

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
of the  
**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**IN AMERICA**

**Part I**  
**DIRECTORY**  
of General Assembly Committees and Offices

**Part II**  
**JOURNAL**

**Part III**  
**APPENDICES**

**First Presbyterian Church**  
**JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI**  
**SEPTEMBER 9-12, 1975**

The Minutes of the General Assembly is published by the Committee for Christian Education and Publications of the Presbyterian Church in America as authorized by the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.

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**Time and Place of the next Meeting of the General Assembly:**

**The week of September 13, 1976, (The hour of convening to be determined.)  
Greenville, South Carolina**



**MINUTES**  
  
**of the**  
  
**THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
  
**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

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**First Presbyterian Church**  
**JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI**  
**SEPTEMBER 9-12, 1975**

## SUCCESSION OF MODERATORS

<b>Assembly</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Place of Asembly</b>
1st	1973	Hon. W. Jack Williamson	Birmingham, AL
2nd	1974	Rev. Erskine L. Jackson	Macon, GA
3rd	1975	Judge Leon F. Hendrick	Jackson, MS

# PART I

## DIRECTORY OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES AND OFFICES

### Officers of the General Assembly

#### Moderator

Judge Leon F. Hendrick  
P. O. Box 1473  
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

#### Stated Clerk

The Rev. Morton H. Smith  
P. O. Box 256  
Clinton, Mississippi 39056  
Phone: 601-924-7403

### Offices of the General Assembly

#### Business Administrator

Dr. Dan Moore  
P. O. Box 6287  
Columbus, Georgia 31907  
Phone: 404-563-4616

#### Coordinator for Christian Education and Publications

The Rev. Paul G. Settle  
1020 Monticello Court  
Montgomery, Alabama 36109  
Phone: 205-277-3100

#### Coordinator for Mission to the United States

The Rev. Larry C. Mills  
P. O. Box 16302  
Jackson, Mississippi 39206  
Phone: 601-981-4241

#### Coordinator for Mission to the World

The Rev. John Kyle  
P. O. Box 1744  
Decatur, Georgia 30031  
Phone: 404-292-8345

# MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## I. PERMANENT COMMITTEES COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION

### Teaching Elders:

Bruce Wideman  
First Presbyterian Church  
P. O. Box 4862  
Jackson, Mississippi 39216

Frank E. Smith  
804 North Mills Drive  
Johnson City, Tennessee 37601

Harold R. Patteson  
629 Wildwood  
Columbia, South Carolina 29203

### Ruling Elders:

#### Class of 1979

J. B. Caulfield  
Water Valley, Mississippi 38965

L. M. Young  
720 Chester Avenue, N.W.  
Roanoke, Virginia 24017

#### Class of 1978

S. Elliott Belcher  
Brent, Alabama 35034

#### Class of 1977

E. Crowell Cooley  
406 South Navy Boulevard  
Warrington, Florida 32507

William Swain  
9111 Aduana Avenue  
Miami, Florida 33146

William Joseph  
3230 Thomas Avenue  
Montgomery Alabama 36106

#### Class of 1976

Gordon Reed, Chairman  
14101 S.W. 99th Avenue  
Miami, Florida 33156

John Spencer  
3500 Mill Run Road  
Birmingham, Alabama 35223

Charles Dunahoo  
1596 Collier Drive, S.E.  
Smyrna, Georgia 30080

In addition to the above classes of members, the following are **Ex Officio** members of the Committee on Administration:

### The Moderator:

Judge Leon Hendrick  
P. O. Box 1473  
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

### The Immediate Past Moderator:

The Rev. Erskine L. Jackson  
P. O. Box 577  
Kosciusko, Mississippi 39090

### The Stated Clerk:

The Rev. Morton H. Smith  
P. O. Box 256  
Clinton, Mississippi 39056

The Chairmen of the three Permanent Committees, which the By Laws stipulate are to be elected at the first meeting of the Committee following the General Assembly, for this year are:

## DIRECTORY

5

### Committee for Christian Education and Publications:

The Rev. Harold Borchert  
P. O. Box 336  
Miami, Florida 33157

### Committee on Mission to the United States:

The Rev. Cecil Williamson  
221 Cone Drive  
Selma, Alabama 36701

### Committee on Mission the the World:

The Rev. Donald B. Patterson  
P. O. Box 4862  
Jackson, Mississippi 39216

### Alternates

Paul E. Rowland  
93 Main Street  
Savannah, Georgia 31408

E. C. Hammond  
324 Blanton Road, N.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30342

### Consultant on Administration until June 1, 1976

### Business Administrator after June 1, 1976

Ruling Elder Dan Moore  
P. O. Box 6287  
Columbus, Georgia 31907

## COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL BUSINESS

### Teaching Elders

### Ruling Elders

#### Class of 1978

Wick Broomall  
1096 N. Carter  
Decatur, Georgia 30030

Robert H. Kirksey  
Aliceville, Alabama 35442

#### Class of 1977

James E. Moore  
3340 Lynchburg  
Memphis, Tennessee 38118

George Gulley  
505 Storm Avenue  
Brookhaven, Mississippi 39601

#### Class of 1976

Todd Allen, Chairman  
4311 Monserrate Avenue  
Coral Gables, Florida 33146

John Barnes  
652 Sedgewood Drive  
Rock Hill, South Carolina 29730

### Alternates

John Holmes  
1401 Bonita Avenue  
Opelika, Alabama 36801

James Wilkerson, Jr.  
Woodville, Mississippi 39669

## TRUSTEES FOR THE INSURANCE AND ANNUITY FUND

Class of 1980: Rev. Thomas Barnes  
P. O. Box 385  
Itta Bena, Mississippi 38941

Mr. Chester B. Hall  
401 Dorsey Way  
Louisville, Kentucky 40223

# MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- Class of 1979: Mr. Alexander McKensey  
408 Boyd Lane  
Tyler, Texas 75701  
Mr. C. E. Hornsby  
Centreville, Alabama 35042
- Class of 1978: Mr. William Swain  
c/o Florida National Bank of Coral Gables  
P. O. Box 1609  
Coral Gables, Florida 33134  
Mr. James E. Allen  
c/o Deposit Guaranty National Bank  
P. O. Box 1200  
Jackson, Mississippi 39205
- Class of 1977: Rev. E. Crowell Cooley  
406 South Navy Boulevard  
Pensacola, Florida 32507  
Mr. William J. McLeod, Jr.  
P. O. Box 68  
Coral Gables, Florida 33134
- Class of 1976: Mr. William Joseph  
3230 Thomas Avenue  
Montgomery, Alabama 36106  
Rev. Harry Schutte  
3100 Covenant Road  
Columbia, South Carolina 29204  
Annuity Office  
P. O. Box 6287  
Columbus, Georgia 31907

## SUB-COMMITTEE ON INTERCHURCH RELATIONS

### Teaching Elders

Timothy Fortner  
1303 Bellemeade Boulevard  
Jacksonville, Florida 32211

William A. McIlwaine  
1107 East Hernandez  
Pensacola, Florida 32503

Donald C. Graham, Chairman  
3433 Robinson Bayou Circle  
Panama City, Florida 32401  
Morton H. Smith, Stated Clerk,  
Ex Officio  
P. O. Box 256  
Clinton, Mississippi 39056

### Ruling Elders

#### Class of 1978

Ivan Ward  
Route #2, Box 136  
Greeneville, Tennessee 37743

#### Class of 1977

James Peaster  
964 Belaire Circle  
Yazoo City, Mississippi 39194

#### Class of 1976

John Clark  
2724 Ingleside Avenue  
Macon, Georgia 31204

### Alternates

Leon Wardell  
150 Kempsville Road  
Norfolk, Virginia 23502

Curtice Eatman  
c/o Eutaw Presbyterian Church  
300 Main Street  
Eutaw, Alabama 35462

**COMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS****Teaching Elders**

Thomas Patete  
P. O. Box 312  
Marks, Mississippi 38646

Don K. Clements  
1307 East 37th Street  
Savannah, Georgia 31404

Jack B. Scott  
700 Meadowhill Lane  
Clinton, Mississippi 39056

Harold Borchert, Chairman  
P. O. Box 336  
Miami, Florida 33157

James A. Turner  
Trinity Presbyterian Church  
Felder at Hull  
Montgomery, Alabama 36104

E. Lee Trinkle III  
7803 Hestia Place  
Pensacola, Florida 32506

R. Eugene Hunt  
5848 Vesta Brook Drive  
Morrow, Georgia 30260

**Ruling Elders**

Charles Parks  
2232 Wilkins Street  
Burlington, North Carolina 27215

Edward Robeson  
119 York Street  
Chester, South Carolina 29706

Roy Gamble  
12101 S.W. 188th Terrace  
Miami, Florida 33157

Donald Boerama  
1261 Ramiro  
Coral Gables, Florida 33156

Hugh Cunningham  
229 N.W. 14th Avenue  
Gainesville, Florida 32501

Frank Horton  
704 Leake Street  
Clinton, Mississippi 39056

**Alternates**

O. H. Smith III  
1806 East Blount Street  
Pensacola, Florida 32503

**Coordinator**

The Rev. Paul G. Settle  
1020 Monticello Court  
Montgomery, Alabama 36109

**COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES****Teaching Elders**

J. Philip Clark  
610 North Glendale Avenue  
Glendale, California 91206

**Ruling Elders**

J. T. Russell  
101 Westview Place  
Waynesville, North Carolina 28786

Walter Hatterick  
White Oak Pike  
Cynthiana, Kentucky 41031

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY****Class of 1978**

Robert A. Koren  
7806 N.W. 74th Terrace  
Tamarac, Florida 33313

Harold Tolsma  
2248 Swift Boulevard  
Houston, Texas 77025

Henry M. Hope, Jr.  
2193 Vineville Avenue  
Macon, Georgia 31204

**Class of 1977**

Frank Barker  
3181 Dolly Ridge Drive  
Birmingham, Alabama 35243

Robert Wilcox  
Route #2  
Denver, North Carolina 28037

Vernon Cotten  
204 Cotten Boulevard  
Carthage, Mississippi 39051

**Class of 1976**

Cecil Williamson, Chairman  
221 Cone Drive  
Selma, Alabama 36701

William Stevenson  
3917 Ridgewood Drive  
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**Alternates**

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P. O. Box 505-B  
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1822 Roundhill Terrace  
Charleston, West Virginia 25314

**Coordinator**

The Rev. Larry C. Mills  
P. O. Box 16302  
Jackson, Mississippi 39206

**COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE WORLD****Teaching Elders**

Lardner Moore  
618 North Cleveland  
Sherman, Texas 75090

Kennedy Smartt  
1600 Atlantic Street  
Hopewell, Virginia 23806

**Ruling Elders****Class of 1979**

Kenneth Keyes  
P. O. Box 341716  
Coral Gables, Florida 33134

**Class of 1978**

William J. Stanway  
912 Live Oak Drive  
Clinton, Mississippi 39056

H. Clifford Horton  
Highway 17 South  
Aliceville, Alabama 35442

Charles T. Wolf, Jr.  
1804 Crystal Lake Circle  
Macon, Georgia 31206

**Class of 1977**

James Baird  
263 Candler Drive  
Macon, Georgia 31204

Gerald Sovereign  
324 Valencia  
Gulf Breeze, Florida 32561



David E. Hamilton  
1805 Vaughn Road  
Burlington, North Carolina 27215

**Class of 1976**

Donald B. Patterson, Chairman  
P. O. Box 4862  
Jackson, Mississippi 39216

Jay Wood  
3939 Briarcliff Road, N.E.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30329

Roger DeHaven  
3911 Pinedale  
Tyler, Texas 75701

**Alternates**

W. H. Benchoff  
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1913 Lynn Cove Lane  
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454

**Coordinator**

The Rev. John Kyle  
P. O. Box 1744  
Decatur, Georgia 30031

**ASSEMBLY THEOLOGICAL EXAMINING COMMITTEE****Teaching Elders****Ruling Elders****Class of 1978**

David Jussely  
P. O. Box 9125  
Centreville, Mississippi 39631

Harry P. Musser  
903 Evanwood Road  
P. O. Box 2109  
Charleston, West Virginia 25328

**Class of 1977**

John McNicoll  
3802 NASA Route #1  
Seabrook, Texas 77596

Howard Q. Davis  
Indianola, Mississippi 38751

**Class of 1976**

John Oliver  
642 Telfair Street  
Augusta, Georgia 30902

Ligon Duncan  
12 Afton Avenue  
Greenville, South Carolina 29601

**Alternates**

Daniel Morse  
701 Tanglewood Drive  
Clinton, Mississippi 39056

Robert Scruggs  
147 Dover  
Spartanburg, South Carolina 29301

**AD-INTERIM COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE NUMBER OF OFFICES  
OF THE CHURCH****Teaching Elders****Ruling Elders**

Don K. Clements  
1307 East 37th Street  
Savannah, Georgia 31404

Ligon Duncan  
12 Afton Avenue  
Greenville, South Carolina 29601

Donald Dunkerley  
1220 East Blount Street  
Pensacola, Florida 32503

Robert H. Kirksey  
Aliceville, Alabama 35442

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Morton H. Smith  
P. O. Box 256  
Clinton, Mississippi 39056

Dr. R. C. Sproule  
Ligonier Valley Study Center  
Route #1  
Stahlstown, Pennsylvania 15687

John C. Snyder  
603 Cortland Drive, East  
McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania 15136

Jules Vroon  
100 North Biscayne Boulevard  
Miami, Florida 33132

For the Ad-Interim Committee:

"3-31 The Assembly adopted the following motion: The whole matter be committed to a new Ad-Interim Committee which shall be elected after nomination by the Nominating Committee . . . 3-33 That the answers to overtures on administration of sacraments by ruling elders (1974 Minutes 2-29); right of a session to elect its own moderator (1974 Minutes 2-70); office of assistant pastor (1974 Minutes 2-71); and one concerning the nature of ordination (1974 Minutes 2-98), be committed to the new Ad-Interim Committee for their study and answer to the Fourth General Assembly . . . 3-83 Instruction to the Ad-Interim Committee. The Assembly charged the Ad-Interim Committee on Number of Offices in the Church to include in its report exegetical defenses of both the two office and three office views."

## AD-INTERIM COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL DOCUMENTS

**Teaching Elders**

Charles H. Dunahoo, Chairman  
1956 Collier Drive, S.E.  
Smyrna, Georgia 30080

Frank M. Barker, Jr.  
3181 Dolly Ridge Drive  
Birmingham, Alabama 35243

Donald B. Patterson  
P. O. Box 4862  
Jackson, Mississippi 39202

Morton H. Smith  
P. O. Box 256  
Clinton, Mississippi 39056

**Ruling Elders**

John Barnes  
652 Sedgewood Drive  
Rock Hill, South Carolina 29731

W. Jack Williamson  
P. O. Box 467  
Greenville, Alabama 36037

## SPECIAL EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

**Teaching Elders**

O. Palmer Robertson  
Westminster Theological Seminary  
Chestnut Hill  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 18119

Harold R. Patteson  
629 Wildwood  
Columbia, South Carolina 29203

G. Aiken Taylor  
P. O. Box 3108  
Asheville, North Carolina 28802

Fred D. Thompson, Jr.  
P. O. Box 161  
Roebuck, South Carolina 29376

**Ruling Elders**

M. B. Swayze  
1205 Rose Hill Circle  
Jackson, Mississippi 39202

The General Assembly adopted the following regarding the Special Constitutional Documents Editorial Committee:

3-19 "(1) That this General Assembly complete the process of adopting the **Book of Church Order** (Form of Government, Rules of Discipline, Directory for Worship), as presented by the Committee on Constitutional Documents, including whatever action the Assembly may determine upon the report of the Ad-Interim Committee to Study the Number of Offices in the Church.

(2) That the Assembly turn the completed **Book of Church Order** over to the Editorial Committee, authorizing a thorough editing of the whole, agreeable to the form and content of the sample pages appended to this report. Where this work includes proposed substantive changes, these shall be added as alternate reading clearly marked and identified in the text to facilitate Assembly consideration.

(3) That the Committee on Constitutional Documents be continued for consultation with this Committee in any matters affecting substance.

(4) That the finished product be submitted in time to be distributed to the churches at least three months before the meeting of the General Assembly to which it will be submitted for adoption."



## PART II JOURNAL

### MINUTES — TUESDAY AFTERNOON

September 9, 1975

#### First Session

#### 3-1 The Assembly Called to Order

The Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America, meeting at the First Presbyterian Church, Jackson, Mississippi, was called to order at 1:00 P.M. on September 9, 1975, by the Moderator, Teaching Elder Erskine L. Jackson, who led the Assembly in an opening prayer, after the Assembly had sung "Crown Him with Many Crowns."

#### 3-2 Report on Enrollment and Determination of a Quorum

The Stated Clerk announced a quorum was present.

The final enrollment of Commissioners is recorded as follows:

#### 1. PRESBYTERY OF THE ASCENSION

Churches	Teaching Elders	Ruling Elders
Volant, Church of the Living Word	Richard C. Knodel	
Akron, Faith	Carl W. Bogue	James Bruder
Pittsburgh, Providence	Arthur Broadwick	John Snyder
Monroeville, Sovereign Grace	Frank Moser	Warren Diven
	Eric Perrin	
	Palmer Robertson	
	Alvin W. Smith	

#### 2. CALVARY PRESBYTERY

Churches	Teaching Elders	Ruling Elders
Reidville, Antioch	Joseph Beale	James Hudson
Gaffney, Beech Street		John P. Bell, Sr.
Clover, Bethel	Vernon N. West	R. Pressley Riddle
Kingstree, Bethel	Karl E. Woodmansee	
Greenville, Calvary	John Smith, Jr.	
Moore, Center Point	Fred D. Thompson, Jr.	Robert McAbee
Columbia, Covenant	Harry T. Schutte	John Goodman
	W. Alan Mugler	E. W. Jackson
		Royce Waites
		Archie Barron
Columbia, Eau Claire	Harold R. Patteson	
Fountain Inn, Fairview	Kenneth E. Pollock	
Cheraw, Faith	Charles S. Olim	
York, Filbert	Wayne Rogers	John Hall
Laurens, Friendship	Lonnie A. Priest	Frank Gibert
Greer, Fulton	Loren V. Watson	W. Elmer Mathis
Rock Hill, Hopewell		Carl Barfield
Abbeville, Lebanon	R. Grady Love	Bill Wilson
Roebuck, Mt. Calvary	W. Henry Benchoff	James C. Turner
Kingstree, Mouzon	Karl Woodmansee	
McConnells, Olivet	Samuel B. Hoyt	
Abbeville, New Hope	James L. Moss	Walter Love
Spartanburg, Powell	Jack Giddings	Harold Uldrick
Greenville, Reedy River	J. Gaynor Phillips	
Reidville, Reidville	Joseph Beale	Tray Traynham
Roebuck, Roebuck	Fred D. Thompson, Jr.	Joseph W. DeYoung
Blair, Salem	Kenneth Barnes	

**Churches**

Gaffney, Salem  
Sardinia, Sardinia  
Clover, Scherer Memorial  
Greenville, Second

Chester, Trinity  
Abbeville, Union  
Salters, Union  
Rock Hill, Westminster

Chester, Zion

**Teaching Elders**

Rodney King  
Robert Korn  
Vernon N. West

Curtis W. Medlin  
Willis D. Kerley

Donald Giesmann

Samuel B. Hoyt, Jr.

Fred E. Manning  
Hugh Powlison  
Charles Wilson

**Ruling Elders**

Ted Bankhead  
Norman McFaddin  
Leon C. Glenn  
J. L. Duncan  
C. S. Patterson  
Edward Robeson, III  
William Fisher  
George David  
Robert M. Sumner  
Reid Roach  
J. Simpson Darby

**3. CAROLINA PRESBYTERY****Churches**

Goldsboro, Antioch  
Locust, Carolina  
Belmont, E. Belmont  
Stanley, First  
Denver, Lakeshore  
China Grove, New Hope  
Charlotte, New Life  
Burlington, Northside

Princeton, Progressive  
Belmont, South Point  
High Point, Westminster

**Teaching Elders**

J. Lewis Baker  
R. Thomas Cheely

William T. Smith  
Dewey D. Murphy  
B. David Gullet

David Hamilton

J. Lewis Baker  
Jack Bowling  
William Jones

**Ruling Elders**

Raymond Parnell  
J. P. Carpenter  
Hunter Garrison  
Robert D. Wilcox  
John Houston  
David C. Lockwood, Jr.  
William T. Stratford  
William W. Haynes  
Robert D. Woodard  
Paul N. Ratchford

**4. CENTRAL GEORGIA PRESBYTERY**

Garden City,  
Chapel-in-the-Gardens  
Savannah, Eastern Heights  
Gainesville, Faith  
Savannah, Faith  
Macon, First

Savannah, Hull Memorial  
Savannah, Independent  
of Montgomery  
Sylvania, Liberty  
Perry, Perry  
Macon, Vineville

Jacksonville, Westminster

**Teaching Elders**

Paul F. Rowland  
Don K. Clements  
William Thompson

James M. Baird, Jr.  
Henry Schum

Oliver N. Hamby  
James H. Stewart  
Henry M. Hope, Jr.

Tim Fortner  
James P. Campbell, Jr.  
John W. P. Oliver

**Ruling Elders**

Edward Quarterman  
James Luce  
A. Pierre Vidal  
Ben H. Zeigler  
Thurston D. Futch, Jr.  
John T. Clark  
Raymond Rehm

Howard Haupt

Aldene Lasseter  
John A. Blount  
Charles T. Wolf, Jr.  
Porter Ramsey

**5. COVENANT PRESBYTERY****Churches**

Vaiden, Blackmonton  
Carrollton, Carrollton  
Little Rock, Covenant  
Charleston, First  
Clarendon, First  
Indianola, First  
Water Valley, First  
Itta Bena, Itta Bena  
Jackson, Johnson Memorial

**Teaching Elders**

Claude D. Gamble, Jr.  
Robert S. Hayes  
G. David Russell  
John P. Baldwin  
David E. Goodrum  
Merrill Easterlin  
Edwin P. Elliott, Jr.  
Thomas F. Barnes  
Fred E. Manning, Jr.

**Ruling Elders**

S. P. Riales  
L. L. Langford  
Elmo Lamb  
Elliott McCabe  
Marion Bickett  
James K. Baddley  
Cleveland Davis  
Earl Jagers

**Churches**

Marks, Marks  
 Morgan City, Morgan City  
 Water Valley, Oak Ridge  
 Columbus, Pres. Church of  
 Columbus  
 Vaiden, Shongalo

**Teaching Elders**

Thomas R. Patete  
 Thomas F. Barnes  
 Edwin P. Elliott, Jr.  
  
 Stanley Hartman  
 Claude D. Gamble, Jr.  
  
 Robert Mabson  
 Ford Williams

**Ruling Elders**

Lewis Graeber  
 J. W. Downing  
  
 John Russell  
 Claude Hatcher

**6. EVANGEL PRESBYTERY****Churches**

Birmingham, Briarwood

Shorter, Calebee  
 Clayton, Clayton  
 Clio, Clio  
 Hueytown, Continuing PC  
 Courtland, Courtland  
 Montgomery, Covenant  
 Gadsden, Eastside  
 Huntsville, Ebenezer  
 Anniston, Faith  
 Birmingham, Faith  
 Gadsden, First

Greenville, First  
 Montgomery, First

Muscle Shoals, First  
 Prattville, First  
 Troy, First  
 Tuscumbia, First  
 Eufaula Friendship  
 LaFayette, LaFayette  
 Millbrook, Millbrook  
 Waverly, New Harmony  
 Montgomery, Oak Park  
 Ozark, Ozark  
 Clio, Pea River  
 Clayton, Pleasant View  
 Montgomery, Providence  
 Gadsden, Rainbow  
 Montgomedly, Trinity

Opelika, Trinity  
 Notasulga, Woodland  
 Gadsden, Ward Memorial  
 Chapel  
 Huntsville, Ye Old Barn

**Teaching Elders**

Frank M. Barker, Jr.  
 Dr. Peter R. Doyle  
 Ken Wilson

William Giddens, Jr.  
 James Dodson  
 Charles F. Gwin

Charles Young  
 James B. Sherwood  
 Hubert Stewart  
 Joe York  
 George Mitchell  
 Wayne C. Herring  
 James Bland  
 Gerald G. Morgan  
 William C. Carlson  
 William H. Bell, Jr.  
 Harry N. Miller  
  
 Dennis Disselkoen  
 Adrian DeYoung  
 John Clelland  
 Ronald Siegenthaler  
 Joseph P. McGhan  
 William Giddens, Jr.  
 William C. Dinwiddie  
 William Giddens, Jr.

David Crocker  
 Charles F. Gwin  
 James Dodson

Roy Taylor  
 Robert Ostenson

John D. Holmes  
 William Giddens, Jr.  
 William C. Carlson

John Register

Frank Morse  
 James L. Lyons  
 W. Ingram Phillips  
 Paul Settle  
 Harris Langford

**Ruling Elders**

John Spencer  
 John McKinstry  
 Tom Leopard  
 Aubrey Miree

Henry S. Thigpen

Forrest Cross  
 Johnnie Stallings  
 C. O. Baker, Jr.  
 Joby Walker

Owen Leach  
 W. J. Musselman

Jack Williamson  
 Charles Hightower  
 Donald M. McInnis

Rudolph Russell

James Crump

Alton Courtney  
 Clarence Atkinson

Luther Mills  
 Ben Connally  
 W. F. Joseph, Jr.  
 C. M. Henderson  
 Robert Carnes  
 James T. Johnson  
 John Brown

Hugh Smith

## 7. GRACE PRESBYTERY

**Churches**

Bay Springs, Bay Springs  
 Hattiesburg, Bay St.  
 Ariel, Bethany  
 Mize, Calvary  
 Collins, Collins  
 Ellisville, Ellisville  
 Brookhaven, Faith  
 Biloxi, First

Crystal Springs, First  
 Hattiesburg, First  
 Hazlehurst, First

Picayune, First  
 Taylorsville, First  
 Woodville, First  
 Heidelberg, Heidleberg  
 Gloster, Hoyte Memorial  
 Leakesville, Leakesville  
 Liberty, Liberty  
 Magee, Magee  
 Mt. Olive, Mount Olive  
 Moss Point, Moss Point  
 Petal, Petal  
 Prentiss, Prentiss  
 Waynesboro, Philadelphus

Magee, Sharon  
 Centreville, Thompson  
 Memorial  
 Slidell, Trinity  
 Waynesboro, Waynesboro

**Teaching Elders**

James Shull  
 Edward Jussely  
 David Jussely

Jack Ross  
 John W. Stodhill

Edward Johnson

Billy Combs  
 Charles Cox, Jr.  
 Eugene Case  
 Eugene Reid  
 David Jussely  
 Byron Snapp  
 John Wingard  
 Craig Rowe  
 Charles Carroll  
 John Reeves  
 Charles West  
 French W. Tripp

Norman Bagby

David Jussely  
 James Long

Larry Mills  
 James G. Spencer  
 William Stanway

**Ruling Elders**

Robert McFarland  
 E. W. Liner

M. F. Little  
 Thomas D. Day  
 A. Houston Blackwell  
 Carl Regel  
 Parker Rhett  
 Beechly Combs,  
 Alternate  
 Price Batton  
 James P. Bolton  
 Bill Long  
 S. W. Thorne, Alternate

Max Kennedy  
 James E. Wilkerson, Jr.  
 Benjamin E. Balding  
 Dewitt Smylie  
 Sherman Powell  
 E. L. Caston  
 Marvine White  
 John McNair  
 Marvin McLeod

Guy Magee  
 William B. Whitney  
 Paul S. Griffith,  
 Alternate  
 James Yelverton

Herman Jackson  
 Terence Flanagan  
 Paul Sanders

## 8. GULF COAST PRESBYTERY

**Churches**

Panama City, Covenant  
 Pensacola, Fairfield  
 Valparaiso, First  
 Madison, Madison  
 Pensacola, McIlwain

Quincy, New Philadelphia  
 Mobile, Trinity  
 Warrington, Warrington  
 Tallahassee, Westminster

**Teaching Elders**

Donald C. Graham  
 Lee Trinkle  
 Richard Adelman

Donald Dunkerley

Timothy Elder  
 Joe D. Bishop  
 E. C. Cooley  
 John W. TerLouw

William A. McIlwain

**Ruling Elders**

Lee N. Mattern  
 Allen LaFleur  
 Bobby G. Blaylock  
 Julian Gibson  
 Murdock M. Campbell  
 Gerald Sovereign,  
 Alternate

Robert Smith  
 George K. McLeod  
 Albert E. Tripp  
 Jack Tully



## 9. LOUISIANA PRESBYTERY

**Churches**

Opelousas, First  
 Shreveport, Grace  
 Alexandria, Jackson St.  
 Ruston, John Knox  
 Baton Rouge, Monte Sano

**Teaching Elders**

George H. Taylor, Jr.  
 David Bryson  
 James Lipscomb  
 William Frisbee  
 William L. Mosal

**Ruling Elders**

Allen Long  
 Joe M. Hunt  
 Dick Ayres  
 Volney Pierce  
 Ralph Underwood

## 10. MID-ATLANTIC PRESBYTERY

**Churches**

Norfolk, Calvary  
 Richmond, Calvin  
 Chester, Centralia  
 Virginia Beach, Westminster  
 Madison Heights, Faith  
 Baltimore, Inverness  
 Virginia Beach, New  
 Covenant  
 Martinsburg, Pilgrim  
 Manassas, Reformed  
 Petersburg, Tabb St.  
 Lutherville, Valley  
 Hopewell, West End

**Teaching Elders**

Leon F. Wardell  
 Russell G. Flaxman  
 Harold V. Kuhn  
 Onesimus Rundus  
 Edwin P. Elliott  
 James G. Edwards  
 Ronald C. Harding  
 Kennedy Smartt

**Ruling Elders**

George H. Parron  
 Daniel B. Ice  
 Eugene Friedline  
 A. Frankland Brandt  
 James H. Campbell  
 Lester Kerns  
 James W. Kemper  
 J. Brookes Smith, Jr.  
 Walter Lastovica  
 Thomas Blount  
 Sidney S. Harrison

Hopewell, West Hopewell

Timothy J. Keller  
 Ronald Bossom  
 Christian Keidel  
 Bill Iverson

## 11. MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY

**Churches**

Jackson, Alta Woods  
 Bailey, Bailey  
 Edwards, Bethesda  
 DeKalb, Bloomfield  
 Brandon, Brandon  
 Philadelphia, Carolina  
 Carthage, Carthage

**Teaching Elders**

B. I. Anderson  
 Ronnie Willis  
 Joseph H. Armfield, Jr.  
 Robert Sweet  
 John Allen Little  
 Malcolm A. Bonner

**Ruling Elders**

F. D. Ingebreetsen  
 W. R. Smith  
 G. W. Crawley  
 Watson Flowers  
 J. C. Herring  
 Vernon R. Cotten  
 J. Harry Sasser,  
 Alternate  
 John O'Neal  
 Malcolm McEacharn,  
 Alternate  
 F. E. Brasfield  
 Harold H. Stillions  
 S. A. McLain, Alternate  
 Wesley Patch  
 Leon Hendrick  
 Robert Cannada  
 Ralph Landrum  
 Stokes Robertson  
 Hugh Potts  
 J. R. Lane, Alternate  
 Walter Sullivan  
 Moses Triplett  
 T. D. Bassett  
 W. S. Perry, Jr.  
 Joseph Clarke

DeKalb, DeKalb  
 Delhi, Delhi

Joseph H. Armfield, Jr.  
 Paul Lipe

Edwards, Edwards  
 Belzoni, First

Cecil Brooks

Houston, First  
 Jackson, First

Donald B. Patterson  
 William Whitwer  
 Bruce Wideman  
 Ronald Musselman  
 Erskine L. Jackson

Kosciusko, First

Lexington, First  
 Louisville, First  
 Philadelphia, First  
 Yazoo City, First  
 Forest, Forest

Howard Allen  
 Thomas A. Cook  
 John Allen Little  
 William C. Hughes  
 Charley Chase

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**Churches**

Ofahoma, Forest Grove  
 Goodman, Goodman  
 Lauderdale, Lauderdale  
 Macon, Macon

Bailey, Mt. Carmel  
 Madison, Mt. Hermon  
 Clinton, Mt. Salus

Newton, Newton  
 Jackson, North Park

Canton, Old Madison  
 Pearl, Pearl  
 Preston, Pleasant Springs  
 Jackson, Power Memorial  
 Raymond, Raymond  
 Scooba, Scooba  
 Shuqualak, Shuqualak  
 Jackson, St. Paul  
 Tchula, Tchula  
 Union, Union  
 West, West  
 Jackson, Westminster  
 Meridian, Westminster  
 Vicksburg, Westminster  
 Terry, Wynndale

**Teaching Elders**

Malcolm A. Bonner

Henry Bishop, Jr.

Ronnie Willis

A. Bernard Kuiper

R. Dale McCord  
 Brister Ware

Robert D. Fidler  
 Joseph H. Armfield, Jr.

Jack Eubanks

Danton Ketchum  
 Michael Schnieder  
 Joseph A. Pipa  
 William H. Smith

Thomas Llewelyn

John T. Allen  
 Doyle A. Hulse

Daniel R. Morse  
 John Kyle  
 J. Paul Poynor  
 Jack Scott  
 Morton H. Smith  
 Jack Tackett  
 William W. Wymond  
 Douglas McCullough

**Ruling Elders**

Paul Hand  
 B. B. Clark  
 Lynn F. Sprecher  
 John Barrett, Alternate  
 Ernest Flora, Alternate  
 Ernest George,  
 Alternate  
 Mike Bonito  
 H. C. Raymond  
 A. D. Owings  
 Walter Gwin, Alternate  
 Marks Jenkins  
 Joe Bowden  
 Cecil McNeil, Alternate  
 Frank O. Chisolm  
 Will Moore Brown

P. J. Parkman  
 L. K. Clark  
 C. C. Fleming  
 W. H. McCann  
 Kenny McCain  
 John E. Hays

Walter Campbell  
 Henry B. Phillips  
 Howard Secrest  
 Woodland G. Shockley  
 Clvde W. Reeves  
 Guerrant Smathers,  
 Alternate  
 Ray Sullivan, Alternate

## 12. NEW RIVER PRESBYTERY

**Churches**

St. Albans, Covenant  
 Charleston, Faith  
 Charleston, Kanawha Salines  
 Charleston, Rebecca  
 Littlepage  
 Charleston, So. Ruffner

Roanoke, Westminster  
 Craigsville, Lebanon

**Teaching Elders**

David L. Williams  
 Charles W. McNutt  
 John R. Dodd

Charles W. McNutt  
 William Fitzhenry  
 Warren Thuston  
 Michael Bolus  
 Linwood G. Wilkes

**Ruling Elders**

Alexander Kelemen  
 James Miller  
 Oliver Blake

Robert Kresge  
 Lawrence Stalnaker

Douglas Dority

## 13. NORTH GEORGIA PRESBYTERY

**Churches**

Roswell, Chalcedon  
 Chestnut Mtn., Chestnut Mtn.  
 Atlanta, Emmanuel

**Teaching Elders**

Joseph Morecraft  
 Richard Hunt

**Ruling Elders**

Bobby Strickland  
 Rufus E. Bolton

**Churches**

Fayetteville, Faith  
Decatur, Grace  
Powder Springs, Midway  
Smyrna, Smyrna

Lithonia, Wee Kirk

**Teaching Elders**

Robert Allyn  
Edwin Cunningham, Jr.  
Wilson Smith  
Charles Dunahoo  
Michael Woodham  
Robert G. Valentine

Samuel S. Cappel  
Young H. Park  
Ben Wilkinson  
Hugh Linton  
David W. Clowney

**Ruling Elders**

James Graden  
Charles H. Scott  
James Holcomb, Jr.

James R. Westlake

**14. PACIFIC PRESBYTERY****Churches**

Scottsdale, Trinity  
Santa Barbara, Westminster  
Glendale, Calvary  
Independent

Seattle, Laurelhurst Com. Ch.  
Los Alamos, Sangre de Cristo

**Teaching Elders**

Gerrit DeYoung

J. Philip Clark

Wayne Buchtel

Paul McKaughan

**Ruling Elders**

Ray Hasselbring

George Kipper  
David Forslund

**15. SOUTHERN FLORIDA PRESBYTERY****Churches**

Ft. Lauderdale, Bethany  
Ft. Lauderdale, Covenant

Wauchula, Faith  
Coral Springs, First  
Tamarac, First  
Coral Gables, Granada

Ocala, Grace  
Miami, Kendall

Lake Worth, Lake Osborne  
Miami, LeJeune

Miami, Pinelands  
Delray Beach, Seacrest Blvd.  
Tampa, Seminole

Miami, Shenandoah

Boca Raton, Spanish River  
Miami, Trinity

**Teaching Elders**

David Todd  
Daniel Sulc  
Harry C. George, III  
Russell D. Toms  
Ross Bair  
Robert Koren  
Leonard H. Bullock  
Hal E. McNeely

Jimmy Young  
Gordon K. Reed  
Lawrence C. Roff  
Lynn Downing  
Robert Duhs

Joseph A. Warner  
Richard Watson  
Kenneth Ironside  
Todd Allen

David Nicholas

James Bowen  
Jack Hosman  
Ronald Swafford  
Lesli Thompson  
Jimmy Young

**Ruling Elders**

Cliff Boone  
Joseph High

John S. Edwards, Jr.  
William Szczepanski

Allen Morris  
James Stewart  
Donald Boerema

Paul Beshlin  
Richard Fraser  
David Graves  
William Swain  
Ray Cooper, Alternate  
Bob Van Goetham  
Henry Thode  
Jack Morton

Kenneth Keyes  
Jules Vroon  
Hamilton McCroskey  
Wallace Krohn

**16. TENNESSEE VALLEY PRESBYTERY****Churches**

Chattanooga, Brainerd Hills  
Knoxville, Ebenezer  
Chattanooga, First

**Teaching Elders**

Charles E. Turner  
David G. K. Howe  
Ben Haden

**Ruling Elders**

Marvin Catron  
Oliver A. Smith, Jr.  
J. Polk Smartt

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**Churches**

Hixson, Hixson  
Alcoa, Trinity  
Signal Mtn., Wayside  
Harriman, West Hills  
Knoxville, West Hills  
Chattanooga, Westminster  
Columbia, Zion

**Teaching Elders**

Gene Craven

Herbert L. Broadwater  
Basil Albert  
Richard Harris

Frederick C. Fowler

Robert L. LaMay

H. William Link

**Ruling Elders**

T. Hooke McCallie  
Robert H. Venable  
Charles Flatt  
John McWhorter,  
Alternate  
Roy Jackson, Alternate

Charles Sutton

Robert Smith  
Russel B. Miller  
Everett Allen  
Robert Stoops

## 17. TEXAS PRESBYTERY

**Churches**

Houston, Covenant  
Tyler, Fifth Street

Strawn, First  
Paris, First  
Dallas, John Knox  
Dallas, Lakewood  
Irving, National  
Houston, Oaklawn  
Seabrook, Westminster  
Houston, Westminster Chapel

**Teaching Elders**

Laurie Jones  
Dan McCown  
Dave Matthews  
Bill Buckner  
Eric McQuitty  
Charles Cobb, Jr.  
John Pyles

Thomas E. Hoolsema  
John McNicoll  
Powell Harrison

John Bowling  
Lardner W. Moore

**Ruling Elders**

Harold Tolsma  
Glen Milham

A. H. Burton  
Ray Sanders  
Robert K. Schmitz  
William Borden  
L. J. Caniff

## 18. VANGUARD PRESBYTERY

**Churches**

Cynthiana, Covenant  
Louisville, First

**Teaching Elders**

George M. McGuire

Richard Dye  
John Johnson

**Ruling Elders**

Donald R. Stephens  
Earle L. Glenn

## 19. WARRIOR PRESBYTERY

**Churches**

Sumterville, Bethel First  
Brent, Brent  
Selma, Crescent Hill  
Aliceville, First  
Boligee, First  
Centreville, First  
Eutaw, First  
Greensboro, First  
Sweetwater, Geneva  
Linden, Linden  
Marion, Marion  
Tuscaloosa, Riverwood  
Selma, Woodland Heights  
York, York

**Teaching Elders**

William Mason  
Cecil Williamson  
Thomas Kay  
Julian Stennis  
Leonard Van Horn  
Fred Malone

Julian Stennis  
Theodore Martin

John Robertston  
William Rose  
John W. Jamison, Jr.

**Ruling Elders**

John D. Lavender  
Elliot Belcher

Hugh C. Horton

C. E. Hornsby, Jr.  
R. S. Colson  
Pascal A. Tutwiler

Charles A. Miller, Jr.  
M. Lavoy Breland

John Van Derveer  
John H. Bell

## 20. WESTERN CAROLINA PRESBYTERY

**Churches**

Waynesville, Covenant  
 Marion, Drusilla  
 Black Mtn., Friendship  
 Hazelwood, Hazelwood  
 Marion, Landis Memorial  
 Swannanoa, Swannanoa  
 Asheville, Trinity

**Teaching Elders**

Harold Borchert  
  
 C. D. Murphy  
 Carl W. McMurray

**Ruling Elders**

J. T. Russell, Jr.  
 Floyd N. Millsaps  
 William Hinkle  
 Rufus Summerrow  
 Kenneth Lael  
 Wilbur Ward  
 Charles Boyce

G. Aiken Taylor

## 21. WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERY

**Churches**

Johnson City, Asbury  
 Kingsport, Bridwell Heights  
 Bristol, Eastern Heights  
 Bristol, Edgemont  
 Haysi, Dickenson  
 Greenville, Meadow Creek  
 Jonesboro, Midway  
 Pulaski, Pulaski National  
 Kingsport, Westminster  
 Frank, Frank  
 Newland, Fellowship

**Teaching Elders**

Frank K. Chapo  
 Bruce Garriss  
 Daniel F. Barr  
  
 William S. Martin, Jr.  
 Larry Ball  
 Frank E. Smith  
 David Osborne  
 Kerry Hurst  
 Philip Evaul  
 Philip Evaul

**Ruling Elders**

Frank Clark  
 Robert E. Lane  
  
 Hadley Pobst  
  
 Ivan L. Ward  
 Edwin Meeks  
  
 John G. Thompson

Henry Mueller

James Pakala

James A. Jones, Jr.

Final Totals — Teaching Elders 284, Ruling Elders 259, Churches 294

Ruling Elder Alternates who served as principals for part of the Assembly 18

## 3-3 Excuses for Absence

The following commissioners from whom requests had been received were excused for their absences:

Frank W. Aderholdt, Jr.  
 Sidney B. Anderson  
 Wick Broomall  
 Donald R. Esty  
 Guy N. Fowler

James E. Moore  
 John E. Richards  
 J. Burdette Slicer  
 Eurie Hayes Smith III

## 3-4 Adoption of the Docket

The Stated Clerk presented the proposed docket for the Third General Assembly, which included the following variations from the Rules for Assembly Operation, thus requiring the suspension of the Rules by a two thirds majority vote of the total enrollment: the change of time for the opening worship service to the first evening, and the setting of the morning worship services at 10:45 A.M. instead 8:00 A.M.

The Clerk moved the adoption of the Docket as proposed, with the necessary suspension of the rules. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**Tuesday, September 9, 1975**

1:00 P.M.- 5:30 P.M.

Opening Session of the Assembly at the  
First Presbyterian Church

Formal Opening with Prayer

Report on Enrollment and the Determining of  
a Quorum

Presentation of the Docket by the Clerk

Reception of New Presbyteries

Election of the Moderator

Election of Recording and Temporary Clerks

Welcome of the Host Church

Report of the Retiring Moderator

Reference of Communications, Overtures and  
Resolutions

Method of handling Judicial Complaint to be  
presented

Proposed Changes in Rules for Assembly  
Operation

Report of the Constitutional Documents  
Committee

Report of Ad Interim Committee on Number  
of Officers

7:30 P.M.- 9:30 P.M.

Worship Service  
Order of Worship  
Prelude  
Doxology  
Invocation  
Hymn #10 — "Praise Ye the Lord, the Al-  
mighty"  
Anthem: Adult Choir, First Presbyterian  
Church  
Moderator's Sermon: Rev. Erskine Jackson  
Anthem: Adult Choir, First Presbyterian  
Church  
Institution and Celebration of the Lord's  
Supper: Rev. Adrian DeYoung  
Hymn #111 — "All Hail the Power of Jesus'  
Name"  
Benediction

Introduction of and greetings from Fraternal  
Delegates

Recognition of the Special Guests — including  
Foreign Dignitaries

Wednesday, September 10, 1975, Thursday, September 11, 1975,  
Friday, September 12, 1975 —

- 8:00 A.M. Assembly Reconvened  
Minutes of Previous Day's Sessions Read  
Report of Constitutional Documents  
Committee Continued  
Report of Nominating Committee
- 10:45 A.M.-11:30 A.M. Worship Service (Mission to the World,  
Wednesday; Christian Education and Publi-  
cations, Thursday; Mission to the United  
States, Friday)
- 11:30 A.M. Recess for Lunch
- 1:30 P.M. Assembly Reconvened  
Reports of Committees of Commissioners  
(The order of these reports will be determined  
by the Program Committee and announced  
at the beginning of each day.)
1. Administration — Special Order, first item  
of business after the reading of the Minutes  
Thursday morning
  2. Bills and Overtures
  3. Christian Education and Publications
  4. Insurance and Annuities
  5. Interchurch Relations
  6. Judicial Business
  7. Mission to the United States
  8. Mission to the World
  9. Review and Control of Presbyteries
- 5:00 P.M. Recess for Dinner

The Assembly is expected to finish on Friday with sessions scheduled  
each day as follows

8:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. 1:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M. 7:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.

Special Order Opening of Wednesday Evening Session. Presentation  
by Stewardship Committee.

### 3-5 Enrollment of New Presbyteries

The Clerk reported that in accord with the instructions of the Second General Assembly the Presbytery of Louisiana was organized on February 7, 1975, at Alexandria, Louisiana. The following Resolution of Affiliation with the Presbyterian Church in America was presented, and the Presbytery of Louisiana was formally enrolled as a presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in America.



### RESOLUTION OF PRESBYTERY AFFILIATION WITH THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

**Be It Resolved** that the **Presbytery of Louisiana** which is composed of the following Churches and Ministers, who all concur with and subscribe to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in America (A Corporation), namely, the Westminster Confession of Faith, the Larger and the Shorter Catechisms, and the Book of Church Order as the basis for church unity, does here declare its commitment to the Presbyterian Church in America as that branch of the Church of Christ to which it adheres:

#### Churches

Jackson Street, Alexandria  
Monte Sano, Baton Rouge  
Atchafalaya, Melville  
Opelousas, Opelousas  
John Knox, Ruston  
Grace, Shreveport

#### Ministers

William E. Frisbee, Sr.  
George H. Taylor, Jr.  
J. W. Lipscomb  
William Louis Mosal, Jr.

**Be it further Resolved** that pursuant to the above Resolution, the Presbytery of Louisiana does hereby request formal recognition of it by the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America as a member Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in America (A Corporation), with all the rights and obligations belonging to member presbyteries as set forth in the Book of Church Order of the Presbyterian Church in America. The Presbytery of Louisiana reserves to itself the right to withdraw from said Assembly at any time under conditions and in accordance with such rules as may be prescribed by the Presbytery. The Presbytery reserves to itself the right of the ownership of all property of every sort, nature or description now owned or hereafter acquired. This is not to be construed as a claim by the Presbytery upon the properties of its constituent congregations, since the properties of congregations under the Presbyterian Church in America may not be claimed by the higher courts, except as voluntarily given by the congregation to the said higher court.

Done on this 3rd day of June, 1975, at a Called Meeting of the Presbytery being met at Alexandria, Louisiana.

Subscribed and attested by:

J. W. Lipscomb, Moderator  
Wm. E. Frisbee, Sr., Stated Clerk

The Clerk yielded the floor to the Rev. David Nicholas, Chairman of the Committee of Commissioner on Mission to the United States, who made a partial report for the Committee on the reception of the new Presbytery of the Ascension. The Rev. Larry Mills, Coordinator for the Committee on Mission to the United States reported the formation of the Presbytery of the Ascension on July 29, 1975, at Robert Morris College, temporary home of Providence Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The presbytery recommended the following boundaries be set by the Assembly:

Eastern border starting at the northern boundary of Pennsylvania including the following counties: McKean, Elk, Clearfield, Blair and Bedford to the Maryland line; Southern border, westward from the eastern boundary of Bedford County along the Pennsylvania-Maryland line to West Virginia, then across West Virginia following the southern boundary of Marshall County, thence southwest along the West Virginia-Ohio border to the southernmost tip of Monroe County in Ohio; Western and Northern boundaries combined, including the following Ohio counties: Monroe, Belmont, Harrison, Tuscarawas and Stark, thence north along the western border of Summit County to Interstate Route 271, thence northeast to the intersection with the Ohio Turnpike, thence east and southeast along that state



line to Lake Erie, and then east along the Ohio Turnpike to the Ohio Pennsylvania border, thence north along that state line to Lake Erie, and then east along the northern boundary of Pennsylvania to the eastern border of McKean County. These boundaries were approved by the Assembly.

The Presbytery of the Ascension was formally enrolled as a presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in America.

The following Resolution of Affiliation with the Presbyterian Church in America, adopted by the Presbytery of the Ascension on September 9, 1975, is hereby recorded and spread on the Minutes of the General Assembly:

#### **RESOLUTION OF PRESBYTERY AFFILIATION WITH THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

**Be It Resolved** that the **Presbytery of the Ascension**, which is composed of the following Churches and Ministers, who all concur with and subscribe to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in America (A Corporation), namely, the Westminster Confession of Faith, the Larger and the Shorter Catechisms, and the Book of Church Order, as the basis for church unity, does here declare its commitment to the Presbyterian Church in America as that branch of the Church of Christ to which it adheres:

##### **Churches**

Faith Presbyterian Church, Akron, Ohio  
Sovereign Grace Presbyterian Church,  
Monroeville, Pennsylvania  
Providence Presbyterian Church,  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
The Church of the Living Word/P.C.A.,  
Volant, Pennsylvania

##### **Ministers**

Dr. Carl W. Bogue  
Frank D. Moser  
  
Arthur C. Broadwick  
  
Richard E. Knodel, Jr.  
  
David L. Karlberg  
K. Eric Perrin  
Dr. O. Palmer Robertson  
Alvin W. Smith, Jr.  
Dr. Robert C. Sproul

**Be it further resolved** that pursuant to the above Resolution, the Presbytery of the Ascension does hereby request formal recognition of it by the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America as a member Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in America (A Corporation), with all the rights and obligations belonging to member presbyteries as set forth in the Book of Church Order of the Presbyterian Church in America. The Presbytery of the Ascension reserves to itself the right to withdraw from said Assembly at any time under conditions and in accordance with such rules as may be prescribed by the Presbytery. The Presbytery reserves to itself the right of the ownership of all property of every sort, nature, or description now owned or hereafter acquired. This is not to be construed as a claim by the Presbytery upon the properties of its constituent congregations, since the properties of congregations under the Presbyterian Church in America may not be claimed by the higher courts, except as voluntarily given by the congregations to the said higher courts.

Done on this ninth day of September, 1975, at an adjourned meeting of the Presbytery of the Ascension in Jackson, Mississippi.

