phase I.

Basic functions would be:

- a. To examine, select and suggest seminaries (strongly conservative and reformed) for post-graduate students.
 - b. To suggest books in all different areas of theological studies specifically for the development of the Andrew Jumper Center.
 - c. To recommend professors to be invited for short-term lectureships. The coordinators are to consult with others for their recommendations. All recommendations must be approved by the Board of Theological Education (IPB).
3. That a fund for salary for visiting short-term professors be established by JCM. Some outstanding professors may be unable to teach without some additional support. These funds are to be raised by the EPC. The cost of travel and hospitality in Brazil shall be covered by the IPB.
 4. That JCM develop an umbrella for partnerships among local EPC churches and the IPB to plant churches in Brazil. Church planting funds would be on a decreasing scale as follows:

First year	100% (50% from each church)
Second year	75%
Third year	50%
Fourth year	25%
Fifth year	The new church will cover all the expenses.

Comments in Answer to EPC JCM Questions

Brazil home missions has 235 missionaries. They planted 19 new churches and 1 new presbytery this year. Foreign missions has 53 missionaries in 16 different countries with 12 churches and approximately 314 members.

The IPB has a heart for Argentina and is willing to join with the EPC to plant churches there. Rev. Hack is good friends with Dr. Aldo Fontao.

The IPB is helping support a missionary in Angola and sends a container of food, medicine,

JCM Minutes

October 23-24, 1995

and clothes to Angola.

Mr. Oestreicher asked about reports from the scholarship students. Written annual reports (some every semester) are received by the IPB along with some phone calls. Mr. Oestreicher stated the need for us to have more information about these students and their progress for reporting to our contributing churches. It was agreed by the IPB JCM that written reports in English will be sent to Mr. Oestreicher.

The JCM reconvened after lunch and then there was a time for the EPC JCM to caucus in consideration of the proposed projects.

Recommendations from the EPC JCM - Dr. Davis

Dr. Davis brought forward the following recommendations which were all voted on and approved by the IPB JCM and the EPC JCM:

1. That Dr. George Van Groningen be reaffirmed as coordinator for the Phase I American faculty of the post graduate program.
2. That 1998 be identified as a target date for completion of Phase I of the Andrew Jumper Theological Center with a date of early June set for a convocation of celebration. The 1998 JCM meeting shall convene concurrently.
3. The JCM, in conjunction with World Outreach, shall propose a program of student mission exchange between the EPC and the IPB for presentation to the EPC Youth Ministries Committee in their spring 1996 meeting and consideration by EPC's 1996 General Assembly. Project implementation would be in 1997.
4. That a pulpit exchange program for the years 1996, 1997, and 1998 between the IPB moderator and several ministers of EPC's large churches be developed by EPC JCM and forwarded to the IPB in March 1996 (via Rev. Wayne Hoffman) for IPB's consideration.
5. Beginning in 1997 priority shall be placed on projects that are people and ministry focused.

EPC Presentation of Proposed Reallocation of 1996 Project Funding Goals

Mr. Dick Oestreicher brought the recommendation that funding for 1996 projects needed reallocation because dollars needed to meet commitments for student scholarships total \$55,800 and the 1996 goal was set for only \$45,000. The following reallocation was presented to the IPB:

Student Scholarships	\$55,800
Geneva Bibles	\$ 6,000
Ghana	\$13,000
SAMMAAR	\$ 5,200
Tocantins	<u>\$20,000</u>
TOTAL	\$100,000

Reallocation Agreement by EPC and IPB for 1996 Project Funding Goals

Rev. Cunha brought the IPB JCM's response that needed funds for the Angola professor (\$21,505 per year) were falling short. He requested that the EPC reduce funds for Tocantins by \$10,000 for 1996 and make it available for the Angola professor. This was agreed to by the EPC team and the final figures for 1996 project goals are:

Student Scholarships	\$55,800
Geneva Bibles	\$ 6,000
Ghana	\$13,000
SAMMAAR	\$ 5,200
Tocantins	\$10,000
Angola (professor)	<u>\$10,000</u>
TOTAL	\$100,000

Review of Past Years' Project Funds Received

Mr. Dick Oestreicher distributed charts recording funding receipts from EPC churches for Brazil projects for 1993, 1994, and 1995. The total percentage of the goal received for each year was noted.

EPC's Presentation of Proposed 1997 Project Funding Goals

Mr. Oestreicher presented the EPC JCM team's decision on goals for project funding for 1997:

Student scholarships	\$50,000
Geneva Bibles	\$10,000
Angola	\$22,000
Ghana	\$13,000
SAMMAAR	<u>\$ 5,000</u>
TOTAL	\$100,000

IPB JCM Response to EPC's 1997 Project Funding Goals

Rev. Cunha brought the IPB JCM's response to the EPC's proposal. He suggested that \$24,000 was needed for the Angola professor and only \$8,000 was needed for the Geneva Bible project. This was agreed to by the EPC JCM.

Approval of 1997 Project Funding Goals by EPC JCM and IPB JCM

The final agreement by the IPB and the EPC on 1997 projects and funding goals follows:

Theological Student Scholarships	\$50,000
Geneva Bibles	\$ 8,000
Angola (professor)	\$24,000
Ghana, Africa	\$13,000
SAMMAAR (ministry to street children)	<u>\$ 5,000</u>
TOTAL	\$100,000

Planning

1. **Dates for 1996 JCM Meeting**
Rev. Cunha suggested Thursday October 17, Friday, October 18, and Saturday morning, October 19, for the 1996 JCM meeting in Brazil. Saturday afternoon and evening could be reserved for a special event to be determined later. On Sunday, October 20, the EPC JCM team could participate in worship services. Rev. Cunha will arrange for each JCM team member to visit a different IPB church. Monday, October 21, would be a free day, and if the JCM meeting should take place in Rio, the EPC team may desire to stay longer to do sightseeing. These dates for the 1996 JCM meeting were agreed to by the EPC JCM.
2. **Convocation Celebration of Completion of Phase I of Post Graduate Center**
Early June (probably the first week) 1998 was set for this celebration. The precise day will be determined later.
3. **Pulpit Exchange**
No specific dates were set. Rev. Cunha noted that he will be coming to the U.S. in April 1996 for other reasons with his wife and expressed the desire for any preaching engagements for him to coincide with that trip.
4. **Brazilian Doctoral Students Visit to World Outreach Committee**
It was suggested that the Brazilian doctoral students (Mattos, Gomes, Gouveia) visit the World Outreach Committee on Saturday during their March 21-23, 1996 meeting.

Miscellaneous Matters

Dr. Hess made the presentation of gifts to each of the IPB JCM members. There was a photo session.

Rev. Lopes spoke on his acceptance to continue to serve on the IPB JCM even though his retirement was drawing near. He expressed his profound gratitude to the EPC JCM team.

Rev. Cunha asked that we send our minutes to the IPB for approval and comments. He will do his best to get the minutes signed and returned to us.

Dr. Hess expressed his feeling that life's joys are in relationships and that EPC's relationship with the IPB has enriched us.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. with prayer.

\\JCM\Minutes\O30
11-1-95:JD

JCM Minutes

October 23-24, 1995

Ministerial Vocation Committee Report

The Ministerial Vocation Committee met at the General Assembly Office on November 17-18, 1995 and again on March 14-16, 1996. Members of this committee are Chaplain Mark Jumper, Rev. Bob Harvey, Elder Leon Niemann, Elder Ed George, Elder Bill Goessling, and Rev. William Moore. Rev. Ed Davis, our Stated Clerk, met with this committee and his guidance and insights were invaluable to us.

The following items were discussed:

1. The Andrew Jumper Scholarship Fund. Present goal of this project is \$300,000 to provide a scholarship for EPC students attending Reformed Theological Seminary. To date, \$114,000 have been raised.
2. Extraordinary Candidate Process: The files on our extraordinary candidates were reviewed. The Acts of the General Assembly (1982, 83) state that files of extraordinary candidates shall be referred to the MVC for a delineation of the educational track to meet the requirements for ordination within the EPC. Such a process was upheld as being the best approach to maintain consistency, objectivity, and excellence.
3. Chaplains Subcommittee: Steps for processing applicants for the Chaplains Candidate School were discussed. Cmdr. Mark Jumper was approved as chairman of the Chaplains Subcommittee.
4. General Assembly Events: Dr. Jimmy McGuire will speak at the Newly Ordained Ministers Dinner on the topic, "Transforming Conflicts into Blessings." Cmdr Jumper will host a breakfast for all chaplains on Friday morning of the Assembly. All chaplains present at the Assembly will be recognized for their service as part of the MVC report.
5. Clergy Appreciation Thrust: MVC discussed the importance of encouraging churches to undertake a annual pastor (and staff) appreciation process.
6. National Coalition Against Pornography (NCAP): MVC conducted a telephone visit with Dr. Jerry Kirk, Director of NCAP, and affirmed the desire of the EPC to continue as a member of this coalition.

Matters Referred from the 15th General Assembly

1. Overture 95-D relating to the oversight of ministers serving in "out of bounds" ministries. A subcommittee of Pastors Bob Harvey and William Moore and Stated Clerk Ed Davis met in consultation with Dr. Richard de Witt to discuss the matter of ordination. A bibliography and monographs have been

compiled. Future consultation with Dr. Eugene Osterhaven is anticipated. A working relationship with the Committee on Theology through Drs. James Russell and Paul Husband has been put into place to satisfy the "in consultation with" requirement.

2. In the process of discussing ordination, the question was raised as to the biblical and theological standards expected of non-ordained World Outreach personnel. William Moore met with the World Outreach Committee in January to discuss this issue and it was agreed that such personnel should have training equivalent to what would be given to a ruling elder in an EPC church.

3. Overture 95-F relating to an intern program for prospective pastors: committee members have contacted different denominations to compile information on how other churches have identified this need and are responding to such. Study to continue.

4. Overture 95-L relating to the renunciation of a church officer of the authority of his church has only preliminarily been addressed. Study to continue.

Matters Pending

1. Discussion of Social Security and Pension: Should the denomination take an advisory position relative to a newly ordained person staying within or opting out of Social Security.
2. Review of the "Denominational Goals for Pastoral Care."
3. Discussion of Ministerial Ethics.
4. Review of the *Procedural Manual for Ministerial and Candidates Care Committees*.
5. Discussion relative to inviting all chairmen of the Candidates Care Committees to attend a half-day pre-assembly training session in 1997.

Recommendations

1. That the Ministerial Vocation Committee be given another year to continue its work on Overtures 95-D (on calls to serve outside the bounds of presbytery); 95-F (on internships for prospective pastors); and 95-L (on the renunciation of a church officer of the authority of his church).

For the sake of further clarifying issues in the **Book of Government** relating to ministers, the following recommendations are offered by the MVC:

2. That the General Assembly respond to Overture 96- in the negative in order that the General Assembly may continue its current policy and practice of referring extraordinary candidates to the Assembly MVC for guidance as to educational requirements.

standard will be maintained for those extraordinary candidates requesting ordination within the EPC.

Grounds: To adopt the overture would result in loss of uniformity and consistency in addressing educational needs of the candidate. From 1982, the Assembly has carried the responsibility for prescribing the educational requirements in the most even-handed and objective way. In 1983, the Assembly adopted the Handbook acknowledging the wisdom of this process for all candidates.

The issue of protracted time between the acceptance by the presbytery of an extraordinary candidate and the issuance of educational requirements, while real in the past, has been addressed.

It is incorrect to suggest that Act 82-07 conflicts with G.12-2H. The current procedure does not remove from the presbytery the right of ordination. What it does is to assure all presbyteries that an objective

The major concern regarding the present policy has been the time lapse in expediting the candidate in fulfilling his educational requirements. A second concern is that the process does not take into consideration the particular circumstances, background, and giftedness of the individual candidate. Both of these issues have been addressed by the MVC.

The Reformed heritage continues to remind us of the high calling of the Minister of the Word. Such a calling has always been understood to require high standards of preparation. The current policy helps the EPC maintain objectively these high standards.

The third "whereas" states that "some" committees are now capable of determining educational requirements. In other words, the resolution itself admits that not all committees are capable of examining extraordinary candidates.

3. That the **Book of Government**, 11-5B be amended by
 - a. deleting the words "carry on" and substituting the phrase "expedite its work as quickly as possible;" and
 - b. deleting the words "in regular consultation with the Ministerial Committee of the Presbytery."

Present wording:

"The Search Committee shall carry on its work in regular consultation with the Ministerial Committee of the Presbytery."

Proposed wording:

"The Search Committee shall expedite its work as quickly as possible."

4. That the **Book of Government**, 12-2D, be amended by adding the italicized words to the statement:
- "The Presbytery shall assign a Minister of the Word to serve as advisor to the Candidate, ordinarily *not* the Candidate's Pastor. The advisor shall *report regularly to the appropriate committee* on the progress..."

Grounds: It gives the candidate an objective source of advice, particularly since a candidate is often employed by his or her pastor's congregation. The provision continues to include the pastor as part of the candidate's preparation program, and minimizes communication breakdowns which can occur over the length of an annual reporting term.

The candidate needs both a pastor and an advisor. His pastor will continue to shepherd the candidate during this time of preparation. The advisor will serve to encourage the candidate in his fulfillment of the requirements for ordination. By involving separate pastors in each role, the candidate's pastor is freed to continue his shepherding ministry without having to undertake the additional role of administering the requirements of the ordination process while the advisor can implement the requirements of the program without jeopardizing a pastoral relationship.

5. That the **Book of Government**, 13-5, be amended in the next-to-last sentence by substituting the proposed wording for the present wording:

Present wording

"A person coming from any other tradition shall be examined examined in the same manner as a candidate for ordination."

Proposed wording

"An ordained minister coming from a non-Reformed denomination or an independent congregation shall be examined as indicated in Section 13-2."

Grounds: This amendment is intended to assist presbyteries in responding to requests for transfer of ordination from non-Reformed sources, and from non-ecclesiastical credentialing organization. It gives presbyteries the tools to more carefully consider the sources of ordination transfer requests.

6. That the **Book of Government** 16-27A.11 be amended by adding the following sentence: "If needful in Presbytery's judgment, Session may be provided with an opportunity to meet with the Committee." so that the section reads:

"11. Although no complaint may have been received, if in the judgment of the Committee a particular congregation may be having difficulties or appears to be failing in its mission, the committee has the authority to investigate and to make recommendations to Presbytery. *If needful in Presbytery's judgment, Session may be provided with an opportunity to meet with the Committee.*"

Respectfully submitted,

William C. Moore, Chairman
June, 1996

MVC-1

CHAPLAINSMilitary, Active Duty

Barrett, Steven E., Maj. USAF

Military Address: 60 AW/HC
 Travis AFB CA 94535-5000
 Phone: Autovon 828-4611
 707/424-3217
 Residence: 8158 Scottsdale Drive
 Sacramento, CA 95828
 916/682-5138

Eubanks, John A.

Department of Veteran Affairs
 Residence: 1260 Whimbrell Road
 Wellington, GL 33414
 Phone: 407/791-3664

Ingles, Mark S., Capt., USAF

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
 Phone: 214/266-6132 (6133)
 Residence: 706 Foxford Trail
 Arlington, TX 76014
 Phone: 817/472-0593

Meyer, Ronald F., LCDR, USN

Residence: 945 Lunahai Place
 Kailua, HI 96734
 Phone: 808/477-5098

Overton, Richard, LT, CHC USN

Military Address: Naval Air Station, North Island
 Chaplains Office, Box 25 Code 17
 San Diego, CA 92135
 Phone: 619/545-8213
 Fax: 619/545-9477

Springston, William, US Army

Residence: 1507 Osage St.
 Leavenworth, KS 66048
 Phone: 913/651-0270

Yorton, M. Bradley, LCDR USN

Military Address: Naval Air Station, Whidbey Island
Building 960
Oak Harbor, WA 98278-1600
Residence: 6170 600th Avenue West
Oak Harbor, WA 98277

Military, Reserve/Guard**Case, W. Ronald Sr., Col., US Army Reserve**

Residence: 811 Augustas Lane
Rock Hill, SC 29730
Military Unit: 131 Chaplain Support Team
67 Combat Support Hospital
Wuerzburg, Germany

McCready, Douglas, Maj., Army National Guard

Residence: 1333 Rothley Ave.
Roslyn, PA 19001
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

Ralston, Robert E., Capt. US Army Reserve

Residence: 13991 E. Oxford Place
Aurora, CO 80014
Phone: 303/693-5739
Military Unit: 131 Chaplain Support Team
222 Base Support Battalion
Baumholder, Germany

Yates, George R., US Army Reserve

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

Ferrell, J. Glenn

Residence: PO Box 98
Denniston, KY 40316
Phone: 606/768-6734

Hospital Chaplains

Adamson, Rev. Samuel

Chaplain, Memorial Hospital
1400 E. Boulder
Colorado Springs, CO 80917
719/475-5889

Cappel, Rev. Robert

DuBois Regional Medical Center
PO Box 447
DuBois, PA 15801
814/275-3429

Kelly, Rev. Gerald

Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center
1500 Wallace Blvd.
Amarillo, TX 79106
806/359-4673

Overall, Rev. Claude Douglas

Denver General Hospital
4851 S. Xenia St.
Denver, CO 80110
303/762-9355

Sherman, Rev. Douglas

Glacier Hills Retirement Center
1463 MacGregor Lane
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
313/663-6031

Stewart, Rev. Nancy

Shady Grove Adventist Hospital
12501 Exchange Court South
Potomac, MD 20854
301/762-0866

Prison Chaplains

Bidderman, Rev. James

Arizona Department of Corrections
PO Box 3240
St. Johns, AZ 85936
520/337-4815

Tamburri, Rev. Ron

Department of Corrections
PO Box 936
Gainesville, FL 32602
904/955-1675

RAAP Summit Conference Goals and Objectives November 21-22, 1996

Background of RAAP

When the Religious Alliance Against Pornography (RAAP) was organized as an unprecedented inter-faith effort in 1986 it adopted a concise and ecumenical statement of purpose that 1) laid the theological foundation for the group's efforts, 2) set forth an educational and motivational role for religious leaders in this effort, and 3) proclaimed the group's strong commitment to freedom of expression and its fundamental convictions about human dignity.

The theological foundation for our opposition to pornography begins with the dignity and sacredness of every human life. As religious persons, we affirm that all individuals are created by God, in God's image, and with a dignity that rests on the loving design of the divine Creator. Further, we maintain, in faith, that how we treat our neighbor is a significant dimension of our real worship of and service to God. Therefore, as believers, we must and do oppose illegal and violent pornography because:

- o it exploits and degrades the human person;
- o it undermines families;
- o it twists personal and social relations;
- o it reduces God's gift of sexuality to a level that lacks a sense of the personal dignity, human tenderness, mutual love, and ethical commitment that are part of the divine plan.

RAAP has consistently maintained that the role of religious leaders in combating the evil of pornography is primarily one of education and motivation. Many misconceptions surround the issue, and first among them is lack of awareness. As religious leaders, it is our responsibility, sensitively but honestly, to alert people to the degradation that pornography inflicts — on those used to make pornographic materials and on those who are desensitized or even destroyed through its consumption.

Another educational task responds to the assertion that the use of pornography is merely a private matter, a perhaps unfortunate but unavoidable by-product of human freedom. Pornography is not merely private; it has important social dimensions. Because it attacks the dignity of the human person and the caring intimacy of human sexual relations, pornography attacks both the good of the individual and the common good of society. While many would agree that children and the young need to be protected, society as a whole is also at risk when human degradation and sexual violence are touted as entertainment. This is increasingly the case in our contemporary society.

Coincidental with the task of education is the need for religious leaders to motivate believers to action. Many people, though personally opposed to pornography, are reluctant to act in the church or in the civic community because the subject is embarrassing; the cause is unpopular; or the call for good law and consistent law enforcement provokes accusations of censorship. These barriers to action can be formidable. Education about the seriousness of the issue and understanding of the appropriate role of law can help people overcome their reticence and take effective personal and communal action.

Goals for the RAAP Summit

A few understandings are central to the achievement of the summit goals.

First, we are united in both our strong opposition to illegal, degrading and violent pornography and our strong commitment to constitutionally protected freedom of expression.

Second, we believe that appropriate law enforcement and public policy have essential roles to play in addressing this problem. However, our *primary* focus as religious leaders during this summit will be educational and motivational efforts within the faith communities and then to the broader public.

Third, RAAP has always found strength in its diversity of approaches, faith groups and viewpoints. All summit participants will have the freedom to address the problem in the manner which is most consistent with their own religious heritage. We are not seeking to tell others how they must accomplish these important objectives, but rather to provide resources and a forum to strengthen individual and communal efforts.

Our overriding goal in calling this summit is to collectively 1) develop a deeper understanding of the problems in our society that result from pornography, 2) provide an expanded forum for collective action, and 3) offer resources that meet the pressing need for serious, continuing educational efforts primarily within faith groups, but also for the broader culture. This issue is not going away and pornography is having an increasingly detrimental impact on society as a whole.

We will bring together four groups of leaders: senior executive leadership from at least fifty faith groups; also leadership of women's groups within those faith groups (if such a particularized ministry exists); also leadership to ethnic communities within those faith groups (if such a particularized ministry exists). The fourth group is high-level business and professional leaders who are committed to help educate and mobilize others and help fund and implement a national education effort to change the way Americans think about pornography. The goal is to make the open consumption of pornography as socially unacceptable as drinking and driving, or as smoking in public within a confined area. Specialized opportunities and resources will be provided for each group. Participation in one of the group tracks offered by the summit is a function of the invited leader's defined organizational responsibilities, *not* their gender, ethnicity or any other factor. Participation in the summit will be by personal invitation only.

The summit constitutes a forum in which participants:

- 1) Have the opportunity to join with other faith leaders to constitute an expanded Steering Committee for RAAP made up of senior denominational, faith group and ecumenical leaders to address the problem of pornography on a continuing basis.
- 2) Privately dialogue and debate to develop effective ways to address the moral challenges posed by new technologies, computer pornography and other new international means of facilitating sexual exploitation and abuse.
- 3) Have the opportunity to determine ways that they can best participate in educating their constituency about the harm of pornography and motivating their community to take substantive personal and communal action. Few educational resources have been broadly distributed with respect to this problem. Before religious groups will commit their time and resources, they must have a firm understanding of the dimensions of the problem of

pornography and useful, balanced resources. Detailed, concrete educational resources will be provided at the summit for participants.

- 4) Provide those persons responsible for leadership among women within faith communities with resources specifically targeted towards deepening the involvement of women of faith in opposing pornography. This will include a detailed presentation by the "Enough is Enough!" campaign, which has focused on developing resources and opportunities specifically for women.
- 5) Provide those persons responsible for leadership among ethnic groups within faith communities with resources specifically targeted towards the impact of pornography and sexual exploitation on ethnic communities. Bring together the ethnic leaders of denominations/faith groups to develop a common strategy for Impact 5000, the recruitment and mobilization of 5,000 ethnic churches to develop materials and a common strategy for deepened ethnic leadership involvement.
- 6) Provide strategizing opportunities and resources for persons responsible for mobilizing business and professional leaders to support the national education effort and to establish policies within businesses that protect people from the impact of pornography in the work place.
- 7) Draw the attention of national media and policy makers to the problem of pornography. Emphasize the concern of a broad spectrum of the nation's religious communities and their commitment to successfully combat pornography and sexual exploitation through an official statement or press conference.
- 8) Provide a concrete opportunity for successful advocacy/policy involvement by meeting with senior government official(s) during the summit. The summit is being held *after* the 1996 elections because our approach to this problem as religious leaders is strictly non-partisan. We want to express our concerns and hopes as representatives of a broad spectrum of the United States' religious community that public officials make the protection of children and appropriate law enforcement efforts a priority.

Moderator's Report



Wayne Hoffman

My old coach was fond of saying, "Find out what you do not do well, then don't do it." By the time you're done reading this, you may agree that I've done something I don't do well. I'm not sure I've done the work of Moderator all that well. I was not equal to the task. The reach was greater than the length of my arm. That I enjoyed a wider contact with the EPC family is without question. That I gained more than I gave is my first testimony. To have been with my EPC brothers and sisters has been an enormous boost and blessing to my heart. I thank you and the Lord for this very special opportunity to serve.

When asked how old the EPC is, I reply: We are 15 years old going on 350. In 1646, the Westminster Divines gathered to draft a confession of faith. Our theological and spiritual forbears were used of God to delineate the faith in sturdy cadence. We remain in their debt. To the extent we are guided by this secondary witness, we, too will make a telling witness in our generation.

"As its pulpits stood, its people stood." "As the pulpit goes, so goes the nation." Such have been the testimonies of those who know the potential impact of a faithful Christian witness. People learn to penetrate the fog of compromise and gain courage when the teaching and preaching of the Church is vigorous and uncompromising. For many years in America, the Church gave our nation its conscience. "As its pulpits stood, its people stood."

When asked how big the EPC is, I reply: "If the church is measured by how much it cares, then EPC is the biggest church in America." How much do we care about each other, our communities, and our nation? How much do we care about our children, our elderly, the hurting and the homeless? Do we care enough about our communities to serve through helping agencies and political structures? Do we care enough about the lost - urgently care - so that missionaries are sent, supported, and submersed in supplication?

We are growing in our appreciation for one another. We are learning to embrace our distinctive diversity without sacrificing our theological integrity. In America, the consumer is offered a cafeteria of congregations

ranging from the super-rigid conservative to the loosey-goosey feel-good extremes. Religious consumerism is a hallmark of the 90s. Much of it is hyper-marketing and slick advertising in order to reach the unreached. It adversely impacts on all of us when the gospel is presented in a superficial manner to attract the ho-hum crowd. I have been blessed to witness that EPC congregations are sincere about winning the lost to the Savior, but not at the expense of selling the gospel at bargain prices. Grace is free, but it is not cheap.

We are grateful to faithful pastors and elders who lead our people. We are blessed by a General Assembly staff whose competence and commitment is unexcelled. We are blessed by forbears whose vision for EPC continues to bless the Kingdom.

In this American Olympic year, the torch of faith is passed from us to succeeding generations. "You are the salt of the earth, you are the light on a hill." Let the light shine. Let the salt bite. We are expected to stand for truth as we see it in Scripture. To do less is to diminish our distinctiveness and to lose our integrity. To God be the glory!



Wayne M. Hoffman
Moderator, 15th General Assembly

National Outreach Committee Report

APPENDICES

"Marching Orders" For Marines in Guadalcanal their directives came to capture and occupy certain turf for wartime purposes. Their success would have an important bearing on the outcome of the Pacific conflict in the 1940's.

We in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church also have "Marching Orders" from our leader, Jesus Christ: orders to capture and occupy the hearts hold their attention with

all the creativity and love we can muster as the Master gives them faith and new birth for Kingdom purposes. Our success in obeying our orders has an eternal bearing on the lives of our friends and neighbors and on the return of our King to His victory fields.

To make progress in our obedience the National Outreach Committee has taken certain strategic steps:

This General Assembly marks the first since Corbett Heimburger was call by the Assembly to serve as our National Outreach Director. You made a good choice. Corbett's enthusiastic leadership has imparted both a sense of direction and a sense of the ability to make a difference inside our denomination and out in our neighborhoods. Staff leadership was always viewed as essential to our progress in National Outreach issues. Corbett has served and will serve us quite well.

To deploy ourselves more effectively we agreed on the following Mission Statement and Values, recommended to this General Assembly for its approval.

Recommendation:

That the General Assembly adopt the following Mission Statement and Values:

Mission Statement: To trust God to build a multiplying movement of growing churches which will so impact the lives of individuals and communities through the power of the Gospel that the heart of our nation is radically transformed.

Our mission can only be carried out by God's supernatural power as we express our dependence on Him through:



Ed Davis, Chairman

1. **Focusing** our passion on reaching people who have not yet responded to God's grace.
2. **Building** a structure for an enduring ministry that is consistent and reproducible.
3. **Devoting** our primary energies to setting people free to plant churches and effectively fulfill the Great Commission.
4. **Staying** on the cutting edge of cultural trends while discovering and offering the most effective ways to apply the Gospel to them.

The National Outreach Committee has organized itself around this Mission Statement and values by dividing into **Ministry Teams** focusing on **Empowerment, Church Vitality, Structures, and Cutting Edge** issues. Meetings of the NOC this year focused on developing these teams and their individual responsibilities.

The EPC Church Development Plan submitted to last year's Assembly is progressing with several of our smaller churches taking advantage of the funds and consultation services made available to restore their first love and ambition to reach their communities with the Gospel. Some churches with memberships over 200 but less than 1000 have planted daughter congregations this past year. Our Church Planting Assessment Center yielded some great church planting candidates and helped other discover alternative direction for ministry. Our Key Cities idea focused on Orlando, Florida, but received a surprising addition in the San Francisco area.

This September, 1995 and March, 1996 meetings served as forums for decision making regarding the Orlando church plant led by Rev. Dan Lacich and endorsed by last year's General Assembly. To date Dan is making outstanding progress with his new team and an October, 1996 start for public worship is anticipated.

"Marching Orders" from our Master are intended to be obeyed . . . with as much intelligence and zeal as we can muster. Pray for and participate in your National Outreach Committee's agenda. Support Corbett with your prayers, encouragement and volunteered talent. God has demonstrated His determination to take back what was lost. Let's follow His lead.

For the National Outreach Committee,

Ed Davis, Chairman

EPC National Outreach Mission and Values

Mission Statement: To trust God to build a multiplying movement of growing churches which will so impact the lives of individuals and communities through the power of the Gospel that the heart of our nation is radically transformed.

Our mission can only be carried out by God's supernatural power as we express our dependence on Him through:ⁱ

- 1. Focusing our passion on reaching people who have not yet responded to God's graceⁱⁱ.***
- 2. Building a structure for an enduring ministry that is consistent and reproducible.ⁱⁱⁱ***
- 3. Devoting our primary energies to setting people free to plant churches and effectively fulfill the Great Commission.^{iv}***
- 4. Staying on the cutting edge of cultural trends while discovering and offering the most effective ways to apply the Gospel to them.^v***

ⁱ Our commitment to this value may be seen, at least partly, in the following ways:

- Relying upon God's supernatural power and not upon human effort. (Supernatural Dynamic) (JN 15:7,8; Eph 3:20,21; MT 16:18; PS 127:1)
- Giving significant time during National Outreach Meetings to prayer.
- Recruiting "Prayer Intercessors" to actively and aggressively intercede for NOC ministries.
- Reminding church planters that God builds the church, not they
- Preaching the sovereign grace of God
- Making plans trusting God to work through us so startlingly that no one could attribute the results to human effort
- Looking for evidences of God's handiwork that cannot be explained in human terms alone.
- By operating upon God's revealed purposes and strategies while staying open to respond to opportunities created by His Spirit. (Proactive and Responsive) (PV 16:9)

Proactive

- Laying hold of God and his promises through prayer
- Targeting major population centers
- Targeting the neglected centers of our cities
- Recruiting and training potential leaders

Responsive

- Assisting core groups that the Spirit has raised up
- Recognizing and supporting anointed leaders
- Constantly asking God to show us where He is working and how we can be involved
- Aiding those churches seeking to transfer into the EPC

¹² Our commitment to this value may be seen, at least partly, in the following ways:

- Fervently praying for those without Christ
- Constantly searching for more effective and relevant ways to present the Gospel
- Making personal contacts with the unchurched
- Regularly monitoring our spending and programming to ensure the primacy of outreach to the unchurched
- Exposing church leaders to the desperate plight of those without Christ
- Promoting and rewarding conversion growth as opposed to transfer growth
- Worship on reaching the unchurched
- (LK 15)

¹³ Our commitment to this value may be seen, at least partly, in the following ways:

- Not compromising the long term best by pushing for immediate gain
- Evaluating every ministry on the basis of our mission and values
- Not simply planting and revitalizing churches one by one, but creating the framework that will mobilize more and more people for those ministries
- (II Tim 2:2; Jesus' training of the twelve)

¹⁴ Our commitment to this value may be seen, at least partly, in the following ways:

- Keeping in mind that the structure serves the individual.
- Building a nurturing family environment with individual mentoring.
- Recognizing that Christian workers are the most important element in carrying out our goal to reach those without Christ.
- Teaching that ministry flows from grace, not our performance
- Giving people freedom to try, succeed or fail
- Encouraging leaders to own and direct their ministries
- Equipping people who can equip others
- Recognizing and resourcing leaders with obvious gifts.
- Not hampering ministry with top-down micromanagement.

¹⁵ Our commitment to this value may be seen, at least partly, in the following ways:

- Trusting God to lead us where He is working
- Constantly researching new and better ways to reach people for Christ
- Looking for, testing and recommending excellent ministry programs that will benefit the whole church
- Employing up-to-date technology that assists effective communication of the Gospel and church planting
- Always improving NOC's structural design for maximum outreach effectiveness and support of church planters and revitalizers
- Understanding cultural trends so that we may adjust our practices ahead of the culture
- "Good enough never is"

National Outreach Director's Report



As of the beginning of the 1996 General Assembly, I will have served almost eleven months as your National Outreach Director. This past year has been a time of learning, laying foundations and making new beginnings.

Learning

Since I am new not only to the National Outreach Director's position, but to the denomination as a whole, this year's first priority has been to learn as much as I could about the EPC. I have attempted to do that through conferences with our Stated Clerk, reading past minutes, attending committee meetings and visiting presbytery meetings. For

me the most important segment of that learning curve has been getting to know the people of the denomination. What a rich and rewarding experience this time of learning has been as I have met and grown to love so many new people. I treasure the new relationships I am building and trust that as our relational bridges grow stronger, we will be able to work together effectively in the Lord's vineyard.

Foundations

Critical to the vitality of any organization is having a clear sense of why it exists. With that in mind, the National Outreach Committee worked together to forge a new **mission statement**:

To trust God to build a multiplying movement of growing churches that will so impact the lives of individuals and communities that the heart of our nation will be radically transformed.

To further clarify how we plan to accomplish this mission, the NOC claimed the following statements as its **core values**:

*Our mission can only be carried out by **God's supernatural power** as express our submission to Him through:*

- 1. Focusing our passion on reaching people who have not yet responded to God's grace.*
- 2. By devoting our primary energies to setting people free to plant churches and effectively fulfill the Great Commission.*
- 3. By building a structure for an enduring ministry that is consistent and reproducible.*
- 4. By staying on the cutting edge of cultural trends while discovering the most effective ways to apply the Gospel to them.*

One of the first steps the NOC took in carrying out its mission was to reorganize the committee structure. Instead of merely acting as a board of

directors, the committee decided to make itself into an active, ministering body grouped into **ministry teams** designed to carry out our mission. Each team has its own agenda and is empowered to recruit people to fulfill their specific part of the overall NOC mission. The following is a list of our first four teams and their objectives. If you have any interest in investing your time, energy and God-given gifts in any of these endeavors, please contact me:

The Empowerment Team

Mission: To empower our church planters to lead the denomination in evangelistic growth and discipleship.

Key Results Areas: Selecting capable people, training for maximum effectiveness, communicating success stories; placement.

The Church Vitality Team

Mission: To trust God to deepen our passion for Him and to increase our love for one another so that every EPC congregation becomes healthy and growing.

Key Results Areas: Church growth, national prayer ministry.

The Cutting Edge Team

Mission: To network resource services to assist EPC churches to meet the challenges of a changing culture.

Key Results Areas: Creation of a resource service through publications, multi-media, forums and the Internet.

The Structures Team

Mission: To develop the foundations and framework for ministry teams charged with the responsibility of church planting and to enhance vitality so that the outcomes of ministry teams will continue to create dynamic ministries beyond our life time.

Key Results Areas: Ministry team planning, follow up and oversight, policy and procedures, ministry team recruitment and selection, leadership development, reporting and communications, planning team.

Beginnings

As the NOC trusted God to help us lay some foundational elements, we have watched Him take the initiative in starting some exciting ministries. The first and foremost of those is the **Orlando Project**. Truly God's hand has been at work building a church in the suburb of Oviedo. One by one the critical elements are coming into place as Dan and Barbara Lacich prepare this church plant for its first public worship service this fall. Watch *Reflections* for updates.

The Orlando beginning is extremely significant to the on-going work of National Outreach. In my travels to presbyteries and churches, I have discovered that the EPC faces a **crisis of faith** in regards to church planting. We have experienced so many disappointments in this area that we have begun to believe that God does not want to work through us. Nothing could be further from the truth. He has given us the Gospel, which is the power of salvation to those who believe. Since He has trusted us with this precious resource, He definitely wants us to make use of it. Since over the years church

planting has proven to be the most effective means for reaching people for Christ, God definitely wants us to commit our energies and resources to that endeavor. We can trust him to help us to understand and overcome the difficulties we have experienced in the past. In that light, we are presently compiling the results of a survey which we have sent out to all the church plants of the EPC. By the next General Assembly we will have publishable results for everyone to examine. In the meantime, we need to pray that God will continue to pour out his blessing on the church he is building in Orlando through the Laciches and the group God has gathered around them.

One of the signs that God is at work in the life of a group is the appearance of the unexpected. Those **unforeseen blessings** have come in the form of two new church plants, one in the **San Francisco Bay Area** and the other in **Chesapeake, Virginia**. Please see the Summer, 1996 issue of *Reflections* for further details. Had we had greater resources at our disposal, we could have also started churches in Atlanta and Los Angeles this year.

One final area where we have seen God begin ministry is in Church Vitality. A year ago the NOC contracted with **Lay Renewal** to work with EPC congregations that wanted to see their ministries expand and become more effective. As of now there are 15 EPC churches that have begun renewal ministries under the auspices of Lay Renewal. Most of them have just begun their relationship with Lay Renewal, so it is too early to determine the significance of those ministries, but the beginnings have gone well and we look for good things to continue to happen.

Respectfully submitted,

L. Corbett Heimburger
National Outreach Director

Nominating Committee Report

Slate of Nominations Permanent Committees
--

Committee on Administration

Class of 1999

TE David Chadwick (Mid-Atlantic)

RE John Adamson (Central South)

TE Ron Ragon (Southeast)

Class of 1997

TE Rhett Payne (Central South)

Board of Pension and Benefits

Class of 1999

RE Stewart Fleming (Midwest)

RE Bill Holmes (Central South)

Committee on Christian Education and Publications

Class of 1999

Sandy Hazelwood (Central South)

TE Bruce Demarest (West)

Class of 1997

Elizabeth Hicks (Central South)

TE Bruce Spear (West)

Committee on Fraternal Relations

Class of 1999

TE Frank Kik (Mid-Atlantic)

RE James Currie (Midwest)

Class of 1997

TE Graham Smith (East)

RE Dexter Kuhlman (Mid-America)

Committee on Ministerial Vocation

Class of 1999

TE Mark Jumper (Central South)

RE John Allman (Mid-Atlantic)

Committee on National Outreach

Class of 1999

TE Ian Lamont (East)
 RE Sam Searcy (West)
 TE Robert Stauffer (Midwest)

Committee on Theology

Class of 1999

TE Paul Johnson (West)
 RE James Russell (Central South)

Committee on Women's Ministries

Class of 1999

Anne Blackley (Mid-Atlantic)
 Susie McQueen (West)

Committee on World Outreach

Class of 1999

RE Vern Porter (West)
 TE Todd Hahn (Mid-Atlantic)
 RE Robert Healey (Midwest)

Class of 1998

RE John Haase (Central South)

Committee on Student and Young Adult Ministries

Class of 1999

Kris Decker (Central South)
 RE Ken Roberts (West)

Permanent Judicial Commission

Class of 1999

RE Evelyn Cisney (West)
 TE Harold Polk (Midwest)
 RE Harold Haddon (West)

Class of 1998

TE Robert Hess (Florida)

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE ASSEMBLY

Administration

Nate Atwood
 Ted Beattie
 LaVerne Bender
 Gary Bunjer
 Kenneth Casey
 James Coleman
 Don Creamer
 Royce Davis
 Ted Dodasovich
 Mack Galaznik
 James Giles
 John Griffith
 Wilton Hazelwood
 Dennis Henn
 David Herbertson
 Peter Hielt
 Paul Husband
 Bill Hyer
 Jeffrey Jeremiah
 Lee Kizer
 Doug Klein
 Charles Leonard
 Ian Leslie
 John Mathieu
 Leon Niemann, Chairman
 Ron Ragon
 Ed Randal, Recording Clerk
 Bill Read
 David Rilling
 Irvin Rinehart
 George Schneider
 John Sherard
 Doug Sherman
 Doug Thompson
 Robert Truitt

Christian Education & Publications

David Brogren
 Stephen Brown
 David Cadwell
 Robert Drysdale
 Robbi Fischer
 William Hoel
 Kenneth Holz
 Kim Hutchins

Jim Johnson
 Dexter Kuhlman, Chairman
 Sheldon MacGillivray
 Ed McCallum
 Cecil Matthews
 Perry Mobley
 Roger Neubauer
 Robert Norris
 Carol Osborn
 Gordon Piebenga
 John Quigley
 William Raisch
 Ron Read, Recording Clerk
 Tony Register
 Steve Revenig
 Phil Stump
 Wayne Traylor
 Mark Wildey

Fraternal Relations

Brett Abernathy
 Percy Andrews
 Richard Beatty
 Daniel Berry, Jr.
 Ted Brandsma
 Percy Burns
 Glenn Ferrell
 Bill Flannagan
 Bob Harvey
 Robert Hess, Recording Clerk
 Norm Huebl
 Ronald Mann
 Mark Moore
 Gil Odendaal
 Erik Ohman, Chairman
 James Orr
 John Patterson
 William Swafford
 Frances Wall
 Walter Wimberly
 Vern Winkel
 Mike Winship

Memorials and Appreciation

Tom Dages, Chairman
 Steven Hansen
 Hillard Strong

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE ASSEMBLY

Ministerial Vocation

Richard Alberta, Chairman
 Louis Angone
 Steve Barrett
 Ron Bengelink
 James Bidderman
 Gwynn Blair
 John Cedar
 Marly DeVries
 Jim Dixon
 Tom Dolch
 Neil Ellison
 Todd Hahn
 Jack Ingles
 Cindy Jamieson
 Peter Jumper
 Frank Kik
 Arnold Lindseth, Jr.
 Steven Riser
 Dick Robinson
 Bill Sharp
 Mark Sheehan
 David Shores
 Graham Smith
 Hugh Smith
 John Splinter
 Nancy Stewart, Recording Clerk
 Charles Stokes, Jr.
 Larry Swinson
 Don Systma

National Outreach

Craig Strickland, Chairman
 Harry Allin
 Todd Atkins
 Charlotte Beatty
 Chuck Berling
 Edward Best
 Randy Brown
 Jimmy Carr
 Howard Chadwick, II
 Jeff Chadwick
 Roger Derksen
 Sterling Dixon
 Sam Downing
 Carlos Gonzalez
 Marc Huebl, Recording Clerk

Steve Johnson
 Art Kaufman
 Richard Kidd
 Alan Killingsworth
 Jeanene King
 Ian Lamont
 Phyllis LePeau
 Fred Lian
 David Lovell
 Peter Mastic
 Ken Mitchell
 Jim Murphy
 Ann Norton
 Jeffrey Richards
 David Ruff
 Joseph Schluchter
 James Smith
 Lee Stertz
 John Stone
 Norm Templeton
 Theodore Tubbesing
 Jeffrey Van Kooten
 Wendy Walker
 Jim Wallace
 Kirk Werner
 Sanders Willson
 Wayne Wood
 Rodger Woodworth

Overtures and Resolutions

John Adamson
 Dan Allbritton
 Steve Andrews
 Donald Ashe
 Bob Beltz
 Charles Brady
 James Brown, Jr.
 Paul Brown
 Frank Bynum
 Bill Cantrell
 John Cotner
 David Fenska
 Steve Ferris
 Michael Frison
 Aram Haroutunian
 Beverly Havens
 Ken Jones

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE ASSEMBLY

Samuel Jones
 Steve Jones
 Mark Jumper
 Steve Kerhoulas
 David Krantz
 Russell Louden, Chairman
 Travis Martin
 Clarold Morgan
 Ronald Murray
 Ross O'Dell
 Rhett Payne
 Phil Pelli, Recording Clerk
 Robert Petterson
 Tom Pitman
 Stewart Pohlman
 Jim Reitsma
 Felix Sharpe
 Robert Stauffer
 David Stewart
 Chuck Talbot
 Jim Thyne
 Lynn van der Harst
 Robert Warwick
 Tricia Wright
 John Young

Presbytery Review

Earl Clark, Chairman
 David Hicks,
 Hadley De Puy
 Charles Overstreet
 Russ Ragon
 Sam Searcy
 Knox Sherer
 Steele Stewart

Theology

Greg Anthony
 Bill Arnold
 Ken Barnes
 Ken Breckner
 Jerry Brundle
 Kent Bull
 Jim Byrne
 David Chadwick
 Jerald Dosh
 Jim Glasgow

Bill Glassman
 Ron Grant
 Charles Haden
 Richard Halmekangas
 Harold Hegel
 Dan Hiatt
 Gary Hole
 Wally Hostetter, Chairman
 John Israel
 Clifton King
 Michael Kluherz
 Dan Lacich
 David Malone
 Don Mason
 Tom Melton
 Bill Meyer
 Don Neighbours
 Brian Post
 Tom Ricks, Recording Clerk
 James Russell
 Alan Shaffer
 Stan Van Den Berg
 Mark Vanderput
 Hugo Venegas
 Robert White
 Rick Weiss
 Robert Wood

Women's Ministries

Joanne Becker
 Richard Bowman
 Evelyn Cisney, Chairman
 Marble Hensley
 Grace Jarvis
 Frank Leslie
 Lorelei Mah
 Craig McElvain
 Douglas Murphy
 Shawn Robinson
 Allen Roes
 Barbara Stephens
 John Wilkie, Jr.
 Dean Wolf

World Outreach

Sam Adamson
 Jim Allen

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE ASSEMBLY

Reese Baker
 Robert Barnhart
 Robert Barrett
 Robert Bayles
 Jan Bole
 Ken Bond
 King Brown
 William Bumford
 George Carey
 Donovan Coley, Sr.
 John Dewald
 Robert Douglas
 Nettie Graham
 John Haase
 Charles Hoppe
 David Jonckheere
 Bob Kuseski
 Joseph McCloud
 Bryan Nearn
 Rick Peterson
 Daniel Pinckney
 Timothy Probert
 Armin Remke
 Maryon Remke
 Thomas Shafer
 Chris Smith
 Bruce Spear
 Fred Stifel
 Paul Swets
 Bill Vogler, Chairman
 John Ward
 Hugh White
 Steve Wilkinson, Recording Clerk
 Les B. Williams

Steve Fisher
 David Flaig
 Robert Garment
 Dennis Graham
 Douglas Graham
 Bob Hacker
 Paul Hamilton
 Alan Herweyer
 Debbie Hess
 Jim Jaros
 Ken Glasier
 Russell Loudon
 Donna McClellan
 Adger McKay, Jr.
 Carolyn Morz
 Buck Oliphant
 Joe Plemon
 Roy Schrameck
 Michael Schulte

Youth Ministries

Rocky Anthony, Recording Clerk
 Greg Bettis
 Steve Brooks
 Janet Carlton
 Ramona Chadwick
 Marge Day
 Tony De Orio
 Jerre Dixon
 Sam Downing, Chairman

Permanent Judicial Commission Report

The Commission met on May 24th, 1996 in the General Assembly offices.

Present were Jimmy McGuire, Moderator; Hal Polk, Clerk; Frank Johnson, Leonard Pilgrim, Vern Schneider, Stan Stancliff and Jim Wall. Excused was Jim Rimmel. The resignation of Ron DiNunzio for health reasons was acknowledged with regret. The Commission was joined in much of its work by the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, Ed Davis.

The meeting was convened at 9:10 A.M. by the Moderator with his citation of James 1:5. Devotions focused on the value and need for wisdom in the Christian life and the work of the Church, followed by prayer.

The Commission reviewed the work of the Constitutional Review Committee regarding the **Book of Discipline** and expressed satisfaction with its final recommendation.

The Stated Clerk reported on a number of matters of general interest and concern. As a result of this discussion the following motion was sustained:

ON MOTION there will be a conference approximately thirty days prior to the spring meeting of the PJC involving its Moderator and Clerk and the Stated Clerk. Its purpose will be to review matters expected to come before the Commission and to prepare the agenda for that meeting accordingly.

To the extent it is possible, materials to be considered by the Commission will be sent to its members ten days prior to its meetings.

The attention of the Commission was directed to *Acts of the Assembly*, #93-17 which deals with the relationship between the **Westminster Confession** and "The Essentials of the Faith." The word "full" in the last sentence has become a source of consternation in the Church. After long discussion of the issue of subscriptionism, the motion was sustained to recommend the deletion of this word.

The Stated Clerk alerted the Commission to the possibility that there is an editorial error in the printing of G. 14-1-A-4 and 14-1-E-4. The history of these paragraphs will be studied and, if necessary, the matter will be addressed in a future meeting.

The Commission revisited its discussion of *Acts of the Assembly*, #93-17. As a result of this renewed discussion the following motions were sustained and rationale adopted:

The Commission's previous action was reconsidered. On reconsideration the motion to recommend deletion of the word "full" from the last sentence of #93-17 was defeated.

ON MOTION to recommend the deletion of the last sentence in its entirety.

Rationale:

It is inconsistent with the language of G.14-1-A-3 and 14-1-E-3.
Its presence has caused confusion in the Church.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jimmy McGuire, Moderator

Harold Polk, Secretary

Proposed Revision of
The Book of Order
of
**THE EVANGELICAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

Part Two
The Book of Discipline

Introduction

The following pages contain a proposed revision of the EPC *Book of Discipline* in the form of a Motion for Substitution. Our motion is to substitute the new revision as a whole in place of the old *Book of Discipline*. In this fashion, it will allow for these revisions to become effective following the 16th General Assembly, assuming affirmative votes of the two Assemblies and a majority of the presbyteries.

The proposed new *Book of Discipline* appears on the left of each page, with the corresponding provisions, if any, of the present *Book of Discipline* appearing on the right.

This effort was undertaken as a result of the 14th General Assembly affirmatively adopting the following recommendation:

The *Book of Discipline* is not explicit regarding judicial commissions even though the *Book of Government*, 16-26.B permits the use of judicial commissions in the trial of disciplinary cases. The General Assembly directs the Moderator to appoint a committee to examine ambiguous, contradictory, or inadequate coordination between the *Book of Government* and the *Book of Discipline*, and to offer possible amendments to the 15th General Assembly.

Grounds: The committee felt that its own limited attempts to correct the *Book of Order* might cause additional problems. Therefore, we recommended that the *Book of Government* and the *Book of Discipline* be reviewed in their entirety to address issues such as this.

It is evident from a close reading of our current *Book of Discipline* that it has been taken from a variety of sources over the years. Unfortunately, it contains a number of inconsistencies, and at times dated language. Moreover, a number of paragraphs on a given topic are scattered through several chapters. It is our understanding that it was adopted basically without change from other Presbyterian denominations.

It has been the goal of the Constitutional Review Committee to prepare a document that is biblically consistent, theologically aware, and usable and practical for use in the church.

Paragraphs captioned "Note" or "Rationale" are just that, and are intended only for explanation of particular provisions. The committee does not intend that these paragraphs be adopted as part of the new *Book of Discipline*.

Please note that we have moved several of the final chapters of the present *Book of Discipline*, particularly those chapters dealing with Review and Control and References to the *Book of Government*.

Respectfully submitted,

James Rimmel, RE

D.E. "Bud" Sparling, TE

Austin McCaskill, Jr., TE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	201
CHAPTER 1: DISCIPLINE -- IT'S NATURE, SUBJECTS, AND PURPOSE	205
§1-1 Definition of Church Discipline	205
§1-2 Grounds for Ecclesiastical Judicial Procedures.....	206
§1-3 Church Members Who Are Also Employees.....	206
§1-4 Persons Subject to Discipline.....	207
§1-5 Purpose of Discipline.....	207
§1-6 Basis of Discipline.....	207
§1-7 Definition of "Church.".....	209
§1-8 Definition of "Contempt.".....	209
§1-9 Definition of "Heresy.".....	209
§1-10 Definition of "Immorality.".....	209
§1-11 Definition of "Jurisdiction.".....	209
CHAPTER 2: PASTORAL CARE	210
§2-1 The Duty to Evangelize.....	210
§2-2 The Spiritual Power of the Church.....	210
§2-3 Spiritual Nurture of Members.....	210
§2-4 Retention of Authority over Church Property.....	210
CHAPTER 3: JURISDICTION	211
§3-1 The Right of Private Judgment.....	211
§3-2 Original Jurisdiction.....	211
A. The Session.....	211
B. The Presbytery.....	211
C. Dissolved Churches.....	211
D. Transfer of Membership.....	211
§3-3 Assumption of Jurisdiction.....	213
§3-4 Failure to Act	213
§3-5 Termination of Jurisdiction	213
CHAPTER 4: OFFENSES.....	215
§4-1 Offenses.....	215
§4-2 Personal and General Offenses.....	215
§4-3 Private and Public Offenses.....	215
§4-4 Preliminary Sanctions.....	215
CHAPTER 5: ACTIONS FOR DISCIPLINE.....	217
§5-1 Commencement of Actions for Discipline.....	217
A. By a Person or Persons.....	217
B. By the Court.....	217
§5-2 Limitation on Actions.....	217
§5-3. Preliminary Investigation of a Charge by a Person or Person(s).....	218
§5-4 Proceedings Upon a Determination of a Strong Presumption of Guilt	218
§5-5 Trial.....	218
§5-6 Decision	218
CHAPTER 6: PROCEDURES IN ACTIONS FOR DISCIPLINE.....	219
§6-1 Investigation of a Charge.....	219
A. Care over the Church.....	219
B. Written Charges.....	219
C. Judicial Committee	219

§6-2 Appointment of a Prosecutor	219
§6-3 Selection of Prosecutor	221
§6-4 Parties in a Case	221
§6-5 Private Reconciliation	223
§6-6 Biased Accusations and Testimony	223
§6-7 Suspension of Official Functions	223

CHAPTER 7: GENERAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL CASES OF ECCLESIASTICAL JUDICIAL PROCEDURE..... 225

§7-1 Warning to All	225
§7-2 Processing a Charge	225
A. Commencement	225
B. Commissions	225
C. Moderator <i>Pro Tem</i>	226
D. Moderator <i>Pro Tem</i>	226
§7-3 Indictment	227
A. Heading of the Indictment	227
B. Contents of the Indictment	227
§7-4 Formal Summons	227
A. Issuance of Formal Summons	227
B. Contents	227
C. Service of Summons and Indictment	227
D. Witness and Exhibits List	227
§7-5 Refusal to Obey a Formal Summons	229
A. Accused Person	229
B. Second Summons	229
C. Sanctions for Failure to Appear	229
D. Failure of a Witness to Appear	229
§7-6 Time Periods	230

CHAPTER 8: EVIDENCE..... 231

§8-1 Competency of Witnesses	231
§8-2 Testimony of the Accused	231
§8-3 Families	231
§8-4 Exclusion of Witnesses	231
§8-5 Disqualification of Witnesses	231
§8-6 Oath or Affirmation	231
§8-7 Examination of Witnesses	233
A. Examination and Cross-Examination	233
B. Witness Inconvenience	233
§8-8 Credibility	235
§8-9 The Record	235
A. Authentication	235
B. Testimony	235
§8-10 Burden of Proof	235

CHAPTER 9: THE TRIAL..... 237

§9-1 Trial Proceedings	237
A. The Charge to the Court	237
B. Indictment	237
C. Service of Summons	237
D. Opening Statements	237
E. Testimony	237
F. Exclusion of Prosecutor and the Accused Persons	238

G. Closing Argument	238
H. Deliberations	238
I. The Vote	238
J. Imposition of Sanctions	238
K. Motion for New Trial	239
F. Exclusion of Prosecutor and the Accused Persons	238
G. Closing Argument	238
H. Deliberations	238
I. The Vote	238
J. Imposition of Sanctions	238
K. Motion for New Trial	239
K. Motion for New Trial	239
§9-2 Challenges to the Court	240
A. Disclosure of Opinion	240
B. Absence	240
C. Conflict of Interest	240
§9-3 Professional or Learned Counsel	240
A. No Paid Counsel	240
B. Professional or Learned Counsel	240
§9-4. The Record	242
A. The Record	242
B. Expenses of the Record	242
C. Appeals	242
§9-5 Judicial Commissions	242
A. Rights and Duties	242
B. Composition	243
C. Membership	243
B. Composition	243
C. Membership	243
CHAPTER 10: DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS	244
§10-1 Exhortation to Meekness	244
§10-2 Disciplinary Sanctions	244
§10-3 Definition of Admonition	244
§10-4 Definition of Suspension	244
§10-5 Definition of Removal from Office	246
§10-6 Definition of Excommunication	246
§10-7 Principles for the Administration of Sanctions	246
§10-8 The Sanction of Admonition	248
§10-9 Confession and Restoration	248
A. Confession	248
B. Restoration	248
§10-10 The Sanction of Suspension	250
§10-11 Indefinite suspension	250
§10-12 Removal from Office	250
§10-13 Excommunication	252
CHAPTER 11: REMOVAL OF SANCTIONS	253
§11-1 Court Should Pray for the Offender	253
§11-2 Restoration to the Sacraments	253
§11-3 Restoration of an Excommunicated Person	253
§11-4 Restoration to Office	256
§11-5 Re-election Required for Exercise of Office	256
§11-6 Special Provisions for the Restoration of a Minister	256

§11-7 Transfer of Case to More Convenient Forum	257
CHAPTER 12: APPEALS	258
§12-1 Definitions and Parties	258
§12-2 Newly Discovered Evidence	258
§12-3 Entitlement to Appeal	258
§12-4 Grounds of Appeal	258
§12-5 Notice of Appeal	260
§12-6 Filing the Record	260
§12-7 Stay Pending Appeal	260
§12-8 Procedures on Appeal	260
§12-9 Decision on Appeal	262
§12-10 Counsel	262
§12-11 Abandonment of Appeal	262
§12-12 Unchristian Attitude of Appellant	262
§12-13 Failure to File the Record	262
CHAPTER 13: COMPLAINTS	263
§13-1 Standing to File a Complaint	263
§13-2 Stay of Proceedings	263
§13-3 Designation of Parties	263
§13-4 Notice of Filing of the Complaint	263
§13-5 Filing the Record	263
§13-6 Stay Pending Hearing on the Complaint	265
§13-7 Procedures on Filing of a Complaint	265
A. Notice of Hearing	265
B. Reading of the Record	265
C. Arguments	265
D. Deliberations of the Court	265
§13-8 Voting upon a Complaint	265
A. Specification of the Vote	265
B. Effect of a Vote to Sustain or Not to Sustain	266
C. Vote To Sustain in Part	266
D. Majority Vote Required	266
E. Minutes	266
F. Right to Vote	266
B. Effect of a Vote to Sustain or Not to Sustain	266
C. Vote To Sustain in Part	266
D. Majority Vote Required	266
E. Minutes	266
F. Right to Vote	266
§13-9 Remitting the Case for Amendment of the Record	267
§13-10 Counsel	267
§13-11 Abandonment of Complaint	267
§13-12 Unchristian Attitude of Complainant	267
§13-13 Failure to File the Record	267
CHAPTER 14: DISSENT AND PROTEST	269
§14-1 Dissent	269
§14-2 Protest	269
§14-3 Record of Protest or Dissent	269
§14-4 Right to Vote Required	269

Proposed Revised BOOK OF DISCIPLINE	Comparable Provisions from the Current BOOK OF DISCIPLINE
--	---

Chapter 1: Discipline -- It's Nature, Subjects, and Purpose

<p>§1-1 Definition of Church Discipline</p> <p>Discipline is the exercise of authority given the church by the Lord Jesus Christ to instruct and guide its members and their children and to promote its purity and welfare. The term has two senses: the one referring to the whole government, inspection, training, guardianship and control which the church maintains with respect to its members, its officers, and its courts; the other a restricted and technical sense, signifying ecclesiastical judicial procedures.</p> <p>The word "discipline," when used in this <i>Book of Discipline</i>, shall be deemed to refer to ecclesiastical judicial procedures unless the context demands otherwise.</p> <p><u>Actions:</u></p> <p>1. Amend 1-1 by substituting for the last phrase "Signifying ecclesiastical judicial procedures."</p> <p><u>Rationale:</u></p> <p>a) The addition of the word "ecclesiastical" makes it clear from the outset that civil judicial procedures are not in mind.</p> <p>b) "Procedures" Under the existing Chapter 12 there is provision for cases without "Process." The substitution of "procedures" would clarify the apparent ambiguity of excluding Chapter 12 from "discipline."</p>	<p>§1-1 Discipline is the exercise of authority given the Church by the Lord Jesus Christ to instruct and guide its members and to promote its purity and welfare. The term has two senses: the one referring to the whole government, inspection, training, guardianship and control which the Church maintains over its members, its officers, and its courts; the other a restricted and technical sense, signifying ecclesiastical judicial process.</p>
---	---

§1-2 Grounds for Ecclesiastical Judicial Procedures.

