

**Second Session**  
**Wednesday, June 18, 2026**

**46-20 Morning Worship**

**Order of Worship**

Worship began at 9:00 a.m. with leadership from the Cherry Creek Praise Team. The court continued in worship as noted below:

For the Beauty of the Earth  
His Mercy Is More  
Speak O Lord  
The Blessing

Scripture

John 4: 1-6

Sermon

“I Can See Us Together.

TE Megan Hackman (Pacific Northwest)

Benediction

TE Brad Strait (West)

**46-21 Call to Order**

Moderator RE Jack Cathey (Coastal Carolinas) called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**46-22 Great Commission Share and Prayer**

TE Mark Grapengater (West) shared about the Table Project Church plant and concluded his report with prayer.

**46-23 Approval of the Dockets and Announcements**

**ON MOTION** The dockets for Business Session 2 and 3 were adopted as follows

**General Assembly Business Session 2**

- 2.1 Business Convenes – Moderator RE Jack Cathey
- 2.2 Great Commission Share and Opening Prayer - TE Mark Grapengater  
*The Table Project, Denver, CO*
- 2.3 Approval of the Docket for Sessions 2 and 3 and Announcements

- TE Dean Weaver
- 2.4 Nominating Committee – Partial Report – TE Mike Goolsby
  - a. **Recommendation 46-06** Permanent Committee Nominees - 1<sup>st</sup> reading.
  - b. **Recommendation 46-07** 2026-2027 Permanent Nominating Committee and BRI Chair -1<sup>st</sup> reading.
- 2.5 Matters Received and Referred TE – Dean Weaver
  - a. **Recommendation 46-08** (p.36) **Descending Overture 45-A**
    - 1. Ratifying Amendment to BOG.11-2
  - b. **Recommendation 46-09** (p.40) **Descending Overture 45-B**
    - 1. Ratifying Amendment to BOG.18-3.E
  - c. **Recommendation 46-10** (p.43) **Descending Overture 45-C**
    - 1. Ratifying Amendment to BOG.19-4.B
  - d. **Recommendation 46-11** (p.45) **Descending Overture 45-D**
    - 1. Ratifying Amendment to BOG.21-2.D.1
  - e. **Consideration of Failed Overture**
    - 1. Revising the Position Paper on the Ordination of Women
- 2.6 Report from Church Health Team  
TE Marc de Jeu National Director of Church Health
- 2.7 Report of Ad-Interim Committee on Ordination Standards  
TE’s Julie Hawkins and Doug Resler, Co-Chairs
  - a. **Recommendations 46-12; (46-13); 46-14; (46-15); 46-16; (46-17); 46-18; 46-19, 46-20; 46-21;46-22; 46-23; 46-24**  
***\*Each Recommendation to be voted on individually***
- 2.8 Report of the Revelation 7:9 Team  
TE’s Rufus Smith and Andrew Smith
- 2.9 Report of Disaster Relief Committee  
TE Whitney Alexander
- 2.10 Great Commission Share and Closing Prayer  
RE Daniel Edwards *The Way City Church, Birmingham, AL*

### **General Assembly Business Session 3**

- 3.1 Business Convenes – Moderator RE Jack Cathey
- 3.2 Great Commission Share and Opening Prayer – TE Ro Taylor  
*Restoration Church, Hattiesburg, MS*
- 3.3 Invitation to the 47<sup>th</sup> General Assembly – TE George Robertson
  - a. **Recommendation 46-25**
- 3.4 Stated Clerk’s Report - TE Dean Weaver
- 3.5 Committee Assignments and Instructions – TE Dean Weaver

a. New Business

3.6 Great Commission Share and Closing Prayer – RE Jack Cathey  
*Moderator of 46<sup>th</sup> GA and Chair of National Church Planting Team*

3.7 Adjournment

## **46-24 Nominating Committee (partial report)**

TE Mike Goolsby (Great Plains) opened with prayer and brought the Nominating Committee Report.