Subscribed and attested by:

Arthur C. Broadwick, Moderator  
Frank D. Moser, Stated Clerk

### **3-6 Election of the Moderator**

Ruling Elder Judge Leon F. Hendrick and Teaching Elder Dr. Owen Palmer Robertson were nominated. Judge Hendrick was elected. It was subsequently made unanimous.

### 3-7 Election of Recording Clerks

Ruling Elder John E. Spencer of the Briarwood Presbyterian Church of Birmingham, Alabama, and Rev. Edwin P. Elliott, Jr., pastor of the Water Valley, and Oakridge Churches, Water Valley, Mississippi were elected as Recording Clerks.

### 3-8 Election of Assistant Clerks

The following were elected as Assistant Clerks for the Assembly:

<b>Presbytery</b>	<b>Assistant Clerk</b>
Ascension	Rev. Frank Moser
Calvary	Rev. Vernon West
Carolina	Mr. J. P. Carpenter
Central Georgia	Rev. James Campbell
Evangel	Rev. Hubert Stewart
Grace	Rev. John Reeves
Gulf Coast	Mr. Albert E. Tripp
Louisiana	Rev. David H. Bryson
Mid-Atlantic	Mr. Walter Lastovica
Mississippi Valley	Rev. John Little
North Georgia	Mr. R. L. Jerguson
Tennessee Valley	Rev. Robert L. LaMay
Texas	Rev. B. Powell Harrison
Warrior	Rev. William Mason
Western Carolinas	Rev. C. D. Murphy
Westminster	Rev. Frank Smith

### 3-9 Welcome from the Host Church

Dr. Donald B. Patterson, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Jackson welcomed the General Assembly to Jackson.

Mr. Joe Treloar, Principal of the Presbyterian Day School, joined in the welcome and introduced the School to the Assembly.

### 3-10 Report of the Retiring Moderator

The retiring Moderator, the Rev. Erskine L. Jackson, gave a brief oral report.

### 3-11 Reference of Communications. Overtures and Resolutions

The Stated Clerk reported that the Assembly Arrangements Committee and Committee on Administration had determined that it would expedite matters if the Committees of Commissioners could meet prior to the formal opening of the Assembly. Thus the Clerk, in accord with the Rules for Assembly Operations (3-4) reported that he had made the following reference of all the Communications, and Overtures that were received prior to the opening of the Assembly.

The Clerk indicated that the Resolution #1 from the Rev. James Lyons regarding the Bicentennial was presented too late to the Presbytery for action, and that it is not properly before the Assembly, unless a commissioner introduces it as a personal resolution. It has been printed in the Handbook, only for the convenience of the Assembly in the event that it is introduced as a Resolution by one of its members.

Rev. James Lyons introduced the Resolution #1 to the Assembly. It was referred to the Committee of Commissioners on Bills and Overtures.

The Clerk indicated that an overture from the Presbytery of Tennessee Valley on Christian Education was received too late to be properly before the Assembly as an Overture from a Presbytery. The Rev. Ben Haden introduced this overture as a personal resolution #2. It was referred to the Committee of Commissioners on Christian Education.

The Clerk indicated that an overture from Southern Florida Presbytery had arrived too late to be before the Assembly. Ruling Elder Ken Keyes introduced this overture as a personal resolution #3. This resolution was referred to the Committee of Commissioners on Administration.

A letter from the Canadian Reformed Churches, dated February 8, 1975, acknowledging the "Message to all Churches of Jesus throughout the World" adopted by our First General Assembly, was referred to the Committee of Commissioners on Interchurch Relations, communication #6.

The Report of the Stated Clerk on Guidelines for Keeping and Examining Presbytery Minutes was referred to the Committee of Commissioners on Review and Control of Presbyteries.

### **To the Committee of Commissioners on Administration**

#### **Overture 2. From Central Georgia Presbytery**

**Whereas**, it was reported to the Second General Assembly that 360 Presbyterian churches having 70-75,000 members considered themselves a part of the Presbyterian Church in America, and

**Whereas**, it is conservatively estimated that another 100 churches will have joined the Presbyterian Church in America by the time of the Third General Assembly, and

**Whereas**, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America is a church court, whose size should not obscure its character as a deliberative body,

**Now therefore**, Central Georgia Presbytery overtures the Third General Assembly to direct the Committee on Administration to study the matter of representation to the General Assembly, and bring recommendations to the Fourth General Assembly for changes in **The Book of Church Order** to reduce the number of Commissioners.

Walter V. Worsham, Stated Clerk

#### **Overture 3. From Calvary Presbytery**

Calvary Presbytery respectfully overtures the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America, meeting at Jackson, Mississippi, September 8, 1975, to make all future assemblies delegated assemblies on the following basis:

1. That one-third of the churches on the roll of Presbytery shall be eligible to send Ruling Elder representative(s) and their minister(s) on a rotation basis.

Where two or more churches are served by the same minister, these shall be grouped in the same one-third;

2. That the division of churches shall be alphabetically so far as it is consistent with the second item in Number 1;

3. That local churches shall pay expenses for their representatives. Where local churches are not financially able, aid shall be supplied by the Presbytery Committee on the Mission to the U. S.;

4. That Presbytery take care that each church and each minister on Presbytery's roll have the privilege of attending the General Assembly every three years.

#### **Overture 9. From New River Presbytery**

New River Presbytery (by unanimous vote) respectfully overtures the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America as follows:

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. That whereas the Presbyterian Church in America has come into being by a groundswell of movement from the "grass roots" and has continued through these past two years as a "grass roots" movement arising from the hearts and prayers of many individual Christians rather than from the dictates of a hierarchy above;
2. And whereas "there is safety in numbers" and decisions made by representatives from congregations are less likely to err than decisions made by a small group;
3. And whereas individual congregations are more likely to join heartily in participation, support and interest in the causes of the whole Church if such congregations are individually represented at the General Assembly and have a voice in the making of decisions;
4. And whereas (to put into the words of a similar overture already presented to the General Assembly) "the benefits of retaining such a 'grass roots' interest and participation . . . far outweigh any possible disadvantages . . . Now therefore be it resolved that the presbytery . . . is of the opinion that it is in the best interests of the Church to continue the 'grass roots' General Assembly."

New River Presbytery, therefore (by unanimous vote) respectfully requests that the Third General Assembly continue our Church as a "grass roots" movement by allowing each church or congregation to send commissioners to the General Assembly.

Respectfully submitted,  
S. C. Dunbar, Moderator  
James N. Gay, Stated Clerk

Overtures 2, 3, 9 answered by reference, paragraph 3-65.

#### **Overture 15: From Presbytery of North Georgia**

##### **Be it Resolved:**

**Whereas** the Four Interdependent Committees of the General Assembly, Presbyterian Church in America offers a favorable approach to minimize authoritarian control with attendant abuse, it is clear that the present mode of operation has introduced unwarranted competition in the area of funding, and duplication of expense in the management of four separate offices,

**Therefore** We the Presbytery of North Georgia do hereby overture the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to pool those business operations, office space and personnel which have a commonality of work and purpose.

Extract from the minutes of North Georgia Presbytery July 19, 1975.

Respectfully Submitted  
R. L. Jerguson, Stated Clerk

Answered in negative, paragraph 3-65.

#### **Overture 16. From Covenant Presbytery**

**Whereas**, our churches are being deluged with communications and publicity materials from the committees of the denomination, and

**Whereas**, we cannot make effective use of such materials, and

**Whereas**, we feel this is a misuse of the Lord's money,

**Therefore, be it resolved** that Covenant Presbytery overture the General Assembly to instruct its committees to curtail the use of promotional material and to include news items and information on needs in the denomination's newsletter, "Continuing."

Answered in negative, paragraph 3-65.

#### **Resolution 3. Late Overture presented as a personal resolution by Ruling Elder Ken Keyes**

**Whereas**, it has come to our attention that at least one Presbytery in the Presbyterian Church in America has overtured the next General Assembly to amend the Book of Church Order to provide for a delegated General Assembly; and

**Whereas**, the Presbyterian Church in America came into being as a result of a convocation of Sessions, reflecting a "grass roots" interest and concern; and

**Whereas**, the benefits of retaining such a "grass roots" interest and participation in our opinion, far outweigh any possible disadvantage some of these benefits being:

1. Making it possible for representatives of every local church to see and hear first hand the state of the Church and to have a voice and vote in any decisions made.
2. Enabling representatives of every local church to learn first hand of the challenges and needs of the Presbyterian Church in America.
3. Enabling representatives from every local church to have fellowship and to exchange ideas with representatives of other local churches, to become personally acquainted with some of the members of the Church's committees and the staff personnel thus providing a dynamic for growth and outreach which could not be achieved in any other way.
4. A large assembly of dedicated Churchmen will make a stronger impact on the area in which the General Assembly is held resulting in a strengthening of our witness for Christ.

**Now therefore, be it resolved**, that the Presbytery of Southern Florida is of the opinion that it is in the best interests of the Church to continue the "grass roots" General Assembly as presently provided in the Book of Church Order.

We realize that in years to come it is conceivable that the number of churches in our fellowship may grow to the point where some form of a delegated Assembly may need to be considered but in our opinion we are not at that point now.

Adopted at the January 14, 1975 meeting of Presbytery.

Donald R. Esty

Stated Clerk

Presbytery of Southern Florida

**Note:** This Overture was not received by the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly until September 1, 1975. According to the "Rules for Assembly Operation" it cannot be considered as an overture from a Presbytery by the 1975 Assembly. (5-7)

It was introduced as a personal resolution by Ruling Elder Ken Keyes, a member of the court.

Answered by reference, paragraph 3-65.

**Resolution 4. From Former Moderator W. Jack Williamson and Rev. Erskine L. Jackson**

**Be it resolved** not as a mandatory directive, but as a recommendation expressing the sense of the Assembly, as follows:

1. That the Moderator call and chair two Moderator's Conferences each year, preferably one in November and one in May.
2. That the purpose of the conferences shall be to discuss the issues facing and the programs of the Church.
3. That the Conferees shall be:
  - (a) The Moderator and the immediate past Moderator
  - (b) The Stated Clerk
  - (c) One Ruling and one Teaching Elder from each of the 4 Committees, one of whom shall be the chairman of his Committee.
  - (d) The 4 Co-ordinators
  - (e) The chairman of the Sub-Committee on Stewardship and the Director of Stewardship Ministries.
  - (f) Any special invitee of the Moderator.
4. That the cost of these conferences be paid as follows:
  - (a) From the Moderator's Fund for the moderators and any special invitee.
  - (b) From the respective Committees for its members.
5. That each conference convene at noon on a Friday and adjourn at noon on a Saturday.
6. That the time of the call of the Fall conference be set and announced by the Moderator at the General Assembly, and that the time for the Spring Conference be set and announced at the Fall Conference.

W. Jack Williamson

Erskine L. Jackson

Answered in the affirmative, paragraph 3-65.



## To the Committee of Commissioners on Bills and Overtures

### Overture 1. From Central Georgia Presbytery

**Whereas**, the Presbyterian Church in America has reaffirmed its adherence to the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, and

**Whereas**, the teaching elders ought to have a working knowledge of the Shorter Catechism,

**Now therefore**, Central Georgia Presbytery respectfully overtures the Third General Assembly to encourage the presbyteries to examine candidates and ministers in their knowledge of the Shorter Catechism and that candidates for the ministry be informed that they will be expected to exhibit such knowledge of the content of the Shorter Catechism.

Adopted at its meeting October 22, 1974.

Walter V. Worsham, Stated Clerk

Answered in affirmative, paragraph 3-46.

### Overture 11. From New River Presbytery

New River Presbytery (by unanimous vote) respectfully overtures the Third General Assembly as follows:

1. That whereas the principal of freedom of conscience of the individual Christian to give where he feels the Lord is calling him to give is recognized,
2. And whereas three of our Assembly's committees have received far less than they had anticipated for the vital operation of their work,
3. And whereas it is recognized that the work of Mission to the World justly deserves all funds it has received and more;

Therefore, New River Presbytery (unanimously) overtures the General Assembly:

1. To commend people for their giving to world missions;
2. Urge that they increase their giving to world missions but at the same time also that the individuals and congregations of the P.C.A. prayerfully consider the needs and responsibilities of the Committee on Administration, the Committee on Christian Education and Publications, the Committee on Mission to the U. S., and without taking anything away from the Committee on Mission to the World, yet increase their giving so that these three other committees may receive sufficient funds on which to operate efficiently.

Respectfully submitted,

S. C. Dunbar, Moderator

James N. Gay, Stated Clerk

Answered in affirmative, paragraph 3-46.

### Overture 20. From Grace Presbytery

**Whereas**, the United State of America is in its Bicentennial celebration, and **Whereas**, we as a nation stand at one of the most critical junctures of its 200 year history, and

**Whereas**, the Scriptures instruct us to pray for all men, kings, and all that are in authority (I Timothy 2:2; Ezra 6:10), and

**Whereas**, the Scriptures also teach us to pray for the nation and city in which we dwell (Jeremiah 29:7; Psalm 122:6), and

**Whereas**, God set forth the requirements for revival to be followed by His people (II Chronicles 7:14),

**Now Therefore**, Grace Presbytery overtures the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to call for a Day of Prayer and Fasting for revival in the United States. And further, that this Day of Prayer and Fasting be set for July 4, 1976, and all congregations of the Presbyterian Church in America be called to set aside and observe this day for the above stated purpose.

I do certify that the above Overture was adopted by Grace Presbytery on July 11, 1975.

Rev. Norman A. Bagby, Jr.  
Stated Clerk  
Grace Presbytery, PCA

Amended and answered in affirmative, paragraph 3-46.

**Resolution 1. From Rev. James Lyons**

**Whereas**, in the benevolent Providence of Almighty God the United States of America now enjoys her bicentennial, and

**Whereas**, the common and public expression of patriotism has somehow been displaced by less noble declarations of America's meaning, and

**Whereas**, such security as the nation yet enjoys is more and more ascribed to secular postures, and

**Whereas**, contemporary celebrations of this country's birth more often than not are marked by bacchanalian excess in place of reverent thanksgiving, and

**Whereas**, from our inception the anniversary of our emerging as a nation, was meant to be "commemorated, as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God . . .", and

**Whereas**, it has ever been appropriate for Presbyterians to affirm with The Psalmist: "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord"\*\*, and

**Whereas**, The HEAD of The Church has assembled us a people of many and diverse talents to share The Gospel of Christ with our countrymen,

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved** that The General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in America summon the Presbyteries and Sessions of the Church to:

- (1) A careful planning for and observance of the bicentennial celebration on July 4, 1976, and
- (2) That the Church's Theologians draw from Scripture insights into the believer's role in the nation, and
- (3) That the Church's Scholars of all ages look to the affirmation of faith expressed by our forebears and bring these to our minds anew, and
- (4) That the Church's Teachers point their students to a careful review of The Westminster Confession of Faith [Chapters XX, XXIII, and XXXI], and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms [L.C. 101-105; S.C. 42-47], and other related portions, and
- (5) That the Church's Musicians and Choirs seek to combine their gifts for extraordinary presentations of the Church's life related to the nation, and
- (6) That the Church's Song Leaders discover afresh to the people's corporate song hymnody such as "America", "The Battle Hymn of The Republic", "America, The Beautiful", "God Bless America", and other suitable works with emphasis on congregational awareness of the meaning of the lyrics, and
- (7) That the Women In The Church provide a Congregational Dinner and refreshments for the special day, and
- (8) That the Church's Athletes and Youth plan for wholesome contests and recreation involving the families of the congregations, and
- (9) That all our peoples be challenged to claim Scripture's Promise in II Chronicles 7:14 and other related passages, and
- (10) That Pastors and Ruling Elders so supervise the planning and observance of the day as to make it appeal to the public at large; that it may prove an aid to evangelizing the lost as well as strengthening the redeemed; that it make the Church the focal point of activity both at the day's beginning and end; that Christ be exalted in all; and that the nation be witness to a bold confession, without either bluster or apology, that we can be true to our heritage only so long as each of us matches profession with life committed to not just "this nation", but "this nation under God."

Respectfully submitted,  
Jimmy Lyons  
Missionary Evangelist At Large

\* John Adams, signatory of The Declaration of Independence, and, Second President of The United States.

\*\* Psalm 33:12

No particular action taken, since Overture 20 was answered in the affirmative, paragraph 3-46.

## **To the Committee of Commissioners on Christian Education and Publications**

### **Overture 8. From New River Presbytery**

New River Presbytery (by unanimous vote) respectfully overtures the Third General Assembly as follows:

1. That whereas women were a vital and effective part of the ministry of our Lord, having gone with Him in His travels on occasion, been of service to the disciples and our Lord;
2. And whereas the Apostle Paul makes mention of women as co-laborers with him in the gospel;
3. And whereas one book of the New Testament at least is written to a woman;
4. And whereas the daughters of Philip were spoken of as "prophetesses;"
5. And whereas the women of the Presbyterian Church in America have been organized and we have a committee of the General Assembly advisory to them;
6. And whereas the women have been most diligent, knowledgeable, and effective in their labors in the service of the Lord.

That the General Assembly now:

1. Commends them (for their diligence, humility, study, service and activity in behalf of the spreading of the gospel and promoting the nurture of Christians);
2. That the Third General Assembly also express desire and prayer that their work may prosper as a very valuable contribution to the whole work of the whole Church in the service of the Lord.

And further, whereas there are some of the brethren who feel that organized work of the women on the General Assembly level is not Scriptural, and who rumor to the effect that women in the church is to be abolished on General Assembly level, and do constantly disturb and hinder the work of the women in the church;

3. That the Third General Assembly assert that though we have no clear statement in scripture explicitly directing organized women's work, it is the consensus of the General Assembly that to abolish the women's work on this basis would also necessitate the abolishing of Sunday Schools, men's work, youth work permanent committees, and a host of other activities of the General Assembly since they, also, are not explicitly directed by Scripture.

It is the hope, therefore, of New River Presbytery that this overture may be answered in the affirmative, thus encouraging greatly the "elect ladies" in our congregations and denomination and assuring them of our commendation and thanksgiving to God for their activity.

Respectfully submitted,  
S. C. Dunbar, Moderator  
James N. Gay, Stated Clerk

Answered by reference to First General Assembly action, (1-77), paragraph 3-81.

### **Overture 12. From the Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley**

**Whereas**, a significant number of churches, Ruling Elders, and Teaching Elders desire to see a denomination-wide magazine of news and opinion within the Presbyterian Church in America, and

**Whereas**, each major agency could significantly reduce its printing and mailing costs by including prayer lists, news items, etc., in a denomination-wide magazine, and

**Whereas**, such a denominational magazine could be as open and diverse as are the Westminster Standards and Book of Church Order which guide our denomination and would necessarily guide such a magazine, therefore:

**The Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley** does hereby overture the Third Gen-



eral Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to request its Permanent Committee on Christian Education and Publications to begin regular publication of such a family magazine for the people of the churches of the Presbyterian Church in America.

Answered by reference, paragraph 3-81.

### **Overture 13. From Westminster Presbytery**

**Whereas**, a significant number of Ruling Elders and Teaching Elders in Westminster Presbytery desire to see a denomination-wide magazine of news and opinion within the Presbyterian Church in America, and

**Whereas**, each major agency could significantly reduce its printing and mailing costs by including prayer lists, news items, etc., in a denomination-wide magazine, and

**Whereas**, such a denominational magazine would be as open and diverse as are the Westminster standards and Book of Church Order which guide our denomination and would necessarily guide such a magazine, therefore:

**Westminster Presbytery** hereby overtures the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to instruct its Permanent Committee on Christian Education and Publications to begin regular publication of such a family magazine for the people and churches of the Presbyterian Church in America.

Answered by reference, paragraph 3-81.

### **Resolution 2. Late overture presented as a personal resolution by Rev. Ben Haden.**

**Whereas**, the Session of the First Presbyterian Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee, after due consideration, does believe that there is available excellent and reliable Sunday School material based on the Scriptures for all Sunday School Departments and ages of children and adults, from such organizations as Gospel Light, Scripture Press, Great Commission and others.

**Whereas**, the Sunday School Departments of the First Presbyterian Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee, have for years used much of the above material and found them very satisfactory.

**Whereas**, the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Chattanooga, Tennessee, believes that it would be illogical for the Christian Education Committee of the Presbyterian Church in America to spend time and money in preparing and having published for distribution to its member churches its own Sunday School material.

**Now therefore be it resolved**, that the Tennessee Valley Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in America at its next regular meeting on August 26, 1975, be instructed through its Stated Clerk to present to the General Assembly meeting of the Presbyterian Church in America at Jackson, Mississippi, September 8-12, 1975, a resolution to instruct the Christian Education Committee of the Presbyterian Church in America to cease and desist from the expenditure of money for the purpose of preparing and publishing new Sunday School material for the denomination.

This resolution passed at the regular meeting of the Session of the First Presbyterian Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee, this 21st day of July, 1975.

Attest:

W. G. Davis, Clerk of the Session

July 31, 1975

Adopted by Tennessee Valley Presbytery, August 26, 1975.

Note: This resolution was received too late to be treated as an overture from a Presbytery. It was presented as a personal resolution by the Rev. Ben Haden.

Answered in the negative, paragraph 3-81.

### **To the Constitutional Documents Committee**

#### **Overture 5. From Warrior Presbytery**

Warrior Presbytery respectfully overtures the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to include a new paragraph in the Book of Church Order, chapter 23-7 as follows:

"When a church desires to have the regular supply of the pastoral office by a non-ordained individual it will be necessary for the congregation to give its approval to the Session's action of hiring an individual to perform these functions. It will also be necessary that the Presbytery give its approval to the arrangement, and the Presbytery will designate one of the teaching elders as the moderator of the Session, with the consent of the church, for the duration of the arrangement. This clause shall also pertain to licensed individuals serving a church for an extended period of time."

Answered in negative, paragraph 3-17.

#### **Overture 6. From Warrior Presbytery**

Warrior Presbytery respectfully overtures the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to add to the Book of Church Order I-14-7, line 23:

"To approve or disapprove any change in a minister's terms of call enacted by the congregation before they become binding."

Answered in the negative, paragraph 3-17.

#### **Overture 17. From the Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley**

**Whereas**, The Presbytery of The Mississippi Valley has experienced considerable confusion as to whether the Book of Church Order Paragraph 22-4 requires an oral examination on the original languages of Scripture on the floor of Presbytery, for the ordination of ministers;

**The Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley overtures** the Third General Assembly to amend the Book of Church Order, Paragraph 22-4 to include this statement: 'A Presbytery may accept a Seminary degree which includes study in the original languages in lieu of an oral examination in the original languages.'

Answered in affirmative, paragraph 3-17.

#### **Overture 19. From Presbytery of Southern Florida**

**Whereas**, the Shenandoah Presbyterian Church became a part of the Presbyterian Church in America with the understanding that we would operate under the 1933 Book of Church Order which includes paragraph 27-2 which states: "Amendments to the Book of Church Order may be made only in the following manner:

(1) Approval of the proposed amendment by majority of those present and voting in the General Assembly, and its recommendation to the Presbyteries.

(2) The advice and consent of two-thirds of the Presbyteries.

(3) The approval and enactment by a subsequent General Assembly by a majority of those present and voting."

**Whereas**, paragraph 27-2 has been suspended by both the First and Second General Assemblies of the PCA, which in effect voids the constitutional procedure for amending the Book of Church Order,

**Now therefore**, Be it resolved by the Session of the Shenandoah Presbyterian Church that the Presbyterian Church of Southern Florida be petitioned to overture the Presbyterian Church in America at its Third General Assembly to immediately invoke Paragraph 27-2 of the Book of Church Order.

Answered in affirmative, paragraph 3-17.

**Communication 2.** With reference to B.O.C.O. Par. 21-8, 21-9 specifically, the Presbytery of Mississippi Valley "requests clarification and recommendations of ways to handle the transfer of Ministers in view of the difficulties inherent in these paragraphs from the General Assembly's Committee on Constitutional Documents," on Motion duly made and carried.

Answered by amending BCO 21-8, 21-9, paragraph 3-17.

**Communication 3.** With reference to B.O.C.O. Par. 22-4, The Presbytery of Mississippi Valley "by motion duly made and carried requests the General Assembly's Constitutional Documents Committee to study and make recommendations on the implementation specifically relating to that portion of Line 17 and 18 "as to his knowledge of Greek and Hebrew Languages" — noting line 25 re-

quires exegesis work in the original language and line 26-27 "no Presbytery shall omit any of these parts of trial or ordination except - - -" and line 29.

Together these require examination verbally on the floor of Presbytery in Greek and Hebrew — which "No presbytery shall omit".

Answered by amending BCO 22-4, paragraph 3-17.

#### **Communication 4. From the Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley**

The Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley would request the General Assembly to clarify Paragraph 25-3 of the Book of Church Order that pertains to the election of Church Officers as to how a specific number of officers to be elected may be set, and the question of whether all who receive a majority vote are elected.

Answered by amending BCO 25-1, 25-3, paragraph 3-17.

### **To the Committee of Commissioners on Mission to U. S.**

#### **Overture 7. From Warrior Presbytery**

**Whereas**, it is a proper function of the church to be engaged in evangelism,

**Whereas**, this function has often times been neglected,

**Whereas**, as a denomination we have the objective of evangelizing the United States of America,

**Therefore**, be it resolved that Warrior Presbytery respectfully overtures the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to direct the Committee on Mission to the United States to make evangelists and evangelism materials available to the churches by issuing calls to one or more evangelists.

Answered in negative, paragraph 3-48.

#### **Overture 10. From New River Presbytery**

New River Presbytery (by unanimous vote) respectfully overtures the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America as follows:

1. That whereas evangelism in our native land is a very vital part of the "Great Commission" as well as evangelism throughout all the world,
2. And whereas preaching and personal evangelism need to be stimulated among our people,
3. And whereas this matter is of sufficient importance to merit a special committee to give thought, planning and inspiration to this matter, as well as earnest prayer.

New River Presbytery (by unanimous vote) overtures the General Assembly to instruct the Committee on Mission to the U. S. that they appoint a special subcommittee to promote this aspect of evangelism in obedience to the "Great Commission";

And, further,

1. Whereas fulltime evangelists are certainly in order in the Church today to lend encouragement, assistance and inspiration to congregations and pastors,
2. And whereas the office of evangelist is definitely indicated in the Scripture,
3. And whereas there may be the feeling on the part of some that, in spite of the fact that the P.E.F. has rendered a great service under the good hand of God in bringing about the birth of the P.C.A., some of the brethren feel that some P.E.F. evangelists are not sufficiently Reformed;

That the Third General Assembly, follow the example of the Evangelism Committee of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Evangelical Synod, in inviting any preaching evangelists who wish to be certified by the Church, to submit to a theological examination which, if passed, would result in certification on the part of the Evangelism Committee of the denomination and recommendation to the churches of the denomination.

Therefore, New River Presbytery (by unanimous vote) overtures the General Assembly to set up a special ad interim committee to certify any fulltime or part time evangelists who request such an examination, if such examination is sustained, would be officially commended to the churches as theologically

sound and worthy of consideration for a possible call to render temporary service to any congregation in the denomination which may choose to use them.

Respectfully submitted,  
S. C. Dunbar, Moderator  
James N. Gay, Stated Clerk

Answered in negative, paragraph 3-48.

## To the Committee of Commissioners on Mission to the World

### Overture 4. From Warrior Presbytery

**Whereas**, the primary mission of the Church is to glorify God in its worship and work, and

**Whereas**, God has made the Church His faithful guardian of truth, and

**Whereas**, the Great Commission is given to the Church, and

**Whereas**, the First General Assembly of the National Presbyterian Church, now the Presbyterian Church in America, did rightly affirm as had our theological predecessors at the First General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States of America in 1861 that the Church is to be the agent rather than the superintendent of mission work, and

**Whereas**, it is our belief that independent, evangelical organizations which we are prepared to name through whom the Committee on Mission to the World of the Presbyterian Church in America is sending missionary personnel into foreign countries are not the Church because they neither possess the Scriptural marks of the Church nor are they governed according to a Scriptural system of government,

**Therefore**, be it resolved that Warrior Presbytery respectfully overtures the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to:

(1) Re-affirm the historic Scriptural and Presbyterian position that the Church is to be the agent rather than the superintendent of all mission work, and,

(2) Direct the Committee on Mission to the World to cease sending missionary personnel into foreign countries under the auspices of extra-Church organizations.

Answered by reference, paragraph 3-93.

### Overture 14. From the Presbytery of North Georgia

**Be it Resolved:** That The Presbytery of North Georgia, Presbyterian Church In America, Overture the General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church In America as follows:

**Whereas** it is obvious that Communism is trying hard to expand its influence on all over the world, and,

**Whereas** the World Council and National Council of Churches expressly support certain policies of Communism, and,

**Whereas** the Presbyterian Church In America has repeatedly stated in publications and pronouncements that it does not support the National Council and World Council of Churches, and,

**Whereas** the second General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America directed the Permanent Committee on Mission to the World to be aware in the preparation of its missions manual of the fact that the Presbyterian Church in America would not belong to or support the National Council and World Council of Churches,

**Therefore, Be it resolved** that the North Georgia Presbytery respectfully overtures the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to instruct the Committee on Mission to the World not to send any missionaries to work with a denomination(s) in foreign countries which is a member of the World Council of Churches and to instruct said Committee to guide the missionaries who are already working with any denomination(s) who is a member of the World Council of Churches to sever ties with that denomination(s) on an approved fixed schedule.

Extract from the Minutes of North Georgia Presbytery July 19, 1975.

Answered in paragraph 3-93.

**Communication 1.** From the Synod of the U. P. Church of Pakistan — see Item X under Report of the Committee on Administration.

Answered in paragraph 3-65-18, 3-93.

**Communication 6. From Supremo Concilio Gabinete Do Presidente Igreja Presbiteriana Do Brasil**

August 6, 1975.

Mr. Erskine L. Jackson, Moderator  
Mr. Morton H. Smith, Stated Clerk  
Presbyterian Church in America  
P. O. Box 256  
Clinton, Mississippi 39056  
U. S. A.

Dear Brethren,

The Presbyterian Church of Brazil is very much interested in establishing fraternal relations with the Presbyterian Church in America. Your invitation to send a representative to the Third General Assembly, in Jackson, Mississippi, was very gracious; very gladly we accept it. If possible at the time, I plan to be there arriving probably by Sept. 9th. If you kindly send me your telephone, more precise information will be forwarded as soon as possible.

May the Lord bless you, and your church.

Very sincerely,  
Rev. Boanerges Ribeiro, President

Answered paragraphs 3-26, 3-93.

**To the Committee of Commissioners on Interchurch Relations**

**Communication 5. From the Stated Clerk of the Christian Reformed Church**

August 5, 1975

The Presbyterian Church in America  
c/o The Rev. Morton H. Smith, Stated Clerk  
P. O. Box 256  
Clinton, Miss. 39056

Dear Brothers:

It gives me great pleasure to inform you that at the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church meeting from June 10-29, 1975, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, it was decided "that the Presbyterian Church in America be designated a 'church in ecclesiastical fellowship,' contingent upon similar action by their General Assembly

**"Grounds:**

- a. The PCA is concerned for the preservation and propagation of the Reformed faith; its confessional standards are the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Westminster Larger and Shorter Catechisms.
- b. The PCA has close relationship with other Presbyterian and Reformed churches with which we have fraternal relations (RPC-ES, RPC-NA, OPC) and it is eager to have fellowship with other Reformed bodies including the CRC in which they have confidence."

It was also decided "that synod declare that in taking this action it does not make any judgment as to the legitimacy of the action by which the PCA separated itself from the Presbyterian Church of the United States, and that synod inform both the Presbyterian Church in America and the Presbyterian Church of the United States of these decisions."

The Synod also gave consideration to affiliation in the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council. It was decided "that synod endorse the action of the Interchurch Relations Committee with respect to the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council (NAPaRC) and mandate the Interchurch Relations Committee to formalize the membership of the Christian Reformed Church in the Council and provisionally approve the constitution and by-laws of the Council."

We are grateful for the fellowship to which the Lord has led us with your denomination. We are confident that it is your prayer as well as ours that God



may richly bless us in the fellowship we share in the pursuance of his work. It was a real privilege to have your denomination represented by a fraternal delegate at our synod. We deeply appreciated the presence and the address of Dr. Donald Graham.

Yours in the Lord,  
William P. Brink, Stated Clerk

Received as information, paragraph 3-73.

#### **Communication 7. From the 2nd Clerk, Canadian Reformed Churches**

February 18, 1975

The Presbyterian Church in America  
Esteemed Brethren in the Lord:

To the General Synod of the Canadian Reformed Churches held at Toronto, Ontario, November 1974 one of the Churches submitted the "Message to All Churches of Jesus Christ throughout the World" as adopted by the First General Assembly of the National Presbyterian Church on December 7, 1973, in Birmingham, Alabama.

I was charged to inform you that the General Synod decided to receive this Message with thankfulness to the Lord.

It is evident from the Message that you, by the grace of God, wish to remain faithful to the Scriptures as God's infallible Word of salvation and to adhere to the Reformed doctrine and church government. May the Lord confirm and guide you by His Word and Spirit.

For your information I give you some particulars of the Canadian Reformed Churches which were instituted after World War II by Dutch immigrants. At present there are 28 Churches spread all over Canada, with 21 ministers in active service and two missionaries. Total membership: 8000. The Churches have adopted the Belgic Confession, the Heidelberg Catechism and the Canons of Dort as their doctrinal standards. A general Synod is convened once every three years. The permanent address through which to approach the Churches, if so desired, is: Canadian Reformed Church at Burlington, Ontario, P. O. Box 124, Burlington, Ontario, Canada.

With greetings in Christ,  
For General Synod Toronto 1974,  
(M. Van Beveren), 2nd clerk e. t.

Received as information, paragraph 3-73

### **ITEMS OF BUSINESS CARRIED OVER FROM THE PREVIOUS ASSEMBLIES**

#### **To the Committee of Commissioners on Christian Education and Publications**

##### **1-82 Theological Conferences**

A motion of the General Assembly recommend to each Presbytery that it utilize one of its Committees or appoint a Committee to establish an annual theological conference to serve its own constituency, and that this matter be referred to the Committee on Christian Education and Publications, was referred to the Committee on Christian Education and Publications for study and report back to the Second General Assembly.

This matter was recommitted by the Second General Assembly to the Committee for Christian Education and Publications (2-102, 13)  
Answered affirmatively by paragraph 3-77.

#### **To Constitutional Documents Committee**

##### **1-79 Theological Committee**

The Constitutional Documents Committee recommended that the Assembly establish a Theological Committee to study the matter of Scripture proofs for the Confession and Catechisms; that the Assembly authorize this Committee to consult with the Orthodox Presbyterian Church and other

denominations who may be interested in such a study with us. The Constitutional Documents Committee does not envision that the Scripture proofs would become a part of the Constitution itself, but that they be approved, when agreed upon, to be printed with our Constitution. This would allow for the addition of new proof texts, without the complex procedure of having to amend the Constitution.

On recommendation of the Nominating Committee, the Constitutional Documents Committee was charged with this matter. The Committee is as follows: Rev. Charles Dunahoo, Chairman, Rev. Donald Patterson, Rev. Frank Barker, Rev. Morton Smith, Ruling Elder John Barnes.

Answered affirmatively by paragraph 3-89.

### **1-80 Report of the Standing Theological Committee**

3. Concerning Overture 9 (page 20.); that this overture be answered in the affirmative; that an ad interim committee be appointed to study all aspects of Reformed Worship, considering with care communication 4; and that this committee work in conjunction with the Constitutional Documents Committee, reporting its findings to the Second General Assembly of the National Presbyterian Church.

Answered by adoption of Directory for Worship, paragraph 3-89.

#### **Overture 9. From Covenant Presbytery**

That an ad-interim committee be appointed to study aspects of Reformed Worship.

Answered by adoption of Directory for Worship, paragraph 3-89.

#### **Communication 4. From the Rev. Eurie Hayes Smith, III**

To: The General Assembly

Fathers and Brethren:

The General Assembly of the Continuing Presbyterian Church meeting in Birmingham, Alabama, on December 4, 1973, is herewith respectfully overtured:

1. To investigate and publish to the Congregations of the Continuing Presbyterian Church the rich spirit filled, but neglected heritage of Reformed Worship and,
2. To contrast this with the many non-Reformed liturgies presently in use among us and,
3. To provide a Reformed Liturgy and a Reformed psalter (including hymns and other appropriate music) that clearly exists in our faith, and,
4. To recommend to the ministers what constitutes proper pulpit (liturgical) dress for Reformed pastors and,
5. To recommend to the congregations what constitutes proper architecture as exhibits the Reformed Christian faith truly, accurately and majestically and,
6. To demonstrate by its attention to those matters that for the Reformed Faith, faithful, true, biblical worship in the Church is as important as the Great Commission to the world.

Eurie Hayes Smith, III

Answered by actions adopted in paragraph 3-89.

### **1-81**

5. The Constitutional Documents Committee was granted authority to work with corresponding committees of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Evangelical Synod, and the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America on both an updating of the language of the Westminster Standards and on Scripture proof texts of the same.

Recommitted by the Second General Assembly (2-102, 13)

No further action was taken by the Third General Assembly.

### **2-98**

**Overture 8. From the Presbytery of Mississippi Valley, adopted at its Adjourned Session, June 20, 1974**

The Presbytery of Mississippi Valley adopted the following policy regard-

ing the reception of already established congregations, and overtures the Assembly to consider adopting this as a policy for the whole Church.

"In respect to the receiving of already established churches into the presbytery, we recommend that the examining committee appoint four of its members — two teaching and two ruling elders — to examine thoroughly the session of each church requesting entrance into this presbytery in the area of personal experience. Scripture, Reformed theology, and church government. The committee would report to presbytery at the vote on entrance. The committee also recommends that the presbytery send this as an overture to the General Assembly."

This overture was referred to the Constitutional Documents Committee (2-98- p. 72)

No action was taken by the Third General Assembly.

## 2-70

### Overture 2. From the McIlwain Memorial Church, Pensacola

The Session of McIlwain Memorial Presbyterian Church submits the following overture to the 2nd General Assembly of the National Presbyterian Church for their consideration and adoption.

RE: Part III of the BCO, THE DIRECTORY FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD.

Page 88 Ch 6, #6-7, Lines 17 and 18

Page 90 Ch 9, #9-1, Lines 22 and 23

**Whereas** it is explicitly set forth in the Book of Church Order that the jurisdiction over a particular church is a joint power lodged in the hands of the church Session (Page 7, Ch 3, #4-3, Lines 1-3), and,

**Whereas** the Ruling Elders are to have the government and spiritual oversight of the church (Page 9, Ch 7, #7-2) and,

**Whereas** the Teaching Elder is, with the other elders, to exercise the joint power of government (Page 10, Ch 8 #8-4, Lines 28 and 29), and,

**Whereas** the Ruling Elders, in conjunction with the pastors or ministers, are to take the oversight of the spiritual interests of the particular church, and exercise government and discipline (Page 12, Ch 9, #9-4), and,

**Whereas** the Session is to have the power to establish rules for government, discipline, worship, and extension of the church (Page 15, Ch 12, #12-2, Lines 20-21) 23-27), and,

**Whereas** the church Session is to determine the best measures for promoting the spiritual interest of the church and congregation (Page 18, Ch 13, #13-6), lines and,

**Whereas** in the Directory for the Worship of God (page 88, Ch 6, #6-7) the statement that "No person should be invited to preach in any of the National Presbyterian Churches without the consent of the pastor or Session," and a similar statement (Page 90, Ch. 9, #9-1, Lines 22 and 23) divests the Session of its assigned rights, prevents the Session in this most important area, from exercising its responsibility of the spiritual oversight of a particular church, and,

**Whereas** the government, discipline, and spiritual oversight of a church are inseparably tied together and are adversely affected by the fact that a Session cannot exercise any jurisdiction over who will be invited to preach.

**Therefore**, the Session of McIlwain Memorial Presbyterian Church respectfully requests the 2nd General Assembly of the National Presbyterian Church to amend Part III, Directory for the Worship of God of the Book of Church as follows:

Ch 6, #6-7, to read, "No person is to be invited to preach in any of the National Presbyterian Churches or occupy the time set aside for the preaching of the Word, without prior consent of the Session," and, Ch 9, #9-1, Line 23, to read, "Any other person must be approved by the Session."

John R. Massey  
Clerk of Session

Attest:

Donald A. Dunkerley

Moderator

Answered in the affirmative, paragraph 3-89.



### **Overture 6. From First Presbyterian Church, Belzoni, Mississippi**

**FATHERS AND BRETHREN:** The Reverend General Assembly, First Presbyterian Church, Macon, Georgia

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church respectfully overtures the Second General Assembly of the National Presbyterian Church meeting at Macon, Georgia on September 11, 1974, to cause to be prepared in addition to those items in communication 4, Minutes of The First General Assembly, National Presbyterian Church (1973) p. 19, a Service Book of liturgical forms for the two higher courts. Such book shall provide for such matters as court communion, candidacy, licensure, ordination and installation, commissions, burial of ministers, dedications, chartering of congregations and so forth.

Rev. Eurie H. Smith III, Moderator

No action taken on this overture at the Second Assembly.

No action was taken on this overture by the Third General Assembly.

### **To the Committee of Commissioners on Mission to the World**

2-88 Overtures 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and Resolution number 4 were carried over to the next (third) General Assembly when they are to be acted on in relation to the General Assembly's approval of the policy manual.

### **Overture 9. From the Presbytery of Mississippi Valley adopted at its adjourned Meeting, June 20, 1974**

**Whereas**, the National Presbyterian Church is committed to the Reformed Faith as set forth in the Westminster Standards, and

**Whereas**, the National Presbyterian Church is committed to carrying out the Great Commission as the chief mission of the Church, and

**Whereas**, the National Presbyterian Church as a denomination carries out its program activities through Permanent Committees of the Assembly, immediately responsible to the Assembly, and

**Whereas**, it is important that the National Presbyterian Church as it embarks on this world wide phase of sending the Gospel forth should do so by preaching the whole counsel of God as set forth in the Reformed Faith,

**Now therefore**, the Presbytery of Mississippi Valley overtures the Second General Assembly of the National Presbyterian Church to direct its Committee on Mission to the World to use care to see that all missionaries sent by the Assembly's Committee be involved in propagating the Reformed Faith, either by working with already established Presbyterian and Reformed Churches, or, if no Reformed Church exists in the land to which they are sent, to seek to establish a Reformed witness there.

### **Overture 10. Adopted by the Presbytery of Mississippi Valley at its Adjourned Meeting, June 20, 1974**

**Whereas** the Book of Church Order of the N.P.C. calls for the ordination and commissioning of some to be evangelists in foreign countries (#8-3,6) and

**Whereas** Presbyteries alone have the authority to examine and ordain those called into the ministry (#14-5,7), and

**Whereas** the General Assembly is responsible to encourage and promote the fulfillment of this mission by the various courts (#15-1), and

**Whereas** the Assembly's committees are to serve and not to direct any church judicatories and are to serve the church (#15-1,7,8).

**Be it resolved** that Presbyteries are to examine, ordain, and appoint those who are to serve as evangelists on the foreign field and through licensure approve all lay personnel who are to go to the field; and

That the responsibility for the support of such evangelists and their work, ordained or lay, is the responsibility of the Presbytery which ordains them and commissions them to this task; and

That the missionary evangelist so commissioned is directly responsible to, and is to give full account of his work to his Presbytery; and

That the special oversight of the missionary evangelist's work shall rest in the hands of the Mission to the World Committee of the Presbytery which shall

have as its duties to promote the mission of the church to the world, challenge men and women to give their lives in service to this work, raise support for those called and commissioned by the Presbytery and continue to be in correspondence with them throughout their term of service; and

That missionary evangelists must strive to adjust to the language and culture of the land where they are to serve beginning as soon after their call to this work as is possible; and

That missionary evangelists ought to do their work in the foreign field within the framework of the existing national church insofar as that church's doctrine is compatible with the doctrine of the NPC and ought not to establish an extra-church organization on the foreign field where such churches exist; and

That the NPC Mission to the World committee ought to exist to serve the Presbyteries in their carrying out of the Great Commission by aiding in the equipping of missionaries for their task, arranging for and informing of passage to the field, informing of needs in various parts of the world, receiving and distributing to the Presbyteries funds received for the proclamation of the gospel in foreign fields, carrying out of general promotion of the church's task in foreign missions and so forth; and

That the Assembly's Committee on the Mission to the World is to be composed of the chairmen of the Presbyteries' Committees on the Mission to the World in order that the work between the various Presbyteries and the National Committee be properly coordinated.

**Overture 11. From Westminster Presbytery, Adopted at its Meeting July 20, 1974**

We, the members of Westminster Presbytery, solemnly overture General Assembly to encourage the Mission to the World Committee to be carefully Biblical in its use of women on the mission field, particularly as regards evangelism, preaching, and church development; remembering Paul's admonition to Timothy (I Timothy 2:12):

"But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet." NASB

Answered in affirmative paragraph 3-93.

**Overture 12. From Westminster Presbytery Adopted at its Meeting, July 20, 1974**

We, the members of Westminster Presbytery, overture General Assembly to exhort the Committee of Mission to the World to discontinue, in the immediate future, all ties and cooperation with any agency or arm of the World Council of Churches, or with any affiliation thereof.

Answered in paragraph 3-93.

**Overture No. 15. From Warrior Presbytery**

**Whereas**, the National Presbyterian Church has repeatedly stated in publications and pronouncements that it does not belong to nor support the National and/or World Councils of Churches, and,

**Whereas**, the First General Assembly of the National Presbyterian Church did instruct the denomination's Committee on Mission to the United States not to conduct any joint work with any denomination which is a member of the National and/or World Councils of Churches,

**Therefore**, be it resolved that Warrior Presbytery respectfully overtures the Second General Assembly of the National Presbyterian Church to instruct the denomination's Committee on Mission to the World not to send any missionaries to work with denominations in foreign countries if that denomination is a member of the World Council of Churches.

Answered in paragraph 3-93.

**Overture No. 16. From Warrior Presbytery**

**Whereas**, the National Presbyterian Church has repeatedly stated in publications and pronouncements that it does not belong to nor support the National and/or World Councils of Churches,

**Therefore**, be it resolved that Warrior Presbytery respectfully overtures the

Second General Assembly of the National Presbyterian Church to instruct the denomination's Committee on Mission to the World not to send any missionaries to work with denominations in foreign countries if that denomination is a member of the World Council of Churches.

Answered in paragraph 3-93.

**Overture No. 17. From Warrior Presbytery**

**Whereas**, the National Presbyterian Church has repeatedly stated in publications and pronouncements that it does not belong to nor support the National and/or World Councils of Churches,

**Therefore**, be it resolved that Warrior Presbytery respectfully overtures the Second General Assembly of the National Presbyterian Church to instruct the denominations Committee on Mission to the World not to give financial support to any native minister or church in a foreign country where the minister and/or church are members of a denomination which belongs to the World Council of Churches.

Answered in paragraph 3-93.

**Overture No. 18. From Warrior Presbytery**

**Whereas**, the National Presbyterian Church has repeatedly stated in publications and pronouncements that it does not belong to nor support the National and/or World Council of Churches,

**Therefore**, be it resolved that Warrior Presbytery respectfully overtures the Second General Assembly of the National Presbyterian Church to instruct the denomination's Committee on Mission to the World to instruct all National Presbyterian Church missionaries not to affiliate through any kind of membership with any Presbytery of a national church which is a part of a denomination that belongs to the World Council of Churches and to instruct any missionaries who may presently be affiliated with Presbyteries of native denominations which belong to the World Council of Churches to immediately terminate their affiliation.

Answered in paragraph 3-93.

**Overture No. 19. From Warrior Presbytery**

**Whereas**, the National Presbyterian Church from its inception has stated its purpose to glorify God by being a denomination truly Reformed in its doctrine, worship, and work, and

**Whereas**, the National Association of Evangelicals is not nor does it claim to be Reformed in its doctrine and practice,

**Therefore**, be it resolved that Warrior Presbytery respectfully overtures the Second General Assembly of the National Presbyterian Church to instruct its Committee on Mission to the World to terminate its membership in the National Association of Evangelicals before the meeting of the Third General Assembly.

**Overture No. 20. From Warrior Presbytery**

**Whereas**, the National Presbyterian Church from its inception has stated its purpose to glorify God by being a denomination truly Reformed in its doctrine, worship, and work, and,

**Whereas**, the Committee on Mission to the World of the National Presbyterian Church has expressed its desire to send personnel and funds to said personnel through organizations which are not Reformed and in many instances which are not a part of the Church as such, but are at best extra-Church organizations,

**Therefore**, be it resolved that Warrior Presbytery respectfully overtures the Second General Assembly of the National Presbyterian Church to instruct its Committee on Mission to the World to formulate a program of world missions for the National Presbyterian Church which is truly Reformed and present a strategy for implementing a Reformed program of world missions to the Third General Assembly of the National Presbyterian Church.

**Overture No. 21. From Warrior Presbytery**

**Whereas**, the National Presbyterian Church from its inception has stated its purpose to glorify God by being a denomination truly Reformed in its doctrine, worship, and work, and,

**Whereas**, the Committee on Mission to the World of the National Presbyterian Church has expressed its intention to send National Presbyterian Church missionary personnel to foreign fields under the auspices of extra-Church organizations and to fund such personnel through these organizations,

**Therefore**, be it resolved that Warrior Presbytery overtures the Second General Assembly of the National Presbyterian Church to instruct the denomination's Committee on Mission to the World to send all missionary personnel directly on the field under the auspices of the National Presbyterian Church and/or any other Reformed Church.

#### **Resolution 4 From Grace Presbytery:**

**Whereas**, there has been some difference of opinion as to Presbytery's role in World Missions, and in particular, with relation to General Assembly's Committee on Mission to the World concerning examining, financing and sending out of missionaries;

**Be it hereby resolved**, that Grace Presbytery asks General Assembly to clarify this matter to all Presbyteries of the General Assembly, and also to clarify what is to be the relationship between the Mission to the World Committees of Presbyteries and the General Assembly.

The above resolution was adopted at the Fourth Stated Meeting of Grace Presbytery on July 19, 1974.

Overtures 9, 10, 19, 20, 21 and Resolution 4, answered by reference, paragraph 3-93.