Not everything displeasing to God is a ground for ecclesiastical judicial procedures. Offenses which require discipline are three kinds: *Heresy*, which consists of holding beliefs, doctrines, or practices contrary to the Scriptures and condemned in the subordinate standards; *Immorality*; and *Contempt* for the established order of the church.

In the case of misunderstandings and disputes which are not offenses requiring discipline, the church or its members or officers may attempt to assist in achieving reconciliation or other resolution, but shall have no obligation to do so.

No Minister should be shielded from discipline or lightly sanctioned on account of his¹ office. Neither should actions for serious charges be received against him on slight grounds.

Note: the last paragraph is adapted from the old §8-2.

Rationale: The addition of this paragraph, adapted from the Constitution of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America, §1-5, serves to clarify the kinds of offenses which require church discipline.

§8-2 As no Minister ought, on account of his office, to be screened in his sin, or slightly censured, so scandalous charges ought not to be received against him on slight grounds.

§8-5 Heresy and schism may be of such a nature as to warn deposition; but errors ought to be carefully considered, whether they strike at the vitals of religion and are industriously spread, or whether they arise from the weakness of the human understanding and are not likely to do much injury.

§1-3 Church Members Who Are Also Employees

The employer/employee relationship is not within the scope of coverage of this *Book of Discipline*. Church members who are also employees of the church shall be subject to discipline as an employee under whatever procedures may be established by the church for employees. They shall also be subject to discipline as a member under the *Book of Discipline*.

There is no comparable section at present.

¹ When used herein, the masculine gender shall include the feminine and the singular number shall include the plural unless the context demands otherwise.

<p>§1-4 Persons Subject to Discipline</p> <p>All active and inactive members of the church, confirmed, baptized, and affiliate, are entitled and subject to the benefits of discipline.</p> <p><u>Rationale:</u> The phrase "baptized persons" in the present §1-2 is so general as to be confusing.</p>	<p>§1-2 All baptized persons, being members of the Church, are subject to discipline and entitled to the benefits thereof.</p>
<p>§1-5 Purpose of Discipline.</p> <p>The exercise of discipline is highly important and necessary. The purpose of discipline is to maintain the honor of God, to restore the sinner, and to remove offense from the church. Ministers must instruct the officers and congregation in discipline and jointly practice it in the context of the congregation and courts of the church.</p> <p><u>Rationale:</u> The original language of §1-3 and §1-4, though eloquent, does not simply and succinctly state the purpose of discipline. These sections also contain archaic language. This paragraph is substituted to correct the problem. In addition, the old term "allowed to stray" is more clearly defined by §1-2 above.</p>	<p>§1-3 The exercise of discipline is highly important and necessary. In its proper usage discipline maintains the honor of God, the purity of His Church, and the keeping and reclaiming of the disobedient.</p> <p>Discipline is for the purpose of godliness (1 Timothy 4:7); therefore, it demands self-examination under Scripture. Its ends, so far as it involves judicial action, are the rebuke of offenses, the removal of scandal, the vindication of the honor of Christ, the promotion of the purity and general edification of the Church, and the spiritual good of offenders themselves.</p> <p>§1-4 The power which Christ has given the church is for building up and not for destruction. It is to be exercised as under a dispensation of mercy and not wrath. As in the preaching of the Word, the wicked are doctrinally separated from the good; so by discipline the Church authoritatively separates between the holy and the profane. In this it acts the part of a tender mother correcting her children for their good, that every one of them may be presented faultless in the day of the Lord Jesus. Discipline is systematic training under the authority of God's Scripture. No communing or noncommunings member of the Church should be allowed to stray from the Scripture's discipline. Therefore, Ministers must instruct the officers in discipline, instruct the congregation in discipline, and jointly practice it in the context of the congregation and courts.</p>
<p>§1-6 Basis of Discipline.</p>	<p>§1-5 Scriptural law is the basis of all</p>

Scriptural law is the basis of all ecclesiastical discipline because it is the revelation of God's holy will. Proper disciplinary principles are set forth in the Scriptures and must be followed. According to Matthew 18:15 and Galatians 6:1, these principles include instruction in the Word and the individual's responsibility to admonish one another.

If the initial admonition is rejected, then one or more witnesses must be called (Matthew 18:16).

If rejection persists, then the church must act through her courts in proper order for the exercise of discipline.

No charge involving a personal offense will be received unless the offended person alleges and proves to the court evidence demonstrating that he has followed the procedures required under Matthew 18:15-16 and Galatians 6:1.²

If anyone knows a Minister to be guilty of a private offense, he should warn him in private. But if the offense be persisted in, or become public, he should bring the case to the attention of some other Minister of the Presbytery.

Rationale: "Offended person" is more accurate language since under the new §6-3 the church is the "accuser."

ecclesiastical discipline because it is the revelation of God's Holy will. Proper disciplinary principles are set forth in the Scriptures and must be followed. They are: instruction in the Word, and the individual's responsibility to admonish one another (Matthew 18:15; Galatians 6:1).

If the admonition is rejected, then one or more witnesses must be called (Matthew 18:16).

If rejection persists, then the Church must act through her court unto admonition, suspension, excommunication, and deposition (See Sections 3 and 4 for further explanation). These steps must be followed in proper order for the exercise of discipline.

§8-3 If anyone knows a Minister to be guilty of a private offense, he should warn him in private. But if the offense be persisted in, or become public, he should bring the case to the attention of some other Minister of the Presbytery.

²Mat 18:15-16 (NIV) "If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. 16 But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.'"

Gal 6:1 (NIV) Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted.

<p>§1-7 Definition of "Church."</p> <p>"Church" - As used in this <i>Book of Discipline</i>, the word "church" shall refer to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, including her General Assembly, Presbyteries (including mission churches), and particular churches.</p>	<p><i>There is no comparable provision presently.</i></p>
<p>§1-8 Definition of "Contempt."</p> <p>Contempt is willful conduct done in deliberate disrespect of a court of the church, the constitutional documents of the church, or the officers of the church acting in their official capacities.</p>	
<p>§1-9 Definition of "Heresy."</p> <p>Heresy is the express or implied denial of one or more of the essential doctrines of Christianity, openly taught and obstinately maintained.</p>	
<p>§1-10 Definition of "Immorality."</p> <p>Immorality is conduct inconsistent with the biblical standards for conduct, including but not limited to bickering, brawling, debauchery, drunkenness, gossiping, hatred, idolatry, impurity, slander, and sexual immorality such as adultery, fornication, homosexual practice, and bestiality. The terms "bickering" and "gossiping" as used herein are intended to deal with those acts that are disruptive to the peace and unity of the church.</p>	
<p>§1-11 Definition of "Jurisdiction."</p> <p>Jurisdiction is the authority of a court to render a decision. A court must have jurisdiction over both the individual accused and the subject matter of the charge before it can issue an indictment or render a decision.</p>	

Chapter 2: Pastoral Care

APPENDICES

§2-1 The Duty to Evangelize.

In terms of its work, the first duty of the church is to evangelize by extending the Gospel both at home and abroad, leading others to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and to provide for the nurture of that faith that all might grow in grace and in sanctification. *Book of Government §4-3.*

§2-2 The Spiritual Power of the Church

The power of the church is moral and spiritual, thus distinguishing the government of the church from civil government. *Book of Government §3-1.* This means that the church does not have civil authority over anyone.

§2-3 Spiritual Nurture of Members

Among other duties, it is the duty of the church to provide for the nurture of its members. *Book of Government §4-7.*

§2-4 Retention of Authority over Church Property.

While possessing no civil authority over any person, the church does retain authority over its property and ministries. In providing a secure and nurturing atmosphere for worship and spiritual growth, the church retains the right to exclude anyone from its property, services or ministries on such terms and conditions as it may desire. Thus, for example, a particular church may require certain standards before permitting adults to teach Sunday School, lead ministries, or otherwise participate in the life and ministry of the church.

There is no comparable provision in the old Book of Discipline.

Chapter 3: Jurisdiction

<p>§3-1 The Right of Private Judgment</p> <p>Since "God alone is Lord of the conscience,"³ we consider the right of private judgment in religious matters to be universal and unalienable. Therefore, the church in disciplinary cases has jurisdiction only over her members (as defined in §1-4.)</p>	<p>§2-1 Since "God alone is Lord of the conscience,"¹ we consider the right of private judgment in religious matters to be universal and unalienable. Therefore, the Church in disciplinary cases has jurisdiction only over her members.</p>
<p>§3-2 Original Jurisdiction:</p> <p>In cases of original jurisdiction, the following rules apply:</p> <p>A. The Session</p> <p>The Session has original jurisdiction in every disciplinary case involving members of that particular church.</p> <p>B. The Presbytery</p> <p>The Presbytery has original jurisdiction in every disciplinary case involving Ministers of the Presbytery.</p> <p>C. Dissolved Churches</p> <p>If a particular church is dissolved, the Presbytery shall assume jurisdiction with regard to any case of discipline begun by the Session but not concluded.</p> <p>D. Transfer of Membership</p> <p>A member of a particular church or a Presbytery whose membership is being transferred shall remain under the jurisdiction of the first until received by the second.</p>	<p>§2-2 Original Jurisdiction: The following rules apply:</p> <p>A. The Session has original jurisdiction in every disciplinary case involving members of that particular church.</p> <p>B. The Presbytery has original jurisdiction in every disciplinary case involving Ministers of the Presbytery.</p> <p>C. If a particular church is dissolved, the Presbytery shall assume jurisdiction with regard to any case of discipline begun by the Session but not concluded.</p> <p>D. A member of a particular church or a Presbytery whose membership is being transferred shall remain under the jurisdiction of the first until received by the second.</p> <p>§7-1 Process against all church members, other than Ministers of the Gospel, shall be entered before the Session of the Church to which such members belong, except in cases of appeal.</p> <p>§8-1 Process against a Minister shall be entered before the presbytery of which he is a member. However, if Presbytery refuses to act in doctrinal cases or instances of public scandal, and other Presbyteries request the Assembly to assume original jurisdiction, the Assembly shall do so.</p>

³This quotation and the thoughts of this paragraph come from the preface to the Form of Government published by the Synod of New York and Philadelphia in 1788. That Form of Government was adopted by the first American General Assembly of a Presbyterian church in 1789.

§3-3 Assumption of Jurisdiction

In the event a court shall be unable or unwilling to try a person or persons accused, the next higher court may assume jurisdiction after giving thirty days' written notice to the lower court of its intention to assume jurisdiction.

Rationale: *This provision is added to clarify the ability of a higher court to assume jurisdiction under the old Book of Discipline §5-1 and to provide a requirement of notice.*

§3-4 Failure to Act

When a court of original jurisdiction fails to act in a disciplinary case before it for a period of ninety days after initiation of the case, the next higher court may, *on motion by any member of the church*, assume jurisdiction. It may issue instructions to the lower court, or it may conclude the case itself.

Rationale: *The additional language makes it clear that a higher court may act to resolve a disciplinary matter which has been left unresolved by a lower court. See in conjunction with the old §5-1.*

§3-5 Termination of Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction in judicial cases ends upon receipt of written notice of renunciation by the Clerk or stated Clerk of the court of original jurisdiction. In the event an individual orally renounces jurisdiction, this fact shall be confirmed by letter from the court acknowledging that renunciation. The letter shall be delivered in person or by form of mail requiring a written receipt. If the court receives no written response within ten days, the acknowledgment of renunciation of jurisdiction shall be deemed final.

In such instances, a case already begun may be concluded only with the permission of the accused.

A "Renunciation of Jurisdiction" shall have the

§5-1 Original jurisdiction in relation to Ministers of the Gospel pertains exclusively to the Presbytery, and in relation to other Church members to the Session, unless the Session shall be unable to try the person or persons accused, in which case the Presbytery shall have the right of jurisdiction.

Refer to §8-1 immediately above.

§2-3 When a court of original jurisdiction fails to act in a disciplinary case before it for a period of ninety days after initiation of the case, the next higher court may assume jurisdiction. It may issue instructions to the lower court, or it may conclude the case itself.

§5-1 Original jurisdiction in relation to Ministers of the Gospel pertains exclusively to the Presbytery, and in relation to other Church members to the Session, unless the Session shall be unable to try the person or persons accused, in which case the Presbytery shall have the right of jurisdiction.

§2-4 Jurisdiction in judicial cases ends when an officer or member renounces jurisdiction in writing to the Clerk or stated Clerk of the court of original jurisdiction except that a case already begun may be concluded.

effect of terminating membership in the church and shall immediately dissolve the relationship of Ruling Elder, Deacon, or Minister.

The court should never engage in unnecessary actions under Chapter 10 et. al. Should the member be found guilty. Though a court may pronounce a judgment of admonition, suspension, removal from office, or excommunication against a person who has renounced jurisdiction, it need not do so and should not do so unless (1) the offender has given his or her permission, and (2) it is necessary for the purity of the church or the benefit of the offender.

Rationale: *The second and third paragraphs are added to clarify the effect of renunciation of jurisdiction.*

*Under **Guinn v. Church of Christ**, 775 P.2d 766 (Okla. 1989) the court held the church liable for invasion of privacy and intentional infliction of emotional distress for actions taken after the plaintiff had notified the church she was withdrawing from membership. The court said, "Parishioner voluntarily joined the Church of Christ and by doing so consented to submit to its tenets. When she later removed herself from membership, petitioner withdrew her consent, depriving the church of the power actively to monitor her spiritual life through overt disciplinary acts. No real freedom to choose religion would exist in this land if under the shield of the first amendment religious institutions could impose their will on the unwilling and claim immunity from secular courts for their tortious acts."*

Chapter 4: Offenses

<p>§4-1 Offenses</p> <p>As defined in §1-2, offenses which require discipline are three kinds: <i>Heresy</i>, <i>Immorality</i>; and <i>Contempt</i> for the established order of the church. Nothing ought to be considered by any court as an offense, or admitted as a matter of accusation, which cannot be proved to be such from Scripture. The Westminster Confession of Faith, with the Larger and Shorter Catechisms and the <i>Book of Order</i> consisting of the <i>Book of Government</i>, the <i>Book of Discipline</i>, and the <i>Book of Worship</i> are the standards adopted by the church as expositions of the Teachings of Scripture in relation to faith and practice.</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> <i>The substituted language makes clearer the offenses which require discipline, and tracks the language of the Preface to the Book of Order.</i></p>	<p>§3-1 An offense, the proper subject of judicial process, is anything in the doctrines or practice of a Church member professing faith in Christ which is contrary to the Word of God. The Confession of Faith, and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms of the Westminster Assembly, together with the formularies of government, discipline and worship are accepted by the Evangelical Presbyterian Church as standard expositions of the Teachings of Scripture in relation to both faith and practice. Nothing, therefore, ought to be considered by any court as an offense, or admitted as a matter of accusation, which cannot be proved to be such from the Scripture.</p>
<p>§4-2 Personal and General Offenses</p> <p>A personal offense is an offense as defined in §4-1 in a way of wrong done to some particular person or persons, including one's own self.</p> <p>A general offense is an offense as defined in §4-1, but not directed against any particular person.</p>	<p>§3-2 Offenses are either personal or general, private or public; but all of them being sins against God, are therefore grounds of discipline.</p>
<p>§4-3 Private and Public Offenses</p> <p>Private offenses are those known only to an individual or at most only to a few persons. Public offenses are those which are known to more than a few persons.</p>	<p>§3-3 Personal offenses are violations of the divine law, considered in the special relation of wrongs or injuries to particular individuals. General offenses are heresies or immoralities having no such relation, or considered apart from it.</p> <p>§3-4 Private offenses are those which are known only to a few persons. Public offenses are those which are notorious.</p>
<p>§4-4 Preliminary Sanctions</p> <p>When it is impracticable to commence an action against an accused church member, the Session may, if it think the edification of the church requires it, exclude the accused from the</p>	<p>§7-4 When it is impracticable immediately to commence process against an accused Church member, the Session may, if it think the edification of the Church requires it, prevent the accused from approaching the Lord's table</p>

<p>sacraments until the charges against him can be examined.</p> <p><i>Note: Adapted from old §7-4.</i></p>	<p>until the charges against him can be examined.</p>
<p>§4-5 Out of Bounds Offenses</p> <p>When an offense, alleged to have been committed at a distance, is not likely to otherwise become known to the court having jurisdiction, it shall be the duty of the court within whose bounds the facts occurred, after satisfying itself there is a strong presumption of guilt, to send notice to the court having jurisdiction, which shall at once proceed against the accused; or the whole case may be transferred for trial and imposition of sanctions, if any, to the coordinate court within whose bounds the offense is alleged to have been committed.</p>	<p>§6-9 When an offense, alleged to have been committed at a distance, is not likely to otherwise become known to the court having jurisdiction, it shall be the duty of the court within whose bounds the facts occurred, after satisfying itself there is probable ground for accusation, to send notice to the court having jurisdiction, which shall at once proceed against the accused; or the whole case may be remitted for trial to the coordinate court within whose bounds the offense is alleged to have been committed.</p>

Chapter 5: Actions for Discipline

<p>§5-1 Commencement of Actions for Discipline</p> <p>An action for discipline shall commence:</p> <p>A. By a Person or Persons</p> <p>When a person files a written charge with the Clerk of the court of appropriate jurisdiction.</p> <p>B. By the Court:</p> <p>When the court having jurisdiction determines that a charge is in order and there is a strong presumption of the guilt of the accused.</p> <p><i>Rationale: The old §5-1 & §5-2 were deleted as repetitive. Everything contained in them are now contained in Chapter 3: Jurisdiction and Chapter 6: Procedures.</i></p>	<p>§5-1 Original jurisdiction in relation to Ministers of the Gospel pertains exclusively to the Presbytery, and in relation to other Church members to the Session, unless the Session shall be unable to try the person or persons accused, in which case the presbytery shall have the right of jurisdiction.</p> <p>§5-2 It is the duty of all Church Sessions and Presbyteries to exercise care over those subject to their authority. They shall with due diligence and great discretion demand from such persons satisfactory explanations concerning reports affecting their Christian character. This duty is more imperative when those who deem themselves aggrieved by injurious reports shall ask an investigation.</p> <p>If such investigation, however originating, should result in raising a strong presumption of the guilt of the party involved, the court shall institute process, and shall appoint a prosecutor to prepare indictment and to conduct the case. This prosecutor shall be a member of the court, except that, in a case before the Session, he may be any communing member of the same congregation with the accused.</p>
<p>§5-2 Limitation on Actions</p> <p>An action for discipline must be commenced within three years after the acts constituting the offense were committed, unless the acts were unknown and were not reasonably knowable by the offended person or court.</p> <p>In the event that the offended person is under the age of 18, the action for discipline must be commenced before that person's twenty-first birthday.</p>	<p>§6-20 Process, in case of scandal, shall commence within the space of one year after the offense was committed, unless it has recently become flagrant. When, however, a church member shall commit an offense, after removing to a place far distant from his former residence, and where his connection with the Church is unknown, in consequence of which process cannot be instituted with the time above specified, the recent discovery of the church membership of the individual shall be considered as equivalent to the offense itself having recently become flagrant. The same principle, in like circumstances, shall also apply to Ministers.</p>
<p>§5-3. Preliminary Investigation of a Charge</p>	

<p>by a Person or Person(s)</p> <p>After an action is commenced by a person:</p> <p>(1) The court shall commence a preliminary investigation in accordance with §6-1.</p> <p>(2) After the preliminary investigation is concluded, the court shall make a determination whether or not there is a strong presumption of the guilt of the accused.</p>	
<p>§5-4 Proceedings Upon a Determination of a Strong Presumption of Guilt</p> <p>In the event of a determination of a strong presumption of the guilt of the accused, the court shall appoint a prosecutor, who shall prepare an indictment and proceed to trial in accordance with Chapters 6 through 9.</p> <p><i>Rationale: Adapted from the old §5-2.</i></p>	<p>See §5-2 above.</p>
<p>§5-5 Trial</p> <p>The court shall conduct a trial in accordance with Chapters 8 and 9.</p>	
<p>§5-6 Decision</p> <p>The court shall render its decision in accordance with Chapter 10.</p>	

Chapter 6: Procedures in Actions for Discipline

§6-1 Investigation of a Charge

A. Care over the Church

It is the duty of all church courts to exercise care over those subject to their authority. They shall, with care and discretion, investigate reports concerning alleged offenses which require discipline. This duty is imperative when a person claiming to be aggrieved by an offense shall request an investigation in writing.

B. Written Charges

No investigation against an accused offender shall be commenced unless some person files a written charge with the Clerk of the court, or unless the court finds it necessary under *Book of Discipline* §1-5 and §1-6 for itself to undertake an investigation.

C. Judicial Committee

The court may appoint a judicial committee to serve as a finder of fact, which shall report its findings to the court with its recommendations. The committee shall have no authority to act for the court other than as an investigative body.

Rationale: The committee felt it wise to avoid terms such as "due diligence" which has significant legal overtones. The use of the term "offenses which require discipline" is used because it is defined in Chapter 1.

The language in the second paragraph is taken from the old §6-2.

§6-2 Appointment of a Prosecutor

If an investigation should result in raising a strong presumption of guilt of the party accused, the court shall institute an ecclesiastical judicial procedure, and shall appoint a prosecutor to prepare an indictment and to prosecute the case. The prosecutor shall be a member of the court. In cases before the

§6-2 Process against an offender shall not be commenced unless some person or persons undertake to make out the charge; or unless the court finds it necessary, for the honor of religion, itself to take the step provided for in Section 5-2.

§6-19 No professional counsel shall be permitted as such to appear and plead in cases of process in any court; but an accused person may, if he desires it, be represented before the Session by any communing member of the same particular church, or before any other court, by any member of that court. A member of the court so employed shall not be allowed to sit in judgment in the case.

Note: The old §5-2 appears opposite the new §5-1.

§6-19 No professional counsel shall be permitted as such to appear and plead in cases of process in any court; but an accused person may, if he desires it, be represented before the Session by any communing member of the same particular church, or before any other court, by any member of that court. A member of the court so employed shall not be allowed to sit in

Session, however, he need not be a member of that court, but needs only to be a communing member of the church (as defined in §1-7).	judgment in the case.
--	-----------------------

§6-3 Selection of Prosecutor

Ordinarily, no offended person (or person knowing of an offense) shall become a prosecutor of personal offenses.

A church court, however, may investigate personal offenses requiring discipline under §6-1 when they become known to members of the court.

Rationale: Unless we say "no offended person (or person knowing of an offense) shall become a prosecutor," the prosecutor may be placed in the position of having to be a witness as well.

Further, the committee recommends deleting the old §5-6 as unnecessary, since the matter is adequately covered in §6-2 and §6-3.

§5-5 An injured party shall not become a prosecutor of personal offenses without having tried the means of reconciliation and of reclaiming the offender, required by Christ.

"Moreover, if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother but if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established." (Matthew 18:15-16).

A Church court, however, may judicially investigate personal offenses as if general when the interests of religion seem to demand it. So, also, those to whom private offenses are known cannot become prosecutors without having previously endeavored to remove the scandal by private means requiring discipline under §5-1 when they become known to members of the court.

§5-6 When the offense is general, the case may be conducted either by any person appearing as prosecutor or by prosecutor appointed by the court.

§6-4 Parties in a Case

The original and only parties in a case of ecclesiastical judicial procedure are the accuser and the accused. The accuser is always the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, whose honor and purity are to be maintained. The prosecutor is always the representative of the church. On appeal the parties are known as appellant and appellee.

Rationale: The language "as such has all its right in the case" is ambiguous and does not clarify what the "right" of the court is that is given to the prosecutor. Conceivably, "all right in the case" could even include the right to convict! The Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, in its adaptation of this provision, has also eliminated this confusing language.

§5-3 The original and only parties in a case of process are the accuser and the accused. The accuser is always the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, whose honor and purity are to be maintained. The prosecutor, whether voluntary or appointed, is always the representative of the Church, and as such has all its right in the case. In appellate courts the parties are known as appellant and appellee.

The committee recommends deleting "voluntary" in describing some prosecutors since all prosecutors must be appointed by the court before they are "prosecutors" and the new §5-4 requires that there first be a "strong presumption of the guilt of the accused" before a court can appoint a prosecutor.

<p>§6-5 Private Reconciliation</p> <p>When the prosecution is instituted by the court, the steps required by §1-6 in the case of personal offenses are not necessary. There are many cases, however, in which it will be advisable to send a committee to converse in a private manner with the accused and endeavor to bring him to a sense of repentance, before instituting actual ecclesiastical judicial procedures. The committee may then make recommendations to the court concerning further prosecution of the case.</p>	<p>§5-7 When the prosecution is instituted by the court, the previous steps required our Lord in the case of personal offenses are not necessary. There are many cases, however, in which it will promote the interests of religion to send a committee to converse in a private manner with the offender, and endeavor to bring him to a sense of his guilt, before instituting actual process.</p>
<p>§6-6 Biased Accusations and Testimony</p> <p>Great caution should be exercised by the court in receiving accusations and testimony from any person:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Who is known to hold a malignant spirit against the accused; b) Who is not of good character; c) Who is under sanction or who is the subject of an action for ecclesiastical judicial procedures; d) Who is deeply interested in any respect in the conviction of the accused; or e) Who is known to be litigious, contentious, rash or highly imprudent. <p><i>Rationale: Delete §5-9: -This section should be deleted, since all prosecutors must be appointed by the court (§6-2), and for the court to appoint a prosecutor it has to first find that there is a "strong presumption of the guilt of the party involved." (§6-2). A "strong presumption of the guilt of the party involved is a much higher standard than "probable cause."</i></p>	<p>§5-8 Great caution ought to be exercised in receiving accusations from any person who is known to indulge a malignant spirit toward the accused; who is not of good character; who is himself under censure or process; who is deeply interested in any respect in the conviction of the accused; or who is known to be litigious, rash or highly imprudent.</p> <p>§5-9 Every voluntary prosecutor shall be previously warned, that, if he fails to show probable cause of the charges, he may himself be censured as a slanderer of the brethren.</p>
<p>§6-7 Suspension of Official Functions</p> <p>When an action for discipline has been commenced against a member of a court, any or all of his official functions may be suspended at the court's discretion, but this shall never be</p>	<p>§5-10 When a member of a Church court is under process, all his official functions may be suspended at the court's discretion; but this shall never be done in the way of censure.</p> <p>§5-11 In the discussion of all questions arising</p>

done in the way of sanction.

§5-11 Delete—Rationale: *This matter is adequately covered in new §9-1.F.*

in his own case, the accused shall exercise the rights of defendant only, not of judge.

Chapter 7: General Provisions Applicable to All Cases of Ecclesiastical Judicial Procedure

APPENDICES

§7-1 Warning to All

Every member of a court engaged in an ecclesiastical judicial procedure shall bear in mind the command of Scripture: "Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted." Galatians 6:1 (NIV).

§6-1 It is incumbent on every member of a court engaged in a trial of offenders, to bear in mind the inspired injunction: "If a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual restore such an one in the spirit of meekness, considering thyself lest thou also be tempted." Galatians 6:1.

§6-2 Process against an offender shall not be commenced unless some person or persons undertake to make out the charge; or unless the court finds it necessary, for the honor of religion, itself to take the step provided for in §5-2.

Note: The old §6-2 has been moved to the new §5-1.

§7-2 Processing a Charge

A. Commencement

When ecclesiastical judicial procedures are commenced in accordance with §5-1, nothing shall be done at the first meeting of the court thereafter, unless by consent of the parties, except:

1. To appoint a prosecutor in accordance with §6-2 and §6-3.
2. To order the indictment drawn and a copy, including names of witnesses then known to support it, served on the accused, in person or by means requiring a written receipt.
3. To set a date for trial.

B. Commissions

Ordinarily, the court shall decide at this time whether it shall try the case or refer the case for trial and decision to a judicial commission in accordance §9-5 and *Book of Government* §16-26-B.1.

§6-3 When a charge is laid before the Session or Presbytery, it shall be reduced to writing, and nothing shall be done at the first meeting of the court, unless by consent of the parties, except:

- A. to appoint a prosecutor,
- B. to order the indictment drawn and a copy, along with names of witnesses then known to support it, served on the accused, and
- C. to cite all parties and their witnesses to appear and be heard at another meeting which shall not be sooner than ten days after such citation. At the second meeting of the court the charges shall be read to the accused, if present, and he shall be called upon to say whether he be guilty or not.

If the accused confesses, the court may deal with him according to its discretion; if he plead and take issue, the trial shall proceed. Accused parties may plead in writing when they cannot be personally present. Parties necessarily

Commissioners shall be ordained Elders within the jurisdiction of the court involved.

C. Moderator *Pro Tem*

With the consent of the Moderator, and if the court so desires, it may elect one of its members to serve as Moderator *Pro Tem* for a particular case. The Moderator *Pro-Tem* shall exercise the duties of a Moderator as described in *Book of Government* §16-4 A with respect to the particular judicial case only.

Rationale: *It is conceivable that the Moderator of a court may lack desire or experience to moderate over a judicial trial.*

absent should have counsel assigned to them.

§7-3 Indictment**A. Heading of the Indictment**

Every indictment shall begin: "In the name of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church," and shall conclude, "against the peace, unity, and purity of the church, and the honor and majesty of the Lord Jesus Christ, as the King and Head thereof."

***Rationale:** The last sentence of this paragraph was redundant to the new §6-4.*

B. Contents of the Indictment

The indictment shall clearly state the times, places and circumstances as to the actions alleged to require disciplinary sanctions, so that the accused may have adequate notice of the charges and the opportunity to make his defense.

§7-4 Formal Summons**A. Issuance of Formal Summons**

The Moderator or Clerk shall issue formal summons in the name of the court to the accused and to such witnesses as either party shall nominate to appear on his behalf.

B. Contents

The formal summons shall identify the parties to the trial, shall state the time and place of the trial, and shall warn the parties and witnesses of the sanctions for refusal to obey a formal summons.

C. Service of Summons and Indictment

The Clerk of the court shall deliver a copy of the summons and the indictment to the defendant in person or by form of delivery requiring a signed receipt.

The Clerk shall further deliver a summons to necessary witnesses in person or by form of delivery requiring a signed receipt.

D. Witness and Exhibits List

§5-4 Every indictment shall begin: "In the name of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church," and shall conclude, "against the peace, unity, and purity of the Church, and the honor and majesty of the Lord Jesus Christ, as the King and Head thereof." In every case the Church is the injured and accusing party, against the accused.

§6-5 In drawing the indictment, the times, places and circumstances should, if possible, be particularly stated, that the accused may have an opportunity to make his defense.

§6-4 The citation shall be issued and signed by the Moderator or Clerk by order and in the name of the court. He shall also issue citations to such witnesses as either party shall nominate to appear on his behalf.

Commissioners shall be ordained Elders within the jurisdiction of the court involved.

C. Moderator *Pro Tem*

With the consent of the Moderator, and if the court so desires, it may elect one of its members to serve as Moderator *Pro Tem* for a particular case. The Moderator *Pro-Tem* shall exercise the duties of a Moderator as described in *Book of Government* §16-4 A with respect to the particular judicial case only.

Rationale: It is conceivable that the Moderator of a court may lack desire or experience to moderate over a judicial trial.

absent should have counsel assigned to them.

§7-3 Indictment**A. Heading of the Indictment**

Every indictment shall begin: "In the name of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church," and shall conclude, "against the peace, unity, and purity of the church, and the honor and majesty of the Lord Jesus Christ, as the King and Head thereof."

***Rationale:** The last sentence of this paragraph was redundant to the new §6-4.*

B. Contents of the Indictment

The indictment shall clearly state the times, places and circumstances as to the actions alleged to require disciplinary sanctions, so that the accused may have adequate notice of the charges and the opportunity to make his defense.

§7-4 Formal Summons**A. Issuance of Formal Summons**

The Moderator or Clerk shall issue formal summons in the name of the court to the accused and to such witnesses as either party shall nominate to appear on his behalf.

B. Contents

The formal summons shall identify the parties to the trial, shall state the time and place of the trial, and shall warn the parties and witnesses of the sanctions for refusal to obey a formal summons.

C. Service of Summons and Indictment

The Clerk of the court shall deliver a copy of the summons and the indictment to the defendant in person or by form of delivery requiring a signed receipt.

The Clerk shall further deliver a summons to necessary witnesses in person or by form of delivery requiring a signed receipt.

§5-4 Every indictment shall begin: "In the name of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church," and shall conclude, "against the peace, unity, and purity of the Church, and the honor and majesty of the Lord Jesus Christ, as the King and Head thereof." In every case the Church is the injured and accusing party, against the accused.

§6-5 In drawing the indictment, the times, places and circumstances should, if possible, be particularly stated, that the accused may have an opportunity to make his defense.

§6-4 The citation shall be issued and signed by the Moderator or Clerk by order and in the name of the court. He shall also issue citations to such witnesses as either party shall nominate to appear on his behalf.

D. Witness and Exhibits List

Each of the parties shall provide the other with a list of expected witnesses and copies of all exhibits not later than 5 days before trial (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays) by personal delivery or by means requiring a written receipt.

§7-5 Refusal to Obey a Formal Summons**A. Accused Person**

When an accused person shall refuse to obey a formal summons, he shall be served with a second formal summons.

B. Second Summons

A second formal summons shall be accompanied with a notice that if he does not appear at the time appointed (unless providentially hindered, which fact he must make known to the court), or that if he appear and refuse to plead, he shall be dealt with for his rebellion.

C. Sanctions for Failure to Appear

When an accused person, having been twice formally summoned in accord with §7-6B shall fail to appear, the court shall enter this fact upon its records, together with a copy of the indictment, and shall suspend the accused person from the sacraments for his rebellion in failing to appear.

In the event the accused person shall be an officer, the court shall remove him from office and suspend or excommunicate him from the church.

In the event the accused person shall be a member but not an officer and the charge be one of a serious nature as described in §1-2, the court may proceed to removal of the accused person from the membership and fellowship of the church.

Note: This section replaces the old §7-2;

§6-6 When an accused person shall refuse to obey a citation, he shall be cited a second time. This second citation shall be accompanied with a notice that if he does not appear at the time appointed (unless providentially hindered, which fact he must make known to the court), or that if he appear and refuse to plead, he shall be dealt with for his contumacy, as hereinafter provided.

§7-2 When an accused person, having been twice duly cited, shall refuse to appear before the Session, or appearing, shall refuse to plead, the court shall enter upon its records the fact, together with the nature of the offense charged, and he shall be suspended from sealing ordinances for his contumacy. The censure may be made public, should this be deemed expedient by the Session, and shall in no case be removed until the offender has not only repented of his contumacy, but has given satisfaction in relation to the charges against him.

§8-4 If a Minister accused of an offense, having been twice duly cited, shall refuse to appear before the Presbytery, he shall be immediately suspended. If after another citation, he shall still refuse to attend, he shall be deposed as contumacious, and suspended or excommunicated from the Church. Record shall be made of the judgment and of the charges under which he was arraigned, and the sentence shall be made public.

§9-12 An officer or private member of the church refusing to testify may be censured for contumacy.

§8-4; and §9-12.

D. Failure of a Witness to Appear

In the event a duly summoned officer or member of the church willfully fails to appear or refuses to testify, the court may treat the refusal of the witness to appear as rebellion, and may proceed to admonish, suspend, remove from office, and/or expel him from the membership and fellowship of the church without need for further action.

§7-6 Time Periods

The time which must elapse between the serving of the first formal summons on the accused person, and the meeting of the court at which he is to appear shall be at least ten days. The time allotted for his appearance on the subsequent summons shall be left to the discretion of the court, provided that it be quite sufficient for a reasonable and convenient compliance with the summons.

§6-7. The time which must elapse between the serving of the first citation on the accused person, and the meeting of the court at which he is to appear shall be at least ten days. The time allotted for his appearance on the subsequent citation shall be left to the discretion of the court, provided that it be quite sufficient for a reasonable and convenient compliance with the citation.

Chapter 8: Evidence

<p>§8-1 Competency of Witnesses</p> <p>Competency means ability to testify. All persons, including the parties, who have sufficient intelligence to understand the obligation of an oath or affirmation are competent witnesses.</p> <p><i>Rationale: Competency and credibility are two different matters. A person may be an adult and fully competent to testify and still be caught in a lie, rendering his testimony less credible. On the other hand, a child may be telling the truth and present relevant, credible testimony.</i></p>	<p>§9-1 All persons of proper age and intelligence are competent witnesses except such as do not believe in the existence of God, or a future state of rewards and punishments. The accused party may be allowed, but shall not be compelled, to testify; but the accuser shall be required to testify, on demand of the accused. Either party has the right to challenge a witness whom he believes to be incompetent, and the court shall examine and decide upon his competency. It belongs to the court to judge the degree of credibility to be attached to all evidence.</p>
<p>§8-2 Testimony of the Accused</p> <p>The accused party may be allowed but not compelled to testify. No inference of guilt may be drawn from his failure to testify. The person or persons who filed the charges under §5-1A shall be required to testify on the demand of the accused.</p> <p><i>Note: From old §9-1 and ARP VI-1.</i></p>	
<p>§8-3 Families</p> <p>Husbands and wives, parents and children, shall not be required to testify against each other.</p>	<p>§9-2 A husband or wife shall not be compelled to bear testimony against one another in any court.</p>
<p>§8-4 Exclusion of Witnesses</p> <p>Any witness to be examined, other than the accused or a member of the court, may be excluded from the examination of any other witness in the same case if any party objects.</p> <p><i>Rationale: Adapted from old §9-4.</i></p>	<p>§9-4 No witness afterwards to be examined, unless a member of the court, shall be present during the examination of another witness on the same case, if either party object.</p>
<p>§8-5 Disqualification of Witnesses</p> <p>A member of the court who has given testimony in a case becomes disqualified for sitting as a judge if either party objects.</p> <p><i>Rationale: Adapted from old §9-11.</i></p>	<p>§9-11 A member of the court who has given testimony in a case becomes disqualified for sitting as a judge if either party makes objection.</p>

§8-6 Oath or Affirmation

The oath or affirmation to a witness shall be administered by the Moderator in the following or like terms: "Do you solemnly promise, in the presence of God, that you will declare the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, according to the best of your knowledge in the matter in which you are called to witness, as you shall answer it to the great Judge of the living and the dead?" If, however, at any time a witness should present himself before a court who for conscientious reasons prefers to swear or affirm in any other manner, he should be allowed to do so.

Rationale: Taken from old §9-6.

§8-7 Examination of Witnesses

A. Examination and Cross-Examination.

Witnesses shall be examined first by the party introducing them; then cross-examined by the opposite party, after which any party or member of the court may ask additional questions. No question shall be asked or answered except by permission of the Moderator subject to an appeal to the court. The court shall not permit cumulative or repetitive questions or questions which are frivolous or irrelevant to the charge at issue.

Rationale: Adapted from old §9-5.

B. Witness Inconvenience

When the alleged offense took place at a distance, and it is inconvenient for the witnesses to appear before the court having jurisdiction, that court may either appoint a judicial committee or request the coordinate court contiguous to the place where the facts occurred to take the testimony for it.

Due notice of the time and place of the taking of testimony by the judicial committee or the coordinate court shall be given to the opposite party. Testimony may be taken by questions

§9-6 The oath or affirmation to a witness shall be administered by the Moderator in the following or like terms: "Do you solemnly promise, in the presence of God, that you will declare the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, according to the best of your knowledge in the matter in which you are called to witness, as you shall answer it to the great Judge of the living and the dead?" If, however, at any time a witness should present himself before a court who for conscientious reasons prefers to swear or affirm in any other manner, he should be allowed to do so.

§9-5 Witnesses shall be examined first by the party introducing them; then cross-examined by the opposite party; after which any member of the court, or either party, may put additional interrogatories. No question shall be put or answered except by permission of the Moderator subject to an appeal to the court. The court shall not permit cumulative questions or questions frivolous or irrelevant to the charge at issue.

§6-8 When the offense with which an accused person stands charged took place at a distance, and it is inconvenient for the witnesses to appear before the court having jurisdiction, that court may either appoint a commission of its body, or request the coordinate court contiguous to the place where the facts occurred to take the testimony for it. The accused shall always have reasonable notice of the time and place of the meeting of this commission or coordinate court.

§9-10 When it is not convenient for a court to have the whole or perhaps any part of the testimony in any particular case taken in its presence, a committee shall be appointed, or coordinate court requested, to take the testimony in question, which shall be

asked to the witness with answers recorded in writing or recorded by electronic or other means. All parties shall have the right to examine the witness.

considered as if taken in the presence of the court.

Due notice of the commission or coordinate court, and the time and place of its meeting, shall be given to the opposite party, that he may have an opportunity at a distance for his own exculpation, he shall give notice to the court of the time and place at which it shall be taken, in order that a commission or coordinate court, as in the former case, may be appointed for the purpose. Testimony may be taken on written interrogatories by filing the same with the Clerk of the court having jurisdiction of the case, and giving two weeks notice thereof to the adverse party, during which time he may file cross-interrogatories, if he desire it. Testimony shall be taken by the commission or coordinate court in answer to the direct and cross-interrogatories, if such are filed, and no notice need be given of the time and place of the taking of the testimony.

<p>§8-8 Credibility</p> <p>Credibility means the degree of credit which may be given to the testimony of a witness. In assessing the credibility of a witness, the court may consider any matter that bears on the credibility of the witness, including, but not limited to, the witness's relationship to the parties or other witnesses, his interest in the result, his weakness of understanding, his demeanor while testifying, his character for honesty or truthfulness, and his belief in the existence of God and a future state of rewards and punishments.</p> <p><i>Rationale: Adapted from old §9-1 and Associate Reformed Presbyterian Book of Discipline.</i></p>	<p>§9-1 appears above opposite new §8-1.</p>
<p>§8-9 The Record</p> <p>A. Authentication</p> <p>The records of a court, or any part of them, whether original or transcribed, if regularly authenticated by the Moderator and Clerk, or by either of them, shall be deemed good and sufficient evidence in any other court. Authentication shall be in writing in the following or similar form:</p> <p>I, _____, Clerk [or Moderator] of the _____ [name of court] do hereby certify that the foregoing are true, correct, and complete copies of the Record in the Case of _____. Signed: _____ Date: _____.</p> <p>B. Testimony</p> <p>The testimony taken by one court and regularly authenticated shall be received by every other court as no less valid than if it had been taken by itself.</p>	<p>§9-8 The records of a court, or any part of them, whether original or transcribed, if regularly authenticated by the Moderator and Clerk, or by either of them, shall be deemed good and sufficient evidence in any other court.</p> <p>§9-9 In like manner, testimony taken by one court and regularly certified shall be received by every other court as no less valid than if it had been taken by itself.</p>
<p>§8-10 Burden of Proof</p> <p>The testimony of more than one witness shall be necessary in order to prove an allegation of the indictment. However, if in addition to the testimony of one witness, other supporting</p>	<p>§9-3 The testimony of more than one witness shall be necessary in order to establish any charge; yet if, in addition to the testimony of one witness, corroborative evidence be pronounced, the offense may be considered to</p>

evidence is proved, the allegation may be considered to be proved.	be proved.

Chapter 9: The Trial

§9-1 Trial Proceedings

When a court proceeds to trial of a case, the following order shall be observed:

A. The Charge to the Court

The Moderator (or Moderator *Pro Tem*) shall exhort the members to remember and consider their high character as judges of a court of Jesus Christ and the solemn duty in which they are about to participate.

Rationale: Adapted from old 6-15-A and §6-12.

B. Indictment

The Moderator shall read the indictment, and the accused shall be called upon to declare whether he is guilty or not. If the accused pleads guilty, the court may deal with him according to its discretion. If he pleads not guilty the trial shall proceed. Accused parties may plead in writing when they cannot be personally present. Accused parties necessarily absent shall have counsel assigned to them.

Rationale: Adapted from the old §6-3 and §6-15 B.

C. Service of Summons

Before proceeding to trial, the court shall ascertain that its summons have been duly served.

Rationale: Adapted from old §6-10.

D. Opening Statements

Each party shall be permitted to make a brief opening statement not longer than 15 minutes unless a longer time shall be granted by the court. The prosecutor shall proceed, followed by the accused party or parties.

E. Testimony

The witnesses for the prosecution and then those for the accused shall be examined in

§6-15 A. The Moderator shall charge the court.

§6-12 When the trial is about to begin, it shall be the duty of the Moderator solemnly to announce from the chair that the court is about to pass to the consideration of the case, and to enjoin on the members to recollect and regard their high character as judges of a court of Jesus Christ, and the solemn duty in which they are about to engage.

§6-3 If the accused confesses, the court may deal with him according to its discretion; if he plead and take issue, the trial shall proceed. Accused parties may plead in writing when they cannot be personally present. Parties necessarily absent should have counsel assigned to them.

§6-15 B. The indictment shall be read, and the answer of the accused heard.

§6-10 Before proceeding to trial, courts ought to ascertain that their citations have been duly served.

§6-15 C. The witnesses for the prosecutor and then those for the accused shall be examined.

accordance with Chapter 8.

F. Exclusion of Prosecutor and the Accused Persons

On all questions arising in the progress of a trial, the discussion shall first be between the prosecutor and the accused persons. When they have been heard, they may be required to withdraw from the court until the members deliberate upon and decide the question. The Moderator shall announce the court's decision upon return of prosecutor and accused parties to the courtroom.

Rationale: From old §16-14.

G. Closing Argument

Each party shall be permitted to make a brief closing argument not longer than 15 minutes unless a longer time shall be granted by the court. The prosecutor shall proceed, followed by the accused party or parties. The prosecutor shall be permitted to close, but total amount of time allocated to each party shall be equal.

H. Deliberations

The roll shall be called, and the members may express their opinions in the case. The prosecutor and the accused persons may be required to withdraw from the court until the members deliberate upon and decide the question.

Rationale: From old §16-14.

I. The Vote

The vote shall be by secret ballot, and all members of the court shall vote "Guilty" or "Not Guilty" on each charge of the indictment. A verdict of guilty shall be rendered only upon a two-thirds majority of the votes cast. The Moderator shall announce the court's decision upon return of prosecutor and accused parties to the courtroom.

J. Imposition of Sanctions

§6-15 D. The parties shall be heard: first, the prosecutor, and then the accused, and the prosecutor shall close.

§6-14 On all questions arising in the progress of a trial, the discussion shall first be between the parties; and when they have been heard, they may be required to withdraw from the court until the members deliberate upon and decide the point.

§6-13 In order that the trial may be fair and impartial, the witnesses shall be examined in the presence of the accused, or at least after he shall have received due citation to attend. Witnesses may be cross-examined by both parties, and any questions asked must be pertinent to the issue.

§6-15 E. The roll shall be called, and the members may express their opinion in the case.

§6-15 F. The vote shall be taken, the verdict announced and judgment entered on the records.

§9-13 If after trial before any court, new

Before sanctions are determined, the prosecutor and accused person found guilty shall be given the opportunity to present evidence or argument bearing on the administration of sanctions only.

Thereupon, the court shall proceed to a determination of sanctions pursuant to Chapter 10. The prosecutor and the accused persons may be required to withdraw from the court until the members deliberate upon and determine sanctions. Sanctions may be rendered upon a simple majority of the votes cast. The Moderator shall announce the court's determination of sanctions, which shall be entered upon the records, upon return of prosecutor and accused parties to the courtroom.

K. Motion for New Trial

If after trial before any court, new testimony is discovered which the accused believes is important, he shall have the right to ask for a new trial. The court shall have the power to grant his request.

testimony be discovered which the accused believes important, it shall be his right to ask a new trial and it shall be within the power of the court to grant his request.

§9-2 Challenges to the Court

Any party may, for cause hereinafter described, challenge the right of any member to sit in the trial of the case. The question shall be decided by the other members of the court. A challenge for cause against a member of the court shall be granted when:

A. Disclosure of Opinion

The member of the court expresses his opinion of the guilt of any party to any person not a member of the court before the conclusion of the trial.

Rationale: From old §6-17.

B. Absence

The member of the court shall absent himself from any sitting of the trial without the permission of the court, or satisfactory reasons rendered.

Rationale: From old §6-17.

C. Conflict of Interest

The member of the court appears to the court to be related to the parties or other witnesses, to have an interest in the result, or to have similar impediment or conflict of interest.

§9-3 Professional or Learned Counsel**A. No Paid Counsel**

No person serving as counsel shall be permitted to receive compensation for services rendered to any party. However, parties may reimburse counsel for their reasonable expenses.

Note: Cf. new §6-2 for prosecutors. Under old §5-2 and §6-19 there is a substantial question as to the fairness and wisdom of allowing one side to have counsel when the other is not able to obtain counsel.

B. Professional or Learned Counsel

In the event any party shall be represented by a

§6-16 Either party may, for cause, challenge the right of any member to sit in the trial of the case, which question shall be decided by the other members of the court.

§6-17 Pending the trial of a case, any member of the court who shall express his opinion of its merits to either party, or to any person not a member of the court; or who shall absent himself from any sitting without the permission of the court, or satisfactory reasons rendered, shall be thereby disqualified from taking part in the subsequent proceedings.

§6-19 No professional counsel shall be permitted as such to appear and plead in cases of process in any court; but an accused person may, if he desires it, be represented before the Session by any communing member of the same particular church, or before any other court, by any member of that court. A member of the court so employed shall not be allowed to sit in judgment in the case.

person who is a graduate of an accredited school of law, the other parties shall be likewise permitted to be represented by learned or professional counsel. However, learned or professional counsel must be a member of the church as defined in §1-7. A member of the court serving as counsel in the case shall not be allowed to sit in judgment on the case.

Rationale: Adapted from old §6-19.

§9-4. The Record**A. The Record**

The Clerk or other person designated by the court shall, within thirty days after the trial, make and maintain as part of the permanent records of the court, a complete record of the proceedings, including the charges, the indictment, the answer (if any), all the testimony, and all such acts, orders, and decisions of the court relating to the case including the written ballots evidencing the decision and the determination of sanctions. These documents shall constitute the Record of the Case and should ordinarily be maintained separately from the Minutes of the court.

Rationale: From old §6-18.

B. Expenses of the Record

The court shall make and maintain a transcript or record of the proceedings by written or electronic means. The parties shall be permitted to make copies (by transcript or electronic recording) of the whole proceedings at their own expense.

Rationale: From old §6-18.

C. Appeals

When a case is appealed or removed to a higher court by complaint, the lower court shall transmit the Record of the Case to the higher court with the addition of the notice of appeal or complaint. The higher court shall render its decision based only on that which is contained in the Record. On the final decision of a case by a higher court, the decision shall be communicated to all lower courts.

Rationale: From old §6-18.

§9-5 Judicial Commissions

(See also Book of Government §16-26 B)

A. Rights and Duties.

A judicial commission created in accordance

§6-18 The parties shall be allowed copies of the whole proceedings at their own expense if they demand them.

Minutes of the trial shall be kept by the Clerk, which shall exhibit the charges, the answer, all the testimony, and all such acts, orders, and decisions of the court relating to the case, as either party may desire, and also the judgment.

The Clerk shall without delay attach together the charges, the answer, the citations and returns thereto, and the minutes herein required to be kept. These papers, when so attached, shall constitute "the record of the case."

When a case is removed by appeal or complaint, the lower court shall transmit "the record" thus prepared to the higher court with the addition of the notice of appeal or complaint, and the reasons therefor, if any shall have been filed.

Only that which is contained in this "record" shall be taken into consideration by the higher court. On the final decision of a case in a higher court, the judgment shall be sent down to the court in which the case originated.

§9-7 Every question put to a witness shall, if required, be reduced to writing. When answered, it shall, together with the answer, be recorded, if deemed by the court or by either party of sufficient importance, and the testimony of the witness shall be read to him for his approbation and subscription.

There is no corresponding provision in our old Book of Discipline, though §16-6 does provide for a "judicial committee":

§6-11 In every process, if deemed expedient there may be a committee appointed, which

with §7-2 B, shall have all the rights, privileges, duties and obligations of the court in the matter assigned to it.

B. Composition

Judicial commissions shall be composed of no less than three or more than seven members elected by the court.

C. Membership

Judicial commissions of Presbytery shall be composed of Ministers and Ruling Elders in proportion as near to two Ruling Elders to one Minister as possible in accordance with *Book of Government* §16-26B.

call be called the Judicial Committee, and whose duty it shall be to digest and arrange all the papers, and to prescribe, under the direction of the court, the whole order of the proceedings. The members of this committee shall be entitled, notwithstanding their performance of this duty, to sit and vote in the case as members of the court.

Chapter 10: Disciplinary Sanctions

<p>§10-1 Exhortation to Meekness</p> <p>When any person shall be found guilty of an offense, the court shall proceed with all tenderness and shall deal with its offending brother or sister in the spirit of meekness. The members are exhorted to watch themselves, so that they may avoid temptation.</p>	<p>§10-1 When any member or officer of the Church shall be found guilty of an offense, the court shall proceed with all tenderness and shall deal with its offending brother in the spirit of meekness, the members considering themselves lest they also be tempted.</p>
<p>§10-2 Disciplinary Sanctions</p> <p>Disciplinary sanctions which may be administered by church courts are admonition, suspension, removal from church office, and excommunication. When a milder sanction fails to reclaim the offender, it may become the duty of the court to proceed to the administration of a more severe sanction.</p> <p>If the court finds on trial that the matter complained of amounts to no more than such acts of infirmity as may be amended, so that little or nothing remains to hinder the person's ministry, it shall take all prudent measures to see that the infirmity is amended.</p> <p><i>Note: Second paragraph was adapted from §8-6.</i></p> <p><i>Rationale: The word "sanction" is substituted for "censure" since it is a broader term. "Removal from office" is clearer than "deposition." The latter term could be misunderstood in light of the fact that the term is used in courts of law to refer to the taking of testimony under oath outside of a courtroom.</i></p>	<p>§4-1 The censures which may be inflicted by Church courts are admonition, suspension, excommunication, and deposition. When a lower censure fails to reclaim the delinquent, it may become the duty of the court to proceed to the infliction of a higher censure.</p> <p>§8-6 If the presbytery finds on trial that the matter complained of amounts to no more than such acts of infirmity as may be amended, so that little or nothing remains to hinder the Minister's usefulness, it shall take all prudent measures to remove the scandal.</p>
<p>§10-3 Definition of Admonition</p> <p>Admonition is the formal reproof of an offender by a church court, warning of his guilt and danger, and encouraging him to be more careful and watchful in the future.</p>	<p>§4-2 Admonition is the formal reproof of an offender by a Church court, warning of his guilt and danger, and exhorting him to be more circumspect and watchful in the future.</p>
<p>§10-4 Definition of Suspension</p> <p>Suspension is the temporary exclusion of church members from the sacraments and/or</p>	<p>§4-3 Suspension, with respect to church members, is the temporary exclusion from the sealing ordinances.</p>

from other church ministries or activities.

With respect to church officers, suspension may include the exclusion of the officer from office and the sacraments. It may be either definite or indefinite as to its duration.

Suspension should generally be indefinite in its duration, continuing until the person suspended gives such evidence of repentance as may warrant its repeal. The good of the offender and/or the church may require that the offender be suspended for a definite length of time, even though he confesses his sin and gives evidence of repentance.

Rationale: The definition of "suspension" is broadened here to include suspension from "other church ministries or activities." The committee felt that it was important to give the court the specific right to create appropriate sanctions for individual situations. For instance, a person guilty of malicious gossip could be suspended from singing in the choir for a definite or indefinite period of time.

Suspension, with respect to Church officers, is the exclusion from their office and the sealing ordinances. It may be either definite or indefinite as to its duration.

Definite suspension is administered when the credit of religion, the honor of Christ, and the good of the delinquent demand it, even though he may have given satisfaction to the court.

Indefinite suspension is the exclusion of an offender from sealing ordinances, or from his office, until he exhibits signs of repentance, or until, by his conduct, the necessity of the highest censure be made manifest.