- a. **Recommendation 46-06** That the 46<sup>th</sup> EPC General Assembly elect the slate of nominees for the 47<sup>th</sup> EPC General Assembly permanent committees and boards. (First Reading)
- b. **Recommendation 46-07** That the 46<sup>th</sup> EPC General assembly elect the 2026-2027 Chairman for the BRI Board of Directors and the slate of nominees to fill vacancies on the Permanent Nominating Committee. (First Reading)

**Insert slate of nominees**

## **46-25 Stated Clerks Report**

Stated Clerk TE Dean Weaver (Alleghenies) opened his report with prayer and brought Matters Received.

- a. **Recommendation 46-08** Descending Overture 45-A
  1. Ratifying Amendment to G.11-2

**ON MOTION Recommendation 46-08** Descending Overture 45-A on amending G. 11-2 related to Candidate/Applicant language was ratified.

- b. **Recommendation 46-09** Descending Overture 45-B
  1. Ratifying Amendment to G.18-3.E

**ON MOTION Recommendation 46-09** Descending Overture 45-B on amending G. 18-3 related to Session's immediate jurisdiction over Applicant and Candidate was ratified.

- c. **Recommendation 46-10** Descending Overture 45-C
  1. Ratifying Amendment to G.19-4.B

**ON MOTION Recommendation 46-10** Descending Overture 45-C on amending G. 19-4.B related to clarifying Applicant/Candidate language was ratified.

- d. **Recommendation 46-11** Descending Overture 45-D
  1. Ratifying Amendment to G.21-2.D.1

**ON MOTION Recommendation 46-11** Descending Overture 45-D on amending G. 21-2.D.1

related to Ministerial Committee responsibility for Applicants and Candidates was ratified.

- e. Consideration of Rivers and Lakes Rejected Overture in accordance with *Rules for Assembly* 7-5.
  - 1. Revising the Position Paper on the Ordination of Women (scripture references)
  - 2. An explanation was provided by TE Jeffrey Durham (Rivers and Lakes)

**ON MOTION** The request for the Assembly to consider the rejected Overture was NOT adopted.

(Needed 2/3 vote to pass) 407 YES, 337 NO, 18 ABSTENTIONS = 762 VOTES (53% YES with 66% needed)

## **46-26 Church Health Team Report**

TE Marc DeJeu, (Alleghenies) National Director of Church Health opened with prayer and presented the Bart Hess Award to Calvin Presbyterian Church in Ellwood City, Pennsylvania.

## **46-27 Report of Ad-Interim Committee on Ordination Standards**

TE Julie Hawkins (Pacific Northwest) and TE Doug Resler (West) brought the report. Julie opened the report with prayer

- a. **Recommendation 46-12** Proposed Amendment to the Book of Government 11-2.G. **Recommendation 46-13** noted the PJC determined **Recommendation 46-12** met the standards of clarity and consistency of language and for compatibility with other provisions of the Constitution of the EPC.

**ON MOTION Recommendation 46-12** Clarifying Ordination criteria was ratified.

- b. **Recommendation 46-14** Proposed Amendment to the Book of Government 11-2.H. **Recommendation 46-15** noted the PJC determined **Recommendation 46-14** met the standards of clarity and consistency of language and for compatibility with other provisions of the Constitution of the EPC.

**ON MOTION Recommendation 46-14** Clarifying Ordination criteria was ratified.

- c. **Recommendation 46-16** Proposed Amendment to the Book of Government 12-2. **Recommendation 46-17** noted the PJC determined **Recommendation 46-16** met the standards of clarity and consistency of language and for compatibility with other provisions of the Constitution of the EPC.

**ON MOTION Recommendation 46-16** clarifying Ordination exam process was ratified.

- d. **Recommendation 46-18** Proposed Core Curriculum for ordination.