### **To the Ad-Interim Committee on Number of Officers**

#### **2-70**

#### **Overture 11. From McIlwain Memorial Presbyterian Church, Pensacola, Florida**

**Whereas**, there is not to be any differentiation between the office of ruling elder and teaching elder (minister of the Word), and each is given equal authority in church government according to the Scriptures \*(Book of Church Order, III, page 20);

**Whereas**, the power of jurisdiction is to be equally exercised by ruling and teaching elders (ministers), but jointly in church courts (Book of Church Order, 1-4, 3-3, pages 22 and 23);

**Whereas**, the Minister of the Word and the ruling elder are to share equally in the governing of the church (Book of Church Order, 9-3 page 32);

**Whereas**, Christ has furnished others (ruling elders), besides the Minister of the Word, with gifts and commissions to govern when called and ordained thereto (Book of Church Order, 11-1, page 35);

**Whereas**, in all courts of the church the ruling elders possess the same authority and the same eligibility to office as the Minister of the Word (Book of Church Order, 11-2, page 35);

**Whereas**, the Session is the only court that is denied the right to elect its own moderator;

**Whereas**, the office of Moderator of Session is the only office in the entire Presbyterian Church system of government to which an elder cannot be elected: and that in his own particular church;

**Whereas**, the requirement that the Minister be the Moderator of Session (Book of Church Order, 13-2, page 38) denies the ruling elder (1) the exercise of his gifts and commission to rule; (2) to share equally in the governing of the church; (3) the same eligibility to office as the Minister of the Word and differentiates between the teaching and ruling elder in matters of church government — all contrary to the Book of Church Order. Furthermore, the principle implies ruling elders are not capable of moderating the Session (Book of Church Order, 15-4, page 42);

**Whereas**, the appointment of a moderator of a session by a presbytery when a church is without a pastor (Book of Church Order, 15-4, page 42) denies the session the exercise of its proper and efficient jurisdiction and governing of its church. It is subject to the convenience and/or whims of a moderator who is generally already overburdened with responsibilities. It permits a presbytery to name a moderator unacceptable to a session because of his theological position, personality or availability;

**Whereas**, the requirement that a Minister of the Word be the moderator of session under the Book of Church Order (13-2 and 15-4) places another unnecessary burden and additional responsibilities on a minister already encumbered so heavily that the minister of the Word is rendered less effective in his total ministry;

**Whereas**, the minister of the Word is so encumbered that he ought to have relief from the task and responsibility of moderator of session;

**Whereas**, the principal parity of the ruling and teaching elders is violated;

**Whereas**, there are no Spiritual grounds for the teaching elder to moderate the session, only the tradition of men;

**Therefore**, to rectify the inequities, to promote a more harmonious relationship in and between courts, to provide some relief to an encumbered ministry and to maintain the parity of teaching and ruling elders, the Session of McIlwain Memorial Presbyterian Church overtures the first General Assembly of the Continuing Presbyterian Church to amend the Book of Church Order so that a session may exercise its right to elect its moderator.

\*References are the BOCO copyrighted by the PCUS in 1965, 12th printing 1969, paperback edition.

Recommitted to new Ad-Interim Committee, paragraph 3-33.

## 2-98

### Overture 4. From First Presbyterian Church, Belzoni, Mississippi

FATHERS AND BRETHREN: The Reverend General Assembly, First Presbyterian Church, Macon, Georgia

**Whereas** the nature of ordination and its several facets is not clear in the Book of Church Order,

**Now, therefore**, the Session of the First Presbyterian Church overtures the Second General Assembly to raise a competent committee of scholars and churchmen to study and to:

1. Affirm and declare the nature of ordination in the National Presbyterian Church to be functionary and strictly biblical,
2. Describe the limits to which Scripture permits ordination to be used apart from the pastorate,
3. Review and clarify the concept of parity if Teaching Elders other than full time pastors are to be permitted to serve on the committees of the higher courts and have the franchise in those courts,
4. Clarify the matter of unordained personnel, their proper examination and certification, the regulation of their work and the limits of women's participation.

Rev. Eurie Hayes Smith, III, Moderator

Recommitted to new Ad-Interim Committee, paragraph 3-33.

## REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK IN RESPONSE TO THE DIRECTION OF THE SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY (2-105)

### I. GUIDELINES FOR KEEPING PRESBYTERY MINUTES

1. The minutes of Presbytery should be kept either in a lock-type record book, with numbered pages, or be printed, mimeographed, or otherwise reproduced.
2. The minutes should be typewritten or printed, or reproduced from typewritten masters, and should be neat and legible.
3. The opening paragraphs of the minutes should contain the following information (which need not, however, be divided into numbered or separate items):
  - (a) The kind of meeting: regular, called, adjourned regular, or adjourned called;
  - (b) The name of the Presbytery;
  - (c) The date and time of the meeting, and the place;
  - (d) The name of the Moderator, and if someone other than the regular Stated Clerk served as a Clerk Pro-tem, his name should be indicated;



- (e) If the minutes of the pervious meeting were not approved at that meeting, a record of their having been read and approved by this session should be indicated, including the date of the minutes being so approved;
  - (f) The names of those present at the meeting should be recorded indicating whether they were teaching elders, or ruling elders, and the church represented in each case. The names of alternate ruling elders and their visitors should be included.
4. The contents of the minutes should include the following items:
    - (a) The names of persons leading in opening and closing prayers at all sessions.
    - (b) In the event of a called meeting, the portion of the call stating the purpose of the meeting should be recorded verbatim in the minutes.
    - (c) The minutes should record the actions of the Presbytery, including all motions adopted and business transacted, together with such additional information as the Presbytery deems desirable for historical purposes. Ordinarily in Church Courts motions that are lost are not included in the record, unless an affirmative vote for the lost motion is recorded, in which case the lost motion must be shown. Each main motion should normally be recorded in a separate paragraph. Subsidiary and procedural motions may be recorded in the same paragraph with the main motion to which they pertain. Main motions may be recorded in the same paragraph if they are closely related and pertain to the same item of business. It may be desirable to number these paragraphs consecutively, and to give a title over each paragraph indicating succinctly the content of business included. This is not mandatory, but is desirable for the later reading of the minutes. For historical purposes, some note as to the extent of and kind of debate may be included, but minutes should never reflect the secretary's opinion, favorable or otherwise, on anything said or done.
  5. All points of order and appeals, whether sustained or lost, together with the reasons given by the Chair for his ruling, should be included. This is for the sake of any case that may be carried to a higher court. The complete record of the Presbytery's actions should be recorded for this purpose.
  6. Additional guidelines, adapted from **Robert's Rules of Order**:
    - (a) The names of the seconder of a motion should not be entered into the minutes unless ordered by the Presbytery.
    - (b) When a count has been ordered, or the vote is by ballot, the number of votes on each side should be entered.
    - (c) The proceedings of a committee of the whole should not be entered in the minutes, but the fact that the assembly went into the committee as a whole, and the committee report should be recorded.
    - (d) When a question is considered informally, the same information should be recorded as under the regular rules, since the only informality in the proceedings is in the debate.
    - (e) Committee reports that are adopted by the Presbytery may be handled in either of two ways. They may be entered directly into the record at the time when they are presented, and it should be reflected as the report of a committee adopted by the Presbytery. The other way by which they may be handled is to give the report as an appendix, to which reference is made by motion in the body of the minutes. Reports and other matters that are received as information should be retained by the Clerk of the Presbytery, but need not be printed with the minutes, unless so directed by the Presbytery.
  7. The minutes should be signed by the Clerk.
  8. When the minutes of Presbytery are printed, the printed volume should include, in addition to the minutes themselves, the following items:
    - (a) A directory of the Presbytery, including a listing of all of the regular committees of Presbytery.
    - (b) A roll of the Presbytery, including a listing of all teaching elders, with their addresses; and of all churches, with the name and address of the Clerk of Session, and the address of the church.

- (c) A list of all candidates under care of the Presbytery, including the addresses.
- (d) A list of all licentiates of the Presbytery, including the addresses.
- (e) An up to date copy of the Standing Rules of the Presbytery.
- 9. The Stated Clerk is responsible for the custody of the minutes of the Presbytery. He is responsible for the presentation to the General Assembly for approval of all minutes of the Presbytery which have been approved by the Presbytery not previously approved by the General Assembly.
- 10. A copy of the **Guidelines for Keeping Presbytery Minutes** should be kept with the minutes of the Presbytery.

## II. GUIDELINES FOR EXAMINING PRESBYTERY MINUTES

- 1. Presbytery minutes shall be examined for conformity to:
  - (a) The primary and secondary standards of the Church, as to substance of the actions recorded.
  - (b) The Assembly's **Guidelines for Keeping Presbytery Minutes**, as to form, structure, and minimum content, and
  - (c) Appropriate standards as to the use of the English language.
- 2. Each set of Presbytery minutes should be read by at least two members of the Committee of Commissioners on Review and Control of Presbyteries.
- 3. The Committee may divide its work so that two or more members examine them primarily as to substance.
- 4. The findings of the Committee with respect to the minutes of each Presbytery shall be reported under the following categories as appropriate:
  - (a) **Notations:** typographical errors, mis-spellings, improper punctuation, non-prejudicial statements of fact, etc., may be reported under this category. Also failures to provide proper or sufficient information or identification, prejudicial mis-statements of fact, etc., may be reported under this category.
  - (b) **Exceptions:** violations of the Assembly's **Guidelines for Keeping Presbytery Minutes** and actions which in substance appear not to conform to the Standards of the Presbyterian Church in America, or to be out of accord with the deliverances of the General Assembly, should be reported under this category.
- 5. The Committee shall prepare a report concerning the minutes of each Presbytery. The filling out of a form, designed for the purpose for each Presbytery, shall meet the requirement for this section. After action by the Assembly, one copy of the report shall be sent by the Stated Clerk to the Presbytery. A second copy shall be retained by the Stated Clerk in a permanent file. A third copy shall be kept in the records of the Committee which shall be maintained in a suitable binder. The custody of the records of the Committee shall be the responsibility of the Stated Clerk in the period between the General Assemblies.
- 6. Notations and exceptions in the Committee's reports shall be disposed of as follows:
  - (a) Notations shall normally be sent to the Presbyteries by the Stated Clerk without being read before the General Assembly or recorded in its minutes.
  - (b) Exceptions shall normally be sent to the Presbyteries by the Stated Clerk without being read before the General Assembly or recorded in its minutes.
  - (c) Exceptions shall be read before the Assembly, recorded in its minutes, and disposed of as the Assembly determines.
  - (c) The Assembly shall adopt an appropriate motion with respect to the minutes of each Presbytery, the following forms being examples:
    - (1) That the minutes of the Presbytery of \_\_\_\_\_ be approved without exception. (Give dates of minutes being approved.)
    - (2) That the minutes of the Presbytery of \_\_\_\_\_ be approved with the exceptions noted. (Give dates of minutes being approved.)
- 7. The Presbyteries shall take note in their minutes of exceptions taken by the Assembly, together with the corrections or explanations adopted by the Presbytery to rectify them. Presbyteries shall advise the next General Assembly of the disposition they have made of the exceptions.

8. Reports to the Assembly from the Presbyteries concerning disposition of exceptions taken by the past Assembly shall normally be referred to the Committee without being read before the Assembly. The Committee shall examine such reports and shall report to the Assembly its judgment as to the suitability of the disposition that has been made. Committees shall also present recommendations concerning all exceptions taken by previous Assemblies or Committees that have not been disposed of suitably.

These Guidelines were adopted as amended, paragraph 3-50. The amended forms appear in the Rules for Assembly Operations, Appendix L, page 219.

### 3-12 Judicial Complaint

The Stated Clerk presented the following Judicial Complaint made by the Rev. Harold L. Webb and the Rev. Thomas Miller against the Pacific Presbytery, together with the excerpt from the Minutes of the Presbytery and the written response of the Rev. J. Philip Clark, respondent for the Presbytery. He indicated that he had placed this matter in the hands of the Committee of Commissioners on Judicial Business to ask for a recommendation from that Committee on how this case should be heard.

#### **Complaint from Rev. Harold L. Webb and Rev. Thomas Miller against Pacific Presbytery**

To: The Rev. Morton H. Smith, Stated Clerk, General Assembly,  
 Presbyterian Church in America  
 Box 256  
 Clinton, Mississippi 39056

In the matter of the action of the Pacific Presbytery of The Presbyterian Church in America at its special meeting, Aug. 4, 1975, respecting its proceeding to business without the required quorum being present, the undersigned hereby complain to the General Assembly of the P.C.A. of the action of the Pacific Presbytery in the above entitled matter, and for the reasons in support of such complaint, states the following:

- (1) After the formation of the roll and adoption of a motion finding the call for the special meeting in order, one of the complainants, as a point of information, asked the chair if the call for a quorum at some point in the meeting would invalidate business processed prior to the quorum call;
- (2) The chair replied that the quorum could only be challenged if a member left the floor while the meeting was in process;
- (3) Complainant explained that there was no objection to conducting routine business without a quorum, as had been done in the past by this and many other parliamentary bodies, but that it would be highly improper to consider some of the controversial items on the day's agenda without the presence of a single ruling elder delegate and less than one-third of the ministers present. It had been pointed out earlier in the day when the Candidates and Credentials Committee was debating one of these controversial issues, that this matter was so serious that it was to be placed before the General Assembly by means of a series of overtures from at least one other presbytery;
- (4) Complainant, therefore, as a point of order noted that the constitutionally required number of three ruling elders was not present, and, therefore, the presbytery was not competent to proceed to the business at hand;
- (5) The Chair ruled that inasmuch as presbytery had conducted business in the past without the required quorum being present, it was in order to proceed to the business at hand regardless of complainant's challenge of lack of quorum;
- (6) Complainant reminded the chair that at our last meeting, July 8, 1975, the Chair had informed the presbytery that if any member ever challenged the quorum, presbytery would "be out of business" for that



meeting, and that his present ruling was contradictory to his previously stated position, and that since the quorum has now been challenged, it is the responsibility of the Chair and the presbytery to comply with the clear and explicit provisions of Chapter 14-3 of the Form of Government;

- (7) The Moderator stated that his ruling stood and that we would proceed to the business docketed for the meeting;
- (8) Complainant appealed from the decision of the chair;
- (9) The decision of the Chair was sustained by the majority present;
- (10) Complainant requested that his negative vote be recorded in the minutes and gave oral notice of his intention to complain to General Assembly of the unconstitutional conduct of the Moderator and of the Pacific Presbytery;
- (11) In the further support of said complaint, it should be noted that prior to the meeting of March 17, 1975, presbytery had only three or four churches on its roll. This made it difficult, if not impossible, to secure the attendance of three ruling elders, but, at that meeting and since, the presbytery has enrolled three additional churches, and it is therefore no longer impractical to expect representation by at least three ruling elders;
- (12) Complainant respectfully requests that General Assembly declare the actions of the August 4 meeting of Pacific Presbytery be null and void, with the single exception that the time and place of the next stated meeting agreed to unanimously be allowed to stand as September 22, 1975, at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Orange, California.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Rev. Harold L. Webb  
The Rev. Thomas Miller

Dated: Aug. 9, 1975

Received by the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, Aug. 18, 1975

**Extract from the Minutes of Pacific Presbytery, August 4, 1975, Relating to Complaint of Messrs Harold L. Webb and Thomas Miller**

Presbytery met at the call of the moderator on August 4, 1975, in the building of Calvary Independent Presbyterian Church, Glendale, Calif. Order was called at 1:45 P.M. with prayer and Scripture by the Rev. Warren Williams. Present: S. P. Allen, J. P. Clark, Nam Chin Cha, G. Brent Bradley, Theodore Kline, Thomas Miller, Harold Webb, Ellis Shaw, and Warren Williams. — all ministers. Recognized as visiting brethren; Revs. Ruddick, George Clark, Paul McKaughan. On motion the call for the meeting (copy attached to the primary copy of these minutes) was found in order. Mr. Webb challenged the competence of the meeting as lacking quorum. The moderator, Dr. Clark, ruled that the meeting was competent to do business. Mr. Webb appealed the ruling, but it was sustained. Mr. Webb requested that his negative vote be recorded. The items of business for which the meeting was called were then considered:

Mr. Webb gave notice of intention to complain to the General Assembly in the matter of quorum. Adjournment was at 4:10 P.M., with dismissing prayer led by Mr. Kline.

Attest:

Stanley P. Allen, stated clerk

**Response of Pacific Presbytery to the Complaint of Messrs Harold L. Webb and Thomas Miller**

26 August 1975

Dr. Morton Smith, Stated Clerk  
Presbyterian Church in America  
P. O. Box 256

Clinton, Mississippi 39056

Dear Dr. Smith:

Regarding the complaint made against the Pacific Presbytery by Mr. Webb

and Mr. Miller, I, as moderator, will reply since it is my ruling that is in question.

As the minutes of our 4 August meeting indicate, the meeting was called for the purpose of accomplishing four matters that were thought to be urgent:

1. Approve the call to Mr. Buchtel, as his installation service had already been announced and men were travelling to the service from a great distance,
2. Act on the application of Mr. McKaughan, a matter on which Mission to the World had suggested haste,
3. Reconsider the time and place of the Autumn Meeting which had previously been set for 8 September, a date which now conflicted with the meeting time for G.A. committees, and
4. The possibility of a meeting during General Assembly.

Prior to the meeting of Presbytery, called for 1:30 p.m., a meeting of the Candidates and Credentials Committee was held from 10:00 until 12:30 in order to examine Mr. McKaughan. Mr. McKaughan presented a theological paper, previously requested and then sustained a good examination. However, Mr. Webb expressed concern over the past relationship of Mr. McKaughan with the Graham Evangelistic Team, and his generally more favorable view of what has been called "ecumenical evangelism". Five members were present, though other members of Presbytery were sitting in, and the vote on recommending Mr. McKaughan to Presbytery was tied, 2 and 2. As chairman of the committee I cast the deciding vote in Mr. McKaughan's favor. We were immediately informed by Mr. Webb that we should reconsider our action if we wished to escape real difficulty in the Presbytery meeting.

When Presbytery was convened at 1:45 p.m. the competency of the meeting was challenged as lacking a quorum. The Stated Clerk reviewed the minutes of all previous meetings and reported that, since the Presbytery's founding, no meeting had had the proper number of accredited ruling elders present. (We have few churches and they are widely scattered.)

Under questioning Mr. Webb stated that his challenge was due only to the action of the Candidates and Credentials Committee in recommending Mr. McKaughan, and his view that anyone supporting Dr. Graham's type of "ecumenical evangelism" should be kept out of the Presbytery.

I ruled that the meeting was competent to do business knowing that my judgment could be, and probably would be, questioned. I acted as I did for the following reasons:

1. The matter of a quorum was not the basic issue, and it was my opinion that the challenge was a means of overcoming the will of the majority.
2. This was not the place to decide, or the method to be used in deciding, whether a minister who might cooperate with Dr. Graham should be received into a Presbytery of the PCA.
3. Any action taken in this meeting could be easily ratified in a subsequent meeting where a quorum would be present.
4. In the days when the Presbytery was learning to walk, the discouragement which might follow the official recognition of such a device, as I believed this challenge to be, might retard the work of this Presbytery for a long time to come. (Some Presbyters had driven 125 miles to attend the meeting.)

I deeply regret that an action of mine, though sustained by the majority present, has occasioned the first complaint to come before the General Assembly. I am confident that all members of the Pacific Presbytery sincerely want this to work only for God's glory. It is obvious that more of our independent churches should join Presbytery, but it is equally obvious that such an early disagreement will not encourage those, who long for fellowship, to look our way. We covet the counsel and correction of our fathers and brethren.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Philip Clark

Judge Stokes Robertson, Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Judicial Business, presented a partial report of the Committee presenting a procedure for handling this matter.

The following procedure was adopted:

That the General Assembly appoint the Committee of Commissioners on

Judicial Business in consultation with the Constitutional Documents Committee to study the case of the Judicial Complaint of Messrs Harold L. Webb and Thomas Miller against the Pacific Presbytery, and that this committee report its findings to the General Assembly on Thursday, September 11, 1975, at 3:00 P.M., for final adjudication by the General Assembly as a court. (See 3-72 for Assembly's Action.)

### 3-13 Report of the Constitutional Documents Committee

The Rev. Charles Dunahoo, Chairman of the Constitutional Documents Committee presented the report of the Committee.

The Assembly adopted the following procedural motions:

1. That the Assembly hereby declares that Part 1, the Form of Government and Part 2, the Rules of Discipline, having been adopted by the previous Assemblies are open to minor changes by this Assembly under the suspension of Rule 27-2.
2. That the Assembly hear the Ad Interim Committee on the number of officers in two parts; first, the overtures from previous assemblies, second, then proceed to report on their recommendations of the number of offices.
3. That any changes of major content being recommended either by the Constitutional Documents Committee, or from any other source, must be handled under the regular constitutional process provided in 27-2.
4. Following the Report of the Ad Interim Committee that the Assembly hear from the Special Constitutional Documents Editorial Committee.

### 3-14 Report of the Constitutional Documents Committee — Minor Changes in the Book of Church Order

1. The Assembly declared that Recommendation a. should be considered as a major change, and subject to the full constitutional process to be enacted.
  - a. Amend Paragraph 14-1 (page 19) by adding the following sentence: Congregations which fail to submit annual statistical reports required by the General Assembly for two years in succession shall not be eligible to send Ruling Elder Commissioners to the Presbytery, until such reports have been submitted to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery.  
This item, together with an amended form failed to pass, and was thus lost.
2. Recommendation b was tabled.
  - b. Amend 15-1, Item 12 (page 23, line 19) Add the following sentence: Persons who have served for a full term, or for at least two years of a partial term, on one of the Assembly's Permanent Committees or Permanent Sub-Committees, shall not be eligible for re-election to an Assembly Committee until one year has elapsed. (See Item 10. below.)
3. Item c failed to pass.
  - c. Amend Paragraph 15-2 by adding the following sentence: Congregations which fail to submit the annual statistical reports to the General Assembly for two years in succession shall not be eligible to send Ruling Elder Commissioners to the Assembly, until such reports have been submitted to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.
4. Item d was adopted.
  - d. Amend 19-1, line 12. After "to preach the Gospel," replace the remainder of the sentence with "submits himself to the care and guidance of the Presbytery in his course of study and of practical training to prepare himself for this office."
5. Items e and k in paragraph III are to be reconsidered by the Committee for better wording to protect those coming in from without the Presbyterian Church in America. (See paragraph 3-89 for amended form as adopted.)
  - e. Amend 19-2. Substitute the following paragraphs for the original: "Every candidate for the ministry must put himself under the care of Presbytery, which should ordinarily be the Presbytery that has jurisdiction of the church of which he is a member. The endorsement of his Session must be given to the Presbytery, consisting of testimonials regarding his Chris-

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

tian character and promise of usefulness in the ministry. The endorsement should also describe the activities of ministry the applicant has participated in with brief evaluation.

Every applicant for care shall be a member of the congregation whose Session provides an endorsement for at least six months before filing his application.

Every applicant must file his application with the clerk of the Presbytery at least two months before the meeting of the Presbytery.

An applicant may not be received under care and examined for ordination at the same meeting of the Presbytery. An applicant for licensure who is not already under care must be taken under care and examined for licensure at the same meeting of the Presbytery."

- k. Amend 20-3. Substitute the following paragraph for the entire paragraph: "Ordinarily a man for the ministry shall be licensed by the Presbytery in which he is to preach prior to his examination for ordination. However, if a candidate, yet unlicensed, is called to a definite work, the Presbytery may proceed to his examination for ordination, if the candidate has met the requirements for ordination. Ordinarily, a man seeking ordination to the Gospel ministry should be a licensed candidate under care of a Presbytery. In the event that he is not a candidate under care of the Presbytery, may after examination proceed directly to ordination. The same procedure may be applied to an unlicensed candidate."
6. Items f, g, h, i, and j were adopted
  - f. Amend 19-4, line 22. After the words "as tests for" omit the words "licensure and."
  - g. Amend 19-5, line 5, page 30. After the words "unless he has" substitute the following words for the remainder of the sentence: "been licensed and approved for that supply by the Presbytery having jurisdiction of the church."
  - h. Amend 20-1, line 22. Delete the following sentence: "Ruling Elders who have demonstrated their gifts are eligible for licensure by their Presbytery to preach the Word." (This same instruction appears in 20-2.)
  - i. Amend 20-1, line 23. Substitute the following two sentences for the last sentence of the paragraph: "Candidates for the Gospel ministry who desire to preach more than occasionally in the pulpits of the Presbyterian Church in America should be licensed. A licentiate requested by a church Session to preach in its pulpit on a regular basis must first have permission of the Presbytery having jurisdiction of the church."
  - j. Amend 20-2, line 27. Substitute the following sentence for the last sentence of the paragraph: "To this end, the requirements of 20-5 may be waived by the Presbytery at its discretion."
7. Items l, m, n, o, and p were adopted
  - l. Amend 20-4, line 23. Delete the last two sentences of the paragraph. (The same instruction also appears in 20-6.)
  - m. Amend 20-6. Substitute the following paragraph for the entire paragraph: "The examination of a candidate for licensure shall be as follows: The Candidate must
    - A. Give a statement of his Christian experience and inward call to the Gospel ministry both
      1. Written, and
      2. Before Presbytery;
    - B. Be tested with a written examination for his
      1. Basic knowledge of Biblical doctrine as outlined in the Confession of Faith and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms of the Presbyterian Church in America;
      2. Practical knowledge of the English Bible;
      3. Basic knowledge of the government of the Presbyterian Church in America as defined in the Book of Church Order;
    - C. Be examined orally before Presbytery for his views of the areas of practical knowledge outlined in Part B;
    - D. Provide his own written sermon on an assigned passage of Scripture embodying both explanation and application."

- n. Amend 20-13, line 13. Add the following sentences to the paragraph: "The Presbytery shall require every licentiate under its care to make a report to it at least once a year describing his ministerial experiences. If the licentiate is still in school, the Presbytery shall secure from his instructors an annual report upon his deportment, diligence, and progress in study."
- o. Amend 22-4, line 15. After the words "Trials for ordination" delete the words "At a different time from that in which the candidate was licensed."
- p. Amend 22-4, page 39, line 2. Delete the following sentence: "Trials for ordination in the same Presbytery in which the candidate was licensed may be omitted when the examination for licensure has satisfied the Presbytery of his fitness for ordination."
- 8. Item q was adopted as amended:
  - q. Amend 23-1, line 7. Add the following sentence to the paragraph: "If a church is unable to secure a regular pastor or a Stated Supply, then the Session with approval of Presbytery may establish a temporary relation between the church and a licentiate called Student Supply or Ruling Elder Supply."
- 9. Item r, s, t, u, v, and w were adopted
  - r. Amend 23-2. Substitute the following paragraph for the original paragraph: "Such temporary relationships can take place at the invitation of the Church Session to the minister of the Word, the licentiate, or the ruling elder. The length of the relationship will be determined by the Session and the minister, the licentiate, or the ruling elder, with the approval of the Presbytery. Stated Supply, Student Supply, or Ruling Elder Supply relationships will be for no longer than one year, renewable at the request of the Session and at the review of the Presbytery."
  - s. Amend BCO 10-2, p. 13, line 8 to read "action without the approval of the Session and consent of the congregation."
  - t. Amend BCO 10-4, p. 13, line 18 by inserting "from their number," after "secretary".
  - u. Amend BCO 13-6, p. 18, line 17 by inserting after ":", "to approve actions of special importance affecting church property, and calling congregational meetings when necessary."
  - v. Amend BCO 15-1-12, p 23 to read: "The Assembly permanent committees are to consist of four classes of three men each."
  - w. Authorize the changing of the present three class system into a four class system as follows:

#### COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION

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Harold R. Patteson

##### Ruling Elders

S. Elliott Belcher

##### Class of 1977

E. Crowell Cooley

William Swain  
Bill Joseph

##### Class of 1976

Gordon Reed, Chairman  
Charles Dunahoo

John Spencer

##### Class of 1975

Bob Ostenson

M. B. Swayze  
Jules Vroon

#### COMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS

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##### Ruling Elders

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## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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Kennedy Smartt

Hugh Smith

10. Item b was removed from the table (See 3-14 - 2) and passed  
Amend. 15-1, Item 12 (page 23, line 19) Add the following sentence: Persons who have served for a full term or for at least two years of a partial term, on one of the Assembly's Permanent Committees or Permanent Sub-Committees, shall not be eligible for re-election to an Assembly Committee until one year has elapsed.
11. Items x, y, z, aa, and bb were adopted
  - x. Amend 15-1-11 as amended by the Second General Assembly, found in changes of the BCO made by the Second General Assembly, reference to p. 23, line 17. Add, "and vote only as necessary to meet the quorum."
  - y. Amend BCO II, 16-4, p. 78, line 15-17, by substituting a new paragraph: "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."

- z. Amend BCO II 16-5, p. 78, line 25 by adding after "record", "without the consent of the parties in the case. Should new evidence come to light the case shall be remitted to the lower court, from which the appeal was made."
- aa. Amend II, 16-8, p. 79, line 20 by changing "the lower court" to "both parties."
- bb. Amend II, 16 by adding a new section 16-9, and changing the numbering of successive paragraphs accordingly. New 16-9 to read: "An appellant shall have the right of counsel, which shall be limited to the aid of one advocate appearing before the court."

### 3-15 Report of the Constitutional Documents Committee — Directory for Worship

Recommendation # 3 was adopted:

Recommendation #3 — The Committee recommends the adoption of the proposed Directory for Worship and that upon its adoption the Assembly declare the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in America to be fully adopted, and that the suspension of paragraph 27-2 approved by the First General Assembly now be ended.

Clerk's Note: Recommendation #3 was adopted in general as a procedure, and then the Directory for Worship was considered by Chapter and paragraph.

#### 1. Chapter 48 was adopted

##### CHAPTER 48

##### The Principles and Elements of Public Worship

**48-1** Since the Holy Scriptures are the only infallible rule of faith and practice, the principles of public worship must be derived from the Bible, and from no other source.

The Scriptures forbid the worshipping of God by images, or any other way not appointed in his Word, and requires the receiving, observing, keeping pure and entire, all such religious worship and ordinances as God hath appointed in His Word (S.C. 51, 50).

**48-2** A service of public worship is not merely a gathering of God's children with each other, but before all else, a meeting of the triune God with his chosen people. God is present in public worship not only by virtue of the divine omnipresence but, much more intimately, as the faithful Covenant Saviour. The Lord Jesus Christ said: "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

**48-3** The end of public worship is the glory of God. His people should engage in all its several parts with an eye single to his glory. Public worship has as its aim the building of Christ's church by the perfecting of the saints and the addition to its membership of such as are being saved — all to the glory of God. Through public worship on the Lord's day Christians should learn to serve God all the days of the week in their every activity, remembering, whether they eat or drink or whatever they do, to do all to the glory of God.

**48-4** Public worship is Christian when the worshippers recognize that Christ is the Mediator by whom alone they can come unto God, when they honor Christ as the Head of the church, who rules over public worship, and when their worship is an expression of their faith in Christ and of their love for him.

**48-5** Public worship must be performed in spirit and in truth. Externalism and hypocrisy stand condemned. The forms of public worship have value only when they serve to express the inner reverence of the worshipper and his sincere devotion to the true and living God. And only those whose hearts have been renewed by the Holy Spirit are capable of such reverence and devotion.

**48-6** The Lord Jesus Christ has prescribed no fixed forms for public worship but, in the interest of life and power in worship, has given his church a large measure of liberty in this matter. It may not be forgotten, however, that there

is true liberty only where the rules of God's Word are observed and the Spirit of the Lord is, that all things must be done decently and in order, and that God's people should serve him with reverence and in the beauty of holiness. From its beginning to its end a service of public worship should be characterized by that simplicity which is an evidence of sincerity and by that beauty and dignity which are a manifestation of holiness.

**48-7** Public worship differs from private worship in that in public worship God is served by his saints unitedly as his Covenant people, the body of Christ. For this reason the Covenant children should be present so far as possible as well as adults. For the same reason no favoritism may be shown to any who attend. Nor may any member of the church presume to exalt himself above others as though he were more spiritual, but each shall esteem others better than himself.

**48-8** It behooves God's people not only to come into his presence with a deep sense of awe at the thought of his perfect holiness and their own exceeding sinfulness, but also to enter into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise for the great salvation which he has so graciously wrought for them through his only begotten Son and applied to them by the Holy Spirit.

**48-9** The Bible teaches that the following are proper elements of worship service: reading of Holy Scripture, singing of Psalms and Hymns, the offering of prayer, the preaching of the Word, the presentation of offerings, confessing the faith and observing the sacraments; and on special occasions taking oaths.

## 2. Chapters 49 and 50 were adopted

### CHAPTER 49

#### The Sanctification of the Lord's Day

**49-1** "The fourth commandment requireth the keeping holy to God such set times as he hath appointed in his word; expressly one whole day in seven, to be a holy sabbath to himself." (S.C. 58)

**49-2** God commanded his Old Testament people to keep holy the last day of the week, but he sanctified the first day as the sabbath by the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ from the dead. For this reason the church of the new dispensation has from the time of the apostles kept holy the first day of the week as the Lord's day.

**49-3** It is the duty of every person to remember the Lord's day; and to prepare for it before its approach. All worldly business should be so ordered, and seasonably laid aside, as that they may not be hindered thereby from sanctifying the Sabbath, as the Holy Scriptures require.

**49-4** The whole day is to be kept holy to the Lord; and to be employed in the public and private exercises of religion. Therefore, it is requisite, that there be a holy resting, all the day, from unnecessary labors; and an abstaining from those recreations which may be lawful on other days; and also, as much as possible, from worldly thoughts and conversation.

**49-5** Let the provisions for the support of the family on that day be so ordered that others be not improperly detained from the public worship of God, nor hindered from sanctifying the Sabbath.

**49-6** Let every person and family, in the morning, by secret and private prayer, for themselves and others, especially for the assistance of God to their minister, and for a blessing upon his ministry, by reading the Scriptures, and by holy meditation, prepare for communion with God in his public ordinances.

**49-7** Let the time not used for public worship be spent in prayer, in devotional reading, and especially in the study of the Scriptures, meditation, catechising, religious conversation, the singing of psalms, hymns, or spiritual songs; visiting the sick, relieving the poor, teaching the ignorant, holy resting, and in performing such like duties of piety, charity, and mercy.

### CHAPTER 50

#### The Ordering of Public Worship

**50-1** When the congregation is to meet for public worship, the people (having before prepared their hearts thereunto) ought all to come and join therein; not absenting themselves from the public ordinances through negligence, or upon pretence of private meetings.



**50-2** Let the people assemble at the appointed time, that all being present at the beginning they may unite with one heart in all the parts of public worship. Let none unnecessarily depart until after the blessing be pronounced.

**50-3** Let the people upon entering the church take their seats in a decent and reverent manner, and engage in a silent prayer for a blessing upon themselves, the minister, and all present, as well as upon those who are unable to attend worship.

**50-4** All who attend public worship are expected to be present in a spirit of reverence and godly fear, forbearing to engage in any conduct unbecoming to the place and occasion. Since the family, as ordained by God, is the basic institution in society, and God in the Covenant graciously deals with us, not just as individuals but also as families, it is important and desirable that families worship together.

### 3. Chapter 51 was adopted as amended

#### CHAPTER 51

#### The Public Reading of the Holy Scriptures

**51-1** The public reading of the Holy Scriptures is performed by the minister as God's servant. Through it God speaks most directly to the congregation, even more directly than through the sermon. The reading of the Scriptures by the minister is to be distinguished from the responsive reading of certain portions of Scripture by the minister and the congregation. In the former God addresses his people; in the latter God's people give expression in the words of Scripture to their contrition, adoration, gratitude and other holy sentiments. The psalms of Scripture are especially appropriate for responsive reading.

**51-2** The reading of the holy Scriptures in the congregation is a part of the public worship of God and should be done by the minister, or by some other person.

**51-3** The Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments shall be read from a good translation, not a paraphrase, in the language of the people, that all may hear and understand.

**51-4** How large a portion shall be read at once is left to the discretion of every minister; and he may, when he thinks it expedient, expound any part of what is read; always having regard to the time, that neither reading, singing, praying, preaching, nor any other ordinance, be disproportionate the one to the other; nor the whole rendered too short, or too tedious.

### 3-16 Remainder of Directory for Worship Postponed

The Assembly postponed further consideration of the Proposed Directory for worship until Thursday at 1 P.M. (See 3-69.)

### 3-17 Report of the Constitutional Documents Committee — Handling of Overtures and Communications

Recommendations 12, 13, 14, 15a, 15b and 16 were adopted

Recommendation #12: Answer Communication 2 from Mississippi Valley (p. 34) calling for clarification of paragraphs 21-8 and 21-9 by amending these paragraphs as follows:

Paragraph 21-8, p. 36, line 27, change "the" to "their".

Substitute new 21-9 to read: "When a pastor desires to accept a call to another Presbytery, he must be examined and approved by the presbytery for the pastorate to which he is being called, and must be released for transfer by his present presbytery from his pastorate."

Recommendation #13: Answer Communication 3 from Mississippi Valley Presbytery (p. 34) calling for clarification of the requirements on Hebrew and Greek examinations, by answering in the affirmative Overture 17 from the Presbytery of Mississippi Valley requesting the following be added to paragraph 22-4: "A Presbytery may accept a Seminary degree which includes study in the original languages in lieu of an oral examination in the original languages." Add this sentence after "Church." on page 38, line 19.

Recommendation #14: Answer Communication 4 from the Presbytery of

Mississippi Valley (p. 35) requesting clarification on election of officers by amending BCO 25-1 and 25-3 as follows:

Amend 25-1, page 44, line 16 by adding the following: "The number of officers to be elected shall be determined by the congregation after hearing the Session's recommendation."

Amend 25-3, page 44, line 24 substitute the following sentence: "A majority vote of those present is required for election."

Recommendation #15a: Answer Overture #5 from Warrior Presbytery requesting an additional paragraph on non-ordained persons serving as regular supply or in a pastoral way (p. 33), in the negative, since this matter is covered by BCO 20-1.

Recommendation #15b: Answer Overture 6# from Warrior Presbytery requesting an additional paragraph 14-7 (p. 34) in the negative.

Recommendation #16: Overture #19 from the Presbytery of Southern Florida requesting that due constitutional process be used hereafter for all changes in the Book of Church Order (p. 34) is answered in the affirmative by Recommendation #3 of the Committee, adopted in paragraph 3-13.

### 3-18 Docket Amended

The Ad Interim Committee on the Number of Officers was docketed for the first item of business at the next business session, Wednesday morning.

### 3-19 Report of the Editorial Committee

Dr. G. Aiken Taylor, Chairman of the Special Constitutional Documents Editorial Committee made the following report. The Assembly adopted all four of the recommendations of the Committee as presented.

Your committee has carefully approached its assignment to edit the language and style but not the content of the **Book of Church Order** as its parts have been completed by the Assembly's Committee on Constitutional Documents. The last document to be placed in our hands was the Directory for Worship, together with a few changes in the Form of Government, as these were given final approval by the Committee on Constitutional Documents, April 26, 1975.

As we have worked on our assignment, we have reached several conclusions:

(1) If the **Book of Church Order** is to be a lasting and effective document in the best tradition of the Church, a thorough editorial revision should be undertaken to eliminate the patchwork character of the text which is the result of changes and amendments through many years.

(2) Your committee could not possibly complete so thorough an editing in time for the Third General Assembly.

(3) Had there been time for such labor, there would have been no assurance that the work done was what the General Assembly wanted.

(4) Substantive changes of major significance are before the Third General Assembly for consideration. The adoption of these would require extensive rewriting of major sections of the **Book of Church Order**, which continues subject to revision by majority vote of the Assembly.

Consequently, the Editorial Committee comes to the Third General Assembly without having completed its assignment but with the following recommendations:

(1) That this General Assembly complete the process of adopting the **Book of Church Order** (Form of Government, Rules of Discipline, Directory for Worship, as presented by the Committee on Constitutional Documents, including whatever action the Assembly may determine upon the report of the Ad Interim Committee To Study the Number of Officers in the Church.

(2) That the Assembly turn the completed **Book of Church Order** over to the Editorial Committee, authorizing a thorough editing of the whole, agreeable to the form and content of the sample pages appended to this report. Where this work includes proposed substantive changes, these shall be added as alter-

nate readings clearly marked and identified in the text to facilitate Assembly consideration.

(3) That the Committee on Constitutional Documents be continued for consultation with this committee in any matters affecting substance.

(4) That the finished product be submitted in time to be distributed to the churches at least three months before the meeting of the General Assembly to which it will be submitted for adoption.

Respectfully submitted:

Harold R. Patteson

O. Palmer Robertson

M. B. Swayze

G. Aiken Taylor, Chairman

Fred D. Thompson, Jr.

### 3-20 Presbyteries Directed to Meet

Grace Presbytery was directed to meet by the Assembly at 5 P.M. on September 10, for the purpose of dismissing Rev. O. Palmer Robertson to the Presbytery of the Ascension.

The Presbytery of Louisiana was directed by the Assembly to meet at 5:30 P.M. Thursday, September 11, for the purpose of examining Rev. Robert Vincent, who has been called by the Jackson Street Church of Alexandria.

### 3-21 Recess

The Assembly was recessed at 5:30 P.M., being led in prayer by Ruling Elder W. Jack Williamson.

## MINUTES — TUESDAY EVENING

September 9, 1975

### Second Session

### 3-22 Assembly Worship Service

The Assembly was led in worship by the retiring Moderator, the Rev. Erskine L. Jackson. Mr. Jackson delivered a retiring Moderator's Sermon entitled "What Good is a Slogan?" based on II Timothy 3:16-17.

The Rev. Adrian DeYoung, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Prattville, Alabama, led the Assembly in the observance of the Lord's Supper. He was assisted by the Rev. Bruce Wideman, Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Jackson, and by the following Ruling Elders:

John P. Bell  
B. G. Blaylock  
John Blount  
C. C. Boyce  
Robert C. Cannada  
Marbin M. Catron  
David W. Forslund  
Eugene H. Friedline  
Roy Gamble  
Hunter Garrison  
Earle L. Glenn  
Lewis Graeber

Leon F. Hendrick  
William Haynes  
Wallace L. Krohn  
Ralph L. Landrum  
Wally Musselman  
James C. Pakala  
Carl W. Regel  
Stokes M. Robertson  
William Stratford  
Ben H. Zeigler  
Robert Zeigler

### 3-23 Assembly Reconvened for Business

The Moderator called the Assembly to order following the worship service, opening the session with prayer.

**3-24 Presbytery Directed to Meet**

On request of the Presbytery, the Presbytery of Texas was directed to meet to consider liaison between the Committee on Mission to the United States and the First National Presbyterian Church of Irving Texas.

**3-25 Greetings from Fraternal Delegates**

The following fraternal delegates were introduced, and each addressed the Assembly briefly:

Christian Reformed Church, Dr. John Bratt, President, Inter-Church Relations Committee

Orthodox Presbyterian Church, Rev. George Cottender, Moderator of General Assembly

Reformed Presbyterian Church, (Evangelical Synod) Rev. Robert G. Rayburn, Chairman, Fraternal Relations Committee

Reformed Presbyterian Church, of North America, Rev. James M. Wright, Interchurch Correspondence and Study Committee

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, Mr. Dodd Vernon, Member, Inter-Church Relations Committee.

**3-26 Partial Report of the Committee of Commissioners on Mission to the World**

Rev. Donald B. Patterson, Chairman of the Permanent Committee on Mission to the World presented the following Partial Report of the Committee, which was adopted:

- #6 — That we recognize the honor extended to us by the Presbyterian Church of Brazil by the sending of their President, the Reverend Boanerges Ribeiro, as they express interest in establishing fraternal relations with the Presbyterian Church in America and that we ask him to address the General Assembly as he brings fraternal greetings and that he be invited to sit as a visiting Brother with the right of the floor extended to him.

The Rev. Paul McKaughan introduced the Rev. Boanerges Ribeiro who addressed the Assembly.

**3-27 Special Visitors Recognized**

The following special visitors were introduced by Dr. G. Aiken Taylor:

Dr. Marion G. Bradwell, Lord's Day Alliance

Mr. Dale Smith, Rev. John MacGregor, Covenant College

Rev. Mark Vander Ark, Reformed Bible College

Rev. William Viss, Geneva College

Rev. Earl Pinckney, Mr. Robert Pruice, Westminster Bible Mission

Rev. Robley Johnston, Great Commission

Rev. Roy Oliver, Westminster Seminary

Rev. Pete Hammond, Mr. Wilfred Townsend, Intervarsity Christian Fellowship

**3-28 Assembly Recessed**

The assembly was recessed at 10 P.M. with prayer by Dr. Aiken Taylor

**MINUTES — WEDNESDAY MORNING**

September 10, 1975

**Third Session****3-29 Assembly Reconvened**

The Assembly opened its third session at 8:00 A.M. on Wednesday morning with prayer by the Rev. M. Joey Pipa.

**3-30 Minutes Approved**

The minutes of the Tuesday's sessions were read and approved.

**3-31 Report of Ad Interim Committee on Number of Offices**

Rev. Kennedy Smartt presented the report of the Ad Interim Committee on the Number of Offices in the ministry. Part II: Biblical and Theological issues were introduced. Part III: was then introduced — Recommendation 1 was suspended that the Assembly might move on the recommendation 2. After discussion of the matter the Assembly adopted the following motion: The whole matter be committed to a new Ad-Interim Committee which shall be elected after nominations by the Nominating Committee (3-45, 3-82)

**3-32 Instructions to Nominating Committee**

The Assembly instructed the Nominating Committee to place a knowledgeable church historian on the New Ad-Interim Committee. Adopted

**3-33 Overtures Recommended**

That the answers to overtures of administration of sacraments by ruling elders (1974 Minutes 2-29); right of a session to elect its own moderator (1974 Minutes 2-70); office of Assistant Pastor, (1974 Minutes 2-71); and one concerning the nature of ordination (1974 Minutes 2-98), be committed to the new Ad-Interim Committee for their study and answer to the Fourth General Assembly

**3-34 Report of Nominating Committee**

Rev. Robert LeMay, presented the report of the Nominating Committee Report

The Assembly adopted the following procedure:

If there is one vacancy in the class, the nominee receiving the highest number of votes will be elected, if he receives a majority of the votes cast. If no one receives a majority, a run off will be held between the two receiving the largest number of votes on the first ballot.

If there is more than one vacancy in the class, the two nominees receiving the highest number of votes will be elected, if each receives a majority of the votes. If either does not receive a majority of the votes, there shall be a run off between each nominee and the man receiving the third highest number of votes.

The Assembly elected the following:

All elections are to the Class of 1979, except as noted.

**COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION:**

**Teaching Elders**  
Bruce Wideman

**Ruling Elders**  
J. B. Caulfield  
L. M. Young

**Alternates:**

Paul E. Rowland

E. C. Hammond

**COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL BUSINESS**

Wick Broomall

R. H. Kirsey

**Alternates:**

John Holmes

James Wilkerson, Jr.

**TRUSTEES FOR INSURANCE AND ANNUITY FUND**

Thomas Barnes

Chester B. Hall

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## COMMITTEE FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS:

Thomas Patete  
Don K. Clements

Charles Parks

**Alternates:**

Eugene Hunt

O. H. Smith, III

## COMMITTEE OF INTERCHURCH RELATIONS

Tim Fortner

Ivan Ward

**Alternates:**

Charles McNutt  
(Later replaced by the  
Assembly with Leon Wardell)  
(3-44)

Curtice Eatman

## COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES

**Teaching Elders**

Donald Graham (transferred to  
Committee on Interchurch Re-  
lations see Paragraph 3-73.)  
J. Philip Clark (was elected  
see Paragraph 3-82.)

**Ruling Elders**

J. T. Russell  
Walter Hatterick

**Alternates:**

Arthur Broadwick

B. W. Gallagher

## COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE WORLD

Lardner Moore  
Kennedy Smartt

Kenneth Keyes

**Alternates:**

W. H. Benchoff

James H. Campbell

## ASSEMBLY'S THEOLOGICAL EXAMINING COMMITTEE

David Jussely

Harry P. Musser

**Alternates:**

Dan Morse  
(See 3-44, 3-45.)

Robert Scruggs

**3-35 Dr. John Reed Miller Recognized as a Visitor**

Upon motion of Rev. Don Patterson, Dr. John Reed Miller, former pastor of the host church, was invited to sit as a special guest of the Assembly, without vote.

**3-36 Worship Service**

The worship service was conducted by the Rev. Donald B. Patterson, Chairman of the Committee on Mission to the World.

**3-37 Assembly Recessed**

The Assembly took recess for lunch, after being led in prayer by the Rev. John Kyle.

## MINUTES — WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

September 10, 1975

## Fourth Session

**3-38 Assembly Reconvened**

The Assembly was reconvened at 1:30 P.M. being led in prayer by Rev. Hubert Stewart.

**3-39 Resolution Regarding South East Asians**

The General Assembly directed its Mission to the World Committee to survey the needs of the South East Asians still quartered in



military camps in this country, and communicate its findings to the Churches, and summoned all our congregations to prayer and planning to determine how each church might best be used to effect the resettlement of these people in our midst in the NAME of Christ, our Lord.

### **3-40 Docket Amended**

The Assembly changed the times for reconvening after noon on Thursday and Friday to 1 P.M., and the hour of recess to 5 P.M. instead of 5:30 P.M. Thursday.

### **3-41 Committees excused from the Floor**

The following Committees were excused from portions of the afternoon session as indicated:

Committee of Commissioners on Review and Control of Presbyteries at 1:30 P.M.

Committee of Commissioners on Interchurch Relations at the beginning of the report on Insurance and Annuities

Committee of Commissioners on Mission to the World after the end of the Nominating Committee Report

Permanent Committee on Administration at the beginning of the Report on Bills and Overtures

Committees on Judicial Business (both permanent and Commissioners) and Constitutional Documents Committee at 1:30 P.M.

### **3-42 Presbytery of Pacific directed to meet**

The Presbytery of the Pacific was directed to meet for the purpose of ratifying the actions of all of the meetings where no quorum had been present.

### **3-43 Worship Tapes Released**

The Assembly ruled that tapes of its worship services may be released.

### **3-44 Interchurch Relations Committee Changed**

The Rev. Charles McNutt's election to serve as alternate minister for the Interchurch Relations Committee was set aside upon his request. The Rev. Leon Wardell was then elected to fill the vacancy.

### **3-45 Report of the Nominating Committee (from 3-34)**

The matter of the New Ad-Interim Committee on the Number of Offices was referred to the Committee on Administration to advise the Assembly upon the proper size and financing of the Committee, after the following nominees had been proposed:

By the Nominating Committee

Jules Vroon, Ruling Elder, Southern Florida

John C. Snyder, Ruling Elder, Ascension

Dr. O. Palmer Robertson, Teaching Elder, Ascension

Dr. Morton H. Smith, Teaching Elder, Mississippi Valley

Ligon Duncan, Ruling Elder, Calvary

Judge R. H. Kirksey, Ruling Elder, Warrior

Rev. Kennedy Smartt, Teaching Elder, Mid Atlantic

From the Floor

Rev. Gordon Reed, Teaching Elder, Southern Florida

Rev. Don Clements, Teaching Elder, Central Georgia

Rev. Donald Dunkerly, Teaching Elder, Gulf Coast

The Committee of Commissioners on Administration was then directed to retire and perform its assigned task. (See paragraph 3-82)

The Report of the Nominating Committee was adopted as a whole.

### 3-46 Report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures

Rev. John Clelland, Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Bills and Overtures presented the report of the Committee:

The Committee of Commissioners on Bills and Overtures met at 1:30, September 8, 1975, Jackson, Mississippi. It was convened by the Rev. John Clelland, Troy, Alabama and constituted with prayer. The following members were present: Rev. James L. Moss, Calvary Presbytery; Ruling Elder E. L. Gaston, Grace Presbytery; Rev. John Lavendar, Warrior Presbytery; Ruling Elder Joseph High, Southern Florida; Ruling Elder Joseph Clark, Mississippi Valley Presbytery; Rev. John Clelland, Evangel Presbytery; Rev. Robert Valentine, North Georgia Presbytery; Rev. Carl W. McMurray, Western Carolina Presbytery; and Rev. Edwin Elliott, Mid-Atlantic Presbytery.