<p>§10-5 Definition of Removal from Office</p> <p>Removal from office is the sanction by which the offender's ordination and election are set aside, and the offender is removed from all church offices without excommunication. Removal from office may or may not be accompanied by the administration of other sanctions.</p>	<p>§4-5 Deposition is the degradation of an officer from his office, and may or may not be accompanied with the infliction of other censure.</p>
<p>§10-6 Definition of Excommunication</p> <p>Excommunication is the removal of an offender from the membership and fellowship of the church. Excommunication shall be administered only in cases of offenses aggravated by a continuing refusal to repent. The purpose of this sanction is to reclaim the offender, to deliver the church from the disgrace and injury of his offense, and to motivate the church with fear by the example of his discipline.</p>	<p>§4-4 Excommunication is the excision of an offender from the communion of the church. This censure is to be inflicted only on account of gross crime or heresy and when the offender shows himself incorrigible and contumacious. The design of this censure is to operate on the offender as a means of reclaiming him, to deliver the church from the scandal of his offense, and to inspire all with fear by the example of his discipline.</p>
<p>§10-7 Principles for the Administration of Sanctions</p> <p>The administration of church sanctions shall be suited to the nature of the offense. For private offenses, sanctions should be administered in the presence of the court alone, or in private by one or more members of the court. In the case of public offenses, the degree of sanction and mode of administering it shall be within the discretion of the court, acting in accordance with paragraphs below which deal with particular sanctions.</p> <p>If the charge is one of serious immorality or heresy, and the accused person persists in his rebellion, the court may proceed to inflict the highest sanction.</p> <p>When a Minister is removed from office, his pastoral relationship shall be dissolved; but when he is suspended, it shall be left to the discretion of the Presbytery whether the sanction shall include the dissolution of the pastoral relationship.</p>	<p>§10-2 Church censures and the modes of administering them should be suited to the nature of the offenses. For private offenses, censure should be administered in the presence of the court alone, or in private by one or more members of the court. In the case of public offenses, the degree of censure and mode of administering it shall be within the discretion of the court, acting in accordance with paragraphs below which deal with particular censures.</p> <p>§7-3 If the charge be one of gross crime or heresy and the accused persist in his contumacy, the court may proceed to inflict the highest censure.</p> <p>§8-9 When a Minister is deposed, his pastoral relations shall be dissolved; but when he is suspended, it shall be left to the discretion of the Presbytery whether the censure shall include the dissolution of the pastoral relation.</p> <p>§8-11 When a Presbytery shall depose a Minister of his Office without</p>

When a Presbytery shall remove a Minister from his office without excommunication, it shall assign him to membership at some particular church subject to the approval of the Session of that particular church.

In accordance with §3-5, no sanction shall be administered in the case of a person who has renounced jurisdiction in writing to the Clerk or Stated Clerk of the court of original jurisdiction.

In such instances, a case already begun may be concluded only with the permission of the accused.

Rationale: Under current United States Constitutional law, once a person renounces the jurisdiction of a church court, any actions the church takes against that person is taken at the peril of the court.

excommunication, it shall assign him to membership at some particular church subject to the approval of the Session of that particular church.

§10-8 The Sanction of Admonition

The sanction of admonition may be administered in private by one or more members of the court if the offense is known only to a few and is not aggravated in character. If the offense is public, the admonition shall be administered by the Moderator in presence of the court and may also be announced in public should the court deem it appropriate.

§10-9 Confession and Restoration**A. Confession**

When any person shall come forward and make his offense known to the court, a full statement of the facts shall be recorded and judgment rendered without judicial procedures.

When an officer, before judgment is entered, shall make a confession of a matter that is marked by outrageous or scandalous crime or vice, such as substance abuse, marital infidelity, embezzlement or the like, however penitent he may appear to the satisfaction of all, the court shall without delay suspend or remove him from his office.

Rationale: From old §12-7, §8-7 & 8-8.

B. Restoration

An officer suspended or removed from office for scandalous conduct shall not be restored, even on the deepest sorrow for his sin, until he has demonstrated an exemplary, humble, and edifying lifestyle for a considerable amount of time, which, in the case of removal from office, shall be for not less than one year. Any officer must present evidence that it is virtually certain that the conduct causing his suspension or removal from office will not occur again. A Minister removed from office shall not be restored until it appears that the general sentiment of the church is strongly in his favor and demands his restoration. In that event restoration may be pronounced only by the court inflicting the sanction or with its consent.

§10-3 The censure of admonition should be administered in private by one or more members of the court if the offense is known only to a few and is not aggravated in character. If the offense is public the admonition should be administered by the Moderator in presence of the court and may also be announced in public should the court deem it expedient.

§12-1 When any person shall come forward and make his offense known to the court, a full statement of the facts shall be recorded and judgment rendered without process.

§8-7 When a Minister, pending trial, shall make confession of a matter that is base and flagitious, such as drunkenness, uncleanness, or crimes of a higher nature, however penitent he may appear to the satisfaction of all, the court shall without delay suspend him from the exercise of his office, or depose him from the ministry.

§8-8 A Minister suspended or deposed for scandalous conduct shall not be restored, even on the deepest sorrow for his sin, until he shall exhibit for a considerable time such an eminently exemplary, humble and edifying life and testimony as shall heal the wound made by his scandal. A deposed Minister shall in no case be restored until it shall appear that the general sentiment of the Church is strongly in his favor, and demands his restoration; and then only by the court inflicting the censure, or with its consent.

<i>Rationale: From old §8-8.</i>	
----------------------------------	--

APPENDICES

<p>§10-10 The Sanction of Suspension</p> <p>Suspension may be for a definite period of time or for an indefinite period of time.</p> <p>The goal of suspension is to impress the offender of the evil of his sin, and, under God's blessing to lead him to repentance.</p> <p>Definite suspension shall be administered in the presence of the court alone or in open session of the court, as it may deem best, and public announcement thereof shall be at the court's discretion.</p>	<p>§10-4 Definite suspension should be administered in the presence of the court alone or in open session of the court, as it may deem best, and public announcement thereof shall be at the court's discretion.</p>
<p>§10-11 Indefinite suspension</p> <p>Indefinite suspension shall be administered in the presence of the court alone or in open session of the court, as it may deem best, and public announcement thereof shall be at the court's discretion.</p> <p>When the court has resolved to pass this sentence, the Moderator shall address the offending brother to the following purpose:</p> <p>"Whereas, you _____ (here describe the person as a Minister, Ruling Elder, Deacon, or member of the Church) are convicted by sufficient proof (or are guilty by your own confession) of the sin of _____ (here insert the offense), we the Presbytery (or Church Session) of _____ in the name and by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, do now declare you suspended from the Sacraments of the Church (and from the exercise of your office), until you give satisfactory evidence of repentance."</p> <p>To this shall be added such advice or admonition as may be judged necessary, and the whole shall be concluded with prayer to almighty God that He would follow this act of discipline with His blessing.</p>	<p>§10-5 Indefinite suspension should be administered after the manner prescribed for definite suspension, but with added solemnity, that it may be the means of impressing the mind of the delinquent with a proper sense of his danger, and under the blessing of God of leading him to repentance.</p> <p>When the court has resolved to pass this sentence, the Moderator shall address the offending brother to the following purpose:</p> <p>"Whereas, you _____ (here describe the person as a Minister, Ruling Elder, Deacon, or private member of the Church) are convicted by sufficient proof (or are guilty by your own confession) of the sin of _____ (here insert the offense), we the Presbytery (or Church Session) of _____ in the name and by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, do now declare you suspended from the Sacrament of the Church (and from the exercise of your office), until you give satisfactory evidence of repentance."</p> <p>To this shall be added such advice or admonition as may be judged necessary, and the whole shall be concluded with prayer to almighty God that He would follow this act of discipline with His blessing.</p>
<p>§10-12 Removal from Office</p> <p>The sanction of removal from office shall be administered by the Moderator in the words</p>	<p>§10-7 The censure of deposition shall be administered by the Moderator in the words following:</p>

following:

"Whereas, _____ a Minister of this Presbytery (or a Ruling Elder or Deacon of this Church), has been proved by sufficient evidence to be guilty of the sin of _____, we, the Presbytery (or Church Session) of _____ do adjudge him disqualified for the office of Minister (or Ruling Elder or Deacon), and therefore we do hereby, in the name and by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, remove him from the office of Minister (or Ruling Elder or Deacon) the said _____, and do prohibit him from exercising any of the functions thereof." If the sanction includes suspension or excommunication, the Moderator shall proceed to say: "We do, moreover, by the same authority, suspend the said _____ from the Sacraments, and cut him off from the membership and fellowship of the Church."

The sentence of removal from office ought to be accompanied by solemnities similar to those already prescribed in the case of excommunication.

Note: The committee placed removal from office ahead of excommunication since logically a person could be removed from office but not excommunicated. Excommunication is the sanction of last resort.

"Whereas, _____ a Minister of this Presbytery (or a Ruling Elder or Deacon of this Church), has been proved, by sufficient evidence to be guilty of the sin of _____, we, the Presbytery (or Church Session) of _____ do adjudge him disqualified for the office of the Christian ministry (or Ruling Eldership, or Deaconship), and therefore we do hereby, in the name and by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, depose from the office of a Minister (or Ruling Elder or Deacon) the said _____, and do prohibit him from exercising any of the functions thereof." If the censure include suspension or excommunication, the Moderator shall proceed to say: "We do moreover, by the same authority, suspend the said _____ from the Sacraments, and cut him off from the fellowship of the church." The sentence of deposition ought to be inclined with solemnities similar to those already prescribed in the case of excommunication.

§10-13 Excommunication

Excommunication may be administered according to one or other of the two modes laid down for indefinite suspension, or it may be inflicted in public as the court may decide. In administering this sanction, the Moderator of the court shall make a statement of the several steps which have been taken with respect to the offending person, and of the decision to cut him off from the membership and fellowship of the church. He shall then show from Matthew 18:15-18 and 1 Corinthians 5:1-5 the authority of the church to cast out unworthy members, and shall explain the nature, use, and consequences of this sanction. He shall then administer the sanction in the words following: "Whereas _____, a member of this Church, has been by sufficient proof convicted of the sin of _____, and after much admonition and prayer, obstinately refuses to hear the Church, and has manifested no evidence of repentance: Therefore, in the name and by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, we, the Session of the Church of _____ (or Presbytery of _____) do pronounce him to be excluded from the Sacraments, and cut off from the membership and fellowship of the Church."

§10-6 Excommunication is to be administered according to one or other of the two modes laid down for indefinite suspension, or to be inflicted in public as the court may decide. In administering this censure, the Moderator of the Session shall make a statement of the several steps which have been taken with respect to the offending brother, and of the decision to cut him off from the communion of the Church. He shall then show from Matthew 18:15-18 and 1 Corinthians 5:1-5 the authority of the Church to cast out unworthy members, and shall explain the nature, use, and consequences of this censure. He shall then administer the censure in the words following: "Whereas _____, a member of this Church, has been by sufficient proof convicted of the sin of _____, and after much admonition and prayer, obstinately refuses to hear the Church, and has manifested no evidence of repentance: Therefore, in the name and by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, we, the Session of the Church of _____ do pronounce him to be excluded from the Sacraments, and cut off from the fellowship of the Church."

Chapter 11: Removal of Sanctions

<p>§11-1 Court Should Pray for the Offender</p> <p>After any person has been suspended from the sacraments, it is proper that the Elders of the church should frequently converse with him as well as pray with him and for him, that it would please God to give him repentance.</p>	<p>§11-1 After any person has been suspended from the Sacraments, it is proper that the rulers of the Church should frequently converse with him as well as pray with him and for him, that it would please God to give him repentance.</p>
<p>§11-2 Restoration to the Sacraments</p> <p>When the court shall be satisfied as to the reality of the repentance of a suspended offender, he shall be admitted to profess his repentance either in the presence of the court alone or publicly, and be restored to the sacraments of the church, and to his office, if such be the judgment of the court, which restoration shall be declared to the penitent in words of the following import:</p> <p>"Whereas, you, _____, have been suspended from the Sacraments of the Church (and from the office of Minister of the Gospel ministry, or Ruling Elder or Deacon) but have now demonstrated such repentance as satisfies the church, we, the Session (or Presbytery) of _____, do hereby, in the name and by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, restore you from the said sentence of suspension, and restore you to the full communion of the Church (and the exercise of your said office, and all the functions thereof)." After which there shall be prayer and thanksgiving.</p>	<p>§11-2 When the court shall be satisfied as to the reality of the repentance of a suspended offender, he shall be admitted to profess his repentance either in the presence of the court alone or publicly, and be restored to the Sacraments of the Church, and to his office, if such be the judgment of the court, which restoration shall be declared to the penitent in words of the following import:</p> <p>"Whereas, you, _____, have been debarred from the Sacraments of the Church (and from the office of the Gospel ministry, or Ruling Eldership or Deaconship) but have now manifested such repentance as satisfies the Church, we, the Session (or Presbytery) of _____, do hereby, in the name and by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, absolve you from the said sentence of suspension, and do restore you to the full communion of the Church (and the exercise of your said office, and all the functions thereof)." After which there shall be prayer and thanksgiving.</p>
<p>§11-3 Restoration of an Excommunicated Person</p> <p>Subject to the provisions of §11-7, when an excommunicated person shall be so moved with his excommunication that he is brought to repentance and he desires to be readmitted to the membership and fellowship of the church, he may request that the Session restore him. The Session shall proceed to restore him if it finds sufficient evidence of his sincere</p>	<p>§11-3 When an excommunicated person shall be so affected with his state as to be brought to repentance, and to desire to be readmitted to the communion of the Church, the Session, having obtained sufficient evidence of his sincere penitence, shall proceed to restore him. This may be done in the presence of the court, or of the congregation as seems best to the Session.</p> <p>On the day appointed for his restoration, the</p>

repentance. This may be done in the presence of the court or of the congregation as seems best to the Session.

On the day appointed for his restoration, the Moderator of the court shall call upon the excommunicated person and propose to him the following questions:

"Do you, from a deep sense of your great wickedness, freely confess your sins in thus rebelling against God and in refusing to hear His Church? Answer, "I do."

"Do you acknowledge that you have been in justice and mercy cut off from the communion of the church?" Answer, "I do."

"Do you now voluntarily profess your sincere repentance and sorrow for your sin and rebellion: and do you humbly ask the forgiveness of God and His Church? "Answer, "I do."

"Do you sincerely promise, through divine grace, to live in all humility of mind and carefulness to avoid sin, and to attempt to live a lifestyle that will glorify God our Savior?" Answer, "I do."

Here the Minister shall give the person being restored a suitable exhortation, encouraging and comforting him. Then he shall pronounce the sentence of restoration in the following words:

"Whereas you, _____, have been shut out from the membership and fellowship of the Church, but now have demonstrated such repentance as satisfies the Church; in the name and by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ we, the Session of this Church, do declare you restored from the sentence of excommunication formerly pronounced against you, and we do restore you to the membership and fellowship of the Church, that you may be a partaker of all the benefits of the Lord Jesus to your eternal salvation."

Minister shall call upon the excommunicated person and propose to him the following questions:

"Do you, from a deep sense of your great wickedness, freely confess your sins in thus rebelling against God, and in refusing to hear His Church; and do you acknowledge that you have been in justice and mercy cut off from the communion of the Church?" Answer, "I do."

"Do you now voluntarily profess your sincere repentance and contrition for your sin and obstinacy: and do you humbly ask the forgiveness of God and His Church? "Answer, "I do." "Do you sincerely promise, through divine grace, to live in all humbleness of mind and circumspection; and to endeavor to adorn by a holy life the doctrine of God our Savior?" Answer, "I do."

Here the Minister shall give the penitent a suitable exhortation, encouraging and comforting him. Then he shall pronounce the sentence of restoration in the following words:

"Whereas you, _____, have been shut out from the communion of the Church, but now have manifested such repentance as satisfies the Church; in the name and by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ we, the Session of this Church, do declare you absolved from the sentence of excommunication formerly pronounced against you, and we do restore you to the communion of the Church, that you may be a partaker of all the benefits of the Lord Jesus to your eternal salvation."

The whole shall be concluded with prayer and thanksgiving.

The whole shall be concluded with prayer and thanksgiving.

APPENDICES

§11-4 Restoration to Office

When an officer who has been removed from office makes public confession in a manner similar to that prescribed in the case of the restoration of an excommunicated person, he may be restored to office. His restoration to office shall be announced to him by the Moderator as follows:

"Whereas, you, _____, formerly a Minister of this Presbytery (or a Ruling Elder or Deacon of this Church), have been removed from your office, but have now demonstrated such repentance as satisfies the Church; in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by His authority, we, the Presbytery of _____ (or the Session of this Church) do declare you restored from the said sentence of removal from office formerly pronounced against you; and we do furthermore restore you to your office, and to the exercise of all the functions thereof, whenever you may be duly called."

After this there shall be prayer and thanksgiving, and the members of the court shall extend to him the right hand of fellowship.

§11-4 The restoration of a deposed officer, after public confession has been made in a manner similar to that prescribed in the case of the removal of censure from an excommunicated person, shall be announced to him by the Moderator in the following form, namely, "Whereas, you, _____, formerly a Minister of this Presbytery (or a Ruling Elder or Deacon of this Church), have been deposed from your office, but have now manifested such repentance as satisfies the Church; in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by His authority, we, the Presbytery of _____ (or the Session of this Church) do declare you absolved from the said sentence of deposition formerly pronounced against you; and we do furthermore restore you to your said office, and to the exercise of all the functions thereof, whenever you may be orderly called thereto."

After this there shall be prayer and thanksgiving, and the members of the court shall extend to him the right hand of fellowship.

§11-5 Reelection Required for Exercise of Office

When a Ruling Elder or Deacon has been pardoned from the sanction of removal from office, he cannot be allowed to resume the exercise of his office in the church without reelection by the people.

§11-5 When a Ruling Elder or Deacon has been absolved from the censure of deposition, he cannot be allowed to resume the exercise of his office in the Church without reelection by the people.

§11-6 Special Provisions for the Restoration of a Minister

In the restoration of a Minister who has been suspended or removed from office, it is the duty of the Presbytery to proceed with great caution. In conjunction with the Presbytery and the church to which he has been assigned, pursuant to §10-7, Presbytery and the Session of that church should first admit him to the

§11-7 In the restoration of a Minister who has been suspended or deposed, it is the duty of the Presbytery to proceed with great caution. It should first admit him to the Sacraments, if he has been debarred from them, and afterwards should grant him the privilege of preaching on probation for a time, so as to test the sincerity of his repentance and the prospect of his usefulness, and when satisfied in these respects the Presbytery shall take steps to restore him to

<p>sacraments, if he has been suspended from them, and afterwards should grant him the privilege of preaching on probation for a time. The court shall oversee his lifestyle so as to test the sincerity of his repentance and the prospect of his usefulness. When the Presbytery is satisfied in these respects it shall restore him to his office. The case shall remain under judicial consideration until the sentence of restoration has been pronounced.</p>	<p>his office. But the case shall always be under judicial consideration until the sentence of restoration has been pronounced.</p>
<p>§11-7 Transfer of Case to More Convenient Forum</p> <p>When a person under sanction shall move to a place which is remote from the court by which he was sentenced, and shall desire to profess repentance and obtain restoration, the court may, if it deems it appropriate, transmit a certified copy of its proceedings to the Session (or Presbytery) where the person under sanction resides. The court of the person's residence shall then assume jurisdiction over the case and proceed with it as though it had original jurisdiction.</p>	<p>§11-6 When a person under censure shall remove to a part of the country remote from the court by which he was sentenced, and shall desire to profess repentance and obtain restoration, it shall be lawful for the court, if it deems expedient, to transmit a certified copy of its proceedings to the Session (or Presbytery) where the delinquent resides, which shall take up the case and proceed with it as though it had originated with itself.</p>

Chapter 12: Appeals

<p>§12-1 Definitions and Parties</p> <p>An appeal is the transfer to a higher court of a judicial case on which judgment has been rendered in a lower court. Only the party against whom the decision has been rendered can appeal. The parties shall be known as the appellant and the appellee. An appeal cannot be made to any court other than the next higher, except with its consent.</p>	<p>§16-1 An appeal is the transfer to a higher court of a judicial case on which judgment has been rendered in a lower court, and is allowable only to the party against whom the decision has been rendered. The parties shall be known as the appellant and the appellee. An appeal cannot be made to any court other than the next higher, except with its consent.</p>
<p>§12-2 Newly Discovered Evidence</p> <p>If, in the prosecution of an appeal, new evidence is discovered and offered, and, in the judgment of the appellate court the evidence has an important bearing on the case, the appellate court may remand the case to the lower court for a new trial; or may receive the evidence and proceed with the case with the consent of the parties.</p>	<p>§9-14 If, in the prosecution of an appeal, new testimony be offered which, in the judgment of the appellate court, has an important bearing on the case, it shall be competent for the court to refer the case to the lower court for a new trial; or, with the consent of the parties, to take the testimony and proceed with the case.</p>
<p>§12-3 Entitlement to Appeal</p> <p>Only those who have submitted to a trial are entitled to an appeal, except that in the case of a confession, the offender may appeal an alleged mistake or injustice of a particular sanction.</p>	<p>§16-2</p> <p>Only those who have submitted to a regular trial are entitled to an appeal.</p>
<p>§12-4 Grounds of Appeal</p> <p>The grounds of appeal are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) any irregularity in the proceedings of the lower court; 2) refusal of reasonable indulgence to a party on trial; 3) receiving improper or declining to receive proper evidence; 4) hurrying to a decision before all the testimony is taken; 5) manifestation of prejudice in the case; and 6) mistake or injustice in the judgment 	<p>§16-3 The grounds of appeal are such as the following: any irregularity in the proceedings of the lower court; refusal of reasonable indulgence to a party on trial; receiving improper or declining to receive proper evidence; hurrying to a decision before all the testimony is taken; manifestation of prejudice in the case; and mistake or injustice in the judgment and censure.</p>

or sanction.	
--------------	--

<p>§12-5 Notice of Appeal</p> <p>Written notice of appeal with supporting grounds shall be filed within fifteen (15) days after the entry of judgment with the Moderator or the Clerk from which the appeal is being taken as well as the Moderator or the Clerk of the appellate court.</p> <p>Notice may be filed by personal delivery or by means requiring a written receipt.</p> <p>No attempt should be made to influence the court or discuss the matter with respect to the case to which appeal is being made by either party before the case is heard.</p>	<p>§16-4 Written notice of appeal shall be given the court before its adjournment, and subsequently reasons supporting shall be filed within fifteen (15) days thereafter with the Moderator or the Clerk; or appeal may be initiated if filed within fifteen (15) days following the meeting of the court, with reasons supporting it. No attempt should be made to circularize the court to which appeal is being made by either party before the case is heard.</p>
<p>§12-6 Filing the Record</p> <p>Within thirty days after receipt of a notice of appeal, it shall be the duty of the Clerk of the lower court to prepare and file with the Clerk of the higher court the Record of the Case as defined in §9-4.</p> <p><i>Rationale: The second paragraph of the old §16-5 is covered in the new §12-2 above.</i></p>	<p>§16-5 The appellant shall lodge his appeal and the reasons therefor with the Clerk of the higher court before the court convenes. It shall be the duty of the Clerk of the lower court to file with the Clerk of the higher court within the same time a copy of all the proceedings in connection with the case, including the notice of appeal and reason therefor, the evidence, and any papers bearing on the case, which together shall be known as "the record of the case,"; and the higher court shall not admit or consider anything not found in this "record" without the consent of the parties in the case.</p> <p>Should new evidence come to light, the case shall be remitted to the lower court from which the appeal was made.</p>
<p>§12-7 Stay Pending Appeal</p> <p>Notice of appeal shall have the effect of suspending the judgment of the lower court until the case has been finally decided in the higher court. If, however, the sanction is suspension, excommunication, or removal from office, the court may, for sufficient reasons duly recorded, put the sanction into effect until the case is finally decided.</p>	<p>§16-6 Notice of appeal shall have the effect of suspending the judgment of the lower court until the case has been finally decided in the higher court. If, however, the censure is suspension or excommunication from the sealing ordinances, or deposition from office, the court may, for sufficient reasons duly recorded, put the censure into effect until the case is finally decided.</p>
<p>§12-8 Procedures on Appeal</p> <p>After a higher court has decided that an appeal is in order and should be considered by the</p>	<p>§16-7 After a higher court has decided that an appeal is in order and should be entertained by the court, the following procedure is to be</p>

court, the following procedure shall be followed:

A. The court shall give all parties reasonable notice of the time and place of the hearing on appeal in person or by means requiring a written receipt.

B. The court shall read the complete record of the case, except any part of it that may be omitted with the consent of the parties and the court itself.

C. The parties shall be heard, the appellant having the right of opening and closing the argument;

D. The members of the appellate court shall be given an opportunity to express their opinions, deliberate upon, and decide the question.

E. The vote shall be taken on each specification in this form: "Shall this specification of error be sustained?" If the court deems it wise, it may adopt minutes explaining its actions which shall become a part of the record of the case.

F. All members of a lower court who participated in the judgment of the lower court lose the right to sit, deliberate upon, and vote in the higher court in all cases of appeal.

adopted:

A. the reading of the complete record of the case, except any part of it that may be omitted by the parties and the court itself;

B. the parties shall be heard, the appellant having the right of opening and closing the argument;

C. opportunity shall be given the members of the appellate court to express their opinions;

D. the vote shall then be taken, without further debate, on each specification in this form: "Shall this specification of error be sustained?" If the court deem it wise, it may adopt a minute explanatory of its action which shall become a part of its record in the case.

§13-2 When the proceedings of a lower court are before a higher court, the members of the lower court shall not lose the right to sit, deliberate and vote in the hither court, except in cases of appeal or complaint.

<p>§12-9 Decision on Appeal</p> <p>The decision of the higher court may be to confirm or to reverse in whole or in part the judgment of the lower court; or to remit the case to the lower court for the purpose of amending the record, should it appear incorrect or defective; or to send the case back for a new trial. In every case a full record shall be made, and a copy of it shall be sent to both parties.</p>	<p>§16-8 The decision of the higher court may be to confirm or to reverse in whole or in part the judgment of the lower court; or to remit the case to the lower court for the purpose of amending the record, should it appear incorrect or defective; or to send the case back for a new trial. In every case a full record shall be made, and a copy of it shall be sent to both parties.</p>
<p>§12-10 Counsel</p> <p>An appellant shall have the right of counsel consistent with §9-3.</p>	<p>§16-9 An appellant shall have the right of counsel, which shall be limited to the aid of one advocate appearing before the court.</p>
<p>§12-11 Abandonment of Appeal</p> <p>An appellant shall be considered to have abandoned his appeal if he does not appear before the higher court in person or by counsel at the time set for the hearing. In such cases the judgment of the lower court will stand, unless he can give the court satisfactory explanation of his failure to appear and prosecute the appeal.</p>	<p>§16-10 An appellant shall be considered to have abandoned his appeal if he does not appear before the higher court in person or by counsel by the second day of its meeting next ensuing the date of his notice of appeal; and the judgment of the lower court will stand, unless he can give the court satisfactory explanation of his failure to appear and prosecute the appeal.</p>
<p>§12-12 Unchristian Attitude of Appellant</p> <p>If an appellant manifests a litigious or otherwise unchristian attitude in the prosecuting of his appeal, he shall receive a suitable rebuke by the appellate court.</p>	<p>§16-11 If an appellant manifests a litigious or otherwise unchristian spirit in the prosecuting of his appeal, he shall receive a suitable rebuke by the appellate court.</p>
<p>§12-13 Failure to File the Record</p> <p>If a lower court shall neglect to file the record of the case or any part of it, to the harm of the appellant, it shall receive a proper rebuke from the higher court. Thereupon, the judgment from which the appeal has been taken shall be suspended until the record is produced upon which the issue can be fairly heard.</p> <p>If the lower court shall file a portion of the record by electronic means, the appellant shall have the right to prepare a written transcript of it at his own expense.</p>	<p>§16-12 If a lower court shall neglect to send up "the record of the case" or any part of it, to the injury of the appellant, it shall receive a proper rebuke from the higher court; and the judgment from which the appeal has been taken shall be suspended until "the record" is produced upon which the issue can be fairly tried.</p>

Chapter 13: Complaints

<p>§13-1 Standing to File a Complaint</p> <p>A complaint is a written representation made to a higher court against some act or decision of a lower court. It is the right of any member of the church in good standing to make complaint against any action of a lower court to whose jurisdiction he is subject, except that no complaint is allowable in a judicial case in which an appeal is taken. A complaint shall not be made to any court other than the next higher, except with its consent.</p>	<p>§17-1 A complaint is a written representation made to a higher court against some act or decision of a lower court. It is the right of any communing member of the Church in good standing to make complaint against any action of a lower court to whose jurisdiction he is subject, except that no complaint is allowable in a judicial case in which an appeal is taken. A complaint shall not be made to any court other than the next higher, except with its consent.</p>
<p>§13-2 Stay of Proceedings</p> <p>Filing of a complaint shall not have the effect of suspending the action against which the complaint is made, unless one-third of the members present when the action was taken shall vote for its suspension until the final decision in the higher court.</p>	<p>§17-2 Notice of complaint shall not have the effect of suspending the action against which the complaint is made, unless one-third of the members present when the action was taken shall vote for its suspension until the final decision in the higher court.</p>
<p>§13-3 Designation of Parties</p> <p>The court against which complaint is made shall appoint one or more representatives to defend its action, and the parties in the case shall be known as complainant and respondent.</p>	<p>§17-3 The court against which complaint is made shall appoint one or more representatives to defend its action, and the parties in the case shall be known as complainant and respondent.</p>
<p>§13-4 Notice of Filing of the Complaint</p> <p>Written notice of the filing of the complaint with supporting grounds shall be filed within fifteen (15) days after the entry of judgment with the Moderator or the Clerk from which the appeal is being taken as well as the Moderator or the Clerk of the appellate court.</p> <p>Notice may be filed by personal delivery or by means requiring a written receipt.</p> <p>No attempt should be made to influence the court or discuss the matter with respect to the case to which appeal is being made by either party before the case is heard.</p> <p><i>Rationale: Parallel to new §12-5.</i></p>	
<p>§13-5 Filing the Record</p>	

Upon receipt of a notice of the filing of the complaint, it shall be the duty of the Clerk of the lower court to prepare and file with the Clerk of the higher court the Record of the Case as defined in §9-4.

Rationale: Parallel to new §12-6.

§13-6 Stay Pending Hearing on the Complaint

Notice of filing of the complaint shall have the effect of suspending the judgment of the lower court until the case has been finally decided in the higher court. If, however, the matter concerns the purity or peace of the church, the court may, for sufficient reasons duly recorded, put the sanction into effect until the case is finally decided.

Rationale: Parallel to new §12-7.

§17-4 The provisions relating to an appeal found in Sections 16-4 to 16-11, and in Sections 18-1 to 18-4, shall with any necessary changes apply to a complaint.

§13-7 Procedures on Filing of a Complaint

After a higher court has decided that the complaint is in order and should be considered by the court, the following procedure shall be followed:

A. Notice of Hearing

The court shall give all parties reasonable notice of the time and place of the hearing on appeal in person or by means requiring a written receipt.

B. Reading of the Record

The court shall read the complete record of the case, except any part of it that may be omitted with the consent of the parties and the court itself.

C. Arguments

The parties shall be heard, the complainant having the right of opening and closing the argument.

D. Deliberations of the Court

The members of the higher court shall be given an opportunity to express their opinions, deliberate upon, and decide the question.

§13-8 Voting upon a Complaint.**A. Specification of the Vote**

In voting upon a complaint, the vote shall be either to sustain, to sustain in part, or not to

§18-1 In voting upon a complaint, the vote shall be either to sustain, to sustain in part, or not to sustain

§18-2 The effect of a vote to sustain shall be to

sustain.

Note: Cf. Old §18-1.

B. Effect of a Vote to Sustain or Not to Sustain

The effect of a vote to sustain shall be to sustain each and all of the items or counts of the complaint; that of a vote not to sustain shall be to annul each and all of the items or counts of the complaint; and that of a vote to sustain in part shall be to sustain one or more specific items or counts of the complaint.

Note: Cf. Old §18-2.

C. Vote To Sustain in Part

Those voting to sustain in part shall be required when voting to state what item or items, count or counts of the complaint they desire to sustain.

Note: Cf. Old §18-3.

D. Majority Vote Required

In making up the vote on the complaint, only those items or counts shall be declared to be sustained for the sustaining of which a majority of the votes cast has been given.

Note: Cf. Old §18-4.

E. Minutes

If the court deems it wise, it may adopt minutes explaining its actions which shall become a part of the record of the case.

F. Right to Vote

All members of a lower court who participated in the judgment of the lower court lose the right to sit, deliberate upon, and vote in the higher court in all cases of appeal.

sustain each and all of the items or counts of the complaint; that of a vote not to sustain shall be to annul each and all of the items or counts of the complaint; and that of a vote to sustain in part shall be to sustain one or more specific items or counts of the complaint.

§18-3 Those voting to sustain in part shall be required when voting to state what item or items, count or counts of the complaint they desire to sustain.

§18-4 In making up the vote on the complaint, only those items or counts shall be declared to be sustained for the sustaining of which a majority of the votes cast has been given.

§13-2 When the proceedings of a lower court are before a higher court, the members of the lower court shall not lose the right to sit, deliberate and vote in the higher court, except in cases of appeal or complaint.

<p>§13-9 Remitting the Case for Amendment of the Record</p> <p>Should the Record of the Case appear incorrect or defective, the higher court may remit the case to the lower court for the purpose of amending the record or may send the case back for a new trial. In every case a full record shall be made, and a copy of it shall be sent to both parties.</p> <p><i>Rationale: Based on New §12-6.</i></p>	
<p>§13-10 Counsel</p> <p>An appellant shall have the right of counsel as described in §9-3.</p>	
<p>§13-11 Abandonment of Complaint</p> <p>A complainant shall be considered to have abandoned his complaint if he does not appear before the higher court in person or by counsel at the time set for the hearing. In such cases the act or decision of the lower court will stand, unless he can give the court satisfactory explanation of his failure to appear and prosecute the complaint.</p> <p><i>Rationale: Parallel to new §12-11.</i></p>	
<p>§13-12 Unchristian Attitude of Complainant</p> <p>If a complainant manifests a litigious or otherwise unchristian attitude in the prosecuting of his complaint, he shall receive a suitable rebuke by the court.</p> <p><i>Rationale: Parallel to New §12-12.</i></p>	
<p>§13-13 Failure to File the Record</p> <p>If a lower court shall neglect to file the record of the case or any part of it, to the harm of the complainant, it shall receive a proper rebuke from the higher court. Thereupon, the act or decision upon which the complaint is based shall be suspended until the record is produced upon which the issue can be fairly heard.</p> <p>If the lower court shall file a portion of the record by electronic means, the complainant</p>	<p>§17-5 The higher court has power, in its discretion, to annul the whole or any part of the action of a lower court against which complaint has been made or to send the matter back to the lower court with instructions for a new hearing.</p>

shall have the right to prepare a written transcript of it at his own expense.	
--	--

Rationale: Parallel to new §12-13.

Chapter 14: Dissent and Protest

<p>§14-1 Dissent</p> <p>A dissent is a statement on the record by members of a minority objecting to what they believe to be an ill-advised or erroneous judgment. Any expression of dissent shall be accompanied by a statement of the reasons for dissent.</p>	<p>§19-1 A dissent is a declaration on the part of one or more members of a minority, bearing their testimony against what they deem a mischievous or erroneous judgment, and is generally accompanied with a detail of the reasons on which it is founded.</p>
<p>§14-2 Protest</p> <p>A protest is a more solemn and formal statement on the record by members of a minority, strenuously objecting to what they believe to be an ill-advised or erroneous judgment. Any protest shall be accompanied by a statement of the reasons for protest.</p>	<p>§19-2 A protest is a more solemn and formal declaration by members of a minority, bearing their testimony against what they deem a mischievous or erroneous judgment, and is generally accompanied with a detail of the reasons on which it is founded.</p>
<p>§14-3 Record of Protest or Dissent</p> <p>If a protest or dissent contains temperate language, and is respectful to the court, it shall be placed in the Record of the Case. The court may, if it believes it is necessary, respond to the protest or dissent. The matter shall be ended unless the persons protesting obtain permission to withdraw or amend their protest.</p>	<p>§19-3 If a protest or dissent be couched in temperate language, and be respectful to the court, it shall be recorded; and the court may, if deemed necessary, put an answer to the protest on the records along with it. here the matter shall end, unless the parties protesting obtain permission to withdraw their protest absolutely, or for the sake of amendment.</p>
<p>§14-4 Right to Vote Required</p> <p>None can join in a dissent or protest against a decision of any court except those who had a right to vote in the case.</p>	<p>§19-4 None can join in a protest against a decision of any court except those who had a right to vote in the case.</p>

Page Number References to Sections of the Old Book of Discipline

§

§1-1.....	vi
§1-2.....	2, 3, 4
§1-3.....	4
§1-4.....	4
§1-5.....	4, 5
§2-1.....	7
§2-2.....	7
§2-3.....	8
§2-4.....	8, 9
§3-1.....	10
§3-2.....	10
§3-3.....	10
§3-4.....	10
§4-1.....	37
§4-2.....	37
§4-3.....	37, 38
§4-4.....	39
§4-5.....	39
§5-1.....	8, 12
§5-1.....	16
§5-2.....	12, 13, 14, 20
§5-3.....	16, 17
§5-4.....	22
§5-5.....	16
§5-6.....	16
§5-7.....	18
§5-8.....	18
§5-9.....	18
§5-10.....	18, 19
§5-11.....	18, 19
§6-1.....	20
§6-2.....	14, 20
§6-3.....	20, 21, 30, 31, 32
§6-4.....	22
§6-5.....	22
§6-6.....	22, 23
§6-7.....	24
§6-8.....	27
§6-9.....	11
§6-10.....	30, 31, 32
§6-11.....	35, 36
§6-12.....	30, 31, 32
§6-13.....	30, 31, 32
§6-14.....	30, 31, 32
§6-15.....	30, 31, 32
§6-16.....	33
§6-17.....	33
§6-18.....	35

§6-19.....	14, 15, 33, 34
§6-20.....	12
§7-1.....	7
§7-2.....	22, 23
§7-3.....	39, 40
§7-4.....	10, 11
§8-1.....	7, 8
§8-2.....	2
§8-3.....	4, 5
§8-4.....	22, 23
§8-5.....	2
§8-6.....	37
§8-7.....	41
§8-8.....	41
§8-9.....	39, 40
§8-10.....	2
§8-11.....	39, 40
§9-1.....	25, 29
§9-2.....	25
§9-3.....	29
§9-4.....	25
§9-5.....	27
§9-6.....	25, 26
§9-7.....	35
§9-8.....	29
§9-9.....	29
§9-10.....	27
§9-11.....	25
§9-12.....	22, 23
§9-13.....	30, 31, 32
§9-14.....	51
§10-1.....	37
§10-2.....	39, 40
§10-3.....	41
§10-4.....	41, 42
§10-5.....	43
§10-6.....	45
§10-7.....	43, 44
§11-1.....	46
§11-2.....	46
§11-3.....	46, 47
§11-4.....	49
§11-5.....	49
§11-6.....	50
§11-7.....	49, 50
§12-1.....	41
§12-2.....	2
§12-3.....	2
§12-4.....	2

§13-1.....		§16-9.....	55
§13-2.....	53, 54, 58, 59	§16-10.....	55
§14-1.....	2	§16-11.....	55
§14-2.....	2	§16-12.....	55
§14-3.....	2	§17-1.....	56
§14-4.....	2	§17-2.....	56
§14-5.....	2	§17-3.....	56
§14-6.....	2	§17-4.....	58
§15ff.....	2	§17-5.....	60, 61
§16-1.....	51	§18-1.....	58, 59
§16-2.....	51	§18-2.....	58, 59
§16-3.....	51, 52	§18-3.....	58, 59
§16-4.....	53	§18-4.....	58, 59
§16-5.....	53	§19-1.....	62
§16-6.....	35, 36, 53	§19-2.....	62
§16-7.....	53, 54	§19-3.....	62
§16-8.....	55	§19-4.....	62

Miscellaneous Recommended Actions

<p>Delete old Book of Discipline §8-10. Add to Book of Government §16-27 A. 13. the following section:</p> <p>§16-27 A. 13. Although no complaint may have been received, if it appears to the Committee that there is dissension between a church and a minister, the Committee has the authority to investigate and make recommendations to Presbytery.</p> <p><i>Comment: The matters addressed in this section are customarily handled by the Ministerial Committee of Presbytery and should remain there.</i></p>	<p>§8-10 Whenever a Minister of the Gospel shall habitually fail to be engaged in the regular discharge of his official functions, it shall be the duty of the Presbytery, at a stated meeting, to inquire into the cause of such dereliction and, if necessary, to institute judicial proceedings against him for breach of his covenant engagement. If it shall appear that his neglect proceeds only from his lack of acceptance to the Church, Presbytery may, upon the same principle upon which it withdraws license from a licentiate for lack of evidence of the divine call, divest him of his office without censure, even against his will, a majority of two-thirds being necessary for this purpose.</p> <p>In such case, the Clerk shall under the order of the Presbytery forthwith deliver to the Minister concerned a written notice that, at the next stated meeting, the question of his being so dealt with is to be considered. This notice shall distinctly state the grounds for this proceeding. The party thus notified shall be heard in his own defense; and if the decision pass against him he may appeal, as if he had been tried after the usual forms. This principle may apply, with any necessary changes, to Ruling Elders and Deacons.</p>
<p>Delete §12-2</p> <p><i>Rationale: This section is irrelevant, there being no "roll of noncommuning members." The matter is covered under BG §9-1 for inactive members.</i></p>	<p>§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. This transfer, however, should not be made until the Session, after inquiry and due delay, is of the judgment that the request does not spring from temporary doubt or special temptation.</p>
<p>Delete §12-3. The matters are better covered by Book of Government §15-4 & §15-5.</p>	<p>§12-3 A Minister of the Gospel against whom there are no charges, if fully satisfied in his own conscience that God has not called him to the ministry, or if he has satisfactory evidence of his</p>

	<p>inability to serve the Church with acceptance, may report these facts at a stated meeting of Presbytery. At the next stated meeting, if, after full deliberation, the Presbytery shall concur with him in judgment, it may divest him of his office without censure. This provision shall in like manner apply with any necessary changes to the case of Ruling Elders and Deacons; but in all such cases the Session of the Church to which the Ruling Elder or the Deacon who seeks demission belongs shall act as the Presbytery acts in similar cases where a Minister is concerned.</p>
<p>Delete §12-4</p> <p><i>Rationale: To the extent this section is not covered by §15-5B and §9-6 B of the Book of Government, we believe that it probably creates invasion of privacy problems, dealing with those who have already left the church.</i></p>	<p>§12-4. When a member or officer shall renounce the communion of Church by joining some other evangelical Church, if in good standing, the irregularity shall be recorded, and his name erased. But if charges are pending against him, they shall be communicated to the Church which he has joined. If the denomination be heretical, an officer shall have his name stricken from the roll, and all authority to exercise his office derived from this Church shall be withdrawn from him; but a private member shall not be otherwise regarded than as above prescribed.</p>
<p>Delete §13-1.</p> <p><i>Rationale: This is a summary paragraph covering material both in the BG and BD. It is unnecessary in the present format.</i></p>	<p>§13-1 The acts and decisions of a lower court are brought under the supervision of a hither court in one or another of the following modes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Review and Control; B. Reference; C. Appeal; D. Complaint.
<p>Delete §14-1, §14-2, §14-3, §14-4, & §14-5.</p> <p><i>Rationale: These provisions are better covered under Book of Government §16-3 as well as Rules for Assembly Section VIII.</i></p>	<p>Chapter Fourteen</p> <p>General Review and Control</p>
<p>Move §14-6 to a second paragraph under Book of Government §16-3.</p> <p>§16-3 Review and Control: For the orderly process of review and Control, each</p>	<p>§14-6 In process against a lower court, the trial shall be conducted according to the rules provided for process against individuals, so far as they may be applicable.</p>

organizational unit shall submit its minutes to the unit above. The Board of Deacons shall submit its minutes at least semi-annually to the Church Session; the Church Session shall submit its minutes to the Presbytery annually; the Presbytery shall submit its minutes to the General Assembly annually. Each court shall review the minutes submitted to it to insure that the lower body has faithfully and diligently fulfilled all duties and responsibilities assigned to each court. It may refer matters back for reconsideration, call attention to omissions, require amendment of actions out of conformity with the Constitution, or otherwise exercise proper review and control of the lower body.

In judicial proceedings against a lower court, the trial shall be conducted according to the rules provided for judicial proceedings against individuals, so far as they may be applicable.

Move old Book of Discipline **Chapter 15** to Book of Government 16-28.

Rationale: This area is one of non-disciplinary matters better addressed in the Book of Government.

BG Chapter 16 - The Organizational Structure of the Church

§27-1 A reference is a written representation and application made by a lower court to a high for advice or other action on a matter pending before the lower court, and is ordinarily to be made to the next higher court.

§27-2 Among proper subjects for reference are matters that are new, delicate, or difficult; or on which the members of the lower court are very seriously divided; or which relate to questions involving the Constitution and legal procedures respecting which the lower court feels the need of guidance.

§27-3 In making a reference the lower court may ask for advice only, or for final disposition of the matter referred; and in particular, it may refer a judicial case with request for its trial and

Chapter 15 - References

§15-1 A reference is a written representation and application made by a lower court to a high for advice or other action on a matter pending before the lower court, and is ordinarily to be made to the next higher court.

§15-2 Among proper subjects for reference are matters that are new, delicate, or difficult; or on which the members of the lower court are very seriously divided; or which relate to questions involving the Constitution and legal procedures respecting which the lower court feels the need of guidance.

§15-3 In making a reference the lower court may ask for advice only, or for final disposition of the matter referred; and in particular, it may refer a judicial case with request for its trial and decision by the higher court.

§15-4 A reference may be presented to the higher court by one or more representatives appointed by the lower court for this purpose. It should be accompanied with so much of the record as shall be necessary for proper understanding and consideration of the matter

decision by the higher court.

§27-4 A reference may be presented to the higher court by one or more representatives appointed by the lower court for this purpose. It should be accompanied with so much of the record as shall be necessary for proper understanding and consideration of the matter referred.

§27-5 Although references are sometimes proper, in general it is better that every court should discharge the duty assigned it under the law of the Church.

A higher court is not required to accede to the request of the lower; but it should ordinarily give advice when so requested.

§27-6 When a court makes a reference, it ought to have all the testimony and other documents duly prepared, produced and in perfect readiness, so that the higher court may be able to fully consider and handle the case with as little difficulty or delay as possible.

Rationale: This area is basically an administrative matter better addressed in the Book of Government.

referred.

§15-5 Although references are sometimes proper, in general it is better that every court should discharge the duty assigned it under the law of the Church.

A higher court is not required to accede to the request of the lower; but it should ordinarily give advice when so requested.

§15-6 When a court makes a reference, it ought to have all the testimony and other documents duly prepared, produced and in perfect readiness, so that the higher court may be able to fully consider and handle the case with as little difficulty or delay as possible.

Stated Clerk's Report

In 1981, God providentially brought the Evangelical Presbyterian Church into being. Those early footprints are still visible. The St. Louis conference. First General Assembly in Livonia. Francis Schaeffer. Eleven 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 important! 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 family picture. After all, a denomination is a family of churches. A family picture shows it all--blessings and blemishes. Dealing with weaknesses is another matter. In what follows, you will find a select number of statistical footprints which afford small pictures of the family's life. A succinct overview of congregational growth in membership and attendance is provided for reflection (Attachment I).

I. Active Membership

1992	1993	1994	1995	% change
51,221	52,345	52,004	52,031	--

The inclusive membership

1. Active adult members	52,031
2. Members on baptized roll	4,701
3. Ministers on presbytery rolls	<u>405</u>
	57,137

- II. **Number of churches** reported this assembly year is 180 including both particular and mission churches.

1992	1993	1994	1995	% change
172	174	177	180	+2%

New churches added this Assembly year:

1. Courthouse Presbyterian, Cape May, New Jersey
2. Cypress Pointe Community, Orlando, Florida
3. EPC of Plant City, Plant City, Florida
4. Community Bible Fellowship, Oscoda, Michigan
5. Gateway Fellowship, Albany, Georgia
6. New Community Christian, Denver, Colorado
7. Clayton Community Church, Clayton, California

Offsetting greater gain was the loss of the following:

1. First Presbyterian, Niceville, Florida (dismissed to PCA)
2. Trinity, Naples, Florida (dissolved)
3. Christ Our King, Aurora, Colorado (dismissed to Vineyard)
4. Christ Chapel, Chesterfield, Missouri (dissolved)

- III. **Internal growth factors**, when separated and considered individually provide encouragement and yet call forth some degree of soul searching.

	1993	1994	1995	% Change
Churches reflecting gain in membership	54%	51%	50%	-1%
Churches reflecting loss in membership	28%	34%	32%	-2%
Churches reflecting no change	28%	15%	12%	-3%
Total professions of faith recorded during this period	1255	1438	1362	-5%
Adult profession	767	921	858	-7%
Youth profession	488	517	504	-3%
Total baptisms			1505	
Adult baptisms	561	568	586	+3%
Infant baptisms			919	
Sunday school enrollment	35,733	33,221	34,069	+3%

- IV. A growing church is a **GIVING CHURCH**.

Per Member Denominational Giving

1993	1994	1995	% change
551,565	567,139	646,860	+14%

Presbytery Giving

1993	1994	1995	% change
549,571	603,700	616,508	2%

Denominational Benevolence Giving

<u>Approved Benevolence Askings Project</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Actual</u>
1. Newly Ordained Ministers Dinner	2,500	2,500
2. Andrew Jumper Scholarship Fund	106,000	14,120
3. Church Planting	50,000	40,050
4. Church Loan Fund	25,000	10,950
5. Key Cities Projects	50,000	12,993
6. '95 Faith Focus	25,000	17,622
7. Per Woman Asking	25,000	13,553
8. Brazil Theological Scholarships	40,000	53,341
9. Brazil Graduate Library	5,000	961
10. Brazil Foreign Missions - Angola	30,000	13,750
11. Brazil National Missions	25,000	5,745
12. Brazil - Paraguay	25,000	950
13. Muslim Team Development	10,000	1,300
14. Military Avenue/World Impact	40,000	20,814
15. Appalachian Project	6,000	3,820
16. Asia, China Project	50,000	18,818
17. Asia, Missionary Project	12,500	3,985
18. Argentina Mission Director	35,000	10,599
19. Argentina Leadership Development	15,000	9,072
20. Argentina Church Planting	20,000	7,727
21. *Romania Van Purchase	15,000	2,275
22. *Romania Bible Institute Scholarships	16,800	2,127
23. *Romania Bible Institute Operations	4,020	3,727
24. Commonwealth of Independent States	30,000	13,141
25. Youth Ministries	<u>8,000</u>	<u>297</u>
	670,820	284,237

*World Outreach missions personnel transferred to another mission 6/95.

Actual giving here reflects 42% of goal. Variation in response provides some indication of ownership. Giving response indicates need for greater mission interpretation. Continuing efforts by our Assembly program staff should greatly enhance mission interpretation in our churches.

Missionary Support	711,124
World Outreach	182,236
Women's Ministries	33,534
Special Offerings	46,210
National Outreach	59,351
Church Loan Fund	10,950
Youth Ministries	297
Other Designated Giving	<u>34,543</u>
	1,078,245

Total benevolence giving of \$1,078,245 may be contrasted with \$1,051,115 in 1994, a difference of 2.6%. Of the \$1,078,245, \$919,542 came from EPC churches. The difference of \$158,703 was provided by individual giving, mostly 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 December 31, 1995, the total of CLF assets was \$509,161. Seven loans are out and two were granted during the first quarter of 1996.

Church Loan Fund		
<u>Loan</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Balance</u>
1. Heartland (Kansas)	50,000	29,570
2. Westkirk (Iowa)	50,000	31,666
3. La Mision (Argentina)	50,000	44,167
4. Faith (Ohio)	50,000	44,167
5. North Park (Pennsylvania)	50,000	45,000
6. Elkton (Virginia)	50,000	45,000
7. Tabernacle (Ohio)	50,000	50,000
CLF Cash Balance	219,591	
Loan Balance	<u>289,570</u>	
Fund Balance	509,161	

Achieving the goal of \$500,000 in CLF principal has been accomplished. 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. 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

4 th -14 th General Assemblies	15 th General Assembly
Total participants: 820	Total participants: 95
Gender Distribution:	Gender Distribution:
Male: 90%	Male: 84%
Female: 10%	Female: 16%
Regional Distribution:	Regional Distribution:
East/Midwest: 42%	East: 6%
South: 37%	Midwest : 20%
West: 21%	Central South: 13%
	West: 16%
	Mid-America: 14%
	Mid-Atlantic: 15%
	Southeast: 9%
	Florida: 7%
Elder/Minister Distribution	Elder/Minister Distribution
Ruling Elder: 52%	Ruling Elder: 51%
Teaching Elder: 41%	Teaching Elder: 42%
Neither: 7%	Neither: 7%
Generational Distribution	Generational Distribution
Senior (pre-1946): 82%	Senior (pre-1946) 79%
Boomer (1946-64): 17%	Boomer (1946-64): 20%
Buster (1964+): 1%	Buster (1964+): 1%
	Large Church Distribution
	Large (over 1000): 34%
	Mid-small (under 1000)
	66%

3. The denominational **Group Insurance Plan** is alive and well. Note the following:

Insurance (as of June 6, 1996)

Reserves:	\$1,615,977
Average enrollment 1996:	429
Employee enrollment (6/96):	429
Employees with dependents (6/96):	323
Claims paid in 1995:	\$1,987,335
Claims paid January-April, 1996:	\$673,863

Pension (as of April 1, 1996)

Participating churches:	107
Individual participants:	400
Inactive or withdrawn:	116
Total assets:	\$6,271,054.82

Employer contributions:	\$5,213,651.79
Employee (salary reductions) contributions:	\$1,057,403.03

4. A real 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. Presbyteries must be increasingly viable and proactive in growth and ministry. Understanding and achieving mission is a must for successful presbyteries.

Every November, the Stated Clerks of the presbyteries hold a workshop of instruction, problem solving and mutual learning. With the Assembly Stated Clerk, the clerks developed a proposed "Mission Statement" for further study: This mission statement has become operational in some presbyteries.

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 geographic areas, presbyteries 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 and receive churches who affirm the basic principles of faith and life of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church which shall 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 the Presbyterian way of life, the key link is the middle judicatory, the presbytery. Study of the 1995-96 statistics in the "Congregational

Growth Chart (Attachment 1) is concerning. Our presbyteries must be alive and growing. Hindrances to such growth must be identified, understood, and resolved.

5. Summary of activity in the Medical Benevolence Fund is as follows:

Medical Benevolence Fund

As of February 29, 1996,

Principal: \$192,338.25

Available for distribution: 56,743.29

Eight pastors have requested and received aid from the Medical Benevolence Fund for a total of \$10,133.25 disbursed from September, 1993 through January, 1995. One is from the Presbytery of the East, three from the Presbytery of the Central South, and four are from the Presbytery of the West.

6. New people have come to grace the Assembly Office in recent months. We have welcomed Amy Barnhart as our new Financial Manager last fall. Carol Ann Buchanan joined the staff as my executive secretary in March, carrying on for Karen Davenport who became a new mother May 9 to Alexandra Mary Davenport, and has chosen to stay at home. Kerry Quigley is our new receptionist, replacing Donna Shumate; Sandy Milis is our new arrangements secretary. Donna Shumate and Mary Warner, our former arrangements secretary, have gone on to other pursuits. Last but not least, Joy Bachart a New Mexico native, recently joined us as executive secretary for World Outreach.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward Davis, Stated Clerk

CONGREGATIONAL GROWTH - 1995 (By Presbytery)

*-Current information approximated
from previous year.