**ON MOTION Recommendation 46-18** proposing Core Curriculum for ordination was ratified.

- e. **Recommendation 46-19** Proposed sunset provision for CEEP Candidates.  
**ON MOTION Recommendation 46-19** proposing a sunset provision for CEEP Candidates was ratified.
- f. **Recommendation 46-20** Recommended review of Ministerial Committee job description.  
**ON MOTION Recommendation 46-20** recommending review of the Ministerial Committee job description was ratified.
- g. **Recommendation 46-21** Adding to *Rules of Assembly* clarifying language about the role of the Ministerial Vocations Committee.  
**ON MOTION Recommendation 46-21** adding clarifying language to the *Rules of the Assembly* regarding the role of the Ministerial Vocations Committee was ratified.
- h. **Recommendation 46-22** Study of reestablishing licensure.  
**ON MOTION Recommendation 46-22** proposing a study to consider reestablishing licensure was ratified.
- i. **Recommendation 46-23** Possible archiving of Acts of Assembly no longer in effect.  
**ON MOTION Recommendation 46-23** considering archiving Acts of Assembly no longer in effect was ratified.
- j. **Recommendation 46-24** Dismissing the Ad-interim Committee on Ordination Standards.  
**ON MOTION Recommendation 46-24** dismissing with appreciation the Ad-interim Committee on Ordination Standards was ratified.

## **46-28 Report of Revelation 7:9 Team**

TE's Rufus Smith (Central South) and TE Andrew Smith (East) opened with prayer and presented an update of the work of the 7:9 Team.

## **46-29 Report of the Disaster Relief Committee**

TE Whitney Alexander (Gulf South) opened with prayer and presented an update of the work of the Disaster Relief Committee.

## **46-30 Great Commission Share and Prayer**

RE Daniel Edwards (Central South) shared regarding the Way City Church plant in Birmingham, Alabama, and recessed the meeting with prayer.

## **46-31 General Assembly Business Session 3**

Moderator RE Jack Cathey (Coastal Carolinas) led in prayer convening Business Session 3.

## **46-32 Great Commission Share and Prayer**

TE Ro Taylor (Gulf South) shared regarding Restoration Church in Hattiesburg, Mississippi concluding with prayer.

## **46-33 Invitation to the 47<sup>th</sup> EPC General Assembly**

TE George Robertson (Central South) opened with prayer and extended an invitation for Second Presbyterian Church in Memphis, Tennessee to host the 47<sup>th</sup> EPC General Assembly from June 15-17, 2027.

**ON MOTION Recommendation 46-25** Invitation from the Second Presbyterian Church in Memphis, Tennessee invitation to host the 47<sup>th</sup> General Assembly was adopted.

## **46-34 Stated Clerks Report**

Stated Clerk TE Dean Weaver (Alleghenies) opened with prayer and recognized RE John Adamson (Central South), TE Bill Dudley (Southeast), RE Ron Bengelink (Pacific Northwest), TE Fred Lian (West) for their service to the church and honored the life of TE Scott McKee (Midwest).

New business item brought to the Assembly.

That the 46th General Assembly **DIRECT** the Permanent Committee on Fraternal Relations to prepare a report to the 47th General Assembly concerning the Evangelical Presbyterian Church's fraternal relationship with the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARP), including:

1. A summary of the history of the EPC-ARP fraternal relationship, especially during the preceding decade;
2. A record of fraternal delegates exchanged between the EPC and ARP;
3. A summary of official and other substantive communications between the EPC and ARP relating to that relationship;
4. An analysis of the concerns expressed by the ARP in connection with its June 2026 decision to terminate fraternal relations with the EPC; and
5. Any recommendations the Committee may deem appropriate for strengthening the EPC's existing fraternal relationships.

**ON MOTION** this item was received by the Assembly by 2/3 vote (*Rules for Assembly* 13-3) and was referred to the Standing Committee on Fraternal Relations.

## **46-35 Adjournment**

Moderator RE Jack Cathey (Coastal Carolinas) closed with prayer. Commissioners were dismissed to their Standing Committees assignments.

## **46-36 Worship**

Music was led by the Cherry Creek Choir

Call to Worship

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God  
Holy Forever  
Behold How Good  
Speak O Lord  
Goodness Of God

Scripture

Ephesians 6: 10-20

Sermon

“Not Each Other”

TE Keon Abner (Alleghenies)

Benediction

The offering was for the Medical Benevolence Fund.