Rev. John Clelland was elected moderator and Rev. Edwin Elliott secretary. A survey of business indicated three overtures and one recommendation were to be considered.

The Committee recommends that the General Assembly take action as follows:

1. Overture #11 from New River Presbytery (p. 30) urging giving to the whole work of the Church was answered in the affirmative.
2. Overture #1 from Central Georgia Presbytery (p. 30) encouraging the use of the Shorter Catechism in examining candidates for the ministry was answered in the affirmative.
3. Overture #20 calling for a Day of Prayer on July 4, 1976, was answered in the affirmative after being amended to read "the Sunday prior to July 4, 1976" instead of "July 4, 1976.)"
4. The Assembly took no action in response to the Resolution #1 of the Rev. Jimmy Lyons (p. 31), having answered Overture 20 in the affirmative.

### 3-47 Report of the Committee on Insurance and Annuities

William S. Perry, Jr., Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Insurance and Annuities presented the following report:

Present were teaching elders the Reverend Lonnie Priest, the Reverend James Sherwood, the Reverend Leon F. Wardell, the Reverend Charles Turner, the Reverend C. D. Murphy, and the Reverend Joseph D. Bishop; and ruling elders Mr. James Badley, Mr. W. S. Perry, Jr., Mr. James Stewart, Mr. Robert Van Goethem, Mr. Glen Milham, Mr. John VanDerver, Mr. Hadley Pobst, Mr. Parker Rhett, and Mr. Joseph M. Hunt.

Also present were the following members of the Board of Trustees: teaching elders the Rev. Harry Schutte and the Reverend E. Crowell Cooley and ruling elders Mr. William J. McLeod, Jr., Mr. William Joseph and Mr. William C. Swain, chairman; and the following members of the Sub-Committee on Insurance: teaching elder the Reverend E. Crowell Cooley, chairman, and ruling elders Mr. William C. Swain and Mr. William J. McLeod, Jr.

Ruling elder W. S. Perry, Jr., was elected chairman and teaching elder the Reverend Leon F. Wardell was appointed secretary.

Motion adopted unanimously that the Committee act as a whole.

The Chairman appointed ruling elders Mr. Parker Rhett and Mr. Robert Van Goethem to examine the minutes of the Board of Trustees (3 December 1974, 14 February 1975, and 11 April 1975) and the Sub-Committee on Insurance (16 September 1974, 2 December 1974, 24 March 1975, 11 April 1975, 8 September 1975) to approve the minutes with "notations."

Motion adopted unanimously that the Report of the Insurance Sub-Committee (Appendix C, p. 170) be approved, noting that this Sub-Committee is being dismissed as directed by the Second General Assembly. Your Committee wishes to thank our brethren for their faithful and diligent service.

Motion adopted unanimously requesting that the Third General Assembly approve the following recommendations of the Insurance Sub-Committee's supplementary report:

1. GROUP MAJOR MEDICAL INSURANCE. We recommend that the



premiums for Group Major Medical Insurance be increased as of October 1, 1975, to:

\$22.43 per month for an individual policy, and  
\$54.83 for the employee and his family.

2. **FIRE AND LIABILITY COVERAGE FOR CHURCH PROPERTY.** The Committee recommends that each church secure Fire and Liability Insurance protection from local sources as there appears to be very little interest in a group approach.
3. **RE: ADDITIONAL LIFE INSURANCE.** The Second General Assembly directed the Sub-Committee on Insurance to give further study to providing an additional amount of life insurance. We have discovered that it may be possible to make individual life insurance policies available through the Minister's Life program at those times when the term insurance carried through our Annuity Plan is reduced in amount. We request the General Assembly to authorize the Trustees to develop and offer such a program.

Motion adopted unanimously requesting that the Third General Assembly approve the Report of the Board of Trustees of the Insurance and Annuity Fund with the following recommendations:

4. P. 148 of Appendix B: third paragraph; for clarification, strike out "The main" and substitute "Another important", and add at end of said paragraph "see Section 3, 4, P. 69" in parenthesis.
5. P. 162, Section 2.1: for clarification, the Employees' Annuity Fund be amended by striking out "shall be eligible for membership in the Fund upon application and payment of required dues" and substitute the following phrase: "may be members of this Annuity Fund upon receipt of a signed application and payment of dues by their employer."
6. That the Third General Assembly adopt the Board of Trustees recommendations
  - (1) That the Amended Official Plan of the Annuity Fund for ministers of the Presbyterian Church in America be adopted. (Appendix B, p. 149)
  - (2) That the Trust Agreement for the Annuity Fund for ministers of the Presbyterian Church in America be adopted. (Appendix B, p. 157)
  - (3) That the Official Plan of the Employees' Annuity Fund of the Presbyterian Church in America be adopted. (Appendix B, p. 162)
  - (4) That the Trust Agreement for the Annuity Fund for Employees of the Presbyterian Church in America be adopted. (Appendix B, p. 165)
7. That the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America encourage and urge all eligible persons and congregations to participate in the denominationally sponsored annuity program.

The Committee notes that the audit for the funds of the Board of Trustees is included in the General Audit and will be reported upon by the Committee on Administration. A CPA Audit of the Annuity Fund was made in the Spring with the recommendation that a actuary certificate be obtained. This was secured on 2 September 1975 and indicates that the Annuity Fund is solvent.

Motion adopted unanimously expressing gratitude to the Board of Trustees of the Annuity Fund for their efforts and labors during the past year, improving and administering the retirement program.

The Report of the Committee as a whole was approved.

### 3-48 Report of the Committee on Mission to the United States

Rev. David Nicholas, Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Mission to the United States presented the following report:

- I. Items referred to and considered by the Committee.
  1. Report of the Committee on MUS to the Third General Assembly.
  2. Supplement to the General Assembly Report.
  3. Minutes of the Committee on MUS.
  4. Audit Report of the Committee on MUS.
  5. Overtures 7 and 10.

## II. Statement of issues discussed.

1. At the request of the Commissioners, Reverend Larry Mills gave a brief report on MUS and its work.
2. Considered the MUS reasons for aiding churches within the boundaries of established presbyteries: (1) Noted that some presbyteries are small and financially limited, and (2) special requests are made for assistance.
3. Discussed the current status of Reverend John Deggs and his ministry in Utah. Mr. Deggs is currently employed in a secular vocation and the Committee is corresponding with him regarding future plans.
4. Discussed "tent making" as means of supporting ministries. MUS may use this means in extraordinary circumstances.
5. Reviewed the MUS financial budgets for 1974, 1975, and 1976.
6. The "public relations" policy and practice of MUS was considered. It was generally noted that support of home missions needs to be promoted among the churches.
7. Discussed the Coordinator's salary and the possibility of a merit and/or cost of living raise.
8. Discussed each recommendation in the Committee Report and in the Supplemental Report.
9. Discussed overtures 7 and 10.

## III. Your Committee Recommends:

- A. That the minutes of the meetings of the Committee on Mission to the United States for September 16-17, 1974, October 15-16, 1974, January 31, and February 1, 1975, May 2-3, 1975, July 18-19, 1975 be approved.
- B. That the Narrative Report of the Committee on Mission to the United States and the Supplemental Report be approved and that the following recommendations be adopted.
  1. That the General Assembly express its thanks to the sovereign God for the prayer and financial support which individuals, churches and Presbyteries have given to the Committee on Mission to the United States since the last General Assembly and for the work which He has permitted this Committee to begin in 1975.
  2. That the General Assembly now hear and act upon the nomination of the Reverend Mr. Larry Mills to serve as Coordinator.
  3. That the General Assembly commend the Reverend Mr. Larry Mills for his excellent work as Coordinator of MUS.
  4. That the General Assembly approve a Day of Prayer and Fasting for home mission work, that January 18, 1976 be designated as the date, that each member of the Presbyterian Church in America be encouraged to pray and fast, and that all churches be encouraged to receive a special offering for Mission to the United States.
  5. That the General Assembly now hear a report on the formation of the Presbytery of the Ascension and receive them as a member Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in America. (See Item 3-5.)
  6. That guidelines adopted by the MUS Committee on May 2-3, 1975, be approved by the General Assembly as follows:
 

"The standards for support of new work within the geographic bounds of existing presbyteries from the Committee on Mission to the United States of the General Assembly."

    - 1) 10 families with 75% attendance of 30 or 40 people.
    - 2) Giving should project that it will be self-supporting in 2 years.
    - 3) Half of pastor's salary is to be underwritten by the congregation from the outset.
    - 4) Pastor must pass examination by MUS Committee regarding the man's qualification for starting a new work.
    - 5) A specific cut-off date of MUS funds scheduled.

These are to be used as general guidelines for the committee to follow in assisting new work.
  7. That the General Assembly grant an extension of one year to the Committee on Mission to United States for the formulation of the Policy Manual to be used by the Committee.

NOTE: All of the above recommendations are unanimously recommended by your Committee of Commissioners.

C. That overtures relating to Mission to United States be answered in the following manner:

1. Overture 7. From Warrior Presbytery regarding the issuing of calls to one or more evangelists to serve with MUS. The Committee of Commissioners by a vote of 7 to 5 recommends that Overture 7 be answered in the negative.
2. Overture 10. From New River Presbytery regarding the appointment of a special subcommittee to examine evangelist and to promote evangelism. The Committee of Commissioners by a unanimous vote recommends that overture 10 to be answered in the negative.

IV. The Committee notes that it received the audit report of the financial statement of the Permanent Committee through December 31, 1974. The Commissioners reviewed and approved the report and requested that the Committee on Mission to United States implement those recommendations which they determine to be practical.

#### THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS

William Jones	Teaching	Carolina
Floyd Millsaps	Ruling	Western Carolina
Brister Ware	Teaching	Mississippi Valley
Bill Combs	Teaching	Grace
David Matthews	Teaching	Texas
Alden Lasseter	Ruling	Central Georgia
Larry E. Ball	Teaching	Westminster
Claude D. Gamble	Teaching	Covenant
Walter Lastovica	Ruling	Mid-Atlantic
David Nicholas	Teaching	Southern Florida
John W. Robertson	Teaching	Warrior
Joseph A. Walker	Ruling	Evangel

The Report was adopted as a whole

See Appendix G for the Report of the Permanent Committee (p. 192).

### 3-49 The Report of the Committee of Commissioners on Judicial Business

Judge Stokes Robertson, Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Judicial Business presented the following report:

Item #1: This Committee recommends to the General Assembly that the General Assembly appoint the Committee of Commissioners on Judicial Business in consultation with Constitutional Documents Committee to study the case of the Judicial complaint of Messrs Harold L. Webb and Thomas Miller against the Pacific Presbytery and that this committee report its findings to the General Assembly on Thursday, September 11, 1975 at 3:00 p.m., for final adjudication by the General Assembly as a court.

Item #2: Consideration of the Report of the Permanent Committee on Judicial Business.

A. This committee recommends to the General Assembly that recommendation #1 of the Permanent Committee's Report be approved. This recommendation is "That the consulting arrangement and provision for maintaining 'Clearing House' files be continued with Attorney Owen Page of 305-307 Realty Building, Savannah, Georgia 31401."

B. This committee recommends to the General Assembly that recommendation #2 of the Permanent Committee's Report be approved. This recommendation is "That Article IV, Section 1 of the By-Laws be amended to insert the following at the end of the sentence setting forth composition of Committee on Administration; 'The Chairman of the Committee on Judicial Business shall be an advisory member of the Committee on Administration.' "

C. This committee recommends to the General Assembly that recommendation #3 of the Permanent Committee's Report be approved. This recommendation is "That each of the four permanent committees be authorized and requested to include provisions for legal expenses when preparing their budgets."

Item #3: Consideration of the Supplemental Report of the Permanent Committee on Judicial Business.

- A. This committee recommends to the General Assembly "That Article IV of the By-Laws be amended by adding to the end of section 1 the following:  
 "There shall also be a Committee on Judicial Business composed of six members divided into three classes of two members each serving three year terms. Each class shall be composed of one (1) teaching elder and one (1) ruling elder who is preferably a duly licensed attorney at law."
- B. This committee recommends to the General Assembly "Add to Section 9 an additional sub-section E as follows:  
 E. The Committee on Judicial Business  
 The Committee shall advise the Assembly on all constitutional matters, and between Assemblies shall function as advisory to the Stated Clerk and the Committee on Administration. The Committee shall not be separately funded but administratively will operate as a Subcommittee of the Committee on Administration. The Committee will make direct report to each Assembly."
- C. This Committee recommends to the General Assembly "That the Nominating Committee present nominations to fill expiring or vacant terms in accord with the above proposed amendment to Article IV, and that existing members shall continue to serve the entire term to which they were elected even though it may not be in conformity with proposed amendment."

Those present were: Rev. Henry W. Benchoff, Calvary Presbytery; Mr. David Lockwood, Carolina Presbytery; the Rev. Roy Taylor, Evangel Presbytery; Mr. George Gulley, Grace Presbytery; Mr. Ralph Underwood, Louisiana Presbytery; the Rev. Ronald Harding, Mid-Atlantic Prebytery; Judge Stokes Robertson, Mississippi Valley Presbytery; Dr. Hamilton McCroskey, Southern Florida Presbytery; the Rev. Dick Harris, Tennessee Valley Presbytery; and Mr. Charles Miller, Warrior Presbytery.

Messrs. John Barnes and Robert Cannada of the Permanent Committee on Judicial Business and Dr. Morton Smith, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, were also in attendance at the Committee's meeting, September 8, 1975.

### **3-50 Report of the Committee of Commissioners on Review and Control of Presbyteries**

Rev. Russ Toms, Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Review and Control of Presbyteries presented the following report:

The Committee met on Monday, September 8, 1975 at 1:00 p.m. and again on Tuesday, September 9, 1975 at 8:00 a.m., and again at 1:35 p.m. on September 10, 1975.

The Committee reviewed the minutes of the following Presbyteries: Calvary, Carolina, Central Georgia, Covenant, Evangel, Grace, Gulf Coast, Louisiana, Mid-Atlantic, Mississippi Valley, New River, North Georgia, Pacific, Southern Florida, Tennessee Valley, Texas, Vanguard, Warrior, Western Carolinas, and Westminster; and the materials on pp. 137-139 of the Supplement to the Commissioners Handbook. (See pp. 45-48 of these Minutes.)

The Committee reviewed all of the materials and makes the following recommendation to the Third General Assembly:

- I. Changes in "Guidelines for Keeping Presbytery Minutes" and "Guidelines for Examining Presbytery Minutes"
  - A. That the word "stated" be substituted for the word "regular" in I,3(a) p. 45.
  - B. That a new I,3,(g) p. 45, be added as follows: "Excuses for teaching elders and churches, and unexcused teaching elders and churches should be noted."
  - C. That the word "clerk's" be substituted for the word "secretary's" in I,4,(c), p. 46.
  - D. That "The names of the mover and seconder" be substituted for "the names of the seconder" in I,6(a), p. 46.
  - E. That "At least once a year the minutes of Presbytery" be substituted for "When the minutes of Presbytery are printed, the printed volume"

- in I,8, p. 46.
- F. That (4 (a) ) be inserted after the word "form" and before the coma in II,3, p. 47.
- G. That (4 (b) ) be inserted after the word "substance" and before the period in II,3, p. 47.
- H. That "and other minor variation in form" be substituted for "etc." in 4, (a), p. 47.
- II. That the General Assembly adopt the "Guidelines for Keeping of Presbytery Minutes" and the "Guidelines for Examining Presbytery Minutes" as amended.
- III. That the General Assembly request the Committee on Judicial Business to give a clarification of I-48-8, lines 14-15, p. 21, B.C.O.
- IV. That the General Assembly take notice of the fact that no official action was taken by the Presbyteries as to the disposition of the exceptions noted by the Second General Assembly.
- V. That the General Assembly approve the following minutes of the following Presbyteries without exception:
- A. CALVARY PRESBYTERY —  
 April 18, 1974 without exception  
 July 18, 1974 without exception  
 August 8, 1974 without exception  
 September 17, 1974 without exception  
 October 17, 1974 without exception  
 January 16, 1975 without exception
- B. GULF COAST —  
 September 12, 1974 without exception  
 September 17, 1974 without exception  
 October 8, 1974 without exception  
 November 19, 1974 without exception  
 January 11, 1975 without exception
- C. LOUISIANA —  
 February 7, 8, 1975 without exception  
 March 14, 15, 1975 without exception  
 June 3, 1975 without exception  
 July 13, 1975 without exception
- D. NEW RIVER PRESBYTERY —  
 June 22, 1974 without exception  
 September 17, 18, 1974 without exception  
 November 15, 1974 without exception  
 March 21, 1975 without exception  
 May 31, 1975 without exception  
 July 11, 1975 without exception
- E. MID-ATLANTIC  
 May 19, 1974 without exception  
 May 28, 1974 without exception  
 June 2, 1974 without exception  
 June 12, 1974 without exception  
 June 14, 1974 without exception  
 October 19, 1974 without exception  
 September 15, 1974 without exception  
 January 29, 1975 without exception  
 February 18, 1975 without exception  
 May 9, 10, 1975 without exception  
 July 22, 1975 without exception
- F. MISSISSIPPI VALLEY —  
 February 19, 1974 without exception  
 May 4, 1974 without exception  
 May 24, 1974 without exception  
 June 20, 1974 without exception  
 September 17, 1974 without exception  
 January 21, 1975 without exception  
 January 21, 1975 without exception  
 March 4, 1975 without exception



## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## G. TENNESSEE VALLEY —

January 15, 1974 without exception  
 April 16, 1974 without exception  
 July 16, 1974 without exception  
 September 17, 1974 without exception  
 October 15, 1974 without exception  
 January 2, 1975 without exception  
 March 10, 1975 without exception  
 May 13, 1975 without exception

## H. TEXAS PRESBYTERY —

December 4, 1974 without exception  
 February 6, 1975 without exception  
 April 29, 1975 without exception  
 July 25-26, 1975 without exception

## I. WARRIOR PRESBYTERY —

September 10, 1974, without exception  
 September 17, 1974 without exception  
 October 6, 1974 without exception  
 January 21, 1975 without exception  
 March 18, 1975 without exception  
 May 20, 1975 without exception

## VI. That the following minutes of the following Presbyteries be approved with exception noted:

## A. PRESBYTERY OF THE ASCENSION —

July 29, 1975, terms of the call of Frank D. Moser are not listed.

## B. CAROLINA PRESBYTERY —

September 7, 1954, reception of ministerial candidates, without ex-  
 amination, I-19 3  
 September 16, 1974 without exception  
 November 2, 1974, same, I-19-2, I-19-3  
 January 25, 1975 without exception  
 February 22, 1975 without exception

## C. CENTRAL GEORGIA —

July 9, 1974, p. 7 did not sign names  
 September 16, 1974, p. 7 did not sign names  
 October 22, 1974, p. 7 did not sign names  
 September 17, 1974 without exception  
 January 14, 1975 without exception  
 February 22, 1975, without exception

## D. COVENANT PRESBYTERY —

July 8, 1974, improper quorum set for Commissions B.C.O. I-16-2  
 October 14, 1974, no commission member listed to install B.C.O.  
 I-16-2  
 September 17, 1974 without exception  
 January 14, 1974 without exception  
 April 9, 1974 without exception  
 April 16, 1974 without exception  
 April 18, 1974 without exception  
 December 7, 1974 without exception  
 January 10, 1975 without exception  
 January 20, 1975 without exception  
 April 14, 1975 without exception  
 April 28, 1975 without exception

## E. EVANGEL PRESBYTERY —

October 8, 1974, Presbytery erred in changing the terms of call  
 from the Clio and Pea River Churches to Mr. Charles F. Gavin,  
 Jr., B.C.O., I-21-10, I-14 7  
 November 7, 1974 without exception  
 December 17, 1974 without exception  
 January 14, 1975 without exception  
 May 13, 1975 without exception

## F. GRACE PRESBYTERY —

July 19, 1974 without exception  
 September 17, 1974 without exception  
 September 18, 1974 without exception  
 October 18, 1974 without exception  
 November 1, 1974 without exception  
 (No minutes for any 1975 meetings.)

## G. NORTH GEORGIA —

September 19, 1974 without exception  
 October 5, 1974 without exception  
 January 18, 1975 without exception  
 February 8, 1975, enrolled Mr. Ed Cunningham "pending completion of seminary" B.C.O., I-22-4  
 April 19, 1975 without exception

## H. SOUTHERN FLORIDA —

June 4, 1973 with exception  
 June 26, 1973 without exception  
 October 16, 1973 without exception  
 December 4, 1973, a "resolution" was dated for a meeting held on 12-4-1975, but no "minutes" of that meeting  
 January 15, 1974 without exception  
 March 5, 1974 without exception  
 June 25, 1974 with exception  
 January 14, 1975 without exception  
 February 4, 1975 without exception  
 April 15, 1975 without exception  
 June 10, 1975 without exception

## I. THE PACIFIC —

February 26, 1974 with exception  
 April 29, 1974 with exception  
 May 13, 1974 with exception  
 September 9, 1974 with exception  
 January 13, 1975 with exception  
 March 17, 1975 with exception  
 May 12, 1975 with exception  
 July 8, 1975 with exception  
 August 4, 1975 with exception  
 There was not a constitutional quorum at any meeting of Presbytery I-14-4. March 17, 1975, a committee was appointed to install when the B.C.O. requires a commission I-16-2.

## J. VANGUARD —

September 16, 1974 without exception  
 September 18, 1974, p.2, **Question?** Can a commission be appointed to examine and receive ministers to a Presbytery? 16-2 B.C.O. says **NO**.  
 January 29, 1975 without exception  
 April 15, 1975 without exception  
 August 23, 1975 without exception

## K. WESTERN CAROLINAS —

August 20, 1974 without exception  
 September 16, 1974 without exception  
 September 17, 1974 without exception  
 September 19, 1974 without exception  
 November 19, 1974 without exception  
 January 21, 1975 with exception. Winter meeting, page 9, Minutes of Commission to organize the National Presbyterian Church of Asheville. No clerk had been appointed or elected.  
 May 6, 1975 without exception

## L. WESTMINSTER —

July 20, 1974 with exception  
 September 17, 1974 without exception  
 September 18, 1974 without exception



October 19, 1974 without exception

January 18, 1975 without exception

April 19, 1975 without exception

May 17, 1975 without exception

July 19, 1975 without exception

Appointed a member of another Presbytery to the Commission to install David Goodrum, July 20, 1974 minutes, B.C.O. I-16-1.

- VII. That the Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Review and Control of Presbyteries be asked to prepare a statement pointing up the types of errors and omissions, which the Committee found in the Minutes of Presbyteries, together with guidelines and suggestions for the making of future reports, and that these be sent to the stated clerks of presbyteries.
- VIII. That the General Assembly adopt the report as a whole. The following members took part in the work of the Committee:

**Presbytery**

Calvary

Carolina

Covenant

Mid-Atlantic

Mississippi Valley

Southern Florida

Tennessee Valley

Texas

Warrior

Western Carolinas

Westminster

**Commissioner**

Mr. Leon Glenn

Rev. B. David Gullett

Rev. Stanley Hartman

Mr. Eugene Friedline

Rev. B. I. Anderson

Rev. Russ Toms

Mr. Marvin Catron

Rev. L. Moore

Rev. J. W. Jamison, Jr.

Mr. Charles E. Boyce, Jr.

Rev. Henry Mueller

**3-51 Assembly Recess**

The Assembly recessed at 5:30 P.M. with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Jack Tackett.

**MINUTES — WEDNESDAY EVENING**

**September 10, 1975**

**Fifth Session**

**3-52 Assembly Reconvened**

The Assembly reconvened at 7:30 P.M. with prayer by the Rev. Charles McNutt.

**3-53 Presentation of the Sub-Committee on Stewardship**

The Sub-committee on Stewardship made a formal presentation using the film *In Partnership with God*.

**3-54 Report of the Committee on Administration**

The Rev. Norman Bagby, Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Administration presented the following report:

It was agreed that the Assembly would not treat the budgets until the respective Committees had reported.

- I. The Committee of Commissioners on Administration was duly convened by Teaching Elder Robert Sweet, Mississippi Valley Presbytery, Brandon, Mississippi, who offered prayer. Upon nomination, Teaching Elder Norman Bagby was elected Chairman, Teaching Elder Robert Mabson was elected Secretary. The Committee of Commissioners on Administration was composed of the following:

Chairman: Teaching Elder Norman Bagby

Secretary: Teaching Elder Robert Mabson

Members: Royce G. Waites, A. Pierre Vidal, James Lipscomb, James Campbell, Robert Sweet, Lynn Downing, Thomas E. Hoolsema, Julian Stennis, Philip Eval, Bob Venable

II. Actions related to the recommendations of the permanent Committee on Administration.

The Committee recommends the Assembly approve the following:

- 1a) That the General Assembly endorse the action in establishing a Sub-committee on Stewardship Ministries including the approval of the guidelines under which the Sub-committee has been established and authorize the continuation of the Sub-committee on Stewardship.
- 1b) That the budget for 1976 for the Sub-Committee for Stewardship Ministries be set at \$59,930.00 as follows:

**SUB-COMMITTEE FOR STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES**  
Presbyterian Church in America

**BUDGET 1976**

**Salary & Benefits**

Director .....	\$18,000.00	
Secretary .....	6,000.00	
Annuity & Insurance .....	624.00	
		<b>\$24,624.00</b>

**General & Administrative**

Office Supplies .....	500.00	
Printing .....	6,000.00	
Postage .....	250.00	
U.P.S. ....	2,200.00	
Rent .....	3,252.00	
Telephone .....	1,300.00	
Photos .....	150.00	
Payroll Taxes .....	1,404.00	
Committee Meetings .....	4,000.00	
Travel — Director .....	9,000.00	
Stewardship Materials .....	1,750.00	
Resource Services .....	1,000.00	
Presbytery Chairmen Meetings .....	2,000.00	
Moving Expense — Director .....	2,500.00	
		<b>\$35,306.00</b>
		<b>\$59,930.00</b>

- 1c) that this budget be funded by contributions from each of the 4 permanent committees, with each committee's portion being the same percentage as that adopted for distribution of undesignated gifts.

- 1d) that the 1976 budgets of each of the four permanent committees be increased by each committee's share of this Sub-committee's budget which that committee has not already budgeted.

The hour for recess arrived during discussion of item 2, which was thus interrupted to be taken up on Thursday morning. (3-60)

**3-55 New Business — Resolutions and Motions Offered and Referred**

The Rev. Roy Taylor presented the following Resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Interchurch Relations for recommendation:

**A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE NORTH AMERICAN  
PRESBYTERIAN AND REFORMED COUNCIL**

**Whereas**, God in his wise providence, has moved this assembly to participate in the formation of the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council. And;

**Whereas**, part of the purpose and function of the proposed council is to promote the spread of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ both in North America and throughout the world. And;

**Whereas**, a Concert of Prayer by the people of God preceded the Great Awakening in the eighteenth century in North America;

**Therefore**, be it resolved that the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America urges that the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council, at their first meeting, consider calling for a prolonged Concert of Prayer on the part of the council's member churches, and especially the elders of those churches, to beseech the Lord God for a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit in abundantly blessing the ministry of the Word of God that many people in North America and throughout the world would be converted and savingly brought into the Kingdom of God; that the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ would be revived, strengthened and edified; that God would be glorified by a magnificent display of His sovereign grace, so that many people of all nations of the earth would sincerely acknowledge and worship the Lord Jesus Christ as Lord and God, as the only saviour of sinners, as the Rulers of the kings of the earth, and as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Resolution by Roy Taylor  
Presbytery of the Evangel

The following motion was presented by the Rev. John Holmes, which was referred to the Committee on Constitutional Documents for recommendation:

Moved that the Judicial Business Committee be asked: (1) to give a decision as to whether or not the Session of the Church can legally devise additional rules supplemental to those set forth in our Book of Church Order concerning the procedures governing the election of officers in the local church; (2) to decide the legality of local church Operational manuals and/or Sessions' books of church order for local Churches which are in conformity with, but supplemental to the denomination's Book of Church Order.

The following motion was presented by the Rev. John Holmes, which was referred to the Committee on Constitutional Documents for recommendation:

Moved that a paragraph be added to the Preface of the Book of Church Order of the Presbyterian Church in America under Part III, "The Constitution Defined" which will define the relative authorities of each part of the constitutional documents (Confessions and Catechisms, the Book of Church Order, and the Directory for Worship), and how they are to be used to govern the life of Ministers, Ruling Elders, Deacons and the members at large of the Presbyterian Church in America.

The following resolution by the Rev. John Holmes was presented, and referred to the Constitutional Documents Committee for recommendation:

**Whereas** the Book of Church Order, page 13, #10-2, describes the deacon's relationship to the monies of the church saying, "It is their duty also to develop the grace of liberality in the members of the Church, to devise effective methods of collecting the gifts among the objects to which they are contributed."

**And whereas** this statement reflects the Biblical concepts of the office of deacon in a role of serving rather than ruling the church;

**And whereas** determining how monies are to be spent is a matter of ruling, not serving;

**And whereas** the section suggesting that Diaconates plan the causes for which the monies of the church are to be spent was knowingly left out of this P.C.A. statement of the functions of Deacons;

**And whereas** the statement of the B. of C. O. #10-5 clearly gives the "devising of plans of church finance" to the "Church Courts" which in the local church means the "Session";

**Be it hereby resolved** that the General Assembly instruct the Sessions of the P.C.A. that budgeting decisions are now their full responsibility and that they should assume this function at once in accordance with our Constitution, and that they should take action to so inform their Diaconates of this departure

from what most of our Diaconates have previously understood as the function of the Diaconate.

The following resolution from the Rev. Dan Morse was referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures for recommendation:

**Whereas**, Question 138 of the WLC teaches us that the duties required in the 7th Commandment are: chastity in body, mind, affections, words, and behavior, and the preservation of it in ourselves and others,

**Whereas**, Question 139 of the WLC teaches us that the sins forbidden in the 7th Commandment are (among other things): all unclean imaginations, thoughts, purposes and affections; all corrupt or filthy communications . . . impudent or light behavior,

**Whereas**, Question 144 of the WLC teaches us that the duties required in the 9th Commandment are: the preserving and promoting of truth between man and man, and the good name of our neighbor, as well as our own; . . . a charitable esteem of our neighbor; loving, desiring, and rejoicing in their good name; . . . a ready receiving of a good report and unwillingness to admit of an evil report concerning them; discouraging tale bearers . . .; practicing of whatsoever things are true, honest, lovely, and of good report.

**Whereas**, Question 145 of the WLC teaches us that the sins forbidden in the 9th Commandment are: all prejudicing of the truth, and the good name of our neighbors, as well as our own, especially in public judicature . . .; raising false rumors,

**Therefore**, the persons responsible for the daily news sheet called the General Assembly Scandal Sheet,

(1) be requested to take greater care to avoid the appearance of evil and all prejudicing the good name of a neighbor,

(2) be requested to give greater attention to good taste and Christian propriety so as not to give offense to man or God,

(3) be requested to remove the word "Scandal" from the title of the news sheet,

(4) be requested to take care that the solemn actions of this the highest court of the Church of Jesus Christ on earth, not be treated with light or impudent behavior.

↪ p. 85

### 3-56 Assembly Recessed

The Assembly recessed at 9:45 with prayer by Ruling Elder James H. Campbell to reconvene at 8:00 in the morning.

## MINUTES — THURSDAY MORNING

September 11, 1975

### Sixth Session

#### 3-57 Assembly Reconvened

The Assembly opened its 6th session at 8:00 A.M. with Rev. Erskine L. Jackson leading in prayer.

#### 3-58 Minutes Approved

The minutes of the Wednesday's sessions were read and approved as corrected.

#### 3-59 Docket Amended

The docket was amended by making the Mission to the World Committee report a special order as the first item of business on Friday.

#### 3-60 The Report of the Committee of Commissioners on Administration Continued (3-54)

The Assembly returned to consideration of the report of the Com-

mittee of Commissioners on Administration. The following recommendations were adopted:

2. That the General Assembly adopt the following policy regarding budgets: that the budget adopted for a particular year by the General Assembly be the spending limit for each committee.
3. That the General Assembly adopt as policy that each committee be allowed to rearrange its budget within the total approved each year with the exception of designated gifts and the compensation of the Stated Clerk and the four Committees' Coordinators.
4. That the General Assembly determine each year the percentages to be used in distributing undesignated gifts during the forthcoming budget year and that this determination be based on the experience during the period of the current year prior to the meeting of the Assembly.

The percentages for 1976 were set as follows:

Mission to the World .....	40%
Mission to the US .....	30%
Christian Education and Publications .....	20%
Administration .....	10%

(See 3-63.)

### 3-61 Excused from the floor

The following commissioners were excused for special meeting:

Roy Gamble	Joe Warner
Dan Sulc	Lynn Downing
Larry Roff	

### 3-62 Special Guests Recognized

The Rev. John Gailbraith and Rev. John Mitchell of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church and Rev. Iain Murray of Banner of Truth Trust, Edinburgh, Scotland, were introduced and welcomed to the Assembly as guests.

### 3-63 Report of Committee on Administration Continued (3-60)

At the request of the Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Administration action on recommendation 5 was delayed. The following were adopted:

6. That the composition of the Assembly Arrangements Committee be as follows: a chairman selected by the host church. A representative from each of the four permanent committees, the Coordinator of the Committee on Administration, and the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.
7. That the Assembly approve the following guidelines for displays at the Assembly:

Subject to space available, priorities for exhibitors will be as follows:

- a. Committees of the Presbyterian Church in America, including agencies or institutions with which they have formally, through their minutes, established a working relationship.
- b. Agencies or institutions with which the General Assembly, through its minutes has established a working relationship.
- c. Agencies and institutions which in the opinion of the Committee on Arrangements have objectives, policies, or programs in general conformity with those of the Presbyterian Church in America.
- d. A disclaimer statement should be printed in the General Assembly Docket distributed to all Commissioners, stating in effect that permission granted to place an exhibit does not mean the Presbyterian Church in America necessarily fully endorses the exhibitor's product, services, or objectives.

These guidelines are to serve as the ordinary guidelines. If the Committee on Administration feels that an exception must be made, it has the authority to do so, and is to report such actions and the reasons to the next Assembly.



8. That the Assembly change the Assembly Rules of Operation as follows:
  - a) Amend 4-1 to read "a brief worship service shall be included in each morning session."
  - b) Amend 8-2 to read in entirety "Each Presbytery shall, prior to the meeting of the Assembly, elect one of its commissioners to each of the Committees of Commissioners, dividing them as to ruling and teaching elders by a formula established by the Stated Clerk. In the event that a Presbytery does not have sufficient teaching elders to supply the Committees thus assigned, the Presbytery may, at its own discretion, elect ruling elders to these Committees. In the event that Presbytery is not able to supply members for all the Committees, the Presbytery may select the Committees to which they wish to appoint representatives. Commissioners serving on permanent committees or sub-committees of the Assembly or the staffs thereof are not eligible to serve on any Committees of Commissioners." (See 3-65.)

### 3-64 Thanks Committee Appointed

The Moderator appointed the following Thanks Committee:

Ruling Elder: Stuart Patterson, Calvary Presbytery, Chairman  
 Ruling Elder: Warren F. Diven, Ascension Presbytery  
 Teaching Elder: Richard Watson, Southern Florida Presbytery

### 3-65 Report of Committee on Administration Continued (3-63)

The Assembly returned to the report before it.

- c) Amend 8-3 to read "The Convener of the Committees of Commissioners shall be designated by the Moderator."
  - d) 8-12 GUIDELINES FOR KEEPING MINUTES OF PERMANENT COMMITTEES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY — (See revised Rules For Assembly Operation, Appendix K)
  - e) 8-13 GUIDELINES FOR EXAMINING COMMITTEE MINUTES — (See revised Rules For Assembly Operations, Appendix K)
- The Clerk received the permission of the Assembly to place in the Rules for Assembly Operation the following:

8-14 Guidelines for Keeping Presbytery Minutes

8-15 Guidelines for Examining Presbytery Minutes

(These guidelines were adopted in connection with the report of the Committee on Review and Control of Presbyteries, paragraph 3-50.)

(These changes in the Rules for Assembly Operation were adopted unanimously, thus meeting the required vote of two thirds of the total enrollment of the Commissioners.)

9. That our present Stated Clerk, the Rev. Morton H. Smith be employed through the 1976 General Assembly.
10. That our present consultant, Dr. Dan Moore, be employed as Business Consultant to June 1, 1976, and from that term as Business Administrator.
11. That the following change be made in the By-Laws of the Corporation: Amend Article IV, Section 1 as follows: Add the following sentence before the last sentence of the Section: "The Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Judicial Business shall be an advisory member of the Committee on Administration."
12. That the cost of auditing all Assembly accounts be pro-rated to each committee on the basis of each committee's percentage of the total budget.
13. That the Assembly hear the sub-committees of the Committee on Administration:
  - a) Judicial Business Committee
  - b) Trustees for the Insurance and Annuity Fund
  - c) Inter-church Relations Committee
14. That the period of October 19, 1975, through November 16, 1975, as a season for Commitment, that the theme for this Commitment season be "Show the Proof of Your Love" (II Corinthians 8:24); and that Sunday, October 19, 1975 be designated as a day of prayer and fasting and as a call to the season of Commitment.



Item 15 was recommitted to the Permanent Committee on Administration:

15. **Whereas**, some of our churches have begun to conduct bazaars, rummage sales, suppers, and other benefits for the purpose of raising money for the Lord's work, and,

**Whereas**, it is right and proper for a Christian to work to make a good living and to enter into business ventures for profit, it is not proper for the church to do so — for example, a Christian may own and operate a grocery store for his livelihood, but it would not be the place of a church to open and run a grocery store; and,

**Whereas**, in the light of these events, it is best to set these benefit programs in their proper perspective based on principles of Scripture.

**Now, therefore be it resolved:** That the Third General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in America advise its members and churches as follows:

1. The Lord has ordained that giving should be an act of worship and thus a means of grace.
2. God has revealed in His Word that His Kingdom on earth is to be supported by the cheerful, willing and loving tithes and sacrificial offerings of His children.
3. Any benefit, promotion or fund raising techniques for the church is improper if the donor receives any item or thing of value in return for his or her donation.
4. Neither the church, nor any organization of the church should sponsor such benefit promotions to raise money for the support of the Lord's work.
5. This is not to prohibit any such activities in which any individual or group of individuals wish to engage outside the structures of the church.

The following recommendations were adopted:

16. That the General Assembly permit the use of the interest earned by the (\$100,000.00) Capital Fund Gift in 1975 by the Stewardship Ministries to produce a Stewardship film featuring Mr. Ken Keyes and his message "In Partnership With God."
17. That the Assembly adopt Resolution #4 from Mr. W. Jack Williamson and Rev. Erskine L. Jackson as follows: "Be it resolved, not as a mandatory directive, but as a recommendation expressing the sense of the Assembly as follows:
  1. That the Moderator call and chair two Moderator's Conferences each year, preferably one in November and one in May.
  2. That the purpose of the conference shall be to discuss the issues facing the programs of the Church.
  3. That the Conferees shall be:
    - (a) The Moderator and the immediate past Moderator
    - (b) The Stated Clerk
    - (c) One Ruling and One Teaching Elder from each of the 4 Committees, one of whom shall be the chairman of his Committee.
    - (d) The 4 Co-ordinators
    - (e) The chairman of the Sub-Committee on Stewardship and the Director of Stewardship Ministries.
    - (f) Any special invitee of the Moderator.
  4. That the cost of these conferences be paid as follows:
    - (a) From the Moderator's Fund for the moderators and any special invitee.
    - (b) From the respective Committees for its members.
  5. That each conference convene at noon on a Friday and adjourn at noon on a Saturday.
  6. That the time of the call of the Fall conference be set and announced by the Moderator at the General Assembly, and that the time for the Spring Conference be set and announced at the Fall Conference. (See paragraph 3-78.)

18. That the action of the Board of Directors in referring an unpublished letter to the Committee on Mission to the World be approved. (See paragraph 3-98.)
19. That Overtures #2, #3, #9 (and a late Overture from Presbytery of South Florida) all be answered as follows:  
 That representation to the 1976 General Assembly be on the basis as in past and that this procedure be reviewed by the permanent Committee on Administration during the year and that it present a procedure for representation at future assemblies for consideration by the 1976 Assembly.
20. That Overture #15 be answered in negative.
21. That Overture #16 be answered in negative.
22. That the minutes of the permanent Committee on Administration of 9/20, 11/8-9, 2/14-15, and 4/11-12 be approved with the following exceptions and that it be noted that a strict examination of these according to the guidelines for keeping and examining minutes of permanent committees could not be done since these minutes were recorded before the "Guidelines" were adopted:
  - a) Names of persons present were not sufficiently recorded in minutes of 9/20, 11/8-9, 2/14-15, 4/11-12.
  - b) Names of persons opening and closing with prayer were not found in 9/20 and 2/14.
  - c) None of the minutes contained the purpose of called meetings.
  - d) None of the minutes listed the kind of meeting being held as to "called" or "stated".
  - e) The clerk not listed on 9/20.
  - f) The clerk failed to sign on 11/8-9.
  - g) The action of the Permanent Committee on Administration on 2/14-15, 1975 in funding the Sub-committee on Stewardship Ministries be noted as outside the authority of the Committee, as the budgets of all permanent committees are established by General Assembly. As of the meeting date at which this action was taken the permanent committees did not have authority to re-arrange their budgets.
  - h) In the meeting of Feb. 14-15 the Permanent Committee on Administration "instructed" the other committees regarding their budgets. It is the understanding of the Committee of Commissioners that this should read "recommend".
23. That no invitation for the 1977 Assembly meeting has been received, save an informed inquiry from a group in Savannah, Georgia.
24. That the combined Annual Audit Report for the year ended December 31, 1974 for the Presbyterian Church in America be approved with particular notations for the last sheet of that showing actuarial soundness of Annuity Fund.
25. That the new Ad-Interim Committee to study the number of offices be composed of eight members. (See paragraph 3-82.)
26. That the following budget be approved:
  1. Committee on Administration  
 (See 3-86 for the Budget of the Committee for Christian Education and Publications, 3-87 for the Budget of the Committee on Mission to the United States and 3-97 for Mission to the World.)

## COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION

	1974 Actual	1975 Budget	1976 Proposed
<b>Office of Moderator</b> .....		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
<b>Office of Stated Clerk</b>			
Stated Clerk			
(includes all allowances) (1/8)\$	3,573.00	(1/2) 10,750.00	(1/2) 10,750.00
Secretary (1/2)	3,000.00	(1) 6,450.00	(1/2) 6,600.00
Annuity 6%		387.00	396.00
Insurance		252.00	264.00
Social Security	175.56	378.00	386.00
Office Rent		2,400.00	1,800.00
Office Expense	549.36	3,000.00	1,000.00
Postage	233.79	550.00	600.00
Telephone	598.50	1,000.00	1,500.00
Travel	878.68	2,000.00	1,000.00
Printing	7,269.27	5,000.00	11,000.00
Sub total	\$ 16,278.16	\$ 32,167.00	\$ 35,296.00
<b>Office of Committee on Administration</b>			
Consultant			
(includes all allowances) (3/4)\$	14,336.00	(7/8)\$ 19,261.00	(7/8)\$ 19,261.00
FICA		772.00	825.00
Insurance/Annuity Associate			
(includes all allowances)		(1) 8,500.00	—0—
Secretaries (2 1/2)	17,648.35	(2) 15,000.00	(3) 19,800.00
Annuity 6%			1,188.00
Insurance			792.00
Social Security			1,158.00
Travel	2,127.79	3,000.00	3,500.00
Rent	2,315.96	4,500.00	4,500.00
Office Expense	2,985.07	4,500.00	4,500.00
Postage	1,049.23	2,000.00	2,000.00
Telephone	2,569.53	2,000.00	3,500.00
Fund Raising	263.49		10,000.00
Legal Expense	501.70	2,400.00	2,500.00
Actuarial Consultant	2,000.00	2,000.00	—0—
Share of General Assembly	1,136.78	1,200.00	1,400.00
Share of Auditor	209.51		1,500.00
Meetings	14,373.62	18,700.00	22,000.00
Moving		5,000.00	
Equipment			2,000.00
Contingencies			10,000.00
Staff training			1,000.00
Sub total	\$ 61,517.03	\$ 88,833.00	\$111,424.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 77,795.19</b>	<b>\$122,000.00</b>	<b>\$147,720.00</b>

**3-66 Presbytery directed to meet.**

The Presbytery of Southern Florida was directed to meet at 9:30 P.M. in the Chapel for the purpose of examining candidates for the Gospel Ministry.

**3-67 Assembly Recessed for Worship and Lunch**

The Assembly recessed for its worship service with prayer by the Rev. Cecil Williamson at 10:45 A.M. to reconvene at 1:00 P.M. The worship service was under the Committee for Christian Education. Rev. Michael Schneider preached the message.

## MINUTES — THURSDAY AFTERNOON

September 11, 1975

## Seventh Session

**3-68 Assembly Reconvened**

The Assembly was reconvened at 1:00 P.M. with prayer by the Rev. Dewey Murphy.

**3-69 Report of the Constitutional Documents Committee Continued (3-15)**

The Assembly returned to consideration of the Constitutional Documents Committee report on the **Directory for Worship** as a special order for the day (paragraph 3-17).

The following portions of the **Directory for Worship** were adopted:

**CHAPTER 52****The Singing of Psalms and Hymns**

**52-1** Praising God through the medium of music is a duty and a privilege. Therefore, the singing of hymns and psalms and the use of music instruments should have an important part in public worship.

**52-2** In singing the praises of God, we are to sing in the spirit of worship, with understanding in our hearts.

**52-3** It is recommended that Psalms be sung along with the hymns of the church, but that caution be observed in the selection of hymns, that they be true to the Word. Hymns should have the note of praise, or be in accord with the spirit of the sermon.

**52-4** The leadership in song is left to the judgment of the Session, who should give careful thought to the character of those asked to lead in this part of worship, and the singing of a choir should not be allowed to displace congregational singing.

**52-5** The proportion of the time of public worship given to praise is left to the judgment of the minister, and the singing of psalms and hymns by the congregation should be encouraged.

**CHAPTER 53****Public Prayer**

**53-1** It is proper to begin the public worship of the sanctuary with the Doxology followed by a short prayer, in which the minister shall lead the people, humbly adoring the infinite majesty of the living God, expressing a sense of our distance from him as creatures, and our unworthiness as sinners; and humbly imploring his gracious presence, the assistance of his Holy Spirit in the duties of his worship, and His acceptance of us through the merits of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. It is appropriate that this prayer conclude with the Lord's Prayer in which all may unite.

**53-2** Then, after singing a psalm, or hymn, it is proper that, before the sermon, there should be a full and comprehensive prayer: First, Adoring the glory and perfections of God, as they are made known to us in the works of creation, in the conduct of Providence, and in the clear and full revelation he hath made of himself in his written word; Second, Giving thanks to him for all his mercies of every kind, general and particular, spiritual and temporal, common and special; above all, for Christ Jesus, his unspeakable gift, the hope of eternal life through him, and for the mission and work of the Holy Spirit; Third, Making humble confession of sin, both original and actual, acknowledging, and endeavoring to lead the heart of every worshipper with a deep sense of the evil of all sin, as such, as being a departure from the living God; and also taking a particular and affecting view of the various fruits which proceed from this root of bitterness; as sins against God, our neighbor and ourselves; sins in thought, in word, and in deed; sins secret and presumptuous; sins accidental and habitual. Also, the aggravations of sin, arising from knowledge, or the means of it; from distinguishing mercies; from valuable privileges; from breach

of vows, etc.; Fourth, Making earnest supplication for the pardon of sin, and peace with God, through the blood of the atonement, with all its important and happy fruits; for the Spirit of sanctification, and abundant supplies of the grace that is necessary to the discharge of our duty; for support and comfort, under all the trials to which we are liable, as we are sinful and mortal; and for all temporal mercies that may be necessary in our passage through this valley of tears; always remembering to view them as flowing in the channel of covenant love, and intended to be subservient to the preservation and progress of the spiritual life; Fifth, Pleading from every principle warranted in Scripture; from our own necessity; the all-sufficiency of God; the merit and intercession of our Saviour; and the glory of God in the comfort and happiness of his people; Sixth, Intercession and petition for others, including the whole world of mankind; for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon all flesh; for the peace, purity, and extension of the church of God; for ministers and missionaries in all lands; for all who are persecuted for righteousness' sake; for the particular church then assembled, and all other churches associated in one body with it; for the sick, dying, and bereaved; for the poor and destitute; for strangers, for prisoners, the aged and the young; for those who travel; for the community in which the church is situated; for civil rulers, and for whatever else may seem to be necessary or suitable to the occasion. The prominence given each of these topics must be left to the discretion of the minister.

53-3 Ordinarily there should be prayer after the sermon having relation to the subject that has been treated in the discourse and all other public prayers should be appropriate to the occasion.

53-4 Ministers are not to be confined to fixed forms of prayer for public worship, yet it is the duty of the minister, previous to entering upon his office, to prepare and qualify himself for this part of his work, as well as for preaching. He should, by a thorough acquaintance with the Holy Scriptures, by the study of the best writers on prayer, by meditation, and by a life of communion with God, endeavor to acquire both the spirit and the gift of prayer. Moreover, when he is to offer prayer in public worship, he should compose his spirit, and so order his thoughts, that he may perform this duty with dignity and propriety, and with profit to the worshippers, lest he disgrace this important service by coarse, undignified, careless, irregular or extravagant expressions.

53-5 All prayer is to be offered in the language of the people.

### 3-70 Report of Constitutional Documents Committee Continued. (3-69)

The following statement was adopted to be placed at the beginning of the **Directory of Worship** until a more precise statement can be prepared by the Constitutional Documents Committee. The Constitutional Documents Committee was directed to prepare a statement on the relative authority of the Constitutional documents, which is to be returned to the next Assembly.

#### Temporary Statement to preface the **Directory for Worship**:

The **Directory for Worship** is an approved guide and should be taken seriously as the mind of the Church agreeable to the Standards. However, it does not have the force of law and is not to be considered obligatory in all its parts.

The following portions of the **Directory for Worship** were adopted:

#### CHAPTER 54

##### The Preaching of the Word.

54-1 The preaching of the Word is an ordinance of God for the salvation of men. Serious attention should be paid to the manner in which it is done. The minister should apply himself to it with diligence and prove himself a "workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth" (II Timothy 2:15).



**54-2** The subject of a sermon should be some verse or verses of Scripture, and its object, to explain, defend and apply some part of the system of divine truth; or to point out the nature, and state the bounds and obligation, of some duty. A text should not be merely a motto, but should fairly contain the doctrine proposed to be handled. It is proper also that large portions of Scripture be sometimes expounded, and particularly improved, for the instruction of the people in the meaning and use of the Sacred Scriptures.

**54-3** Preaching requires much study, meditation, and prayer, and ministers should prepare their sermons with care, and not indulge themselves in loose, extemporary harangues, nor serve God with that which costs them naught. They should, however, keep to the simplicity of the gospel, and express themselves in language that can be understood by all. They should also by their lives adorn the gospel which they preach, and be examples to believers in word and deed.

**54-4** As a primary design of public ordinances is to unite the people in acts of common worship of the most high God, ministers should be careful not to make their sermons so long as to interfere with or exclude the important duties of prayer and praise, but should preserve a just proportion in the several parts of public worship.