- Mission church status

CENTRAL SOUTH						
Atoka Presbyterian	38	42	44	5%	50	50
Christ Community	35	39	28	-28%	16	22
Christ EPC	677	686	696	1%	526	520
Christ Pres.-Decatur*		35	35	0%		
Christ Pres. - Cape Girardeau	50	50	38	-24%		40
Church of the Saviour*	58	58	58	0%		
Church of the King		100	49	-51%		80
Cornerstone Presbyterian	58	55	69	25%	55	61
Covenant Presbyterian	88	49	37	-24%	50	30
CrossPoint Community	57	69	73	6%	125	130
Crossroads Community*	39	39	39	0%		
EPC of Marshall	166	177	200	13%	140	155
First EPC - Anna	140	150	159	6%	284	280
First Pres. - Almore	85	88	80	-9%	90	100
First Pres. - Houma	81	79	66	-16%	50	40
First Pres. - Meridian	408	424	444	5%	215	310
First Pres. - Waskom	29	27	25	-7%		25
First Pres. - West Point	153	145	144	-1%	125	125
Golden Rule*	52	52	52	0%		
Hope Presbyterian	333	392	408	4%	295	600
Lakeside Presbyterian	551	558	546	-2%	315	315
Louisville Presbyterian*	68	65	65	0%	60	
Providence Presbyterian	59	70	77	10%	100	110
Redeemer EPC	48	65	68	5%	60	70
River of Life #	54	55	106	93%	125	150
Second Presbyterian	3,329	3,303	3,104	-6%	943	1,160
Trinity Presbyterian	68	55	58	5%	41	85
Tunica Presbyterian	135	133	132	-1%	90	100
Westminster Presbyterian	256	277	281	1%	190	200
Zachary Presbyterian	62	40	54	35%	20	47
TOTAL	7,177	7,377	7,235		3,965	4,805
EAST						
Ashland EPC	408	413	406	-2%	260	270
Calvary EPC	283	194	168	-13%	78	90
Christ Church	68	46	43	-7%	35	30
Dundalk Presbyterian	275	276	264	-4%	170	210
Faith Presbyterian	202	222	218	-2%	191	196
Fourth Presbyterian	2,285	2,302	2,331	1%	1,300	1,370
Goodwill Presbyterian	109	93	88	-5%	160	125
King of Glory	50	31	27	-13%	50	40
New Covenant		219	220	0%	210	158
New Hope # *		50	50	0%	73	80
New Life Presbyterian	40	48	46	-4%	45	45
North Park EPC	523	546	429	-21%	410	375
Redeemer EPC #	0	14	12	-14%		25
TOTAL	4,243	4,454	4,302		2,982	3,014

FLORIDA						
Abundant Life EPC	36	35	26	-26%	25	22
Christ Covenant	92	117	119	2%	85	85
Cornerstone EPC	129	129	138	7%		122
Faith EPC	330	348	339	-3%	275	275
First Presbyterian	122	143	157	10%	120	140
Cypress Pointe						
New Covenant	1,284	1,085	1,150	6%	900	800
Trinity EPC	112	122	124	2%		
TOTAL	2,105	2,270	2,053		1,405	1,444
MID-AMERICA						
Baldwin Community	43	42	41	-2%	20	25
Central Presbyterian	2,701	2,804	2,914	4%	1,356	812
Covenant Chapel	241	228	251	10%	400	403
Emmanuel Presbyterian *	205	205	205	0%	109	
Faith EPC *	7	7	7	0%		
Grace EPC	139	180	225	25%	350	370
Heartland Community	261	304	321	6%	910	1,000
Immanuel Presbyterian	263	264	288	9%	260	280
New Harvest Community #		28	45	61%	30	50
Sutter Presbyterian	99	106	107	1%	136	84
West Highlands EPC # *	65	41	41	0%	77	
Westkirk Presbyterian	225	249	292	17%	75	50
TOTAL	4,249	4,511	4,737		3,723	3,074
MID-ATLANTIC						
Bethesda Presbyterian	59	61	61	0%	45	50
Brunswick Presbyterian	31	33	36	9%	20	30
Christ Church EPC	77	77	68	-12%	130	130
Christ EPC - Midlothian	51	43	43	0%	38	
Christ Fellowship	41	51	47	-8%	55	
Cleveland Presbyterian	62	62	62	0%	40	40
Covenant Community - Charlotte	27	61	62	2%	60	56
Covenant Community - Albemarle #	24	27	25	-7%	22	32
Covenant EPC - Shelby	65	55	55	0%	75	75
Cramerton EPC	56	49	42	-14%	30	30
Cregmore Church	29	33	39	18%	40	65
EPC - Elkton	68	83	111	34%	80	100
EPC of Fredericksburg	34	39	12	-69%	35	35
Emmanuel Presbyterian	34	29	40	38%	35	58
Faith EPC	36	38	33	-13%	27	27
Fellowship of Christ	108	123	135	10%	200	200
First EPC - Clover	12	22	32	45%	20	45
Forest Hill - Charlotte	1,649	1,773	1,656	-7%	1,290	1,201
Forest Hills Presbyterian - Wilson	77	81	85	5%	80	90
Kempsville Presbyterian	1,327	1,397	1,465	5%	1,208	1,180
Lebanon Presbyterian	49	55	56	2%	95	70
Lee Park	81	80	50	-38%	50	45
Linwood Presbyterian	55	73	64	-12%	45	38
Myrtle Grove Presbyterian	1,442	1,389	1,367	-2%	858	900
New Hope Presbyterian	53	45	49	9%	20	20

MID-ATLANTIC cont'd.						
Northampton Presbyterian	112	109	111	2%		50
Overbrook Community	86	92	102	11%	120	120
Perrow Presbyterian	338	340	315	-7%	519	510
Reynolda Presbyterian	817	817	780	-5%	630	555
St. Giles	368	362	346	-4%	322	388
Trinity Presbyterian	496	455	470	3%	275	280
Westminster Presbyterian	565	548	553	1%	322	346
Woodside Presbyterian	44	44	45	2%	35	60
TOTAL	9,039	9,027	8,417		6,821	6,826
MIDWEST						
Calvary Presbyterian	568	583	627	8%	410	415
Community EPC	59	76	98	29%	140	275
Cornerstone Presbyterian	480	643	714	11%	1,050	1,160
Covenant Presbyterian	91	82	83	1%	60	140
East Crossing #	58	58	42	-28%	35	50
Evangelical Presbyterian Fellowship	160	152	152	0%	174	175
Faith EPC - Richmond	125	126	122	-3%	200	
Faith EPC - Lake Orion	239	250	203	-19%	1,000	
Fellowship EPC	158	197	226	15%	275	
First Presbyterian	796	797	797	0%		502
Grace Chapel	454	449	454	1%	422	447
Highview EPC	82	86	85	-1%	85	85
Hope Evangelical Fellowship		77	85	10%	62	65
Kensington Community	225	355	444	25%	1,300	2,100
Knox Presbyterian - Ann Arbor	109	195	256	31%	400	400
Knox Presbyterian - Harrison Twp.	493	483	521	8%	400	650
Lake City EPC	80	79	76	-4%	90	100
Military Avenue EPC	71	71	75	6%	100	150
Mt. Pleasant Community	195	222	252	14%	313	314
North Oaks Community	55	42	42	0%	80	110
Oakland Avenue EPC	243	231	227	-2%		100
St. Andrew EPC	50	64	84	31%	62	91
Tabernacle EPC	463	483	526	9%	415	435
Trinity Presbyterian - Columbia	173	171	167	-2%	120	115
Trinity Presbyterian - Plymouth	649	595	615	3%	500	610
Ward Presbyterian	4743	4,601	4,520	-2%	2,745	2,657
TOTAL	10,819	11,168	11,493		10,438	11,146
SOUTHEAST						
Brainerd Presbyterian	516	479	475	-1%	205	255
Christ Presbyterian	26	27	29	7%	40	40
Community Bible	72	102	120	18%	260	200
Cornerstone EPC	79	79	79	0%	76	77
Covenant Community *	100	50				
Faith Presbyterian	100	112	106	-5%	70	67
First Presbyterian - Louisville #	12	18			17	
First Presbyterian - Rome	1,061	1,075	1,119	4%	580	585
Grace EPC - Franklin	75	71	86	21%	60	94
Grace Presbyterian - Marietta	110	85	83	-2%	75	70
Harvest Church	60	80	89	11%	144	158

SOUTHEAST cont'd.						
Hope EPC	48	60	62	3%	85	85
Lookout Valley Presbyterian	104	107	110	3%	70	75
Lynn Garden Presbyterian	93	98	91	-7%	160	145
Mount Calvary Presbyterian	43	46	53	15%	73	72
New Beginning Presbyterian	171	149	132	-11%	120	120
Northshore Presbyterian	73	55	57	4%	50	55
Plumtree Presbyterian	147	149	160	7%	105	105
Valleybrook Presbyterian	119	124	129	4%	110	210
TOTAL	3,009	2,485	2,980		2,300	2,413
WEST						
Bear Creek	550	564	530	-6%	442	464
Canyon Creek Community *	200	200	70	-65%	219	234
Cherry Creek Presbyterian	1,785	1,098	1,027	-6%	1,400	1,297
Cherry Hills Community	3,650	3,598	3,671	2%	3,600	3,250
Christ Fellowship	41	46	53	15%	90	120
Cornerstone Community	223	231	180	-22%	185	185
Covenant Community	68	66	70	6%	90	80
Faith Evangelical	336	360	390	8%	400	450
Faith Presbyterian - Folsom #	18	18	23	28%	50	50
Faith Presbyterian - Aurora	1,439	1,305	1,165	-11%	932	814
First EPC - Renton	654	545	562	3%	582	585
Greenwood Community	473	508	581	14%	650	850
Hemet Valley	31	43	53	23%	60	
Lookout Mountain Community	153	187	232	24%	420	670
Morningside Presbyterian	147	142	145	2%	110	100
New Covenant Presbyterian	47	53	61	15%	70	75
Northwest Presbyterian	34	31	32	3%	67	71
Parker Presbyterian	183	203	256	26%	270	300
Santa Maria Community	84	76	77	1%	45	50
Thai EPC	38	36	45	25%	40	40
The Neighborhood EPC #		25	14	-44%		43
Trinity EPC	164	158	165	4%	185	179
West Bowles Community	404	484	554	14%	781	884
TOTAL	10,722	9,977	9,956		10,688	10,791
ST. ANDREW'S						
Belgrano *	25	25	25	0%		
City Church - Buenos *	73	73	73	0%		
Metro - Buenos Aires	75	75	150	100%	25	
Olivos	311	332	337	2%		150
Paranacito *	50	50	50	0%		
Quilmes	38	35	40	14%		
San Antonio de Padua	30	33	33	0%		
Temperley	133	133	150	13%		
TOTAL	735	735	858		25	150
GRAND TOTAL	52,098	52,004	52,031		42,347	43,663

Attachment 2

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF PRESBYTERY REVIEW

15TH General Assembly
June 22-24, 1995

APPENDICES

The Standing Committee of Presbytery Review convened at 9:30 AM, Wednesday, June 21, 1995 at Forest Hill Church, in Charlotte, North Carolina. The following members constituted the Committee: RE Harold Hegal, TE Steve Riser, RE Keith Finley, RE Ted Dodasovich, RE Freddie Berk, RE Ben Brychta, RE Mike Borron, RE Charles Talbot, Chairman. Ben Brychta was appointed 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.

The Committee met 9:30 AM to 5:15 PM on Wednesday, June 21; from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM on Thursday, June 22; and from 8:45 to 9:15 AM on Friday, June 23. After a preliminary review of each presbytery's minutes, the Committee met with the stated clerks of each U.S. presbytery and a representative of the St. Andrews Presbytery to review the preliminary findings.

A. RESULTS OF REVIEW

The minutes of each presbytery were reviewed by two members of the Committee in accordance with Rules For 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. Presbytery of Allegheny (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 Central South:

1. Presbytery did not acknowledge and did not respond to The General Assembly regarding the last years exceptions and notations. RFA 8-11F
2. No annual review of changes in Terms of Call recorded. RFA 8-11G(9)
3. The commission appointed at the 34th Stated Meeting was not identified or dismissed. BOG 16-26B

3. Presbytery of The East

1. While Stated Clerk responded to 1994 Presbytery Review, the Presbytery did not record its response in its minutes. RFA 8-11F
2. No record of Annual Review of changes in Terms of Call. RFA 8-11G(9)
3. The May 21 meeting shows that the Woodworth Commission was appointed by the Moderator but not approved by Presbytery. Also, the report was mentioned but not received by Presbytery. BOG 16-26B
4. Terms of Call for interim supply Al Smith and Glassman not recorded. RFA 8-11G(9)

4. Presbytery of Florida

1. The meeting of October 1994 did not record the "Ayes" and "Nays" for the vote on Overture 94-A. RFA 8-11G(13)
2. The February 1995 meeting did not record the changes in Terms of Call for all ministers. RFA 8-11G(9)
3. The minutes did not show that the Annual Review of the Retired Ministers roll had been done. BOG 15-9

5. Presbytery of Mid-America

1. The minutes did not show that the Annual Review of the Retired Ministers Roll had been done. BOG 15-9
2. Terms of Call for Moeller and Nuenke were not recorded. RFA 8-11G(9)
3. Presbytery approval of annual changes in Terms of Call was not recorded. RFA 8-11G(9)
4. In the January 28 meeting, the powers reserved to a session were incorrectly given to David Boswell. BOG 12-2A

5. The Graham Commission Report was not received by Presbytery and the Commission was not dismissed. BOG 16-26B

6. Presbytery of Mid-Atlantic

1. No reference to Annual Review of Retired Ministers Roll. BOG 15-9
2. Presbytery administration of commissions did not meet requirement of BOG 16-26B in:
 - a. Powers not defined
 - b. Duration not defined

7. Presbytery of Mid-West

1. No action by Presbytery and no response as to the disposition of the 1994 General Assembly exceptions were recorded. RFA 8-11F
2. No Review of Retired Ministers Roll was recorded. BOG 15-9
3. Presbytery administration of commissions did not meet requirements of BOG 16-26B in:
 - a. RE/TE ratio (Odendaal Commission)
 - b. Written reports not submitted (Knox, Hess, Frison Commission and others)
 - c. Reports not adopted by Presbytery action (Patterson, Mathers)
 - d. 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.

1. No annual review of changes in Terms of Call and no annual review of Retired Ministers Roll. RFA 8-11G(9)
2. Minutes did not include Presbytery budget. RFA 8-11G(16)
3. No Report of Annual Review of session minutes. RFA 8-11G(10)

10. Presbytery Of The West

NO EXCEPTIONS

B. RECOMMENDATIONS**Recommendation #1**

That the General 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, that Overture 95-B not be adopted.

We further recommend 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.

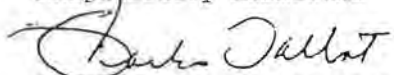
Recommendation #2

That the General Assembly direct the Stated Clerks of each presbytery to 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.

C. CONCLUDING REMARKS


The Committee wishes to commend the presbytery stated clerks both for the fine level of their work and for their love for the church reflected in the minutes.

Respectfully submitted


Charles Talbot, Chairman

Note:

The reports of those presbyteries with exceptions noted follow (East, Mid-Atlantic, and Midwest). Presbyteries with exceptions noted and which did not respond are the Presbyteries of Central South, Florida, Mid-America, and St. Andrews.


Edward Davis, Stated Clerk



Evangelical Presbyterian Church

PRESBYTERY OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

Llew Fischer, Stated Clerk

APPENDICES

To: The 16th General Assembly Presbytery Review Committee

From: The Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic

Presbytery, during its 21st Stated meeting, approved the following response to the "Exception" reported by the 15th General Assembly Presbytery Review Committee against the minutes of this Presbytery:

"Presbytery administration of commissions did not meet the requirements of BOG 16-26 B. in: a. Powers not defined and, b. Duration not defined."

The deficiencies cited above applied only to the Administrative Commission appointed by Presbytery during its 19th Stated Meeting held January 20-21, 1995, concerning the Myrtle Grove Presbyterian Church.

The Ministerial Committee (MC) had received informal indications of communication difficulties between the Pastor in his interpersonal relationship with the Session and staff of the Myrtle Grove Church just prior to the Presbytery meeting but the MC had not been asked by the Pastor nor the Session to intervene. However, the MC was concerned that the problem might escalate to serious proportions before the next Stated Meeting to be held in April, 1995, which might necessitate a Called Meeting, so the following recommendation was adopted:

"That an Administrative Commission be approved to act in the matter of the Myrtle Grove PC, if needed, comprised of the following:"

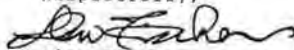
The MC met with the Pastor and Session immediately after Presbytery had adjourned. After inquiry to determine the nature and details of the problem the Administrative Commission immediately became active at the separate requests of both the Pastor and the Session.

Administrative Commission reported progress at the April meeting of Presbytery, stating that the Commission would continue as long as the Myrtle Grove Church and Presbytery feel it is needed.

However, it is conceded that the Stated Clerk should have specified to Presbytery at the time the recommendation was made to form the Administrative Commission that the motion must define the limitations of authority, as well as the requirement to report at a specific subsequent meeting, and will do so should such a commission be needed in the future.

Note: Presbytery, at its 21st Stated Meeting, held at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, Bluefield, WV, October 20-21, 1995 approved dissolution of the Commission, having completed its work.

Respectfully,



Llew Fischer



PRESBYTERY OF THE MIDWEST, E.P.C.

29140 BUCKINGHAM AVENUE, SUITE 5 • LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48154

(313) 261-3574 • FAX: (313) 261-3282

October 5, 1995

Dr. L. Edward Davis
General Assembly Office
29140 Buckingham, Suite 5
Livonia, MI 48154

Dear Ed,

The corrections and notations noted by the General Assembly Presbytery Review Committee have been reviewed and the following actions have been taken:

1. "No review of Retired Ministers Roll".

Comment: The roll was reviewed by the Ministerial Committee and reported to the Council. We will change the procedure and report annual action to the Presbytery. **Action:** The review of the Retired Ministers Roll was reported to the 66th Stated Meeting.

2. "Many committee reports did not open with prayer".

Comment: The committee's chairmen are faithful in opening with prayer. The clerk will try to be faithful also.

3. "The Ministerial Advisor for Gregory was not acted on by Presbytery".

Comment: The Ministerial Committee did not know nor do they feel that this is necessary separate Presbytery action. The information is included in the committee report accepted by the Presbytery.

4. "Commissions were not dismissed and did not report to the Presbytery".

Action: The following commissions reported and were dismissed.


Installation Commission

• •
• •
• •
• •

Rev. Donovan Coley
Dr. Gill Odendaal
Dr. Bartlett Hess
Rev. Michael Frison
Rev. John Mathers
Rev. Richard Peterson

This completes the corrections noted by the Presbytery Review Committee.

Yours in Christ,


Alton L. Bennett
(dvised)

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)

October 24, 1995

Presbytery Review Committee
Evangelical Presbyterian Church
29140 Buckingham Avenue
Suite 5
Livonia, MI 48154

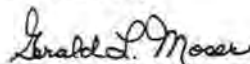
RE: CORRECTIONS TO 1994 AND 1995 PRESBYTERY MINUTES

Gentlemen:

Subsequent to our meeting at General Assembly in June 1995, I reviewed all of your recommendations and reported to the Presbytery. The attached pages from the minutes of the September 30, 1995, meeting reflect my report and the actions taken by Presbytery. I believe Presbytery has noted and/or addressed all of your concerns and I have made the changes to the minutes.

Please let me know if this action is insufficient to meet the requirements of the Book of Order or does not adequately address your concerns.

Sincerely,



Gerald L. Moser
Stated Clerk

5. Revisions to Minutes Required by General Assembly

RE Moser reported on the review of minutes conducted at General Assembly and noted that changes for both 1994 and 1995 needed to be acted on by Presbytery. He stated that he had provided information and response to the General Assembly on the 1994 minutes, but that did not meet the requirements of the Book of Order.

Motion - RE Moser moved that with respect to the 1994 review of minutes, Presbytery note the absence of a review of Terms of Call for all ministers in 1994 and that the Ministerial Committee be reminded of this annual requirement. Further, Presbytery note that specific powers for an Evangelist were not included on P.157 of Volume I, and in light of the fact that Rev. Kenneth Jones was made Pastor of that church in February 1995, the issue is moot. The omission is noted and no corrections are to be made to the minutes at this late date. The Stated Clerk is hereby asked to remind Presbytery of such needs in future cases.

The motion was seconded by TE George Yates. TE Willard Davis stated that although a review was not reported to Presbytery and was not in the minutes, the committee had conducted a review.

Motion - TE Willard Davis moved that the original motion be amended to show that a review had been conducted by the Ministerial Committee in the Fall of 1994.

The motion to amend was seconded by TE Robert Barrett. After discussion and noting that it was not included in the minutes, as required, the amendment was defeated by Presbytery. Whereupon, the original motion was approved by Presbytery.

Motion - RE Moser moved that with respect to the 1995 review of minutes of Presbytery, the following actions be taken to correct the records:

1. The record of Presbytery action on 1994 omissions has been corrected by the previous motion, so no further action is needed.

2. The Ministerial Committee be reminded again about the need for annual review of changes to Terms of Call for all ministers and the subsequent reporting to Presbytery of their findings.

3. General Assembly be informed that Presbytery approved the appointment of a Commission for the ordination of Rodger Woodworth at its Feb. 1994 meeting. (See P.175 of Volume I)

4. The Stated Clerk is to remind the Moderator of the need for motions to receive reports, to close nominations and to adjourn for lunch. This will correct oversights that occurred in prior meetings.

5. The name of the Presbytery of Mid-America be changed on P. 22 of Volume II. It was noted as the Presbytery of the Mid-West.

6. The Stated Clerk be directed to include details of the Treasurer's report in future minutes.

7. The terms of call for Rev. Al Smith, as Interim Supply for Calvary Church, were not included in the minutes, and since the relationship was terminated after three months (July 1994), the omission simply be noted.

8. The terms of call for Rev. William Glassman, as Pastor of Calvary Church, were not included in the April 1, 1995, minutes and were as follows:

Annual Salary	\$26,400
Housing & Utilities	13,800
Expense Reimb. All.	1,800
Pension	4,020
Medical Insurance	5,940
Educ. & Books	400
Med. Ded. & Dental	<u>1,000</u>
Total Package	\$53,360

In addition, the church is providing four weeks of vacation and two weeks of study leave and will pay his moving expenses.

The Stated Clerk is hereby directed to make the changes where necessary and to notify the Presbytery Review Committee of the action of Presbytery.

The motion was seconded by RE Frank Brown and approved by Presbytery.

Motion - TE George Yates moved that Presbytery show its support for the dedication and work of the Stated Clerk with a round of applause.

The motion was seconded by TE Paul Brown and approved by Presbytery. RE Moser thanked Presbytery for its continuing support and love.

Motion - RE Moser moved that his report be accepted and received by Presbytery.

The motion was seconded by RE Richard Hite and approved by Presbytery.

C. Report of the Treasurer.

RE Gerald Moser opened the Treasurer's report with prayer. He noted that the Treasurer could not be in attendance because he had taken ill yesterday, but he had sent a one page financial report containing activity since the May meeting. The report showed the following:

Operating Fund

Checking:	Balance on 5/10/95		\$ 699.29
	Deposits:		5,430.75
	Per Member Giving	\$ 350.75	
	from Savings	5,080.00	
	Disbursements:		(5,665.56)
	Stated Clerk	242.23	
	Church Dev. Comm.	4,323.00	
	Cand. Care. Comm.	20.33	
	Liability Ins.	1,080.00	
	Balance on 9/28/95		\$ 464.48
Savings	Balance on 5/10/95		\$17,645.52
	Deposits :		2,565.87
	Per Member Giving	\$2,448.75	
	Interest Earned	117.12	
	Disbursements:		
	to Checking		(5,080.00)
	Balance on 9/28/95		\$15,131.39

REFLECTIONS ON THE ESSENTIALS

Remarks Delivered to the 16th General Assembly
Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church
Edward Davis, Stated Clerk

Permit me to walk slowly through this most sensitive issue so that you may understand the conclusion to which I have come. I speak not only in response to the questions raised by the PJC, but also from the perspective of the Stated Clerk as denominational historian and archivist. Please hear me from that perspective.

In this Presbytery (West) a hearty and robust discussion on the nature of the Essentials has been developing for several months. Overture #96-B on this subject has been offered the Assembly. One part of the discussion surrounding this overture is the question of what constitutional authority, if any, does the document known as the "Essentials of Faith" have? In Chapter 14 of the Book of Government one finds in the fourth ordination vow for ministers, elders and deacons, an explicit italicized reference to the "Essentials of Faith." Herein lies a major question.

As presbytery discussion related to the "Essentials of Faith" has developed, I have been compelled to reexamine our earliest years, especially 1981, 1982 and 1983. Our early and most formative years were exciting years--years in which both the excitement and passion of a new movement drove and energized us all. Years in which highest priority for many people wanting to be part of "something new" was not organizational clarity. Thus, to pursue historical clarity one has to dig and dig. Research on this question has been hindered by the following factors.

The chairman of the task group charged with producing what we know today as the "Essentials of Faith" was Dr. George Scotchmer. A man deeply loved and respected by many, George pastored Memorial Presbyterian Church in St. Louis for many years. George is now deceased. With the help of his wife, we have looked for the working file of this theological committee. But for very brief notes, the two additional members of the task group did not retain written information helpful in historical clarification. We have been further handicapped in this matter by Andrew Jumper's death. Andy rendered a most formidable influence in the writings of the Assembly. He provided the church its first provisional Book of Government. In these earliest years Andy's contribution was prolific. Securing access to Andy's files during those earliest years has been difficult. I hope such information can be found and assimilated into our denominational history.

Some of you recall the First General Assembly which convened in September, 1981. Documents presented to that Assembly were a provisional Book of Government and a provisional Book of Worship. These two works were initially drafted by Andy Jumper and subsequently edited by a committee composed of Messrs. Jumper, Davis, Gray, Hess and Wolf. Others like Bill Flannagan and George Scotchmer would contribute at specific points. In that Assembly, the provisional Book of Government was adopted with a limited number of amendments. In Chapter 14 the fourth ordination vow reflected the following language: "the fundamentals of this system of doctrine." The First Assembly, however, amended its provisional Book of Government, Chapter 14-vow 4, to read "fundamentals of faith" rather than "fundamentals of this system of doctrine." The Assembly then ratified the proposed Book of Government.

Reflecting the evangelical spirit as well as the Reformed spirit characteristic of its initial membership, there arose an expressed need from the Constituting Convention of March, 1981 for a brief statement of faith in addition to an historical confessional statement. Consequently, the Steering Committee elected by the Constituting Convention tasked its first theology committee (Dr. Scotchmer plus 2) responsibility to bring to the First Assembly a brief statement of faith which, for the most part, is what you have today in the document entitled the "Essentials of Faith." The Steering Committee offered that statement to the First Assembly not as a substitute but as a brief statement to stand alongside the Confession for this infant church to use in a variety of ways. Such a tool was very common to those with broader evangelical roots who had come out of that broader evangelical world into Presbyterianism. In that First Assembly, the title of the document was changed to "Essentials of the Faith." Minutes of the First Assembly and the 1981-1982 minutes of the Steering Committee, reflect the purpose and intent of the "Essentials of the Faith" to provide a short, brief explanation of the non-negotiable essentials which may be found in fuller expression within the Confession. A statement of faith in brief form, sometimes called a "creed," was a familiar tool to many attending the First Assembly. When that Assembly adjourned, it had adopted a Book of Government, a Book of Worship, and would adopt, at a later time, a Book of Discipline borrowed from the PCUS and the PCA.

Subsequent to the First Assembly, the first blue book (Book of Order) was published under the oversight of an editorial committee working in consultation with the initial Theology Committee of three. In that first blue book (dated June 1, 1982 in its preface), one finds in Chapter 14, the fourth ordination vow, the words "fundamentals of the faith." The Second Assembly (though its minutes are unfortunately sketchy at points) took action to the effect that the next publication of the Book of Government, Chapter 14, should substitute the words "essentials" for the word "fundamentals" in the Book of Government. This, however, was done without capitalization of any language in the fourth vow.

The Second Assembly adopted a few minor changes to the "Essentials of the Faith" document and then approved the Theology Committee's recommendation to change the document's to "Essentials of Our Faith." It can, therefore, be reasonably established that the continuing intent of the Assembly was to have in one hand, an historic confessional statement known as the Westminster Confession of Faith (although the specific version of the Westminster Confession and which chapters to include were questions yet to be determined), and in the other hand, for purposes of testimony and witness, a brief document entitled "Essentials of Our Faith."

In the continuing work of that early editorial committee, much was still being done in St. Louis alongside the corresponding work of the Theological Committee. Somewhere between the 1982 and 1984 editions of the Book of Government, the words "Essentials of the Faith" in the fourth ordination vow were italicized and printed. This, in effect, established a frame of reference to a specific document. Just how and when this took place (somewhere between Government, 1982 edition and Government, 1984 edition) remains a question.

All this brings me to the following: In seeking as clear a picture as possible of those earliest years, with supportive historical data, I am unable to find any clear evidence indicating the Assembly duly authorized changing the language "essentials of the faith" into language to be capitalized and italicized as it is today, indicating a reference to a specific document. This is the conclusion I must bring to the PJC as together we struggle with this issue. In the context of Overture #96-B and the understandable debate which surrounds the larger question, I have endeavored in good conscience to clarify with reasonable historic data what genuinely did exist in those earliest documents, and what was the Assembly's original intent regarding the "Essentials of Our Faith" document.

Mr. Moderator, I'm not sure what implications this may have. If it is indeed true, and I believe it is, and unless additional evidence to the contrary is forthcoming, the fourth ordination vow found in Chapter 14, Book of Government, should read "essentials of the faith" with no italics or bolding. And if indeed this is how the Book of Government, Chapter 14, should be understood in terms of historical accuracy, such conclusion may influence the discussion of the larger question emerging as to the appropriate relationship of the document known as the "Essentials of Our Faith," clearly adopted by the First Assembly and moderately amended by the Second Assembly, and the Westminster Confession of Faith.

Let me be clear. There is no question this body in the first two assemblies adopted a brief statement of faith, initially named it the "Essentials of the Faith," then changed the caption to read "Essentials of Our Faith," thus giving us the content one finds today in the little pamphlet published as the

"Essentials of the/our Faith." The historical question I have raised does not bear upon the legitimacy of that document which stood alongside Confession of Faith, although not explicitly within the Book of Government. There is no question as to the historical adoption of that document for the purposes initially stated.

There is serious question as to whether the Assembly ever took explicit action to place the "Essentials" document *per se* in the fourth ordination question of G.14. I believe not. Rather, what it did was to take the most original sense understood in the words "fundamentals of the faith" and substitute that same sense with lower case language to read "essentials of the faith" with the understanding that if persons both outside of and within the church ask what is meant when one cites our motto, "In Essentials, Unity; in Non-essentials, Liberty; In All Things, Charity" here is a short, concise statement of faith to help. The original intent seems clear.

When, however, you study the language of the fourth ordination question of Chapter 14, you should understand that the historical intent was to have some means whereby the potential problem of faith attrition on the part of persons *already* ordained to the office of minister, elder, or deacon could be addressed. In my judgment, the intent of this Assembly, at least through its Fifth Assembly, was that the document known as "Essentials of the Faith" should be the exclusive frame of reference as to how the fourth vow may be understood. There are occasional footprints in the Assembly's history recognizing that some day the church would need to grapple further with the relationship between its Confession and the "Essentials."

Those of us who withdrew from either the PCUSA or the PCUS will remember the historical concerns as to how best the church shall deal with loss of faith and change of belief on the part of ordained ministers and elders. The original intent of the fourth question was to address that historical problem. God forbid that such similar issues of faith should ever confront us. God forbid there ever be an attrition and loss of essential truth held in good faith by our office bearers.

Mr. Moderator. It is my assessment – and that is what the PJC has asked of me – that clear evidence does not currently exist in the historical records of our church, at least through the Fifth General Assembly, to authenticate the capitalization of the words "essentials of the faith" in ordination vow four, Chapter 14 of Government. What this means to us today and shall mean in the future to this Assembly, the Assembly in its wisdom will need to determine.

Theology Committee Report

The permanent Committee on Theology met September 29-30, 1995; January 26-27, 1996 and May 3-4, 1996 at the General Assembly office in Livonia. Committee members are Rev. Michael Glodo, Rev. Paul Husband, Rev. Paul Johnson, Elder James Russell, Elder Vance Rutan and Elder George Schneider.

Matters currently before the Committee.

The following matters were referred to the Committee by the 15th or previous General Assemblies

1. **Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage:** The Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage was 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 [this latter matter referring to consideration of church officers and divorce].
2. **Civil Disobedience:** The General Assembly instructed the Committee on Theology to study the issue of civil disobedience and report to the 16th General assembly, and that the Stated Clerk bring together an *ad hoc* committee to study the legal side of this issue.
3. **Reproductive Technology:** The Committee was instructed to develop a statement offering guidance to the church regarding reproductive technology and to make an appropriate response to a future General Assembly.
4. **Organ Donation and Transplantation:** The Committee was instructed to consider the issue of organ donation and transplantation, and to make an appropriate response to a future General Assembly.
5. **Marriage and the Family:** The 10th General Assembly (1990) directed the Committee to develop a position paper on "Marriage and the Family." Various actions have been taken as described below.

6. **Out-of-Bounds Ministries:** The 15th General Assembly adopted the following motion:

"The General Assembly recognizes the growing problem of oversight of ministers serving in out-of-bounds ministries and to provide consistent guidance to the presbyteries in the matters of calls for ministers to serve be referred to the permanent Committee on Ministerial Vocation for study and recommendations be brought to the 16th General Assembly. As part of this study the Committee on Ministerial Vocation is to consult with the Theology Committee concerning how the call to ministry and ordination in the EPC relate to ministers who serve outside the bounds of presbytery."

1. **Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage.**

The 14th General Assembly adopted the present Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage with several recommendations for improving and expanding it before adoption as a full position paper. A revised version was submitted to the 14th General Assembly, which adopted the revision but made additional suggestions as described above. These pertained to two matters. 1) The grounds for biblical divorce for other than adultery either must be connected more clearly to Matt. 19:9 or established in other ways and 2) further consideration of the language regarding divorced person with respect to church office.

In the end, the committee felt that the Greek word *porneia* could not be extended to include non-sexual infidelity. But, based on extended study, we concluded that a sound biblical basis exists for biblical grounds beyond physical adultery or physical desertion. While we recognize that this is a very difficult issue which is unlikely to meet with unanimous agreement in any Christian body, we are hopeful that the proposed revisions will fairly represent a consensus within the EPC.

These revisions were carefully considered at all three meetings of the permanent committee and we submit a revised edition as per Recommendation #1 at the conclusion of this report.

2. **Civil Disobedience.**

Our directive was to study the matter of civil disobedience and report to the 16th General Assembly. We concluded that a pastoral letter was the best form of response. Our proposed pastoral letter earnestly attempts to represent the biblical way of respecting God's authority vested in the State and obeying God's law when civil government issues laws to the contrary. We submit this proposed pastoral letter for adoption by the 16th General Assembly in Recommendation #2 at the conclusion of this report.

3. Reproductive Technology.

One of the areas of study arising of the study on marriage on the family (see #5 below) was reproductive technology. While the rapid evolution of technology in this field very quickly makes any detailed statement obsolete, we have offered guiding principles in the form of a pastoral letter. This pastoral letter is offered for adoption by the 16th General Assembly in Recommendation #3 at the conclusion of this report.

4. Organ Donation and Transplantation.

A mandate to study organ donation and transplantation arose out of the Standing Committee's work at the 15th General Assembly. Our proposed pastoral letter addressed possible misconceptions about the nature of the body, particularly in the resurrection. Our proposed pastoral letter is offered for adoption by the 16th General Assembly in Recommendation #4 at the conclusion of this report.

5. Marriage and the Family.

In 1991 the Committee decided to break this work down into sections which would take several years to produce. No recommendations were made on this to the 11th General Assembly. In 1992 the committee began work on a preliminary position paper on divorce and remarriage (which was subsequently adopted at the 14th General Assembly in 1994). No actions were taken on this at the 12th General Assembly (1992) or 13th General Assembly (1993).

The 14th General Assembly adopted the Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage and declined the Committee's request to be relieved of further position papers on marriage and family life.

This year, in addition to a revised Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage, the committee has made further progress in offering the Pastoral Letter on Reproductive Technology. The committee will immediately begin work on additional areas at its next meeting.

The Committee also took action to re-elect by unanimous vote Dr. James Russell to be chairman for the 1996-97 Assembly year.

6. Out-of-Bounds Ministries.

Although this motion was not placed directly before the Committee, it did appoint two of its members to meet with representatives of the Committee on Ministerial Vocation. Those representatives have met with the MVC and will continue to consult with them as they continue their work during the coming Assembly year.

7. Personal Remarks.

In the year past, the theology committee has continued to be blessed with the wonderful fellowship and affection of Christ Jesus among us as we have spent time together. Our prayer has been and is that God grant us His Spirit and Grace as we ponder, study, discuss and apply His Word of Truth to our lives and that, above all, (to borrow a prayerful plea from Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones) "He give us great love and charity in our hearts, and patience with one another, so that as men professing the same faith, we may present it together to an apostate church, though she be a 'world church,' and to lost men and women everywhere."

RECOMMENDATIONS.

Recommendation #1:

That the General Assembly adopt the attached Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage as its Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage and send it to the presbyteries and churches for their guidance.

Recommendation #2:

That the General Assembly adopt the proposed Pastoral Letter on Civil Disobedience and send it to the presbyteries and churches for their guidance.

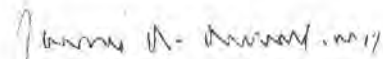
Recommendation #3:

That the General Assembly adopt the proposed Pastoral Letter on Reproductive Technology and send it to the presbyteries and churches for their guidance.

Recommendation #4:

That the General Assembly adopt the proposed Pastoral Letter on Organ Donation and Transplantation and send it to the presbyteries and churches for their guidance.

Respectfully submitted,



James Russell, Chairman
Committee on Theology
June, 1996

PASTORAL LETTER ON REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGY

In response to the Fifteenth General Assembly's request that the Theology Committee consider the issue of reproductive technology, the Committee offers this letter of pastoral advice. Reproductive technology, like many areas of medical science, is a rapidly evolving field. Even limiting this letter's scope strictly to the subject of infertility, excluding issues such as DNA grafting and gene manipulation, does not make the matter materially less complicated.

In approaching specific questions and situations related to reproductive technology, we must affirm and deny certain fundamental principles.

We affirm that God alone is the source of life. We deny that human efforts to create life are ever successful apart from providence.

We affirm that human life is unique among the creatures, having been constituted by the divine image in all human persons. We deny that human life is contained in mere material existence.

We affirm that children are a gift from God (Ps. 127:3). We deny that the conceiving and bearing of children are indications of greater character, spiritual maturity or merited divine favor.

We affirm that God rules over his creation down to the smallest detail by his decree of providence, including the means by which all things come to pass (WCF 10). We deny that, under the fall, any dimension of life is unaffected, including the ability of men and women to have children (Gen. 3:16).

In view of these affirmations and denials we offer the following pastoral advice.

- 20 Since under the creation mandates childbearing is to be the fruit of marriage and the fundamental structure of society is the nuclear family, it is contrary to the law of God for a woman to become pregnant by any means other than the insemination (natural or artificial) of her husband. This is no way reflects upon the value and dignity of children born out of wedlock, but such is not the revealed will of God.

For those couples who experience fertility problems, we encourage them to pray for God to enable them to conceive. However, our prayers should always seek the conformity of our will to God's.

- 30 God, as the Lord of Providence, provides means to fulfill the cultural mandate, including medical technology. The use of such reproductive technology, in principle, is commended. Such use should be conditioned by the responsible use of resources, both in the medical community and by the patient. The development and use of reproductive technology should be undertaken, but with great attention to whether it breaches a biblical view of life (e.g. fetal tissue research from electively-aborted children).

Attempts to achieve pregnancy should be conditioned by consideration of whether the parents are subordinating trust in God's providential care to their own desire for children. Parents struggling with infertility should regularly examine their hearts to ensure they are not valuing children over the glory which comes to God as his children persevere through difficulties (1 Sam. 1).

Couples facing infertility should strongly consider adoption as a means of producing covenant children, as an act of compassion toward displaced children and to satisfy their own desires to be parents.

It is possible that God has called some couples to the place of childlessness. Infertility could be an indication of this calling (1 Cor. 7:7). If God has so called a couple, it should not be taken as an occasion of leisure in life, but rather seen as an extraordinary opportunity for Christian service.

Because of the rapid rate of technology development and the complicated nature of life in a fallen world, no formal statement could anticipate all of the challenging issues and decisions couples may face. We commend our members to seek the prayer and counsel of their session in making decisions in the area of reproductive technology so that they may discern the mind of Christ and, above all things, bring glory and honor to God in the process.

PASTORAL LETTER ON ORGAN DONATION AND IMPLANTATION

There is a concern within the Christian community about the propriety of donating and implanting organs. This issue is not explicitly addressed in the Bible, but an answer can be found that is based on scriptural principles by considering what is written and what is not written in the Bible.

Consider first what the Bible does say about our bodies. God made man from the dust of the ground, and God breathed life into him, and he became a living soul (Gen. 2:7). When man sinned by disobeying God, he immediately suffered spiritual death. With that, physical death became inevitable after which the body would return to the dust (Gen. 2:17, 3:17-19).

Scripture tells us that all men will be physically resurrected. The bodies of Christians will be changed into glorified bodies like that of Jesus, fit for service to God for eternity (Phil. 3:21). Unbelievers are raised to face judgment for their sins and be cast into hell to suffer everlasting punishment (John 5:28-29, Acts 24:15).

It is the custom of many to bury the dead, perhaps in anticipation of the resurrection. Scripture tells us that we will be raised in the same bodies as we now have, though gloriously changed (1 Cor. 15:52, Phil. 3:20-21, WCF 32.2). However, not all bodies are in graves. Some have been cremated, and some are lost at sea or elsewhere. Will they be raised just as the bodies that are in graves? Acts 24:15 says that the just and the unjust will be resurrected. Every member of the human race will be resurrected, regardless of the condition or location of their bodies.

Even though our earthly bodies suffer decay, we will have glorified bodies in eternity. Even if we should lose a limb due to accident or disease, we expect that our glorified bodies will be perfect. If we donate an organ while we are alive or at our death, we should not expect to go through eternity without that organ.

Now consider what the Bible does not say. The Bible does not teach us that our bodies have to be in any special state in order to be resurrected. The resurrection is a fact revealed by God to give us hope both for now and for eternity. But the resurrection will be God's doing, and we do not need to know how He will accomplish it. It is enough for us to know that it will be.

God has given man the intelligence and skill to accomplish the transplantation of an organ from one person to another to benefit the latter. It is an act of love to give an organ so that someone else might live or somehow experience an improvement in his life. There are many people who are suffering or dying because of a shortage of organ donors. Christians should be leading the way to show the world how to give. We have received the gift of eternal life. Jesus gave sacrificially and we should follow His example.

PRELIMINARY POSITION PAPER ON DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE

SYNOPSIS

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.

10 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.

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.

Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage

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:

- 10 ...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.

- 20 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.

- 30 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 (Lev. 21:7,14,22:13; Num. 30:9; Deut. 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.

Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage

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)

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 (Josh. 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 Gen. 2:24, and quoted and enlarged upon by our Lord in Matt. 19:4-6:

10 "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,

20 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 hard-heartedness which requires the divine standard to be accommodated to the debased level of man's fallen state.¹

BIBLICAL AND UNBIBLICAL DIVORCE

30 As noted above, marriage is a sworn fidelity, whereby God joins a man and a woman in life-long companionship. Nevertheless, divorce is permitted 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 and 19:3-9 Jesus cites 'marital unfaithfulness' as the sole grounds for biblical divorce and remarriage. This word, *porneia*, is usually understood as sexual sin. However, a better translation would follow the New American Standard Version in rendering it "immorality." In contrast to *moicheia*, which is always translated "adultery," *porneia* refers to all kinds of sexual immorality which breaks the one-flesh principle.

¹Philip E. Hughes, "Christian Ethics in Secular Society," p. 158.

Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage

Jesus emphasized the sanctity of marriage: "What God has joined together, let man not separate." (Matt. 19:6) While the Pharisees and Scribes said that the Law demanded divorce under certain circumstances, Jesus said

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.

—Matt. 5:31-32

APPENDICES

10

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.

20

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 offending spouse (who committed the marital unfaithfulness) is repentant and the offended spouse is reluctant to forgive and unwilling to continue in the marriage.

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. Matt. 19:9 indicates that a valid divorce (on the grounds of marital unfaithfulness) entails the right to remarry.

30

Paul, in 1 Cor. 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)

40

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).

Some would understand Matt. 19:9 to restrict biblical divorce only to cases of physical adultery. However, we agree with John Murray that the issue addressed there is what constitutes legitimate remarriage.² In other words, Jesus' point is if one remarries without a biblical divorce, he or she is committing adultery. Further, such a restrictive understanding of Matt. 19:9 cannot account for Paul's grounds of desertion in 1 Cor. 7:12-15. To reconcile these passages we must search out the overriding principle from which they both derive, the one-flesh principle of the marriage mandate (Gen. 2:24; cf. Matt. 19:5; 1 Cor. 6:16; Eph. 5:28-29). Both adultery and desertion break the one-flesh relationship.

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.*³

Ongoing physical, mental or verbal abuse and attempted murder may be examples of actions which the Session may determine breaks the one-flesh principle.

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.

In light of Scripture's clear teaching on the sanctity of marriage and God's strong opposition to and restrictions on divorce, 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.

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

²John Murray, *Divorce* (Phillipsburg, NJ: Presbyterian and Reformed, 1953) 40.

³David Clyde Jones, "The Westminster Confession on Divorce and Remarriage," pp. 30-31 (emphasis added).

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 1 Cor. 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 1 Cor. 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 2 Cor. 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 (Phil. 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" (1 Tim. 3:4-5), which implies that he must be faithful to the "one flesh" marriage covenant. A similar requirement is made for deacons (1 Tim. 3:12).

Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage

We concur at this point with the position of the Presbyterian Church in America that anyone "who is divorced in accord with biblical principles, whether remaining single or having remarried, may serve as a church officer."⁴

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.

- 10 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. It should be noted that serving as an officer of the church is a privilege, not a right. Community awareness of the situation might also be considered so that not even apparent scandal be attached to the church. Above all, sessions should follow Scriptural guidelines carefully in dealing with present or prospective church officers who have been divorced, keeping foremost in mind that the honor of Christ be made manifest in the church and the community.

- 20 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
 - b. responsibilities of husband and wife;
 - c. family seminars and marriage enrichment workshops;
 - d. regular couples retreats;
 - e. making available books on biblical marriage and family development.
- 30 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 the light of our church's doctrinal standards:

⁴Paul R. Gilchrist, ed., "Divorce and Remarriage" in *PCA Digest: Part V, Position Papers, 1973-1993* (Atlanta: Presbyterian Church in America, 1993) 293. The following two paragraphs rely heavily upon this paper.

Preliminary Position Paper on Divorce and Remarriage

- 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 pre-marital 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.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 20 Adams, Jay. *Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage in the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1986.
- Braun, Michael A. *Second Class Christians? A New Approach to the Dilemma of Divorced Persons in the Church*. Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press, 1989.
- Crabb, Lawrence. *Men and Women*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing Co., 1993.
- _____. *The Marriage Builder*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing Co., 1982.
- Dobson, James C. *Straight Talk to Men and Their Wives*. Waco: Word Books, 1980.
- Gilchrist, Paul R., ed. "Divorce and Remarriage" in *PCA Digest: Part V, Position Papers, 1973-1993*. Atlanta: Presbyterian Church in America, 1993. Pp. 182-293.
- Hughes Philip E. *Christian Ethics in Secular Society*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1983.
- 30 Jones, David Clyde. "The Westminster Confession on Divorce and Remarriage." *Presbyterian* 16 (Spr. 1990): 17-40.
- Murray, John. *Divorce*. Phillipsburg, NJ: Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Co., 1953.
- Swindoll, Charles. *Striking the Original Match* Portland: Multnomah Press, 1980.
- Wheat, Ed. *Intended for Pleasure*. Old Tappan, NJ: F. H. Revell Co., 1981.
- Wright, H. Norman. *Communication: Key to Your Marriage*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1974.
- _____. *Premarital Counseling*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1992.

PASTORAL LETTER ON CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

10 The people of God, redeemed by his grace, have always lived their lives in a state of dynamic tension with the world. By "the world" we mean the sum total of every thought, word, attitude and action contrary to God's revealed Word. In this secular society whose values are indifferent to and often contrary to God's word, the Christian earnestly endeavors to follow the "paths of righteousness" for the sake of the Lord's name. For the most part and especially in nations with a Christian heritage the Christian can pursue this pilgrimage as a law-abiding citizen, often living a quality of life above the laws of the community, as he walks in obedience to God. There are times, for the sake of his own loyalty to God or for concern for others who are suffering injustice, when the Christian feels compelled to take a public stand against the ways of the world. Often this can be done without breaking a civil law. For instance, a merchant can choose to close his business on the Lord's Day, a physician can refuse to perform abortions, a public school teacher may in many school districts strongly encourage chastity before marriage rather than sexual experimentation. Christian people can conduct an orderly pro-life demonstration or hold an evangelistic meeting in a public place, if they secure a permit.

20 There are times, however, when the laws of the land permit or command behavior which is clearly contrary to the will of God in Scripture. Injustice, harm to people, and oppression are of such a degrading and evil nature that the Christian as an individual or united with other Christians faces the question of breaking a civil law in order to bring about justice or preserve human life. Sometimes also laws are directly contrary to the Great Commission. When Soviet Russia's civil law prohibited the importation of Bibles, Christians for years smuggled them into the country. Some nations have laws against active evangelization. Should a Christian disobey such laws in order to be faithful to Christ's command?

30 The Bible gives us numerous examples of civil disobedience in which God's people sought to do what is right in obedience to God in spite of violating a civil law or decree. The Hebrew midwives defy an order by Pharaoh to kill all Hebrew males at birth, covering their action with a half-truth to Pharaoh (Ex. 1:15ff). Rahab hides the Israelite spies and refuses to surrender them to the messenger from the king of Jericho (Josh. 2:1ff). During several years of David's life he and his band of followers are fugitives from Saul, the civil authority of Israel (e.g. 1 Sam. 22). Daniel and his companions seek and gain permission from an official under King Nebuchadnezzar to set aside an assignment of the king to eat his delicacies and test their health with a simpler diet (Dan. 1). Later Shadrach, Meschach, and Abednego refuse to bow and worship King Nebuchadnezzar's image of gold (Dan. 3). Then under King Darius, Daniel refuses to obey the decree which prohibits prayer for 30 days to anyone except the king (Dan. 6). Likewise in the book of Esther, Mordecai refuses to kneel and pay honor to Haman, disobeying the command of King Xerxes (Esth. 3). In all of these instances a supreme loyalty to God which includes his plan for his people prompts them to set aside obedience to a civil law in order to be obedient to the will of God.

40 Throughout the New Testament there is a tension between the calling of God's people to be faithful to their Lord and the authority of civil government. During the life of Christ in which the setting is for the most part in Israel, the supreme civil authority is Rome. The Jews are also under a subordinate authority—the puppet kings of the Herodian family. Ecclesiastical authority under the chief priests is closely related to the Jewish civil authority. Following Pentecost, when the gospel begins to spread beyond Israel, the supreme civil authority remains Rome and the subordinate authorities are the various magistrates of the area in which the apostles and disciples are witnessing and teaching. With remarkable consistency we observe both in teaching and in practice the principle

of supreme loyalty and obedience to God with a sincere effort to be respectful law-abiding citizens obedient to civil authority to the limits of conscience.

The examples of this tension are too numerous to include them all. Joseph and Mary are obedient to the decree of Caesar Augustus to journey to Bethlehem for the census. The Magi refuse to obey the command of Herod to report to him the exact location of the infant Christ. They disobey because of a warning in a dream (Matt. 2:8,12). John the Baptist encourages Roman soldiers to be honest and content in their vocation (Luke 3:14). He also denounces the religious leaders (Matt. 3:7) and rebukes Herod Antipas for his immorality.

Christ's teaching and ministry often come into conflict with the ecclesiastical authorities (e.g. Matt. 12:1ff). He straightforwardly teaches complete obedience to the law of God from the heart (Matt. 5:17ff) and acknowledges one's responsibility to the authority of Caesar (Matt. 22:15-22). He pays the temple tax (Matt. 17:24-27), yet as rightful Lord of the temple drives out the corrupt money changers (John 2:12ff.; Matt. 21:12, 13). He counsels his disciples not to use violence at his arrest and submits to the Jewish authorities even though he has abundant power to overcome them (Matt. 26:52). In humble majesty he stands before Pilate declaring the distinct nature of his spiritual kingdom (John 18:36) and the supremacy of God's authority over that of Roman authority (John 19:11).

Following Pentecost the apostles refuse to let the Jewish authorities silence their witness of Christ (Acts 5:29). Throughout the book of Acts the Christian leaders practice law-abiding earthly citizenship as they witness of the kingdom of God and the Gospel of Christ (e.g. Acts 22:25; 25:10, 11). Paul and Peter both teach submission to governing authorities (Rom.13:1-7; 1 Ptr. 4:12-17). At the same time there is a victorious witness to the supreme Lordship of Christ (e.g. Phil. 2:9-11). There is also the frequent teaching that allegiance to Christ may involve suffering and death (e.g. 2 Tim. 4:6-8; 1 Ptr. 4:12-17; Rev. 13:9, 10). The weapons of Christian warfare are spiritual, not physical (II Cor.4:10ff.) and the Christian always lives within the assurance of victory in Christ (Rom.8:37; 1 Cor.15:57; 2 Cor.2:14).

By what Biblical principles can a Christian live as he endeavors to live a faithful Christian life in a world whose values and laws often are contrary to the will of God?

1. The Christian's supreme loyalty and devotion is to God. (Matt.22:37; Acts 4:29; Phil.2:10, 11) He must never compromise loyal obedience to the revealed authority of God's Word. He stands in accord with Martin Luther at the Diet of Worms, a diet which included both civil and ecclesiastical authority. When asked to recant, Luther stated, "Unless I am convicted by Scripture and plain reason—I do not accept the authority of popes and councils, for they have contradicted each other—my conscience is captive to the word of God. I cannot and I will not recant anything, for to go against conscience is neither right nor safe. God help me, Amen."¹

2. The weapons of Christian ministry are spiritual rather than physical. (2 Cor. 10:4, 5; Eph 6:10-18). The Kingdom of God is primarily a spiritual reign of God in the hearts of men and in the church rather than a political authority. The Christian is, as Chrysostom stated, "a bearer of momentous truth." He is a witness of the Gospel, "the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes ..." (Rom. 1:16). The Christian stands for the right and opposes the wrong by prayer,

¹Roland H. Bainton, *Here I Stand* (Nashville: Abingdon, 1950) 144.

Pastoral Letter on Civil Disobedience

persuasion, preaching, witnessing, teaching, and doing acts of compassion and mercy, rather than by violence or physical striving. Paul teaches "And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. Those who oppose him, he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth." (2 Tim. 2: 24,25). Os Guinness writing in *Eternity* reminds us that we do not ordinarily make headlines through clear persuasive communication of truth, but we do make far more headway than those who use conflict and physical confrontation.² Every Christian should be a prepared and ready apologist for the Christian faith with reverence toward Christ and respect for his hearers (1 Ptr. 3:15).

3. The Christian's calling is to exemplary citizenship. (Rom. 13:17; 1 Ptr. 2:12-17) The Christian is to be not only obedient and submissive to authority, but he should earnestly aim to do what is right and good, show respect for authority and pray for those in authority in order that Christians may live "peaceful and quiet lives in godliness and holiness" (1 Tim. 2:1, 2).

What then is a Christian's responsibility when civil laws are bad? Martin Luther King, Jr. had one solution: good laws are to be obeyed, but bad laws are to be disobeyed. Consequently many of his followers in the early 1960's participated in sit-ins at lunch counters, wade-ins at pools and other challenges to various ordinances which promoted segregation. Likewise Corrie Ten Boom's family disobeyed the German occupation law by hiding and protecting Jews. In a democracy, such as we have in our nation, the Christian as an individual and in groups should make every effort to change the laws within the democratic process. The people of God are to turn to a sovereign God in earnest prayer for change in their land (2 Chron. 7:14). Christians ought to courageously bear witness to biblical principles of truth in the matter before them. There is a ring of truth to Biblical principles and morals even to a secular society. Christians who are oppressed should endeavor to overcome evil with good.

In spite of all of these efforts if evil still prevails what then should be done? Kenneth Kantzer in *Christianity Today* offers this advice:

It is rarely good for a Christian to disobey even a bad law. That is why the Scripture so frequently urges Christians to obey even evil governments and laws that create trouble for them. Still, there are times when a Christian becomes thoroughly convinced that the total welfare of others would be significantly better if he disobeyed rather than obeyed a particular law. When that moment arrives he must obey God rather than man. God has commanded him to be concerned for the well-being of all human beings, and the well-being of human beings demands disobedience to that particular law at that particular time. The Christian in such a case must humbly, yet boldly, and with a prayer to God for forgiveness if he has judged wrongly, disobey the law and be willing to suffer the consequences of his disobedience.³

Such action, if it is necessary, must be as a last resort. It must be preceded by searching the Scripture, much prayer and consulting with the Church. Christians must never operate on the principle that the end justifies the means. We must remember the warning Scripture gives to those who say, "Let us do evil that good may result." Paul writes, "Their condemnation is deserved." (Rom. 3:8b) Peter also gives us a word of caution:

²*Eternity* 39.1 (Nov. 1988) 79.

³Kenneth Kantzer "Christians Must Obey the Laws-But Which Ones?" *Christianity Today* 26.13 (August 6, 1982): 10-12.

But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God.

—1 Peter 2:20

Furthermore, Christ warns us about responding in violence, when at the time of his arrest he commanded Peter, "Put your sword back in its place, for all who draw the sword will die by the sword." (Matt. 26:52) Hostile behavior is contrary to the Christian's calling to love, pray for and do good to our enemies (Luke 6:27). The militant private militia groups which plan terrorism and kill innocent people are in definite and serious violation of the revealed word of God. Likewise those who use overt force to prevent abortions may be sincere in their moral concern, but their radical methods do more harm than good to their cause.

When inalienable rights are unjustly removed, as in the American revolution, the Biblical way is to first seek redress of grievances. As a very last resort other lawful authorities should form a government to exercise its God-given power to punish the evil doers (Rom. 13:4). Some of the recent revolutions in Eastern Europe were of this nature. There was severe corruption, oppression and suppression of religion. The rulers had become tyrants. Francis Schaeffer, in *A Christian Manifesto* states

If there is no final place for civil disobedience, then the government has been put in the place of the Living God, because then you are to obey it even when it tells you in its own way at that time to worship Caesar. And that point is exactly where the early Christians performed their acts of civil disobedience even when it cost them their lives.⁴

How should an individual respond when his rightful liberties are violated? Schaeffer, in the above volume, draws three principles from Samuel Rutherford's *Lex Rex*.

First, he must defend himself by protest (in contemporary society this would most often be legal action); second, he must flee if at all possible; and, third, he may use force, if necessary to defend himself by protest and the employment of constitutional means of redress. Rutherford illustrated this pattern of resistance from the life of David as it is recorded in the Old Testament.⁵

We as Christians living in a democratic society are able to exercise our freedoms as law-abiding citizens. There are many ways within the law to oppose evil and promote what is good. Praying for and working for righteousness within the civil law is the course that Christians should follow. "If God is for us, who can be against us?" (Rom. 8:31).

In conclusion the Christian should live his life as the salt of the earth and as a light for Christ in the World. He should "hate what is evil; cling to what is good" (Rom. 12:9). He should live with the conviction that it is God through the Gospel of his Son who changes the hearts and ways of men. He should be a Christian persuader, bearing witness of God's way of life revealed in his Word. He should aim to be at peace with everyone (Rom. 1:18). He should pray for the enemies of God and overcome evil with good (Rom. 12:21). The spiritual power of God through the Christ-like lives of Christians bearing witness of his truth is the most powerful influence in a community or nation. "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people." (Prov. 14:34)

⁴Francis A. Schaeffer, *A Christian Manifesto* (Westchester, Illinois Crossway Book) 130.

⁵*Ibid.* 103-104.

Women's Ministries Director's Report

EPC Women's Ministries - "For the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to building up the body of Christ." Eph. 4:12

The purpose of Women's Ministries in the EPC is to provide an atmosphere for women to mature spiritually and to recognize and develop their God given gifts. Opportunities for maturing and ministering are developed through Bible study, prayer, fellowship and outreach.



Jan Juday

✧ Bible Study

Each year the Committee on Women's Ministries examines and recommends 3 Bible studies--Old Testament, New Testament, and a topical study. This year we chose 1 Samuel and Romans in the Life Application Series, and Steadfast Faith in Times of Turmoil from the Tapestry Series as our topical study. As pleased as we are with the quality of these tools for maturing women spiritually, we dream of a time when we might have exceptional EPC studies to offer our women, and effective training in creative ways to teach these studies. We are eager to make God's word the basis for faith and action in a culture that is constantly changing and challenging us to do otherwise.

✧ Prayer

This year EPC women have been particularly encouraged to intercede on behalf of women in the Muslim world. The Faith Focus Project for '96 is, in addition to giving toward a goal of \$30,000, a concerted effort of prayer to demolish spiritual strongholds that exist in these countries. Materials have been developed through our Faith Focus packet to target specific needs in this part of the world and pray across the denomination for these needs. We will continue through Women's Ministries to encourage denomination-wide corporate prayer for kingdom goals.

✧ Fellowship

The 4th National Women's Conference in Grand Rapids was a unique experience in the life of Women's Ministries and *fellowship* of the larger body of women has never been more evident from the small group times of prayer to the general atmosphere of the conference. If fellowship is one of our goals we had a resounding bell ringer at this conference. The challenge now is to

translate this to all levels of our denomination, and particularly the presbytery level as we seek to develop strong communication ties and unity of purpose through training of Presbytery Chairmen.

General Assembly programming has also afforded opportunities for fellowship through special programming for pastors' wives, the Women's Luncheon, and small group time together in prayer and general exchange.

✂ Outreach

It has long been the desire of EPC women to participate significantly in the projects we have prayed for and given toward. This year's Faith Focus is a genuine *outreach* opportunity as a team of 25 EPC women will participate in servant ministry to the 1997 Middle East Ladies Prayer Seminar with Kundan and Iqbal Massey in Limassol, Cyprus. Women's Ministries looks forward to other opportunities of this nature where women can become involved by blessing others as they have been blessed.

✂ Presbytery Training -

This year in recognition of the need for better communication and unity of purpose Women's Ministries is undertaking a more extensive training time with Presbytery Chairmen prior to General Assembly. With these foundations in place we can work together to strengthen our presbyteries and in turn our local ministries.

