

## THE PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION of THE EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## SESSION OF BEVERLY HEIGHTS CHURCH, et al. v. PRESBYTERY OF THE ALLEGHENIES VII

## ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

[February 26, 2025]

On January 23, 2025, and after trial, the Presbytery of the Alleghenies (the "Respondent") removed from office by judicial sanction the members of the session of Beverly Heights Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, including Teaching Elder Nate Devlin (jointly, the "Complainant"). The deadline to appeal removal under chapter 13 of the *Book of Discipline* has passed with no appeal having been filed.<sup>1</sup>

In view of the foregoing, we hereby dismiss for lack of standing the Complainant's seventh (and final) complaint against the Respondent.<sup>2</sup>

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

- Numbers 6:24-26

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> D.13-5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> On February 18, 2025, the clerk of the Beverly Heights Church session notified this commission that, in addition to removing the members of the session from office by judicial sanction, the Respondent voted on February 15, 2025 "to formally acknowledge the departure of Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church from the EPC." Thus, the clerk concluded, "it is our understanding from the [Respondent] that Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church no longer has standing nor membership in the EPC and is now an independent congregation. …. [A]s an independent congregation, we will no longer pursue or respond to any complaints filed previously with the Permanent Judicial Commission of the EPC."