**54-5** NOTE: Deleted. (New paragraph was adopted later (3-89))

**54-6** No person should be invited to preach in any of the churches under our care, without the consent of the Session.

#### **CHAPTER 55**

##### **The Worship of God by Offerings.**

**55-1** The Holy Scriptures teach that God is the owner of all persons and all things and that we are but stewards of both life and possessions; that God's ownership and our stewardship should be acknowledged; that this acknowledgment should take the form, in part, of giving at least a tithe of our income and other offerings to the work of the Lord through the Church of Jesus Christ, thus worshipping the Lord with our possessions; and that the remainder should be used as becometh Christians.

**55-2** It is both a privilege and a duty, plainly enjoined in the Bible, to make regular, weekly, systematic and proportionate offerings for the support of religion and for the propagation of the gospel in our own and foreign lands, and for the relief of the poor. This should be done as an exercise of grace and an act of worship, and at such time during the service as may be deemed expedient by the Session.

**55-3** It is appropriate that the offerings be dedicated by prayer.

#### **CHAPTER 56**

##### **Confessing the Faith.**

**56-1** It is proper for the congregation of God's people publicly to confess their faith, using creeds or confessions that are true to the Word, such as, the Apostle's Creed, the Nicene Creed, or the Westminster Standards.

#### **CHAPTER 57**

##### **The Administration of Baptism The Baptism of Infants and Children.**

**57-1** Baptism is not to be unnecessarily delayed; nor to be administered, in any case, by any private person; but by a minister of Christ, called to be the steward of the mysteries of God.

**57-2** It is not to be privately administered, but in the presence of the congregation under the supervision of the session.

**57-3** After previous notice is given to the minister, the child to be baptized is to be presented, by one or both the parents, or some other responsible person, signifying the desire that the child be baptized.

**57-4** Before baptism, the minister is to use some words of instruction, touching the institution, nature, use, and ends of this sacrament, showing,



That it is instituted by our Lord Jesus Christ: That it is a seal of the covenant of grace, of our ingrafting into Christ, and of our union with him, or remission of sins, regeneration, adoption, and life eternal: That the water, in baptism, represents and signifies both the blood of Christ, which taketh away all guilt of sin, original and actual; and the sanctifying virtue of the Spirit of Christ against the dominion of sin, and the corruption of our sinful nature: That baptizing, or sprinkling and washing with water, signifies the cleansing from sin by the blood and for the merit of Christ, together with the mortification of sin, and rising from sin to newness of life, by virtue of the death and resurrection of Christ: That the promise is made to believers and their children; and that the children of believers have an interest in the covenant, and right to the seal of it, and to the outward privileges of the church, under the gospel, no less than the children of Abraham in the time of the Old Testament; the covenant of grace, for substance, being the same; and the grace of God, and the consolation of believers, more plentiful than before: That the Son of God admitted little children into his presence, embracing and blessing them, saying, For of such is the kingdom of God: That children by baptism, are solemnly received into the bosom of the visible church, distinguished from the world, and them that are without, and united with believers; and that all who are baptized in the name of Christ, do renounce, and by their baptism are bound to fight against the devil, the world, and the flesh: That they are federally holy before baptism, and therefore are they baptized: That the inward grace and virtue of baptism is not tied to that very moment of time wherein it is administered; and that the fruit and power thereof reacheth to the whole course of our life; and that outward baptism is not so necessary, that through the want thereof, the infant is in danger of damnation. By virtue of being born of believing parents children are, because of God's covenant ordinance, made members of the Church, but this is not sufficient to make them continue members of the Church, when they have reached the age of discretion they become subject to obligations of the covenant: faith, repentance and obedience. They then must make public confession of their faith in Christ, or become covenant breakers, and subject to the discipline of the Church.

In these or the like instructions, the minister is to use his own liberty and godly wisdom, as the ignorance or errors in the doctrine of baptism, and the edification of the people, shall require.

He is also to admonish all that are present, to look back to their baptism; to repent of their sins against their covenant with God; to stir up their faith; to improve and make right use of their baptism, and of the covenant sealed between God and their souls.

He is to exhort the parent, to consider the great mercy of God to him and his child; to bring up the child in the knowledge of the grounds of the Christian religion, and in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; and to let him know the danger of God's wrath to himself and child, if he be negligent requiring his solemn promise for the performance of his duty.

The minister is also to exhort the parents to the careful performance of their duty, requiring:

That they teach the child to read the Word of God; that they instruct it in the principles of our holy religion, as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, an excellent summary of which we have in the Confession of Faith, and in the Larger and Shorter Catechisms of the Westminster Assembly, which are to be recommended to them as adopted by the Church, for their direction and assistance, in the discharge of this important duty; that they pray with and for it; that they set an example of piety and godliness before it; and endeavor, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring up their child in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

**57-5** The minister shall then propose the following questions after reading the covenant promises:

(1) "For to you is the promise, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call unto him." "And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee and to thy seed after thee." "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and thou shalt be saved, thou

and thy house." (Acts 2:39; Gen. 17:7; Acts 16:31)

The minister shall then propose the following questions:

(2) Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?

(3) Do you claim God's covenant promises in (his) behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for (his) salvation, as you do for your own?

(4) Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before (him) a godly example, that you will pray with and for (him), that you will teach (him) the doctrines of the Christian faith, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring (him) up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

(5) To the congregation (optional): Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

57-6 Then the minister is to pray for a blessing to attend this ordinance, after which, calling the child by name, he shall say:

"I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

As he pronounces these words, he is to baptize the child with water, by pouring or sprinkling it on the head of the child, without adding any other ceremony; and the whole shall be concluded with prayer.

The Assembly voted to delay further consideration of the Directory till all Committee reports have been heard (3-89)

### 3-71 Report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures (3-55)

Mr. John Clelland presented the special report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures. The report was received for information.

Met 9:30 a.m., September 11, 1975.

Members Present:

E. P. Elliott  
William Haynes  
Robert LaMay  
Robert Schmitz  
D. A. Long  
John Lavender

E. L. Caston  
Tim Fortner  
Joseph High  
Donald C. Graham  
John Clelland

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Chairman. The resolution presented by Dan Morse was read. After extended discussion the following motion was adopted:

Those responsible for the publication of GASS offer their apology for several items of poor taste through this committee, and as a result of this, Mr. Morse agrees to drop the matter. The motion was adopted by a vote of 7 for, 3 against. Those against were E. L. Caston, Donald Graham, and John Clelland. f.  
p. 7

Closed with prayer by William Haynes.

### 3-72 Report of the Committee of Commissioners on Judicial Business

Judge Stokes Robertson made the report. The report was adopted.

The Committee of Commissioners on Judicial Business met, in consultation with the Committee on Constitutional Documents, and considered the complaint against Pacific Presbytery referred to it by the Assembly for study and recommendation.

The Committee is aware of the organizational problems of the Pacific Presbytery and is sympathetic with the Presbytery in its attempts to solve these problems. However, the Committee recognizes that the actions of the Pacific Presbytery of August 4, 1975, on other than routine matters, were not in accord with provisions of the Consti-

tution of the Church requiring a quorum of three teaching and three ruling elders. (Part I, par. 14-4).

In view of this irregularity, the Committee was prepared to recommend that the judicial complaint be sustained in part, but the Committee has now been informed that Pacific Presbytery met on September 10, 1975, in a duly constituted meeting of the Presbytery with a quorum present and ratified the actions of August 4, 1975.

**IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED:**

That inasmuch as the actions complained of have now been rectified, the judicial complaint be dismissed.

**3-73 Report of The Committee on Interchurch Relations**

Rev. Mr. Joseph Warner, Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Interchurch Relations presented the report.

1. Minutes of the Sub-Committee on Inter-church Relations — **APPROVED**
2. Communications — from Canadian Reformed churches  
from the Christian Reformed Church —  
Received as information.
3. The report of the Sub-Committee on Inter-church Relations. — The report (Appendix D, page 171).

Received as information. And, we call to the attention of the Assembly that the PCA was the convener, that brought together in October, official representatives of five Presbyterian and Reformed denominations; and we also call to the attention of the Assembly that the N.P.R.F. plans a congress to meet in Miami in 1977.

The following recommendations are adopted by the Assembly:

1. That the General Assembly approve the formation of a North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council and authorize the Committee on Interchurch Relations to participate in the establishment and organization of such a Council, including the appointment of four (4) delegates.
2. That the General Assembly accept the proposed Constitution and By-Laws as the basis for the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council. (The Assembly should notice that a two-thirds vote of the Assembly is requested.)
3. That upon formation of the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council, the Committee on Interchurch Relations is authorized to invite two members of each of the Council's participating Churches to attend the next General Assembly. Further, that the committee be authorized to send delegates to the top judiciary meetings of the Churches comprising the NAPRC.
4. That the language adopted by the General Assembly designating "Churches in Fraternal Relation" (Minutes of the Second General Assembly, p. 75), be changed to read, "Churches in Ecclesiastical Fellowship." This relationship will imply:
  - a. Exchange of fraternal delegates at major assemblies.
  - b. Occasional pulpit fellowship.
  - c. Intercommunion (i.e. fellowship at the Table of the Lord).
  - d. Joint action in areas of common responsibility.
  - e. Communication on major issues of joint concern.
  - f. The exercise of mutual concern and admonition with a view to promoting the fundamentals of Christian unity.
5. That the Committee on Interchurch Relations be authorized to designate fraternal delegates to the meetings of those Churches with which this Church is in ecclesiastical fellowship.
6. That the General Assembly authorize members and/or executives of its Permanent Committees to meet regularly for mutual sharing of plans and for con-

sultation with the corresponding committees of those Churches with which we are in ecclesiastical fellowship. Funding of such meetings shall be by the respective committees.

7. That the Sub-Committee on Interchurch Relations be encouraged to continue observer-status with the Board of Managers of The Lord's Day Alliance.

The reason for this change is "that the original recommendation called for an observer to a particular consultation that is open to the public, and we do not think the Assembly needs an official observer at an open conference."

4. The following Resolution introduced by Rev. Roy Taylor (3-55) regarding the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council was answered in the affirmative:

**Whereas**, God in His wise providence, has moved this Assembly to participate in the formation of the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council. And;

**Whereas**, part of the purpose and function of the proposed council is to promote the spread of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ both in North America and throughout the world. And;

**Whereas**, a Concert of Prayer by the people of God preceded the Great Awakening in the eighteenth century in North America;

**Therefore**, be it resolved that the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America urges that the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council, at their first meeting, consider calling for a year-long Concert of Prayer on the part of the council's member churches, and especially the elders of those churches, to beseech the Lord God for a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit in abundantly blessing the ministry of the Word of God that many people in North America and throughout the world would be converted and savingly brought into the Kingdom of God; that the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ would be revived, strengthened and edified; that God would be glorified by a magnificent display of His sovereign grace, so that many people of all nations of the earth would sincerely acknowledge and worship the Lord Jesus Christ as Lord and God, as the only Saviour of sinners, as the Ruler of the kings of the earth, and as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

The Committee reported on what it considered to be "An Extraordinary Problem and Solution" as follows:

We would call the attention of the Assembly to an extraordinary situation that has developed in the work of the Permanent Committee on Inter-Church Relations, at a time when unusual responsibilities have been assigned to this Committee and when meetings of critical importance are in process with five other denominations, there is no person now on the Committee whose circumstances will permit him to supply the necessary continuity as Chairman of the Committee.

We believe that a situation of unusual importance has developed. We come to the Assembly with a suggestion, which we believe will solve the problem and supply this important Committee with the Chairman it now needs to function smoothly.

This Committee has learned (Wednesday) that Reverend William E. Hill, Jr. has not been able to attend meetings of the Committee. In view of the need for continuity in leadership and based on his inability to attend meetings Mr. Hill has offered to resign. We therefore recommend that the Assembly accept his resignation.

We further report that a former member of the Committee, who served as an Alternate in his latest responsibility and who was today (Wednesday) placed on another Assembly Committee, is a man ideally suited to the leadership of this Committee at this critical time of negotiation with the five other denominations scheduled to perfect closer relationships with our Church and with each other. This is the Reverend Donald C. Graham, who this afternoon was placed on the Permanent Committee on the Mission to the U.S.

We recommend the Assembly take the necessary steps and procedure to

nullify that previous election and place Mr. Graham on the Permanent Committee on Inter-Church Relations and the problem would be solved.

The Assembly adopted the recommendation contained in the third paragraph, and accepted Dr. William Hill's resignation.

The Assembly then filled this vacancy by transferring the Rev. Donald C. Graham to the Interchurch Relations Committee.

### **3-74 Nominating Committee Instructed**

The Nominating Committee was instructed to retire to make a nomination to fill the vacancy in the Committee on Mission to the United States created by the action of transferring the Rev. Donald C. Graham from that committee.

### **3-75 Report of the Committee on Christian Education and Publications**

The Rev. Mr. John Reeves, Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Christian Education and Publications made the following report, which was adopted as amended:

- I. The Committee of Commissioners on Christian Education and Publications considered the following items referred to it:
  - Minutes of the Committee for Christian Education and Publications
  - Report of the 1974 Audit
  - Report of the Committee for Christian Education and Publications
  - Overture #8 from New River Presbytery encouraging the continuation of women's work
  - Overtures #12 and #13 from Mississippi Valley Presbytery and Westminster Presbytery, respectively, calling for the publication of an official magazine, and the Resolution #2.
- II. Your Committee of Commissioners recommends:
  - A. That the Report of the 1974 Audit be approved with the following recommendations:
    1. That the Permanent Committee be commended for operating within its budget as it interprets the General Assembly's directives. (Unanimous)
    2. That the Permanent Committee be commended for already implementing all of the auditors' recommendations, except two which were out of accord with the financial policy of the Committee on Administration. (Unanimous) (p. 186)
    3. That the Permanent Committee, as soon as is feasible, have one person to handle incoming funds and another to handle outgoing funds — according to recognized good business practices. (Unanimous)
  - B. That the Report of the Committee for Christian Education and Publications be approved with the following recommendations:
    1. That the General Assembly officially designate PCA men's ministries by the title MEN OF THE COVENANT. (Unanimous)
    2. That the General Assembly approve the general concept of Men of the Covenant ministries contained in this report and recommend it to the presbyteries and sessions for their consideration. (Unanimous) (p. 186)
    3. That the General Assembly approve the establishment of a Men of the Covenant Advisory Subcommittee of the Committee for Christian Education and Publications, whose members shall be appointed by the Committee for Christian Education and Publications. (Unanimous)
    4. That the General Assembly approve the general concept of Youth Ministries contained in this report and recommend it to the presbyteries and sessions for their consideration. (Unanimous) (p. 95)
    5. That the General Assembly approve the establishment of a Youth Ministries Advisory Subcommittee of the Committee for Christian



- Education and Publications, whose members shall be appointed by the Committee for Christian Education and Publications. (Unanimous)
6. That the General Assembly encourage presbyteries or combinations of presbyteries to hold regional youth conferences in 1976. (Unanimous)
  7. That the General Assembly authorize and encourage the Committee for Christian Education and Publications to conduct a Family Conference on the General Assembly level in 1976. (Unanimous)
  8. That the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America directs this Committee for Christian Education and Publications to proceed, forthwith, to accomplish and perfect, in conjunction with the Committee on Christian Education of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, a corporation, under the Laws of the State of Delaware, which corporation shall be formed for the following purposes:

"To serve as agent for the Presbyterian Church in America and the Orthodox Presbyterian Church in their work of propagating the Reformed Faith as it is set forth in the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms through the preparation and distribution of educational materials consistent with said standards, and by engaging in such other educational activities, consistent with said standards, as may be related to the churches' ministry of education. It shall also provide service to other churches insofar as such service is consistent with the doctrinal commitments of the Presbyterian Church in America and Orthodox Presbyterian Church."

Be it further resolved that said corporation shall continue for a period of at least five (5) years under equal policy and program control by the Presbyterian Church in America and by the Christian Education and Publications Committee of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church:

That the present members of the Christian Education and Publications Committee of the Presbyterian Church in America now serving as Provisional Trustees for the Great Commission Publications be authorized, and directed to execute any application for charter, lease agreement, contract, or any other document necessary for this purpose. (Unanimous)

9. That the General Assembly encourage sessions to review samples of Great Commission Publications Sunday School curriculum materials and consider the use of these materials in their educational programs. (Unanimous)
10. That the General Assembly encourage the use in the churches of **The Trinity Hymnal** published by the Great Commission Publications. (Unanimous) The Assembly amended this to add **The Book of Psalms for Singing** (Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America) and **Bible Songs** (Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church) to the list of psalters and hymnals.

### 3-76 Resolution Adopted

The Assembly unanimously suspended the Rules to allow a matter of new business to be introduced.

The following Resolution was adopted by the Assembly:

That the Presbyterian Church in America reaffirm the Commitment to the Preaching of the Gospel, and inviting lost men to the Lord Jesus by public confession of faith.

Presented by Charles H. Dunahoo and Dewey D. Murphy

### 3-77 Report of the Committee on Christian Education Continued (3-75)

The report of the Committee on Christian Education was resumed with the following recommendations adopted:

11. That the General Assembly be informed that the Committee for Christian Education and Publications is "opposed to the General As-



- sembly's purchasing and/or developing a General Assembly camp or conference facility at this time." (Unanimous)
12. That the General Assembly approve the Tuberculosis Clinic and Rehabilitation Center, Korea — a ministry of the Rev. and Mrs. Hugh Linton, as the object for the 1976 Love Gift offering of the Women in the Church. (Unanimous)
  13. That the General Assembly urge presbyteries to conduct conferences for teaching Reformed theology and its implications for the life and work of the churches and members of the PCA. (Unanimous)
  14. That the General Assembly approve, with notations, the Minutes of the Permanent Committee for Christian Education and Publications. (Unanimous)
  15. That the General Assembly declare that all Permanent Committee meetings may be attended by any member of the PCA and that such members shall be afforded a place on the Committee's docket when a request to do so is received by the Committee at least ten days before the Committee meeting, and that the dates of stated Committee meetings must be published at least 30 days prior to the meeting. (Unanimous)
  16. That the General Assembly express its appreciation to the Rev. Harry Miller for his faithful and efficient leadership in the ministry of Christian Education during the period of his service as Chairman of the Committee for Christian Education and Publications. (Unanimous)
  17. That the General Assembly approve the development by the Committee for Christian Education and Publications of summer church service opportunities for PCA youth. (Unanimous)
- (See 3-81.)

### 3-78 Moderator's Conference Announced

The Moderator announced the Fall Moderator's Conference for November 14 and 15, in Jackson, Mississippi.

### 3-79 Assembly Recessed

The Assembly recessed at 5 P.M. with prayer by the Rev. Wayne Herring to reconvene at 7 P.M.

## MINUTES — THURSDAY EVENING

September 11, 1975

### Eighth Session

### 3-80 Assembly Reconvened

The Assembly reconvened at 7 P.M. being opened with prayer by the Rev. Charles Young.

### 3-81 Report of the Committee on Christian Education Continued (3-77)

The report of the Committee on Christian Education was resumed, with the following recommendations adopted:

18. That the General Assembly elect the Rev. Paul G. Settle to the position of Coordinator for the Committee for Christian Education and Publications for the year 1976. (Unanimous)
19. That the General Assembly approve the election of the Rev. Harris Langford to the position of Assistant Coordinator for the Committee for Christian Education and Publications, subject to the approval of the General Assembly Theological Examining Committee. (Unanimous)
20. That the General Assembly remind the Committee for Christian Education and Publications and all the other permanent committees that no program staff should move on to the field until they have been

- approved by the General Assembly Theological Examining Committee. (Unanimous)
21. That the General Assembly approve the continuing education event scheduled for February 16-18, 1976, in Montgomery, AL, with Dr. Jay Adams as guest leader; and, further, that the General Assembly urge the ministers of the PCA to attend and that it urge the sessions to provide their ministers' expenses, if the way be clear. (Unanimous)
  22. That the General Assembly encourage each local session to compile and maintain a history of the church and that the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly be directed to supervise the collection and deposition of such material at the direction of the Assembly. (Unanimous)
  23. That the General Assembly adopt the following resolution:  
**Whereas**, "In a day when many forces are at work, consciously and unconsciously, to fragment the family unit, Presbyterians must return again and again to our historic Biblical Covenant theology which underlines the oneness of the family, And  
**Whereas** This theology will best be implemented in a practical way by placing primary emphasis upon activities that include entire families at the local and Presbytery level. (During such activities, separate meetings may be held for men, women, youth, and children, but the overall effect must be to bring families together rather than separating them. Assembly-wide family conferences may be scheduled during vacation periods that would enable whole families to spend more time together in a leisurely atmosphere).  
**Therefore** We do not feel that the Presbyterian Church in America should encourage separate Assembly-wide rallies for men and women." (Unanimous)
  24. That the minutes of all permanent committees along with the guidelines for review be sent to all appropriate committee of commissioners members prior to the General Assembly. (Unanimous)
  25. That the General Assembly approve Messrs. Borchert, Miller, Schneider, Boerema, Cunningham, and Robeson as elected as directors of the corporation to be formed in connection with the Joint Venture and publication, and that the classes for the directors of the Joint Venture be as follows:  
 Class of 1977, Miller and Cunningham  
 Class of 1978, Borchert and Boerema  
 Class of 1979, Schneider and Robeson,  
 and that subsequent members to the Board of Directors of said corporation to be formed, be elected from the members of the Christian Education and Publications Committee in office at the time such election becomes appropriate. (Unanimous)
  26. That the Nominating Committee be requested to clarify its procedure with reference to the election of committee alternates in light of Section 15-1 of the Book of Church Order. (Unanimous)
  27. That General Assembly approval be given for the publication of Section 2 of **A Woman Looks at the Confession of Faith** and that commendation be given to Mrs. Patterson for her work in this regard. (Unanimous)
  28. That the project with reference to a Logo be abandoned. (Unanimous)
  29. That the General Assembly be advised that a survey has indicated that there appears to be no effort, at the present time, to establish, nor interest in, the establishing of a home for the aged and children and that the Assembly requests individual presbyteries to undertake the responsibility therefor. (Unanimous)
  30. That the General Assembly approve the Permanent Committee's gathering of information on colleges and commend this information to the sessions; and, further, that the Committee of Commissioners on Christian Education and Publications review the contents of this file at the next General Assembly. (Unanimous)

## C. That the overtures be answered as follows:

1. That Overture #8 from New River Presbytery be answered by referral to the action of the First General Assembly, **Minutes**, p. 58, recommendations 13-16, through which the work of Women in the Church was established in the denomination. (Unanimous)
2. That Overtures #12 and #13 from Mississippi Valley Presbytery and Westminster Presbytery, respectively, be answered by instructing the Permanent Committee for Christian Education and Publications to take the matter of a denominational magazine under advisement until the next General Assembly, at which time a specific recommendation shall be made. (Unanimous)

## D. That the General Assembly answer the Resolution, #2 (p. 33), in the negative, as reflected in Recommendation #8 of this report. (Unanimous)

## E. That the General Assembly give high commendation to the Permanent Committee for Christian Education and Publications, its Coordinator, and its staff for their excellent work this past year. (Unanimous)

Respectfully submitted,  
John Reeves, Chairman  
Dan Barr, Secretary

#### MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS

1. Frank Gilbert	Ruling	Calvary
2. Ted Smith	Teaching	Carolina
3. Tom Patete	Teaching	Covenant
4. Ben Connally	Ruling	Evangel
5. John Reeves, Chairman	Teaching	Grace
6. David Bryson	Teaching	Louisiana
7. Tom Blount	Ruling	Mid-Atlantic
8. Joey Pipa	Teaching	Mississippi Valley
9. Jim Miller	Ruling	New River
10. Jim Holcomb	Ruling	North Georgia
11. Hal McNeely	Teaching	Southern Florida
12. Laurie Jones	Teaching	Texas
13. Leonard VanHorn	Teaching	Warrior
14. Bill Lael	Ruling	Western Carolina
15. Dan Barr	Teaching	Westminster

### 3-82 Report of the Nominating Committee

The Rev. Robert LaMay presented the report of the Nominating Committee. The Rev. Claude Gamble was nominated to fill the vacancy on the Committee on Mission to the United States, created by the transfer of the Rev. Donald C. Graham to the Interchurch Relations Committee.

Other nominations were made from the floor, and the Rev. Philip Clark of Pacific Presbytery was elected.

The Nominating Committee then presented a slate of men to form the Ad Interim Committee on the Number of Officers, who were elected: (See paragraphs 3-31, 32, 45, 73.)

#### Ruling Elders

Ligon Duncan (Calvary)  
R. H. Kirksey (Warrior)  
John C. Snyder, (Ascension)  
Jules Vroon, (Southern Florida)

#### Teaching Elders

Don Clements (Central Georgia)  
Don Dunkerly (Gulf Coast)  
Morton Smith, (Mississippi Valley)  
R. C. Sproule (Ascension)

### 3-83 Instruction to Ad Interim Committee

The Assembly charged the Ad Interim Committee on the number of offices in the church to include in its report exegetical defenses of both the two office and three office views. (See 3-31.)

**3-84 Special Offering**

The Rev. Frank Barker, speaking on behalf of the Mission to the United States Committee requested that a special offering be taken for one of the brethren, who had suffered serious financial reverses in the service of the Lord and the cause of the reformation. \$2,326.60 was given.

**3-85 Report of the Committee on Theological Examinations**

The Rev. John W. P. Oliver presented the following report for the Theological Examinations Committee, which was adopted, as amended:

The Committee met and conducted a thorough theological examination for Jim Alinder (Committee on Mission to the U.S.), Mike Quarles (Committee on Mission to the World), and Harris Langford (Committee for Christian Education and Publications), Milton Howland, (Stewardship). The Committee voted unanimously to sustain as a whole the examination of each man and recommend them to the court.

**3-86 Report of Committee on Administration Continued (3-65) —  
Christian Education Budget**

The Rev. Norman Bagby, Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Administration presented an amended budget for Christian Education, which was adopted.

## COMMITTEE FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS

	1974 Actual	1975 Budget	1976 Proposed
<b>For the C. E. Ministry</b>			
Inservice Training, Staff	\$ 290.50	—	\$ 2,000.00
Development of Leadership			
Training Ministries			6,000.00
Men's Work			3,000.00
Family Ministries			3,000.00
Youth Ministries			3,000.00
Women In the Church			4,000.00
Camp & Conference Ministries			3,000.00
Great Commission Publications, Inc.			150,000.00
Stewardship Education			4,000.00
Resource Services	955.00		1,000.00
Program Travel (Staff)	11,785.49		7,000.00
Percentage of General Assembly Costs	2,366.91		6,000.00
Sub Total	\$ 15,397.90		\$ 192,000.00
<b>To Support the C. E. Ministry Salaries</b>			
Coordinator (1)	\$ 20,000.00		\$ 21,500.00
(includes all allowances)			
Assistant Coordinator	—		15,500.00
Business Manager (1)	10,000.00		12,500.00
Literature Distribution Manager			12,000.00
Consultants (3)	22,450.00		36,000.00
Office (3½)	16,567.47		26,400.00
Sub Total	\$ 69,017.47		\$ 123,900.00
<b>Office</b>			
Equipment	\$ 2,344.89		\$ 5,000.00
Office and Printing Supplies	3,718.04		5,000.00
Postage	3,965.60		6,000.00
UPS	2,191.20		2,500.00
Rent	15,446.85		20,124.00
Telephone	3,170.97		4,000.00
Sub Total	\$ 30,837.55		\$ 42,624.00
<b>General and Administrative</b>			
Automobile — Purchase, maintenance, insurance	\$ —		\$ 5,000.00
Books	939.99		750.00
Photographic Materials	67.71		100.00
Fund Raising/Promotional	804.87		10,000.00
Equipment Rental (Postage Meter)	117.80		220.00
Insurance (Annuities)	3,728.15		4,644.00
Insurance (Major Medical)	1,959.00		3,000.00
Insurance (Office)	178.00		178.00
Insurance (Unemployment Compensation)	140.19		300.00
Legal and Accounting Services	3,385.08		2,000.00
Mailing Services	874.96		700.00
Repairs and Maintenance	580.44		500.00
Printing	23,487.66		15,000.00
Subscriptions	164.28		150.00
Payroll Taxes	3,078.52		4,681.00
Committee Meetings	4,699.89		12,000.00
Contingency Fund	3,282.28		12,000.00
Sub Total	\$ 47,488.82		\$ 71,223.00
Total Christian Education/Publications	\$ 162,741.74	\$ 467,200.00	\$ 429,747.00

### 3-87 Report of Committee on Administration Continued (3-86) Mission to the United States Budget

The Rev. Norman Bagby, presented the proposed budget for the Committee on Mission to the United States, which was adopted.

#### COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE U. S.

	1974 Actual	1975 Budget	1976 Proposed
<b>Evangelism</b>			
Churches	\$ 18,021.93	\$ 21,580.00	\$ 20,000.00
Presbytery Co-Sponsored Churches	7,849.98	20,000.00	30,000.00
Loans to forming Churches (2)	5,500.00	20,000.00	30,000.00
Ministers	10,776.82	13,000.00	12,000.00
Organizing Pastors (4)	28,912.76 (15)	148,000.00 (18)	185,400.00
Ministers' Insurance (8)	2,124.00 (14)	6,336.00 (18)	8,064.00
Ministers' Annuity (4)	2,136.58 (15)	15,840.00 (18)	19,540.00
Student Pastors (28 mo.)	9,552.12 (10)	15,000.00 (10)	15,000.00
Specialized Ministries	11,325.70	49,384.00	40,000.00
Telephone L.D.	2,034.03	2,000.00	2,500.00
Travel	5,243.02	5,000.00	5,000.00
Newspaper	2,165.78	6,000.00	15,000.00
Radio	—	10,000.00	20,000.00
T.V.	12,956.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Other	2,747.05	3,000.00	3,000.00
Sub Total	\$121,345.77	\$345,140.00	\$415,504.00
<b>Administration</b>			
Coordinator's Salary (1) (includes all allowances)	\$ 20,000.00 (1)	\$ 21,500.00 (1)	\$ 21,500.00 (1)
Travel	7,675.27	7,700.00	8,000.00
Associate Coordinator's Salary (14 mo.) (includes all allowances)	5,742.60 (1)	18,000.00 (1)	19,300.00
Travel	2,920.31	8,400.00	8,000.00
Sub Total	\$ 36,338.18	\$ 55,600.00	\$ 56,800.00
<b>Office</b>			
Salaries & Benefits (2)	\$ 5,412.89 (3)	\$ 12,200.00 (3)	\$ 15,875.00 (3)
Part-Time Emp. (22 da.)	487.00	2,400.00	2,400.00
Supplies	4,950.24	7,500.00	9,500.00
Postage	826.30	1,500.00	2,000.00
Telephone	850.91	850.00	950.00
Rent	—	4,100.00	6,000.00
Service Bonds & Equipment	1,861.56	1,900.00	2,000.00
Sub Total	\$ 14,388.90	\$ 30,450.00	\$ 38,725.00
Other PCA Expenses	\$ 13,941.48	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 7,500.00
Stewardship-Deferred Giving	—	—	20,000.00
Committee Meetings & Work	8,398.02	10,000.00	10,000.00
Designated Funds used for causes above	\$ 16,269.62	\$ —	\$ —
Total Mission to the U. S.	\$210,681.97	\$453,190.00	\$548,529.00



**3-88 Report of the Committee on the Mission to the World Read**

The Rev. Don Clements, Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Mission to the World read the report of the Committee,

**3-89 Report of the Constitutional Documents Committee Continued (3-70)**

The Assembly returned to the consideration of the **Directory for Worship**. The following were adopted:

**CHAPTER 58****The Admission of Persons to Sealing Ordinances.**

**58-1** Believer's children within the visible Church, and especially those dedicated to God in baptism, are non-communing members under the care of the Church. They are to be taught to love God, and to obey and serve the Lord Jesus Christ. When they are able to understand the Gospel, they should be earnestly reminded that they are members of the Church by birthright, and that it is their duty and privilege personally to accept Christ, to confess Him before men, and to seek admission to the Lord's Supper.

**58-2** The time when young persons come to understand the Gospel cannot be precisely fixed. This must be left to the prudence of the Session, whose office it is to judge, after careful examination, the qualifications of those who apply for admission to sealing ordinances.

**58-3** When unbaptized persons apply for admission into the Church, they shall, ordinarily, after giving satisfaction with respect to their knowledge and piety, make a public profession of their faith, in the presence of the congregation, and thereupon be baptized.

**58-4** It is recommended, as edifying and proper, that baptized persons, when admitted by the Session to the Lord's Supper, make a public profession of their faith in the presence of the congregation. But in all cases, there should be a clear recognition of their previous relation to the Church as baptized members.

**58-5** The time having come for the making of a public profession, and those who have been approved by the Session having taken their places in the presence of the congregation, the minister may state that:

(1) Of the number of those who were baptized in infancy as members of the Church of God by birthright, and as heirs of the covenant promises, the Session has examined and approved (call them by name), who come now to assume for themselves the full privileges and responsibilities of their inheritance in the household of faith.

(2) If there be present any candidates for baptism, the minister may state that: As applicants for admission into the Church of God by baptism, which is a sign and seal of our engrafting into Christ, and of our engagement to be the Lord's, the Session has examined and approved (call them by name), who are cordially welcomed into the fellowship of the household of faith.

(3) The minister may then address those making a profession in the following terms:

(All of) you being here present to make a public profession of faith, are to assent to the following declarations and promises, by which you enter into a solemn covenant with God and His Church;

1. Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in His sovereign mercy?

2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Saviour of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?

3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becometh the followers of Christ?

4. Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?

5. Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

The minister may now briefly admonish those making a profession of faith as to the importance of the solemn obligations they have assumed; then bap-

tism may be administered, if there be present any candidates for the ordinance, and the whole concluded with prayer.

58-6 Persons received from other churches by letters of dismissal as well as those being received by reaffirmation of faith should give a testimony of their Christian experience to the Session. Their names are to be announced to the congregation with a recommendation of them to its Christian confidence and affection.

## CHAPTER 59

### The Administration of the Lord's Supper.

59-1 The Communion, or Supper of the Lord, is to be observed frequently; the stated times to be determined by the Session of each congregation, as it may judge most for edification.

59-2 The ignorant and scandalous are not to be admitted to the Lord's supper.

59-3 It is proper that public notice should be given to the congregation, at least the Sabbath before the administration of this ordinance, and that, either then, or on some day of the week, the people be instructed in its nature, and a due preparation for it, that all may come in a suitable manner to this holy feast.

59-4 On the day of the observance of the Lord's Supper, when the sermon is ended, the Minister shall show,

That this is an ordinance of Christ; by reading the words of institution, either from one of the evangelists, or from I Corinthians xi., which, as to him may appear expedient, he may explain and apply; that it is to be observed in remembrance of Christ, to show forth his death till he come; that it is of inestimable benefit, to strengthen his people against sin; to support them under troubles; to encourage and quicken them in duty; to inspire them with love and zeal; to increase their faith, and holy resolution; and to beget peace of conscience, and comfortable hopes of eternal life.

Since, by our Lord's appointment, this sacrament sets forth the communion of saints, the Minister, at the discretion of the Session, before the observance begins, may either invite all those who profess the true religion, and are communicants in good standing in any evangelical church, to participate in the ordinance; or may invite those who have been approved by the Session, after having given indication of their desire to participate. It is proper also to give a special invitation to non-communicants to remain during the service.

59-5 The table, on which the elements are placed, being decently covered, and furnished with bread and wine, and the communicants orderly and gravely sitting around it (or in their seats before it), the Elders in a convenient place together, the Minister should then set the elements apart by prayer and thanksgiving.

The bread and wine being thus set apart by prayer and thanksgiving, the Minister is to take the bread, and break it, in the view of the people, saying:

"Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the same night in which he was betrayed, having taken bread, and blessed and broken it, gave it to his disciples, as I, ministering in his name, give this bread unto you, saying [here the bread is to be distributed]. Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me." (ASV)

After having given the bread, he shall take the cup, and say:

"After the same manner our Saviour also took the cup, and having given thanks, as hath been done in his name, he gave it to the disciples saying [while the minister is repeating these words let him give the cup], This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for many, for the remission of sins, drink ye all of it."

59-6 Since believers are to act personally in all their covenanting with the Lord, it is proper that a part of the time occupied in the distribution of the elements should be spent by all in silent communion, thanksgiving, intercession and prayer.

59-7 The minister may, in a few words, put the communicants in mind:

Of the grace of God, in Jesus Christ, held forth in this sacrament; and of their obligation to be the Lord's; and may exhort them to walk worthy of the vocation wherewith they are called; and, as they have professedly received

Christ Jesus the Lord, that they be careful so to walk in him, and to maintain good works.

It may not be improper for the minister to give a word of exhortation also to those who have been only spectators, reminding them: Of their duty, stating their sin and danger, by living in disobedience to Christ, in neglecting this holy ordinance; and calling upon them to be earnest in making preparation for attending upon it at the next time of its celebration.

Then the minister is to pray and give thanks to God,

For his rich mercy, and invaluable goodness, vouchsafed to them in that sacred communion; to implore pardon for the defects of the whole service; and to pray for the acceptance of their persons and performances; for the gracious assistance of the Holy Spirit to enable them, as they have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so to walk in him; that they may hold fast that which they have received, that no man take their crown; that their conversation may be as becometh the gospel; that they may bear about with them, continually, the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus may be manifested in their mortal body; that their light may so shine before men, that others, seeing their good works, may glorify their Father who is in heaven.

An offering for the poor or other sacred purpose is appropriate in connection with this service, and may be made at such time as shall be ordered by the session.

Now let a psalm or hymn be sung, and the congregation dismissed, with the following or some other gospel benediction:

"Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

59-8 As past custom has been found in many parts of the Presbyterian church, our congregations are urged to have a service of spiritual preparation for the Lord's Supper during the week previous to the celebration of the sacrament.

## CHAPTER 60

### The Solemnization of Marriage.

60-1 Marriage is a divine institution though not a Sacrament, nor peculiar to the Church of Christ. It is proper that every commonwealth, for the good of society, make laws to regulate marriage, which all citizens are bound to obey.

60-2 Christians should marry in the Lord; therefore it is fit that their marriage be solemnized by a lawful minister, that special instruction be given them, and suitable prayers offered, when they enter into this relation.

60-3 Marriage is to be between one man and one woman, in accordance with the Word of God.

60-4 The parties should be of such years of discretion as to be capable of making their own choice; and if they be under age, or live with their parents, the consent of the parents or others, under whose care they are, should be previously obtained, and well certified to the minister before he proceeds to solemnize the marriage.

60-5 Parents should neither compel their children to marry contrary to their inclinations, nor deny their consent without just and important reasons.

60-6 Marriage is of a public nature. The welfare of civil society, the happiness of families, and the credit of Christianity, are deeply interested in it. Therefore, the purpose of marriage should be sufficiently published a proper time previously to the solemnization of it. It is enjoined on all ministers to be careful that, in this matter, they transgress neither the laws of God, nor the laws of the community; and that they may not destroy the peace and comfort of families, ministers should be assured that, with respect to the parties applying to them, no just objections lie against their marriage.

60-7 The minister should keep a proper register of the names of all persons whom he marries, and of the time of their marriage, for the perusal of all whom it may concern.

**CHAPTER 61****The Visitation of the Sick.**

**61-1** The power of the prayer of faith is great, and Christians therefore, should make entreaty for the sick at the throne of heavenly grace, and should also seek God's blessing upon all proper means which are being employed for their recovery. Moreover, when persons are sick, their minister, or some officer of the church, should be notified, that the minister, officers and members may unite their prayers in behalf of the sick. It is the privilege and duty of the pastor to visit the sick and to minister to their physical, mental, and spiritual welfare. In view of the varying circumstances of the sick, the minister should use discretion in the performance of this duty.

**CHAPTER 62****The Burial of the Dead.**

**62-1** The services proper for such an occasion are: The singing of appropriate psalms or hymns; the reading of some suitable portion or portions of Scripture, with such remarks as it may seem proper to the minister to make; prayer, in which the bereaved shall be especially remembered, and God's grace sought on their behalf, that they may be sustained and comforted in their sorrow, and that their affliction may be blessed to their spiritual good.

**62-2** These funeral services are to be left largely to the discretion of the minister performing them, but he should always remember that the proper object of the service is the worship of God and the consolation of the living.

**CHAPTER 63****Days of Fasting and Thanksgiving.**

**63-1** The observance of days of fasting and of thanksgiving, as the dispensations of Divine Providence may direct, is both scriptural and rational.

**63-2** Fasting and thanksgiving may be observed by individual Christians; by families; by particular congregations; by a number of congregations contiguous to each other; by the congregations under the care of a Presbytery; or by all the congregations of our Church.

**63-3** It should be left to the judgment and discretion of every Christian and family to determine when it is proper to observe a private fast or thanksgiving; and to the church Sessions to determine for particular congregations; and to the Presbyteries, to determine for larger districts. When it is deemed expedient that a fast or thanksgiving should be general, the call for it should be issued by the General Assembly. If at any time the civil power should appoint a fast or thanksgiving, in keeping with the Christian Faith, it is the duty of the ministers and people of our communion to pay all due respect to it.

**63-4** Public notice should be given a sufficient time before the appointed day of fasting or thanksgiving, that persons may so order their affairs as to allow them to attend properly to the duties of the day.

**63-5** There should be public worship upon all such days; and the prayers, psalms or hymns, the selections of scripture, and sermons, should all be in a special manner adapted to the occasion.

**63-6** On days of fasting, the minister should point out the authority and providences calling for the observance; and he should spend more than the usual time in solemn prayer, particular confession of sin, especially of the sins of the day and place; and the whole day should be spent in prayer and meditation.

**63-7** On days of thanksgiving, he should give information respecting the authority and providences which call for the observance; and he should spend more than the usual time in giving thanks, agreeably to the occasion, and in singing psalms or hymns of praise. On these days, the people should rejoice with holy gladness of heart; but their joy should be tempered with reverence, that they indulge in no excess or unbecoming levity.

**CHAPTER 64****Christian Life in the Home.**

**64-1** In addition to public worship, it is the duty of each person in secret, and of every family in private, to worship God.

**64-2** Secret worship is most plainly enjoined by our Lord. In this duty every one, apart, should spend some time in prayer, reading the Scriptures, holy meditation, and serious self-examination. The many advantages arising from a conscientious performance of these duties are best known to those who are found in the faithful discharge of them.

**64-3** Family worship, which should be observed by every family, consists in prayer, reading the Scriptures, and singing praises; or in some briefer form of outspoken recognition of God.

**64-4** Parents should instruct their children and servants in the Word of God, and in the principles of our holy religion. The reading of devotional literature should be encouraged and every proper opportunity should be embraced for religious instruction.

**64-5** Parents should set an example of piety and consistent living before the family. Unnecessary private visits on the Lord's day and indulgence in practices injurious to the spiritual life of the family, should be avoided.

**64-6** In the supreme task of religious education, parents should co-operate with the Church by setting their children an example in regular and punctual attendance upon the sessions of the Church School and the services of the sanctuary, by assisting them in the preparation of their lessons, and by leading them in the consistent application of the teachings of the gospel in their daily activities.

#### OPTIONAL FORMS FOR SPECIAL SERVICES\*

\*These forms were approved by the General Assembly, to be printed with the Book of Church Order, but not to be a part of the Constitution. They were derived from the PCUS Book as approved in 1893, and from the OPC Book as approved in 1940.

#### MARRIAGE SERVICE

**Whether the marriage is in the church or in a private house, the betrothed shall present themselves attended by witnesses, the man having the woman at his left hand, before the Minister, who shall say:**

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

If any here present can show just cause why these persons may not lawfully be joined together in marriage, let them now speak, or hereafter forever hold their peace.

Marriage is a divine ordinance instituted for the promotion of man's happiness and the glory of God. The sacredness of the relation is revealed by the fact that the Holy Spirit has selected it as an apt emblem of the union existing between our Lord and his bride, the Church. Hence, beloved friends, take heed to the exhortation of the inspired apostle, "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the Church, and gave himself for it." "Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as unto the Lord." The happiness contemplated by this union is realized only by those who fully appreciate its sacredness and are faithful in the performance of the mutual obligations growing out of it, and seek daily God's blessing.

And now as you enter into this new relation, consecrated by heaven's benediction and hallowed by all that is tenderest and truest in human affection, I entreat you both to join with me in the prayer that God may bless this union, and sanctify it to the furtherance of your good and to the glory of his most holy name.

#### **The Prayer:**

Most gracious God, fountain of life and love and joy, look with merciful favor upon these thy servants now to be joined in holy wedlock, and enable them ever to remember and truly keep the vows which they make as they enter into covenant with one another and with thee, in accordance with the Holy Word through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **The Covenant:**

**Here the parties join their right hands, and the minister says:**

Do you, M., take N., whom you now hold by the hand to be your lawful and



wedded wife, and do you promise in the presence of God and these witnesses to be to her a faithful, loving and devoted husband, so long as you both shall live

**The man answers:**

"I do."

Do you, N, take M, whom you hold by the hand to be your lawful and wedded husband and do you promise in the presence of God and these witnesses to be to him a faithful, loving and obedient wife, so long as you both shall live?

**The woman answers:**

"I do."

**If a ring is given and received, the Minister shall say:**

Let this ring be the token of your plighted faith, and the memorial of your mutual and unending love.

**Then the Minister, addressing himself to the company present, says:**

Forasmuch as these persons have covenanted together in marriage in accordance with the laws of the commonwealth, I do now pronounce them husband and wife, after the ordinance of God. Whom, therefore, God hath joined together, let no man put asunder.

**The Prayer:**

Almighty and ever blessed God, our heavenly Father, place the seal of thy loving approval upon the union of these two hearts and lives in the sacred bonds of matrimony. Enable thy servants, by the gift of thy sufficient grace to be faithful in keeping the vows they have now assumed. Whether in prosperity or in adversity, in sickness or in health, in sorrow or in joy, may their love and sympathy for each other never fail. Into thy holy keeping we now commit them, praying that they may ever live "as being heirs together of the grace of life." For Jesus' sake. Amen.

**Benediction:**

**Then the married pair standing, or kneeling, the Minister shall pronounce the benediction:**

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favor look upon you, and so fill you with his grace that you may live faithfully together in this life and in the world to come may have life everlasting. Amen.

## A SECOND MARRIAGE SERVICE

**At the time and place appointed for the solemnization of matrimony, the persons to be married shall take their places before the minister, the man having the woman at his left hand, and all present reverently standing.**

**The minister shall say:**

Dearly beloved, we are gathered here in the presence of God to join this man and this woman in holy matrimony.

Marriage was instituted by God himself in the time of man's innocence and uprightness. The Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a help meet for him." Thereupon God created woman of man's own substance and brought her unto the man. Our Lord Jesus Christ honored marriage by his presence at the wedding in Cana of Galilee. And he confirmed it as a divine ordinance and a union not to be severed when he declared, "What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." Moreover, the apostle Paul set forth the sacred and exalted nature of marriage when he likened it to the mystical union that subsists between Christ and his church.

The purpose of marriage is the enrichment of the lives of those who enter into this estate, the propagation of the race, and the extension of Christ's church to the glory of the covenant God.

Let us reverently hear what the Holy Scriptures teach concerning the duty of husbands to their wives and of wives to their husbands:

"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself up for it; that he might sanctify it, having cleansed it by the washing of water with the word. Even so ought husbands also to love their own wives as their own bodies."



"Wives, be in subjection unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, being himself the saviour of the body."

These two persons are come to be joined in this holy estate of marriage. If any man can show just cause why they may not lawfully be wedded, let him now declare it, or else hereafter forever hold his peace.

I require and charge you both that, if either of you knows any cause why you may not be lawfully joined together in matrimony, you do now confess it.

**Let us pray:**

Most holy and most merciful Father, at once the God of nature and of grace, creator, preserver and redeemer of mankind, fill these, thy servant and thy handmaiden, with a sense of the solemnity of the vows they are about to make. May they look to thee for thine assistance, and enter into these sacred obligations in humble dependence upon thine enabling grace. Grant this, O Father, with the forgiveness of our sins, through Jesus Christ, thy Son. Amen.

**After prayer the minister shall say:**

Who giveth this woman to be married to this man?

**The father of the woman, or someone in his stead, shall place her right hand in that of the minister, and the minister shall cause the man to take with his right hand the right hand of the woman.**

**The minister shall then say:**

M—, wilt thou have this woman to be thy wedded wife, to live with her after God's commandments in the holy estate of marriage? And wilt thou love her, honor and cherish her, so long as ye both shall live?

**The man shall answer:**

I will.

**Then the minister shall say:**

N—, wilt thou have this man to be thy wedded husband, to live with him after God's commandments in the holy estate of marriage? And wilt thou love him, cherish and obey him, so long as ye both shall live?

**The woman shall answer:**

I will.

**The man shall say:**

I, M—, take thee, N—, to be my wedded wife, and I do promise and covenant before God and these witnesses to be thy loving and faithful husband in sickness and in health, in plenty and in want, in joy and in sorrow, as long as we both shall live.

**The woman shall say:**

I, N—, take thee, M—, to be my wedded husband, and I do promise and covenant before God and these witnesses to be thy loving and faithful wife in sickness and in health, in plenty and in want, in joy and in sorrow, as long as we both shall live.

**The man shall then put the ring on the third finger of the woman's left hand, and shall say after the minister:**

This ring I give thee as a symbol and pledge of constant faith and abiding love.

**The minister shall say to the woman:**

Dost thou, N—, receive this ring as a token of thy pledge to keep this covenant and perform these vows?

**The woman shall say:**

I do.

**The minister shall say:**

Let us pray.

**After prayer the minister shall say:**

By virtue of the authority committed unto me by the church of Christ and the law of the state, I now pronounce you, M— and N—, husband and wife, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**The minister shall cause the husband and wife to join their right hands, and shall say:**

"What God hath joined together, let no man put asunder."

The Lord our God fill you with his grace, and grant that you may long live together in all godliness and holiness. Amen.

## A FUNERAL SERVICE

**Let the service begin with the reading of the whole or a part of the following selections from Scripture:**

I am the Resurrection and the Life, saith the Lord; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me, shall never die.

Man that is born of woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down: he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not.

For we are strangers before thee, and sojourners, as were all our fathers: our days on the earth are as a shadow, and there is none abiding.

We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away: blessed be the name of the Lord.

**Prayer of Invocation:**

O God, who art our God, and our fathers' God; thou whose compassions fail not, but who art the same yesterday, today, and forever, grant us now thy presence, we beseech thee, that our souls may be strengthened, and that we faint not under thine afflicting providence, but that through thy condescension we may find all grace to help in this our time of need, which we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, we will ascribe all honor, majesty and might, world without end. Amen.

**Hymn:**

**Then let the whole or a part of the following selections of Scripture be read:**

Psalm 39: 4-13:

Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am.

Behold, thou hast made my days as a handbreath; and mine age is as nothing before thee; verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity.

Surely every man walketh in a vain show; surely they are disquieted in vain: he heapeth up riches, and knoweth not who shall gather them.

And now, Lord, what wait I for? my hope is in thee.

Deliver me from all my transgressions: make me not the reproach of the foolish.

I was dumb, I opened not my mouth; because thou didst it.

Remove thy stroke away from me: I am consumed by the blow of thine hand.

When thou with rebukes dost correct man for iniquity, thou makest his beauty to consume away like a moth: surely every man is vanity.

Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear unto my cry; hold not thy peace at my tears; for I am a stranger with thee, and a sojourner, as all my fathers were.

O spare me, that I may recover strength, before I go hence, and be no more.

Psalm 90: 1-12:

Lord, thou hast been our dwelling-place in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.

Thou turnest man to destruction; and sayest, Return, ye children of men.

For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.

Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are as a sleep; in the morning they are like grass which groweth up; in the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down, and withereth.

For we are consumed by thine anger, and by thy wrath are we troubled.

Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance.

For all our days are passed away in thy wrath; we spend our years as a tale that is told.

The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

Who knoweth the power of thine anger? even according to thy fear, so is thy wrath.

So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

I Cor. 15: 20-58:

Now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom of God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule, and all authority and power. For he must reign till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him it is manifest that he is excepted which did put all things under him. And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all. Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? why are they then baptized for the dead? And why stand we in jeopardy every hour? I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily. If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantageth it me, if the dead rise not? let us eat and drink; for tomorrow we die. Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners. Awake to righteousness and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.

But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come? Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die: and that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain: but God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body. All flesh is not the same flesh; but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds. There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial; but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differeth from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption: it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit, that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterwards that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven. As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I show you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

**Instead of the foregoing passage from I Cor 15, one or more of the following may be substituted as the occasion may require:**  
Ecclesiastes 12.

Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them; while the sun, or the light, or the moon, or the stars, be not darkened, nor the clouds return after the rain: in the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those that look out of the windows be darkened, and the doors shall be shut in the streets, when the sound of the grinding is low, and he shall rise up at the voice of the bird, and all the daughters of music shall be brought low; also when they shall be afraid of that which is high, and fears shall be in the way, and the almond tree shall flourish, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire shall fail: because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets: or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern. Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was; and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.  
Psalm 27.

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell. Though a host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident. One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple. For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion; in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock. And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the Lord. Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice: have mercy also upon me, and answer me. When thou saidst, Seek ye my face, my heart said unto thee, thy face, Lord, will I seek. Hide not thy face far from me; put not thy servant away in anger; thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation. When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up. Teach me thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies. Deliver me not over unto the will of mine enemies; for false witnesses are risen up against me, and such as breathe out cruelty. I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart; wait, I say, on the Lord.  
Revelation 22: 1-5:

And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bear twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse; but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and his servants shall serve him; and they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light; and they shall reign for ever and ever.

#### **Prayer:**

Almighty and most merciful God, our heavenly Father, the consolation of the sorrowful and the support of the stricken, who dost not willingly afflict the children of men, look in pity, we beseech thee, on all upon whom thou hast laid thine afflicting hand, and, in the multitude of thy tender mercies, be pleased to uphold and comfort them in the day of their trial and distress. Grant us all grace that we may lay to heart the lesson of this solemn providence, and work while the day lasteth, knowing that the night cometh, when no man can work; and that we may set our affections on things that are in heaven, and not on things that are on the earth. Enable us to live by faith in the Son of God, that when Christ, who is our life, shall appear, we also may appear with him in glory.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world, to whom shall we go but unto thee? Thou hast the words of

eternal life. Thou who wast a Man of Sorrows and acquainted with grief, have pity upon those who cry unto thee. When our eyes grow dim in the shadows of death, and we pass through the deep waters, by thine agony and bloody sweat, and by thy death on Calvary, we beseech thee to remember us. O thou who hast saved us forsake us not in the trying hour; thou who hast vanquished death, give us the victory, and bring us to thine own everlasting rest in the assembly of thy saints on high.

O God, the Holy Ghost, author of light and life and truth, inspire our souls with hope through the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, imparting the benefits of his atonement, and the power of his all-sufficient grace. Release us from our sins; fill us with the fruits of thine own indwelling, and form us anew in the image of God. Help us now, O blessed Comforter; heal our wounded spirits and despise not thou our broken and contrite hearts.

O God the Father, the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, Triune, Jehovah, have mercy upon us, thy servants, as we wait before thee: and hear our prayer. Be pleased graciously to attend to our humble requests, and to do for us all that we need, glorifying thyself by us both in this present world, and in that which is to come: all of which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

**Benediction:**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. Amen.

**After which the service may be concluded with a hymn. For service at the grave see end of Child's Funeral.**

**A CHILD'S FUNERAL**

**Let the service begin with the reading of the whole or a part of the following selection from Scripture:**

The Lord hear thee in the day of trouble: the name of the God of Jacob defend thee; send thee help from the sanctuary, and strengthen thee out of Zion.

Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down; he fleeth also as a shadow and continueth not.

The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

**Prayer:**

Father of mercies, God of all grace, ever comforting us by the tender assurance of thy love for all those whom thou dost chasten, be near to us now in this hour of sorrow, as we come to cast our care upon thee, and seek the strength and consolation thou only canst impart.

As a father pitieth his children, so do thou pity those who sit before thee, smitten and afflicted. As one whom his mother comforteth, do thou comfort them, and so sanctify to them this sorrow that theirs may be everlasting consolation.

O thou that leadest Joseph like a flock, who knowest thine own sheep by name as they follow thee, carrying the lambs in thine arms and folding them in thy bosom, it is not thy will that one of these little ones should perish. When thou dost send thy messenger, like a gentle shepherd, to lead them into the heavenly pastures, may bereaved parents hear the voice which says, Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not. Fill them with resignation to thy will; give them the consolations of thy Spirit, and grant that, through thy grace, this chastening may be for their profit, that, being made partakers of thy holiness, they may be prepared for everlasting blessedness in that world where, after the separations and sorrows of this life, they may be



forever with one another and with the Lord, through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Saviour. Amen.

### Hymn:

**The Minister may read the whole or a part of the following selections:**

Psalm 23:

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou annointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

David therefore besought God for the child; and David fasted, and went in, and lay all night upon the earth. And the elders of his house arose, and went to him to raise him up from the earth; but he would not, neither did he eat bread with them. And it came to pass on the seventh day, that the child died. And the servants of David feared to tell him that the child was dead: for they said, Behold, while the child was yet alive, we spake unto him, and he would not hearken unto our voice: how will he then vex himself if we tell him that the child is dead?

But when David saw that his servants whispered, David perceived that the child was dead: therefore David said unto his servants, Is the child dead? And they said, He is dead. Then David arose from the earth, and washed, and anointed himself, and changed his apparel, and came into the house of the Lord, and worshipped: then he came to his own house; and when he required, they sat bread before him, and he did eat. Then said his servants unto him, What thing is this that thou hast done? thou didst fast and weep for the child while it was alive; but when the child was dead thou didst rise and eat bread. And he said, While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said, who can tell whether God will be gracious to me, that the child may live? But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.

I, even I, am he that comforteth you: As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you.

What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter.

My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: and if children, then heirs: heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.

He shall feed his flock like a shepherd; he shall gather the lambs with his arms, and carry them in his bosom.

And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them; and his disciples rebuked those that brought them.

But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the



kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.

Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you. That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my father which is in heaven.

For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost. How think ye? If a man have a hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray? And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that sheep than of the ninety and nine which went not astray. Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish.

Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of water; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

**Prayer:**

O God, our heavenly Father, who through the blood of thy Son hast provided redemption for all thine own, we would render thee most hearty thanks, in this our time of grief, for the sure confidence we have that the soul of this dear child whose loss we mourn is at rest in thee. Not a sparrow falleth to the ground without our Father, and those who are of more value than many sparrows cannot die until thou, who regardest with tender compassion the weakest of thy creatures, dost call them to thyself. We would not sorrow as those who have no hope, but bow in humble submission to thy sovereign decree, and by divine grace would say, Thy will be done.

Vouchsafe unto thy servants, we beseech thee, the consolations of thy Spirit, giving us beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, and the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. May this chastisement which now seemeth so grievous yield in us the peaceable fruits of righteousness, by drawing us into closest fellowship with thee, that we may not set our affections on the things of this world; but upon that blessed home above, where all who have departed in Christ await us beyond the reach of sorrow.

Shine upon our darkness, O Lord; pardon all our sins; build us up and strengthen us in our most holy faith; and at last give us the victory over death, bringing us in holiness and joy to thine own eternal rest.

Hear now our prayer, O God, and be pleased mercifully to bestow the blessings which we need, for the love of Jesus Christ, thy well-beloved Son, to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit, be all dominion, glory and praise, world without end. Amen.

**Lord's Prayer:**

Our Father which are in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

**Benediction:**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. Amen.

**Hymn:**

**At The Grave:**

**After the body has been lowered into the grave (or the sea), the following words may be said:**

Forasmuch as it has pleased Almighty God, in his wise providence, to take out of this world the soul of our deceased (brother), we therefore commit (his) body to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust: awaiting the hour when all who are in their graves shall hear the voice of the Son of God, and shall come forth, "they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of judgment."

I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died, and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them.

**Prayer:**

Almighty God, who hast sanctified the grave by thy Son's rest therein, and by his glorious resurrection hast brought life and immortality to light, accept, we pray thee, our unfeigned thanks for the victory which he has obtained for us and for all who sleep in him, and keep us who are still in the body, in everlasting fellowship with all that wait for thee on earth, and with all that are around thee in heaven, in union with him who is the resurrection and the life, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

O Merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the resurrection and the life; in whom whosoever believeth, shall live, though he die; and whosoever liveth and believeth in him, shall not die eternally; who also hath taught us, by his holy Apostle Paul, not to be sorry, as men without hope, for those who sleep in him; we humbly beseech thee, O Father, to raise us from the death of sin unto the life of righteousness; that when we shall depart this life, we may rest in him; and that, as the general resurrection in the last day, we may be found acceptable in thy sight; and receive that blessing, which thy well-beloved Son shall then pronounce to all who love and fear thee, saying, Come, ye blessed children of my Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world. Grant this, we beseech thee O merciful Father, through Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Redeemer. Amen.\*

\*This prayer is from John Knox's Liturgy.

**Benediction:**

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

### THE DEDICATION OF A CHURCH BUILDING

**The congregation shall stand, and the following portions from the Psalter shall be read by the presiding minister and the people responsively, or, if desired, by the minister alone.**

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him and bless his name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations" Psalm 100.

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet shall stand within thy gates. O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together; whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord. For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces. For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee. Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good" Psalm 122.

"How amiable are thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts. My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord. my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God. Yea, the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, even thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be still praising thee. For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had

rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness" Psalm 84:1-4, 10.

"The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein; for he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods. Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads. O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory" Psalm 24.

**The minister shall say:**

Beloved in the Lord, we are gathered to consecrate and set apart this house for the worship of the one living and true God. Let us therefore dedicate this place to its proper and sacred uses.

**Then the minister and the people shall say responsively:**

To thee, God and Father of Jesus Christ, our Lord:

**We dedicate this house.**

To thee, eternal Son of God, Redeemer of thy people and Head of thy church:

**We dedicate this house.**

To thee, Spirit of God, lord and giver of life, our teacher, sanctifier and comforter:

**We dedicate this house.**

For the worship of God in praise and prayer;

For the preaching of the gospel of the grace of God;

For the celebration of the holy sacraments:

**We dedicate this house.**

For the diffusion of sacred knowledge;

For the promotion of righteousness;

For the extension of the kingdom of God:

**We dedicate this house.**

For release to the captives;

For recovering of sight to the blind;

For rest to the heavy laden:

**We dedicate this house.**

For comfort to those who mourn;

For strength to those who are tempted;

For assurance to those of little faith:

**We dedicate this house.**

For the sanctifying of the family;

For the nurture of the young;

For the perfection of believers:

**We dedicate this house.**

In gratitude for the gracious keeping of the divine covenant throughout past generations;

In reliance upon the promise that the gates of hell shall not prevail against the church;

In the hope of the eternal glory of the church triumphant:

**We dedicate this house.**

**Then the Minister shall say:**

Beloved in the Lord, seeing that it has pleased almighty God to prosper us in our undertaking to build (or secure) a house for his worship, let us now invoke upon it his abiding blessing, to the end that pure apostolic doctrine and order may be maintained herein, and that the Holy Spirit may make his own ordinances effectual. In so doing let us reverently set this house apart for these sacred uses with prayer and supplication.

Let us pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, maker of heaven and earth, who dwellest in the high and holy place, with him also who is of contrite and humble spirit, we adore thee for thy manifold perfections, for the infinite majesty and glorious beauty of thy being, and for the truthfulness and sanctity of thy divine revelation.

We give thanks unto thee for thine infinite mercies to us, and, in particular, for the gift of thy Son to be our Saviour. We praise thee for the church of God, of which he is the only Head and King and of which we are humble and unfaithful members. We acknowledge that we are not worthy to receive from thine hand the blessings of thy common grace; and especially do we recognize the abundance of thy great goodness in granting to us, through thy particular grace, membership in the church universal, the mystical body of Christ.

Thou hast put it into our hearts to prepare this house of worship where men may gather in thy service. We earnestly beseech thee that thou wilt watch over and protect this place which we have dedicated in thy name. We ask that here may be preached only the pure gospel of the free grace of God. May all that is proclaimed be firmly grounded upon the unchanging foundation of Holy Scripture. Grant that no portion of thy sacred revelation to man may be neglected but that thy servants who minister here shall give to all its parts that due regard which will exhibit its majesty and scope. We pray that by the favor of thy Spirit sinners may in this house be converted unto thee, and that the saints of God, the members of thy holy body, may be built up and edified by the proclamation of thy matchless Word.

May the Holy Spirit of God, the third person of the blessed Trinity, ever be present to guide, illumine and inform those who teach here. May he prepare the hearts of the hearers to receive with meekness the instruction which is presented, so that their lives may show forth the wonders of his grace and truly adorn the doctrine of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Bless this thy house that it may serve without surcease the extension of the kingdom of God. Teach us to look for the return of the Lord of glory that we shall be quickened day by day in our present service of him, and shall be always prepared to greet him and to enter in with him to the marriage supper of the Lamb, forever to dwell in that holy city where there is no candle neither light of the sun for the Lamb is the light thereof.

Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

**An offering to the Lord may then be received.**

**After the singing of an appropriate psalm or hymn, a sermon shall be preached.**

The following recommendations of the Committee were adopted:

Recommendation #5 — The Committee recommends to the Third General Assembly that it be continued for the purpose of preparing Scripture proofs for the Confession and Catechisms in consultation with Committees of other denominations who are working on the same. It is the understanding of the Committee, in accord with the First Assembly's actions, that such proofs would be printed with the Constitution, but would not become a part of it. "This would allow for the addition of new proof texts, without the complex procedure of having to amend the Constitution."

The First Assembly (Item 1-80) answered in the affirmative an Overture to the effect that a study be made of all aspects of Reformed Worship. The Committee feels that with its submission of the revision for the Directory for Worship that it has in substance fulfilled this task.

Recommendation #6. The Committee recommends that the Assembly declare that Item 1-80 from the First General Assembly has been answered by the adoption of the Directory for Worship.

Communication 4 to the First General Assembly called for the following items:

1. To investigate and publish to the Congregations of the Continuing Presbyterian Church the rich spirit filled, but neglected heritage of Reformed Worship and,

2. To contrast this with the many non-Reformed liturgies presently in use among us and,
3. To provide a Reformed Liturgy and a Reformed psalter (including hymns and other appropriate music) that clearly exists in our faith and,
4. To recommend to the ministers what constitutes proper pulpit (liturgical) dress for Reformed pastors and,
5. To recommend to the congregations what constitutes proper architecture as exhibits the Reformed Christian faith truly, accurately and majestically and,
6. To demonstrate by its attention to those matters that for the Reformed Faith, faithful, true, biblical worship in the Church is as important as the Great Commission to the world.

The Committee feels that the proposed Directory for Worship answers items 1 and 2 of this Communication. Historically the Reformed view of liturgy, as seen in the Westminster Assembly's Directory for Worship has been marked by simplicity with few stated forms. The Committee, in accord with this outlook, has suggested only a few "Optional Forms" for special services. These forms are to serve as guides only, and not to be slavishly followed.

Recommendation #7 — The Committee recommends the approval of the "Optional Forms" as answer to Communication 4 Items 1, and 2 to the First General Assembly.

Recommendation #8 — Regarding item 3 calling for a Reformed Psalter, the Committee recommends that the Assembly recommend the use of hymn-books that include a good selection of the Psalms and hymns, that are true to the Word, set to music suitable for the worship of God, such as, the **Trinity Hymnal** of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, and the **Psalter Hymnal** of the Christian Reformed Church.

Recommendation #9 — The Committee recommends that Item 4 be answered as follows:

To item 4 asking for direction as to what constitutes proper pulpit dress for Reformed pastors, the Assembly makes the following response: There is no description in the New Testament of suitable dress for the pulpit, and thus the Church has no warrant to legislate in this area. A general principle can be stated which should govern the individual in his choice of dress for the pulpit. To lead the congregation in worship and to minister the Word and Sacraments are the highest sacred duties of the Minister. The dress of the Minister should be such that it does not detract from the worship of God by calling attention to the man. Simple, dignified dress suitable to the cultural setting should be the rule to guide the Minister in his attire.

The following was received as information, and ordered to be printed:

Recommendation #10 — The Committee recommends that item 5 be answered as follow:

To item 5 asking for a definition of what constitutes proper architecture "to exhibit the Reformed Christian Faith truly, accurately and majestically," the Assembly responds: The Bible does not describe buildings for use of congregations in worship, and thus the Church has no right to legislate regarding architecture. There are some basic principles that should govern our thoughts in this area.

First, there should be nothing that directly contradicts any clear Scriptural teaching, such as, the erecting of images or idols as forbidden by the Second Commandment.

Second, the Reformed principle of worship should be observed, namely, that we are to include in our worship only that which is either expressly set down in Scripture, or may by good and necessary consequence be deduced from it. Nothing should be built into the sanctuary that would cause the congregation to break this principle. For example, the Bible does not authorize the use of any visible representations of God or any part of His creation as a center of worship. The sanctuary should not include such, either as stained glass windows, crosses or other symbols. Christ gave us only one thing by



which to remember Him — the Lord's Supper. The use of other things for this purpose has no Biblical basis, and should be discouraged.

Third, the Reformed view of worship emphasizes the centrality of the reading and proclamation of the Word. Thus, the preferred arrangement of the sanctuary is one that preserves the centrality of the pulpit.

Fourth, since the Reformed Faith views the Sacraments as an extension of the pulpit in that they are "sensible signs" by which "Christ and the benefits of the new covenant are represented, sealed and applied", the placement of the baptismal font and communion table in relation to the pulpit so as to symbolize this concept is most desirable.

Fifth, since the Lord's Supper portrays the communion of the congregation with her Lord, it is most suitable that the congregation be seated around the table of communion, or at least, that the table be placed on the level of the congregation and not elevated above it.

Finally, it should be remembered that the true beauty of worship is found in the presence of the Holy Spirit with the congregation. Thus elaborate places of worship are not necessary for proper worship of the Living God. Care should be taken, on the other hand, to provide a place of suitable dignity for the Spiritual worship of God. The exact form of the sanctuary is thus unimportant, so long as the congregation has a suitable place in which to worship God in an orderly fashion. Since church buildings, as such, have no place in the life of the Church in the New Testament, it is incumbent upon modern congregations to consider carefully the matter of how much should be invested in such properties, lest they become an end in themselves, diverting the efforts of God's people from their primary task.

The following recommendation was adopted:

Recommendation #11 — The Committee recommends that Overture #2 to the Second General Assembly asking that the Directory for the Worship of God 6-7 read:

"No person is to be invited to preach in any of the Presbyterian Church in America churches or occupy the time set aside for the preaching of the Word without consent of the Session."

and 9-1:

"Any other person must be approved by the Session" has been answered in the affirmative with the adoption of the revised Directory for Worship (54-6).

In response to the Resolution of John Holmes (See paragraph 3-55) regarding additional rules and operational manuals for sessions and congregations, the Committee recommends it be answered as follows: Since no case is before us, no ruling can be made, but it is the opinion of the Assembly that such manuals are in order, as long as there is no conflict with the Constitution. Adopted.

In response to the Resolution of John Holmes regarding BCO #10-2 (See paragraph 3-55), the Committee recommends that it be answered with the statement that the Church officers need no special instruction in this area, since this section is already in the Book of Church Order. Adopted.

As directed by the Assembly in paragraph 3-14-5, the following amendments to the Book of Church Order were reworded, and were adopted by the Assembly:

Amend 19-2 by substituting the following new paragraphs:

Every candidate for the ministry must put himself under the care of Presbytery, which should ordinarily be the Presbytery that has jurisdiction of the church of which he is a member. The endorsement of his Session must be given to the Presbytery, consisting of testimonials regarding his Christian character and promise of usefulness in the ministry. The endorsement should also describe the activities of ministry the applicant has participated in with brief evaluation.



Every applicant for care shall be a member of the congregation whose session provides an endorsement for at least six months before filing his application, except in those cases deemed extraordinary by the Presbytery. Every applicant must file his application with the clerk of the Presbytery at least two months before the meeting of the Presbytery.

An applicant may not be received under care and examined for ordination at the same meeting of Presbytery. An applicant for licensure who is not already under care must be taken under care and may be examined for licensure at the same meeting of the Presbytery.

Amend 20-3 by substituting the following paragraph for the entire paragraph:

Ordinarily, a candidate for the ministry shall be licensed to preach. However, if a candidate, yet unlicensed but under care of a presbytery, is called to a definite work, the presbytery may proceed to his examination for ordination, if the candidate has met the requirements for ordination. If the candidate is not yet under care of a presbytery, he must be taken under care before he can be examined for ordination.

The Committee recommended that it be expanded, and that Ruling Elder W. Jack Williamson be added to it. Adopted.

Chapter 54-5 of the Book of Church Order was reconsidered, and the following new paragraph adopted, thus making the present 54-5 to be 54-6:

By way of application of the sermon the minister may urge his hearers by commandment or invitation to repent of their sins, to put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour, and to confess him publicly before men.

The report of the Committee was adopted as a whole.

### 3-90 Assembly Recessed

The Assembly was recessed at 9:40 P.M., with prayer by the Rev. Frank Moser, to reconvene at 8:00 A.M.

## MINUTES — FRIDAY MORNING

September 12, 1975

### Ninth Session

#### 3-91 Assembly Reconvened

The Assembly reconvened at 8:00 A.M. with prayer by Rev. Thomas F. Barnes.

#### 3-92 Minutes Read and Approved

The minutes of Thursday's sessions were approved as corrected.

#### 3-93 Report of The Committee of Commissioners on Mission to the World

The Rev. Don Clements, Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners presented the report on Mission to the World.

The following recommendations were made:

- I. Items referred to and considered by the Committee.
  - A. Minutes of the Committee on Mission to the World for the following dates: 9/16-19/74; 10/18-19/74; 11/22-23/74; 1/17-18/75; 2/14-15/75; 4/18-19/75; 6/20-21/75; 8/15-16/75.
  - B. Report of the Committee on Mission to the World to the Third General Assembly (Appendix H, p. 196).
  - C. Overtures 4 (p 110) and 14 (p 134) to the Third General Assembly.
  - D. Communications 1 (p. 37) and 6 (p. 37) to the Third General Assembly.

E. Items carried over from the Second General Assembly (See pp. 41-44.)

F. Audit Report of the Committee on Mission to the World.

## II. Statement of issues discussed.

The issues before this Committee of Commissioners were many and varied. The following is a brief summary of the major issues discussed:

A. What is and should be the primary thrust of Mission to the World?

B. What is and should be the relationship between Sessions, Presbyteries and CMTW?

C. The need for Presbyteries and Sessions to be involved in recruiting of ministers and young men preparing for the ministry to go to the mission field.

D. The proposed missions manual and position paper entitled "A Plan for World Missions."

E. What is and should be the relationship of CMTW with interdenominational and independent mission boards both in the United States and on foreign fields?

F. What is and should be the relationship of CMTW and its missionaries with individuals, churches and organizations on the field which might have some degree of connection with the World Council of Churches?

G. What is and should be the CMTW policy and actions concerning individual workers and churches on foreign fields?

H. What is and should be the role of women on foreign fields?

I. What is and should be the policy and materials used in the area of stewardship of foreign missions?

J. The proposed budget for CMTW.

## III. The Committee of Commissioners on Mission to the World makes the following recommendations (vote of the Committee is shown in parentheses):

A. From those recommendations initially submitted by the Permanent Committee on Mission to the World: (changes recommended by the Committee of Commissioners are underlined):

1. That the Rev. John E. Kyle be reelected as Coordinator for the Committee on Mission to the World, **and that he be highly commended for his dedicated service.** (13-0)

2. That a date in the Spring of 1976 be designated as a Day of Prayer and Fasting for the World Mission of the Church to be determined by the Permanent Committee. (13-0)

3. That the primary thrust of Mission to the World continue to be the establishment and strengthening of Presbyterian and Reformed churches in other countries, **keeping a high proportion of church-planting-oriented missions over service-support missions, with constant effort towards improving the current proportion; further, that the General Assembly exhort Presbyteries and Sessions to make a concerted effort to actively recruit and to extend calls to qualified and motivated ministers and young men preparing for the ministry for the work of World Missions,** (13-0) and that the Presbyterian Church in America be called to petition the Lord of the church for 10 additional missionaries to be added to the missionary force of the Presbyterian Church in America.

## Extension of Time

Time for discussion was extended for 5 minutes by action of the Assembly.

4. That the policy of relationships with other agencies that will welcome the services and teaching of missionaries holding the Reformed faith and polity be continued under the safeguards established by the 1974 General Assembly **and as more fully outlined and defined in Articles II.C.2 & 3 (p 26-7) and Appendices A, B, & C (p 34ff) of the proposed position paper entitled "A Plan for Mission to the World."** (13-0)

The Rev. John Jamison, Jr. recorded his abstention on this vote.

Clerk's Note: The following materials, mentioned in item 4, are included here at the direction of the Assembly (pp. 116-121):

**From the 1974 Minutes (Par 2-88):**

"That the General Assembly authorize the Committee on Mission to the World to establish working relationships with other evangelical missionary agencies that welcome the services and teaching of missionaries holding the Reformed faith and polity, so as to enable it to send candidates to them, as it may seem best for the greatest effectiveness in proclaiming the Gospel, to work under their auspices while at the same time maintaining full relationship to the PCA, also to receive and forward to the agencies concerned financial support needed by them. Such missionaries shall be responsible to the Sessions or Presbyteries in matters of doctrine and moral conduct, but at the same time subject to the rules of the agencies under which they serve. Such missionaries shall be considered missionaries of the PCA, and as such will send news and reports of their work to the CMW, their Presbyteries and supporting churches and individuals in the PCA. Details as to itineration while on furlough, pensions and other matters needing definition or adjustment would be worked out with the agencies concerned, that careful evaluation be made at the 1975 General Assembly to be certain that our missionary efforts under the program provide full and free presentation of the Gospel as contained in and understood in the Reformed view."

**From "A Plan for Mission to the World of the Presbyterian Church in America". (Articles II. C. 2 & 3):****2. Reformed Missions**

There are many places where we can work in closest cooperation with other evangelical Reformed missions. We can thereby avoid duplication and overlapping, give visible demonstration of our unity and greatly further our major goal of planting and strengthening Presbyterian Churches overseas. The co-operation in this model will be the responsibility of the field committee of the Reformed mission.

Our relationship to each mission is defined in signed agreements. (See Appendix B for sample copy, pp. 119-120.)

**3. Interdenominational Missions**

The above two models relate specifically to the planting and strengthening of Presbyterian Churches overseas. The third relates to support and service ministries in co-operation with evangelical missions and to a Reformed witness in deed and word overseas. This model is 1) proper and scriptural because of the unity of the believing church, 2) secondary to the task of planting and strengthening Presbyterian churches overseas, and 3) limited by the definition of the General Assembly and by Mission to the World's policy.

**The 1974 General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America adopted the following statement:**

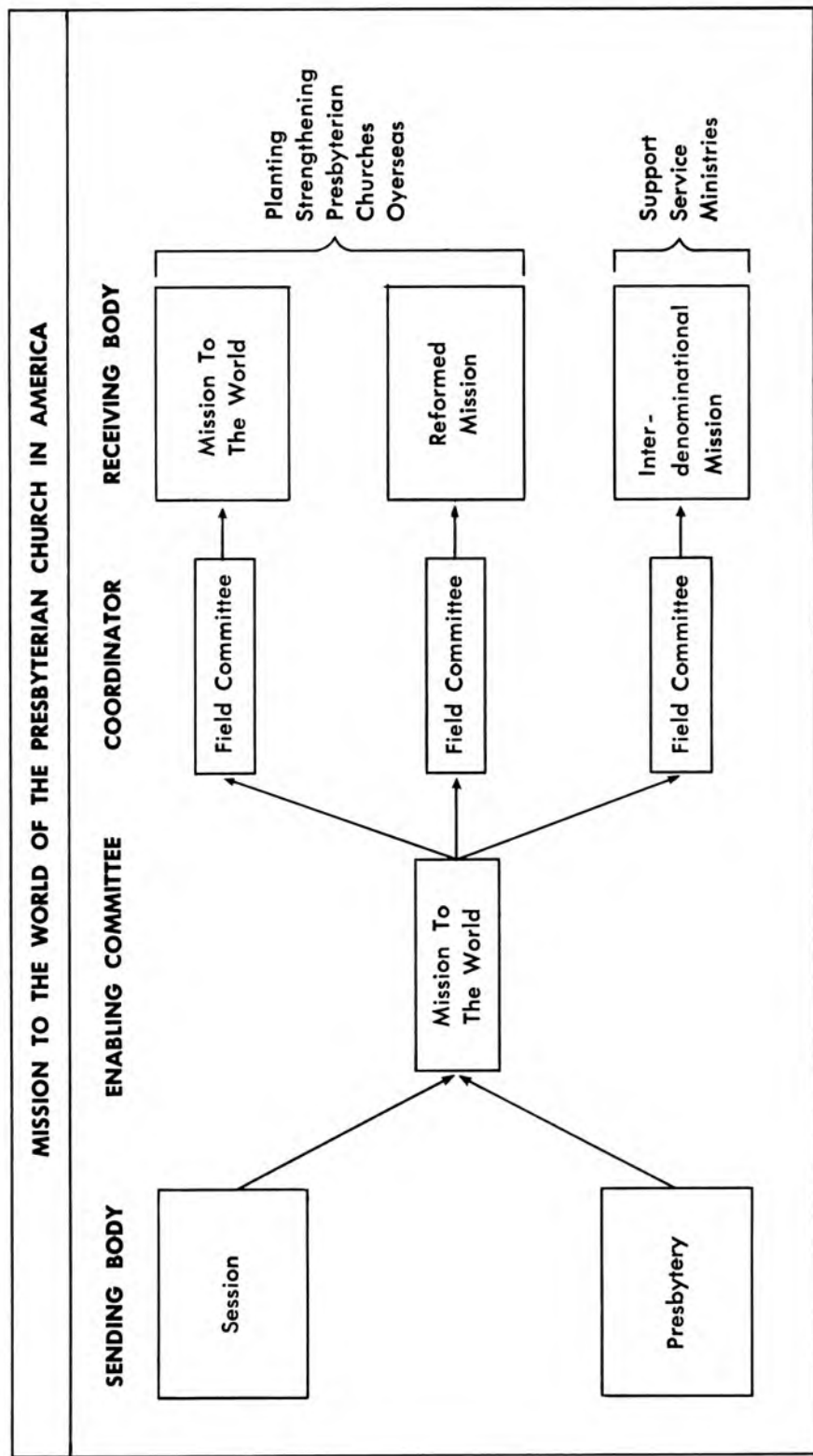
That the General Assembly authorize the Committee on Mission to the World to establish working relationships with other evangelical missionary agencies that welcome the services and teaching of missionaries holding the Reformed faith and polity, so as to enable it to send candidates to them, as it may seem best for the greatest effectiveness in proclaiming the Gospel, to work under their auspices while at the same time maintaining full relationship to the PCA; also to receive and forward to the agencies concerned financial support needed by them. Such missionaries shall be responsible to the Sessions or Presbyteries in matters of doctrine and moral conduct, but at the same time subject to the rules of the agencies under which they serve. Such missionaries shall be considered missionaries of the PCA, and as such will send news and reports of their work to the CMW, their Presbyteries and supporting churches and individuals in the PCA. Details as to itineration while on furlough, pensions and other matters needing definition or adjustment would be worked out with the agencies concerned. Careful evaluation will be made at the 1975 General Assembly to be certain that our missionary efforts under the program provide full and free presentation of the Gospel as contained in and understood in the Reformed view.

Agreements, which protect the interests of the General Assembly, are signed by Mission to the World and the interdenominational mission. (See Appendix C for sample copy, pp. 120-121.) No missionary is sent to work with another mission without this signed agreement.

These additional guidelines and limitations are followed or suggested by Mission to the World. 1) Mission to the World ordinarily enters into discussions with interdenominational mission boards only at the request of a PCA church member, minister, session or presbytery. The initiative for such a co-operative venture must come from a church court or church member. Mission to the World does not recruit missionaries for interdenominational missions. It responds to requests from its constituency — the Presbyterian Church in America. 2) Mission to the World does not participate in any way in its planning function in co-operative effort with independent mission agencies. 3) Only funds specifically so designated will be transmitted to independent mission agencies for missionary support or project use. 4) In keeping with our stated priority of planting and strengthening Presbyterian churches overseas, it is expected that the larger portion of our missionary force will serve in that category (the first two models. 5) The missionary with an interdenominational mission must report to his sending body and to Mission to the World at least once a year concerning the freedom he has to minister and work in line with the General Assembly's instructions.

The coordination in this model will be the responsibility of the field committee of the interdenominational mission."

# Appendix A — From A Plan for Mission to the World of the Presbyterian Church in America



**Appendix B**  
**(From A Plan For Mission To The World of The**  
**Presbyterian Church In America)**

**COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT**

**between**

**The Committee on Mission to the World of the Presbyterian Church in America**  
**and**  
**World Presbyterian Missions of the Reformed Presbyterian**  
**Church, Evangelical Synod**

This agreement concerns missionary personnel who are members of the Presbyterian Church in America, as to denomination, but members of both mission organizations.

1. The appointment of the missionary shall be by both agencies in accordance with the standards established by each agency.
2. In the event that the one agency requests confidential materials gathered by the other, such materials shall be shared with the understanding that the materials shall be kept confidential by that agency.
3. The missionary shall participate in the full training program of World Presbyterian Missions, Inc.
4. All deputation work shall be coordinated by Committee on Mission to the World both within the churches of the Presbyterian Church in America and for World Presbyterian Missions within the churches of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Evangelical Synod, in order that adequate prayer and financial support can be realized.
5. World Presbyterian Missions, Inc. shall supervise the securing of visas and make other arrangements needful for beginning field work.
6. The Mission to the World shall be the primary sponsoring agency for financial and prayer support of the missionary.
7. World Presbyterian Missions, Inc., in consultation with Mission to the World concerning major assignments, shall be the directing agency in relation to missionary activities on the field.
8. Final discipline as relates to theology and morals rests in the proper church court of the Presbyterian Church in America. Administrative discipline is the prerogative of World Presbyterian Missions but it shall be exercised only after consultation with Mission to the World.
9. While on the field and while traveling to and from the field, the missionary shall be under the jurisdiction of World Presbyterian Missions.
10. While on the field the missionary shall be an integral part of the field staff, sharing equally in privileges and responsibilities as other World Presbyterian Missions missionaries and being subject to the policies and direction of World Presbyterian Missions.
11. The Mission on the field will initiate furlough planning. Approval shall be by World Presbyterian Missions after consultation with the Mission to the World.
12. While on furlough, the missionary shall be under the jurisdiction of Mission to the World. Among the missionary's furlough responsibilities, consideration will be given by the Mission to the World to the possible need for the missionary to have additional training or study suggested by World Presbyterian Missions, Inc.
13. While on furlough the missionary shall be expected to carry on a deputation ministry for the Mission to the World within the constituency of the Presbyterian Church in America, and for World Presbyterian Missions within the constituency of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Evangelical Synod. Each agency shall assume local arrangements and the expenses of deputation when the member is doing deputation for either agency. Primary deputation responsibilities will be within the Presbyterian Church in America with Mission to the World acting as coordinator for both churches.
14. The missionary shall not solicit homeland constituencies of either agency for personal funds or field needs without the permission of the respective agency and under the policies of World Presbyterian Missions.



15. In reference to the financial relationship, the Mission to the World shall receive and receipt all of the missionary's funds and transfer them to World Presbyterian Missions, Inc. World Presbyterian Missions, Inc. shall have the responsibility to transmit the funds to the field. This shall be done monthly.
16. The missionary shall be under the hospitalization, retirement, and insurance plans provided by the Mission to the World. Other financial arrangements shall be as determined by the World Presbyterian Missions Manual.

Signed:

Nelson K. Malkus  
 General Secretary, World Presbyterian Missions, Inc.  
 Arthur L. Herries  
 President, World Presbyterian Missions, Inc.

Date: July 25, 1975

### Appendix C (From A Plan For Mission To The World of The Presbyterian Church In America)

#### COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WHEREBY MISSION TO THE WORLD MISSIONARIES OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA WORK WITH THE WORLD RADIO MISSIONARY FELLOWSHIP, INC.

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 Mission to the World and The World Radio Missionary Fellowship, Inc.
2. The appointment of the missionary shall be subject to the approval of both agencies in accordance with the standards established by each agency.
3. In the event that the other 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 The World Radio Missionary Fellowship, Inc.
5. Time shall be allowed at the proper time for the candidate to properly do itineration or deputation for the candidate coordination of the Mission to the World within Presbyterian Church in America churches in order that adequate prayer and financial support can be realized.
6. The World Radio Missionary Fellowship, Inc., shall supervise the securing of visas and make other arrangements needful for beginning field work.
7. The Mission to the World shall be the sponsoring agency for financial and prayer support of the missionary.
8. The World Radio Missionary Fellowship, Inc., 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 Presbyterian Church in America.
10. The Mission to the World 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 and while traveling to and from the field, the missionary shall be under the jurisdiction of The World Radio Missionary Fellowship, Inc.
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 The World Radio Missionary Fellowship, Inc.
13. The missionaries' field director will initiate furlough planning in consultation with the Mission to the World and also with The World Radio Missionary Fellowship, Inc.'s Associate North American Director.
14. While on furlough the missionary shall be under the jurisdiction of Mission to the World. Among the missionary's furlough responsibilities, consideration will be given by the Mission to the World to assignments, projects, additional study or training requested by The World Radio Missionary

Fellowship, Inc. Progress and activity information during furlough will be provided for The World Radio Missionary Fellowship, Inc.

15. While on furlough the missionary shall be expected by Mission to the World to carry on a deputation ministry for the Mission to the World within the constituency of the Presbyterian Church in America 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 within the Presbyterian Church in America under Mission to the World coordination.
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 The World Radio Missionary Fellowship, Inc., shall be the same as that for all other members including the assessment and the support quotas, except that during any portion of furlough under Mission to the World, the quota may be set by that agency. Mission to the World shall receive and receipt the missionary's funds from Presbyterian Church in America and transfer them to The World Radio Missionary Fellowship, Inc., monthly to be transmitted to the field by that agency. The World Radio Missionary Fellowship shall inform the Mission to the World of funds designated for the missionary from other sources.
18. The hospitalization, retirement, and insurance plans provided by the Mission to the World shall be available to the missionary by mutual agreement of both agencies.

Signed:

Abe C. Van Dee Ruy  
President, The World Radio Missionary Fellowship, Inc.  
C. L. Wilson  
Associate North American Director, The World Radio  
Missionary Fellowship, Inc.

Date: July 2, 1975

Clerk's Note: This is the end of the inserted material, which began on page 116.

### The Report of the Committee Continued —

5. That we continue to use the World Relief Commission as an avenue of help and hope in the disaster areas of the world. (13-0)
  6. That we take note of those men serving as **PCA** chaplains in the various branches of our Armed Forces and that we encourage them through prayerful interest in their ministry. (13-0) Further, the Presbyterian Church in America expects each chaplain to maintain and teach the Reformed Faith.
  7. That the proposed Policy Manual be received as information and sent to the Presbyteries for study and comments, and that such comments be returned to the CMTW prior to February 1, 1976, and that a second draft be presented to the Fourth General Assembly. Further, that the CMTW be granted permission to make revisions in the manual in cases of emergency. (13-0)
  8. That the CMTW be encouraged to continue the development of materials and methods that will encourage churches in faithful stewardship that will lead to obedience to the Great Commission. **Further, that individuals, Sessions and Presbyteries be encouraged to contribute to the development of materials and methods for financing world evangelization.** (13-0)
  9. That the Position Paper entitled "A Plan for Mission to the World of the Presbyterian Church in America" be sent to Presbyteries for study and comment and that such study and comments be returned to the CMTW prior to February 1, 1976. (13-0)
- B. Additional recommendations coming from the Committee of Commissioners as a result of discussions held:
1. That the following procedures be followed in bringing the final draft of the Missions Manual and Position Paper to the Fourth General Assembly:
    - a. That a complete copy of all proposed changes to the Manual and/or Position Paper, sent to the CMTW by Presbyteries, also be sent simultaneously to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, who shall collect, organize, and provide sufficient copies for all members of the Committee of Commissioners for Mission to the World of the Fourth General Assembly.
    - b. That Committee on Mission to the World present its proposed final draft of Missions Manual and Position Paper to the responsible parties in sufficient time for complete distribution with the original Commissioner's Handbook for the Fourth General Assembly.
    - c. That arrangements be made for the Committee of Commissioners for Mission to the World of the Fourth General Assembly to meet at 1:00 p.m. on the Friday prior to the convening of the Fourth General Assembly at the site of the Assembly. The time and place of these meetings are to be made known to the Assembly as a whole and the policy of open meetings of the Committee of Commissioners shall be followed to the fullest possible extent.
    - d. That the Committee on Mission to the World be responsible for all logistics, financing, and arrangements during this special meeting of the Committee of Commissioners.
    - e. That Presbyteries take special care in assigning men to this Committee of Commissioners who understand the time and effort involved and indicate that they are so willing to serve. (13-0)
  2. That CMTW be instructed to include a section in the Missions Manual and/or Position Paper dealing with the Biblical basis for and the role of unordained personnel as missionaries. (13-0)
  3. That the General Assembly commend the Permanent Committee on Missions to the World for their tireless efforts and diligent service. (13-0)

C. Recommendations stemming from overtures, communications, and resolutions considered:

1. In response to Overture 9 (p. 41), Overture 10 (p. 41), Overture 19 (p. 43), Overture 20 (p. 43), Overture 21 (pp. 43-44), and Resolution 4 (p. 44) to the Second General Assembly, and Overture 4 (p. 36) to the Third General Assembly, all dealing with questions related to policies, practices, and methods of Mission to the World operation, we recommend the following responses be adopted:

That these overtures and resolutions be answered by reference to recommendations number 5, 8, 10, and 11 above, and that any continuing concerns in this area be presented as proposed changes and/or additions to the Missions Manual and/or Position Paper. (13-0)

2. In response to Overtures 12 (p. 42), 15 through 18 (pp. 42-43) to the Second General Assembly and to Overture 14 (p. 36) to the Third General Assembly, all concerning questions regarding possible connections with the World Council of Churches, we recommend the following response be adopted:

- a. That the General Assembly exhort the CMTW to operate in compliance with the spirit of the instructions of the First General Assembly to the Committee on Mission to the United States, that Presbyterian Church in America shall maintain separation from the National and World Council of Churches, and

- b. That CMTW continue to interpret and apply this instruction subject to the review of the General Assembly so that the Church may continue to further the spread of the Gospel of Christ throughout the world and not surrender any mission field as long as the Gospel is not compromised, and

- c. That the CMTW be instructed to include a section in the Missions Manual and/or Position Paper dealing with the Mission to the World policy regarding individuals, churches, or organizations in the field connected with the World Council of Churches, and,

- d. That Presbyteries having continuing concern in this area be encouraged to submit recommendations to the Committee on Mission to the World prior to February 1, 1976. (13-0)

3. In response to Overture 11 of the Second General Assembly (p. 42) concerning the use of women on the mission field, we recommend the overture be answered in the affirmative. (13-0), with this additional explanation: since Scripture is to be interpreted by Scripture, this is to be understood in the light of Acts 18:26.

4. In response to Communication #1 (p. 37), concerning correspondence from the Synod of the U.P. Church of Pakistan, we would recommend the following response:

That we ratify the action of the CMTW and that we extend to our Christian brothers in Pakistan our prayers and concern as they seek to reach their people with the Gospel. (13-0) (See paragraph 3-65, item 18)

5. In response to Communication #6 (p. 37) concerning the visit and address to the Assembly by the Rev. Boanerges Ribeiro, President of the Presbyterian Church in Brazil, the Committee recommends the following action:

That we recognize the honor extended to us by the Presbyterian Church of Brazil by the sending of their President, the Reverend Boanerges Riberio, as they express interest in establishing fraternal relations with the Presbyterian Church in America, and that we ask him to address the General Assembly as he brings fraternal greetings and that he be invited to sit as a visiting brother with the right of the floor extended to him. (13-0)

(NOTE: This action was taken Tuesday night during addresses of Fraternal Delegates. Paragraph 3-26)

IV. The Committee of Commissioners has examined the Minutes listed above and, finding no discrepancies, recommends their approval by the Assembly (13-0).

- V. The Committee of Commissioners notes that it received the audit report of the financial statement of the Permanent Committee through December 31, 1974. The Permanent Committee is taking necessary action recommended by the audits.
- VI. Members of the Committee of Commissioners for Mission to the World present at our many and long meetings were:
- Rev. Fred Thompson, Calvary Presbytery
  - Rev. Don Clements, Central Georgia Presbytery
  - Mr. Claude Hatcher, Covenant Presbytery
  - Rev. Ken Wilson, Evangel Presbytery
  - Mr. James Wilkerson, Grace Presbytery
  - Mr. Richardson Ayres, Louisiana Presbytery
  - Rev. James Edwards, Mid-Atlantic Presbytery
  - Mr. J. E. Hays, Mississippi Valley Presbytery
  - Rev. Warren Thuston, New River Presbytery
  - Rev. Joe Morecraft, North Georgia Presbytery
  - Mr. Allen Morris, Presbytery of Southern Florida
  - Rev. David Howe, Tennessee Valley Presbytery
  - Rev. George McGuire, Vanguard Presbytery
  - Dr. John Thompson, Westminster Presbytery

### **3-94 Report of the Committee of Commissioners on Administration Continued (3-87)**

The Rev. Norman Bagby presented the budget for the Committee on Mission to the World, as set forth in the Handbook, with the addition of \$24,000 for the funding of the Sub-Committee on Stewardship, in accord with the previous action of the Assembly on this Sub-Committee (See par. 3-54) (See 3-97.)

### **3-95 Recess for Worship and Lunch**

The time having arrived for the worship service, the Assembly interrupted the business and was recessed for the worship service after a prayer by the Rev. Edwin P. Elliot, Sr., to reconvene at 1:00 P.M.

The worship service was under the direction of the Committee on Mission to the United States. Ruling Elder Vernon Cotten conducted the service. The Rev. Larry Mills presented a report on the work of the Committee. The Rev. Cecil Williamson, Chairman of the Committee, preached the sermon.

## **MINUTES — FRIDAY AFTERNOON**

**September 12, 1975**

### **Tenth Session**

### **3-96 Assembly Reconvened**

The Assembly was reconvened at 1:00 P.M., being led in prayer by the Rev. George McGuire.

### **3-97 Report of the Committee on Administration Continued (3-94)**

The Assembly returned to the consideration of the Budget of the Committee on Mission to the World, and adopted the budget as presented by the Committee on Administration.

## Missionary Accounts

	1974 Actual	1975 Adopted	1976 Proposed		
			Support	Work Budget	Total
Eight on field 1-1-74 .....	\$147,726.00	\$153,832.00	\$125,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$170,000.00
Seven added to field during 1974 .....	84,783.00	131,142.00	103,000.00	45,000.00	148,000.00
Two interns .....	4,165.00	8,500.00	18,000.00	—	18,000.00
Twenty-two additional (est.) for 1975 .....	—	221,226.00	290,000.00	114,000.00	404,000.00
Twenty additional (est.) for 1976 .....	—	—	200,000.00	60,000.00	260,000.00
TOTALS: .....	<u>\$236,674.00</u>	<u>\$514,700.00</u>	<u>\$736,000.00</u>	<u>\$264,000.00</u>	<u>\$1,000,000.00</u>

	1974 Actual	1975 Budget	1976 Proposed
<b>Administrative Expense:</b>			
Administrative Staff:			
Coordinator ..... (1-7 mo.)	\$ 11,667.00	(1) \$ 21,360.00	(1) \$21,500.00
Administrative Personnel ..... (2)	31,690.00	(3) 48,640.00	(5) 93,700.00
(includes all allowances)			
Sub-Total .....	\$ 43,357.00	\$ 70,000.00	\$115,200.00
Policy Manual .....	—	\$ 20,000.00	—
Office Staff:			
(inc. all allowances) ..... (3 1/3)	\$ 21,127.00	(4 1/2) \$30,000.00	(7 1/2) \$ 50,000.00
Part-time Help .....	\$ 2,941.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Management Consultant .....	\$ 2,255.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Travel:			
Committee Travel .....	\$ 11,658.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Field Travel .....	20,684.00	20,000.00	22,000.00
USA Staff Travel .....	6,199.00	7,000.00	8,000.00
Office Expense:			
Rent .....	7,608.00	12,000.00	15,000.00
Telephone .....	3,673.00	8,000.00	10,000.00
Office Supplies .....	6,339.00	8,000.00	10,000.00
Postage .....	2,590.00	4,000.00	5,000.00
Equipment .....	5,851.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Accounting/Auditing Fees .....	—	2,000.00	2,000.00
Literature, Printing & Publicity .....	8,669.00	9,000.00	10,000.00
Miscellaneous .....	1,666.00	—	—
Discretionary Funds .....	—	10,000.00	10,000.00
General Assembly Expense .....	10,106.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Stewardship Ministries .....	—	—	24,000.00
Total Administrative Expense: .....	<u>\$154,723.00</u>	<u>\$234,000.00</u>	<u>319,200.00</u>
<b>Summary</b>			
Missionaries .....	\$236,674.00	\$514,700.00	\$1,000,000.00
Other Program .....	77,970.00	61,300.00	148,000.00
Administration .....	154,723.00	234,000.00	319,200.00
Total Mission to the World .....	<u>\$469,367.00</u>	<u>\$810,000.00</u>	<u>1,467,200.00</u>



### 3-98 Prayer and Doxology

The Assembly adopted the following resolution presented by the Rev. Arthur Broadwick of the Presbytery of the Ascension.

Resolved, that the Assembly stand for prayer, covenanting together to pray and labor tirelessly for the realizing of this combined budget, and praising God in advance for what He is going to do, and then the singing of the Doxology.

The Assembly was led in prayer by the Rev. Arthur Broadwick, and then joined in singing the Doxology.

### 3-99 Report of the Committee on Administration Continued (3-97)

The budgets of all three program committees having been adopted, the report of the Committee of Commissioners on Administration was adopted as a whole.

### 3-100 Resolution of Thanks

Ruling Elder Walter Diven presented the following resolution of thanks, which was adopted.