✂ Personal Note -

We live in a day when the 'atmosphere' is polluted by much that would stunt our growth or possibly kill us. To keep the 'atmosphere' of Women's Ministries healthy for the future we need to focus on those things that genuinely build up the body, such as effective Bible study, prayer, fellowship, and outreach. How we can serve one another most effectively without cluttering up this 'atmosphere' should always be the question we ask ourselves not only in our local ministries, but at each successive level.

As Director of Women's Ministries I am challenged and delighted to participate in the health of Women's Ministries and to keep our 'atmosphere' as clutter-free as possible.



Jan Juday, Director of Women's Ministries

June, 1996

Women's Ministries Committee Report

The Committee on Women's Ministries met twice since the 15th Assembly: October 13-14, 1995 and March 15-16, 1996. Action of the Committee is listed by topics below:

Program Planning for the 16th General Assembly, Cherry Creek Church, Englewood, CO

Wednesday, June 19, 1996

Training for Presbytery chairmen with Jan Juday

Thursday, June 20, 1996

Pastors' Wives Luncheon and Tour



Susan Nash, Chairman

Celebrate the Blessings! Led by Jan Juday with testimonies from EPC women
A time of prayer called My Father's Closet

Friday, June 21, 1996

12:00-2:30 Women's Ministries Luncheon; Jean Fleming, speaker

2:45-5:00 Skit and Faith Focus and Bible Studies presentations

Workshop on "Deepening Our Souls" by Jean Fleming

Saturday, June 22, 1996

10:00-11:30 Informal Question and Answer Time about Women's Ministries

Planning for the 1997 Women's Conference

Dates and Location: September 25-28, 1997 in Vail, Colorado

Conference chairman and host presbytery: Barbara Dixon, West Presbytery

Theme: Taken from Psalm 121 "I will lift mine eyes unto the hills..."

Speaker: Anne Graham Lotz

Workshops: A list of possible workshops and leaders representing different presbyteries was compiled.

Faith Focus

Faith Focus 1995: A report was given that the goal of \$25,000 was reached for the project supporting the startup of the denomination newsletter, *EPC Reflections*. Goal was reached through the supplement of excess funds from a previous Faith Focus. This project was in support of the work of the Christian Education and Publications Committee.

Faith Focus, 1996: A status report was given on the project supporting the Middle Eastern Ladies' Prayer Seminar (MELPS) indicating a good response to date from the presbyteries. To create opportunity for hands-on ministry related to this project, the Committee decided to put together a team of no more than 25 women to attend the Seminar in April, 1997 to assist in administrative,

counseling, and prayer areas. An application form was developed and sent to presbytery chairmen who will distribute them. Committee will make the final determination of the team. Anne Blackley (Mid-Atlantic Presbytery) was appointed to be EPC Coordinator for the seminar. This project is in support of the World Outreach Committee.

Faith Focus, 1997: Determination of next year's project was made, called the Church Vitality Grants, and is in support of the work of the National Outreach Committee. Goal is \$25,000.

Curriculum for Women's Bible Studies

Committee recommends the following for study during the 1996-97 year:

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| Old Testament: | <i>Gold in the Ashes: Eight Studies on Wisdom from the Book of Job</i> by Michelle Booth (Victor Books) |
| New Testament: | I Corinthians: Life Change Series (NAVPRESS) |
| Topical: | <i>A Wardrobe from the King: Eight Studies on the Armor of God</i> by Berit Kjos (Victor Books) |

Much discussion took place over the value of making yearly recommendations. A survey will be taken to assess the use of these recommendations throughout the EPC. The possibility of offering workshops on how to choose curriculum was mentioned as an alternative.

Denominational Information Packet on Women's Ministries

Committee requested Women's Ministries Director Jan Juday to work on the development of an information packet on Women's Ministries to be sent to churches upon request. The constitution on record in General Assembly minutes is outdated and of little use to churches wishing to start a Women's Ministries.

Staff Development

A part-time secretary for Women's Ministries has been approved. To date, this person has not been hired.

Future Goals and Vision

Discussion was begun on the vision and future goals for Women's Ministries. This will be an on-going discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Nash, Chairman
June, 1996

World Outreach Director's Report



"So the churches were strengthened in the faith and grew daily in numbers." Acts 16:5 This process continues today and the Lord is using EPC missionaries to build His kingdom.

Richard Oestreicher, World Outreach Director

Kazakhstan - Dan and Catherine Burns, Bill and Janie Hampton

Fifty nationals, including both Russians and Kazakhs, are now meeting at the Christian Church of Almagul in Almaty. Ten were recently baptized.

Siberia - Jim and Sally Foote

Three Bible study groups are meeting regularly. One is composed of Jewish people who are all among the professional community of Tyumen.

England - Greg Livingstone

The "Pakistani Fellowship" met April 20, 1996 for its first meeting with 55 adults and 20 kids. The first goal is friendship, then conversions, and then a church.

Mexico - Chris and Gina Meeks

Three cell groups are meeting regularly in or near Guadalajara with over 30 people participating. Several conversions have taken place.

Brazil -

Churches are being established in Palmas and in Taquaralto, both new frontier cities in the state of Tocantins. These will be churches number 30 and 31 that we have started together under our ten year partnership with the IPB.

Argentina - Miguel and Azucena Robles

Our Flores church is now up to 150 people and should be ready to be organized by December. Extensive evangelism and leadership development are in process. Another church is being established in a northern province by a national pastor/evangelist. About 40 people are currently involved. This area will ultimately become a second presbytery in Argentina.

Praise God for allowing us the privilege of partnership with Him.

• • • • •

World Outreach Committee Report

The World Outreach Committee met in three stated meetings since the 15th General Assembly: September 6-9, 1995; January 4-6, 1996; March 21-23, 1996.

Members of the World Outreach Committee are:

TE Todd Hahn	RE Arnold Lindseth, Jr.
TE William Meyer	TE Perry Mobley
RE Ann Norton	RE Vern Porter, Chairman
RE Emily Reid	RE Roger Vonder Bruegge



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."

Missionaries: We currently have 53 missionaries. They are:

<u>Missionary</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Location</u>
Antonucci, Rob and Iris	Frontiers	Central Asia
Barany, Dick and Linda	EPC	Africa
Burns, Dan and Catherine	EPC	Central Asia
Clark, Dan and Jan	Frontiers	UK/Muslim World
Foote, Jim and Sally	EPC	Siberia
Foster, Nancy	Frontiers	US/Muslim World
Grimaldo, David and Marijane	World Impact	Detroit
Grossman, Steve and Madeline		Unassigned
Haines, John and Margy	Arab World Ministries	France
Hamd, Robert and Joyce	Arab World Ministries	Middle East
Hampton, Bill and Janie	EPC	Central Asia
Kelley, Stephen and Belinda	Arab World Ministries	UK/Muslim World
Klakulak, Matt and Michelle	Pioneers	Northern India
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 and Gina	ARP	Mexico
Mindling, Tim and Karen	InterServe	Central Asia
Muir, Phil and Margaret	Wycliffe	US
North, Tim	Arab World Ministries	Middle East
Padgett, Leroy and Kathy	EPC	US
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
Young, Jonathan and Fozia	United World Missions	Russia

The following missionaries are in transition:

1. **Dick and Linda Barany** are in Kenya, Africa. They have been doing well in language and acculturation and the children have adapted well to the new school situation. Word has just been received that some of their belongings in storage (in Africa awaiting their permanent settlement) were damaged in a fire. Please be in prayer for the Barany family.
2. **Jan Johnson's** relationship with World Outreach as a missionary awaiting assignment has been concluded. After much prayer and counsel before making a decision, the outcome was mutually agreed upon. Jan is not considering further missionary service at this time, and asked that she not be considered for further assignment.
3. **Tim North** restored to health following a bout with hepatitis, has shifted his focus from Muslims in sub-Sahara Africa to Muslim ministry among Palestinians in Bethlehem. Tim has raised all necessary support, and will be leaving for his field assignment shortly.
4. **Leroy and Kathy Padgett** represent SERVE in the mountain region, with a special emphasis to EPC churches anywhere in the US. They work with "Keenagers" or "Prime-Timers." At **SERVE** they concentrate on **Sending Experienced Retired Volunteers Everywhere**. They are leading several mission trips this summer even as they are actively involved in prayer and financial support discovery.
5. **Andy and Rosemary Williamson** have resigned from their call as missionaries with WOC. They will remain in an Australian pastorate.
6. **Steve and Madeline Grossman** are awaiting assignment. Agency is to be determined. Their target field is the Middle East or Europe (Arabic speaking). Background is in administration.

The World Outreach Committee is working with prospective candidate, Tim Brown. Target field is Tyumen, Siberia.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the following changes be made to the **Missions Manual:**
Section 103.2 C. Sending Bodies/Call to a Particular Work (p.11)
Add the following new paragraphs:

“For field areas where World Outreach has accepted a special responsibility, World Outreach shall develop a missions statement, assign a team leader, and recruit a team of missionaries.

Missionaries from other agencies desiring to serve on an EPC World Outreach team must be approved by the World Outreach Committee.”
2. That the following changes be made to the **Missions Manual:**
Section 201.1 D. Doctrinal Qualifications (p.17)
Add a second paragraph as follows:

“Receive and adopt the Westminster Confession of Faith system of doctrine and the catechisms of this church as contained and taught in the Holy Scriptures.”
3. That the following changes be made to the **Missions Manual:**
Section 201.1 F.1 Health Qualifications (p.18)
Substitute the following for the present wording:

Present wording:
 “General physical health: WO shall provide necessary forms.”

Proposed wording:
 “General physical health: Candidates must secure medical clearance from a physician for their entire family. WO shall provide the necessary forms.”
4. That the following changes be made to the **Missions Manual:**
Section 206.13 Final Travel Arrangements (p. 28)
Substitute the proposed wording for the present second paragraph:

Present wording
 “Travel arrangements shall be made by the office in consultation with the missionaries.”

Proposed wording
 “All travel arrangements to the field shall be approved by the WO office in advance of ticketing if reimbursement is expected, in consultation with the missionaries and the cooperative agency, if there is one.”
5. That the following changes be made in the **Missions Manual:**

Section 208.8 Cooperative Agreement (pp. 55-57)

In #8, add the following paragraph:

"Whenever a change is being considered in the major thrust of the missionary's ministry assignment or field, the (agency) shall consult with EPC World Outreach prior to any decision. The concerns of both agencies will be given due consideration in reaching a mutually acceptable decision."

In #14, substitute the word "excluding" for the word "including" in the first sentence:

Present wording

"While on home service (including while traveling to and from the field), the missionary shall be under the jurisdiction of World Outreach."

Proposed wording

"While on home service (*excluding* while traveling to and from the field), the missionary shall be under the jurisdiction of World Outreach."

In #17, amend the last sentence by adding the words "or quarterly" after the word "monthly;" and by adding the word "support" between the words "of" and "funds."

Present wording:

"The (agency) shall inform World Outreach monthly of funds designated for the missionary from other sources."

Proposed wording:

"The (agency) shall inform World Outreach monthly *or quarterly* of *support* funds designated for the missionary from other sources."

In #18, substitute the following section for the present wording:

Present wording:

"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."

Proposed wording:

"At the time of departure and periodic review, World Outreach will commit itself to a level of monthly support with adjustments if necessary, to agency subject to available funds."

6. That the following changes be made in the **Missions Manual: Section 303.2 Home Service Responsibilities** (p. 66)
Add two new paragraphs as follows:

"All travel arrangements returning to the field shall be approved by the WO office in advance of ticketing if reimbursement is expected in consultation with the missionaries and the cooperative agency if there is one.

Home service missionaries must secure medical clearance from a physician for their entire family prior to returning to the field. WO shall provide the necessary forms."
7. That the **World Outreach Master Plan Progress - a Five Year Report** be adopted (Attachment A).
8. That the new **World Outreach Master Plan** be adopted (Attachment B).

Respectfully submitted,

Vern Porter, Chairman
 June, 1996

WORLD OUTREACH MASTER PLAN

WORLD OUTREACH MISSION STATEMENT

The global vision of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church is to establish the church of Jesus Christ in those cultures and people groups where opportunity and our ability to respond intersect.

VALUES

1. The foundation of World Outreach is the written Word of God, the Westminster Confession and the Book of Order of the EPC.
2. We are committed to establish and develop indigenous reformed churches in each people group within its priority areas of the world.
3. We are committed to evangelism in both word and deed that results in church planting and eventual presbytery formation.
4. We are committed to encourage the spiritual maturity of indigenous leadership and to affirm those means essential to such development.
5. We are building a partnership shaped from the collective support and giftedness of our members under the headship of Christ.
6. We are committed to mobilizing every member as the spiritual key to fulfilling our mission.
7. We are committed to partnering with other like-minded churches and organizations to demonstrate the unity of the Body of Christ.
8. We are committed to administering the resources entrusted to us in an efficient and effective manner with full accountability.
9. We are committed to being sensitive and responsive to the Holy Spirit's work throughout the world.
10. We are committed to pray for worldwide evangelization.
11. We will be faithful in proclaiming the Gospel to the nations until the Lord returns.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

World Outreach is committed to develop its mission program with clear intentionality. We shall focus our mission on the Muslim World, Latin America, Countries of Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union, and North American Ethnic and Urban Ministry.

GOAL STATEMENTS

I. MISSION MINISTRIES

A. Muslim World

Goal:

To establish a Christian presence in Muslim cultures and, where possible, to plant churches.

Objectives: 1998

1. Identify a Muslim field and establish a partnership agreement with an approved sending agency.
2. Utilize Arab World Ministries and Frontiers as our main cooperative agencies for EPC work in the Muslim world.

Objectives: 2001

1. To deploy 10 EPC missionaries to the Muslim Field.

B. Argentina

Goal:

To establish an indigenous Presbyterian Church in Argentina, in consultation with the St. Andrews Presbytery in Buenos Aires.

Objectives: 1998

1. Identify and prioritize those areas in Argentina most appropriate for establishing at least two additional presbyteries.
2. Identify and help equip Argentine church-planting personnel to work in the above areas.
3. To identify, train, and send at least one missionary church-planting team.

C. Eastern Europe/ The Former Soviet Union (CIS) nations

Goal:

1. To develop ways to proclaim the Gospel, plant churches, and help build God's kingdom in the region.

Objective: 1998

1. To complete the team in Kazakhstan.
2. To identify an ordained church planter for Tyumen, Siberia.
3. To identify like-minded seminaries or institutes for indigenous leadership training.

Objective: 2001

1. To plant three churches in Almaty, Kazakhstan.
2. To plant one church in Tyumen, Siberia.

D. North American Ethnic and Urban Ministry

Goal:

To initiate ministry and to plant and develop churches in local ethnic and urban communities in partnership with EPC churches and/or presbyteries.

Objectives: 1998

1. To support and assist Military Avenue Church in inner-city Detroit and to use this experience as a model for other urban areas.
2. To cooperate with EPC churches who desire to work together in ethnic or urban ministries.
3. To support with funds and short-term personnel the Appalachian Project in Kentucky, directed to evangelizing rural families.

Objectives: 2001

To identify one urban ministry where a cluster of EPC churches are led to cooperate in fulfilling an ethnic or urban project.

E. Bi-vocational Opportunities

Goal:

To send spiritually gifted men and women to serve in restricted access nations, with primary purposes for evangelism, discipleship and church development within the context of business or professional assignments.

Objectives: 1998

1. To work with an approved agency to facilitate bi-vocational work in China.
2. WO will assist EPC churches to plan short-term bi-vocational mission in China.

F. Relief and Development

Goal:

To minister in deed and word through emergency relief, especially in areas where EPC missionaries are serving.

Objective: 2001

1. To annually solicit our churches for a relief or development project.

II. MISSION PARTNERSHIPS

Goal:

To develop partnerships with other evangelical Presbyterian denominations and Reformed churches in North America and abroad, and with other compatible agencies.

A. Brazil

Objective: 2001

1. To complete Phase I of faculty development of the Andrew Jumper Graduate Center as a key to leadership development in the IPB (Brazil) and throughout Latin America.

Objective: 1998

1. To explore partnership with the IPB (Brazil) in consultation with St. Andrews Presbytery, toward fulfilling the goal of establishing an indigenous Presbyterian Church in Argentina.
2. To restudy the Articles of Agreement (EPC/IPB) as to the most helpful relationship in ministry for both churches in the 21st Century.

B. China Seminary Project**Objective: 2001**

1. To promote and support EPC's commitment to the China Seminary Project that results in training pastors.

C. EPC Pastoral Network**Objective: 1998**

1. Develop a network of EPC pastoral leadership that encourages dialogue with World Outreach regarding participation in EPC's missions goals and the local churches' vision for missions.

D. WFRF Partnership**Objective: 1998**

1. Become a member of the World Fellowship of Reformed Churches to enhance EPC's work in Latin America.

III. MISSION RESOURCES**A. Missions Education**

1. To encourage and promote a mission vision for EPC, World Outreach shall nurture mission consciousness and excellence in EPC churches and presbyteries.

Objectives: 1998

1. WO will convene an annual missions consultation to provide vision and training to the EPC church family.
2. WO will be a resource to EPC churches in developing mission policies, training, and such information that will assist local churches in their missions programs.

3. WO shall schedule an annual vision trip for EPC pastors and church members desiring missions exposure and participation in areas of EPC work.

B. Mission Personnel Development

To assist individuals in churches and presbyteries to adequately prepare for cross-cultural service and to provide pastoral care for those in mission service

Objectives: 2001

1. To send 101 missionaries into mission service by 2001 in EPC teams or through approved cooperative agencies. Thirty-five of these missionaries will be in EPC teams whose ultimate goal is to plant reformed churches.
2. To share a synopsis of the annual Uniform Missionary Evaluation with supporting churches.
3. To establish a network of mentors for seminarians interested in mission service.
4. To identify EPC pastors interested in forming a team to provide pastoral care to EPC foreign missionaries through field visitation on a regular basis.
5. To encourage short-term missionary service (one to two years) working alongside WO missionaries.

Rev. 1996

REPORT TO 16th GENERAL ASSEMBLY WORLD OUTREACH MASTER PLAN PROGRESS

A Five Year Report

Obj.	Goal	Results
	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		
I.1	To plan and conduct at least one trip each year for service and education in areas where World Outreach is at work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - '95 Siberia & Kazakhstan - Numerous trips to Argentina & Brazil - Several trips to Romania
I.2	To provide mission awareness and candidate development resources for use by EPC congregations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WO newsletters (3 issues per year) - Missionary Directory (new issue) - Master Plan (revised edition) - Steps to Becoming an EPC Missionary - Candidate Processing Procedure - Candidate Preparation Policy Distributed - Prepare & Distribute New Missionary News Releases
I.3	To promote and encourage participation in national and regional mission conferences such as Urbana.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - APMC membership - APMC membership encouraged for churches by WO presbytery committees - EPC consultations in '95 and '96 - WO presence at '96 Urbana - EPC caucus at APMC
I.4	To encourage each congregation to have an annual "Missions Conference" or "Missions Day".	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Routinely provide Mission Conference speaker suggestions to churches
I.5	To prepare and distribute a World Outreach supplement for APMC'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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Most presbyteries now have a World Outreach Committee, and regular presentations are made

	missions endeavor throughout the denomination.	at presbytery meetings.
Long Term 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.	- EPC missions consultations in '95 and '96. '96 consultations conducted regionally to allow more people to attend.
I.8	To provide cross-cultural internship opportunities (length 2-12 months) for EPC seminarians,	- Several leader development activities through scholarships and assistanceships - Leadership Benevolence Askings to bring Argentine leaders into EPC leadership functions - Siberia internship for Tim Brown
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 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.	- World Outreach Director participates in NAPARC Mission Executives meeting annually. - World Outreach receives their publications.
II.2	To affirm cooperative agreements already established and increase the church's understanding of the purpose, strategy, and procedure of those cooperating agencies.	- 14 cooperative agreements are in effect. WO missionaries are involved in 11 of these. - Visits have been made to 10 of these agencies by the present WO Director.
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	- EPC has placed 36 missionaries through cooperative agreements: - 21 in church planting - 5 in support positions - 10 in services and assistance
Long Term 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.	- Argentina: LOGOI and IBBA - Brazil: IPB seminaries, JMC - Russia: - Kazakhstan:
	To establish agreements with NAPARC members for	- ARP/World Witness: Chris Meeks

II.5	cooperatively deploying church planting teams.	- PCA/MTW: Dan Burns (formerly)
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 III.1	To select areas in Argentina appropriate for the establishment of additional presbyteries.	- Possible sites: - Entre Rios Province - Cordoba Province - An effort was attempted and terminated in Rosario
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 IV.1	To provide funds and support for the development of new IPB presbyteries.	- 31 churches have been started, and some entirely new presbyteries have been developed.
IV.2	To establish and maintain graduate level scholarships to train faculty for IPB seminaries.	- Initial faculty of 8 will be trained through doctoral programs; - 3 have completed training and are teaching; - 4 are currently studying, 1 is yet to be named. This will leave a legacy for future leadership development within Brazil.
IV.3	To provide visiting professors and other mission specialists to aid the IPB in leadership development and in mission planning.	- 5 professors have spent significant time in Brazil leadership development

IV.4	To provide funds and support to strengthen and extend the foreign missions program of the IPB.	- We have encouraged the IPB to move from almost no foreign effort to where they now have 53 foreign missionaries in 17 nations.
Goal V - Mission Personnel Development		
	As a missionary sending agency, World Outreach shall emphasize sending teams to plant churches.	
Short Term 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Standards have been developed - Systems are working - Resource people and agencies have been identified for screening and training - The World Outreach Director assisted by others is providing member care. - Published Revised Mission Manual in '96
V.2	To define a "church planting team" -- its purpose, composition, structure, functions, and relationships.	- A template for a team "Memo of Understanding" has been developed.
V.3	To develop a process for building and deploying church planting teams.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Four models have been evaluated - A Consultant has been retained to assist in training & development - Our process is being formulated
Long Term V.4	To have 101 missionaries in the field by the year 2001.	- Currently we have 54 missionaries.
V.5	To develop policies and structures for integrating internationals into World Outreach church planting teams.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nationals are with us in Argentina and Mexico. - Nationals are supported partially in Argentina who are not World Outreach missionaries.
V.6	To encourage short-term missionary service (one to two years) where consistent with World Outreach objectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work and ministry teams have been to: Argentina, Siberia (many), Kazakhstan - These teams have been from our churches to help the work of our missionaries.
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 VI.1	To develop a program for selecting, training, deploying and supporting bi-vocational missionaries in "restricted access nations".	- Through cooperative agreements and partnerships with umbrella agencies (IAM, Friends of China), we are able to place personnel in such nations.
VI.2	To deploy five units to serve as teachers or specialists in China.	- Promotion and several singles/couples have been encouraged to serve
VI.3	To deploy ten units to work in the Muslim world.	- Over ten couples/singles have been placed for ministry 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 VII.1	To develop resources which will help presbyteries effectively integrate present ethnic congregations into the life and fellowship of the presbytery.	-Detroit Military Avenue has been effectively serviced
VII.2	To develop a national plan for ethnic church planting, including the use of missionaries from churches with whom World Outreach works.	- Detroit Military Avenue is being studied to understand its factors leading to its success
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 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.	- A relief effort for Siberia was taken on by a presbytery and encouraged by WO in '95. - Brazil economic emergency fund in '90.

VIII.2	To establish and support relief and development projects in communities in North America where EPC congregations are being established or are ministering.	- Annually, funds are given for the Appalachian project and youth teams bring personal assistance. - Detroit Military Avenue has been widely resourced
VIII.3	To cooperate with approved evangelical organizations engaged in broad relief and development ministries.	- An annual mailing to EPC churches for World Relief has been developed.
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 IX.1	To study inner city ministries within and outside the denomination, in order to determine what makes such a ministry effective.	- EPC's Military Avenue church in Detroit is an excellent ministry. Funds are given through World Outreach and much volunteer assistance is given through presbytery and local congregations.
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	- EPC churches in Denver have evaluated the Detroit model and have determined that they currently have sufficient urban ministry exposures
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 X.1	To investigate ministries now being conducted in this geographic area by other Reformed denominations and mission agencies.	- Investigation has led to possible cooperation in a Reformed Bible School/Seminary to serve Russian speaking areas.

X.2	To recommend at least two appropriate ministries to EPC churches for consideration of their support.	- Siberia and Kazakhstan have been selected for EPC focus. EPC missionaries are on site.
X.3	To deploy ten missionaries to work in this geographic area.	- Three couples (6 people) are on our teams. Another couple is deployed to the area, but not as a part of our teams.

Uniform Missionary Evaluation

Part A - Self-evaluation by EPC Missionary

The purpose of this exercise is your own personal development. Thus, it is important that you respond carefully and candidly.

Name _____ Date _____

Suggestions: If the space provided for any questions is too small, please continue your answer on another sheet. Read the entire form before you begin to write. Try to be concrete, yet concise.

Note to wives and mothers: Homemaking and child development are important avenues of witness and service. In answering the questions in this form, please include your calling as wife and mother, as well as any other responsibilities.

Please mail this form back to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, World Outreach Office, Attn.: Richard Oestreicher, 29140 Buckingham Ave., Suite 5, Livonia, MI 48154.

1. What is the vision of your mission agency?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.
2. What goals will you have accomplished by the end of the present term that contributes to the vision?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.
3. What will you hope to have accomplished by the end of the present year?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.

4. What specific and measurable steps have you made to accomplish these goals?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.
5. What is the description of your position? (Please attach a copy of Job Desc.)
6. What expectations does your agency and you personally have of this assignment?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.
 - f.
7. What expectations were not met and why?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
8. How does your current assignment use your abilities and is appropriate to your spiritual giftedness?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.
9. What were the highlights of your ministry?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.
10. Identify the areas in which you struggle the most.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

11. How have you grown personally, professionally, and spiritually? What specifically have you done this year to encourage growth in these areas? Where do you need to grow?
12. What do you consider your strong points personally, professionally, and/or as a homemaker?
13. What do you consider your weak points personally, professionally, and/or as a homemaker?
14. If you were to have the whole experience over again, what would you do differently?
15. What aspects of your home and family life (e.g., education and development of your children) should be taken into account in planning future work?
16. To whom are you accountable on the field and how do you evaluate his role with you? How often do you meet with him/her?

17. How well do you work with nationals, fellow missionaries, and field leadership?
18. Please evaluate your progress in language ability this past year.
19. What are your continuing education objectives?
20. Do you have adequate financial resources to accomplish your task?
Comment
21. Do you have any current health concerns at present?
22. How may we improve our relationship between the World Outreach office and your ministry?
23. Please fill out the enclosed calendar of a typical month. Describe how you use your time.

APPENDICES

My/Our Typical Month

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Uniform Missionary Evaluation

Part B - Field Evaluation of EPC Missionary

This report should be an honest and objective evaluation of the employee's performance. The factors should be rated on the basis of current performance and not on future expectation. Avoid letting your appraisal of one quality influence your judgment on another. Please do not give disproportionate weight to single, isolated deviations from the normal. Please complete all questions.

Please mail this form back to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, World Outreach Office, Attn.: Richard Oestreicher, 29140 Buckingham Ave., Suite 5, Livonia, MI 48154.

Date _____

1. Name of Agency: _____
2. Supervisor: _____
3. Position: _____
4. Name of Missionary: _____
5. Position Title: _____
6. Position Description: _____
7. Length of time on field: _____
8. Statement of purpose of organization: _____

APPENDICES

Missionary Goals		Field and Team Goals	
1. _____	1. _____	1. _____	1. _____
2. _____	2. _____	2. _____	2. _____
3. _____	3. _____	3. _____	3. _____
4. _____	4. _____	4. _____	4. _____
5. _____	5. _____	5. _____	5. _____

11. Field Objectives and Goals	12. How will you know when the goal has been reached	13. When is goal expected to be reached
1. _____	1. _____	1. _____
2. _____	2. _____	2. _____
3. _____	3. _____	3. _____
4. _____	4. _____	4. _____
5. _____	5. _____	5. _____

12. How long have you known this person?

13. How well do you know this person?

14. Do you work directly with this person?

15. How often do you see this person?

1. *Importance of the Present Assignment*

Please check your answer to the following questions:

Key: 1 - Emphatically yes		2 - Probably		3 - Not sure		4 - No		
Question	Rating				Comment			
1. Is this an important assignment in the overall development of the work in this country?	1	2	3	4				
2. Is this assignment more important than putting someone into a new or different work?	1	2	3	4				
3. Is a foreign missionary needed in this assignment?	1	2	3	4				
4. If US personnel were withdrawn, would this job be filled by a national?	1	2	3	4				
5. Is a qualified national available for this job?	1	2	3	4				
6. Is one in training?	1	2	3	4				
7. Could the salary of a national now be paid from local resources of the institution or church involved?	1	2	3	4				
8. If a "support role", is this job releasing others for "direct ministry"?	1	2	3	4				

2. Goals and Achievement of Goals

What have been the aims, goals or end results you have been seeking by placing the missionary in this assignment?

To what extent has each of these goals been achieved?

Key: 1 - Completely 4 - Somewhat	2 - Almost completely 5 - Hardly at all	3 - Considerably 6 - Not at all					
<i>Aim, Goal or End Result Sought</i>	<i>Extent of Achievement</i>						<i>Comment</i>
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	

3. *Activities and Effectiveness*

Please list activities expected of the missionary who has been in this assignment.

Please indicate your estimate of this missionary's effectiveness in carrying out these activities.

Key: 1 - Outstanding 2 - Very Good 3 - Good 4 - Satisfactory 5 - Fair 6 - Poor	
<i>List of Activities</i>	<i>Effectiveness</i>
	1 2 3 4 5 6
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

4. What have been the principal obstacles, if any, to the achievement of goals of the missionary's assignment?

5. **Quality of Work** (Disregard quantity)
- ☐ Skilled worker, neat and accurate
 - ☐ Good conscientious worker
 - ☐ Adequate, but some improvement would be desirable
 - ☐ Often inadequate, below average
 - ☐ Unsatisfactory, careless
6. **Quantity of Work** (Disregard quality)
- ☐ Outstanding
 - ☐ Produces more than average
 - ☐ Adequate
 - ☐ Unsatisfactory
 - ☐ Barely up to minimum
7. **Job Knowledge** (Technical)
- ☐ Expert. Has superior knowledge
 - ☐ Well-rounded knowledge. Seldom need assistance
 - ☐ Possesses acceptable knowledge
 - ☐ Knowledge is adequate to perform minimum job requirements
 - ☐ Very limited knowledge. Needs frequent assistance

8. **Relationship with Others**

- ☐ Easy to get along with
- ☐ Occasionally unwilling to work
- ☐ Often causing friction
- ☐ Others unwilling to work with employee because of disposition or unpleasant characteristics.
- ☐ Quarrelsome and hard to get along with

9. **Responsibility** (Ability to plan and direct work)

- ☐ Plans and carries out own work in a superior manner. Self-sustaining
- ☐ Plans and carries out work well. Requires little supervision
- ☐ Requires occasional work direction
- ☐ Always waits to be directed
- ☐ Carries out only the most obvious tasks without follow-up

10. **Appearance** (Personal grooming habits)

- ☐ Outstanding. Makes an exceptional impression
- ☐ Neat. Better than average impressions
- ☐ Presentable by average standards
- ☐ Fair appearance. Could use some improvement
- ☐ Careless, un-kept or extreme

11. What are the strengths of this person? (e.g., spiritual giftedness, skills...) (Rate highest to lowest, 1 - 5, 1 being the highest.)

<i>List Strengths</i>	<i>Rating</i>				
_____	1	2	3	4	5
_____	1	2	3	4	5
_____	1	2	3	4	5
_____	1	2	3	4	5

12. In light of this person's accomplishments, strengths and limitations, what would you consider to be an ideal type of work for him?

13. How do the assignment possibilities for this person relate to the ideal of work described in number 12 above?

14. What is the missionary's description for the next 12 months?

15. What will be the activities of the missionary this coming year? Estimate the amount of time that will be spent in each activity.

<i>List Activities</i>	<i>Percentage of Time</i>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

16. What will the projected changes in the missionary's financial needs during the next year?

<i>Projected Changes</i>	<i>Dollar Amount</i>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

17. If this person is terminating a short-term assignment, would you recommend him/her for future assignments? If yes, why? If no, state your reasons.

18. Is this person's language ability adequate for his/her assignment?

Thank you for participating with us in the evaluation. World Outreach is committed to the development of our missionaries. Your assistance has been very valuable to us. We would encourage you to share this survey personally with our missionary, prior to sending it back to us. We want to be sensitive to his reaction to the data presented. If there is a divergent point of view as to the data presented, please include both points of view - that of the evaluator and that of our missionary. Thank you again.

NAME Mr. & Mrs. Robert Antonucci
ADDRESS Frontiers
 325 North Stapley Dr.
 Mesa, AZ 85203

Assignment Location: Central Asia

Current Assignment: Home
 Nov. 95-Aug. 96



Please do not send mail on church letterhead, including envelopes. Avoid any reference to religious matters or sensitive matters in your communication. Mail is often censored.

Getting to Know the Antonuccis

Family Rob

Iris

Children: Stephanie

Peter

Birthdays Rob 6-2, Iris 3-16

Stephanie 3-4-94

Peter 7-1-95

Home Church Greenwood Community Church, Englewood, CO.

Agency Frontiers/IAM

Education

Rob-BA Psychology, Univ. Of Delaware, Enrolled in MA Missions program, Denver Seminary.

Iris-BA Elementary Education, Univ. of Nebraska, Grad. Cert. TESL, William Carey Int'l. Univ.

Missions Background

Rob-IVCF, Short term Frontiers, Caleb project.

Iris - child of missionary parents, 2 years in Belgium, friendship evangelism among Muslims

Understanding the Antonucci's Ministry

MINISTRY: Team Church Planting

GOALS: - Ministry to unreached Muslims.

- Live and work in the target country. Rob is developing eye disease prevention programs. Iris teaches English in the community.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Recruiting people for our target country, especially the "Puk" people.
- Protection for our family while living in Central Asia.
- Language studies.
- Bearing of fruit among Nationals.

NAME Mr. and Mrs. Dick Barany
ADDRESS Box 21010
 Nairobi, Kenya
 East Africa
E-Mail Address: Mick_Rineer@aimint.org
Assignment Location: Kenya



Getting to Know the Baranys

Family Dick

Linda

Children: Mark, Christina,
Benjamin

Home Church Goodwill EPC,
Montgomery, NY

Education

Dick: Bethel Theological Seminary,
Minnesota, Dr. of Ministry - Fuller
Theological Seminary
Linda: Nursing degree, Univ. of Rochester,
M.A. Theological Studies, Bethel Seminary

Birthdays Dick 4-17, Linda 2-2

Mark 7-23-80

Christina 10-17-81

Benjamin 2-1-92

Agency Africa Inland Mission (AIM)

Missions Background

Linda: Short term missions Haiti and
Zaire

Understanding the Barany's Ministry

MINISTRY: Theological Education. To minister in Marsabit and Pwani Bible Institute

GOALS: - Educate African pastors and evangelists.

- Reach Muslim people on the coastal area of Mombasa.

- Disciple church leaders.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- That their language skills will continue to improve.

- That they will be obedient to God as they learn to minister in Kenya.

NAME Rev. & Mrs. Dan Burns
ADDRESS c/o John Burns
 10 Still Forest
 Houston, Texas 77024
Telephone: (713)783-5125
FAX: (713)783-3942
E-Mail Address: Kazburns@aol.com
Assignment Location: Kazakhstan
Field Fax #: 011 7 3272 48 09 07 or 48 19 47



Getting to Know the Burns

Family Dan
 Catherine
 Children: Jackie, Daniel, Allison

Birthdays Dan 7-29, Catherine 6-14
 Jackie 3-21-90
 Daniel 10-25-91
 Allison 12-21-94

Home Church Christ EPC, Houston, Texas **Agency** EPC

Education

Dan - BA Biblical Studies, Rice Univ.
 M. Div., Gordon Conwell Theological
 Seminary
 Catherine - B.A. English, Rice Univ.

Missions Background

Dan - short terms in Mexico, Dominican
 Republic, Poland, Nigeria and Central
 Asia

MINISTRY: Church planting and leadership training.

GOALS: - See God glorified through the establishment of many indigenous churches
 pastored by national believers.
 - Creation of a team of missionaries in their city.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- That God will use their family and team to bring the gospel to the people of Kazakhstan.
- Dan would be diligent and disciplined in preaching in Russian.
- God will give wisdom in developing a leadership training program in their church.
- Development of small groups as an essential part of the church.

NAME Mr. & Mrs. Dan Clark
ADDRESS Frontiers
P.O. Box 4
High Wycombe, Bucks
HP143YX United Kingdom
E-Mail Address: Jan.Clark@400.n2001.z12.telcom
Assignment Location: England



Getting to Know the Clarks

Family Dan
Jan

Birthdays Dan 1-17, Jan 5-23

Home Church Grace Chapel EPC
Farmington Hills, MI

Agency Frontiers

Education
Dan - BS, Ohio State Univ.
Jan - BA, Albion College

Missions Background
Dan and Jan have been ministering in their home church through Stephen Ministries, Sunday School leaders, and missions committees

Understanding the Clark's Ministry

MINISTRY: Support staff for teams in the field reaching Muslims for the Lord.

GOALS: - To fulfill the roles of Administrative Services Coordinator (Dan) and Executive Assistant (Jan) on the International Headquarters team.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- That they will minister effectively to the many field missionaries who come to International Headquarters.
- That the team members will work together to glorify God.
- That they will find and provide support in a local church body.

NAME Mr. & Mrs. Jim Foote
ADDRESS 2801 W Buno
 Milford, MI 48380
Phone/Fax # in Tyuman 011-7-3452-297385
E-Mail Address: 76746.3174@compuserve.com
Assignment Location: Tyumen



Getting to Know the Footes

Family Jim
 Sally

Birthdays Jim 6-7, Sally 12-4

Home Church Cornerstone EPC
 Brighton, MI

Agency EPC

Education
 Jim - BSE and MSE Univ. of Michigan
 Sally - BS Univ. of Michigan

Missions Background
 Jim - missions elder, World Outreach
 Committee of EPC
 Sally - treasurer of Cornerstone EPC

Understanding the Foote's Ministry

MINISTRY: Team Church Planting

GOALS: - Develop a program to get the EPC actively involved in evangelism and church planting in Eastern Europe.
 - Prepare for a missionary team in Tyumen.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- That God will direct their activities, strengthen the new Christians and prepare hearts for the gospel
- Progress with the language
- Effectiveness in Bible studies
- Formation of a team

NAME Ms. Nancy Foster
ADDRESS Frontiers
 325 N. Stapley Dr.
 Mesa, AZ 85203
E-Mail Address: nancy@lfa.com
Assignment Location: Mesa, Arizona



Getting to Know Nancy

Family Nancy

Birthday Nancy 5-13

Home Church Second Presbyterian
 Memphis, Tenn.

Agency Frontiers

Education
 BS Northwestern State Univ.
 Natchitoches, LA

Missions Background
 Stephen Ministries, several Evangelism
 Explosion Clinics

Understanding Nancy's Ministry

MINISTRY: Services Manager, Frontiers U.S. sending base

GOALS: - To recruit, equip and provide operational support to Frontiers missionaries from the States

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- To see the way God is advancing His Kingdom through Frontiers workers.

NAME Mr. & Mrs. David Grimaldo
ADDRESS 8838 Laue
 Detroit, MI 48209
Telephone # - (313) 841-5499
Assignment Location: Detroit, MI



Getting to Know the Grimaldos

Family David
 Marijane
 Children: Michael, Danielle,
 Jacob

Birthdays David 9-13, Marijane 11-6
 Michael 5-18-83
 Danielle 1-15-86
 Jacob 10-16-91

Home Church Military Avenue EPC
 Detroit, MI

Agency World Impact

Education

David - Attended William Tyndale College,
 Wayne County Community College and
 Henry Ford Community College

Missions Background

David - Detroit Metro Youth for Christ,
 Youth Director - Military Avenue EPC
 Marijane - Sunday school teacher, Women's
 Bible study teacher, food program Military
 Avenue EPC

Understanding the Grimaldo's Ministry

MINISTRY: Youth Evangelism

GOALS: - To share the gospel with people in urban communities who have a
 disproportionate abundance of poverty, loneliness and hopelessness

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Adult leaders for clubs
- Young people turn to Jesus and become disciplined in a body of believers.

NAME Mr. & Mrs. John Haines
ADDRESS 16 rue George Courtline
 31100 Toulouse
 France
E-Mail Address: 74663,2505@compuserve.com
Assignment Location: France



Getting to Know the Haines

Family John
 Margy

Birthdays John 1-11, Margy 5-28

Home Church Fourth Pres. Church
 Bethesda, Maryland

Agency Arab World Ministries

Education
 John- BA, Univ. of Maryland
 Masters in Missions, Columbia Bible
 College
 Margy- BA, El. Ed. Univ. of Maryland

Missions Background
 North Africa and France, seminars for
 North African believers, Muslim Awareness
 Seminars, Youth evangelism teams in
 Europe

Understanding the Haines' Ministry

MINISTRY: Muslim Evangelism

GOALS: - To complete a "Toolbox for Muslim Evangelism" in English and French
 - Train missionaries and do church planting.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Share the gospel with Muslims on trips to North Africa
- Teach people in France how to evangelize to Muslims
- Muslim evangelism and discipleship in France

NAME Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hamd
ADDRESS c/o Directors
 PO Box 7177
 Lykavitos
 1642 Nicosia, Cyprus
E-Mail Address: 74762,1470@compuserve.com
Assignment Location: Middle East



Getting to Know the Hamds

Family Robert
 Joyce
 Children: Ben, Joseph, Lydia

Birthdays Robert 3-25, Joyce 7-30
 Ben 2-91
 Joseph 5-93
 Lydia 11-95

Home Church Ward EPC
 Livonia, MI

Agency Arab World Ministries

Education
 Robert - BA Communications and Near Eastern
 Studies Wyne State Univ. Detroit, MI
 Joyce - attended Tulsa Jr. College and Wayne
 State Univ.

Missions Background
 Robert - Ward's Outreach
 Committee, SALAM - Sincere
 Active Love for Arabs and Muslims
 Joyce - Youth With a Mission in
 South Pacific and Southeast Asia

Understanding the Hamd's Ministry

MINISTRY: Church Planting, Direct AWM's evangelistic video ministry

GOALS: - To use their evangelistic gifts to reach Muslims with the Good News of our
 Lord and Savior

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- That God would use Robert and Joyce to bring the lost in the Arab world to Christ
- That new believers would grow in grace and service of their new found King

NAME Mr. & Mrs. Bill Hampton
ADDRESS c/o Robert Grafe
PO Box 1686
Fairhope, AL 36533
E-Mail Address: Hampy3@aol.com
Assignment Location: Kazakbstan



Getting to Know the Hamptons

Family Bill
Janie
Children: William

Birthdays Bill 5-13, Jane 7-5
William 8-12-94

Home Church Christ EPC
Houston, Texas

Agency EPC

Education
Bill - B.S. Civil Engineer, Texas A&M
Univ., M. Div. Trinity Evangelical Divinity
School

Missions Background
Short term missions Almaty, Kazakhstan

Understanding the Hampton's Ministry

MINISTRY: Team Church Planting

GOALS: - To see the local Kazaks and Russians come to know Christ and form into viable churches

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Training in the Russian language
- That they will have a smooth transition into their new ministry

NAME Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Kelley
ADDRESS Arab World Ministries
 International Headquarters
 PO Box 4006
 Worthing, West Sussex
 BN11 1US
 United Kingdom
E-Mail Address: 102401,231@compuserve.com
Assignment Location: England



Getting to Know the Kelleys

Family Stephen
 Belinda
 Children: Nathaniel, Rebecca

Birthdays Stephen 1-16, Belinda 9-10
 Nathaniel 11-14-82
 Rebecca 10-31-84

Home Church EPC Midwest Presbytery

Agency Arab World Ministries

Education

Stephen - Reformed Bible College,
 M. Div., Calvin Theological Seminary

Missions Background

Stephen - Director of the Peace Arab-
 American Ministries, Dearborn, MI
 Stephen and Belinda - training missionaries
 in the field

Understanding the Kelley's Ministry

MINISTRY: Islamacist for the International Headquarters of AWM

GOALS: - To help the ministry understand the cultural, religious and sociological
 aspects of Islam

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- That their monthly financial support will be raised
- To give the Lord a chance to show His faithfulness
- That they will have a smooth transition into their new ministry

NAME Mr. & Mrs. Matt Klakulak
ADDRESS 1349 Harness Ct.
 Auburn CA 95603
E-Mail Address: 73773,553@compuserve.com
Assignment Location: North India



Getting to Know the Klakulaks

Family Matt
 Michelle
 Children: Nicole

Birthdays Matt 11-1, Michelle 9-28
 Nicole 3-95

Home Church Cornerstone Community
 Church, Denver, CO

Agency Pioneers

Education
 Matt- BA Accounting, Univ. of Colorado
 Michelle - BA Communications, Univ. of
 Colorado

Missions Background
 Muslim internship in Dearborn, MI
 Muslim studies at Zwemmer Institute

Understanding the Klakulak's Ministry

MINISTRY: Team Church Planting

GOALS: - To partner with Christian nationals to evangelize and reach out to the Muslim
 population

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- That the relationships with teammates would be strong
- That language learning (Hindi and Urdu) will go well
- That they will have a positive transition during their first term

NAME Dr. & Mrs. Greg Livingstone
ADDRESS Frontiers
 Box 4, High Wycombe, Bucks
 HP143YX, England, U.K.
E-Mail Address: greg.livingstone@lfa.com
Assignment Location: England



Getting to Know the Livingstones

Family Greg
 Sally
 Children: Evan, Paul and David

Birthdays Greg 5-3, Sally 6-25
 Evan 11-4-64
 David 6-20-66
 Paul 11-24-70

Home Church

Agency Frontiers

Education

Greg - Th.B., B.A., and M.A. Wheaton College, studied Islamics at East School of Theology, Beirut, Lebanon Dr. of Missiology, Biola University - School of Inter Cultural Studies
 Sally - Pre-med student, Wheaton College

Missions Background

Operation Mobilization - India
 Formed and coached ministry teams in Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt, Yemen, Libya
 N. American Director Arab World Ministries - 1977-1982

Understanding the Livingstone's Ministry

MINISTRY: Team Church Planting

GOALS: - To direct the ministry of Frontiers

- To supervise church planting efforts among Muslims in North Africa, the Middle East, Soviet Union, China, the Indian sub-continent and Southeast Asia
- To plant the first Muslim convert congregation in England

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- That the Lord will remove or change extreme police harassment in the Middle East
- Safety in traveling

NAME Mr. & Mrs. Kundan Massey
ADDRESS PO Box 6310
 CY - 3306
 Limassol, Cyprus
E-Mail Address: 76716,3252@compuserve.com
Assignment Location: Central Asia
US Address: 1136 Ginger Lane
 Corona, CA 91719



Getting to Know the Masseys

Family Kundan
 Iqbal

Birthdays Kundan 11-25, Iqbal 9-26

Home Church Forest Hill,
 Charlotte, NC

Agency United World Mission

Education

Kundan - BA Univ. of Punjab, Pakistan
 BA Cal. State, Los Angeles
 BA Fuller Theological Seminary
 M ED Univ. of Punjab, Pakistan
 Institute of Biblical Studies
 Iqbal - FA, BA, MA Univ. of Punjab
 Teachers certificate, Institute of Biblical Studies,
 Prayer Seminar Teachers Course

Missions Background

Over 30 years of ministry with Campus
 Crusade

Understanding the Massey's Ministry

MINISTRY: Church Planting, Vice President of International Ministries among
 Muslims

GOALS: - To evangelize Muslims in Central Asia

- To train nationals in the work of evangelism and church planting
- To establish training centers
- To hold pastors conferences and prayer seminars

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- To reach Muslims for Christ in those countries that were formerly part of the
 Soviet Union
- Protection for those involved in this ministry

NAME Mr. & Mrs. John McCurry
ADDRESS Frontiers
 Box 40159
 Pasadena, CA 91114
E-Mail Address: john.mccurry@lfa.com
Assignment Location: Middle East



Getting to Know the McCurrys

Family John
 Carlene
 Children: Caleb and MacKenzie

Birthdays John 9-26, Carlene 2-29
 Caleb 9-6-91
 MacKenzie 11-17-92

Home Church Christ Comm. Church
 Monrovia, CA

Agency Frontiers

Education
 John - B.A. Anthropology, UCLA
 MA TESOL, Cal State Univ.,
 Los Angeles

Missions Background
 Traveled, studied and ministered in
 Mexico, Pakistan, India, Kuwait,
 Bahrain, Yemen, Egypt, and Jordan

Understanding the McCurry's Ministry

MINISTRY: Church Planting Team leaders

GOALS: - To see vital, worshipping, growing congregations of Arab Muslim converts established
 - To recruit team members
 - To provide training, vision and strategy for the team and ensure team needs are met while in the field

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Safety for believers
- That God would protect national converts
- That they would have many opportunities to share the gospel
- That Muslims would take the risk necessary to confess their faith in Christ

NAME Mr. & Mrs. Chris Meeks
ADDRESS Galileo Galilei #4034
 Fracc. Arboledas
 Zapopan, Jal. 45070
 Mexico
E-Mail Address: 74054,3312 @compuserve.com
Assignment Location: Guadalajara, Mexico



Getting to Know the Meeks

Family Chris
 Gina

Birthdays Chris 5-20, Gina 4-24

Home Church Central First Presbyterian,
 Louis, MO

Agency EPC and Associate Reformed St.
 Presbyterian Church

Education

Chris -BS Biology, Univ. Kansas
 M. Div. in Missions, Reformed Theological
 Seminary, Jackson, Mississippi
 Gina - BS Biology, Universidad de
 Guadalajara Masters, Environmental Health,
 Universidad de Pamplona, Spain

Missions Background

Chris - short term missions in Amsterdam,
 Holland, and Argentina
 Gina - short term missions in Spain

Understanding the Meeks' Ministry

MINISTRY: Evangelism and Church Planting

GOALS: - To establish mission churches
 - To prepare nationals to pastor new churches

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- That God will build His church
- That their three cell groups will be fruitful and multiply

NAME Mr. & Mrs. Tim Mindling
ADDRESS c/o IAM
 PO Box 1167
 Peshawar, NWFP, Pakistan

Assignment Location: Central Asia

Please do not send mail on church letterhead, including envelopes. Avoid any reference to religious matters or sensitive matters in your communication.

Mail is often censored.



Getting to Know the Mindlings

Family Tim
 Karen
 Children: Abigail, Timothy Jr.,
 Peter

Birthdays Tim Sr. 4-4, Karen 1-20
 Abigail 8-17-90
 Timothy Jr. 5-6-92
 Peter 11-15-95

Home Church Fellowship EPC,
 South Lyon, MI

Agency Interserve and IAM

Education
 Tim -BA Business Administration, Hope
 College Holland, MI M Div, Gordon
 Conwell Seminary
 Karen - Nursing Diploma, Albany Medical
 Center School of Nursing, Christian Studies
 Diploma, Gordon Conwell Seminary,
 Ockenga Institute

Missions Background
 Tim - relief work SERVE, Pakistan
 Karen - short term missions, South Asia
 ophthalmic nurse SERVE, Pakistan

Understanding the Mindling's Ministry

MINISTRY: Team Church Planting
 Administration and training of staff at an eye clinic

GOALS: - To proclaim and explain the gospel of Jesus Christ and to plant indigenous churches

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Additional foreign staff
- Peace for this land
- That the Lord will use the clinic and the Mindling's to bring great glory to Himself
- Clear communication of the gospel message, and constant improvement of their language skills

NAME Rev. and Mrs. Phil Muir
ADDRESS 17 W 725 Butterfield Road
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181
E-Mail Address: Phil.muir@SIL.ORG
Assignment Location: Chicago



Getting to Know the Muirs

Family Phil
Margaret

Birthdays Phil 10-12, Margaret 12-8

Home Church EPC Mid America
Presbytery

Agency Wycliffe

Education
Phil - BA Maryville College
M Div McCormick Theological Seminary,
Chicago, IL
Margaret - BA Christian Education,
Maryville College

Missions Background
Short term mission study tour - India

MINISTRY: To train, encourage and support Wycliffe missionaries

GOALS: - To present Wycliffe's vision and ministry to churches and pastors
- To serve as a partnership development consultant to debrief Wycliffe missionaries returning from overseas assignments

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- God's protection for all missionaries in dangerous, risky situations
- More people to be involved in Margaret's prayer programs
- Increase the number of financial partners for under-supported missionaries

NAME Mr. Tim North
ADDRESS 40426 Newport
Plymouth, MI 48170
Assignment Location: Middle East



Getting to Know Tim

Family Tim

Birthday Tim 12-31

Home Church Ward EPC
Livonia, MI

Agency Arab World Ministries

Education
BS Agriculture, Michigan State Univ.
Master of Missions, Columbia Intl. Univ.,
Columbia, South Carolina

Missions Background
SIM team Niger, West Africa

Understanding Tim's Ministry

MINISTRY: Team Evangelism and Discipleship among Palestinian Arab Muslims

GOALS: - To share Christ with Muslim people
- To focus his ministry on students at the youth center

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- To use his gifts to glorify God.
- That Muslims will hear the gospel and believe

NAME Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Padgett
ADDRESS SERVE/EPC
 Box 1291
 Parker, CO 80134-1291
E-Mail Address: lghtcarrier@eworld.com
Assignment Location: U.S.



Getting to Know the Padgetts

Family Leroy
 Kathy

Birthdays Leroy 12-10, Kathy 9-22

Home Church Parker EPC
 Parker, CO

Agency SERVE (Sending Experienced
 Retired Volunteers Everywhere)

Education
 Leroy - BA Univ. of Northern Colorado
 MA Univ. of Northern Colorado
 Kathy - BA Univ. of Northern Colorado
 MA Univ. of Northern Colorado

Missions Background
 Missionaries in Senegal, West Africa,
 and Romania

MINISTRY: Regional Directors SERVE

GOALS: - To mobilize seniors from EPC churches into short term missions service

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Boldness to walk through the doors that the Lord is opening
- Discernment to know for which projects they should be team leaders
- That God would supply all of their needs

NAME Mr. Marcelo Robles
ADDRESS CC3232 CP1000
Buenos Aires, Argentina
South America
Assignment Location: Argentina



Getting to Know Marcelo

Family Marcelo

Birthday Marcelo 8-5

Home Church La Mision
Buenos Aires

Agency EPC

Education
CPA, M Div, Reformed Theological
Seminary, Jackson, Mississippi
working on Dr. of Missiology degree

Missions Background
Worked with his missionary parents
since the age of 13, doing street evangelism,
church planting activities, and one-on-one
evangelism

Understanding Marcelo's Ministry

MINISTRY: Evangelism and Church Planting

GOALS: - To plant EPC churches in Argentina leading to establishing a second
Presbytery

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- That their mission church would be self-supporting, self-propagating and self-governing
- That members of the church will be witnesses in the community
- That he would complete his dissertation

NAME Rev. & Mrs. Miguel Robles
ADDRESS CC3232 CP1000
Buenos Aires, Argentina
South America
Assignment Location: Argentina



Getting to Know the Robles

Family Miguel
Azucena

Birthdays Miguel 9-22, Azucena 7-4

Home Church La Mision
Buenos Aires

Agency EPC

Education
Miguel - Bachelor of Theology, Seminario
Internacional Teologico Bautista

Missions Background
Director of a Bible Institute for young
people, adopted 50 to 60 converted
young people. Started many churches in
Argentina and Paraguay.

Understanding the Robles' Ministry

MINISTRY: Evangelism and church growth

GOALS: - To establish EPC churches in metro Buenos Aires

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- That their mission church would be self-supporting, self-propagating and self-governing
- That members of the church will be witnesses in the community

NAME Dr. and Mrs. Samuel F. Rowen
ADDRESS 372 Rimini Court
 Palatine, IL 60067
E-Mail Address: 74561,753@compuserve.com
Assignment Location: U.S. and China



Getting to Know the Rowens

Family Sam
 Ruth

Birthdays Sam 12-19, Ruth 4-16

Home Church Lakeside EPC
 Brandon, MS

Agency SEND

Education

Sam - Philadelphia College of Bible,
 Wheaton College, Westminster
 Theological Seminary and Michigan State
 University
 Ruth - Philadelphia College of Bible

Missions Background

Faculty of Missionary Internship,
 Missionaries in China

MINISTRY: Director of China Seminary Project for Educational Projects International

GOALS: - To assist two seminaries in China with training of pastors for the growing churches

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- That they will be actively involved in critical missionary opportunities
- That God would bless their planning

NAME Rev. & Mrs. Bud Sparling
ADDRESS 11631 E. Colorado Drive
Aurora, CO 80012
Assignment Location: U.S.



Getting to Know the Sparlings

Family Bud
Carol

Birthdays Bud 2-16, Carol 4-7

Home Church Parker EPC,
Parker, CO

Agency Youth for Christ

Education

Bud - BA Univ. of Washington, M. Div
and Th.M., Princeton Theological Seminary
Carol - BA Univ. of Washington
working on MA in Agency Counseling,
Univ. of Northern Colorado

Missions Background

Founding pastor Covenant Community EPC

Understanding the Sparling's Ministry

MINISTRY: Half-time assistant pastor at Parker EPC and half time World Outreach
Ministry for Youth for Christ

GOALS: - To provide pastoral care, visitation and counseling to the EPC and Youth for
Christ missionaries in the field worldwide

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- That God will use them to encourage other missionaries

NAME Mr. and Mrs. Dave Walker
ADDRESS 3-12-18 Sengen Cho
 Higashi Kurume-shi
 Tokyo 203
 Japan

E-Mail Address: david.walker@jemanet.or.jp
Assignment Location: Japan



Getting to Know the Walkers

Family Dave

Deb

Children: Sarah and Seth

Birthdays Dave 6-12, Deb 2-13

Sarah 5-18-79

Seth 11-22-81

Home Church Mt. Pleasant Community
 Church, Mt. Pleasant, MI

Agency OC Ministries

Education

Dave - BS Education, Central MI Univ.
 MA Theological Studies, Gordon Conwell
 Theological Seminary
 Deb - RN, Providence Hospital School of
 Nursing

Missions Background

Pastored a church in New Hampshire

Understanding the Walker's Ministry

MINISTRY: Team Mobilization

GOALS: - To use their gifts to motivate, train and mobilize the national church to reach
 its own people for Christ

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- That the missionary prayer fellowship will minister to each other and be empowered to bless the church
- That the OC International Advisory Board will know the mind of the Lord
- That the team will seek new members and new ministry opportunities

NAME Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Young
ADDRESS United World Mission
PO Box 250
Union Mills, NC 28167
E-Mail Address: 75562.1354@compuserve.com
Assignment Location: Russia



Getting to Know the Youngs

Family Jonathan
Fozia

Birthdays Jonathan 10-1, Fozia 11-12

Home Church Ward EPC,
Livonia, MI

Agency United World Mission

Education

Jonathan - BA Education, Houghton
College, New York
Fozia - BA, Univ. of Canada, MA ESL,
Columbia Grad. School and Seminary,
South Carolina

Missions Background

Jonathan - church planting in Hawaii,
teaching in Liberia
Fozia - Outreach Office, Ward EPC

Understanding the Youngs' Ministry

MINISTRY: Team Church Planting

GOALS: - To work with Russian pastors and assist in their outreach to Muslims
- To develop evangelistic tools for the Tatars

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- That God would bless their marriage
- That their language skills would continue to grow
- That their spiritual network would grow and that they could prayerfully support each other
- That a team will grow and become effective in their new location

Youth Ministries Director's Report



Dan Weidman

What a great year! I have been blessed by ministering in an arena where God is blessing; by working with a committee that works hard, plans quality events, and has a vision for the student ministry; by meeting youth workers from all over the country with a heart for students; and by assisting churches to run more effective youth ministries.