**Whereas**, The Presbyterian Church in America has, by the gracious providence of God, been privileged to meet in General Assembly for a third time, and

**Whereas**, we have been afforded opportunities as Commissioners to serve the furtherance of His Kingdom here on earth through the work of the Assembly, and

**Whereas**, we have all been blessed by the evident presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst as we attempted to serve Him;

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that this Assembly express its gratitude to our Heavenly Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ for His providence toward us, for our undeserved honor of having been called to do His work, for the uncounted ways in which He has blessed the work of our Church, and for the evident guidance of the Holy Spirit in maintaining the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace throughout our deliberations.

Moreover, be it resolved that this Assembly express thanks:

(1) To the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Jackson, Mississippi, with their minister and his wife, Dr. and Mrs. Donald B. Patterson, the Staff of the Church, the Session, and the Board of Deacons for their thorough preparation for this meeting; for the use of their beautiful facilities; for the generous provision for our every need; and for their cheerful and genuine hospitality through it all.

(2) To the principal, teachers and pupils of the First Presbyterian Church Day School who graciously shared their facilities with us and with whose normal activities we unavoidably interfered.

(3) To Dr. Dan Moore who very ably exercised overall supervision of arrangements for and operation of this Assembly, and to the secretarial assistants who handled the volumes of paper work most efficiently.

(4) To Mr. M. B. Swayze and Mr. D. L. "Billy" Simmons of the host church on whose shoulders a heavy burden fell when the meeting site had to be shifted at the last minute.

(5) To Mrs. Robert Cannada, President of the W.I.C. and the W.I.C. Circles for the constant provision of fresh-baked cookies and other refreshments, and to Mrs. Claire Morris, Church Hostess, and her many assistants for providing delicious lunches.

(6) To all, both Commissioners and guests, who inspired us with their exhortation and testimonies, especially Mrs. Nguen Klang (Nurse Gwen), Rev. Michael Schneider, Jr. and Rev. Cecil Williamson, and to those who, with Divine guidance arranged worship services for us.

(7) To the retiring Moderator, Rev. Erskine Jackson, for his faithful service and inspiring sermon.

(8) To the Moderator of this Assembly, the Honorable Judge Leon Hen-

drick, whose combination of judicial wisdom and Christian charity could well serve as the model for this high office.

(9) To the Stated Clerk, Dr. Morton Smith, and Recording Clerks John Spencer and Edwin Elliott, Jr. and the Temporary Clerks for their efficient work.

(10) To member of Committees of Commissioners, and especially their Chairman, whose long hours of faithful work before and between the Assembly sessions and whose patience in presenting their reports made the success of the Assembly possible.

(11) To all the Committees that labored to carry on the work of our Church between Assemblies and especially to our Coordinators, Rev. Larry Mills, Dr. Dan Moore, Rev. Paul Settle and Rev. John Kyle.

Respectfully submitted,  
Harold R. Patteson  
Warren Diven  
Richard Watson

### 3-101 Date and Place of the Next Meeting

The meeting of the Fourth General Assembly was set for the week of September 13, 1976, at Greenville, South Carolina, with the Second Presbyterian Church of Greenville as Host Church

### 3-102 Reading of the Minutes

The minutes of Friday's sessions were read and approved.

### 3-103 Excuses from Part of the Assembly

The following Commissioners filed excuses for absence from a portion of the Assembly, as indicated:

Rev. Charles West (all evening sessions)

#### Wednesday

##### Morning

Rev. Erskine L. Jackson

##### Evening

Rev. Danny Ketchum

The following Commissioners filed excuses to leave the Assembly at the time indicated:

#### Tuesday

##### Afternoon

Rev. Lewis Baker

#### Wednesday

##### Evening

Rev. Charles F. Gwinn

#### Friday

##### Afternoon

Rev. B. I. Anderson

Mr. Leon Glenn

Rev. C. D. Murphy

Mr. Pressley Riddle

Mr. Rufus Summerrow

Rev. Vernon N. West

### 3-104 Adjournment

The Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America closed its final session at 2:15 P.M. on Friday, September 12, 1975.

The Moderator then pronounced: By virtue of the authority delegated to me by the Church, I do now declare that the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America is adjourned, to convene at Greenville, South Carolina during the week of September 13, 1976, A.D.

Ruling Elder Thurston Futch led in the closing prayer, and the final benediction was pronounced by Dr. Morton H. Smith

### Corrections of the Minutes of the Second (1974) General Assembly

- page 13 Robert Mabson and James E. Moore should be listed as Teaching Elders.
- page 54 Paragraph 2-70, sentence beginning: "Items I-79 . . ." should read and "#4" instead of "#5".
- page 60 line 39 should read "rejected" instead of "reflected".
- page 65 line 13 should read "Appendix pp. 168-175."
- page 74 line 33 should read "page 68".  
line 46 should read "Book of Common Worship" instead of "Prayer".  
line 57 should read "p. 50" instead of "p. 52."
- page 81 line 1, the dates of the first three Grace Presbytery Minutes should read "7-16-73, 906-73, 10-19-73."
- page 83 item 20 should read "Committee for" instead of "Committee of".
- page 92 last sentence of 8-2 should read: "No commissioner serving on a Permanent Committee or Sub-committee or the staffs thereof shall be eligible to serve on any Committee of Commissioners."
- page 99 line 8, correct the spelling of "total."
- page 127 Article IV, Section 1, correct spelling of "Stated."
- page 182 Add "New Hope" under "Lebanon"  
Between items 17 and 18 add: "Greenwood" under post offices, and "Rock" under churches.  
Change total number of churches to "42".
- page 186 Line 1 under Carolina Presbytery should read:  
517, 12, 0, 15, 4, 4, 25, 523, 440.  
Totals under Carolina Presbytery should read:  
1,014, 39, 15, 40, 10, 8, 45, 1,293, 1,074.
- page 187 Line 1 under Carolina Presbytery should read:  
5,321, 2,380, 2,318, 0, 10, 120, 5,223, 49,333, 10,128, 83,580  
Totals under Carolina Presbytery should read:  
7,560, 4,771, 3,441, 0, 10, 120, 7,366, 127,992, 62,537, 218,399
- page 188 Add "Robert Hayes" as Pastor of Carrollton church, line 1.  
Change number of ministers to "11".
- page 191 Between lines 4 and 5 add "Kenneth Wilson, AP" under Pastors.  
Between lines 30 and 31 add "Frank Aderholdt, AP" under Pastors.  
Change number of ministers to "25".
- page 203 Under Pacific Presbytery add Line 3 as follows:  
"Seattle, WA                      Laurelhurst                      James L. Rohrbaugh, P"  
Remove James L. Rohrbaugh from list of other ministers.  
Change number of ministers to "3".
- page 212 Between lines 22 and 23 add the following line:  
"Tuscaloosa                      Riverwood                      John W. Robertson, P"  
Change number of churches to "25".  
Change number of ministers to "12".
- page 218 Change total number of churches to "336".  
Change total number of ministers to "269".
- page 219 Under Membership  
Line 2 should read:  
1,014, 39, 15, 40, 10, 8, 45, 1,293, 1,074  
Totals under membership should read:  
41,738, 1,129, 638, 2,113, 349, 556, 3,128, 50,503, 29,291  
Line 2 under Contributions should read:  
7,560, 4,771, 3,441, 0, 10,120, 7,336, 127,992, 62,537, 218,339  
Totals under Contributions should read:  
214,128, 261,854, 173,806, 95,105, 997,725, 1,571,399 6,148,094, 1,041,606,  
10,439,334

For corrected addresses of churches and ministers see the 1974 Yearbook.

## Appendix A

## REPORT ON THE COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION

## INTRODUCTION:

The Committee on Administration is charged with various different areas of responsibility. Because of the diversity of the subject matter, this report will be presented with a narrative section on each area, and the recommendations of the Committee regarding each area separately.

The Committee set four regular meetings for the year. Having accomplished the major business committed to it in three meetings, the last meeting was cancelled in the interest of economy both of time and money.

## I. Stewardship

It became apparent early in the year that the financial situation of the denomination required the major attention of the Committee on Administration. It was felt that strong leadership and initiative were demanded to avoid financial embarrassment. The Second Assembly in response to the report of this Committee assigned the responsibility of preparing and distributing stewardship materials to the Committee for Christian Education and Publications, but this action did not define responsibility for leadership and promotion in this area. Therefore, relying on the guidelines established in the First Assembly to the effect that "each Committee shall be responsible to raise the financial support for its own work", this Committee in consultation with the other three Committees established a Stewardship Sub-Committee under the Committee on Administration in accord with the following guidelines:

1. The Stewardship Committee is organized in four classes with the terms of its members to expire at the General Assembly of each class year, and
2. That the classes are as follows:
  - 1976 — One ruling elder from Committee on Administration.  
One teaching elder from Committee on Mission to the United States.
  - 1977 — One ruling elder from Committee on Mission to the United States.  
One teaching elder from Committee on Mission to the World.
  - 1978 — One ruling elder from Committee on Christian Education.  
One teaching elder from Committee on Administration.
  - 1979 — One ruling elder from Committee on Mission to the World.  
One teaching elder from Committee on Christian Education.
3. That vacancies on this Committee will be filled by appointment from the Committee in which that vacancy occurs, and
4. That individuals appointed to the Stewardship Committee shall continue to serve their full term even though such individual may not continue to be a member of the appointing Committee, and
5. That the Chairman of the Stewardship Committee ordinarily shall be chosen from one of the representatives appointed by the Committee on Administration.

A budget of \$40,000 for 1975 (for detailed breakdown see below) was approved for this Sub-Committee, to be pro-rated according to the formula adopted for distribution of undesignated funds among the four permanent Committees and to be taken from undesignated funds.

The following people were appointed to this Sub-Committee:

Committee on Administration	T.E. John Stodghill	1978
	R.E.W. Jack Williamson, Chairman,	1976
Committee on Christian Education	T.E. Harry Schutte	1979
	R.E. Roy Gamble	1978
Committee on Mission to the U.S.	T.E. William Frisbee	1976
	R.E. Harold Tolsma	1977
Committee on Mission to the World	T.E. Fred Fowler	1977
	R.E. Kenneth Keyes	1979

The Sub-Committee has invited the four Coordinators to sit with them as

advisory members. The Sub-Committee has hired Mr. Milton Howland as Director of Stewardship Ministries after having been cleared by the Assembly Theological Examining Committee, and he has set up an office in Montgomery adjacent to the Committee for Christian Education and Publications.

### REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON STEWARDSHIP

This sub-committee considers itself a servant to the Presbyteries and the membership of each local church in the P.C.A. Our desire is to be of assistance to them in inspiring and informing our people. We hope to enlist each member of each local congregation in a revived commitment of talent, time and treasure to our Lord's Great Commission. To this end, we propose to work in close cooperation with the C.E. committee in the development of Stewardship materials for all age groups in the local church.

Working in close personal contact with each Presbytery Stewardship Committee, we will endeavour to articulate the programs and needs of church to every member. We will suggest periods of special stewardship emphasis and offer training seminars, informational and promotional materials and speakers for special occasion. We will furnish each session quarterly financial summaries of each Permanent Committee.

We know that God, by His Grace and for His Glory has raised up the Presbyterian Church in America to be a witness to our nation and world to biblical christianity. We hope we can present this challenge, vision and opportunity to every church member. We know that God's people, when so informed will respond.

#### Budget For SUB-COMMITTEE FOR STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES Presbyterian Church in America For April-December 1975

#### Salary & Benefits

Director .....	\$13,500.00
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**\$13,500.00**

#### General & Administrative

Office Supplies .....	200.00
Printing .....	6,500.00
Commitment .....	\$6,000.00
Stationery, etc. ....	500.00
Postage .....	150.00
U.P.S. ....	2,225.00
Rent .....	1,084.00
Telephone .....	750.00
Photos .....	150.00
Travel .....	9,000.00
Resource Materials and Consultations .....	500.00
Committee Meetings .....	3,000.00
Presbytery Chairmen Meetings .....	1,800.00
Payroll Taxes .....	790.00

**\$26,149.00**

**\$39,649.00**

Recommendation #1 — The Committee recommends that the General Assembly endorse this action including the approval of the guidelines under which the Sub-Committee has been established, and authorize the continuation of the Sub-Committee on Stewardship.

#### II. Budgets

One of the chief functions assigned to the Committee on Administration is the review of the budget requests of all of the Committees, and to make recommendations regarding them to the General Assembly. We understand our re-



sponsibility both to evaluate the requests from the Committees, and to attempt to predict the potential giving of the Church. It is still too early in the life of our denomination to have enough experience in this area to be able to make fairly accurate estimates. We again found ourselves under considerable tension between enthusiastic vision of unlimited opportunities, and a limited source of income. The Committee on Administration is enthusiastic about seeking to meet the many opportunities which lie before us, and calls upon the Church at large to give sacrificially that the vision might become reality. We have urged all the Committees to be aware of our present financial situation in projecting their budgets.

We faced the problem of the relationship of Assembly control of Committee policy and the Assembly approval of Committee budgets. In keeping with the concept that Assembly Committees are "to serve and not to direct any Church Judicatories" (BCO 15-1-7, pg. 23), the actions of the Assembly are binding on the Committees. In the area of budgets this means that when the Assembly approves a budget figure, the Committees are limited in their total expenditures to that figure. In the event that a Committee in any one year raises more money than they have been authorized to spend, such funds are to be held by that Committee for the direction and approval of the General Assembly for their use. Such funds are never to be distributed to other Committees or directed to any other use than that to which they were given. The Committee pledges itself to full obedience to both the letter and the spirit of the First Assembly's action that "there shall be no equalization of gifts" (1-67, pg. 52).

Recommendation #2 — The Committee recommends the adoption by the General Assembly of the following policy regarding budgets. That the budget adopted for a particular year by the General Assembly be the spending limit for each Committee.

Recognizing the difficulty in constructing a completely accurate budget in all details a year and a half in advance, the Committee believes that each of the Committees should be granted discretion to rearrange their budgets within the total approved. This is in accord with the action of the Second General Assembly regarding the budget of the Committee for Christian Education and Publications (2-106, pg. 84).

Recommendation #3 — The Committee recommends that the Assembly adopt as policy that each Committee be allowed to rearrange its budget within the total approved each year.

The experience of the past year indicates that the majority of our funds are being received as designated funds. Approximately one third of the funds are being given in an undesignated way to be divided as the Assembly directs. Noting that some of the Committees are having difficulty meeting their operational expenses, the Committee therefore makes the following recommendation:

Recommendation #4 — That all undesignated gifts be distributed equally between the four Committees in 1976.

Recommendation #5 — The Committee recommends that the following budgets be approved:

### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA 1976 Budget Requests — Summary

	1974 Actual Expenditures	1975 Budget	1976 Proposed
MISSION TO THE WORLD .....	\$469,367.00	\$ 810,000.00	\$1,443,200.00
MISSION TO THE U. S. ....	210,682.00	453,000.00	548,529.00
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION .....	162,741.00	467,200.00	454,747.00
COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION .....	77,795.00	122,000.00	147,720.00
	<u>\$920,585.00</u>	<u>\$1,852,200.00</u>	<u>\$2,594,196.00</u>



## COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION

	1974 Actual	1975 Budget	1976 Proposed
Office of Moderator .....		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Office of Stated Clerk			
Stated Clerk			
(includes all allowances) $(\frac{1}{8})$ \$	3,573.00	$(\frac{1}{2})$ 10,750.00	$(\frac{1}{2})$ 10,750.00
Secretary $(\frac{1}{2})$	3,000.00	(1) 6,450.00	$(\frac{1}{2})$ 6,600.00
Annuity 6%		387.00	396.00
Insurance		252.00	264.00
Social Security	175.56	378.00	386.00
Office Rent		2,400.00	1,800.00
Office Expense	549.36	3,000.00	1,000.00
Postage	233.79	550.00	600.00
Telephone	598.50	1,000.00	1,500.00
Travel	878.68	2,000.00	1,000.00
Printing	7,269.27	5,000.00	11,000.00
Sub total	\$ 16,278.16	\$ 32,167.00	\$ 35,296.00
Office of Committee on Administration			
Consultant			
(includes all allowances) $(\frac{3}{4})$ \$	14,336.00	$(\frac{7}{8})$ \$ 19,261.00	$(\frac{7}{8})$ \$ 19,261.00
FICA		772.00	825.00
Insurance/Annuity Associate			
(includes all allowances)		(1) 8,500.00	—0—
Secretaries $(2\frac{1}{2})$	17,648.35	(2) 15,000.00	(3) 19,800.00
Annuity 6%			1,188.00
Insurance			792.00
Social Security			1,158.00
Travel	2,127.79	3,000.00	3,500.00
Rent	2,315.96	4,500.00	4,500.00
Office Expense	2,985.07	4,500.00	4,500.00
Postage	1,049.23	2,000.00	2,000.00
Telephone	2,569.53	2,000.00	3,500.00
Fund Raising	263.49		10,000.00
Legal Expense	501.70	2,400.00	2,500.00
Actuarial Consultant	2,000.00	2,000.00	—0—
Share of General Assembly	1,136.78	1,200.00	1,400.00
Share of Auditor	209.51		1,500.00
Meetings	14,373.62	18,700.00	22,000.00
Moving		5,000.00	
Equipment			2,000.00
Contingencies			10,000.00
Staff training			1,000.00
Sub total	\$ 61,517.03	\$ 88,833.00	\$ 111,424.00
Total	\$ 77,795.19	\$ 122,000.00	\$ 147,720.00

## COMMITTEE FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS

	1974 Actual	1975 Budget	1976 Proposed
<b>For the C. E. Ministry</b>			
Inservice Training, Staff	\$ 290.50	—	\$ 2,000.00
Development of Leadership Training Ministries			6,000.00
Men's Work			3,000.00
Family Ministries			3,000.00
Youth Ministries			3,000.00
Women In the Church			4,000.00
Camp & Conference Ministries			3,000.00
Great Commission Publications, Inc.			150,000.00
Stewardship Education			4,000.00
Extension Seminary			50,000.00
Resource Services	955.00		1,000.00
Program Travel (Staff)	11,785.49		7,000.00
Percentage of General Assembly Costs C. E. Program	2,366.91		6,000.00
Sub Total	\$ 15,397.90		\$242,000.00
<b>To Support the C. E. Ministry Salaries</b>			
Coordinator (1)	\$ 20,000.00		\$ 21,500.00
(includes all allowances)			
Assistant Coordinator	—		15,500.00
Business Manager (1)	10,000.00		12,500.00
Consultants (2)	22,450.00		23,000.00
Office (3½)	16,567.47		26,400.00
Sub Total	\$ 69,017.47		\$ 98,900.00
<b>Office</b>			
Equipment	\$ 2,344.89		\$ 5,000.00
Office and Printing Supplies	3,718.04		5,000.00
Postage	3,965.60		6,000.00
UPS	2,191.20		2,500.00
Rent	15,446.85		20,124.00
Telephone	3,170.97		4,000.00
Sub Total	\$ 30,837.55		\$ 42,624.00
<b>General and Administrative</b>			
Automobile — Purchase, maintenance, insurance	\$ —		\$ 5,000.00
Books	939.99		750.00
Photographic Materials	67.71		100.00
Fund Raising/Promotional	804.87		10,000.00
Equipment Rental (Postage Meter)	117.80		220.00
Insurance (Annuities)	3,728.15		4,644.00
Insurance (Major Medical)	1,959.00		3,000.00
Insurance (Office)	178.00		178.00
Insurance (Unemployment Compensation)	140.19		300.00
Legal and Accounting Services	3,385.08		2,000.00
Mailing Services	874.96		700.00
Repairs and Maintenance	580.44		500.00
Printing	23,487.66		15,000.00
Subscriptions	164.28		150.00
Payroll Taxes	3,078.52		4,681.00
Committee Meetings	4,699.89		12,000.00
Contingency Fund	3,282.28		12,000.00
Sub Total	\$ 47,488.82		\$ 71,223.00
<b>Total Christian Education/Publications</b>	<b>\$162,741.74</b>	<b>\$467,200.00</b>	<b>\$454,747.00</b>

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE U. S.**

	1974 Actual		1975 Budget		1976 Proposed
<b>Evangelism</b>					
Churches	\$ 18,021.93		\$ 21,580.00		\$ 20,000.00
Presbytery Co-Sponsored Churches	7,849.98		20,000.00		30,000.00
Loans to forming Churches (2)	5,500.00		20,000.00		30,000.00
Ministers	10,776.82		13,000.00		12,000.00
Organizing Pastors (4)	28,912.76	(15)	148,000.00	(18)	185,400.00
Ministers' Insurance (8)	2,124.00	(14)	6,336.00	(18)	8,064.00
Ministers' Annuity (4)	2,136.58	(15)	15,840.00	(18)	19,540.00
Student Pastors (28 mo.)	9,552.12	(10)	15,000.00	(10)	15,000.00
Specialized Ministries	11,325.70		49,384.00		40,000.00
Telephone L.D.	2,034.03		2,000.00		2,500.00
Travel	5,243.02		5,000.00		5,000.00
Newspaper	2,165.78		6,000.00		15,000.00
Radio	—		10,000.00		20,000.00
T.V.	12,956.00		10,000.00		10,000.00
Other	2,747.05		3,000.00		3,000.00
Sub Total	\$121,345.77		\$345,140.00		\$415,504.00
<b>Administration</b>					
Coordinator's Salary (1)	\$ 20,000.00	(1)	\$ 21,500.00	(1)	\$ 21,500.00
(includes all allowances)					
Travel	7,675.27		7,700.00		8,000.00
Associate Coordinator's Salary (14 mo.)	5,742.60	(1)	18,000.00	(1)	19,300.00
(includes all allowances)					
Travel	2,920.31		8,400.00		8,000.00
Sub Total	\$ 36,338.18		\$ 55,600.00		\$ 56,800.00
<b>Office</b>					
Salaries & Benefits (2)	\$ 5,412.89	(3)	\$ 12,200.00	(3)	\$ 15,875.00
Part-Time Emp. (22 da.)	487.00		2,400.00		2,400.00
Supplies	4,950.24		7,500.00		9,500.00
Postage	826.30		1,500.00		2,000.00
Telephone	850.91		850.00		950.00
Rent	—		4,100.00		6,000.00
Service Bonds & Equipment	1,861.56		1,900.00		2,000.00
Sub Total	\$ 14,388.90		\$ 30,450.00		\$ 38,725.00
Other PCA Expenses	\$ 13,941.48		\$ 12,000.00		\$ 7,500.00
Stewardship-Deferred Giving	—		—		20,000.00
Committee Meetings & Work	8,398.02		10,000.00		10,000.00
Designated Funds used for causes above	\$ 16,269.62		\$ —		\$ —
Total Mission to the U. S.	<u>\$210,681.97</u>		<u>\$453,190.00</u>		<u>\$548,529.00</u>

## COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE WORLD

	1974 Actual	1975 Budget	1976 Proposed
<b>Program Expense:</b>			
Missionaries — Persons .....	15	39	59
Support .....	\$120,502.00	\$340,192.00	\$ 736,000.00
Work Budget .....	116,172.00	174,508.00	264,000.00
Total Missionaries .....	\$236,674.00	\$514,700.00	\$1,000,000.00
<b>Cooperative Grants<sup>a</sup></b>			
National Workers: .....			\$ 15,000.00
Greece —			
Rev. John Manousarides .. \$	2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00	—
Brazil —			
Seminary Student .....	675.00	—	—
Portugal —			
Rev. Jaime Vieira .....	400.00	—	—
Spain—Rev. Juan Llopis .....	—	3,600.00	—
Colombia .....	—	5,000.00	—
	\$ 3,475.00	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Projects <sup>b</sup> .....	\$ 34,604.00	\$ 40,300.00	\$ 50,000.00
World Opportunities <sup>c</sup> .....	—	—	\$ 45,000.00
Total Cooperative Grants ....	\$ 38,079.00	\$ 51,300.00	\$110,000.00
Candidate Expense .....	\$ 1,577.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 7,000.00
Recruiting Expense .....	—	—	\$ 5,000.00
Itineration .....	\$ 3,892.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
<b>Needed Property<sup>d</sup></b>			
Korea .....	\$ 33,000.00	—	—
Balance on Simpson House ..	1,178.00	—	—
Brazil .....	244.00	—	—
Estimated other property needs .....	—	—	\$ 20,000.00
Total needed property .....	\$ 34,422.00	—	\$ 20,000.00
Total Program Expenses: .....	\$314,644.00	\$576,000.00	\$1,148,000.00

<sup>a</sup>Cooperative Grants. Mission to the World has approved a policy of budgeting up to 10% of total budget for Cooperative Grants—including National Workers, Projects and World Opportunities. Present figure is approximately 7.5% of total 1976 Budget.

<sup>b</sup>Projects. In 1974, projects included Pakistan Church \$22,100, Zaire evangelist's vehicle \$1,895, famine relief \$2,065, Mexico Seminary Scholarship Aid \$3,000, "various" \$5,544, usually related to a field or work to which Mission to the World is related.

<sup>c</sup>World Opportunities. To allow quick response to strategic opportunities in World Evangelization.

<sup>d</sup>Property. A minimum estimate, allowing \$5,000 for each of four countries.

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## Missionary Accounts

	1974 Actual	1975 Adopted	1976 Proposed		
			Support	Work Budget	Total
Eight on field 1-1-74 .....	\$147,726.00	\$153,832.00	\$125,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$170,000.00
Seven added to field during 1974 .....	84,783.00	131,142.00	103,000.00	45,000.00	148,000.00
Two interns .....	4,165.00	8,500.00	18,000.00	—	18,000.00
Twenty-two additional (est.) for 1975 .....	—	221,226.00	290,000.00	114,000.00	404,000.00
Twenty additional (est.) for 1976 .....	—	—	200,000.00	60,000.00	260,000.00
TOTALS: .....	<u>\$236,674.00</u>	<u>\$514,700.00</u>	<u>\$736,000.00</u>	<u>\$264,000.00</u>	<u>\$1,000,000.00</u>

	1974 Actual	1975 Budget	1976 Proposed
<b>Administrative Expense:</b>			
Administrative Staff:			
Coordinator ..... (1-7 mo.)	\$ 11,667.00	(1) \$ 21,360.00	(1) \$21,500.00
Administrative Personnel .... (2)	31,690.00	(3) 48,640.00	(5) 93,700.00
(includes all allowances)			
Sub-Total .....	\$ 43,357.00	\$ 70,000.00	\$115,200.00
Policy Manual .....	—	\$ 20,000.00	—
Office Staff:			
(inc. all allowances) ..... (3 1/3)	\$ 21,127.00	(4 1/2) \$30,000.00	(7 1/2) \$ 50,000.00
Part-time Help .....	\$ 2,941.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Management Consultant .....	\$ 2,255.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Travel:			
Committee Travel .....	\$ 11,658.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Field Travel .....	20,684.00	20,000.00	22,000.00
USA Staff Travel .....	6,199.00	7,000.00	8,000.00
Office Expense:			
Rent .....	7,608.00	12,000.00	15,000.00
Telephone .....	3,673.00	8,000.00	10,000.00
Office Supplies .....	6,339.00	8,000.00	10,000.00
Postage .....	2,590.00	4,000.00	5,000.00
Equipment .....	5,851.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Accounting/Auditing Fees ....	—	2,000.00	2,000.00
Literature, Printing & Publicity .....	8,669.00	9,000.00	10,000.00
Miscellaneous .....	1,666.00	—	—
Discretionary Funds .....	—	10,000.00	10,000.00
General Assembly Expense ....	10,106.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Total Administrative Expense: .....	<u>\$154,723.00</u>	<u>\$234,000.00</u>	<u>\$295,200.00</u>
<b>Summary</b>			
Missionaries .....	\$236,674.00	\$514,700.00	\$1,000,000.00
Other Program .....	77,970.00	61,300.00	148,000.00
Administration .....	154,723.00	234,000.00	295,200.00
Total Mission to the World .....	<u>\$469,367.00</u>	<u>\$810,000.00</u>	<u>\$1,443,200.00</u>

### III. Capital Funds Gift

The Second General Assembly assigned to the Committee on Administration the task of studying in consultation with the other Permanent Committees and recommending to the Third Assembly a worthy project for the special gift of \$100,000 made to the Church at the Second Assembly (see 2-106 - IV - 11, 12). The Committee on Administration appointed a Sub-Committee made up of representatives from each of the Permanent Committees to study this matter. The Sub-Committee has recommended the following guidelines which have been approved by the Committee on Administration: Guidelines in selection of objectives for Capital Gift: 1. Must not be used for current expenses. 2. Must have a continuing interest. 3. Must have benefit for whole denomination and not primarily benefit one Committee. At the time of the writing of this report the objective had not been selected. The matter may be resolved by the Committee on Administration when it meets just prior to the Assembly, or the Committee may have to request an extension of time for further consideration of this matter. Interest on the \$100,000 is being added to the principal as authorized by the Second Assembly (2-106 - IV - 11).

### IV. Assembly Arrangements

The Committee on Administration has been charged with the arrangements for each of the General Assembly meetings. This responsibility has been carried out through a Sub-Committee on Assembly Arrangements, which is composed as follows: a chairman selected by the host Church, a representative from each of the four Permanent Committees, the Coordinator of the Committee on Administration, and the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.

A part of the first two Assembly's time was allotted for special inspirational speakers. The limited communications received by the Committee on Administration indicated that the Commissioners desired to give a greater amount of time to the business of the Assembly. Thus the decision was made not to have special inspirational messages for this Third Assembly, but that the worship services be given a priority time at the end of each morning session. Commissioner reaction to this arrangement will help to guide our thinking in this area for subsequent Assemblies.

The question of displays at the Assembly was left to each Assembly arrangements Committee for the first three Assemblies. The Committee on Administration feels the need for the Assembly to establish its own policies in this area.

**Recommendation #6** — The Committee on Administration recommends to the General Assembly that it approve the composition of the Assembly Arrangements Committees as follows: a chairman selected by the host Church, a representative from each of the four Permanent Committees, the Coordinator of the Committee on Administration, and the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.

**Recommendation #7** — The Committee on Administration recommends that the Assembly approve the following guidelines for displays at the Assembly: Subject to space available, priorities for exhibitors will be as follows:

- (a) Committees of the Presbyterian Church in America, including agencies or institutions with which they have formally, through their Minutes, established a working relationship.
- (b) Agencies or institutions with which the General Assembly, through its Minutes, has established a working relationship.
- (c) Agencies and institutions, which in the opinion of the Committee on Arrangements, have objectives, policies, or programs in general conformity with those of the Presbyterian Church in America.
- (d) A disclaimer statement should be printed in the General Assembly Docket, distributed to all Commissioners, stating in effect that permission granted to place an exhibit does not mean the Presbyterian Church in America endorses the exhibitor's product, service, or objectives.

These guidelines are to serve as the ordinary guidelines. If the Committee on Administration feels that an exception must be made, it has the authority to do so, and is to report such action and the reasons to the next Assembly.

The Committee considered the Recommendation #7 (2-106) from the Second General Assembly regarding the location and dates of the 1977 General Assembly. It is the view of the Committee that the trend of growth of the Presbyterian Church in America does not indicate the feasibility of holding the



1977 Assembly outside of the southeastern part of the country. We call the attention of the General Assembly to the fact that no invitation has been received for the 1977 meeting.

#### **V. Assembly Rules of Operation**

Recommendation #8 — The Committee recommends that the General Assembly change the Assembly Rules of Operation as follows:

Amend 4-1 to read: "A brief worship service shall be included in each morning session."

Amend 8-2 to read: "Each Presbytery shall, prior to the meeting of the Assembly, elect one of its commissioners to each of the Committees of Commissioners, dividing them as to ruling and teaching elders by a formula established by the Stated Clerk. In the event that a Presbytery does not have sufficient teaching elders to supply the Committees thus assigned, the Presbytery may, at its own discretion, elect ruling elders to these Committees. In the event that Presbytery is not able to supply members for all the Committees, the Presbytery may select the Committees to which they wish to appoint representatives. Commissioners serving on permanent committees or sub-committees of the Assembly or the staffs thereof are not eligible to serve on Committees of Commissioners."

Amend 8-3 to read: "The Convener of the Committees of Commissioners shall be designated by the Moderator." (These amendmests require two thirds vote of the total enrollment of Commissioners.)

#### **VI. Personnel**

Recommendation #9 — The Committee recommends that our present Stated Clerk, the Rev. Morton H. Smith be employed through the 1976 General Assembly.

Recommendation #10 — The Committee recommends that our present consultant, Dr. Dan Moore, be employed as Business Consultant to June 1, 1976, and from that time as Business Administrator.

#### **VII. By-Laws Change**

Recommendation #11 — The Committee recommends the following change in the By-Laws of the Corporation: Amend Article IV, Section 1 as follows: Add the following sentence before the last sentence of the Section: "The Chairmen of the Sub-Committee on Judicial Business shall be an advisory member of the Committee on Administration." (A majority vote of the Assembly amends the By-Laws.)

#### **VIII. Auditing**

In accord with the direction of the First General Assembly the Committee on Administration has arranged for the auditing of all the Assembly Committee accounts. These audits will be presented to the respective Committees of Commissioners for their consideration.

Recommendation #12 — The Committee recommends that the cost of these audits be pro-rated to each Committee on the basis of each Committee's percentage of the total budget.

#### **IX. Sub-Committees**

The following Committees are listed as Sub-Committees of the Committee on Administration by actions of the past Assemblies, who report directly to the Assembly: Judicial Business Committee, Trustees for the Insurance and Annuity Fund, and the Interchurch Relations Committee.

Recommendation #13 — The Committee on Administration recommends that the Assembly hear each of these Committees.

#### **X. Action as the Board of Directors**

The Stated Clerk reported receiving correspondence from the Synod of the U.P. Church of Pakistan, which included material that was not suitable to be published in our Handbook. The Committee on Administration, therefore, acting as the Board of Directors under the Charter of the Corporation (By-Laws, IV, 9), took the following action, which it hereby reports to the General Assembly: "It was moved that the letter from the Synod of the U.P. Church in Pakistan, because of the nature of its contents, be referred at this time to the Committee on Mission to the World, and that the entire letter not be printed in the Commissioners' Handbook for the 1975 General Assembly. Carried."

Respectfully submitted,  
Gordon K. Reed, Chairman

**SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF  
COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION TO  
THE THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**Revise:**

Recommendation #1 to read: Proposed Recommendation #1 be renumbered as 1(a) and new 1(b), 1(c) and 1(d) be added to read —

- 1(b) the budget for 1976 for the Sub-Committee for Stewardship Ministries be set at \$59,930.00 — see attachment for details.
- 1(c) that this budget be funded by contributions from each of the four permanent committees, with each committee's portion being the same percentage as that adopted for distribution of undesignated gifts.
- 1(d) that the 1976 budgets of each of the four permanent Committees be increased by each committee's share of this sub-committees' budget which that committee has not already budgeted.

Recommendation #3 to read: The Committee recommends that the Assembly adopt as policy that each committee be allowed to rearrange its budget within the total approved each year with the exception of the compensation of the Stated Clerk and the four committees' coordinators.

Recommendation #4 to read: That all undesignated gifts be distributed to each committee in the proportion which each committee's approved budget bears to the combined budget of all four committees.

Recommendation #8: Add sections

- 8-12 "Guidelines for Keeping Minutes of Permanent Committees of the General Assembly" (See Appendix K.)
- 8-13 "Guidelines for Examining Committee Minutes" (See Appendix K.)

**Add:**

Recommendation #14: That the period of October 19, 1975 through November 16, 1975 as a season for Commitment, that the theme for this Commitment season be "Show the Proof of Your Love" (II Corinthians 8:24); and that Sunday, October 19, 1975 be designated as a day of prayer and fasting and as a call to the season of Commitment.

Recommendation #15:

**Whereas**, some of our churches have begun to conduct bazaars, rummage sales, suppers, and other benefits for the purpose of raising money for the Lord's work; and,

**Whereas**, it is right and proper for a Christian to work to make a good living and to enter into business ventures for profit, it is not proper for the church to do so — for example, a Christian may own and operate a grocery store for his livelihood, but it would not be the place of a church to open and run a grocery store; and,

**Whereas**, in the light of these events, it is best to set these benefit programs in their proper perspective based on principles of Scripture.

**Now, therefore, be it resolved:** That the Third General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church of America advise its members and churches as follows:

1. The Lord has ordained that giving should be an act of worship and thus a means of grace.
2. God has revealed in His Word that His Kingdom on earth is to be supported by the cheerful, willing and loving tithes and sacrificial offerings of His children.
3. Any benefit, promotion or fund raising techniques for the church is improper if the donor receives any item or thing of value in return for his or her donation.
4. Neither the church, nor any group or organization within the church should engage in such benefit promotions to raise money for the support of the Lord's work.
5. This is not to prohibit any such activities in which any individual or group of individuals wish to engage outside the structures of the church.

Recommendation #16: Sub-committee on Capital Funds Gift recommends to the Committee on Administration that the Committee on Administration recommend that the General Assembly permit the use of the interest earned by the (\$100,000) Capital Fund Gift in 1975 by the Stewardship Ministries to produce a Stewardship film featuring Mr. Ken Keyes and his message "In Partnership With God".

**COMBINED ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1974**

**KENT, NOBLES & MARTIN  
Certified Public Accountants  
551 South Hull Street  
Montgomery, Alabama 36104**

June 18, 1975

Board of Directors  
Presbyterian Church in America

We have examined the balance sheets of the various Committees and Funds of Presbyterian Church in America as of December 31, 1974 and the related statements of support, revenue and expenses and changes in fund balances for the year then ended and have issued individual reports thereon. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

The various Committees follow the practice of expensing costs of property and equipment in the year of payment and does not give recognition to such assets in their balance sheet accounts. Memorandum records in the offices of the Committees reflect a total unrecorded property inventory value of \$113,968 at December 31, 1974, which results in a material understatement of assets. Additionally, operations are understated by current year charges for property purchases, less a reasonable allowance for depreciation. Advances to missionary work budgets are charged to expense in the period advanced without formal recognition of unexpended balances. While these practices are consistent with procedures followed by many churches, they are not, in our opinion, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, except for the effect of cash basis treatment of property acquisitions and advances for missionary work budgets referred to in the preceding paragraph, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial position of the various Committees and Funds of Presbyterian Church in America as of December 31, 1974 and the results of their operations and changes in fund balances for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Kent, Nobles & Martin,  
Certified Public Accountants

# PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

## BALANCE SHEETS DECEMBER 31, 1974

Exhibit "A"

## APPENDIX

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		Committees				
Memorandum Totals		Mission To The World	Mission To The U. S.	Christian Education & Publications	Admin- istration	Insurance & Annuities Trust Funds
ASSETS						
Cash on hand and in banks	\$197,329.46	\$ 86,305.06	\$ 51,068.82	\$ 16,506.97	\$ 9,182.52	\$ 34,266.09
Short-term investments (@ cost	438,458.90	116,054.18			97,404.72	225,000.00
Accrued interest receivable	9,799.03	2,220.01			2,516.52	5,062.50
Advances to missionaries & projects	2,382.63	2,382.63				
Inter-committee advances	2,500.00				2,500.00	
Accounts receivable	4,976.90			2,876.90		
Inventories — Educational materials	5,840.25			5,840.25		
Other deposits & receivables	18,842.22	2,353.98	1,063.91	2,458.28	12,966.05	2,100.00
Other investments — miscellaneous	1,118.75				1,118.75	
Total assets	\$681,248.14	\$209,315.86	\$ 52,132.73	\$ 27,682.40	\$125,688.56	\$266,428.59
LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES						
Liabilities:						
Accounts payable	\$ 25,629.97	\$ 1,074.81	\$ 8,062.19	\$ 4,569.59	\$ 459.64	\$ 11,463.74
Accrued expenses payable	3,018.71	270.24	532.78	1,674.92	540.77	
Inter-committee advances	2,500.00			2,500.00		
Miscellaneous payables	1,078.05				1,078.05	
Total Liabilities	\$ 32,226.73	\$ 1,345.05	\$ 8,594.97	\$ 8,744.51	\$ 2,078.46	\$ 11,463.74
Fund balances:						
Insurance & Annuities Trust						
Fund reserves & accumulations	\$254,964.85	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$254,964.85
Restricted general fund balances	105,893.54	1,000.00			104,893.54	
Designated general fund balances	127,099.67	104,927.09	6,493.50		15,679.08	
Undesignated general fund balances	161,063.35	102,043.72	37,044.26	18,937.89	3,037.48	
Total fund balances	\$649,021.41	\$207,970.81	\$ 43,537.76	\$ 18,937.89	\$123,610.10	\$254,964.85
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$681,248.14	\$209,315.86	\$ 52,132.73	\$ 27,682.40	\$125,688.56	\$266,428.59

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements

**STATEMENT OF SUPPORT, REVENUE AND EXPENSES AND FUND BALANCES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1974**

**Committees**

	Memorandum Totals	Mission To The World	Mission To The U. S.	Christian Education & Publications	Adminis- tration
<b>Support and revenue:</b>					
Undesignated donations .....	\$ 751,462.55	\$340,339.61	\$221,806.94	\$113,750.97	\$ 75,565.03
Designated donations .....	287,513.75	219,216.99	17,592.50	35,823.22	14,881.04
Literature sales .....	23,647.12			23,647.12	
Interest Income .....	8,333.88	6,285.64	1,326.96		721.28
Total support and revenues .....	\$1,070,957.30	\$565,842.24	\$240,726.40	\$173,221.31	\$ 91,167.35
<b>Expenses:</b>					
Stated Clerk's expenses .....	\$ 16,278.16				\$ 16,278.16
Administrative personnel costs .....	207,745.52	\$ 69,141.62	\$ 31,760.17	\$ 74,859.38	31,984.35
Program expenses and other administrative costs .....	685,821.35	391,203.32	185,201.67	79,424.04	29,992.32
Total program and administrative expenses .....	\$ 909,845.03	\$460,344.94	\$216,961.84	\$154,283.42	\$ 78,254.83
Other designated expenses:					
Legal defense expenses .....	2,189.48				2,189.48
1974 Start-up expenses .....	10,241.77				10,241.77
Total expenses .....	\$ 922,276.28	\$460,344.94	\$216,961.84	\$154,283.42	\$ 90,686.08
Excess of support and revenue over expenses .....	\$ 148,681.02	\$105,497.30	\$ 23,764.56	\$ 18,937.89	\$ 481.27
Add: Approximate market value of unrecorded stocks .....	1,118.75				1,118.75
Net increase for the year .....	\$ 149,799.77	\$105,497.30	\$ 23,764.56	\$ 18,937.89	\$ 1,600.02
Beginning balances .....	138,363.25	101,473.51	19,773.20		17,116.54
Ending balance before adjustment .....	\$ 288,163.02	\$206,970.81	\$ 43,537.76	\$ 18,937.89	\$ 18,716.56
Less: Adjustment to separate designated general funds .....	( 127,099.67)	( 104,927.09)	( 6,493.50)		( 15,679.08)
Ending fund balances, December 31, 1974 .....	\$ 161,063.35	\$102,043.72	\$ 37,044.26	\$ 18,937.89	\$ 3,037.48

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**  
**GENERAL FUNDS — DESIGNATED**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1974**

## APPENDIX

	Committees			Adminis- tration
	Memorandum Totals	Mission To The World	Mission To The U. S.	
<b>Additions:</b>				
Balances from unrestricted				
general funds — Exhibit "B":				
Missionary support reserve funds:				
Contingencies .....	\$ 19,175.00	\$ 19,175.00		
Emergencies .....	9,332.97	9,332.97		
Medical expenses .....	7,862.33	7,862.33		
Support/work budget and project funds .....	(1) 75,050.29	68,556.79	\$ 6,493.50	\$ 218.80
Legal defense funds .....	218.80			15,460.28
Start-up funds .....	15,460.28			
	<u>\$127,099.67</u>	<u>\$104,927.09</u>	<u>\$ 6,493.50</u>	<u>\$ 15,679.08</u>
Ending fund balances December 31, 1974 .....				

(1) Unexpended missionary support funds include donor restricted gifts to specific missionaries or projects. These funds represent the amounts received in excess of the amounts expended for the respective missionary program in 1974 and are being held in reserve for 1975 program expenditures. The funds are held as follows:

Mission to the World .....	\$ 22,557.57
Mission to the United States .....	6,493.50

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements



## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA  
GENERAL FUNDS — RESTRICTED  
STATEMENT OF SUPPORT, REVENUE AND EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1974

	Committees	
	Memorandum Totals	Mission To The World Administration
Support and revenue:		
Channel funds received	\$ 64,842.81	\$ 60,827.81
Special purpose donations:		
Capital challenge funds	101,986.25	101,986.25
New Children's Home	150.00	150.00
Interest income	2,757.29	2,757.29
Total additions	\$169,736.35	\$ 60,827.81
Expenses:		
Channel funds disbursed	66,896.06	62,881.06
Excess of support and revenue over expenses	\$102,840.29	(\$ 2,053.25)
Beginning fund balances	3,053.25	3,053.25
Ending fund balance December 31, 1974	\$105,893.54	\$ 1,000.00
		\$104,893.54

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**  
**INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES TRUST FUNDS**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN TRUST FUND RESERVES AND INCOME ACCUMULATIONS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1974**

	Totals	Annuity Fund	Ministers Relief	Health Insurance
<b>Additions:</b>				
Dues received from members and organizations	\$219,219.80	\$219,219.80		
Designated donations	22,290.47		\$ 22,290.47	
Insurance premiums income	106,459.15			\$106,459.15
Interest income	13,560.53	10,178.01	1,973.91	1,408.61
Totals	\$361,529.95	\$229,397.81	\$ 24,264.38	\$107,867.76
<b>Deductions:</b>				
Insurance premiums expense	\$119,290.53	\$ 19,043.11		\$100,247.42
Annuity benefits	50.00	50.00		
Relief fund expenses	2,556.75		\$ 2,556.75	
Totals	\$121,897.28	\$ 19,093.11	\$ 2,556.75	\$100,247.42
Net increase (decrease)	\$239,632.67	\$210,304.70	\$ 21,707.63	\$ 7,620.34
Beginning balances January 1, 1974	15,332.18	2,629.30	7,497.97	5,204.91
Ending balance December 31, 1974	\$254,964.85	\$212,934.00	\$ 29,205.60	\$ 12,825.25

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

DECEMBER 31, 1974

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## NOTE "A" — Summary of Significant Accounting Policies.

## (1) Method of Accounting and Annual Financial Reporting.

The books of the various Committees are maintained substantially on a cash basis during the fiscal year except that asset and liability accounts are maintained to reflect amounts receivable from and payable to other Committees of the Church. Accounts are maintained to separate undesignated, designated and restricted support, revenue and expenses. Advances to missionary work budgets are charged to expense in the period advanced without formal recognition of unexpended balances. The cost of equipment is charged to expense in the year of purchase and is not recognized as an asset in the financial statements. Accounts related to the Insurance and Annuities Trust Fund are also recorded on a cash basis. For the purpose of annual financial statements, adjustments are made to reflect accrued investment income, accounts receivable and accounts payable. This practice results in substantial accrual basis reporting except for the cash basis treatment of non-expendable property acquisitions and advances to missionary work budgets referred to previously.

## NOTE "B" — Unrecorded Fixed Assets.

Memorandum records of the various Committees reflect a total property inventory valued at \$113,968. Certain other contributed assets are included in the inventory at no stated value. The assets are summarized as follows:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>MTTW</u>	<u>MTUS</u>	<u>CEP</u>	<u>COA</u>
Held in USA:					
Office furniture and equipment	\$ 42,332.	\$ 12,664.	\$ 11,437.	\$ 15,092.	\$ 3,139.
Foreign countries:					
Land & buildings	52,857.	52,857.			
Vehicles	16,279.	16,279.			
Furniture & equip.	2,500.	2,500.			
	<u>\$113,968.</u>	<u>\$ 84,300.</u>	<u>\$ 11,437.</u>	<u>\$ 15,092.</u>	<u>\$ 3,139.</u>

## NOTE "C" — Insurance and Annuities Trust Funds.

- (1) The various Committees are participating in the "Annuity Fund for Ministers of the Presbyterian Church in America" and the "Employees Annuity Fund of the Presbyterian Church in America".
- (2) For the year 1974 members' annuity dues, income accumulations and insurance transactions were accounted for in the regular books of the Committee on Administration. In the April, 1975 meeting of the Committee, the Administrative Consultant was instructed to separate the Trustees' funds from COA funds as of March 31, 1975 and thereafter. Additionally, separate books of account are to be established and implemented to account for Trustee funds to avoid co-mingling the accounts of the fund.
- (3) The amounts in the Funds had not been actuarially tested at December 31, 1974 to determine that the amounts on hand will fund the benefits provided by the "Plan".

**JOHN N. COREY COMPANY, INC.**  
**Employee Benefit Consultants Actuaries Administrators**  
**Post Office Box 31074**  
**605 Eighth Avenue, South**  
**Birmingham, Alabama 35222**  
**Telephone 205—251-8112**

September 2, 1975

Dr. Dan M. Moore, Consultant  
Committee on Administration  
Presbyterian Church in America  
P. O. Box 6287  
Columbus, Georgia 31907

Dear Dr. Moore:

We have performed the valuation of the Official Plan of The Annuity Fund for Ministers of The Presbyterian Church in America as of December 31, 1974. The valuation indicates that the current assets of the Fund, with a 12% rate of dues, are adequate to maintain the Plan on an actuarially sound basis.

Sincerely,

JOHN N. COREY COMPANY, INC.

By: Stephen K. Neill, A.S.A.

SKN/em

### Appendix B

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INSURANCE AND ANNUITY FUND TO THE THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Fathers and Brethren, your Board of Trustees has been pleased to serve the Presbyterian Church in America, addressing itself to those matters charged to it by the Second General Assembly.

We have had three meetings, during which we have amended the official plan of the Annuity Fund for Ministers of the Presbyterian Church in America: at Section 1.1 at the request of the Second General Assembly, and at Section 6.1 in order to clarify the funding of the death benefits under the annuities plan for ministers with the use of group life insurance.

Another important amendment to the Plan changes many of the sections and allows a rent allowance as part of the retirement benefits to be paid to a retired minister so that he may exclude this allowance from his gross income so long as he meets IRS requirements. The amended plan is printed here in the Handbook. See Section 3.4, p. 151.

An Employees Annuity Fund Plan has been prepared, with the assistance of the Actuary for the Board of Trustees, and is found here in the Handbook. This plan was prepared at the request of the Second General Assembly and is before the Third General Assembly for adoption.

Also prepared has been the Trust Agreement for the Annuity Fund for ministers of the Presbyterian Church in America, and the Trust Agreement for the Employees Annuity Fund of the Presbyterian Church in America. These Trust Agreements are also found here in the Handbook.

By action of the Board, the Trustees were authorized to receive special gifts to the annuity fund to be credited to a minister's account.

During the period since the Second General Assembly, the insurance carrier for the group life insurance under the Minister's Annuity Plan has been changed to Ministers Life & Casualty Company. This change enables us to cover our overseas missionaries in this group life insurance plan, which coverage was not provided by the former insurance carrier. It does not in any way affect the benefits of the members as provided in the Plan.

We will present a brief supplementary report of any matters which come to our attention between the present writing and the meeting of the Third General Assembly which require the General Assembly's action.