Vision and Mission

My committee, though small, has big dreams for EPC Student and Young Adult Ministries. We desire to see young lives radically changed for Jesus Christ. Our hope is that revival will sweep across the nation beginning in local EPC youth ministries, and that EPC Student and Young Adult Ministries would be a catalyst for this revival. Our mission is to assist EPC churches to reach and disciple students and young adults for Jesus Christ by providing them with the necessary resources, training, support, and ministry opportunities. Rick Stauffer (TE) has provided outstanding vision and leadership as the Student and Young Adult chairman, and has detailed our plans for the next few years in his report. In this report I hope to give you a view of future plans in EPC Student and Young Adult Ministries. But first, we will begin with where we are today.

1995 Participation

During the summer of 1995 there were 54 groups from 45 EPC churches that participated in one of the Summer Jam trips or one of the three mission experiences. This is about 28% participation in one of the summer programs. Our goal as a committee is for 45% involvement over the next five years.

1996 Summer Opportunities

I believe we offer a well-rounded selection of opportunities for youth ministries to plug into. Summer Jam provides a quality growth level event which meets the needs of youth groups that bring growth level students. But it also targets seekers; each year many students make first time professions of faith. In addition, we attempt to accommodate the building of group unity and growth. And from where I sit, it is a good opportunity for EPC church youth groups to begin relationships with each other and to see the bigger picture of the EPC.

The four mission experiences, Appalachian Impact-Junior High, Appalachian Impact-Senior High, Detroit Alive, and Mission Mexico, give students a first level mission experience. I believe these mission experiences are highly valuable for at least three reasons. First, they allow students to fulfill the Great Commission. Second, they provide hands-on experience in short term missions and missionary work. Third, they give students a vision to reach a lost and dying world for Jesus Christ and the part they play in doing so.

Future Plans

We are currently planning our 1997 trips. Our goal is to host 2 (possibly 3) Summer Jam events, three mission experiences for high school youth, one mission experience for junior high youth, and one mission experience for young adults. In addition, we believe that there is need for family mission experiences. As a committee we are exploring opportunities for such and have spoken with World Outreach and Women's Ministries about adult short-term mission possibilities. In all these areas we are striving to work 18 months ahead of schedule so that each of our churches can take full advantage of the quality opportunities for youth.

Future Growth

There are several areas of growth for which we are praying expectantly over the next few years. The following are some highlights.

Leadership - As EPC Student and Young Adult Ministries continues to expand, it will become increasingly difficult for one person or even one committee to plan and run each of the ministries involved. This will be especially true of summer trips where dates overlap. The committee approved an idea to establish planning teams to carryout the planning of a trip based on committee objectives and directives, and who would lead the trip. The first team will meet in the fall just prior to the Youth Worker Retreat.

Ministry Opportunities - This year each of our four mission trips is full. We will need to expand if we are to accommodate the participation of more churches. Our future plan calls us to add one additional trip in 1997, 1998 and 1999. My hope is to stay within the context of EPC mission fields as much as possible.

Relationships - EPC Student and Young Adult Ministries has developed some informal ties to organizations which have helped us become more effective in our mission. A few of the organizations include *Sonlife Ministries* for ministry training, *Lay Renewal Ministries* for resources and Young Adult workshops, *World Servants* for missions trip development, *AIM* for future mission trip possibilities, *Alongside* for Ministry consultation and future workshops, and *Geneva College* for Summer Jam assistance. In addition to their work with Summer Jam, Geneva College is offering a 15% scholarship to any student who

attends Geneva from an EPC church. This stems from our relationship with them through Summer Jam).

Resources - As a full-time youth leader, I was always looking for high quality resources that met some need of my ministry. Now I have the privilege of recommending resources for those who need it. The LINK continues to be a newsletter which provides some good resource information. We will be expanding its production to include additional resources like youth ministry *How To's*, a Focus On Missions page, a Gen X segment, and an expanded resource section. In addition we are working on a youth ministry six year topic teaching plan that is Scripture based and a student membership/inquirers class 8-12 week teaching plan.

Training - Currently we are offering several training options for more effective youth ministry including a Youth Ministry Foundations workshop and a Generation X workshop. In conjunction with other ministries our future offerings will include family based youth ministry, parenting seminars, ministry team training workshops, junior high ministry development, and training on effective outreach programs.

I am excited by what God has been doing through our denominational youth program and is yet to do. I hope you are excited as well. God has been blessing abundantly. I encourage you to take advantage of the trips, training and resources we provide. I ask that you pray for me and the committee as we seek God's will and move our ministry in His direction. I call on you as a church to help your youth workers be as effective as possible in ministry by helping them get trained, supporting them with your prayers and money, and encouraging them to develop relationships with other EPC youth ministries. And I encourage feedback. Let me know how I can help your church grow a more effective youth ministry.

Dan Weidman, Director of Student and Young Adult Ministries
June, 1996

Youth Ministries Committee Report

The Student and Young Adult Ministry Committee met twice during the past Assembly year, once in October and again in March. We are excited about what God is doing in our midst as an important of what He is doing in our denomination. We trust you will find the following report encouraging and full of hope as we describe what God is doing in the lives of our kids!

Joshua 21:45 says, "Not one of the Lord's good promises to the house of Israel failed; every one was fulfilled." We feel that God has laid some promises before us and we are working in faith to see those promises fulfilled.



Rick Stauffer, Chairman

Vision

As important part of the Lord's promises to us is our vision and purpose as a committee. We believe that as the EPC Student and Young Adult Ministry God has given us the desire to bring about radical change in student and young adult hearts and lives across the nation, to positively affect the culture in every arena the EPC has ministry. We hope revival will come to our country and will begin in local EPC youth ministries with the help of the EPC Student and Young Adult Ministry Committee. We trust God will use us to assist EPC churches to effectively reach and disciple students and young adults for Jesus Christ by providing them with the resources, training, support, and ministry opportunities. We see this promised vision being fulfilled in the following ways.

Ministry Opportunities

Summer Jam has once again been a highlight in our year and an anticipated event this summer. Last year more than 800 attended the Colorado and Florida Summer Jams, and many accepted Christ for the first time. The committee works hard to evaluate and fine tune this already successful conference. Speakers Terry Prisk and Chuck Beckler will minister to students from all over the country. Please pray for these events and for a possible new site in Florida as we are outgrowing our existing site in Fort Walton Beach.

Missions continues to be a growing emphasis in our ministry. Last year we expanded from a single senior high trip in rural Kentucky to an additional Kentucky trip for junior high and a senior high trip to Reynosa, Mexico. All trips were filled to capacity, placing 220 EPC kids on a short-term mission field last summer. This summer will see yet another mission trip, to inner city Detroit, Michigan. Altogether this summer we hope to place about 370 students in short term missions. We praise God for the students and churches who

respond so strongly to these avenues of service, and look forward to the mighty works God will do through these trips. The committee works hard to insure these trips have a strong service and evangelistic emphasis. Pray for us as we fine tune our existing trips and plan for further expansion. Pray also for the obedient servants serving on the mission fields this summer.

Training, Support and Resources

It is our prayer this year to organize task forces who can handle the details of planning trips so the committee is able to spend more time providing training, support, and resources for our churches and youth leaders.

We are currently working on Generation X training for the churches. Dan Weidman, our Director of Student Ministries, participated in seminars this year with two churches, and wants to offer the seminar to all presbyteries and churches. We continue to work with Lay Renewal Ministries to improve this seminar and make it more readily available to our churches.

Support and training are an important part of the Youth Leaders Getaway in September. The second of these weekends was held last year in Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina, also the site of this September's Getaway. It is a great time for renewal, fellowship, and planning for youth workers of any size church. The committee strongly recommends churches not only encourage their youth leaders to come, but to provide financially for them to attend.

We hope youth workers in your church are receiving, enjoying, and being encouraged by the youth newsletter, The Link. Our goal is to build on the already solid foundation of this newsletter to make it useful and practical for all our youth ministries. We continue to discuss other ways to provide beneficial ministry resources. Pray for us as we develop these areas of ministry and hand off the awesome responsibility of trip planning to capable and willing people.

Most of this report would not even be a dream if it weren't for our capable leader, Dan Weidman. He has extraordinary vision for ministry, and compassion for kids and youth leaders, and plays a crucial role in our committee's work, providing hours of prayer and encouragement. Pray for Dan, his wife Lisa, and their children Alyssa, Sean, and Eric as they serve the Lord and the EPC. And pray a part-time secretary will be found to help Dan in his work.

Recommendation

We feel God has led us through the past year, and he leads us into the promises of the coming year. We are excited about what God will do in the life of our committee and in the lives of students. We are excited that "none of the Lord's good promises fail." Therefore, the Committee for Student and Young Adult Ministries requests that \$8000 be included in the 1997 Benevolence Asks Budget to accomplish the vision God has promised.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Stauffer, Chairman

June, 1996

This page has been left blank intentionally.

PART III
DOCUMENTS

Rules for Assembly

(As amended through the 16th 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. Proofed and signed by chairman of committee and thereafter given to Stated Clerk for permanent record;
 - B. 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). Presbytery review year shall include those minutes approved by presbytery up to June 1 of each Assembly year. Minutes should reflect the 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.
- 8-12 The minutes of each day will not be read at the beginning of each day of Assembly but will be proofread by a committee of three commissioners in consultation with the recording clerks of the Assembly. The committee of three shall be nominated by the convening Moderator and the minutes shall be posted in a public place where they can be read by interested commissioners.

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. Committee on Student and Young Adult Ministries

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 Student and Young Adult 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. Sessions and permanent committees are encouraged to submit qualified names. A committee may submit names for that committee only. The Endorsement for Nomination form shall be used and shall reflect official action of the Session or committee.

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

INDEX

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

	Reference	Document Page
Acts of Assembly added to <i>The Book of Order</i>	91-09	3
Ad Interim Theology Committee established	84-10	1
Articles of Incorporation amended to add directors' liability insurance	89-07	2
Book of Discipline adopted	81-13	1
Book of Government ratified	81-12	1
Book of Worship ratified	81-11	1
"Chairman" approved as word of designation	85-01	2
Cost of Assembly operations: formula requested	94-16	3
Face-to-Face - opportunities for seeking churches and ministers	83-02	1
Growth experience for persons in ministry approved as annual event	94-27	3
Historical foundation established	86-15	2
Hotels - policy where pornographic movies are shown	87-05	2
Newly Ordained Ministers Gathering approved as annual event	94-26	3
Permanent Judicial Commission reporting procedure	90-21	2
Plan to be developed for goals, programs, priorities of General Assembly	94-15	3
Preliminary Position Paper statement adopted	84-09	1
Rules for Assembly adopted	81-10	1
Scheduling of annual General Assembly	89-08	2
Convenes Thursday after Father's Day	93-15	3
Weekend Assembly schedule	90-20	2
Statement of purpose	83-09	1
Theology Committee established	86-01	2
Theology Committee to announce meeting and agenda	86-02	2
Women's Ministries Committee formed	86-06	2

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Assistant Stated Clerk position approved	96-16	4
Certificates and forms made available	85-09	4
Christmas offering approved	85-08	3, 27
Committee personnel to be recommended by presbyteries	86-13	4
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	6
"Chicago Statement" adopted as resource	88-19	5
Children and participation in the Lord's Supper, a pastoral letter	93-08	6
Children's Catechism (modern version) endorsed	88-20	5
Essentials of the Faith adopted	81-01	5
Essentials of the Faith purpose of, clarified	93-17	7
Essentials, prefatory statement to Confession	85-15	5
Essentials, Westminster Conf., Shorter Catechism in Book of Order	87-03	5
Essentials, advisory letter on relationship to Westminster Confession	88-29	5
Westminster Confession of Faith (Summertown edition) adopted	84-01	5
Westminster Confession of Faith Commentary endorsed	92-06	6

PRESBYTERIES

Allegheny Presbytery constituted	86-04	8
Boundaries amended to exclude Bluefield, WV	92-10	11
Dissolved	93-06	12
Called meetings, number required	81-02	7
	88-02	9
Candidate application forms (presbytery) approved	83-03	8
Candidate "Session Approval Forms" approved	83-04	8
Commissions, role of	91-05	10
Committee (permanent) members' names to be sent to presbyteries	85-02	8
Communion: Non-EPC minister may be approved to serve in EPC church	94-22	12
Councils, formation encouraged	85-14	9
Covenanting with educational institutions approved	88-06	10
Goals for meetings	81-03	7
Illinois and Texas churches choose presbytery	82-06	8
Minutes to be presented to General Assembly in English	94-28	13
Position Statement on Presbytery Development,	93-05	11
Presbytery of Central South constituted	83-12	8
Boundaries amended to include Missouri	85-03	8
Boundaries amended to include southern Illinois	86-05	9
Boundaries amended to include Kansas City (KS) metro area	87-08	9
Boundaries amended to include Kansas east of Highway 81	88-05	10
Boundaries amended to include entire Nashville area	92-08	10
Boundaries amended to exclude certain Arkansas counties	92-09	11
Divided into two presbyteries	91-06	10

Boundaries amended to include "boot heel" counties of Missouri	94-12	12
Presbytery of the East constituted	82-04	8
Boundaries amended to include Washington, DC and contiguous counties of Virginia	84-11	8
Boundaries amended to include Loudon & Prince William Counties	85-04	8
Boundaries amended to include eastern Ohio	84-12	8
Boundaries amended to include entire states of New York & Pennsylvania	93-06	12
Divided into two presbyteries	86-04	9
Presbytery of Far West constituted	83-10	8
Dissolved	93-07	12
Presbytery of Florida constituted	90-11	10
Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic constituted	88-04	9
Bluefield, WV church assigned to Mid-Atlantic Presbytery	92-10	11
Boundaries amended to include entire state of West Virginia	93-06	12
Boundaries amended to move five North Carolina churches to Presbytery of the Southeast	95-10	13
Presbytery of Mid-America constituted	91-06	10
Boundaries amended to include certain Arkansas counties	92-09	11
Boundaries amended to exclude "boot heel" counties of Missouri	94-12	12
Presbytery of the Midwest constituted	81-08	7
Boundaries amended to exclude state of Missouri	85-03	8
Boundaries amended to exclude Illinois south of I-70	86-05	9
Boundaries amended to exclude state of Illinois	91-06	10
Boundaries amended to include entire state of Ohio	93-06	12
Presbytery of the South constituted	82-05	8
Divided into two presbyteries	83-12	8
Presbytery of the Southeast constituted	83-12	8
Boundaries amended to include state of Florida	88-03	9
Boundaries amended to exclude state of Florida	90-11	10
Boundaries amended to add five North Carolina churches	95-10	12
Divided to constitute Southeast and Mid-Atlantic Presbyteries	88-04	9
Boundaries amended to exclude entire Nashville area	92-08	10
Presbytery of St. Andrews constituted	87-11	9
Boundaries amended to include province of Buenos Aires	90-09	10
Presbytery of the West constituted	81-08	7
Boundaries amended to add Washington and Idaho	87-07	9
Boundaries amended to exclude Kansas City, KS metro area	87-08	9
Boundaries amended to include Kansas west of Hwy 81	88-05	9
Boundaries amended to include California and Arizona	93-07	12
Ruling Elders to be recommend for committee membership	86-13	9
Session is deposed; Presbytery to provide pastoral assistance but may not otherwise act except in certain cases	94-24	12
Session encouraged but not mandated to hear information from Presbytery committee following inquiry	94-23	12
Terms of call forms (ministers) approved	83-06	8
Women's Ministries Committee formation encouraged	93-16	12

World Outreach Committees formation encouraged	92-11	11
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER		
Assistant Pastor, presbytery voting member	85-06	15
Call for Pastor or Associate Pastor form approved	83-06	14
Candidates		
Candidates Educational Equivalency Program (CEEP)	83-07	14
Application for Gospel Ministry approved	83-03	14
Session Approval Form approved	83-04	14
Chaplains		
MVC to design process for maintenance of chaplaincy program	83-15	15
Presbytery of membership	88-07	16
Christmas offering approved for needy ministers, missionaries	85-08	15
	87-14	15
Compensation, annual review for	83-01	14
Continuing education for ministers program approved	83-14	14
Co-pastor, office not recognized	85-05	15
Exception to co-pastor ruling for Myrtle Grove Church	90-19	16
Denominational Goals for Pastoral Care endorsed	87-22	16
Examinations for ordination, policy on retaking failed tests	91-03	16
Face-to-Face - opportunities for seeking churches and ministers	83-02	14
Gratitude Gift offering approved	87-14	16
Growth experience for persons in ministry approved as annual event	94-27	17
Insurance: Churches urged to assume deductible and co-insurance as part of ministers' terms of call	82-10	14
Insurance Plan mandatory for ministers in EPC churches	81-06	13
Manual for Candidates for Gospel Ministry approved	84-03	15
Ministerial Endowment Fund approved	84-15	15
Newly Ordained Ministers Gathering approved as annual event	94-26	16
Pension funds permitted to be used for housing allowance	96-17	17
Personal Information Form provided	83-05	14
Plan for pastoral care of ministers, families, congregations to be studied	86-03	15
Reading list for candidates requested	92-18	16
Reading list for candidates approaching ordination approved	93-18	16
Sacramental authority		
Administration of sacraments only by ordained ministers	84-02	15
By certain licensed candidates	84-07	15
By lawfully ordained minister in good standing of another denomination may serve communion with consent of Presbytery	94-22	16
Scholarship Fund (Andrew A. Jumper) endorsed	92-07	16
Terms of call for ministers to include EPC insurance plan	81-04	13
To include 18% benefit for insurance and pension	81-05	13
"Uniform Procedures on Candidacy, Licensure, and Ordination" adopted	82-07	13
Amended to delete section on licensure	94-25	16

NATIONAL OUTREACH

Church Development Committee to assist churches with ministry, finances, fundraising	82-12	17
Church Loan Fund concept approved	83-11	17
Church Loan Fund to be established	86-12	18
Church Loan Fund administration guidelines authorized	89-10	17
Church Loan Fund, loans to begin	89-11	18
Church Loan Fund policies amended on repayment clause	90-10	18
Church Loan Fund, church members encouraged to include in wills	89-09	17
Church planters assessment process endorsed	88-12	17
Church planting to be targeted in Los Angeles and Orlando	96-07	18
Investors Church Development Loan Fund approved	89-12	17
Key cities for church planting to be targeted	96-13	18
Strategy for funding to be studied	96-14	19
Master Plan for Church Development approved	89-13	18
To be reviewed and revised if needful every five years	96-12	18
Mission to the Nation established	82-03	17
"Mission Statement and Values" adopted	96-11	18
National Outreach Department approved for Assembly Office	92-22	18
Redirect benevolence funds for church planting	92-15	18
Solicitation policy for church planting projects adopted	92-21	18

WORLD OUTREACH

Argentina Declaration affirmed	94-18	21
Bible League approved as mission agency	94-17	21
Cooperative Agreements approved		
Africa Inland Mission	95-15	22
Arab World Ministries	92-13	21
Logoi	86-14	20
Interserve	90-13	20
Frontiers	91-07	20
Middle East Media	95-16	22
Missionary Internship	85-12	19
Overseas Crusade	85-13	20
Pioneers	95-17	22
Send International	92-14	21
SERVE	95-18	22
Sudan Interior Mission (SIM)	92-12	21
United World Mission	93-11	20
World Impact	93-10	21
Wycliffe	86-11	20
Youth For Christ, USA	93-09	21
Definition of approved mission agency	87-02	20
Ethnic and urban ministries in North America assigned to World Outreach	84-04	19
Five-year Report to be distributed to church members	96-18	19
Literacy and Evangelism, an approved mission agency	93-12	21
LOGOI/FLET endorsed for use in Argentina	90-18	20
Middle East Reformed Fellowship (MERF), status approved	87-01	20
MERF approval withdrawn	91-08	20

Missionaries in cooperative agreement may choose insurance plan	93-13	21
Missionaries: plan to be formed to help in reentry from the field	94-19	22
National pastors not required to participate in EPC group insurance plan	93-14	21
Redirect benevolence funds for EPC World Outreach	92-15	21
Sons and Daughters program approved	83-16	19
Trans World Radio approved as mission agency	90-14	20
World Outreach Committee established	82-13	19
World Outreach Manual, Part I adopted	83-13	19
World Outreach Manual, Part II, adopted	84-15	19
World Outreach Manual, Part III, adopted	86-22	20
World Outreach presbytery committees, formation urged	92-11	20
World Outreach Master Plan approved	88-13	20
Churches asked to distribute to members	96-18	21

FRATERNAL MATTERS

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church fraternal relationship approved	85-10	23
More extensive relationships with ARP approved	89-19	23
Statement of Commitment, EPC & ARP	91-10	24
Geneva Statement, EPC & ARP	92-01	25
Yearly exchange of fraternal delegates approved	92-02	25
Christian Reformed Church fraternal relationship approved	87-10	23
More extensive relationships with CRC approved	89-19	24
Definitions of fraternal relationship approved	84-06	22
	88-14	23
Family conference with ARP to be explored	93-03	26
Fraternal Relations Committee established	83-17	22
Fraternal relationships with evangelical Reformed bodies to be pursued	82-11	22
Fraternal relationships with Presbyterian groups to be pursued	85-11	23
Fraternal relationships encouraged with some denominations outside the Reformed tradition	96-04	25
National Association of Evangelicals, application made	81-07	22
NAE Director Billy Melvin extended thanks for 28 years of service	94-02	25
North American Presbyterian & Reformed Council (NAPARC)		
Membership to be pursued	87-09	23
Dialogue to become member to continue	89-21	24
Response on Holy Spirit and charismatic gifts	92-16	25
Membership application to be continued	94-04	26
PC(USA) requested to rescind charges against EPC (1988)	88-16	24
Presbyterian Church in Ireland, relationship to be pursued and explored	94-03	26
Protest lodged with WARC against PC(USA) action (1988)	88-18	24
Puerto Rico, fraternal relations established with Association of the Charismatic Presbyterian Churches of Puerto Rico	94-01	26
Reformed Church in America and Presbyterian Church in America to be studied for fraternal relationship	89-20	24
Solicitation of churches for denominational affiliation, policy	88-15	23
Statement on handling interdenominational and other disputes	88-17	24
World Alliance of Reformed Churches (WARC)		

Application for membership endorsed	84-05	22
Strengthen relationships with member denominations	89-21	24
FRC to explore membership in alternate organizations	94-05	26
World Evangelical Fellowship (WEF), application for membership endorsed	86-16	23

FISCAL MATTERS

Adoption of "benevolence giving goals" for congregations	87-20	28
Calendar year shall be fiscal year	82-08	26
Christmas offering approved	85-08	27, 3
Church Loan Fund to be established	83-11	27
Church Loan Fund - presbytery repayment guarantee	90-10	28
Church Loan Fund criterion on fee rates amended	94-13	30
Fiscal policy defined	83-08	26
Interest, principles on lending money	90-12	28
Medical Benevolence Trust promotion approved	90-16	29
Ministerial Endowment Fund approved	84-15	27
Pension Plan administrative expenses funded by Administration		
Budget	89-05	28
Per member asking set at \$5	81-09	26
Per member asking raised to \$8	83-08	26
Per member asking raised to \$10	89-18	28
Per member asking raised to \$12	92-23	29
Per member asking raised to \$15	94-14	30
Reflections funding or subscription program to be designed	95-08	30, 34
Scholarship matching fund program endorsed for Erskine		
College and Seminary	95-11	30
Solicitation policy set for church planting projects	92-21	29
Special offerings: materials to be sent five weeks prior to projected date	95-01	30, 33
Staff development funded by benevolence giving	85-07	27
Women's Ministries "Second Mile Giving"	86-07	28
Women's Ministries half-time Director funded through Faith Focus	90-01	28
Youth Director (half-time) funded through benevolence giving	90-02	28

PROGRAM MATTERS

Abortion, Preliminary Position Paper adopted	84-14	30
Position Paper adopted	86-20	31
Aging, Task Force recommendations	86-08	30
AIDS/HIV, Position Paper adopted	94-20	33
Bethany Christian Services, agency approved	89-16	32
Booklets on baptism and the Reformed faith endorsed	88-24	31
Capital Punishment, Preliminary Position Paper adopted	84-14	30
Preliminary Position Paper rescinded	95-12	34
Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy, a resource	88-19	31
Children's Catechism (modern version) endorsed	88-20	31
Christian Education Resource Network to be established	89-17	32
Christian Education Task Force to be formed to evaluate curricula according to EPC standards	95-09	34
Civil Disobedience, Pastoral Letter approved	96-09	34
Conference (biannual) approved for ministers young in		

the ministry	88-23	31
Covenanting between presbyteries and colleges approved	88-06	31
Curricula distinctly Reformed to be recommended to the churches	90-04	32
Curriculum publishers consistent with EPC beliefs endorsed	88-22	31
Disney Company, Spirit led response to	96-06	34
Divorce and Remarriage, Preliminary Position Paper adopted	94-21	33
Family conference with ARP to be explored	93-03	33
Holy Spirit, Position Paper adopted	86-21	31
Homosexuality, Preliminary Position Paper adopted	84-14	30
Position Paper adopted	86-20	31
Replacement Position Paper adopted	94-20	33
Hotels - policy where pornographic movies are shown	87-05	31
Lay Renewal Ministries approved as resource	88-21	31
Mission experiences, short term, endorsed for senior high students	90-03	32
New members curriculum for adults and youth to be developed	90-05	32
Officer Training Program approved	87-04	31
Officer Training Manual endorsed	92-05	32
Ordination of Women, Preliminary Position Paper adopted	84-14	30
Position Paper adopted	86-20	31
Organ Donation and Transplantation, pastoral letter adopted	96-10	34
"Partial Birth Abortion Ban" opposed	96-05	34
Pornography, Preliminary Position Paper adopted	88-27	32
Problems of Suffering, Death, and Dying, Position Paper adopted	95-14	34
Promise Keepers program endorsed	95-20	34
Reading list approved for candidates approaching ordination	93-18	33
Reflections funding or subscription program to be designed	95-08	30, 34
Regional Pastor, joint project approved	92-17	34
Retreat and camping facility to be researched	92-04	32
Research set aside until funds are available	94-10	33
Screening procedures for child care workers approved	94-11	33
Secret Fraternal Organizations, Pastoral Letter Regarding		
Criteria for Evaluating Membership, adopted	95-13	34
Sonlife Strategy model approved for youth ministries	88-26	31
Special offerings: materials to be sent five weeks prior to projected date	95-01	30, 33
Student & Young Adult Ministries Committee asked to provide direction to the churches	96-08	34
Subcommittees on Evangelism and Caring established	92-20	32
Value of Human Life, Preliminary Position Paper adopted	84-14	30
Position Paper adopted	87-21	31
Westminster Confession of Faith Commentary endorsed	92-06	32
Westminster Catechism, resources for teaching children and youth	93-04	33
Women's Ministries Committee formation encouraged for presbyteries	93-16	33
Women's Ministries Constitution for local churches adopted	88-28	32
Youth Ministries to research retreat/camping facilities	92-04	32
Youth Ministries Committee changes name to Student & Young Adult Ministries Committee	96-15	35
Youth Speakers Bureau approved	88-25	31
Youth summer conference concept adopted	86-09	31

BOARD OF PENSION AND BENEFITS

Group Insurance Plan

Administration placed under Board of Pension & Benefits	90-08	37
	91-01	38
Adopted children to be covered when custody begins	94-07	37
Approved for ministers	82-10	35
Benefit Services vendor for plan administration	96-02	40
Carrier changed to Provident for health and life coverage	87-19	36
CHAMPUS participants exempted	87-15	36
Conversion option eliminated	95-04	39
Dependents of retired and disabled employees may be covered by medical plan	94-08	39
Deductibles for medical coverage reduced	90-15	37
"Disabled employee," category created and defined	92-28	38
Eligibility for medical coverage extended	90-17	37
Enrollment for churches of record 12/21/93 may be reconsidered	94-09	39
Exceptions to required participation	88-08	36
	88-09	36
Expenses for insurance allocated on percentage basis	83-19	35
Extended health coverage for 3 months after termination	93-02	39
Geographical 3-tier system for premiums begun	89-14	37
"Gratitude Gift" offering approved	87-14	36
Immunizations, coverage for eligible dependent children	95-03	39
Insurance Plan mandatory for ministers in EPC churches	81-06	35
Long term disability cap raised to \$40,000	86-18	35
Medical Benevolence Fund approved	89-15	37
Medical Benevolence Trust approved in concept	90-16	37
Medical Benevolence Fund document adopted	92-29	38
Medicare: Board to determine cost of medical coverage for Plan participants not covered by Medicare	94-06	39
Ministerial Vocation Committee to solicit bids for better insurance coverage	83-18	35
Missionaries in cooperative agreement may choose EPC insurance plan or sending agency's plan	93-13	39
National (world outreach) pastors not required to participate in EPC Pension Plan	93-14	39
Organ transplants, coverage defined	92-25	38
Pancreas added to list of covered organ transplants	95-05	39
Pre-existing conditions clause amended	87-16	36
Premium structure for medical plan revised to four categories	95-06	39
Procedures for diagnostic tests covered at 80% are added	92-27	38
Radial keratotomy excluded	87-17	36
Retired persons eligible to participate in medical plan	86-19	35
"Retiree" redefined	91-02	38
Second surgical opinion requirement eliminated	92-26	38
Self-funded plan by The Travelers approved	84-08	35
Social Security, medical plan excludes persons who have opted out	95-02	39
Terms of call for ministers to include EPC insurance plan	81-04	35
To include 18% benefit for insurance and pension	81-05	35

80% participation of each church staff encouraged for Group Insurance Plan	88-10	36
Vendor for life and disability insurance changed	96-03	40
Pension Plan		
Pension Plan adopted	89-02	37
Administrative expenses funded by Administration Budget	89-05	37
Adoption Agreements accepted from churches	89-04	37
Enrollment period extended	92-19	38
Board of Reference formation approved	89-06	37
Board of Reference eliminated	95-07	40
Board of Pension & Benefits, removal from office	89-03	37
Group Insurance Plan, Pension Board oversees	90-08	37
	91-01	38
Restated Pension Plan adopted	93-01	38
Retirement age defined as 59 1/2	92-24	38
TSA program approved and participation urged	87-12	36
Vendors for benefit and pension plans: COA may authorize	96-01	40

**A Digest of the
ACTS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
1981-1996**

"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 superseded 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 General Assembly 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 the 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 the 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 new ministers, along with a time of informal sharing. (*Minutes*, 14-37)
- 94-27 In keeping with the *Denominational Goals for Pastoral Care*, the Assembly 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) (*Cf. 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 Ministries "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 its 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)
- 96-16 The Assembly approves the designing of a procedure to create a position description for an

Assistant Stated Clerk, with financing arrangements, and to report to the 17th (1997) General Assembly. The Assembly's desire is to have this person in place by the 18th (1998) General Assembly. (**Minutes**, 16-36)

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 shall exclude the Declaratory Statement. (**Minutes**, 4-23)
- 85-15 The *Westminster Confession of Faith* (EPC edition) shall include as a prefatory statement "The Essentials of the Faith." (**Minutes**, 5-28)
- 87-03 The Assembly endorses the addition of the *Westminster Confession of Faith*, the *Essentials*, and the *Shorter Catechism* to separate sections in the loose leaf *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)
- 88-29 The Assembly concurred with the Committee on Theology, which was given the task of studying the relationship between "The Essentials" and the **Westminster Confession of Faith**. This referral came out of a motion to the 7th General Assembly to make "The Essentials" a part of our Constitution.

The Committee concurs with the Stated Clerk that "The Essentials" should not be made a part of our Constitution and given that authority. This document now carries the authority of an Act of the Assembly (reference Acts of the Assembly §81-1).

In order to further understand the relationship between "The Essentials" and the **Westminster Confession of Faith**, it is important to remember our historical context. As Presbyterians, we hold the **Westminster Confession of Faith** to be our standard of doctrine as it is found in Scripture. This standard is held not only in the intellect but also in the heart. The **Westminster Confession of Faith** is a positive statement of what we believe Scripture teaches.

"The Essentials" is a distillation for the **Westminster Confession of Faith** and is helpful in stating what we believe. The two are not in contradiction but are in harmony with one another as an expression of Reformed doctrine.

Courts of the EPC should encourage their members to continue studying our Confession in the light of the Word of God that we may grow theologically and spiritually together, unto the stature of the fullness of Christ. (*Minutes*, 8-60)

- 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 W.3-2G1.
 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 (G.14-1A.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)

85-14 The General Assembly encourages all presbyteries to develop presbytery councils consisting at least of its clerk, moderator, and immediate past moderator. Council shall be responsible for planning arrangements for presbytery meetings, including the service of worship. (**Minutes**, 5-25)

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 1-65 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 1-40 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 (1-135, 1-35) 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 the 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 the 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 the 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)*
- 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 other ministries seeking to issue a call. **(Minutes, 3-37)**
- 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)**
- 83-05 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)**
- 83-06 Presbyteries shall use the approved "Call for Pastor or Associate Pastor" form for ministerial terms of 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)**
- 83-14 The General Assembly charges its Ministerial Vocation Committee with the responsibility for developing a thorough Continuing Education Program for Ministers. To be included in such study

are the following needs:

- a. the need for pastoral development in study leave;
- b. the need for quality content in the study leave;
- c. the need for non-pastoral professional staff to be included in professional development time.

While encouraging all churches to participate in continuing education programs, the Assembly urges the Ministerial Vocation Committee, in devising such a plan, to preserve the ministers' and local session's liberty to choose those quality programs which best meet their needs, whether or not they be denominationally sponsored. (**Minutes**, 3-30)

- 83-15 The General Assembly instructs the Ministerial Vocation Committee to proceed to design a process for the proper maintenance of the military chaplaincy program (**Minutes**, 3-37)
- 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 Ministries*. (**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)
- 87-22 The General Assembly endorses the document, "Denominational Goals for Pastoral Care." (*Minutes*, 7-60)
- 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 11, "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 session 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 an informal time of sharing. (*Minutes*, 14-37)

- 94-27 In keeping with the *Denominational Goals for Pastoral Care*, the Assembly 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)
- 96-17 The Assembly approves designating up to 100% of a minister's early and normal retirement pension or disability pension for 1996 and 1997 as housing allowance for United States income tax purposes (IRS Ruling 1.107-1) but only to the extent that the pension is used to rent or provide a home. (*Minutes*, 16-36)

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 development and new church planting. The permanent committee is instructed to propose appropriate projects and to develop a church-wide campaign to raise \$2.5 million for this program. Congregations are encouraged to place priority to giving to Mission to the Nation. (*Minutes*, 2-32)
- 82-12 The Church Development Committee is instructed to establish a procedure for assisting EPC churches with ministry and financial needs, and to develop a procedure that will assist EPC churches in their fundraising for Mission to the Nation. (*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. Special campaigns are to be implemented by the permanent Church Development Committee to raise at least the amount of one and one-half million dollars through means of designated gifts, special church offerings, and short-term loans. (*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**, 0-48)
- 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 a resolution encouraging each local church to (a) redirect 10% of its non-denominational benevolence budgets to the EPC, designated for World Outreach and/or new church development; and (b) increase its 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)
- 96-07 In light of recent actions by the Disney Corporation that are contrary to Scripture and detrimental to the family, and in view of the major role Disney Corporation plays in shaping our culture, the Assembly resolves to make every sacrifice it can to plant more churches in the metro Los Angeles and metro Orlando areas, one goal of which will be to win as many employees of Disney Corporation to salvation in our glorious savior, Jesus Christ, as Providence allows. Thus we intend to change our culture by the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit. (**Minutes**, 16-31)
- 96-11 The Assembly adopts the National Outreach "Mission Statement and Values." (**Minutes**, 16-34)
- 96-12 The Assembly instructs the National Outreach Committee to review the 1989 Church Development Master Plan prior to the 17th (1997) Assembly, and every five years thereafter, revising as necessary. (**Minutes**, 16-34)
- 96-13 The Assembly instructs the National Outreach Committee to identify key cities for future church

planting, along with a rationale for their selection and to report findings to the 17th (1997) General Assembly. (**Minutes**, 16-34)

- 96-14 The Assembly instructs the National Outreach Committee to study and detail a strategy for increasing the funding for Key Cities Program before the 17th (1997) General Assembly. (**Minutes**, 16-34)

WORLD OUTREACH

- 82-13 The Assembly approves establishment of permanent World Outreach Committee. Until such time as the EPC contains 200 member churches, committee shall consist of six members on a three-year, three-class system, with the Moderator and Stated Clerk to serve as ex-officio members. Committee will elect 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. CWO members will include two teaching elders and four ruling elders. CWO is to meet at least twice a year, including General Assembly. When the EPC reaches a membership of 200 churches, an enlarged structure is to be presented at the next General Assembly. (**Minutes**, 2-41)

- 83-13 *World Outreach Manual, Part I (Theology and Practice of Missions)* is adopted by the Assembly. (**Minutes**, 3-46)

- 83-16 A "Sons and Daughters" program is approved, to encourage those who are presently serving as missionaries with EPC roots to become EPC missionaries through World Outreach.

Qualifications:

1. Home church or present membership in an EPC church;
2. Substantial financial support from EPC sources.

Benefits to Missionaries:

1. Greater prayer and care base from entire EPC constituency;
2. EPC initiative in gathering support and other necessary funds;
3. Ministry among EPC churches within a primary region (preferably within a presbytery) to reduce travel time and costs during home service (furlough);
4. Scheduling assistance from the World Outreach office.

Benefits to EPC

1. Strong sense of missions from within EPC family, leading to ownership from all of EPC;
2. Sons and daughters of one church become adopted by others within a region;
3. Opens a way for maximum but realistic growth rapidly and from within. (**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 Assembly action rescinding approval.*)
- 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 Act 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 a resolution encouraging each local church to (a) redirect 10% of its non-denominational benevolence budgets to the EPC, designated for World Outreach and/or new church development; and (b) increase its 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)
- 96-18 The Assembly encourages all the particular churches to make available to their members copies of the 5-year report and the new World Outreach Master Plan. (**Minutes**, 16-37)

FRATERNAL MATTERS

- 81-07 The Evangelical Presbyterian Church shall seek membership in the National Association of Evangelicals. (**Minutes**, 1-39)
- 82-11 The Evangelical Presbyterian Church shall pursue with the highest ethical conduct, fraternal relationship with other evangelical Reformed bodies. (**Minutes**, 2-56)
- 83-17 The Assembly establishes and elects a permanent Fraternal Relations Committee, consisting of six members. The Stated Clerk is instructed to draw up a job description for the committee. (**Minutes**, 3-31)
- 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. 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 pre-eminence 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 The 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)
- 96-04 The Fraternal Relations Committee is instructed to investigate the possibilities of creating as many mutually beneficial and kingdom enhancing denominational relationships, even if outside the Reformed family, as seems appropriate. (**Minutes**, 16-23)

FISCAL MATTERS

- 81-09 The 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 111th 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). *The 16th Assembly reaffirmed this instruction, and further requested the task force to complete a one-page simplified evaluation form on materials.* **Minutes** 16-24
- 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).
- 95-20 Since the EPC does not have an organized men's ministry, the Assembly encourages men in the local churches to become involved in Promise Keepers. (**Minutes**, 15-23)
- 96-05 The Assembly encourages commissioners to send the following overture on the value of and sanctity of human life to their congressional senators and representatives in addition to the President, Vice-President, Speaker of the House of Representatives and Majority Leader of the Senate:
The 16th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church goes on record as opposing, in the strongest possible terms, the President's veto of the "Partial Birth Abortion Ban," and urges Congress to override his veto. Furthermore, that our denomination communicate its stand on this issue to the President, Vice-President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate. (**Minutes** 16-31)
- 96-06 The Assembly acknowledges that the Disney Company has openly promoted a morally destructive agenda which is hostile to traditional family values, and calls on its members to recognize and grieve over these developments at Disney Company and lead them to take whatever action the Holy Spirit leads them to do in response. (**Minutes**, 16-30)
- 96-08 The Assembly challenged the Committee on Student and Young Adult Ministries (formerly Youth Ministries Committee) to determine direction in the following areas:
a To establish student curriculum guidelines to assist churches in the Christian nurture of their children;
b. To establish a strategy for targeting more resources to establish student and young adult ministry as a top priority within the church. (**Minutes**, 16-31)
- 96-09 The Assembly adopts a Pastoral Letter on Civil Disobedience, and instructed the Committee on Theology to develop a purpose statement regarding this letter, and also to define the term, "pastoral letter." (**Minutes** 16-33)
- 96-10 The Assembly adopts a Pastoral Letter on Organ Donation and Transplantation. (**Minutes**, 16-33)

- 96-15 The name of the Committee on Youth Ministries is changed to "Committee on Student and Young Adult Ministries." (**Minutes**, 16-36)

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).
- 83-18 The Assembly instructs the Ministerial Vocation Committee to continue to solicit bids for a standard health insurance plan with better benefits than current coverage and authorizes the Committee on Administration to approve such a plan between Assemblies. (**Minutes**, 3-37)
- 83-19 The General Assembly adopts a policy that, effective January 1, 1984, expenses for health, life, and disability insurance be allocated on the basis of a set percentage of the salaries of all participants. (**Minutes**, 3-37)
- 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, except when the physician (including second surgical opinion) verifies that myopia cannot be corrected by either glasses or contact lenses (**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 40; 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 his 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)
- 96-01 The Assembly grants the COA authorization to select vendors for various benefit and pension plans on recommendation from the Board of Pension and Benefits. (**Minutes**, 16-19)
- 96-02 The Assembly changes the vendor for plan administration from Healthsource/Provident to a third party administrator, Benefit Services, Inc. For medical benefits, long term disability insurance and life insurance effective January 1, 1997. (**Minutes**, 16-19)
- 96-03 The Assembly approves changing vendors for long term disability insurance and life insurance from Metropolitan Life Insurance Company to UNUM Life Insurance Company for long term disability insurance, and Healthsource/Provident to The Lafayette Life Insurance Company for life insurance. (**Minutes**, 16-19)

1/97mb

Articles of Agreement

**Between The Evangelical Presbyterian Church
and**

**The Presbyterian Church of Brazil
aiming at a brotherly fellowship in which they
will help each other in the propagation of the
Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

Preamble

The Presbyterian Church of Brazil has been created by God as one of His instruments to be a Reformed and Presbyterian witness in Brazil for Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God. The Evangelical Presbyterian Church has also been created by God as a similar instrument in the United States. Each recognizes that the other has primary responsibility for the country where God has placed it. When one works as a helper in the regional field of the other, it shall do so under the authority of that church. However, in order for the helper church to have a voice in the missionary enterprise of the primary church, it is necessary to establish a means whereby the two churches may share in the planning, projecting, overseeing and strategizing for missions. It is always to be remembered that the primary church has final authority for approval of such plans for missions. The means for such joint planning shall be "**The Joint Committee for Missions.**" This Joint Committee shall assist both in Brazil and in the United States in recommending to the primary churches plans for developing the missionary enterprise in joint venture between the primary and the helper churches.

The Joint Committee for Missions

1. Recommendations for shared missions between a primary and helper church shall come to both churches through the JCM.
2. The JCM shall be composed of six (6) members, three (3) from each church. In addition, each church may appoint advisors without vote.
3. Each church shall designate one of its members as co-chairman and meeting shall be alternately chaired by the co-chairman. A secretary/recorder shall be provided by the host church and minutes shall be provided in both English and Portuguese. A permanent book of the minutes shall be kept in both languages and a copy provided for each Church for historical purposes. The Committee shall meet at least annually in November and at other times as necessary, such other meetings to be set by the JCM at its November meeting or upon call of the co-chairman. The regular meetings ordinarily shall be held alternately in each country.
4. The JCM shall make an annual report to the two churches, through the appropriate denominational committee, in order that shared missions may be kept before the two churches.
5. The approval, disapproval, or modification of recommendations from the JCM shall come from that board or agency so designated by the particular church. Also, such designated board or agency may submit recommendations and proposals to the JCM for its consideration.

6. No joint missionary enterprise shall be undertaken that has not been recommended by the JCM and approved in a manner required by each denomination.
7. Approved joint missionary enterprises shall have a time frame and financial parameters designated and shall have established procedures for evaluation and assessment.
8. The following stipulations shall govern missionaries (those appointed to serve within the bounds of the other church):
 - A. **Ordained**
 1. Shall be under the jurisdiction of the agency, institution or church court under which they serve.
 2. Shall be under the constitutional documents (confessional, polity, discipline, court decisions) of the church under which they are serving.
 3. May become members of an appropriate presbytery if they desire without affecting their membership in their own denomination.
 4. In the event of a need to exercise discipline, the matter shall be referred to the church of origin (sending church).
 - B. **Laymen**
 1. Shall be under the jurisdiction of the agency, institution or church court under which they serve.
 2. Shall be under the constitutional documents (confessional, polity, discipline, court decisions) of the church under which they are serving.
 3. May become members of a local congregation if they desire without affecting membership in their own home church.
 4. In the event of a need to exercise discipline, the matter shall be referred to the church of origin (sending church).
 - C. The sending church shall be responsible for matters relating to the maintenance of missionaries. An exception to this could occur when a request is made by the primary church of the helper church on the condition of taking the responsibility for the support of that person.
9. Fundings shall be guided by the following principles:
 - A. Donors may designate funds only to projects approved by the JCM and accepted by both churches. Each donor church shall designate an agent of facilitation for prospective donations.
 - B. Contributions of a helper church shall ordinarily be used for missions enterprises, including church buildings, or schools or manses. Mission enterprises include the support of personnel designated as internal missionaries by the primary church, but such support shall always be through the Board of National Missions.

- C. Mission projects ordinarily shall be supported by both the primary church and helper church so that there will be a sense of mutual ownership. However, the mutual ownership shall not be judged by the amount of financial participation.
 - D. The helper church may acquire or own properties for its own use such as a headquarters for its missionary enterprise or manses for its missionaries within the area of the primary church. However, when funds are provided for expansion or development of facilities shall be owned by the appropriate agency or court of the primary church.
10. Participation in the JCM does not preclude either church from establishing working relationships with other churches or groups in either Brazil or the United States, provided that through the JCM the other denomination is informed and has an opportunity to respond.
 11. However, the above freedom does not apply to relationships that may be established by either church with persons, agencies or dissident groups of the other church.
 12. While this agreement envisions a permanent mutual working relationship, it shall be reviewed periodically by the JCM which may also suggest revisions to both Churches, or either Church of itself may initiate suggested revisions. Either Church may revoke the agreement provided six months minimum notice is given. The union of either Church with another church body will automatically terminate the agreement after twelve (12) months following such union. The continued cooperation with the new entity will necessitate approval of new terms of agreement.
 13. Initially, and until changed by either church the coordinating agencies for the JCM shall be the World Outreach Committee of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and the Interecclesiastical Relations Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Brazil.
 14. Initially, the priorities for the JCM shall focus on Brazil as the primary church with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church being the helper church. Those priorities shall be:
 - A. Theological Education, including:
 1. Graduate education for pastors;
 2. Library development;
 3. Capital developement 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.



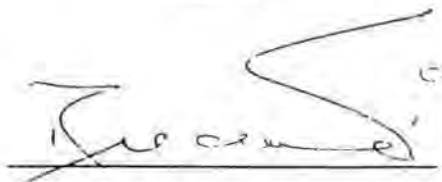
Rev. Andrew A. Jumper
Chairman



Rev. Boanerges Ribeiro
Chairman



Rev. L. Edward Davis
Stated Clerk



Dr. Paulo Breda 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)

Denominational Goals for Pastoral Care

Introduction:

Clergy stress has been identified as a growing problem within all denominations. Burnout is often seen as the end result of increasing pressures upon the minister, impacting both his 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.

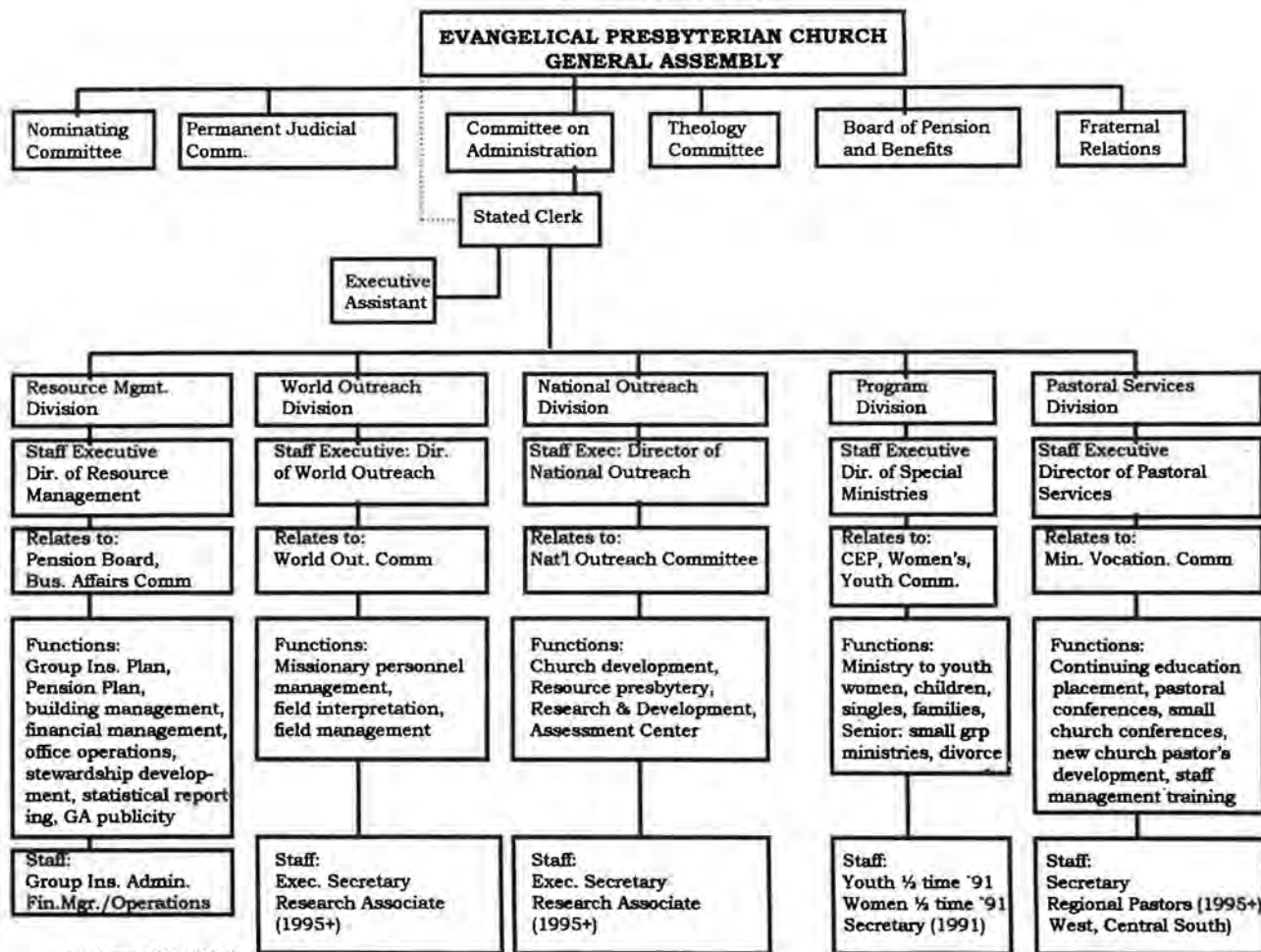
- 10.2 Encourage Ministerial Committees to fulfill their pastoral role in negotiations between pastoral candidates and search committees.

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.

DESIGN FOR 2001



DESIGN FOR 2001

DOCUMENTS

6/90 rev. 6/92 1/97mb

The Geneva Statement

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

National Outreach Mission Statement and Values

Mission Statement: To trust God to build a multiplying movement of growing churches which will so impact the lives of individuals and communities through the power of the Gospel that the heart of our nation is radically transformed.

Our mission can only be carried out by God's supernatural power as we express our dependence on Him through:ⁱ

1. **Focusing** our passion on reaching people who have not yet responded to God's grace.ⁱⁱ
2. **Building** a structure for an enduring ministry that is consistent and reproducible.ⁱⁱⁱ
3. **Devoting** our primary energies to setting people free to plant churches and effectively fulfill the Great Commission.^{iv}
4. **Staying** on the cutting edge of cultural trends while discovering and offering the most effective ways to apply the Gospel to them.^v

Our commitment to this value may be seen, at least partly, in the following ways:

- Relying upon God's supernatural power and not upon human effort (Supernatural Dynamic) (JN 15:7,8; Eph 3:20,21; MT 16:18; PS 127:1).
- Giving significant time during National Outreach meetings to prayer.
- Recruiting "Prayer Intercessors" to actively and aggressively intercede for NOC ministries.
- Reminding church planters that God builds the church, not they.
- Preaching the sovereign grace of God.
- Making plans trusting God to work through us so startlingly that no one could attribute the results to human effort.
- Looking for evidences of God's handiwork that cannot be explained in human terms alone.
- By operating upon God's revealed purposes and strategies while staying open to respond to opportunities created by His Spirit. (Proactive and Responsive) (PV 16:9)

Proactive

- Laying hold of God and his promises through prayer
- Targeting major population centers
- Targeting the neglected centers of our cities
- Recruiting and training potential leaders

Responsive

- Assisting core groups that the Spirit has raised up
- Recognizing and supporting anointed leaders
- Constantly asking God to show us where He is working and how we can be involved
- Aiding those churches seeking to transfer into the EPC

ⁱⁱOur commitment to this value may be seen, at least partly, in the following ways:

- Fervently praying for those without Christ.
- Constantly searching for more effective and relevant ways to present the Gospel Making personal contacts with the unchurched.
- Regularly monitoring our spending and programming to ensure the primacy of outreach to the unchurched,
- Exposing church leaders to the desperate plight of those without Christ.
- Promoting and rewarding conversion growth as opposed to transfer growth.
- Worship on reaching the unchurched
- (LK 15)

ⁱⁱⁱOur commitment to this value may be seen, at least partly, in the following ways:

- Not compromising the long term best by pushing for immediate gain.
- Evaluating every ministry on the basis of our mission and values.
- Not simply planting and revitalizing churches one by one, but creating the framework that will mobilize more and more people for those ministries.
- (II Tim 2:2-1 Jesus' training of the twelve)

^{iv}Our commitment to this value may be seen, at least partly, in the following ways:

- Keeping in mind that the structure serves the individual.
- Building a nurturing family environment with individual mentoring.
- Recognizing that Christian workers are the most important element in carrying out our goal to reach those without Christ.
- Teaching that ministry flows from grace, not our performance.
- Giving people freedom to try, succeed or fail.
- Encouraging leaders to own and direct their ministries.
- Equipping people who can equip others.
- Recognizing and resourcing leaders with obvious gifts.
- Not hampering ministry with top-down micromanagement.

^vOur commitment to this value may be seen, at least partly, in the following ways:

- Trusting God to lead us where He is working.
- Constantly researching new and better ways to reach people for Christ.
- Looking for, testing and recommending excellent ministry programs that will benefit the whole church.
- Employing up-to-date technology that assists effective communication of the Gospel and church planting.
- Always improving NOC's structural design for maximum outreach effectiveness and support of church planters and revitalizers.
- Understanding cultural trends so that we may adjust our practices ahead of the culture.
- "Good enough never is."

*Adopted 16th General Assembly
June, 1996*

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.



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 ACOM'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

Presbytery World Outreach Committees

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.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

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.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

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.

Constitution

World Alliance of Reformed Churches

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.

PART IV
DIRECTORIES

Officers of the General Assembly Directory of Permanent Committees

Committee on Administration

Class of 1999

RE John Adamson
Second Presbyterian
4055 Poplar Ave.
Memphis, TN 38111
901/454-0034

TE David Chadwick
Forest Hill EPC
7224 Park
Charlotte NC 28210
704/554-9037

TE Ron Ragon
Brainerd Presbyterian
7 N. Tuxedo Ave.
Chattanooga TN 37411
423/698-3471

Class of 1998

RE Gary Fields
8926 S. Edgewood Ln.
Highlands Ranch, CO 80126
303/812-9000

TE Wally Hostetter
Faith EPC
4285 S. Lapeer
Lake Orion, MI 48359

RE Jan Bole
1697 S. Kingston
Aurora, CO 80012
303/751-3126

Class of 1997

TE Rhett Payne
CrossPointe Comm.
2408 E. Trinity Mills #112
Carrollton, TX 75006
214/418-7449

RE Joe Schluchter
875 Amersham
St. Louis, MO 63141
314/647-0717

RE Dick Heidtman
12301 E. Stanley Rd.
Columbiaville, MI 48421
810/653-2072

Ex-Officio Members

RE Bill Johns, Past Chairman
103 Brentwood Dr.
Rome, GA 30165
706/234-1919

TE Edward Davis
Stated Clerk
29140 Buckingham #5
Livonia, MI 48154
313/261-2001

Claude Russell, Moderator
2270 S. Joliet Way
Aurora, CO 80014
303/751-0481

Wayne Hoffman
Westkirk EPC
2700 Colby Woods Dr.
Des Moines, IA 50322
515/253-0330

Advisory Members

RE Carolyn Nystrom, Chmn.
Christian Education & Publications
38 W. 566 Sunset
St. Charles, IL 60174
630/377-1777

TE Ed. G. Davis, Chmn.
National Outreach
PO Box 272592
Ft. Collins, CO 80527
970/223-0682

TE William Moore, Chmn.
Ministerial Vocation
10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd.
Plymouth, MI 48170
313/459-9550

Ms. Susan Nash, Chmn.
Women's Ministries
4055 Poplar Ave.
Memphis, TN 38111
901/454-0034

TE Perry Mobley, Chmn.
World Outreach
10150 E. Belleview Ave.
Englewood, CO 8011
303/779-9909

TE Rick Stauffer, Chmn.
Student & Young Adult Min.
4285 S. Lapeer Rd.
Lake Orion, MI 48359
810/340-1900

Committee on Christian Education & Publications

Class of 1999

TE Bruce Demarest
8212 S. Peninsula Dr.
Littleton, CO 80120
303/797-8857

Ms. Sandy Hazelwood
4055 Poplar Ave.
Memphis, TN 38111
901/454-0034

Class of 1998

RE Carolyn Nystrom, Chairman
38 West 566 Sunset
St. Charles, IL 60175
630/377-1777

RE Barbara Mansfield
14342 Blue Skies
Livonia, MI 48154
313/464-0450

Class of 1997

Ms. Elizabeth Hicks
2223 E. Eagle St.
Zachary, LA 70791
504/654-2972

TE Bruce Spear
3101 S. Kipling St.
Lakewood, CO 80227
303/986-5511

Committee on Fraternal Relations

Class of 1999

RE James Currie
41839 Sunnydale Lane
Northville, MI 48167
313/420-2004

TE Frank Kik
5970 Fairview, Ste. 512
Charlotte, NC 28226
704/531-2429

Class of 1998

RE Paul Heidebrecht, Chairman
1110 N. Howard
Wheaton, IL 60187
630/393-4400

TE Charles Wickman
805 Kempsville Rd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23464
757/495-1913

Class of 1997

RE Dexter Kuhlman
1926 Prospector Ridge
Ballwin, MO 63011
314/458-1015

TE Graham Smith
10708 Stanhope Place
Fairfax, VA 22032
703/278-8276

Committee on Ministerial Vocation

Class of 1999

RE John Allman
5305 Thornbury Lane
Virginia Beach, VA 23462
804/499-3853

TE Mark Jumper
706 Foxford Trail
Arlington, TX 76014
817/472-0593

Class of 1998

RE Bill Goessling
416 West Point Court
St. Louis, MO 63130
314/647-0719

TE Bob Harvey
29W260 Batavia Rd.
Warrenville, IL 60555
630/393-4400

Class of 1997

TE Bill Moore, Chairman
10101 W. Ann Arbor Road
Plymouth, MI 48170
313/459-9550

RE Leon Niemann
1729 S. Flower St.
Lakewood, CO 80232
303/985-0120

Committee on National Outreach

Class of 1999

RE Sam Searcy
4004 S. Atchison Way
Aurora, CO 80014
303/690-7277

TE Bob Stauffer
2432 S. Raccoon Rd.
Youngstown, OH 44515
330/792-3897

RE Ian Lamont
33 E. Evesham Ave.
Voorhees, NJ 08043
609/429-8844

Class of 1998

RE Ben Brychta
4627 Sherry Lane
Hixson, TN 37343
423/892-1313

TE Lee Kizer
PO Box 9175
Asheville, NC 28815
704/299-4909

RE Charles Overstreet
7224 Park Road
Charlotte, NC 28210
704/554-9037

Class of 1997

TE Bill Read
1502 W. Rutledge Ave.
Gaffney, SC 29341
803/487-5010

RE Bruce Boore
35561 Lark Harbor
Farmington Hills, MI 48335
810/540-7700

TE Ed Davis, Chairman
PO Box 272592
Ft. Collins, CO 80527
970/223-0682

Committee on Theology

Class of 1999

RE James Russell, Chairman
3228 Franklin Ave.
Laurel, MS 39440
601/649-2341

TE Paul Johnson
11217 SE 181st St.
Renton, WA 98055
206/255-4821

Class of 1998

RE George Schneider
102 Wisley Way
Ooltewah, TN 37363
423/855-6502

TE Michael Glodo
PO Box 945120
Maitland, FL 32794
407/875-8388

Class of 1997

RE Vance Rutan
3835 Crosland Rd.
Winston-Salem, NC 27106-2107
910/922-1429

TE Paul Husband
PO Box 1095
Tunica, MS 38676
601/363-2100

Committee on Women's Ministries

Class of 1999

Susie McQueen
2280 S. Ellis Ct.
Lakewood, CO 80228
303/986-5102

Anne Blackley
323 Pine Valley Dr.
Wilmington, NC 28412
919/395-0600

Class of 1998

Jean Ward
785 Stewart Road
Aragon, GA 30104
706/235-3407

Sandra Milis
16772 Bloomfield
Livonia, MI 48154
313/522-3229

Class of 1997

Susan Nash, Chairman
4055 Poplar Ave.
Memphis, TN 38111
901/454-0034

Gerry Hittenberger
3658 Coral Tree Circle
Coconut Creek, FL 33073
305/974-9031

Committee on World Outreach

Class of 1999

RE Robert Healy
24921 Almond
Eastpointe MI 48021
810/772-2373

RE Vern Porter
565 Troy St.
Aurora, CO 80012
303/364-7271

TE Todd Hahn
7224 Park Road
Charlotte, NC 28210
704/554-9037

Class of 1998

RE Emily Reid
PO Box 250424
Franklin, MI 48025
810/626-4284

RE Arnold Lindseth, Jr.
5440 Sycamore Grove Ln.
Memphis, TN 38120
901/682-2095

TE William Meyer
PO Box 3865
Florence SC 29502
803/665-8022

Class of 1997

RE John Haase
8970 Star Rte 146E
Dongola IL 62926
618/833-8819

TE Perry Mobley, Chairman
10150 E. Belleview Ave.
Englewood, CO 80110
303/779-9909

RE Ann Norton
5856 S. Florence St.
Englewood, CO 80111
303/770-7380

Committee on Student and Young Adult Ministries

Class of 1999

Kris Decker
PO Box 5007, 101 Parkway
Brandon, MS 39047
601/992-2835

RE Ken Roberts
3367 S. Oneida Way
Denver, CO 80224
303/757-3675

Class of 1998

TE Gary Koerth
2432 S. Raccoon Road
Youngstown, OH 44515
330/792-3897

Class of 1997

TE Rick Stauffer, Chairman
4285 S. Lapeer Road
Lake Orion, MI 48359
810/340-1900

Kathy Troyanek
4285 S. Lapeer Road
Lake Orion, MI 48359
810/340-1900

Nominating Committee

Class of 1999

RE Kenneth Charles
711 Juanita Drive
Florence, SC 29501
803/662-2283

TE Gerald Brundle
7700 Davis Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63105
314/727-2777

TE Buck Oliphant
20501 Katy Freeway, 138
Katy, TX 77450
713/579-1080

Class of 1998

RE Homer Graham
1121 S. College Dr.
Santa Maria, CA 93454
805/925-8083

TE David Massimi
336 W. Main St.
Richmond, OH 43944
614/765-4175

RE Connie Jennings
611 Palm Beach Rd.
Stuart FL 34994
407/286-7466

Class of 1997

RE William Pilson
206 Dodd Street
Rome, GA 30165
706/291-1771

TE Art Hunt
416 S. Kingshighway #3
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703
573/334-6292

RE Zelda Artz
1220 S. Buchanan St.
Arlington, VA 22204
703/671-1760

Board of Pension and Benefits

Class of 1999

RE Stewart Fleming
5623 Woods Lane
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48235
313/886-2371

RE Bill Holmes
104 Suncrest
Brandon, MS 39042
601/992-9826

Class of 1998

RE Charles Talbot
46775 Ann Arbor Trail
Plymouth, MI 48170
313/722-8200

RE Russell Louden
PO Box 6435
Laurel, MS 39440
601/649-8033

Class of 1997

RE Orin Littlejohn, Chairman
2811 Acadia
Marshall, TX 75670
903/945-7101

RE Leland Curtis
451 Oakwood Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63119
314/725-8788

Permanent Judicial Commission

Class of 1999

RE Harold Haddon
6205 W. Harvard Dr.
Lakewood, CO 80227
303/985-2333

RE Evelyn Cisney
827 S. Miller
Santa Maria, CA 93454
805/925-1813

TE Harold Polk, Jr.
6100 Richfield Rd.
Flint, MI 48506
810/736-4100

Class of 1998

RE James Rimmel
123 Lakhani
Canfield, OH 44406
330/726-9064

RE James Wall
Box 56, 6740 Shadyside Lane
Tobaccoville, NC 27050
919/983-5301

TE Robert Hess
47 NW 16th St.
Homestead, FL 33030
305/247-9326

Class of 1997

TE James McGuire, Moderator
17000 Farmington Rd.
Livonia, MI 48154
313/422-1150

RE Leonard Pilgrim
3837 Montford Dr.
Atlanta, GA 30341
404/451-2038

RE Albert Stancliff
16281 Parkside Dr.
Parker, CO 80134
303/841-4082

Joint Committee on Missions

Richard Oestreicher
WO Director
29140 Buckingham Ave., #5
Livonia, MI 48154
313/261-2001

TE Perry Mobley
Chairman, WOC
10150 E. Belleview Ave.
Englewood, CO 80111
303/779-9909

RE Bill Johns
103 Brentwood
Rome, GA 30165
706/234-1919

Committee to Evaluate the Office of the Stated Clerk

RE Jan Bole
1697 S. Kingston
Aurora, CO 80012
303/751-3126

RE Zelda Artz
1220 S. Buchanan
Arlington, VA 22204
703/671-1760

TE Wayne Hoffman
2700 Colby Woods Dr.
Des Moines, IA 50322
515/253-0330

TE Dick Little
2539 Merrimont Dr.
Winston-Salem, NC 27106
910/765-2335

TE Graham Smith
10708 Stanhope
Fairfax, VA 22032
703/278-8276

OFFICERS OF THE PRESBYTERIES

CENTRAL SOUTH

Mr. Charles Haden, Moderator
One Riverway, Suite 1500
Houston, TX 77056
713/627-0180

Rev. Dennis C. Flach, Stated Clerk
New Covenant Church
201 Magnolia
Natchez, MS 39121
601/445-5010 (phone and fax)

EAST

Rev. Paul Brown, Moderator
Dundalk EPC
1969 Merritt Blvd.
Dundalk, MD 21222
410/435-2969 Fax: 410/284-3252

Dr. W. Frank Johnson, Stated Clerk
136 Chaucer Place
Cherry Hill, NJ 08003
609/795-1108 Fax: 609/354-2016

FLORIDA

Mr. Dane Wren, Moderator
398 Amethyst Court
Lake Mary, FL 32746
407/330-4412

Rev. Robert Garment, Stated Clerk
Trinity Presbyterian Church
5150 Oleander Ave.
Ft. Pierce, FL 34982
561/468-0869 (phone and fax)

MID-ATLANTIC

Mr. Hal Uzzell, Moderator
6000 Old Providence Rd.
Charlotte, NC 28226
704/364-6291

Mr. Llew Fischer, Stated Clerk
3164 Golf Colony Drive
Salem, VA 24153
703/389-8719 (phone and fax)

MIDWEST

Rev. Randy Brown, Moderator
Military Avenue EPC
1002 N. Military Avenue
Detroit, MI 48209
313/842-7188

Mr. Alton Bennett, Stated Clerk
29140 Buckingham Ave., Suite 5
Livonia, MI 48154
313/261-7706 Fax: 313/261-3282

SOUTHEAST

Mr. Ben Brychta, Moderator
4627 Sherry Lane
Hixson, TN 37343
423/892-1313 Fax: 423/899-6606

Rev. Sam Harris, Stated Clerk
Valleybrook Presbyterian Church
6001 Hixson Pike
Hixson, TN 37343
423/843-0314 (phone and fax)

MID-AMERICA

Rev. Bob Harvey, Moderator
Immanuel Presbyterian Church
29W260 Batavia Road
Warrenville, IL 62217
630/393-4400 (phone and fax)

Mr. Kenneth Breckner, Stated Clerk
98 Whitehall Court
St. Louis, MO 63105
314/962-8297 Fax: 314/854-0168

WEST

Rev. Erik Ohman, Moderator
Parker Presbyterian Church
Box 1262
Parker, CO 80134
303/841-2125 Fax: 303/841-2076

Rev. Marc Huebl, Stated Clerk
Covenant Community Presbyterian
15161 E. Hampden Ave
Aurora, CO 80014
303/669-2272 Fax: 303/361-6725

ST. ANDREWS

Rev. Juan Jose Mejias, Stated Clerk
San Antonio de Padua Mission Church
Godoy Cruz 99
1718 San Antonio de Padua
Pcia, Buenos Aires, Argentina
011-54-1-0220-26802
011-54-1-740-7008 (fax)

Mr. Alex Mowatt, Moderator
Iglesia Olivos
Acassuso 1131
1638 Olivos, Pcia.
Buenos Aires, Argentina
011-54-331-0308

CHAPLAINS

Military, Active Duty

Barrett, Steven E., Maj. USAF
 Military Address: 60 AW/HC
 Travis AFB CA 94535-5000
 Phone: Autovon 828-4611
 707/424-3217
 Residence: 8158 Scottsdale Drive
 Sacramento, CA 95828
 916/682-5138

Eubanks, John A.
 Department of Veteran Affairs
 Residence: 1260 Whimbrell Road
 Wellington, GL 33414
 Phone: 407/791-3664

Ingles, Mark S., Capt., USAF
 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
 Phone: 214/266-6132 (6133)
 Residence: 706 Foxford Trail
 Arlington, TX 76014
 Phone: 817/472-0593

Meyer, Ronald F., LCDR, USN
 Residence: 945 Lunahai Place
 Kailua, HI 96734
 Phone: 808/477-5098

Overton, Richard, LT, CHC USN
 Military Address: Naval Air Station, North Island
 Chaplains Office, Box 25 Code 17
 San Diego, CA 92135
 Phone: 619/545-8213
 Fax: 619/545-9477

Springston, William, US Army
 Residence: 1507 Osage St.
 Leavenworth, KS 66048
 Phone: 913/651-0270

Yorton, M. Bradley, LCDR USN
 Military Address: Naval Air Station, Whidbey Island
 Building 960
 Oak Harbor, WA 98278-1600
 Residence: 6170 600th Avenue West
 Oak Harbor, WA 98277

Military, Reserve/Guard

Case, W. Ronald Sr., Col., US Army Reserve
 Residence: 811 Augustas Lane
 Rock Hill, SC 29730
 Military Unit: 131 Chaplain Support Team
 67 Combat Support Hospital
 Wuerzburg, Germany

McCready, Douglas, Maj., Army National Guard
 Residence: 1333 Rothley Ave.
 Roslyn, PA 19001
 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

Ralston, Robert E., Capt. US Army Reserve
 Residence: 13991 E. Oxford Place
 Aurora, CO 80014
 Phone: 303/693-5739
 Military Unit: 131 Chaplain Support Team
 222 Base Support Battalion
 Baumholder, Germany

Yates, George R., US Army Reserve
 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

Ferrell, J. Glenn
 Residence: PO Box 98
 Denniston, KY 40316
 Phone: 606/768-6734

Hospital Chaplains

Adamson, Rev. Samuel

Chaplain, Memorial Hospital
1400 E. Boulder
Colorado Springs, CO 80917
719/475-5889

Cappel, Rev. Robert

DuBois Regional Medical Center
PO Box 447
DuBois, PA 15801
814/375-3429

Kelly, Rev. Gerald

Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center
1500 Wallace Blvd.
Amarillo, TX 79106
806/359-4673

Overall, Rev. Claude Douglas

Denver General Hospital
4851 S. Xenia St.
Denver, CO 80110
303/762-9355

Sherman, Rev. Douglas

Glacier Hills Retirement Center
1463 MacGregor Lane
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
313/663-6031

Stewart, Rev. Nancy

Shady Grove Adventist Hospital
12501 Exchange Court South
Potomac, MD 20854
301/762-0866

Prison Chaplains

Bidderman, Rev. James

Arizona Department of Corrections
PO Box 3240
St. Johns, AZ 85936
520/337-4815

Tamburri, Rev. Ron

Department of Corrections
PO Box 936
Gainesville, FL 32602
904/955-1675

**OFFICE OF THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

29140 Buckingham Avenue, Suite 5
Livonia, Michigan 48154-4572

Phone: 313/261-2001

Fax: 313/261-3282

E-mail: 76155,3570@Compuserve

Dr. L. Edward Davis, Stated Clerk

Mr. Richard Oestreicher
Director of World Outreach

Reverend Corbett Heimburger
Director of National Outreach

Mrs. Janet Juday
Director of Women's Ministries

Mr. Dan Weidman
Director of Student & Young Adult
Ministries

Mrs. Marilyn Bartel
Executive Assistant

Mrs. Janet Bain
Benefits Administrator

Mrs. Amy Barnhart
Financial Manager

Mrs. Carol Ann Buchanan
Executive Secretary

Mrs. Sandra Milis
Arrangements Coordinator

Miss Joy Bachert
Executive Secretary

Mrs. Jacqueline Houston
Secretary, Women's Ministries

Mrs. Lois Ferguson
Receptionist

Mrs. Cyndi Grabowski
Secretary, National Outreach

ALABAMA

Redeemer EPC
605 Hagood Street
Birmingham, AL 35213
Reverend David Keyser (Judith)
Reverend Sterling Edwards, Jr.
205/879-5559 Fax: 205/870-5551

Trinity Presbyterian
5817 Grelot Road
Mobile, AL 36609
Reverend John Mathieu (Kathy)
334/343-1414

River of Life Mission Church
301 Church Street
Montgomery, AL 36104
(Vacant Pulpit)
334/265-5258

Christ Presbyterian Church
of Decatur
Route 4, Box 382
Somerville, AL 35670
Dr. Ron Bell, Evangelist (Jane)
205/351-1638

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend Ron Pierce (Brenda)
Chaplain, AL Mental Health
2710 Highpoint Blvd.
Mobile, AL 36618
334/829-9411, Ext. 296

ARIZONA

Canyon Creek Community Church
251 N. Roosevelt Avenue
Chandler, AZ 85226
Reverend Timm Jackson (Karen)
602/940-9700 Fax: 602/940-9754

Neighborhood Church
Box 3993

Chandler, AZ 85244

Reverend George Carey (Nita)
602/464-0420

Morningside Presbyterian Church
3312 East Campbell Avenue

Phoenix, AZ 85018

Reverend Rick Weiss (Bethany Ann)
602/956-6969 Fax: 602/956-6925

New Covenant Church
5002 East Fourth Street

Tucson, AZ 85711

Reverend Ed McCallum (Nan)
520/327-4023 Fax: same

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend James Bidderman
Chaplain, AZ Department of
Corrections
P.O. Box 3240
St. Johns, AZ 85936
520/337-4815, Ext. 3513

Reverend Andy Jackson (Barbara)
Word of Grace Church
315 N. Hobson
Mesa, AZ 85203-7946
602/834-1822

ARKANSAS

Minister Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend Paul Westberg (Martha)
Chaplain
1719 North Ruppel Road
Fayetteville, AR 72703-5804
501/582-3123

CALIFORNIA

Thai Evangelical Presbyterian Church
10035 E. Washington Street

Bellflower, CA 90706

Reverend Chaluay Ruangchan
310/804-4906

Clayton Community Church
6200 Center Street, #280

Clayton, CA 94517

Reverend Shawn Robinson (Patty)
510/673-9060 Fax: 510/673-9061

Faith Evangelical Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 926, 150 Big Valley Road
(CA 95630)

Folsom, CA 95763

Dr. John Cedar (Dian)
916/353-1331

Valley Community Church
1430 S. Kirby

San Jacinto, CA 92582

Dr. Dean Wolf (Arlene)
909/925-2454

Santa Maria Community Church
210 W. Fesler Street

Santa Maria, CA 93454

Reverend Tom Pitman (Diana)
805/928-7622

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend Donald Ashe (Pamela)
4953 Almar Avenue
La Canada, CA 91011
818/962-6525

Reverend Jerry Autry (Jackie)
1st Congregational Church
230 Sacramento Street
Rio Vista, CA 94571
415/381-1323

DIRECTORY OF THE CHURCHES AND MINISTERS (1997)

Reverend David Fenska (Milinda)
Covenant Presbyterian Church
2930 Howard Avenue
San Diego, CA 92104
619/563-0560

Reverend Rocky McElveen (Sharon)
5600 Foothill Road
Rocklin, CA 95677
916/624-1352

Reverend Bob Newby (Vicki)
Seacoast Community Church
1050 Regal Road
Encinitas, CA 92024
619/753-3003 Fax: 619/753-1203
E-mail:
102457,1422@Compuserve.com

Reverend Tim Philibosian (Lyn)
Trinity Baptist Church
1002 Cieneguitas
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
805-687-7797 Fax: 805/687-0867

Reverend Stan Van Den Berg
(Mary Elizabeth)
Covenant Presbyterian Church
1855 Orange Olive Road
Orange, CA 92665
714/998-6650

COLORADO

Covenant Community Presbyterian
15161 E. Hampden Avenue
Aurora, CO 80014
Reverend Marc Huebl (Tina)
303/669-2272

Faith Presbyterian Church
11373 E. Alameda Avenue
Aurora, CO 80012
Reverend Douglas Klein (Carol)
Dr. Fred Stifel (Gail)
Reverend Cooper McWhirter (Sammie)
303/364-7271 Fax: 303/361-6725

Cornerstone Community Church
2171 S. Trenton Way, #222
Denver, CO 80231
Reverend Ken Glasier (Helen)
303/337-0222 Fax: 303/745-7142

New Community Christian Church
5500 East Yale Avenue, 1st Floor
Denver, CO 80221
Reverend Louis Angone (Ginger)
303/692-1809 Fax: 303/692-1834

Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church
10150 E. Belleview Avenue
Englewood, CO 80111
Dr. Perry Mobley, Interim Pastor
(Jeane)
Reverend Hugo Venegas (Holly)
303/779-9909 Fax: 303/771-1506

Greenwood Community Church
5600 E. Belleview Avenue
Englewood, CO 80111
Reverend Tom Melton (Jill)
Reverend Stephen Fisher (Lisa)
Reverend Michael Monnet (Karole)
303/843-0281 Fax: 303/843-0137

Christ Fellowship Church
P.O. Box 272592
Ft. Collins, CO 80527
Reverend Ed G. Davis (Donna)
970/223-0682

DIRECTORY OF THE CHURCHES AND MINISTERS (1997)

Lookout Mtn. Community Church
25107 Genesee Trail Road, #300
Golden, CO 80401
Reverend Peter Hiatt (Susan)
Reverend Aram Haroutunian (Ellen)
303/526-9287 Fax: 303/526-9361

Cherry Hills Community Church
3900 E. Grace Boulevard
Highlands Ranch, CO 80126
Dr. Jim Dixon (Barbara)
Dr. Bob Beltz (Allison)
Reverend Donna McClellan
Reverend John Patterson (Mary Ellen)
303/791-4100 Fax: 303/791-4600

Bear Creek EPC
3101 S. Kipling
Lakewood, CO 80227
Dr. James Coleman (Gail)
Reverend David Flaig (Heather)
Reverend Bruce Spear (Susan)
303/986-5511 Fax: 303/986-8972

Trinity EPC
90 E. Orchard Avenue
Littleton, CO 80121
Reverend Fred Lian (Kerrie)
303/798-6387

West Bowles Community Church
12325 W. Bowles Avenue
Littleton, CO 80127
Reverend George Kirsten (Glenda)
303/972-4904 Fax: 303/972-9157

Faith Evangelical Church
2707 N. Wilson Avenue
Loveland, CO 80538
Dr. Jim Murphy (Barbie)
970/663-0522 Fax: 970/669-2149

Parker Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 1262, 9100 E. Parker
Parker, CO 80134
Reverend Erik Ohman (Debra)
Reverend Darryl "Bud" Sparling (Carol)
303/841-2125 Fax: 303/841-2076

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend Samuel Adamson
Chaplain, Memorial Hospital
1400 East Boulder
Colorado Springs, CO 80917
719/475-5889

Dr. Kent Bull (Barbara)
Strasburg Community Church
P.O. Box 556
Strasburg, CO 80136
303/622-4600

Dr. Bruce Demarest (Elsie)
Denver Seminary
8212 S. Peninsula Drive
Littleton, CO 80120
303/797-8857 Fax: 303/761-8060
E-mail: Bruce@densen.edu

Reverend Dan Gardinier (Deborah)
Wellington Federated Church
P.O. Box 355
Wellington, CO 80549
303/568-3884

Reverend Jon Hokama (Susan)
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship
2340 South Corona Street
Denver, CO 80210
303-871-9574

Reverend Chris Istrati (Melody)
CALEB Project
10 W. Dry Creek Circle
Littleton, CO 80120
303/730-4170 Fax: 303/730-4177

Reverend Doug Overall (Valerie)
Chaplain, Denver General Hospital
4851 South Xenia Street
Denver, CO 80237
303/436-7729

Reverend Joel Olson (Linda)
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship
3181 S. York Street
Englewood, CO 80110
303/789-4899

Reverend Brian Post
Dillon Community Church
P.O. Box 2110
Dillon, CO 80435
303/468-5411

Reverend Bradley Strait (Kathy)
South Presbyterian Fellowship
6560 S. Broadway
Littleton, CO 80121
303/797-6546

Reverend Richard Van Pelt (Janet)
President, Alongside, Inc.
2055 South Emerson
Denver, CO 80210
303/778-1095 Fax: 303/722-4093

Reverend Young Woo (Keum S.)
Korean Ko Shin Presbyterian
Church/Denver
17919 East Oxford Place
Aurora, CO 80013
303/766-1419

Reverend Gary Wooley (Ann)
Campus Crusade for Christ, Europe
3108 South York Street
Englewood, CO 80110
303/761-3482

FLORIDA

Faith EPC
200 Mount Fair
Brooksville, FL 34601
Dr. Ron DiNunzio (Jeanna)
Reverend Stephen Brown (Beth)
352/796-4969 Fax: 352-796-8571

The Cornerstone EPC
1835 Taylor Road
Daytona Beach, FL 32124
Reverend Howard Chadwick, II (Ramona)
904/788-4870 Fax: 904/788-4983

Trinity EPC
5150 Oleander Avenue
Ft. Pierce, FL 34982
Reverend Robert Garment (Mary)
561/468-0869 Fax: same

First Presbyterian Church of Homestead
47 NW 16th Street
Homestead, FL 33030
Reverend Robert Hess (Debra)
305/247-9326 Fax: 305/247-2686

Abundant Life EPC
P.O. Box 953086
Lake Mary, FL 32795-3086
Reverend Bob Wilbur (Barbara)
407/330-7333
E-mail: WILB540@aol.com

Cypress Pointe Church
251-B Plaza Drive
Oviedo, FL 32765
Reverend Dan Lacich, Evangelist
407/977-7370 Fax: 407/977-7310
E-mail:
74152,342@Compuserve.com

New Covenant Church
3311 NW 9th Avenue
Pompano Beach, FL 33064
Dr. George Callahan (Bonnie)
Reverend James Letizia (Linda)
954-781-3170 Fax: 954/781-8382

EPC of Plant City
202 W. Reynolds Street
Plant City, FL 33566
Reverend Donald Mason (JoAnn)
813/759-9383 Fax: 813/759-9515

Christ Covenant Church
8905 McRae Road
Tampa, FL 33637
Reverend W. Woodland Johnson
(Reville)
813/980-3496 Fax: same

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend Frank Dole (Gaye)
Chaplain, Hospice
1467 Live Oak Street
Niceville, FL 32578
904/729-1800 Fax: 904/243-9397

Reverend Mike Eubanks
Chaplain, V.A. Hospital
1260 Whimbrel Road
Wellington, FL 33414
407/882-8262 Ext. 1957

Reverend John Fain, III (Dawn)
Pioneers
13526 Fordwell Drive
Orlando, FL 32828
407/382-6000

Reverend Michael Glodo (Vicki)
Reformed Theological Seminary
P.O. Box 945120
Maitland, FL 32794
407/875-8388

Reverend Ron Tamburri (Veronica)
Chaplain
Gainesville Drug Treatment Center
P.O. Box 936
Gainesville, FL 32602
352/955-2001, Ext. 220
Fax: 352/334-1575

GEORGIA

Gateway Evangelical Presbyterian
Box 71506
Albany, GA 31708-1506
Reverend William Swafford (Mary)
912/432-2380

Hope EPC
406 S. Tennessee St., P.O. Box 116
Cartersville, GA 30120
Reverend Walter Turner (Margaret)
770/382-0517 Fax: same

Faith Presbyterian Church
58 West Avenue
Lavonia, GA 30553
Dr. Joseph Renfro (Susan)
706/356-4173

Grace Community Presbyterian
1837 Bill Murdock Road
Marietta, GA 30062
Reverend Ray Barfield (Pearl)
770/977-7487

First Presbyterian Church
101 E. Third Avenue
Rome, GA 30161
Dr. William Flannagan (Joyce)
Reverend Scott Jackson (Kimberly)
706/291-6033 Fax: 706/291-0924

ILLINOIS

First EPC
315 South Street
Anna, IL 62906
Reverend Steve Wilkinson (Suzanne)
618/833-5225 Fax: 618/833-8821

Baldwin Community Presbyterian
209 West Church Street
Baldwin, IL 62217
(Vacant Pulpit)
618/785-2476

Immanuel Presbyterian Church
29W260 Batavia Road
Warrenville, IL 60555
Reverend Bob Harvey (Jo Ann)
Reverend Charles Gosling (Delores)
630/393-4400 Fax: same

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend Steve Haas (Susan)
Willow Creek Community Church
67 East Algonquin Road
S. Barrington, IL 60010
847/765-5000 Fax: 847/765-9222

Reverend Michael Moeller
Covenant House of Rockford
1122 Jackson Street
Rockford, IL 61107-4128
815/965-8332

Reverend Andy Morgan
929 S. Lalonde Avenue
Lombard, IL 60148
708/654-1882 Fax: 708/953-9619

Dr. Robert Woodburn (Barbara)
Moody Bible Institute
820 N. LaSalle Drive
Chicago, IL 60610
312/329-4000

INDIANA

St. Andrew EPC
P.O. Box 6041
Auburn, IN 46706
Reverend Donovan Coley, Sr. (Grace)
219/925-8464

Trinity Presbyterian Church
Box 638
Columbia City, IN 46725
Reverend Ross O'Dell (Lisa)
219/244-5494

Minister Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend Tim Weddell (Kathleen)
1401 Celesta Way
Sellersburg, IN 47172
812/246-5676

IOWA

Westkirk Presbyterian Church
2700 Colby Woods Drive
Des Moines, IA 50322
Reverend Wayne Hoffman (Helga)
515/253-0330 Fax: 515/253-0596

DIRECTORY OF THE CHURCHES AND MINISTERS (1997)

KANSAS

Grace EPC

3312 Calvin Drive

Lawrence, KS 66049

Reverend Bill Vogler (Karen)

913/843-2005 Fax: 913/843-6377

West Highlands Presbyterian Church

10240 Noland Road

Lenexa, KS 66215

Reverend Robert Bayles (Amy)

913/541-9470

Covenant Chapel

6520 West 110th St., Suite 200

Overland Park, KS 66212

Dr. Tom Ryan (Pam)

Reverend Kevin Sharpe (Julie)

913/663-3095 Fax: 913/663-3097

Heartland Community Church

8301 Lamar Avenue

Overland Park, KS 66207

Reverend Craig McElvain (Laurel)

Reverend Craig Babb (Debbie)

913/341-5820 Fax: 913/341-2355

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend Len Andyshak

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

3128 Kanger Drive

Lawrence, KS 66049

Reverend Doug Nuenke (Pam)

3104 West 29th Street

Lawrence, KS 66047

913/842-0914

Reverend William Springston

Main Post Chapel, Ft. Leavenworth

1507 Osage Street

Leavenworth, KS 66048

913/651-0270

KENTUCKY

Flatrock Covenant Community

P.O. Box 98

Denniston, KY 40316

Reverend Glenn Ferrell (Barbara)

606/768-6734 Fax: same

New Beginning Presbyterian Church

1717 Dixie Highway, Suite 135

Lookout Corporate Center

Ft. Wright, KY 41011

Dr. Steven Riser (Alyce)

606/344-0443 Fax: 606/344-1853

LOUISIANA

Christ Community Church

1013 A Gould Drive

Bossier City, LA 71111

Reverend Jim Wallace (Penny)

318/747-3301

First Presbyterian Church

414 Barrow Street

Houma, LA 70360

Reverend David Herbertson (Ann)

504/873-8136 Fax: 504/851-0140

Zachary Presbyterian Church

P.O. Box 314, 2223 East Eagle

Zachary, LA 70791

Reverend David Hicks (Elizabeth)

504/654-2972

MARYLAND

Fourth Presbyterian Church

5500 River Road

Bethesda, MD 20816

Dr. Robert Norris (Caren)

Reverend James Byrne (Jenny)

Reverend Sheldon MacGillivray

Reverend Daniel Pinckney

301/320-3600 Fax: 301/320-6315

Dundalk Presbyterian Church
1969 Merritt Blvd.
Dundalk, MD 21222
Dr. Paul Brown (Mai)
410/284-3250 Fax: 410/284-3252

New Life Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 3964
Gaithersburg, MD 20885
(Vacant Pulpit)
301/963-2051 Fax: 301/330-3801

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend Ebenezer Afful (Susie)
Chaplain, Asst. Professor
511 W. Northern Parkway
Baltimore, MD 21210
410/435-2969

Reverend Nancy Stewart (Steele, Jr.)
Chaplain, Shady Grove Hospital
9901 Medical Center Drive
Rockville, MD 20850
301/279-6352 Fax: 301/279-6656

MICHIGAN

Covenant Presbyterian Church
230 Collingwood, Suite 160B
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
Reverend Mark Vanderput (Mary Jane)
313/761-1999

Knox Presbyterian Church
1514 Eisenhower Place
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
(Vacant Pulpit)
Reverend Mike Frison (Tama)
Reverend Thomas Robinson (RuthAnn)
313/973-5669 Fax: 313/973-5672
E-mail: 75201,513@Compuserve.com

Cornerstone EPC
9455 Hilton
Brighton, MI 48116
Dr. Richard Alberta (Donna)
Reverend Peter Preiser, Jr. (Valerie)
Reverend Brian Tweedie (Debbie)
810/227-9411 Fax: 810/227-5981

North Oaks Community Church
P.O. Box 445
Clarkston, MI 48347
Reverend John Mathers (Patricia)
810/674-9059 Fax: same

Military Avenue EPC
1002 N. Military Avenue
Detroit, MI 48209
Reverend Randy Brown (Barbara)
313/842-7188

Grace Chapel
27996 Halstead Road
Farmington Hills, MI 48331
Dr. Gil Odendaal (Elmarie)
Dr. Tony De Orio (Janet)
Reverend William Miller (Dianne)
810/488-0151 Fax: 810/488-1977

Calvary Presbyterian Church
6100 Richfield Road
Flint, MI 48506
Reverend Harold Polk, Jr. (Karla)
810/736-4100

Knox Presbyterian Church
25700 Crocker Blvd.
Harrison Township, MI 48045
Reverend Chris Gibson (Debbie)
810/469-8500 Fax: 810/469-1616

Lake City EPC
5804 W. Houghton Lake Road
Lake City, MI 49651
Reverend Don Van Dyke (Carole)
616/839-2948

Faith EPC
4285 S. Lapeer Road
Lake Orion, MI 48359
Dr. Wally Hostetter (Linda)
Reverend Rick Stauffer (Daneen)
Reverend Doug Thompson (Linda)
810/340-1900 Fax: 810/340-1901

Ward Presbyterian Church
17000 Farmington Road
Livonia, MI 48154
Dr. James McGuire (Lucy)
Reverend David Brown (Marsha)
Reverend Neil Ellison (Deborah)
Reverend James Killgore (Grace)
Reverend John Quigley (Kerry)
Reverend Michael Gatliff (Jackie)
313/422-1150 Fax: 313/422-5259

Mt. Pleasant Community Church
1400 W. Broomfield Road
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
Reverend Bill Lindner, Jr. (Mary Lynn)
517/773-3641

Community EPC
114 North Ball Street
Owosso, MI 48867
Reverend Don Galardi (Diedre)
517/725-6930

Trinity Presbyterian Church
10101 W. Ann Arbor Road
Plymouth, MI 48170
Dr. William Moore (Lucinda)
Reverend Bill Branham, Jr. (Kristen)
313/459-9500 Fax: 313/459-0562

Oakland Avenue EPC
404 Oakland Avenue
Pontiac, MI 48342
Reverend Thomas Dages (Julie)
810/858-2577

Fellowship EPC
22200 Pontiac Trail
South Lyon, MI 48178
Reverend Steve Johnson (Elaine)
Reverend Mark Hudson (Nancy)
810/437-2222 Fax: 810/437-2423

First Presbyterian Church
2799 West Road
Trenton, MI 48183
Dr. Donald Giesmann (Sara)
Reverend Ian Leslie (Deborah)
313/676-1510 Fax: 313/676-6202

Kensington Community Church
1735 E. Big Beaver, Suite B
Troy, MI 48083
Reverend Steve Andrews (Paula)
810/689-3200 Fax: 810/689-3220

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend Thomas Burbridge (Jo Ann)
14000 Richfield
Livonia, MI 48154
313/464-9466
Presbytery - Midwest

Reverend Phillip Burch (Carolyn)
First Reformed Church
2283 Howe Road
Burton, MI 48519
810/230-9544

Reverend Lynn Eastman
Executive Director
Intensive Family Services
1260 Woodcrest Drive
Flint, MI 48504
810/891-1018

Reverend Lawrence Schmoekel (Ann)
Administrator, Camp Cherith
Brook Cherith Corporation
4050 County Line Road
Pierson, MI 48339

Dr. Douglas Sherman (Jean)
Chaplain, Glacier Hills Retirement Center
1463 MacGregor Land
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
313/663-6031

MISSISSIPPI

Lakeside Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 5007, 101 Parkway
Brandon, MS 39047
Reverend Greg Anthony (Oduia)
601/992-2835 Fax: 601/992-5018
E-mail:
105053,356@Compuserve.com

Covenant Presbyterian Church
515 Lehmberg Road
Columbus, MS 39702
Reverend Bill McCaskill (Cindy)
601/328-3882

Westminster Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 6435
Laurel, MS 39441
Dr. Russell Loudon (Suzanne)
601/649-8033 Fax: 601/649-6452

Louisville Presbyterian Church
North Church Avenue, Box 506
Louisville, MS 39339
(Vacant Pulpit)
601/773-5647

First Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 362
Meridian, MS 39302
Reverend Robert Horel (Elaine)
601/693-1133 Fax: 601/485-9222

Tunica Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 1095
Tunica, MS 38676
Dr. Paul Husband (Dixie)
601/363-2100

First Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 366, 234 East Street
West Point, MS 39773
Reverend Sam L. Downing (Libby)
Reverend Waring Porter (Laurin)
601/494-3858

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

New Covenant
201 Magnolia Place
Natchez, MS 39121
Reverend Dennis Flach (Mary)
601/445-5010 Fax: same

MISSOURI

Sutter Presbyterian Church
3500 Fee Fee Road
Bridgeton, MO 63044
Reverend Bill McConkey (Hula)
314/770-1944 Fax: same

Christ Presbyterian Church
416 S. Kingshighway, Suite 3
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703
Reverend Art Hunt (Linda)
573/334-6292

Emmanuel Presbyterian Church
17126 Old Manchester Road
Grover, MO 63040
(Vacant Pulpit)
314/458-2823

Lakeland Community Church
2712 SE Nottingham Drive
Lees Summit, MO 64063
Reverend Daniel Wilburn,
Church Planting Pastor
816/525-8327

Central Presbyterian Church
7700 Davis Drive
St. Louis, MO 63105
(Vacant Pulpit)
Reverend Gerald Brundle (Barbara)
Reverend Thomas Ricks (Cindy)
314/727-2777 Fax: 314/854-0168

Remote location:

7750 Clayton Road, Suite 102
St. Louis, MO 63177
Reverend John Splinter (Marcia)
314/645-0750
Reverend Douglas Graham (Lesley)
314/645-0340 Fax: 314/645-7153

New Harvest Community Church
7701 Maryland Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63105
Reverend David Boswell (Debra-Lee)
Reverend Mark Quay (Jani)
314/727-8605 Fax: 314/726-4940

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend James Davis
Chaplain, Mental Health
451 North Geyer
St. Louis, MO 63122

Reverend David Lovell (Nancy)
Lay Renewal Ministries
3101 Bartold
St. Louis, MO 63143
800/747-0815 Fax: 314/647-7604

NEW JERSEY

Ashland EPC
33 E. Evesham Road
Voorhees, NJ 08043
Reverend Ian Lamont (Linda)
609/429-8844 Fax: same

NEW YORK

Goodwill Presbyterian Church
2117 Route 208
Montgomery, NY 12549
Reverend Stewart Pohlman (Joan)
914/457-5959 Fax: 914/457-3780

NORTH CAROLINA

Covenant EPC
1410 Springhaven Circle
Albemarle, NC 28001
Reverend David Steele (Lois)
704/982-9750

Harvest Church
PO Box 9175
Asheville, NC 28815
Reverend Lee Kizer (Janet)
Reverend Bill Solomon (June)
Dr. Howard Shockley (Margaret)
704/299-4909 Fax: 704/299-4902

Brunswick Presbyterian Church
PO Box 303
Brunswick, NC 28424-0303
Reverend Ron Glover (Patricia)
910/640-0800

Fellowship of Christ
1788 Kildaire Farm Road
Cary, NC 27511
Reverend David McLean (Sheila)
919/380-1019 Fax: 919/319-1061

Dr. James Carr (Vicki)
704/544-9129
E-mail: JimmyCarr@juno.com
Forest Hill Presbyterian Church
7224 Park Road
Charlotte, NC 28210
Dr. David Chadwick (Marilynn)
Reverend Robert Fischer (Janet)
Reverend Todd Hahn (Jane)
Reverend David Ruff (Mary Ann)
704/554-9037 Fax: 704-553-8106

St. Giles Presbyterian Church
2027 Emerywood Drive
Charlotte, NC 28210
Reverend Percy Burns (Sara Jo)
704/553-1977 Fax: 704/552-6531

Cramerton EPC
152 8th Avenue
Cramerton, NC 28032
Reverend Rick Slate (Karin)
704/824-0301

Cornerstone EPC
70 Trimont View Drive
Franklin, NC 28734
Reverend Ron Odum (Donna)
704-369-5229

Grace EPC
PO Box 1033
Franklin, NC 28734
Reverend Tom Musselman (Alice)
704/369-6800

Linwood Presbyterian Church
1010 S. Linwood Rd.
Gastonia, NC 28053
Reverend John Jennings (Sandra)
704/867-5222

Community Bible Church
PO Box 1486
Highlands, NC 28741

Reverend Steve Kerhoulas (Candi)
704/526-4685 Fax: 704/526-8166

Lee Park Presbyterian Church
717 E. Park Drive
Monroe, NC 28112
Reverend David L. Stewart (Wendy)
704/289-8057 Fax: same

Plumtree EPC
851 Plumtree Creek Rd., Box 65
Plumtree, NC 28664
Reverend Bruce Anderson (Ellen)
704/765-8528

Covenant Fellowship
PO Box 2462
Shelby, NC 28150
Reverend Douglas Murphy (Phyllis)
704/481-0306

Christ Fellowship Church
1425 Midland Road
Southern Pines, NC 28387
Dr. Donald Hardman (Barbara)
910/692-5155

Myrtle Grove Presbyterian Church
800 Piner Road
Wilmington, NC 28409
Reverend Stephen Crofts (Kathryn)
Dr. James Glasgow (Suzanne)
Reverend Ken Burbridge (Mary Ann)
Reverend Bryan Slater (Ann)
910/791-6179 Fax: 910-392-7196

Forest Hills Presbyterian Church
P. O. Box 3994, 1001 Forest Hill
Wilson, NC 27895-3994
(Vacant Pulpit)
919/291-5587

Reynolda Presbyterian Church
2200 Reynolda Road
Winston-Salem, NC 27106

Reynolda Presbyterian Church
2200 Reynolda Road
Winston-Salem, NC 27106
Reverend Alan Wright (Caroline)
910/723-0716 Fax: 910/727-0708

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend Michael Brown (Becky)
Administrator, Assembly of God
School
2281 Lee Drive
Burlington, NC 27215-5346
910/272-0288

Dr. S. Donald Fortson, III (Nancy)
Gordon-Conwell Theological
Seminary
9401 N. Southern Pine Blvd.
Charlotte, NC 28273-5596
704/527-9909 Fax: 704/527-8577

Dr. Brian Holt (Virginia)
5314 Milford Road
Charlotte, NC 28210
704/529-0176

Dr. Frank Kik (Phyllis Ann)
Reformed Theological Seminary
5970 Fairview Road, Suite 512
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

Reverend Jerry Van Curler (Elizabeth)
First Congregational Church
P.O. Box H, 104-1st Avenue SE
Kulm, ND 58456
701/647-2708

OHIO

Evangelical Presbyterian Fellowship
10001 Chillicothe Road
Kirtland, OH 44094
Reverend Hugh Gowman (Grace)
Reverend Robert Hayslip
216/256-1001

Hope Evangelical Fellowship
7501 Mentor Avenue
Mentor, OH 44060
Reverend Rick Peterson (Karen)
216-946-3649

Perrysburg Mission Church
893 Sandalwood East
Perrysburg, OH 43551
Reverend Robert Shull (Linda)
419/874-6407

Faith EPC
Box 345, 336 W. Main St.
Richmond, OH 43944
Dr. David Massimi (Carolyn)
614/765-4175 Fax: same

Tabernacle EPC
2432 S. Raccoon Rd.
Youngstown, OH 44515
Dr. Robert Stauffer (Deborah)
Reverend James Brown, Jr. (Judy)
Reverend Gary Koerth (Cynthia)
330/792-3897 Fax: 330-792-2347

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend Gene Huntzinger
Plain Congregational Church
16011 W. Poe Road
Bowling Green, OH 43402
419/352-0408

Reverend Glen Francis (Diana)
Evangelical Community Church
3292 Linson Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45239
513/245-9488

OKLAHOMA

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend John Taylor (Kathy)
Literacy and Evangelism
1800 S. Jackson
Tulsa, OK 74107
918-585-3826

Reverend George Wood (Betty)
1st Christian Church
306 E. Coolidge
Blackwell, OK 74631
405/363-2532

PENNSYLVANIA

Calvary Presbyterian Church
123 E. Diamond St.
Butler, PA 16001
Reverend Bill Glassman (Patricia)
412/283-6070

New Covenant Evangelical Presbyterian
R.D. 4 Box 1
New Castle, PA 16101
Reverend George Yates (Jane)
412/652-8062 Fax: 412/657-0746

New Hope EPC
2710 Shadeland Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15212
Reverend Rodger Woodworth (Wende)
412/766-2728

Redeemer EPC
12 Monte Carlo Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15239
(Vacant Pulpit)
412/793-8279

North Park EPC
600 Ingomar Rd.
Wexford, PA 15090
Reverend Robert Hopper (Tacey)
Reverend Robert Barrett (Lanette)
412/367-5000 Fax: 412/367-8022

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend Robert Cappel (Kathleen)
Chaplain, PA State Prisons
935 Treasure Lake
Dubois, PA 15801
814/375-2476

SOUTH CAROLINA

Christ EPC
3120 Highway 81 North
Anderson, SC 29621
Reverend Bill Hyer (Michelle)
Reverend Adger McKay
Reverend Richard Robinson (Carrie)
864/226-2979

First EPC Clover
101 Marion Street
Clover, SC 29710
Reverend Chuck Baynard (Mollie Ann)
803/222-3919

Cregmore EPC
1234 St. Andrews Road
Columbia, SC 29210
Dr. Wayne Wood (Suzanne)
Reverend David Hughes (Karolee)
803/561-9571

Bethesda Presbyterian Church
3541 E. Palmetto Street
Florence, SC 29506-4015
Reverend Travis Martin (Carol Ann)
803/669-1945

Trinity Presbyterian Church
PO Box 3865, 220 Beltline Dr. (SC
29501)
Florence, SC 29502
Reverend William Meyer (Nancy)
Reverend David Brogren (Lynn)
803/665-8022 Fax: 803/661-7464

Overbrook Community Church
919 Overbrook Drive
Gaffney, SC 29341
Reverend Ron Read (Linda)
864/487-5551

Emmanuel Church
Route 2, Box 1696
Laurens, SC 29360
Reverend James Thyne (Karen)
864/683-4435

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Dr. Ronald Case, Sr. (Barbara)
Senior Clinical Chaplain (I.M.A.)
Brooke Army Medical Center
San Antonio, TX 78234-6200

TENNESSEE

Atoka Presbyterian Church
PO Box 68
Atoka, TN 38004
Reverend David Moncla (Beverly)
901/837-3500

Brainerd Presbyterian Church
7 N. Tuxedo Avenue
Chattanooga, TN 37411-3793
Reverend Ronald Ragon (Judith)
Reverend Stephen Jones (Sarah)
423/698-3471 Fax: 423/698-3473

Lookout Valley Presbyterian
435 Patten Chapel Road
Chattanooga, TN 37419
Reverend Russ Ragon (Sandy)
423/821-3419

Hope Presbyterian Church
8500 Walnut Grove Road
Cordova, TN 38018
Dr. Craig Strickland (Lee)
Reverend Eli Morris (Patricia)
Reverend Michael Moses (Angie)
901-755-7721 Fax: 901-754-7605

Valleybrook Presbyterian Church
6001 Hixson Pike
Hixson, TN 37343
Reverend Sam Harris (Sandy)
Reverend Bill Sharp (Sheila)
423/843-0314 Fax: same

Lynn Garden Presbyterian Church
240 Bert Street
Kingsport, TN 37665
Reverend James Hoilman (Debra)
423/245-1779

Mt. Calvary Presbyterian Church
1369 Warpath Drive
Kingsport, TN 37664
Reverend Tommy Jordan (Karen)
423/245-3769

Christ Presbyterian Church
6709 Albunda Drive
Knoxville, TN 37919
Reverend Julian Reese (Melanie)
423/558-5773 Fax: 423/558-9590

Northshore Community Church
9443 Northshore Drive
Knoxville, TN 37922
Dr. Turner Howard, III (Pat)
423/694-8374

Second Presbyterian Church
4055 Poplar Avenue
Memphis, TN 38111
Reverend Sanders Willson (Allison)
Reverend Rocky Anthony (Tracy)
Reverend Ron Sadlow (Sarah)
Dr. Paul Swets (Janiece)
Reverend Bill McCutchen (Lisa)
901/454-0034 Fax: 901/327-1204
*Fax: 901/323-1726

TEXAS

Crossroads Community Church
6788 Highway 290 West
Austin, TX 78735
Reverend Michael Schulte
512/288-7606

CrossPointe Community Church
2408 E. Trinity Mills Road #112
Carrollton, TX 75006
Dr. Rhett Payne, III (Donna)
214/418-7449 Fax: 214/418-7264

Church of the King
1012 Annapolis Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78404
Reverend Jack Carter (Kathy)
512/852-1810

Golden Rule Presbyterian Church
PO Box 4
Elysian Fields, TX 75642-0004
(Vacant Pulpit)
903/633-2567

Providence Presbyterian Church
350 Oaks Trail Suite 100
Garland, TX 75043
Reverend Clifton King (Robbi Lynn)
214/203-9153 Fax: 214/475-3131

Christ EPC
3131 W. Alabama Suite 301
Houston, TX 77098
Dr. Robert Petterson (Joyce Lynn)
Reverend Richard Kidd (Bridget)
713/526-1188 Fax: 713/526-4833

City of Refuge (Mission)
3400 Montrose Blvd., Suite 909
Houston, TX 77006
Dr. Dick Druary (Sherry)
713/524-6046

Cornerstone EPC
1351 S. Mason Rd.
Katy, TX 77450
Dr. Buck Oliphant (Lynn)
713/579-1080 Fax: 713/579-7997

EPC of Marshall
4700 Victory Dr.
Marshall, TX 75670
Reverend Kirk Werner (Sue)
903/935-7898 Fax: 903/935-7912

First Presbyterian Church
PO Box 667

Waskom, TX 75672

(Vacant Pulpit)

903-687-3408

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend Steve Conrad (Suzy)

Harvest Church

6661 Canyon Drive

Amarillo, TX 79110

806/353-4144 Fax: 806/354-2344

Reverend Gerald Kelly (Deborah)

Chaplain, Don and Sybil Harrington

Cancer Center

1500 Wallace Blvd.

Amarillo, TX 79106

806/359-4673

Dr. James Martin (Stacey)

Bible World Seminars

P.O. Box 2687

Amarillo, TX 79105

806/373-2637 Fax: 806/373-2710

Reverend Hugh White (Joyce)

Prayer Life Seminars

630 Meadowbrook

Corpus Christi, TX 78412

512/993-7651

Reverend Daniel Situka (Joy)

17911 Pelican Way Road

Houston, TX 77084

713/975-8751 Fax: 713/975-6638

VIRGINIA

Cleveland Presbyterian Church

18076 Cleveland Church Road

Abingdon, VA 24210

(Vacant Pulpit)

540/628-2086

Faith Presbyterian Church

6076-B Franconia Road

Alexandria, VA 22310

(Vacant Pulpit)

703/971-3800 Fax: 703/971-3803

Pohick Valley Presbyterian Church

6602 Degen Drive

Burke, VA 22015

Reverend Michael Winship (Shirley)

703/455-2700

Abundant Life (An Evangelical

Presbyterian Church)

PO Box 1006

Chesapeake, VA 23327

Reverend Daniel Gilbert (Mary Beth)

757/382-7269 Fax: same

Evangelical Presbyterian Church

PO Box 154

Elkton, VA 22827

Reverend James Martin (Dee)

540/298-2120

EPC of Fredericksburg

11307 Cheshire Court

Fredericksburg, VA 22407

Reverend Donald Neighbours

(Dorothea)

540/898-9191

Lebanon Presbyterian Church
RR 1, Box 126

Greenwood, VA 22943

Reverend Paul Rettew (Nancy)
540/456-6719 Fax: same

Northampton Presbyterian Church
1217 Todds Lane

Hampton, VA 23666

Reverend Daniel Berry, III (Lydia)
804/826-1305

Christ EPC

10700 Academy Drive

Midlothian, VA 23113

Reverend Charles Hammett (Merelyn)
804/276-7593

Montclair Community Church
15631 Winding Creek Road

Montclair, VA 22026

Reverend Ken Jones (Pamela)
703/680-5314

Woodside Presbyterian Church
2321 Roanoke Ave. SW

Roanoke, VA 24015

Reverend Bruce Robinson (Mary Ellen)
540/344-8606

Faith EPC

900 East 8th Street

Salem, VA 24153

Reverend Todd Atkins (Michelle)
540/387-1911 Fax: 540/776-3021
E-mail: TAPreach@aol.com

Kempsville Presbyterian Church
805 Kempsville Drive

Virginia Beach, VA 23464

Dr. Charles Wickman (Faith)
Reverend Langdon Montgomery (Gayle)
757/495-1913 Fax: 757/495-1141

Ministers Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend Richard Clizik (Ginny)
National Association of Evangelicals
17 Lawrence Lane
Fredericksburg, VA 22405
703/372-6747

Dr. Arthur Lindsley
C.S. Lewis Institute
1404 Gower Court
McLean, VA 22102
703/449-8827

Reverend Milton Hines, Jr. (Sarah)
2228 Criston Drive
Newport News, VA 23602
804/259-6683

WASHINGTON

Northwest EPC

17820 NE 101st Court

Redmond, WA 98052

Reverend Ed Randal (Mary)
206/881-3689

First Evangelical Presbyterian Church
19800 108th Ave. SE

Renton, WA 98055

Dr. Jeffrey Jeremiah (Cynthia)
206/859-8998 Fax: 206/859-4730

Minister Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend James Rosenquist (Connie)
Calvary Chapel
2009 4th Street
Port Townsend, WA 98368
206-385-6469

WEST VIRGINIA

Westminster Presbyterian Church
PO Box 1258
Bluefield, WV 24701
Reverend Jeffrey Chadwick (Donna)
304/325-9121 Fax: 304/325-7969

Perrow Presbyterian Church
5345 Big Tyler Road
Cross Lanes, WV 25313
Reverend Nathan Atwood (Helen)
Reverend Jack Maxwell (Elizabeth)
304/776-1511 Fax: 304/776-1516

Minister Laboring Out of Bounds

Reverend David Kubal (Christine)
135 Spring Lea Hills Drive
Winfield, WV 25213
304/342-7891

WISCONSIN

East Crossing EPC
4422 Milwaukee St. Suite 16
Madison, WI 53714
Reverend Matt Arndt (Sue)
Reverend Craig Robertson (Gill)
608-246-8838

Highview Evangelical Presbyterian
115 Swartz Ct.
Waukesha, WI 53188
Reverend Dennis Henn (Susan)
414-574-0825

CHURCHES AND MINISTERS IN
PRESBYTERY OF ST. ANDREWS

Belgrano
Conesa 2216
(1428) Capital Federal
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Reverend Miguel Robles, Stated
Support
011-54-1-781-8882

Centro
Belgrano 579
(1067) Capital Federal
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Dr. 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
Reverend Miguel Robles (Azucena)
Reverend Marcelo Robles
011-54-1-602-8300

Olivos
Acassuso 1131
(1636) Olivos
Pcia. Buenos Aires, Argentina
Dr. Aldo J. Fontao (Marisa)
011-54-1-790-0974

Quilmes
Brown 831
(1878) Quilmes
Pcia. Buenos Aires, Argentina
(Vacant Pulpit)
011-54-1-253-4810

San Antonia de Padua Church
Godoy Cruz 99
(1718) San Antonio de Padua
Pcia. Buenos Aires, Argentina
Reverend Juan Jose (Juanjo) Mejias
(Amalia)

Temperley
Gral. Paz 191
(1834) Temperley
Pcia. Buenos Aires, Argentina
Reverend Julio C. Lopez (Mabel)
011-54-1-244-0847

Paranacito Church (mission)
Entre Rios s/n
(2823) Paranacito
Prov. de Entre Rios, Argentina
Sr. Osvaldo R. Gershman,
Evangelist (Graciela)

WORLD OUTREACH PERSONNEL

Mr. & Mrs. Rob Antonucci (Iris)
c/o Clair & Maryann Longuevan
2208 Dakota Drive
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Reverend and Mrs. Dick Barany
(Linda)
c/o AIM
P.O. Box 10350
Bamburi, Kenya
Africa

Reverend and Mrs. Dan Burns
(Catherine)
c/o John & Margaret Burns
10 Stillforest
Houston, TX 77024

Mr. & Mrs. Dan Clark (Jan)
138 Chairborough Road
High Wycombe
Bucks. HP12 3HW
England

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Foote (Sally)
2801 W. Buno
Milford, MI 48380

Ms Nancy Foster
719 E. Hope Street
Mesa, AZ 85203

Mr. & Mrs. David Grimaldo (Marijane)
8838 Lane
Detroit, MI 48209

Mr. & Mrs. Steve Grossman (Madeline)
5214 Marlyn Drive
Bethesda, MD 20816

Reverend & Mrs. John Haines
(Margaret)
Bat. C1, Apt. 13
16 rue George Courteline
31100 Toulouse
France

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hamd (Joyce)
P.O. Box 7177
1642 Lykavitos Nilosia
Cyprus

Reverend & Mrs. Bill Hampton (Janie)
c/o Robert Grafe
P.O. Box 1686
Fairhope, AL 36533

Reverend and Mrs. Stephen Kelley
(Belinda)
50 Loxwood Avenue
BN14 7RA Worthing
England

Mr. & Mrs. Matt Klakulak (Michelle)
c/o Diane King
12148 Lakeshore South
Auburn, CA 95602

Dr. and Mrs. Greg Livingstone (Sally)
1 Glynswood
High Wycombe
Bucks. HP13 5QL
England

DIRECTORY OF THE CHURCHES AND MINISTERS (1997)

Mr. & Mrs. Kundan Massey (Iqbal)
1136 Ginger Lane
Corona, CA 91719

Mr. & Mrs. John McCurry (Carlene)
c/o McCurry
5215 Quasar Court
Colorado Springs, CO 80917

Reverend & Mrs. Chris Meeks (Gina)
Apartado 51-085
Guadalajara, Jal.
45071 Mexico

Reverend & Mrs. Timothy Mindling
(Karen)
*(SENSITIVE ADDRESS,
NO CHURCH LETTERHEAD,
PLAIN ENVELOPE)*
c/o IAM
P.O. Box 1167
Peshawar, NWFP
Pakistan

Reverend & Mrs. Phil Muir (Margaret)
1400-B Woodcutter Lane
Wheaton, IL 60187
708/665-2074

Mr. Tim North
P.O. Box 7177
1642 Lykavitos Nicosia
Cyprus

Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Padgett (Kathy)
P.O. Box 326
48173 Madrid Drive
Parker, CO 81034
303/841-0218

Reverend Marcelo Robles
Reformed Theological Seminary
5422 Clinton Blvd.
Jackson, MS 39209

Reverend Miguel Robles (Azucena)
C3232 CP1000
Buenos Aires
Argentina, SA

Dr. & Mrs. Samuel Rowen (Ruth)
372 Rimini Court
Palatine, IL 60067
708/705-8635 Fax: 708/705-1701

Reverend & Mrs. Darryl "Bud" Sparling
(Carol)
4583 S. Abilene Circle
Aurora, CO 80015
303/841-2125

Reverend & Mrs. David Walker
(Debbie)
3-12-18 Sengen Cho
Higashi Kurume-shi
Tokyo 203, Japan
011-81-424-24-4039

Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Young (Fozia)
(Temporary address)
c/o Post International
Alliance acct. - Box 100
666 Fifth Avenue, Suite 572
New York, NY 10103
011-7-3832-466-130

MINISTERS SERVING OVERSEAS (OUT OF BOUNDS)

Reverend Robert Carner (Coral)
Presbyterian Church of Queensland
P.O. Box 94
Labrador Queensland
Australia 4215
07-5571-5676 Fax: same
Presbytery - Central South

Dr. Ellis Deibler, Jr. (Katherine)
SPIL, Graham Road
Kangaroo Ground VIC 3097
Australia
Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic

Reverend Marc Jon Holstege
J.J. Cremerplein 4-2
1054 TK
Amsterdam, Netherlands
Presbytery - Midwest

Reverend Duncan Howard (Nancy)
Apardo Postal
Codigo 01901
Guatamala City, Guatamala
Central America
Presbytery - West

Reverend Donald Kearby (Pam)
Africa Ministry Resources
P.O. Box 76037
Nairobi, Kenya
Africa
254-2-560414
Presbytery - West

Reverend Richard Konieczny (Kathy)
606H-3 McDonald Drive
Clinton, MS 39056
601/925-9072
Presbytery - Central South

Reverend Setan Lee (Randa)
P.O. Box 2026
Phnom Penn 111
Kingdom of Cambodia
855-23-362-867
Presbytery - West

Reverend David Marshall (Ruann)
Reh Ho Road
Lane 54, Sec. 3, #7
Taichung 40613
Taiwan, ROC
Presbytery - Midwest

Reverend Torrey Olsen (Kim)
Vision Mondiale
BP47
Gao Mali, West Africa
223-22-38-20
Presbytery - West

RETIRED MINISTERS

Reverend Richard Adelman (Lib)
500 Mattie Marion Road
Waynesville, NC 28786
704/926-9987
Presbytery - Florida

Reverend Carlton Baker (Nancy)
17 Spring Hollow Circle
Asheville, NC 28805
704/299-1888
Presbytery - Midwest

Reverend Robert Balnick (Annette)
14080 Marguerite Drive
Madeira Beach, FL 33708
813/397-2385
Presbytery - Florida

Reverend Malcolm Brown (Marjorie)
2536 Wolting, P.O. Box 102
New Era, MI 49446
616/861-2529
Presbytery - Midwest

Dr. Willard Davis (Rosemary)
1760 Monrovia Street
Palm Bay, FL 32907-9208
407/953-6548
Presbytery - East (Is he still here?)

Dr. Sterling Edwards, Jr.
P.O. Box 130633
Birmingham, AL 35213
205/871-5922
Presbytery - Central South

DIRECTORY OF THE CHURCHES AND MINISTERS (1997)

Dr. James Emery (Gennet)
W 723 Briar Cliff Court
Spokane, WA 99218
509/468-8178
Presbytery - West

Reverend Bruce Ferry (Delores)
122 N. Green Street
Tehachapi, CA 93561
805/823-0226
Presbytery - West

Reverend S. Donald Fortson, II (Mae)
201 Greene Drive
Black Mountain, NC 28711
704/669-1130
Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic

Reverend William Gainey (Liz)
2212 Red Fox Court
Murfreesboro, TN 37129
423/890-6680
Presbytery - Southeast

Reverend Calvin Gray (Gloria)
13487 W. Purdue Drive
Morrison, CO 80465
303/697-1212
Presbytery - West

Reverend Henry Grubbs
1925 River Oaks Road
Abilene, TX 79605
915/692-0262
Presbytery - Central South

Dr. Bartlett Hess (Margaret)
16845 Riverside
Livonia, MI 48154
313/591-2477
Presbytery - Midwest

Reverend Glenn Hickman (Lila)
1331 Kingswood Drive
Alma, AR 72921
501/632-3473
Presbytery - Central South

Reverend Dan Hielt (Evelyn)
6875 South Prince Circle
Littleton, CO 80120
303/798-5439
Presbytery - West

Reverend Jimmie Hollandsworth (Dorothy)
928 Payton Street
Roanoke, VA 24019
540/265-1811
Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic

Reverend Lowry Horner (Grace)
10 Rolling Hills Road
Hedgesville, WV 25427
304/754-7522
Presbytery - East

Dr. Roy Howes
22457 Peter Grub Road
Renton, WA 98055
206/432-8175
Presbytery - West

Dr. 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

Dr. Robert Maseroni (Joan)
9609 McAlpine Road
Silver Spring, MD 20901
301/587-2912
Presbytery - East

Reverend Armour McFarland
4341 Estate Drive
Holland, MI 48424
Presbytery - Midwest

Reverend Frank Meyer (Judith)
1694 Gate House Circle, #B2
Colorado Springs, CO 80904
719/633-6599
Presbytery - West

Reverend James Mills, Jr. (Betty)
5212 Debra Road
Crisfield, MD 21817
Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic

Dr. Perry Mobley (Jeane)
13931 East Marina Drive, #103
Aurora, CO 80014
303/743-7789
Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic

Reverend Paul Moon (Marie)
2174 Parkinson
Waterford, MI 48328
Presbytery - Midwest

Reverend Mark Moore (Nancy)
423 South Worchester Way
Aurora, CO 80012
303/364-6805
Presbytery - West

Dr. Wayne Mouritzen (Gaye)
P.O. Box 30
Sunset, SC 29685
864/878-8020
Presbytery - Florida

Reverend W.T. Permenter (Marie)
Route 2, Box 471-B
Shelbyville, TX 75973
409/598-4704
Presbytery - Central South

Dr. William Read (Lenore)
1502 Rutledge Avenue
Gaffney, SC 29341
864/487-5010
Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic

Reverend Robert Shaffer (Jane)
1816 Vista Lane
Timonium, MD 21093
410/252-0425
Presbytery - East

Reverend Alvin Smith, Jr.
270 Baywood Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15228
412/561-9192
Presbytery - East

Dr. Graham Smith (Margaret)
10708 Stanhope Place
Fairfax, VA 22032
703/278-8276
Presbytery - East

Reverend Peter Stam (Jeanelle)
1209 Bay Side Circle
Wilmington, NC 28405
910/256-1021

Reverend James Van Dyke (Rosemary)
1 Westlyn Place
Rome, GA 30165
706/235-0616
Presbytery - Southeast

Reverend George Woodcock (Miriam)
27665 Yvette
Warren, MI 48093
810/755-5886
Presbytery - Midwest

MINISTERS WITHOUT CALL

Reverend David Anderson (Margaret)
110 Fairland Circle
Nitro, WV 25143
304/776-7313
Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic

Reverend Larry Bein (Judy)
1777 Rockaway Creek Road
Atmore, AL 36502
334/368-8600, Ext. 2517
Fax: 334/368-1778
Presbytery - Central South

Reverend Henry Braga (Sally)
101 Mountain View Road
Millburn, NJ 07041
201/467-5463
Presbytery - Florida

Reverend Ronnie Burton (Nancy)
65 E. Olive, Apt. 135
Gilbert, AZ 85234
602/892-9536
Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic

DIRECTORY OF THE CHURCHES AND MINISTERS (1997)

Dr. Robert Camenisch (Linda Kay)
417 Danville
Stanford, KY 40484
606/365-3605

Reverend Brad Carson (Melissa)
4062 S. Lisbon Way
Aurora, CO 80013
303/766-8238
Presbytery - West

Reverend Frank Costenbader (Deborah)
6043 Abilene Trail
Austin, TX 78749
512/288-0673
Presbytery - Central South

Dr. Robert Dean (Margie)
16201 Hoe Road
Laurinburg, NC 28352
910/277-7658
Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic

Reverend Sam A. Downing (Mary)
21423 Park Villa
Katy, TX 77450
713/647-0646
Presbytery - Central South

Reverend Fred DuPont
4860 South 74th East Avenue 60-1
Tulsa, OK 74145
918/663-9670
Presbytery - Mid-America

Reverend Kurt Gebhard (Elaine)
2862 Costa Mesa Court
Waterford, MI 48016
810/673-5427
Presbytery - Midwest

Dr. David Hadden (Lillian)
1732 Princeton Drive
State College, PA 16803
814/238-1222
Presbytery - East

Reverend John Hays (Pamela)
1212 Girard Street NE
Washington, DC 20017
202/832-8901
Presbytery - East

Reverend Donald Herwick (Mary Jane)
2175 Winlok Trail
Marietta, GA 30066
404/424-7911
Presbyter - Central South

Reverend Randy Horn (Mary)
943 E. Leslie Drive
San Gabriel, CA 91775
818/286-3291
Presbytery - West

Reverend Chris Kiepe (Rachael)
3329 Huton
Bartlett, TN 38134
901/396-0644 Fax: 901/396-1071
Presbytery - Central South

Reverend Alex Koval (Chris)
P.O. Box 368
Wadesboro, NC 28170
704/694-2774
Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic

Reverend Austin McCaskill, Jr. (Beverly)
115 Manlyn
St. Louis, MO 63122
314/822-9857
Presbytery - Mid-America

Reverend Robert Merriman (Sue)
3311 Bush
Amarillo, TX 79106-2901
806/353-1096
Presbytery - West

Reverend Rick Montroy (Rita)
2060 S. Ventura Street
Aurora, CO 80013
303/751-1813
Presbytery - West

Dr. Robert E. Mossman (Laura)
1240 Kingston Street
Aurora, CO 80010
303/363-1781
Presbytery - West

Reverend Terry Mulford (Kathy)
435 10th Avenue
Indialantic, FL 32903
407/632-1776
Presbytery - Florida

Reverend Shozo Otani (Debbie)
9221 Broadwater Drive
Gaithersburg, MD 20879
301/948-3017
Presbytery - East

Dr. Randall Pannell (Kay)
3603 Laurel Hollow Drive
Spring, TX 77388
713/550-5734
Presbytery - Central South

Reverend Dick Pickens (Nancy)
P.O. Box 90908
Austin, TX 78709-0908
512/364-0097
Presbytery - Central South

Reverend Rupert Pickett
510 Wall Street
Shreveport, LA 71101-4134
318/424-4513
Presbytery - Central South

Reverend Jerry Robinson (Judy)
213 North Cedar Street
Lincolnton, NC 28092
704/735-7502
Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic

Reverend Richard Savidge (Nancy)
1130 Kenyon Avenue
Englewood, CO 80110
303/761-8609
Presbytery - West

Reverend Don Sheffield (Jane)
621 E. White Cloud Drive
Highlands Ranch, CO 80126
303/791-6265
Presbytery - West

Dr. Richard Schussler (Bonnie)
3996 Niles Terrace
Ooltewah, TN 37363
423/892-5051

Presbytery - Southeast
Reverend Charles Skinner (Patsy)
405 Bozeman Road
Madison, MS 39110
601/856-7362

Presbytery - Central South
Reverend Chris Smith (Sharon)
12434 West Florida Drive
Lakewood, CO 80228
303/986-3051
Presbytery - West

Reverend Bruce Stanek
54 Klamburg Lane
Ellisville, MO 63021
314/230-9454
Presbytery - Mid-America

Reverend Michael Swart (Beverly)
4604 Mineral Springs Lane
Raleigh, NC 27604
919/848-1812
Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic

Reverend James Tollett
1540 East 71st Street North
Tulsa, OK 74126
918/425-4226

Reverend John Tomlinson
47 Haverford Court
St. Peters, MO 63376
314/441-0210

Reverend John Van Dyke (Lisa)
2R 31 Beechwood Drive
Broomhill, Glasgow G11 7ET
Scotland
Presbytery - Southeast

Reverend Doug Van Gaalen (Lisa)
8319 N. 47th Drive
Glendale, AZ 85302
602/937-4900
Presbytery - West

Reverend Richard Vroon (Becky)
Box 471
Valley Forge, PA 19481
601/783-0157
E-mail:
100130.2326@Compuserve.com
Presbytery - Mid-Atlantic

MILITARY CHAPLAINS
Active Duty

Chaplain Steven Barrett (Carolyn)
Maj., Travis AFB CA
8158 Scottsdale
Sacramento, CA 95828
707/424-3217

Chaplain Captain Mark Ingles
PSC 3 Box 5277 (51FW)
APO AP 96266

Chaplain Mark Jumper (Ginger)
LT. CMDR, Naval Air Station Dallas
706 Foxford Trail
Arlington, TX 76014-3205
817/782-5665

Asst. Chaplain Douglas McCready
(Dianne)
28th Infantry Div., PaANG
1333 Rothley Avenue
Roslyn, PA 19001
215/884-9428

Chaplain Ron Meyer (Michele)
US Navy
945 Lunahai Place
Kailua, Hawaii 96734
808/263-3958

Chaplain Bradley Yorton (Sue)
LCDR, USN
6170 - 600th Avenue West
Oak Harbor, WA 98277
360/257-2414

RESERVE/GUARD

Chaplain Ronald Case, Sr.
COL, U.S. Army Reserve
Residence: 811 Augustus Lane
Rock Hill, SC 29730
803/366-9590 or 6345
Military Unit: 131 Chaplain Support Team
67 Combat Support Hospital
Wuerzburg, Germany

Chaplain Lt. Col. Tom Musselman
Residence: 160 White Oak Circle
Franklin, NC 28734
704/369-8187
Military Unit: 78th Troop Command
Georgia Army National Guard

Chaplain Richard Overton
242 Orange Avenue
Coronado, CA 92118
619/435-5622

Chaplain Major Robert Raiston (Eva)
131 Chaplain Support Team
Residence: 13991 E. Oxford Place
Aurora, CO 80014
Military Unit: 222 Base Support Battalion
CMR 405 Box 1540
APO AE 09034

This page has been left blank intentionally.

PART V

**ANNUAL STATISTICAL AND FINANCIAL REPORTS
OF THE
CHURCHES**

1995 Annual Statistical Report - Central South Presbytery

CENTRAL SOUTH				12/31/94				GAINS				LOSSES				12/31/95				WORSHIP				S.S.		ADULT		INFANT		YOUTH	
CHURCHES		LOCATION		ELDERS	DEACONS	MEMBERSHIP	PROFESSION		CERT.	OTHER	CERT.	DEATHS	OTHER	MEMBERSHIP	ATTENDANCE	ENROLLMENT	BAPTISM	BAPTISM	PROFESSIONS												
1	Atoka Presbyterian	Atoka, TN	3	3	42	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	44	50	47	0	1	0	0												
2	Christ Community	Bossier City, LA	2	0	39	0	0	2	0	0	9	28	22	34	1	0	0	0	0												
3	Christ EPC	Houston, TX	11	11	686	7	21	27	36	1	37	696	520	828	7	21	31	0	0												
4	Christ Presbyterian	Decatur, AL			*35*																										
5	Christ Presbyterian	Cape Girardeau, MO	0	4	*50*	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	40	23	0	0	0	0	0												
6	Church of the Saviour	Spring, TX			*58*																										
7	Church of the King	Corpus Christi, TX	3	0	*100*	0	0	0	0	0	11	49	80	24	0	4	0	0	0												
8	Cornerstone Presbyterian	Katy, TX	6	6	55	4	14	2	0	0	12	69	61	56	0	2	6	0	0												
9	Covenant Presbyterian	Columbus, MS	4	0	49	0	2	0	1	0	13	37	30	23	1	0	0	0	0												
10	CrossPoint Community	Carrollton, TX	3	0	69	5	0	2	4	0	0	73	120	57	0	6	1	0	0												
11	Crossroads Community	Austin, TX			*39*																										
12	EPC of Marshall	Marshall, TX	6	6	177	0	3	35	0	2	17	200	155	99	0	4	4	0	0												
13	First EPC	Anna, IL	5	14	150	2	9	4	0	3	3	159	280	190	2	3	0	0	0												
14	First Presbyterian	Atmore, AL	4	4	88	0	0	1	11	2	0	80	100	100	0	0	4	0	0												
15	First Presbyterian	Houma, LA	2	1	79	1	3	0	9	5	3	66	40	41	1	0	0	0	0												
16	First Presbyterian	Meridian, MS	12	12	424	0	13	14	8	8	0	444	310	230	1	3	9	0	0												
17	First Presbyterian	Waskom, TX	3	0	27	0	1	0	3	0	0	25	25	10	0	0	0	0	0												
18	First Presbyterian	West Point, MS	6	6	145	0	8	0	0	1	8	144	125	115	0	0	0	0	0												
19	Golden Rule	Elysian Fields, TX			*52*																										
20	Hope Presbyterian	Germantown, TN	15	18	392	13	24	25	17	0	51	408	600	0	7	22	24	0	0												
21	Lakeside Presbyterian	Brandon, MS	12	12	558	1	12	25	20	4	36	546	315	237	4	6	10	0	0												
22	Louisville Presbyterian	Louisville, MS			65																										
23	Providence Presbyterian	Garland, TX	9	0	70	0	0	7	0	0	0	77	110	73	0	0	0	0	0												
24	Redeemer EPC	Irondale, AL	3	6	65	0	0	12	0	0	10	68	70	22	0	1	1	0	0												
25	River of Life	Montgomery, AL	0	0	55	0	53	0	2	0	0	106	150	115	0	0	0	0	0												
26	Second Presbyterian	Memphis, TN	46	50	3,303	22	42	41	66	46	231	3,104	1,160	2,440	19	36	41	0	0												
27	Trinity Presbyterian	Mobile, AL	5	1	55	0	13	0	2	1	7	58	85	43	0	2	0	0	0												
28	Tunica Presbyterian	Tunica, MS	6	9	133	0	2	0	2	2	0	132	100	107	0	3	1	0	0												
29	Westminster Presbyterian	Laurel, MS	9	9	277	0	15	0	9	3	0	281	200	193	0	3	1	0	0												
30	Zachary Presbyterian	Zachary, LA	3	0	40	1	3	12	2	1	0	54	47	63	2	1	1	0	0												

- Last available information.

1995 Annual Financial Report - Central South Presbytery

	CENTRAL SOUTH		RECEIPTS		DISBURSEMENTS							
		BEGINNING	TITHES &	OTHER	LOCAL		PER MEMBER	EPC	NON-EPC	TOTAL	TOTAL	ENDING
	CHURCHES	BALANCE	OFFERINGS	INCOME	CAUSES	PRESBYTERY	GIVING	BENEVOLENCE	MISSIONS	RECEIPTS	DISBURSEMENTS	BALANCE
1	Atoka Presbyterian *	8425	38347	3031	37127	540	540	479	0	41378	38686	11117
2	Christ Community	13605	41203	1844	41136	585	585	520	3653	43047	46479	10173
3	Christ EPC	292935	1364632	85400	1068038	0	12200	27426	17751	1450032	1125415	617552
4	Christ Presbyterian											
5	Christ Presbyterian	8763	66342	45716	102298	300	300	450	11386	112058	114734	6087
6	Church of the Saviour											
7	Church of the King	7216	123227	5	117219	700	300	375	6536	123232	125130	5318
8	Cornerstone Presbyterian	146505	103258	5764	134893	870	870	205	0	109022	136838	118689
9	Covenant Presbyterian *	9864	56612	500	17052	478	478	779	3102	57012	21889	44987
10	CrossPointe Community	67838	203813	20173	201219	855	1043	0	0	223986	203117	88707
11	Crossroads Community											
12	EPC of Marshall	20713	214302	0	190514	3300	2200	6257	5800	214302	208071	26944
13	First EPC	48333	225865	31907	235375	2280	2090	3123	8504	257772	249372	56733
14	First Presbyterian *	72748	169882	24435	124022	1500	2550	2100	19020	194317	149192	117873
15	First Presbyterian	9776	94010	835	85823	1188	1089	735	10499	94845	99334	5287
16	First Presbyterian *	139879	484000	0	401815	0	6138	6047	0	484000	414000	209879
17	First Presbyterian	12733	22141	0	24534	405	405	145	0	22141	25489	9385
18	First Presbyterian	28085	135678	8105	107884	2294	2175	2076	9770	143783	124199	47669
19	Golden Rule											
20	Hope Church	177757	864846	3030	828503	5753	5810	0	8493	867876	848559	197074
21	Lakeside Presbyterian	154073	577948	66639	532464	8265	8265	12505	47714	664587	609213	209447
22	Louisville Presbyterian											
23	Providence Presbyterian	16763	175416	522	149582	1050	1050	0	2999	175938	154681	38020
24	Redeemer EPC	67650	113874	0	91221	720	0	0	35167	113874	127108	54416
25	River of Life	20365	123163	20426	102556	0	0	1200	27255	143589	131011	32943
26	Second Presbyterian		4489536	352140	3648754	49545	51345	27432	1114455	4841676	4891531	0
27	Trinity Presbyterian	10382	86755	19934	88094	938	938	3055	5423	106689	98448	18623
28	Tunica Presbyterian	22434	123505	1608	105015	2025	1995	1109	6808	125113	116952	30595
29	Westminster Presbyterian	406317	352214	5590	262115	3976	4116	16800	20914	357804	307921	456200
30	Zachary Presbyterian	151204	52393	0	82491	900	900	1100	0	52393	85391	118206

*Figures not verified prior to printing.

1995 Annual Statistical Report - Presbytery of the East

EAST				GAINS				LOSSES											
CHURCHES		LOCATION	ELDERS	DEACONS	12/31/94 MEMBERSHIP	PROFESSION OF FAITH CERT.		OTHER	CERT.	DEATHS	OTHER	12/31/95 MEMBERSHIP	WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	S.S. ENROLLMENT	ADULT BAPTISM	INFANT BAPTISM	YOUTH PROFESSIONS		
1	Ashland EPC	Voorhees, NJ	12	7	413	18	0	0	11	4	15	406	270	144	0	11	5		
2	Calvary EPC	Butler, PA	9	13	194	1	0	6	0	9	24	168	90	45	0	5	0		
3	Christ Church	Burke, VA	2	7	46	0	0	1	0	1	3	43	30	33	0	2	0		
4	Dundalk Presbyterian	Dundalk, MD	12	10	276	0	0	4	0	6	12	264	210	170	1	5	2		
5	Faith Presbyterian	Alexandria, VA	14	12	222	1	0	0	2	3	0	218	196	85	1	6	0		
6	Fourth Presbyterian	Bethesda, MD	24	30	2,302	87	0	0	33	15	29	2,331	1,370	1,690	12	30	19		
7	Goodwill Presbyterian	Montgomery, NY	6	9	93	6	0	0	0	1	12	86	125	64	11	0	0		
8	King of Glory	Lake Ridge, VA	3	3	31	1	0	1	0	0	4	27	40	23	1	1	0		
9	New Covenant	New Castle, PA	6	6	218	0	5	6	1	3	0	220	158	166	3	0	0		
10	New Hope	Pittsburgh, PA	0	0	*50*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	80	0	0	0	0		
11	New Life Presbyterian	Gaithersburg, MD	5	5	48	0	0	0	1	1	0	46	45	19	0	0	0		
12	North Park EPC	Wexford, PA	10	11	502	26	0	0	8	3	88	429	375	255	7	12	0		
13	Redeemer EPC	New Kensington, PA	0	0	*14*	0	0	12	0	0	0	12	25	31	0	0	0		

- Last available information.

1995 Annual Financial Report - Presbytery of the East

	EAST		RECEIPTS	DISBURSEMENTS								
		BEGINNING	TITHES &	OTHER	LOCAL		PER MEMBER	EPC	NON-EPC	TOTAL	TOTAL	ENDING
	CHURCHES	BALANCE	OFFERINGS	INCOME	CAUSES	PRESBYTERY	GIVING	BENEVOLENCE	MISSIONS	RECEIPTS	DISBURSEMENTS	BALANCE
1	Ashland EPC *	29787	315574	7955	249817	2900	6195	9351	75723	323529	343986	9330
2	Calvary EPC	7282	125000	18000	112204	475	2447	3125	4400	143000	122651	27631
3	Christ Church *	16060	74727	868	67945	205	637	1245	3000	75595	73032	18623
4	Dundalk Presbyterian	44632	181051	9336	151661	552	4128	2756	21238	190387	180335	54684
5	Faith Presbyterian	201149	733835	82347	859546	1110	3330	12046	27082	816182	903114	114217
6	Fourth Presbyterian	2413987	3371002	293726	3674539	4000	20000	33700	389491	3664728	4121730	1956985
7	Goodwill Presbyterian	0	127492	2815	100209	550	1656	2976	20688	130307	126079	4228
8	King of Glory	8475	44877	1000	32626	100	465	1270	1891	45877	36352	18000
9	New Covenant	0	168541	680	114830	0	400	964	1200	169221	117394	51827
10	New Hope	31567	52580	38025	71369	0	0	500	1500	90605	73369	48803
11	New Life Presbyterian	23782	67007	11769	78035	240	720	115	0	78776	79110	23448
12	North Park EPC	68889	504658	20785	446783	1128	7755	10655	54274	525443	520595	73737
13	Redeemer EPC	0	21461	3400	12210	0	0	0	400	24861	12610	12251

*Figures not verified prior to printing.

1995 Annual Statistical Report - Presbytery of Florida

	FLORIDA				GAINS			LOSSES											
				12/31/94	PROFESSION						12/31/95	WORSHIP	S.S.	ADULT	INFANT	YOUTH			
	CHURCHES	LOCATION	ELDERS	DEACONS	MEMBERSHIP	OF FAITH	CERT.	OTHER	CERT.	DEATHS	OTHER	MEMBERSHIP	ATTENDANCE	ENROLLMENT	BAPTISM	BAPTISM	PROFESSIONS		
1	Abundant Life EPC	Lake Mary, FL	2	0	35	0	0	4	8	0	5	26	22	20	0	0	0		
2	Christ Covenant	Tampa, FL	6	2	117	4	1	0	0	3	0	119	85	48	0	1	0		
3	Cornerstone EPC	Daytona Beach, FL	6	9	137	1	6	9	2	3	10	138	122	44	4	0	0		
4	Faith EPC	Brooksville, FL	6	12	348	0	14	10	3	6	22	339	275	139	4	10	5		
5	First Presbyterian	Homestead, FL	9	0	143	9	6	12	1	4	6	157	140	61	4	5	0		
6	Cypress Potomac	Orlando, FL																	
7	New Covenant	Pompano Beach, FL	12	15	1,085	3	1	145	40	4	40	1,150	800	151	39	32	0		
8	Trinity EPC	Ft. Pierce, FL	9	0	122	4	0	9	3	3	7	124		95	0	0	2		

Shading - church received in 16th General Assembly year.

1995 Annual Financial Report - Presbytery of Florida

	FLORIDA		RECEIPTS	DISBURSEMENTS								
		BEGINNING	TITHES &	OTHER	LOCAL		PER MEMBER	EPC	NON-EPC	TOTAL	TOTAL	ENDING
	CHURCHES	BALANCE	OFFERINGS	INCOME	CAUSES	PRESBYTERY	GIVING	BENEVOLENCE	MISSIONS	RECEIPTS	DISBURSEMENTS	BALANCE
1	Abundant Life	963	46844	9576	55538	0	0	115	587	56420	56240	1143
2	Christ Covenant	963	140340	10000	126471	2202	1489	5732	10927	150340	146821	4482
3	Cornerstone EPC	9340	213278		191015	0	0	700	20353	213278	212068	10550
4	Faith EPC	40230	354095	7372	334643	3996	3600	5156	21995	361467	369390	32307
5	First Presbyterian	5130	108108	94633	188861	864	2345	569	12431	202741	205070	2801
6	Cypress Pointe											
7	New Covenant	1389	1001522	0	1018627	2225	0	200	18155	1001522	1039207	-36296
8	Trinity EPC	4835	145937	20820	143187	133	270	50	0	166757	143640	27952

**Figures not verified prior to printing.*

1995 Annual Statistical Report - Presbytery of Mid-America

MID-AMERICA					GAINS			LOSSES									
				12/31/94	PROFESSION						12/31/95	WORSHIP	S.S.	ADULT	INFANT	YOUTH	
CHURCHES	LOCATION	ELDERS	DEACONS	MEMBERSHIP	OF FAITH	CERT	OTHER	CERT.	DEATHS	OTHER	MEMBERSHIP	ATTENDANCE	ENROLLMENT	BAPTISM	BAPTISM	PROFESSIONS	
1 Baldwin Community	Baldwin, IL	5	0	42	0	0	0	0	2	0	41	25	27	0	1	0	
2 Central Presbyterian	St. Louis, MO	27	56	2,804	31	86	103	72	31	41	2,914	812	988	7	67	34	
3 Covenant Chapel	Overland Park, KS	4	0	228	1	36	8	0	0	22	251	403	198	1	3	0	
4 Emmanuel Presbyterian	Grover, MO			205													
5 Faith EPC	Fayetteville, AR			*7*													
6 Grace EPC	Lawrence, KS	6	4	180	0	0	51	0	0	6	225	370	200	2	4	0	
7 Heartland Community	Overland Park, KS	5	6	304	52	0	0	0	0	35	321	1,000	400	21	34	0	
8 Immanuel Presbyterian	Warrenville, IL	12	11	264	14	0	0	0	1	3	288	280	245	0	5	14	
9 New Harvest Community	St. Louis, MO	0	0	28	1	7	7	0	0	0	45	50	52	0	1	0	
10 Sutter Presbyterian	Bridgeton, MO			106													
11 West Highlands EPC	Lenexa, KS			41													
12 Westlark Presbyterian	Des Moines, IA	12	9	249	6	21	22	3	3	0	292	50	101	2	5	0	

- Last available information.

1995 Annual Financial Report - Presbytery of Mid-America

	MID-AMERICA		RECEIPTS	DISBURSEMENTS								
		BEGINNING	TITHES &	OTHER	LOCAL		PER MEMBER	EPC	NON-EPC	TOTAL	TOTAL	ENDING
	CHURCHES	BALANCE	OFFERINGS	INCOME	CAUSES	PRESBYTERY	GIVING	BENEVOLENCE	MISSIONS	RECEIPTS	DISBURSEMENTS	BALANCE
1	Baldwin Community	15478	10916	1860	12371	600	260	312	300	12776	13843	14411
2	Central Presbyterian	2124129	3095149	866527	3727220	63940	42060	44100	295402	3961676	4172722	1913083
3	Covenant Chapel	70463	568372	9808	386263	5244	3420	0	26828	578180	421755	226888
4	Emmanuel Presbyterian											
5	Faith EPC											
6	Grace EPC	268688	323762	85903	582310	1440	2700	0	23091	409665	609541	68812
7	Heartland Community *	154648	971843	0	1107294	2424	3582	0	33700	971843	1147000	-20509
8	Immanuel Presbyterian	74555	448295	0	346898	2056	3855	1845	33167	448295	387821	135029
9	New Harvest Community	79903	81292	4057	82879	0	0	0	0	85349	82879	82373
10	Sutter Presbyterian	25796	137034	24237	121069	832	1560	1801	10000	161271	135262	51805
11	West Highlands EPC											
12	Westkirk Presbyterian	79501	290405	28987	237990	1000	3735	3840	687	319392	247252	151641

*Figures not verified prior to printing.

1995 Annual Statistical Report - Mid-Atlantic Presbytery

MID-ATLANTIC				GAINS				LOSSES							
				12/31/94	PROFESSION					12/31/95	WORSHIP	S.S.	ADULT	INFANT	YOUTH
CHURCHES	LOCATION	ELDERS	DEACONS	MEMBERSHIP	OF FAITH	CERT.	OTHER	CERT.	DEATHS	OTHER	MEMBERSHIP	ATTENDANCE	ENROLLMENT	BAPTISM	PROFESSIONS
1	Bethesda Presbyterian	Florence, SC	5	0	61	0	2	0	0	2	61	50	32	0	0
2	Brunswick Presbyterian	Brunswick, NC	5	0	33	1	0	3	0	1	36	30	26	1	0
3	Christ Church EPC	Anderson, SC	4	4	77	0	4	2	0	0	68	130	120	1	3
4	Christ EPC	Midlothian, VA	5	0	43	2	3	0	0	1	7	43	28	0	0
5	Christ Fellowship	Southern Pines, NC	7	0	51	0	0	3	7	0	0	47	23	0	0
6	Cleveland Presbyterian	Arlington, VA	3	0	62	3	0	0	0	1	2	62	40	49	1
7	Covenant Community	Charlotte, NC	3	0	61	2	0	0	1	0	4	62	56	0	2
8	Covenant EPC	Albemarle, NC	0	0	27	0	4	6	0	0	12	25	32	24	0
9	Covenant EPC	Shelby, NC	3	2	55	0	11	0	11	0	0	55	75	17	0
10	Cramerton EPC	Cramerton, NC	5	3	49	0	0	0	0	2	5	42	30	21	0
11	Cregmore Church	Columbia, SC	1	0	33	0	0	23	0	1	4	39	65	22	0
12	EPC	Elkton, VA	6	0	83	12	3	10	1	0	4	111	100	48	10
13	EPC of Fredricksburg	Fredricksburg, VA	3	0	39	0	12	0	0	0	0	12	35	25	0
14	Emmanuel Presbyterian	Laurens, SC	2	3	29	2	6	3	0	0	8	40	58	24	4
15	Faith EPC	Salem, VA	5	0	36	0	0	0	2	0	2	33	27	23	0
16	Fellowship of Christ	Cary, NC	5	6	123	8	4	0	0	2	0	135	200	105	2
17	First EPC	Clover, SC	3	0	22	4	0	2	0	0	0	32	45	24	8
18	Forest Hill	Charlotte, NC	21	17	1,773	3	61	88	113	4	166	1,656	1,201	962	11
19	Forest Hills Presbyterian	Wilson, NC	7	0	81	5	2	9	0	0	2	85	90	56	6
20	Kempsville Presbyterian	Virginia Beach, VA	12	18	1,397	17	8	55	25	0	9	1,465	1,180	836	18
21	Lebanon Presbyterian	Greenwood, VA	3	6	55	2	0	7	2	1	5	56	70	67	0
22	Lee Park	Monroe, NC	6	4	80	0	1	0	2	1	0	50	45	46	0
23	Linwood Presbyterian	Gastonia, NC	6	0	73	0	0	1	10	0	0	64	38	23	0
24	Myrtle Grove Presbyterian	Wilmington, NC	18	15	1,389	5	40	51	34	4	87	1,367	900	700	17
25	New Hope Presbyterian	Mathews, NC	5	0	45	0	1	3	1	0	0	49	20	22	0
26	Northampton Presbyterian	Hampton, VA	10	0	109	0	0	5	1	2	0	111	50	63	0
27	Overbrook Community	Gaffney, SC	4	6	92	3	3	6	0	0	5	102	120	98	0
28	Parrow Presbyterian	Cross Lanes, WV	10	6	340	0	9	0	10	1	27	315	510	236	1
29	Reynolds Presbyterian	Winston-Salem, NC	18	18	817	10	25	27	19	2	86	780	555	231	7
30	St. Giles	Charlotte, NC	6	7	362	0	12	2	10	3	31	346	388	110	5
31	Trinity Presbyterian	Florence, SC	9	9	455	4	19	11	9	2	30	470	280	417	6
32	Westminster Presbyterian	Bluefield, WV	15	15	548	2	3	3	13	7	0	553	346	453	9
33	Woodside Presbyterian	Roanoke, VA	3	0	44	0	0	1	0	0	0	45	60	36	0

1995 Annual Financial Report - Mid-Atlantic Presbytery

	MID-ATLANTIC	BEGINNING	RECEIPTS		DISBURSEMENTS				NON-EPC	TOTAL	TOTAL	ENDING
			TITHES &	OTHER	LOCAL	PER MEMBE		EPC				
	CHURCHES	BALANCE	OFFERINGS	INCOME	CAUSES	RESBYTER	GIVING	ENEVOLEN	MISSIONS	RECEIPTS	DISBURSEMENTS	BALANCE
1	Belhesda Presbyterian	9775	57414	170	55515	183	915	698	1640	57584	58951	8408
2	Brunswick Presbyterian *	19174	27823	10575	32362	890	450	1409	1800	38398	36911	20661
3	Christ Church EPC *	20232	228974	174	212038	8974	1703	5935	6834	229148	235484	13896
4	Christ EPC	17456	60183	5561	62703	1200	800	572	11813	65744	77088	6112
5	Christ Fellowship	13919	102970	2292	84530	153	765	650	3775	105262	89873	29308
6	Cleveland Presbyterian	25974	22688	6174	21443	500	930	1525	3600	28862	27998	26838
7	Covenant Community *	19360	58300	10400	73456	225	610	1250	5650	68700	81191	6869
8	Covenant EPC	6431	25578	8400	24084	840	405	0	3197	33978	28526	11883
9	Covenant Fellowship	36535	83764	0	58281	0	825	1200	15686	83764	75992	44307
10	Cramerton EPC	11147	52666	0	48064	1000	750	2500	1990	52666	54304	9509
11	Cregmore Church	0	49283	0	47211	175	175	0	0	49283	47561	1722
12	EPC	12951	121570	523179	650920	2050	1250	350	962	644749	655532	2168
13	EPC of Fredericksburg	8253	26186	200	19301	2064	410	115	158	26386	22048	12591
14	Emmanuel Presbyterian	11840	119042	12250	137396	108	0	233	435	131292	138172	4960
15	Faith EPC	22604	60191	15611	66195	1500	800	2534	2175	75802	73204	25202
16	Fellowship of Christ	5976	179350	31138	177323	330	1650	0	32490	210488	211793	4671
17	First EPC	5912	43635	0	29071	300	300	0	13916	43635	43587	5960
18	Forest Hill	539449	3045124	61443	2297383	20791	24756	17576	656325	3106567	3016831	629185
19	Forest Hills Presbyterian *	488	71917	0	63941	252	1224	531	2769	71917	68717	3688
20	Kempsville Presbyterian	93708	1595572	2228	1160059	20000	14000	11778	387274	1597800	1593111	98397
21	Lebanon Presbyterian	30355	68876	6542	58205	600	600	1150	7621	75418	68176	37597
22	Lee Park	13944	46031	0	37192	0	538	113	0	46031	37843	22132
23	Linwood Presbyterian	960	61011	0	58483	400	1095	1152	0	61011	61130	841
24	Myrtle Grove Presbyterian	551270	1192025	166368	949490	22000	23333	23750	164824	1358393	1183397	726266
25	New Hope Presbyterian	21987	20799	0	17267	30	408	38	0	20799	17743	25043
26	Northampton Presbyterian	8555	84602	555	67700	2000	1635	793	642	85157	72770	20942
27	Overbrook Community	18176	176454	9581	169634	1200	1380	5912	3500	186035	181626	22585
28	Parrow Presbyterian	52967	449993	1730	351093	2020	5100	5945	108828	451723	472986	31704
29	Reynolda Presbyterian	119360	892390	100292	709782	18000	12150	8229	119305	992682	867466	244576
30	St. Giles	148295	546735	1655	316803	7240	5430	9975	182014	548390	521462	175223
31	Trinity Presbyterian	298060	552584	1234	436024	13879	6000	48016	105970	553816	609889	239989
32	Westminster Presbyterian	48335	644522	62520	424027	6650	8250	13945	248574	707042	701446	53931
33	Woodside Presbyterian	17032	23039	465	19119	0	660	300	2608	23504	22687	17849

**Figures not verified prior to printing.*

ANNUAL REPORTS

532

1995 Annual Statistical Report - Midwest Presbytery

MIDWEST						GAINS			LOSSES									
				12/31/94	PROFESSION							12/31/95	WORSHIP	S.S.	ADULT	INFANT	YOUTH	
CHURCHES	LOCATION	ELDERS	DEACONS	MEMBERSHIP	OF FAITH	CERT.	OTHER	CERT.	DEATHS	OTHER	MEMBERSHIP	ATTENDANCE	ENROLLMENT	BAPTISM	BAPTISM	PROFESSIONS		
1 Calvary Presbyterian	Flint, MI	15	20	593	22	23	18	0	11	27	627	415	164	7	25	19		
2 Community EPC	Owosso, MI	2	3	76	23	0	0	0	1	0	96	275	100	8	0	0		
3 Cornerstone Presbyterian	Brighton, MI	15	45	643	26	52	0	6	1	0	714	1,160	920	7	33	0		
4 Covenant Presbyterian	Ann Arbor, MI	6	6	82	0	5	2	6	0	5	83	140	74	0	2	5		
5 East Crossing	Madison, WI	6	0	58	2	0	0	0	0	2	42	50	34	7	4	2		
6 Evangelical Pres. Fellow.	Kirtland, OH	6	11	152	0	0	4	2	2	0	152	175	65	4	0	0		
7 Faith EPC	Richmond, OH	9	9	126	0	0	0	2	2	0	122		77	0	3	0		
8 Faith EPC	Lake Orion, MI	15	0	215	4	7	12	5	2	28	203		431	6	10	0		
9 Fellowship EPC	South Lyon, MI	9	12	197	16	13	0	0	0	0	226		0	0	0	0		
10 First Presbyterian	Trenton, MI	12	36	797	6	4	31	2	16	33	797	502	490	3	8	10		
11 Grace Chapel	Farmington Hills, MI	10	23	449	9	27	19	7	0	43	454	447	469	0	14	0		
12 Highview EPC	Waukesha, WI	9	0	86	0	7	0	3	1	4	85	85	50	0	2	0		
13 Hope Evan. Fellow.	Mentor, OH	6	7	77	2	2	4	2	0	5	85	65	92	2	3	8		
14 Kensington Community	Troy, MI	5	0	355	84	47	0	13	0	0	444	2,100	488	45	6	0		
15 Knox Presbyterian	Ann Arbor, MI	8	13	195	18	235	4	0	0	1	256	400	417	0	7	0		
16 Knox Presbyterian	Harrison Twp., MI	12	0	483	8	14	17	0	6	7	521	650	434	0	15	11		
17 Lake City EPC	Lake City, MI	5	0	79	0	4	0	4	0	3	76	100	49	0	0	0		
18 Military Avenue EPC	Detroit, MI	1	8	71	12	0	2	0	2	10	75	150	125	0	0	1		
19 Mt. Pleasant Community	Mt. Pleasant, MI	9	13	222	8	1	19	0	1	7	252	314	295	12	2	10		
20 North Oaks Community	Clarkston, MI	3	0	42	2	0	7	0	0	0	42	110	100	3	4	0		
21 Oakland Avenue EPC	Pontiac, MI	10	16	231	2	0	0	0	7	0	227	100	154	0	0	1		
22 St. Andrew EPC	Auburn, IN	6	6	64	6	10	4	0	1	0	84	91	111	4	3	1		
23 Tabernacle EPC	Youngstown, OH	10	17	483	2	0	54	2	6	8	526	435	242	2	11	3		
24 Trinity Presbyterian	Columbia City, IN	12	12	171	2	0	0	4	2	0	167	115	131	3	8	0		
25 Trinity Presbyterian	Plymouth, MI	13	24	595	2	10	13	6	1	21	592	610	435	4	11	0		
26 Ward Presbyterian	Livonia, MI	33	229	4,601	36	48	134	96	17	222	4,520	2,657	5,106	51	59	39		

1995 Annual Financial Report - Midwest Presbytery

	MIDWEST		RECEIPTS	DISBURSEMENTS								
		BEGINNING	TITHES &	OTHER	LOCAL		PER MEMBER	EPC	NON-EPC	TOTAL	TOTAL	ENDING
	CHURCHES	BALANCE	OFFERINGS	INCOME	CAUSES	PRESBYTERY	GIVING	BENEVOLENCE	MISSIONS	RECEIPTS	DISBURSEMENTS	BALANCE
1	Calvary Presbyterian	145638	545278	8364	439546	3274	8805	2675	14950	553642	469250	230030
2	Community EPC	86199	177689	1652	102483	608	1140	1400	26864	179341	132495	133045
3	Comerstrone Presbyterian	337894	1383465	16480	1146788	5787	9645	65568	103900	1399945	1331688	406151
4	Covenant Presbyterian	48383	129642	25547	102960	635	1109	4279	19447	155189	128430	75142
5	East Crossing	7628	57430	26615	78736	0	0	0	0	84045	78736	12937
6	Evangelical Pres. Fellow.	83762	195535	2930	223399	1000	2000	2000	22970	198465	251369	30858
7	Faith EPC	33957	167445	21000	191855	1512	1890	1753	18776	188445	215786	6616
8	Faith EPC	294321	1115103	21935	1143407	6520	3225	5030	50107	1137038	1208289	223070
9	Fellowship EPC	29877	280641	5627	182871	1576	2955	28948	17525	286268	233875	82270
10	First Presbyterian	70638	674125	320485	651608	2340	2340	9178	185067	994610	850533	214715
11	Grace Chapel	145693	798732	2085	684401	3592	6735	36191	61592	800817	792511	153999
12	Highview EPC	53968	88915	14957	128589	400	600	2219	13129	103872	144937	12903
13	Hope Evangelical Fellow.	4300	102484	4395	94457	170	830	863	8731	106879	105051	6128
14	Kensington Community	1415539	2411597	113198	2789598	0	5325	0	22361	2524795	2817284	1123050
15	Knox Presbyterian	408096	882487	24975	611819	1998	3330	12213	59849	907462	689209	626349
16	Knox Presbyterian	88641	646364	81450	484071	3000	7260	4000	194793	727814	693124	123331
17	Lake City EPC	18183	90045	0	79006	632	1188	2222	16166	90045	99214	9014
18	Military Avenue EPC	22357	93369	0	86968	500	899	2250	1540	93369	92157	23569
19	Mt. Pleasant Community	53604	274323	90198	275916	250	250	4860	45086	364521	326362	91763
20	North Oaks Community *	35137	94196	3445	92028	0	683	500	1000	97641	94211	38567
21	Oakland Avenue EPC	27314	243079	34364	210954	450	3465	940	38073	277443	253882	50875
22	St. Andrew EPC *	33375	106901	6274	81677	512	960	2160	12460	113175	97769	48781
23	Tabernacle EPC	111244	656506	54910	636642	750	7245	3456	64388	711416	712481	110179
24	Trinity Presbyterian	262171	905194	2166	744867	4752	8910	14255	172862	907360	945646	223885
25	Trinity Presbyterian	1615	119568	12500	110455	471	2565	530	9250	132068	123271	10412
26	Ward Presbyterian	2858105	4586146	1106646	4680721	500443	69015	144095	338481	5692792	5732755	2818142

*Figures not verified prior to printing.

1995 Annual Statistical Report - Southeast Presbytery

	SOUTHEAST					GAINS			LOSSES								
					12/31/94	PROFESSION					12/31/95	WORSHIP	S.S.	ADULT	INFANT	YOUTH	
	CHURCHES	LOCATION	ELDERS	DEACONS	MEMBERSHIP	OF FAITH	CERT.	OTHER	CERT.	DEATHS	OTHER	MEMBERSHIP	ATTENDANCE	ENROLLMENT	BAPTISM	BAPTISM	PROFESSIONS
1	Brainerd Pres.	Chattanooga, TN	9	18	479	0	23	9	14	9	20	475	255	200	0	0	7
2	Christ Presbyterian	Knoxville, TN	0	0	27	0	9	4	0	0	5	29	40	31	0	0	0
3	Community Bible	Highlands, NC	6	0	102	2	19	0	0	0	7	120	200	67	2	1	4
4	Cornerstone EPC	Franklin, NC	6	0	79	0	0	6	0	3	4	79	77	5	0	1	1
5	Covenant Comm.	Denniston, KY			*100*												
6	Faith Presbyterian	Lavonia, GA	4	4	112	2	0	4	0	1	14	106	67	49	4	1	3
7	First Presbyterian	Louisville, KY			13												
8	First Presbyterian	Rome, GA	27	16	1,075	8	48	2	9	14	4	1,118	585	480	0	19	13
9	Grace EPC	Franklin, NC	5	7	71	0	0	16	2	0	0	86	94	62	0	0	1
10	Grace Pres.	Marietta, GA	9	8	85	0	6	0	7	0	3	83	70	49	2	1	2
11	Harvest Church	Asheville, NC	6	6	80	3	0	23	0	0	17	69	158	89	10	0	0
12	Hope EPC	Cartersville, GA	2	0	60	0	0	2	0	0	0	62	85	45	0	0	0
13	Lookout Valley Pres.	Chattanooga, TN	6	6	107	2	4	0	3	1	0	110	75	44	1	2	1
14	Lynn Garden Pres.	Kingsport, TN	8	3	96	0	0	1	5	0	3	91	145	80	0	1	0
15	Mount Calvary Pres.	Kingsport, TN	5	0	46	6	1	2	0	1	0	53	72	38	10	0	4
16	New Beginning Pres.	Fl. Wright, KY	9	9	148	0	7	2	13	4	13	132	120	106	0	8	4
17	Northshore Pres.	Knoxville, TN	3	0	55	0	4	0	2	0	0	57	55	29	0	0	0
18	Plumtree Pres.	Plumtree, NC	12	9	149	2	3	3	0	2	0	160	105	165	6	0	5
19	Valleybrook Pres.	Hixson, TN	7	4	126	0	2	6	3	1	1	129	210	93	0	2	0

- Last available information.

1995 Annual Financial Report - Southeast Presbytery

	SOUTHEAST CHURCHES	BEGINNING BALANCE	RECEIPTS		DISBURSEMENTS				NON-EPC MISSIONS	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL		ENDING BALANCE
			TITHES & OFFERINGS	OTHER INCOME	LOCAL CAUSES	PRESBYTERY	PER MEMBER GIVING	EPC BENEVOLENCE			DISBURSEMENTS		
1	Brainerd Presbyterian	138196	502931	0	550170	12248	7185	4388	21372	502931	595363		45764
2	Christ Presbyterian *	5045	55433	0	43559	600	300	0	761	55433	45220		15258
3	Community Bible	87862	412405	0	237923	1862	1530	4805	16605	412405	262725		237542
4	Comerstone EPC	32742	91338	8994	106068	1800	1185	1055	6335	100332	116443		16631
5	Covenant Community												
6	Faith Presbyterian	0	21097	3000	22792	0	0	150	0	24097	22942		1155
7	First Presbyterian												
8	First Presbyterian	883430	1633784	406572	2102470	89720	16244	25404	193530	2040356	2427368		496418
9	Grace EPC	28905	84798	22656	79307	500	1125	0	3629	107454	84561		51798
10	Grace Presbyterian	8500	106900	14500	119000	1200	1275	0	1925	121400	123400		6500
11	Harvest Church	7378	126258	17920	116112	600	1200	1000	15550	144178	134462		17094
12	Hope EPC *	39653	51785	41997	94699	2600	0	400	0	93782	97699		35736
13	Lookout Valley Presbyterian	11921	73708	0	67133	200	800	126	3592	73708	71851		13778
14	Lynn Garden Presbyterian	31405	65859	563	72239	1150	2500	750	2034	66422	78673		19154
15	Mount Calvary Presbyterian*	4860	50020	21800	62211	750	690	387	0	71820	64038		12642
16	New Beginning Presbyterian	44572	157872	553	149272	2750	2235	3430	8566	158425	166253		36744
17	Northshore Presbyterian	31367	57097	6300	51561	600	450	160	0	63397	52771		41993
18	Plumtree Presbyterian	37909	130402	0	80447	3600	2400	1200	51573	130402	139220		29091
19	Valleybrook Presbyterian	3322	129681	0	120064	200	471	1922	3216	129681	125873		7130

*Figures not verified prior to printing.

1995 Annual Statistical Report - Presbytery of the West

WEST	CHURCHES	LOCATION	ELDERS	DEACONS	12/31/94 MEMBERSHIP	GAINS			LOSSES			12/31/95 MEMBERSHIP	WORSHIP	S.S.	ADULT BAPTISM	INFANT BAPTISM	YOUTH PROFESSIONS
						PROFESSION OF FAITH	CERT	OTHER	CERT.	DEATHS	OTHER						
1	Bear Creek	Denver, CO	12	28	564	1	7	21	8	7	47	530	464	405	0	4	0
2	Canyon Creek Community	Chandler, AZ	3	0	*209*	34	17	17	0	0	0	70	234	115	0	15	2
3	Cherry Creek Presbyterian	Englewood, CO	18	112	1,098	0	0	111	0	0	182	1,027	1,297	585	5	52	0
4	Cherry Hills Community	Highlands Ranch, CO	12	23	3,598	25	76	126	33	7	114	3,671	3,250	1,200	42	27	0
5	Christ Fellowship	Ft. Collins, CO	4	5	46	4	6	0	2	0	4	53	120	87	3	5	3
6	Cornerstone Community	Denver, CO	5	0	231	0	5	10	9	1	56	180	185	225	0	0	0
7	Covenant Community	Aurora, CO	5	5	66	2	0	3	0	0	8	78	80	52	3	3	7
8	Faith Evangelical	Loveland, CO	11	9	360	7	29	8	1	5	19	390	450	295	15	1	11
9	Faith Presbyterian	Folsom, CA	3	0	18	3	3	1	2	0	0	23	50	26	0	0	0
10	Faith Presbyterian	Aurora, CO	17	93	1,305	10	28	41	20	9	210	1,165	814	408	9	21	0
11	First EPC	Renton, WA	15	15	545	6	17	15	5	4	14	562	585	308	3	10	2
12	Greenwood Community	Englewood, CO	10	0	508	0	0	78	4	1	0	581	850	550	0	0	0
13	Hemet Valley	San Jacinto, CA	6	6	43	0	0	0	0	0	0	53		0	0	0	0
14	Lookout Mountain Community	Golden, CO	8	12	187	0	5	67	0	0	16	232	670	360	0	20	0
15	Morningside Presbyterian	Phoenix, AZ	10	15	142	0	0	6	1	2	0	145	100	80	0	1	0
16	New Covenant Presbyterian	Tucson, AZ	3	3	53	1	3	10	0	1	5	61	75	51	0	3	0
17	Northwest Presbyterian	Redmond, WA	4	0	31	0	2	5	2	0	4	32	71	87	0	2	0
18	Parker Presbyterian	Parker, CO	10	18	203	9	24	19	4	0	0	256	300	197	3	11	0
19	Santa Maria Community	Santa Maria, CA	3	7	76	0	0	3	0	2	0	77	50	31	0	3	4
20	Thai EPC	Bellflower, CA	4	5	36	5	2	0	4	0	0	45	40	34	5	0	0
21	The Neighborhood EPC	Chandler, AZ	0	0	25	0	0	22	0	0	8	14	43	0	0	0	7
22	Trinity EPC	Littleton, CO	7	15	158	3	4	3	3	0	0	165	179	175	3	4	0
23	West Bowlee Community	Littleton, CO	4	6	484	7	36	28	0	1	0	554	884	320	15	0	0

- Last available information.

1995 Annual Financial Report - Presbytery of the West

WEST		RECEIPTS			DISBURSEMENTS							
		BEGINNING	TITHES &	OTHER	LOCAL		PER MEMBER	EPC	NON-EPC	TOTAL	TOTAL	ENDING
	CHURCHES	BALANCE	OFFERINGS	INCOME	CAUSES	PRESBYTERY	GIVING	BENEVOLENCE	MISSIONS	RECEIPTS	DISBURSEMENTS	BALANCE
1	Bear Creek	281	637835	7279	489631	4200	8457	14725	125523	645114	642536	2859
2	Canyon Creen Community *	87879	272804	7500	358948	0	0	0	0	280304	358948	9235
3	Cherry Creek Presbyterian	1597933	2210339	39188	2109667	12000	16470	30217	241456	2249527	2409810	1437650
4	Cherry Hills Community	8441583	6537567	1016455	12144817	18000	30000	10286	1148877	7554022	13351980	2643625
5	Christ Fellowship	41356	136567	3891	114505	0	0	0	8678	140458	123183	58631
6	Cornerstone Community	132861	212478	19503	203575	1560	2050	600	19747	231981	227532	137310
7	Covenant Community	21864	102573	0	100804	0	0	190	14536	102573	115530	8907
8	Faith Evangelical	154898	461018	5389	460535	1740	5286	2800	110165	466407	580526	40779
9	Faith Presbyterian	1948	62228	12000	60424	0	270	358	6775	74228	67827	8349
10	Faith Presbyterian	329340	1820031	96695	1708097	4650	21000	12999	172003	1916726	1918749	327317
11	First EPC	37445	628940	6445	526724	27775	6600	6100	31763	635385	598962	73868
12	Greenwood Community	128558	1036362	18212	1115289	2621	4125	5438	44565	1054574	1172038	11094
13	Hemet Valley	47064	49336	0	49941	300	645	300	0	49336	51186	45214
14	Lookout Mountain Community	56837	428457	90651	437256	1000	3420	0	30718	519108	472394	103551
15	Morningside Presbyterian	26453	140633	442	104135	3700	587	2116	24609	141075	135147	32381
16	New Covenant	61370	86484	4442	57091	1430	676	985	10773	90926	70955	81341
17	Northwest Presbyterian	28580	76287	4843	50095	800	465	600	5025	81130	56785	52925
18	Parker Presbyterian	224562	524201	426550	790161	2098	3332	4200	45620	950751	845411	329902
19	Santa Maria Community	42020	87742	4327	77773	1200	1140	596	855	92069	81564	52525
20	Thal EPC *	19978	42419	2175	41144	12	540	15	3894	44594	45605	18967
21	The Neighborhood EPC	1755	12000	30600	41577	0	0	0	0	42600	41577	2778
22	Trinity EPC	29239	251766	53103	239602	2500	1540	5040	41098	304869	289780	44328
23	West Bowles Community	191366	1007104	33918	694314	0	5010	0	31152	1041022	730476	501912

*Figures not verified prior to printing.

NOTES

NOTES