We feel honored to have had the opportunity to serve our Lord Jesus Christ and His Church in this capacity.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the Amended Official Plan of the Annuity Fund for ministers of the Presbyterian Church in America be adopted.
2. That the Trust Agreement for the Annuity Fund for ministers of the Presbyterian Church in America be adopted.
3. That the Official Plan of the Employees' Annuity Fund of the Presbyterian Church in America be adopted.
4. That the Trust Agreement for the Annuity Fund for Employees of the Presbyterian Church in America be adopted.

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

James E. Allen  
Rev. E. Crowell Cooley  
C. E. Hornsby  
Alexander McKenney  
William J. McLeod, Jr.  
Rev. Harry Schutte  
William Joseph, Secretary  
William C. Swain, Chairman

## **THE OFFICIAL PLAN OF THE ANNUITY FUND FOR MINISTERS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

### **SECTION 1. ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS**

#### **Section 1.1. Eligibility for Membership**

All ordained ministers of the Presbyterian Church in America are eligible for membership in the Annuity Fund for Ministers. A member is a minister of the Church whose signed application has been received by the Trustees on a form to be supplied by the Trustees and on whose behalf dues payments to the fund have been made. Membership in the Fund may be effective with the date of ordination or later. A minister ordained in some other denomination becomes eligible for membership effective with the date of reception by a presbytery of the Church. Full time administrative and professional personnel of the Presbyterian Church in America and its member churches may be members of this Annuity Fund upon receipt of a signed application and payment of dues by their employer.

#### **Section 1.2 Eligibility for Current Protection**

A currently protected member is a member of the Fund (a) who is currently an ordained minister of the Church or otherwise eligible, (b) who has made written application to the Fund and has had at least three months full dues payments made to the Fund on his behalf, (c) who has not previously entered upon an age retirement annuity and (d) whose current member and employer dues payments are not more than ninety days in arrears.

#### **Section 1.3 Delayed Application for Membership**

In the event an ordained minister of the Church delays application for participation in the Fund two years or more after becoming eligible, and if partially disabled or not insurable at standard rates for life insurance at the time of making a delayed application for membership in the Fund, the Trustees may limit the liability under the disability, survivor and death benefits provisions in such manner or amount as the Trustees deem commensurate with the risks involved.

#### **Section 1.4 Transfers from Other Denominations**

Any minister who transfers from some other denomination to the Church shall be subject at the time of making application for membership in the Fund, to the provision stated in Section 1.3 concerning partial disability and insurability.

### **SECTION 2. DUES STRUCTURE**

#### **Section 2.1 Dues payments to the Fund**

Dues payments to the Fund shall be at the rate of 12% of the compensation basis of the member as defined in Section 2.5. The portion of such rate of payment which shall be considered as employer dues and member dues, respectively, shall be as follows:

(a) Employer dues, which may be paid by the employer or the member, shall equal 9% of the compensation basis of the member and shall be administered on a group basis to be applied toward providing age retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits. These dues are not refundable in the event of the cancellation of an account as outlined in Section 2.4. A portion of employer dues payments, if required, may be used to provide administrative expenses not otherwise provided.

(b) Member dues, which may be paid by the member or by the employer, shall equal 3% of the compensation basis of the member. In either case, member dues are to be credited to the member's individual account. The 3% member dues shall be applied toward providing an age retirement or disability annuity or, in the event of prior death, toward providing survivor benefits. However, if a member or the eligible survivors of the member receive less in annuity and insurance benefits than the total member and employer dues payments actually made on behalf of the member, the balance, if any, shall be paid as outlined in the payment of death benefits under Section 6.3. Member dues shall be applied only toward the cost of the basic retirement credit.



(c) Ordained ministers of the Church, who with the consent of the presbytery are not serving in a salaried relationship to any church or agency of the Church, are eligible to participate in the Fund. Such participation may be on a minimum compensation basis of \$1,200 or on any larger amount not exceeding the actual salary. Dues payments for such minister may be received either from the member or from the employer. In either case, such dues shall be credited and administered as provided elsewhere in Section 2.1.

#### **Section 2.2 How Dues are Payable**

Payment of the 12% dues shall be made to the Fund in monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual installments in advance. Each remittance should be made payable to the Annuity Fund for Ministers and shall include the full 12% dues for the period involved.

#### **Section 2.3 Return of Partial Payment of Dues**

If the Fund does not have in its possession by the end of the second month of any fiscal year all the payments due the Fund on the member's account for the previous fiscal year, the Trustees retain the privilege of returning without interest all payments made for such year to the sources paying them and canceling participation for the entire year.

#### **Section 2.4 Refund of Member Dues upon Termination of Service**

There can be no cancellation of membership and refund of member dues so long as the member is an ordained minister of the Church. A member ceasing to be an ordained minister of the Church who does not qualify for or elect the privileges of Section 8.2 or Section 8.3 shall receive a refund of the total of the member dues payments actually made on behalf of the member under Section 2.1 and the special dues credits provided under Section 9.1, together with interest as determined by the Trustees, but less the sum of any annuity payments received by the member. This refund shall cancel membership in the Fund and represent a complete discharge of all obligations of the Trustees to the member resulting from participation in the Fund.

#### **Section 2.5 Basis on Which Dues are Payable**

The compensation basis shall be one of the following:

(a) The member's cash salary plus 20% of that cash salary for the free use of a manse, if manse is provided. If the member has more than one source of salary and has free use of manse owned by any one or more organizations paying the salary, the 20% should be added to the cash salary by each source.

(b) The member's cash salary plus the total rental allowance if the member does not have free use of the manse, but in lieu thereof is paid a rent allowance.

In determining the compensation basis on which dues are to be paid, there may be added to (a) or (b) above any other payments made to or for the member, such as manse utilities allowance, automobile allowance, etc.

#### **Section 2.6 Non-Payment of Dues During Membership**

In the event dues payments to the Fund have not been made on behalf of a member (including a member who is receiving an age retirement or disability annuity) for any part of such member's period of membership, as defined later in this Section 2.6, the following benefits shall be adjusted:

(a) the \$300 minimum surviving spouse annuity under Section 5.1.

(b) the children annuities under Section 5.2,

(c) the death benefits under Section 6.1 and Section 6.4 and

(d) the disability benefits (including the accrual of basic retirement credits) under Section 7.

The adjustment shall be in accordance with the ratio of the member and employer dues payments actually made on behalf of the member during such member's period of membership to the total member and employer dues payments which would have been made on behalf of the member had such dues been paid during the member's entire period of membership. The compensation basis upon which dues were paid in the twelve months immediately preceding any period of non-payment of dues shall be the assumed compensation basis for any such period.

The period of membership of a member shall be the entire period beginning on the date membership in the Fund is established and ending with the date of such member's death, disability retirement, or age retirement, which-

ever is applicable, and shall include any period during which no dues payments are made on behalf of the member, regardless of the reason.

### **SECTION 3. HOW CREDITS ARE ACCUMULATED**

#### **Section 3.1 Basic Retirement Credits**

(a) The Basic Retirement Credits accumulated by each member are to be at the rate of 1% of the compensation basis on which full dues payments have been made for that year under Section 2. The total basic retirement credits of a member at any time will be 1% of the total compensation basis on which full dues have been paid from the date of the entry into the Fund.

(b) Additional retirement credits shall be granted those eligible members who become members prior to the 1975 General Assembly, and who, upon entry into the Fund, had forfeited credits earned as participants in the annuity fund of another plan. The Additional retirement credits shall be granted on the compensation basis on which they were accumulated and forfeited. The maximum additional credits that may be accumulated are those earned and forfeited during the last five years of the member's participation in an annuity fund before entry into this Plan. These Additional retirement credits shall be restored at the rate of 10% per year beginning with the members' date of entry into the Plan.

#### **Section 3.2 Special Retirement Credits**

Special retirement credits shall be those credits declared under the provisions of Section 9.1 as they apply to retirement credits.

#### **Section 3.3 Combined Retirement Credits**

Combined retirement credits shall be the total of all basic retirement credits in addition to the total of all special retirement credits which have been added to a member's account.

#### **Section 3.4 Basic Rental Allowance**

(a) The Basic Rental Allowance Credits accumulated by each member are to be at the rate of 0.5% of the compensation basis on which full dues payments have been made for that year under Section 2. The total basic rental allowance credits of a member at any time will be 0.5% of the total compensation basis on which full dues have been paid from the date of entry into the Fund.

(b) Additional basic rental allowance credits shall be granted those members who become eligible members prior to the 1975 General Assembly, and who, upon entry in the Fund, had forfeited credits earned as participants in the annuity fund of another plan. The additional basic rental allowance credits shall be granted on the compensation basis on which they were accumulated and forfeited. The maximum additional credits that may be accumulated are those earned and forfeited during the last five years of the member's participation in an annuity fund before entry into this Plan. These additional basic rental allowance credits shall be restored at the rate of 10% per year beginning with the member's date of entry into the Plan.

### **SECTION 4. AGE RETIREMENT BENEFITS**

#### **Section 4.1 Age Retirement Annuity and Rental Allowance**

(a) A member of the Fund shall be entitled to receive an age retirement annuity and rental allowance provided such member has attained age 65 and filed a signed retirement application form with the Trustees.

(b) (1) The annual amount of the age retirement annuity shall be equal to the combined retirement credits in the member's account at the date the annuity begins. The age retirement annuity is payable to the member for life with 50% thereof continued at the death of the member to the surviving spouse under the provisions of 5.1. Special credits declared by the Trustees after the commencement of the annuity shall be credited to this annuity as set forth in Section 9.

(b) (2) The annual amount of the rental allowance shall be equal to the combined rental allowance credits in the member's account at the date the payment begins. The rental allowance is payable to the member for life with 50% thereof continued at the death of the member to the surviving spouse under the

provisions of 5.1. Special credits declared by the Trustees after the commencement of the annuity shall be credited to this payment as set forth in Section 9.

(c) A member whose annuity and rental allowance commences after the attainment of age 65 shall receive the total of his combined retirement and rental allowance credits at the time the annuity payments begin.

Such member shall continue to earn both basic retirement credits and rental allowance following his 65th birthday for each full year or fraction thereof that full dues payments have been made to the Fund. The member is also eligible for any special retirement credits that may be declared by the Trustees between the date of the 65th birthday and the beginning of his age retirement annuity.

A member who elects at age 65 or thereafter to receive his age retirement annuity but continues his employment in some capacity with the Church may do so, but upon this election he shall accrue no further basic retirement credits in the Fund nor shall he pay dues to the Fund after the commencement of the age retirement annuity.

**Section 4.2 Early Age Retirement Options**

A member of the Fund may elect and receive an early age retirement annuity and rental allowance at any time after attaining age 55 provided such member has requested and received retirement by act of the presbytery and filed a signed retirement application form with the Trustees. The annual amount of the early age retirement annuity shall be equal to:

The combined retirement and rental allowance credits (see Section 3.3 and 3.4) in the member's account at the date the annuity begins but reduced to a percentage based on the age at early retirement as set forth in the following schedule:

Age of Retirement	% of Credits
65	100%
64	100
63	100
62	94
61	88
60	82
59	76
58	73
57	70
56	67
55	64

**Section 4.3 Joint and Survivor Age Retirement Options**

(a) Before retirement on an age retirement or disability annuity, a member may elect one of the following options for an actuarially adjusted age retirement annuity and rental allowance payable to the member upon retirement after attaining age 65 and providing a larger surviving spouse annuity and rental allowance than under Section 5.1 to a spouse whose marriage to the member took place before the member made such election.

OPTION A — An actuarially adjusted annuity and rental allowance payable to the member for life. Upon the death of the member following retirement, an annuity equal to 75% of the normal rental allowance shall be paid to the surviving spouse. The 75% surviving spouse annuity 75% rental allowance shall terminate upon the death or remarriage of the spouse.

OPTION B — An actuarially adjusted annuity and rental allowance payable to the member as long as both the member and the spouse of the member survive. Upon the death of either the member or the spouse following the member's retirement, an annuity equal to 75% of the adjusted age retirement annuity and a rental allowance equal to 75% of the rental allowance shall be

paid to the survivor. If the survivor is the member, the 75% member annuity and the 75% rental allowance shall terminate at the death of the member. If the survivor is the spouse, the 75% surviving spouse annuity and 75% rental allowance shall terminate upon the death or remarriage of the spouse.

(b) The amount of the adjusted annuity and adjusted rental allowance payable under Option A or Option B shall be the actuarial equivalent, as determined by the Trustees, of the member's combined retirement credits (see Section 3.3) and rental allowance credits (see Section 3.4). The election of either option will not alter the annuity to any minor child of the member.

The payment of a 75% surviving spouse annuity and 75% rental allowance under either option shall be in lieu of any annuity otherwise payable to a surviving spouse after the member's retirement under the provisions of Section 5.1.

Either option may be elected by a member at the time up to one year before the effective date of the age retirement annuity without submission of evidence of good health. A member desiring to elect either option less than one year before the effective date must submit evidence of good health satisfactory to the Trustees. The election of either option may be cancelled by a member at any time up to one year before the effective date of the age retirement annuity. Cancellation less than one year before the effective date will require the approval of the Trustees.

The election of either option shall have no effect if (i) a member or member's spouse dies before the member's retirement, or (ii) a member subsequently begins to receive either an early age retirement or a disability annuity before attaining age 65.

## **SECTION 5. SURVIVOR BENEFITS**

### **Section 5.1 Surviving Spouse Annuity**

A surviving spouse is one whose marriage to a deceased member of the Fund has taken place before the member begins to receive an age retirement annuity (see Section 4). A surviving spouse of a member who at the time of death is receiving a disability annuity (see Section 7) is one whose marriage to the member took place before the member began to receive such disability annuity. Upon the death of a member before or after the member begins to receive an age retirement or disability annuity, the surviving spouse shall receive an annual surviving spouse annuity equal to one-half of the member's combined retirement credits (see Section 3.3) at date of death plus a rental allowance equal to one-half of the member's rental allowance credit at date of death. A minimum of \$300 per year will be payable if all dues payments to the Fund on behalf of a member have been made for every month of the member's period of membership (see Section 2.6). Any special credit declared by the Trustees after the surviving spouse annuity begins shall be added to this annuity as specified in Section 9.1.

The surviving spouse annuity and rental allowance shall terminate upon death or remarriage of the spouse.

### **Section 5.2 Children Annuities**

When a member dies before or after the member begins to receive an age retirement or disability annuity and if all dues payments to the Fund on behalf of the member have been made for every month of the member's period of membership (see Section 2.6), each of the children of the member shall receive an annual child annuity of \$300, subject to maximum annuities payable to all the children of a member of \$900 per year. Each child annuity shall be payable to the surviving parent or guardian on behalf of said child until the child reaches age eighteen. However, this annuity shall be continued thereafter up to age twenty-three if such child is in full-time attendance at some institution of learning. Any special credit declared by the Trustees after a child annuity begins shall be added to this annuity as specified in Section 9.1.

## **SECTION 6. DEATH BENEFITS**

### **Section 6.1 Lump Sum Death Benefit upon Death of Currently Protected or Disabled Member**

A currently protected member under Section 1.2 or disabled member receiving a disability annuity whose death occurs prior to receiving an age annuity, and who at the time had made full dues payments to the Fund, shall have paid to this beneficiary in a lump sum an amount determined by his last twelve months dues compensation basis and age at the time of death, as follows:

- (a) All members up to age 36 — 3 times annual compensation
- (b) All members ages 36 to 55 — 1½ times annual compensation
- (c) All members ages 55 to 60 — 1 times annual compensation
- (d) All members ages 60 to 65 — ½ times annual compensation, but not less than \$5,000
- (e) All members age 65 and above — \$1,000

If a member's death occurs as the result of an accident, the lump sum amount to the member's beneficiary will be double the above scale.

The benefits to which a member is entitled under this Section 6.1 are subject to the contractual terms of the group life contract held by the Trustees, and with the exception of the payments to members age 65 and above, all benefit payments shall be made only after receipt of this benefit by the Fund from the insurance carrier with which the contract is written.

If the Group Life Insurance referred to above is payable to a member's beneficiary instead of the Trustees, the obligation of the Trustees to pay a lump sum death benefit is fully satisfied by the payment to the member's beneficiary by the insurance carrier.

#### **Section 6.2 Lump Sum Death Benefit upon Death after Age Retirement**

Upon the death of a member who has begun to receive an age retirement annuity, there shall be paid a lump sum death benefit in the amount of \$500, but not in excess of the sum of the annual annuity and rental allowance payable to such deceased member.

#### **Section 6.3 To Whom Lump Sum Death Benefit is Payable**

The lump sum death benefit shall be paid to the spouse of the member, if living. If there is no spouse living, the benefit shall be paid, at the option of the Trustees, to either: (a) any one of the following surviving relatives of the member: mother, father, child or children, or (b) the executor or administrator of the estate of the member. If there is no eligible person in either (a) or (b), the benefit shall be paid to any other person appearing to the Trustees to be equitably entitled thereto by reason of having incurred expenses for the maintenance, medical attention, or burial of the member, or otherwise. Payment in accordance with this provision shall completely discharge the Fund's liability with respect to the benefit so paid.

#### **Section 6.4 Education Benefits**

When a member dies before or after the member begins to receive an age retirement or disability annuity and if all dues payments to the Fund on behalf of the member have been made for every month of the member's period of membership (see Section 2.6), each of the children of the member shall receive an amount of \$1,000 per year for each of the first four years of study beyond high school spent thereafter in full-time attendance at an institution of higher learning, subject to a maximum total benefit of \$4,000 per child. The child of a deceased member is eligible to receive this benefit only prior to the attainment of age 25.

### **SECTION 7. DISABILITY BENEFITS**

#### **Section 7.1 When Granted**

A disability annuity shall be granted to a currently protected member (see Section 1.2) of the Fund upon total disability occurring before such member reaches age 65. Total disability shall mean that the member is incapacitated because of sickness or injury to such an extent that such member is incapable



of performing any type of work in keeping with the member's education, training and experience.

#### **Section 7.2 Certification as to Disability**

Total disability must be certified by the medical authorities approved by the Trustees, which shall have the right to call for proof (at the member's expense) of continued disability from time to time, but not more than once a year.

#### **Section 7.3 Amount and Duration of the Disability Annuity**

The disability annuity shall be payable to the member beginning on the 179th day of the period during which the member is totally disabled, or on the date the member ceases to receive any remuneration for services, whichever is later. If all dues payments to the Fund on behalf of the member have been made for every month of the member's period of membership (see Section 2.6), the annual amount of the disability annuity shall equal 40% of the member's compensation basis plus a rental allowance equal to 20% (excluding the portion of such basis in excess of \$12,000) on which dues payments to the Fund were made on behalf of the member during the last twelve months of dues payments preceding the date such disability began, less any benefit for which the member becomes eligible as the result of such disability under OASDI (Social Security), Workmen's Compensation and Veteran's and other governmental disability benefit programs. Under the provisions of the preceding sentence, the annual amount of the disability annuity shall not be less than \$600. In the event a member receiving a disability annuity becomes eligible to receive an increase in disability benefits from OASDI (Social Security), Workmen's Compensation, Veteran's and other governmental disability programs three months or more after the beginning of benefits from any such source, such increases shall not reduce the sum the member is receiving as a disability benefit from the Fund.

The disability annuity and rental allowance shall terminate on the earliest of (a) the first day on which the member is no longer totally disabled, (b) the date on which the member attains age 65 or (c) the date of the member's death.

The benefits provided by this Section 7.3 are subject to the provisions of the long term disability insurance contract provisions held by the Trustees and no payments shall be made by the Trustees under this Section other than those distributed to the Fund by the insurer of this contract.

#### **Section 7.4 Waiver of Dues and Accrual of Retirement Credits While Disabled**

If all dues payments to the Fund on behalf of the member have been made for every month of the member's period of membership (see Section 2.6), the member and employer dues payments under Section 2 shall be waived during the period on or after January 1, 1974 that a disability annuity is being paid to the member and the member shall continue to accrue basic retirement credits and rental allowance credits during such period of annuity payment as if such dues payments were made on the member's compensation basis (excluding the portion of such basis in excess of \$12,000) on which dues payments to the Fund were made on behalf of the member during the twelve-month period preceding the date such disability began. Any special credit declared by the Trustees after the member begins to accrue such basic retirement and rental allowance credits during disability shall be added to such credits as specified in Section 9.1. The dues waived shall not be credited to the member's account for any refund purpose under Section 2.1 or Section 2.4 of the plan.

#### **Section 7.5 Attainment of Age 65**

When the member attains age 65, the disability annuity and rental allowance shall terminate and the member shall begin to receive an age retirement annuity equal to the member's combined retirement credits (see Section 3.3) at age 65 and a rental allowance equal to the members rental allowance credits. Any special credits declared by the Trustees after the beginning of the disability annuity will be included in these combined retirement credits and rental allowance credits and the annuity will be further increased by any special credits declared after such member attains age 65.

### **SECTION 8. TERMINATION OF SERVICE**

#### **Section 8.1 Member Who Remains an Ordained Minister**

A member who remains an ordained minister of the Church but on whose



behalf member and employer dues payments to the Fund are not being made shall continue to be a member of the Fund. Such member shall remain eligible to receive an age retirement benefit and rental allowance as provided in Section 4 and the spouse shall remain eligible to receive a surviving spouse annuity and rental allowance as provided in Section 5.1. However, such member is not a currently protected member (see Section 1.2).

#### **Section 8.2 Vesting of Credits after Two or More Years of Participation**

(a) A member on whose behalf member and employer dues payments to the Fund or Annuity Fund of any other plan have been made for two or more years and who ceases to be an ordained minister of the Church or an eligible member of this plan may elect, in writing, a refund of member dues as set forth in Section 2.4. If the member elects not to take such refund but leaves such dues in the Fund, the member shall be entitled to receive an age retirement annuity and rental allowance as detailed in Section 4.1 and Section 4.2, provided such member has

- (i) submitted a signed application on a form to be supplied by the Trustees and which has been received by the Trustees, and
- (ii) submitted a statement signed by the member or the employer of the member giving date of retirement.

(b) In the event of the death of such member, either before or after retirement the surviving spouse shall be entitled to receive a surviving spouse annuity and rental allowance as provided in Section 5.1, but without the minimum benefit indicated in that section.

(c) Disability benefits, children benefits and death benefits shall not apply to such member. The joint and survivor options shall not be available to such member. No other benefits of any kind, provided by the Church through the Trustees, shall be available to such member or the survivors of such member.

(d) The exercising of this vesting privilege by a member shall not be irrevocable. The member may, at any time prior to being granted an age retirement annuity and rental allowance, elect, in writing, to receive in a lump sum a refund of member dues as set forth in Section 2.4. Such refund shall cancel membership and represent a complete discharge of all obligations of the Trustees to the member resulting from participation in the Fund.

#### **Section 8.3 Comity Agreements**

Any member transferring ministerial relationship from the Church to some other denomination with which the Fund has at that time a Comity or similar agreement may elect, in writing, a refund of member dues as set forth in Section 2.4. If the member elects not to take such refund but leaves such dues in the Fund, the member shall be entitled to retain the combined retirement and rental allowance credits for the purpose of an age retirement benefit and rental allowance as provided in Section 4 and a surviving spouse annuity and rental allowance as provided in Section 5.1, but without the minimum benefit indicated in that section. Such member may be eligible for other benefits in accordance with specific provisions of a particular comity agreement.

#### **Section 8.4 Member Ineligible for or Not Electing Vesting or Comity Agreements**

A member ceasing to be an ordained minister or administrative employee of the Church who does not qualify for or elect the privileges of Section 8.2 or Section 8.3 shall receive a refund of member dues as set forth in Section 2.4.

### **SECTION 9. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

#### **Section 9.1 Special Credits**

When, in the opinion of the Trustees and on the advice of its actuarial and financial consultants, the actuarial and financial condition of the Fund warrants the declaration of special credits, these credits will be declared by the Trustees for the endorsement of the General Assembly. The amount determined to be available for such credits shall be apportioned in the most equitable manner possible, as determined by the Trustees, to all members (non-retired and retired) of the Fund and their eligible survivors. In order to accomplish an equitable distribution, all annuities and rental allowances under Section 4 and Section 5 being paid on the effective date of the distribution will be increased by a percentage to be determined by the Trustees in accordance with the amount available for distribution. At the same time, special retirement

credits based on an equal percentage shall be applied to the combined retirement credits (see Section 3.3) in the accounts of all non-retired members and in the accounts of all members receiving disability benefits. Special dues credits based on an equal percentage shall be applied to any dues refunded under Section 2.1 (b) and Section 2.4.

#### **Section 9.2 Payment of Annuities and Rental Allowances**

All annuities and rental allowances shall be paid in advance in monthly installments.

#### **Section 9.3 Incapacitated Annuitants**

If any payee hereunder is, in the judgment of the Trustees, legally, physically or mentally incapable of personally receiving and receipting for any payments due hereunder, or is deceased, the Trustees may make payment thereof to such other person, persons or institution as, in its option, are then maintaining or have custody of such payee, until a guardian, committee or other legal representative of such payees shall be duly appointed and claim by such appointee or, in the case of a deceased member or payee, to any person or persons appearing to the Trustees to be equitably entitled to the same. Such payment shall constitute a full discharge of the liability of the Trustees to the extent thereof.

#### **Section 9.4 Assignments of Benefits**

The interest of members and all other persons entitled to benefits or payments under this Plan shall not be subject to anticipation, assignment, attachment or to involuntary alienation.

### **SECTION 10. ALTERATIONS OR AMENDMENTS**

#### **Section 10.1 Right to Alter or Amend**

The right is reserved by the Trustees to alter or amend the Plan as may be found to be to the advantage of the Church and the members of the Fund, subject to the approval of the General Assembly before such changes can become effective.

### **SECTION 11. DEFINITIONS**

1. Church: The Presbyterian Church in America.
2. Employer: The particular church, agency or organization being served by a member of the Fund.
3. Trustees: Trustees of the Insurance and Annuity Fund.
4. Fund: Annuity Fund for Ministers of the Presbyterian Church in America.
5. Plan: The Official Plan of the Annuity Fund for Ministers.
6. Children: For the purposes of Section 5.1 and Section 6.4, minor children shall include legally adopted children as well as natural children of a member.

### **TRUST AGREEMENT FOR THE ANNUITY FUND FOR MINISTERS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

THIS TRUST AGREEMENT is entered into this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1975, between THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA, a religious corporation, (the "Church"), and those persons whose signatures appear at the foot hereof, all of whom are hereinafter referred to herein as "Trustees",

#### **W I T N E S S E T H :**

**Whereas**, the Church has heretofore adopted a retirement plan designated "The Official Plan of the Annuity Fund for Ministers of The National Presbyterian Church" (the name of which said plan has now been changed to reflect the change of name from "The National Prebyterian Church" to "The Presbyterian Church in America") hereinafter referred to as the "Annuity Plan", pursuant to which said plan all ordained ministers of the Church and certain of the administrative personnel of the Church are eligible to participate; and

**Whereas**, the Church and certain Member Churches have heretofore adopted said Annuity Plan and have made contributions to the Trustees in accordance therewith; and

**Whereas**, the Trustees have accepted and received contributions from the Church and the Member Churches (both the Church and Member Churches are hereinafter sometimes referred to individually as an "Employer"), and acknowledged receipt thereof by its periodic reports and willingness to serve as Trustees hereunder with respect to such contributions;

**Now, Therefore**, the following terms of trust are agreed upon:

1. Trustees acknowledge receipt of the sums heretofore from time to time paid them to hold pursuant to the terms of the Annuity Plan, which sums, together with all future payments from time to time made to the Trustees, shall constitute a trust which the Trustees hereby accept. The payments heretofore made and those hereafter made and the investments purchased therewith, shall herein constitute and be called the "Fund".

2. The Trustees shall hold the Fund, as constituted from time to time, for the exclusive benefit of those persons now and hereafter becoming participants in the Annuity Plan, herein called "Members", and other beneficiaries referred to in the Annuity Plan, and no part of such Fund shall be recoverable by the Employer (except as provided under paragraph 5 hereof), or used for or diverted to purposes other than for the exclusive benefit of such Members and other beneficiaries.

3. The Trustees shall from time to time pay moneys from the Fund in accordance with the provisions of the Annuity Plan to Members and/or their beneficiaries. All such payments shall be made by the Trustees by checks mailed postage prepaid to the Member or beneficiary entitled to receive the same, at his or her address, as known to the Trustees. The Trustees shall have no responsibility with respect to the use or application of any moneys so paid by them, but in the event that any such check shall be returned undelivered to the Trustees, the Trustees shall promptly give notice thereof to the last Employer.

4. The Trustees shall, having regard for the cash requirements of the Plan as determined by them from time to time, invest and reinvest the Fund without distinction between the principal and income, in any property (as hereinafter defined), without regard to any rule of law or statute designating investments eligible for trust funds and without respect to any custom or practice, either as to type of investments or diversification of investments. The Trustees may from time to time reserve from investment and keep in the form of cash or cash balances such portion of the Fund as the Trustees may deem advisable, and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Trustees shall keep such portion of the Fund in the form of cash or cash balances as they shall from time to time deem necessary to meet contemplated payment of moneys from the Fund. Wherever used in this Agreement, the term "property" shall be deemed to include real, personal, and mixed property of any and every kind and wherever situated, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, insurance contracts on the lives of Members, and securities and commodities of any and every kind and wherever situated. The term "securities" shall be deemed to include bonds, mortgages, notes, debentures, obligations, warrants, and shares of any kind or class, including common shares, and such other evidence of indebtedness and certificates of interest as are usually referred to by the term "securities".

5. In addition to and not by way of limitation of the powers now or hereafter vested in trustees by law, the Trustees are specifically authorized in the administration of the Fund:

(a) to sell at public or private sale, or to exchange, or to lease for any term or terms, all or any part of the property at any time held in the Fund for such consideration, in cash or on credit, and upon such terms and conditions as it shall deem advisable;

(b) to borrow money for any purpose in connection with the administration of any property held in the Fund, to execute promissory notes or other obligations for amounts so borrowed, and to secure the payment of any and all amounts so borrowed by mortgage or pledge of any property at any time held in the Fund; and to pay interest thereon;

(c) to vote or consent, in person or by proxy, for any purpose in respect of any securities; to enter into any voting trust or other similar

agreement in respect thereof; to deposit any or all thereof under any deposit, merger, consolidation, reorganization, or other similar agreement, or with any committee, depository, or trustees; to accept and retain any new securities or other property issuable in exchange for or in respect of any securities at any time held hereunder; and except as otherwise herein specifically provided, generally to take any and all action in respect of any securities which it might or could take as absolute owner thereof, and to pay any and all fees, assessments, and expenses incurred in connection therewith;

(d) to adjust, settle, or compromise any claim or claims in favor of or against the Trustees and to institute, prosecute, and defend any and all legal proceedings, on such terms and in such manner and to such extent as it shall deem advisable;

(e) to employ legal counsel, accountants, actuaries, administrative and clerical help and agents, to pay to them such compensation as the Trustees shall deem reasonable, and to rely fully upon the advice of such legal counsel, actuaries or accountants, without incurring liability of any kind for action taken or not taken in reliance thereon, except such as shall be due to their own willful misconduct or lack of good faith;

(f) to register any securities in the name "Annuity Fund of the Presbyterian Church in America", or in the name of any nominees that the Trustees may designate and approve, with or without indicating the trust character of the securities so registered, or to hold any such securities in bearer form;

(g) to make, execute, and deliver, as Trustees, any and all deeds, leases, mortgages, conveyances, contracts, waivers, releases, or other instruments in writing necessary or proper for the accomplishment of any of the foregoing powers;

(h) to hold part or any of the trust fund uninvested without liability for interest thereon;

(i) to do all such acts, take all such proceedings and exercise all such rights and privileges, although not hereinabove specifically mentioned, with regard to any property held by them as Trustees as if the absolute owner thereof, except where and as limited by other provisions of the Annuity Plan or by law.

6. The Trustees are specifically authorized to employ an investment advisor or advisors who may be an individual, firm or corporation, hereafter referred to as the "Investment Advisor", to advise them in respect to the investment of the Fund and the making of sales and purchases of fund assets. The Trustees may rely on any direction of the Investment Advisor if in writing, signed by any authorized agent or employee of the Investment Advisor, in accordance with the information from time to time furnished it in writing.

7. (a) No Trustee shall be personally liable for any loss of any kind which may result by reason of any action taken by him in his capacity as a Trustee, and shall not be liable for any loss to or diminution of the Fund, except such as shall be due to his own willful misconduct or lack of good faith.

(b) The Trustees shall be under no duty to question any direction of the Investment Advisor, to review any securities or other property held in the Fund, or to make suggestions to the Investment Advisor in respect of investments. The Trustees shall not be liable for any loss of any kind which may result by reason of any action taken by the Trustees in accordance with any direction of the Investment Advisor or by reason of the Trustees' failure to exercise any of such powers because of the failure of the Investment Advisor to give the required direction.

8. All expenses incurred by the Trustees in the performance of their duties hereunder, including reasonable fees for legal services rendered to the Trustees (whether in connection with any litigation or otherwise), the fees and charges of the Investment Advisor, such compensation for the Trustees employees, and all other proper charges and disbursements of the Trustees, including taxes of any kind whatsoever which may be levied or assessed under existing or future



laws upon or in respect of the Fund or the trust created hereby, shall be paid by the Trustees out of the Fund unless paid by the Church and/or Employer.

9. The Trustees shall keep accurate and detailed accounts of all investments, receipts, and disbursements and other transactions hereunder, and all such accounts and the books and records relating thereto shall be open to inspection at all reasonable times by any person designated by the General Assembly of the Church. Within a reasonable time following December 31 in each year, and prior to June 1 of the following year, the Trustees shall file with the Church a written account setting forth all investments, receipts, disbursements, and other transactions effected by them during such year. Each such account shall set forth in summary form the receipts and disbursements of the Trustees for the period accounted for and shall include a description of all securities purchased and sold during the period accounted for and the cost of proceeds of sale thereof, and shall show all cash, securities, and other property held at the end of such period, and the cost and then market value of each item thereof. The Trustees shall be forever released and discharged from liability or accountability to anyone as respects the propriety of their acts or transactions shown in such account, except with respect to any such acts or transactions as to which the Church or an Employer shall, within sixty (60) days following the close of the General Assembly in which the account is acted upon, file with the Trustees a written statement setting forth exceptions or objections thereto. The approval by the Church, through its General Assembly, of any account filed by the Trustees with it, if no objections or exceptions have been filed with respect thereto as provided above, shall forever release and discharge the Trustees from liability or accountability to anyone as respects the propriety of their acts or transactions shown in such account.

10. The Trustees and any one or more of them, may be removed by the General Assembly of the Church with or without cause. A Trustee may resign at any time upon fifteen (15) days notice in writing to the Church. In the event of such removal or resignation of a Trustee or Trustees, the General Assembly of the Church shall designate one or more successor trustees to succeed the Trustee or Trustees so removed on and after the effective date of such removal or resignation. Such successor trustee or trustees, as the case may be, shall have the same powers and duties as those herein conferred upon the Trustees originally appointed. The Trustees shall reserve such sum of money (and for that purpose shall liquidate such property as may be necessary to produce such sum) as they may deem advisable to provide for payment of all expenses in connection with the resignation or removal of a Trustee or Trustees, and the settlement of his or their accounts to date, and any balance of such reserve remaining after the payment of such charges shall be restored to the Fund.

11. (a) Any action of the Church pursuant to any of the provisions of this Plan shall be evidenced by a written instrument executed on behalf of the General Assembly by an authorized officer thereof. The Trustees shall be entitled to rely conclusively upon any and all notices, directions, orders, requests, certifications, and instructions received by them from the Church and shall act and be fully protected in acting in accordance therewith.

(b) Any action by the General Assembly of the Church pursuant to any of the provisions of this Agreement shall be by amendment hereto and the amendment shall be certified by the Stated Clerk and delivered to the Chairman of The Trustees within ten(10) days. All requests, directions, requisitions, certifications, and instructions by the investment advisor to the Trustees shall be in writing, and the Trustees shall be fully protected in acting in accordance with such requests, directions, requisitions, certifications and instructions, if executed in accordance with the provisions of paragraph "(a)" above.

(c) If at any time there be more than one Trustee hereof, the signature, act, or consent of a majority of them shall be requisite and sufficient to bind the Trustees for all purposes hereunder.

12. The Church reserves the right, at any time and from time to time, by instrument in writing executed pursuant to authorization of the General As-

sembly, (a) to modify or amend in whole or in part any or all of the provisions of the Annuity Plan or the trust herein created, upon at least ten (10) days notice in writing to the Trustees, or (b) to terminate the Annuity Plan or the trust herein created upon at least sixty (60) days notice in writing to the Trustees; provided, however, that (i) any modification, amendment, or termination may be made effective upon such notice shorter than that above prescribed as shall be satisfactory to the Trustees; (ii) that no modification or amendment which affects the rights, duties, or responsibilities of the Trustees may be made without the Trustees' consent; (iii) that no termination, modification, or amendment may permit, at any time, any part of the Fund to be used for or diverted to purposes other than for the benefit of the members and other beneficiaries referred to in the Annuity Plan; and (iv) that no reduction in credits to a member may occur as a result of such termination, modification, or amendment. In the event of any such termination, the Trustees shall, subject to the foregoing, apply or distribute the Fund in accordance with the instructions of the Church, but if within six (6) months after receipt of notice of such termination the Trustees shall not have received written instructions from the Church with respect to such application or distribution of the Fund, the Trustees may, in their discretion, (a) proceed to apply or distribute such Fund in accordance with the Annuity Plan, or (b) may seek instructions from a court of competent jurisdiction.

13. Nothing herein contained shall be construed as depriving the Trustees of the right to have a judicial settlement of their accounts. Upon any proceedings by the Trustees for a judicial settlement of their accounts or for instructions, the only necessary parties hereto in addition to the Trustees shall be the Church. None of the Members and other beneficiaries referred to in the Annuity Plan shall have any right to compel an accounting, judicial or otherwise, by the Trustees, and all of them shall be bound by all accountings by the Trustees, and all of them shall be bound by all accountings by the Trustees to the Church, as provided herein.

14. The Annuity Plan and the trust created shall be binding upon, and the powers herein granted to the Church and the Trustees, respectively, shall be exercisable by the respective successors of the Church and the Trustees.

15. The addresses of the Church and the Trustees for the purpose of this trust and of all notices and communications thereunder and with respect thereto shall be as to:

- (a) The Church  
c/o Stated Clerk  
P. O. Box 256  
Clinton, Mississippi 39056
- (b) The Trustees  
c/o The Secretary  
P. O. Box 6287  
Columbus, Georgia 31907

Such addresses may be changed from time to time by registered mail, return receipt requested, by the Church's notice to the Trustees, and by the Trustees notice to the Church.

16. All questions pertaining to the validity, construction, regulation and the effect of this instrument and of any of the provisions hereof shall be determined under and according to the laws of the State of Florida.

17. None of the benefits, payments, proceeds, claims or rights of any Member hereunder shall be subject to any claim of any creditor of any Member, and in particular the same shall not be subject to attachment or garnishment or other legal process by any creditor of any member, nor shall any such member have any right to alienate, anticipate, commute, pledge, encumber, or assign any of the benefits or payments or proceeds which he may expect to receive, contingently or otherwise, under this Agreement.

**In Witness Whereof**, the Church has caused this Agreement to be executed



## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

in its name by its duly authorized officers, and Trustees have affixed their hands and seals hereto, on the day, month and year set forth on Page 1 hereof.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

By \_\_\_\_\_

Moderator

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_

Stated Clerk

Trustees:

_____	(Seal)
William Joseph	_____
_____	(Seal)
Harry Schutte	_____
_____	(Seal)
W. J. McLeod, Jr.	_____
_____	(Seal)
E. Crowell Cooley	_____
_____	(Seal)
Wm. C. Swain	_____
_____	(Seal)
James E. Allen	_____
_____	(Seal)
Alexander McKensy	_____
_____	(Seal)
C. E. Hornsby	

### THE OFFICIAL PLAN OF THE EMPLOYEES' ANNUITY FUND OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

#### SECTION 1 DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 The following words and phrases as used in this Plan shall have the following meanings unless a different meaning is clearly required by the context:
- (a) TRUSTEES shall mean the Trustees for the Insurance and Annuity Fund.
  - (b) FUND shall mean the Employees' Annuity Fund.
  - (c) CHURCH shall mean the Presbyterian Church in America.
  - (d) ORGANIZATION shall mean the church, group of churches, agency or institution of the church under the control or related to a Presbytery or General Assembly which serves as the employer of the member.
  - (e) FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE shall mean an employee who receives compensation of not less than \$1,200 per year regardless of the number of hours worked per week.
  - (f) NET ORGANIZATION DUES shall mean the dues paid by the Organization employer on behalf of any member, less any deductions for expenses of administration, as provided in Section 8.5.
  - (g) ORGANIZATION ACCUMULATIONS shall mean the total net organization dues and supplemental payments, if any, in a members individual account, plus interest additions thereon, as provided in Section 8.6.
  - (h) MEMBER ACCUMULATIONS shall mean the total member dues in a member's individual account, plus interest additions thereon, as provided in Section 8.6.
  - (i) PARTICIPATION shall mean the period for which a member and his employer organization pay dues to the fund but shall include the period that a member participated in the Plan of any other church organization before becoming a member of this Plan.

#### SECTION 2 ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 All full time lay employees of any church, group of churches, agency or institution of the Church may be members of this Annuity Fund upon receipt of a signed application and payment of dues by their employer.

**SECTION 3  
AGE RETIREMENT BENEFITS**

- 3.1 An age retirement annuity shall be payable to a member of the fund upon the termination of all remunerative relationship for service to the Church at age 60 or beyond and upon application for such annuity.
- 3.2. In making application for an age retirement annuity, the member may elect any one of the following types of annuity:

**SINGLE LIFE**

- A. A single life annuity under which all payments cease at the death of the annuitant.

**TEN YEAR CERTAIN**

- B. A reduced single life annuity with the provision that, if the annuity payments received by the member aggregate less than a specified amount equal to ten times the initial annual rate of payment to be made to the member, the excess of such specified amount over such annuity payments shall be paid to the beneficiary, if any, designated by the member at the time of retirement or to the member's legal representative.

**JOINT LIFE AND SURVIVOR**

- C. A joint life and survivor annuity for a reduced amount of annuity, but with two thirds (2/3) of the reduced annuity continuing to the wife or husband or other beneficiary designed before the annuity goes into effect, and without the right of substitution of beneficiary thereafter.
- D. A joint life and survivor annuity for a reduced amount of annuity, but with 100% of the reduced annuity continuing to the wife or husband or other beneficiary designated before the annuity goes into effect, and without the right of substitution of beneficiary thereafter.
- 3.3 The amount of the age retirement annuity shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of Section 7 of this Plan.

**SECTION 4  
DISABILITY RETIREMENT BENEFITS**

- 4.1 A disability retirement annuity shall be payable to a member of the Fund upon termination of all remunerative relationship for service to the Church as a result of total and presumably permanent disability occurring before age 60 and upon application for such annuity.
- 4.2 In making application for a disability retirement annuity, the member may elect any one of the four types of annuity described in Section 3.2.
- 4.3 For the amount of the disability retirement annuity payable, see Section 7.
- 4.4 If a disabled member should recover because such disability proved not to be total and permanent, the disability retirement annuity shall terminate as of the date the member becomes able to resume any remunerative occupation.

If the member re-enters eligible service to the Church, he may resume active participation in the Fund.

In the event that the recovered member does not enter service which makes him eligible for further active participation, he shall then become entitled to a withdrawal benefit, as provided in Section 6, but the disability annuity payments made to such member shall constitute all or part of such withdrawal benefits.

**SECTION 5  
DEATH BENEFITS**

- 5.1 In the event of the death of a member before entering upon an age or disability retirement annuity, a survivor annuity shall be payable to the surviving wife, husband, minor child or children, or dependent parent, in that order of priority.
- 5.2 A surviving wife, husband or dependent parent may elect one of the two types of annuity described in Section 3.2.
- 5.3. For the amount of the survivor annuity, see Section 7.
- 5.4 If the member leaves no wife, husband, minor child or dependent parent, his member accumulations shall be paid to the beneficiary, if any, designated

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

by the member, or to the member's legal representative. The organization accumulations of such member shall be released and credited to the Contingent Fund.

**SECTION 6****WITHDRAWAL AND VESTING BENEFITS**

- 6.1 Except as provided in Section 6.2, in the event a member withdraws from service to the Church before retirement on account of age or disability, his member accumulations shall be refunded to the member. Such refunds shall terminate his membership in the Fund and eliminate all further claims against the Trustees for benefits of any kind. The organization accumulations which result from the payment of dues by an organization and have accrued to the account of the member prior to his withdrawal shall be forfeited and credited to the "Contingent Fund" as set forth in Section 9 of the Plan.
- 6.2 A member who has five (5) or more years of credited participation in this Fund or a similar fund with another church prior to his withdrawal from service with the Church has the option of requesting the Trustees to hold his accumulations in the Fund. All such member accumulations along with the organization accumulations of the member shall be increased by interest additions while held in the Fund and shall be used for the purpose of providing an age retirement annuity, as provided in Section 3, or a death benefit as provided in Section 5.
- 6.3 The exercising of this vesting privilege by such member shall not be irrevocable. He may, at any time prior to retirement, elect in writing to receive in a lump sum his member accumulations. Such refunds shall cancel his membership in the Fund and terminate all further claims against the Trustees for benefits of any kind.

**SECTION 7****AMOUNT AND PAYMENT OF ANNUITIES**

- 7.1 The amount of any annuity provided under this Plan shall be the actuarial equivalent of the total of the member accumulations and the organization accumulations of the member at the date such annuity becomes effective, in accordance with the table of rates adopted by the Trustees for such purpose and then in force.
- 7.2 Annuity payments shall be made in monthly installments, payable at the end of each calendar month.
- 7.3 At the option of the Trustees, a lump sum settlement may be made in lieu of any annuity which would otherwise be payable at a monthly rate of less than \$10.00. The amount of such settlement shall be the present value of the single life annuity otherwise payable and will represent a complete discharge of all of the obligations of the Trustees to such a member.

**SECTION 8****PAYMENTS TO THE ANNUITY FUND**

- 8.1 Payments to the Fund shall be made at the total rate of nine percent (9%) of the compensation basis of the member, as defined in 8.3. The portion of such total rate of payments which shall be considered as organization dues and member dues, respectively, shall be as follows:
  - (a) Organization dues, which shall be paid by the organization, shall equal six percent (6%) of the compensation basis of the member.
  - (b) Member dues shall equal three percent (3%) of the compensation basis of the member and may be paid by the member or the organization.
- 8.2 The organization should remit the full dues in monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual installments. Monthly payments should be made on the first of the month in advance. Payments made on a quarterly, semi-annual or annual basis should be made by the middle of the period covered by the remittance.
- 8.3 The compensation basis of a member shall ordinarily be his cash compensation but, as agreed between the member and the organization he serves, compensation basis may also include other allowances, such as a housing allowance.

- 8.4 The organization shall have the right to supplement the regular current dues payments as provided herein by additional payments related to service rendered by the member prior to the date of participation in the Fund or in the event that the attendant circumstances justify such supplemental payments.
- 8.5 The expenses of administration of the Fund may be provided out of the organization dues but shall not exceed one-half of one percent of the total compensation basis upon which dues are being paid.
- 8.6 Net organization dues, supplemental payments, if any, and member dues shall be credited to the member's individual account and shall be increased by interest additions at a rate to be determined by the Trustees.

#### SECTION 9 CONTINGENT FUND

- 9.1 A contingent fund shall be maintained, consisting of gains from good investment and actuarial experience and any other amounts allocated by the Trustees or released under the provisions of the Fund.

This contingent fund shall be available to offset adverse investment or actuarial experience and for other appropriations authorized by the Trustees for designated purposes.

#### SECTION 10 AMENDMENTS AND ALTERATIONS

- 10.1 The right is reserved to the Trustees, subject to the approval of the General Assembly, to alter and amend the provisions of this annuity plan as may be required and justified by experience and available resources, provided, however, that the proposed amendment or amendments or alterations have been submitted in writing by the Trustees to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly at least ninety (90) days before the meeting of the General Assembly, and provided further that no such amendment or alteration shall reduce the amount of accumulations already to the credit of a member. Such change must be approved by the General Assembly before becoming effective.

#### TRUST AGREEMENT FOR THE EMPLOYEES' ANNUITY FUND OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1975, between THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA, a religious corporation, and those persons whose signatures appear at the foot hereof, all of whom are hereinafter referred to herein as "Trustees",

#### W I T N E S S E T H :

**Whereas**, the Church has adopted a retirement plan designated "The Official Plan of the Employees' Annuity Fund of The Presbyterian Church in America", hereinafter referred to as the "Annuity Plan", pursuant to which said plan all full time lay employees of any church, group of churches, agency or institution of the Church are eligible to participate; and

**Whereas**, the Church and certain Member Churches have heretofore adopted said Annuity Plan and have made contributions to the Trustees in accordance therewith; and

**Whereas**, the Trustees have accepted and received contributions from the Church and the Member Churches (both the Church and Member Churches are hereinafter sometimes referred to individually as an "Employer"), and acknowledged receipt thereof by its periodic reports and willingness to serve as Trustees hereunder with respect to such contributions;

**Now, Therefore**, the following terms of trust are agreed upon:

- 1. Trustees acknowledge receipt of the sums heretofore from time to time paid them to hold pursuant to the terms of the Annuity Plan, which sums, together with all future payments from time to time made to the Trustees, shall constitute a trust which the Trustees hereby accept. The payments heretofore

made and those hereafter made and the investments purchased therewith, shall herein constitute and be called the "Fund".

2. The Trustees shall hold the Fund, as constituted from time to time, for the exclusive benefit of those persons now and hereafter becoming participants in the Annuity Plan, herein called "Members", and other beneficiaries referred to in the Annuity Plan, and no part of such Fund shall be recoverable by the Employer (except as provided under paragraph 5 hereof), or used for or diverted to purposes other than for the exclusive benefit of such Members and other beneficiaries.

3. The Trustees shall from time to time pay moneys from the Fund in accordance with the provisions of the Annuity Plan to Members and/or their beneficiaries. All such payments shall be made by the Trustees by checks mailed postage prepaid to the Member or beneficiary entitled to receive the same, at his or her address, as known to the Trustees. The Trustees shall have no responsibility with respect to the use or application of any moneys so paid by them, but in the event that any such check shall be returned undelivered to the Trustees, the Trustees shall promptly give notice thereof to the last Employer.

4. The Trustees shall, having regard for the cash requirements of the Plan as determined by them from time to time, invest and reinvest the Fund without distinction between the principal and income, in any property (as hereinafter defined), without regard to any rule of law or statute designating investments eligible for trust funds and without respect to any custom or practice, either as to type of investments or diversification of investments. The Trustees may from time to time reserve from investment and keep in the form of cash or cash balances such portion of the Fund as the Trustees may deem advisable, and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Trustees shall keep such portion of the Fund in the form of cash or cash balances as they shall from time to time deem necessary to meet contemplated payment of moneys from the Fund. Wherever used in this Agreement, the term "property" shall be deemed to include real, personal, and mixed property of any and every kind and wherever situated, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, insurance contracts on the lives of Members, and securities and commodities of any and every kind and wherever situated. The term "securities" shall be deemed to include bonds, mortgages, notes, debentures, obligations, warrants, and shares of any kind or class, including common shares, and such other evidence of indebtedness and certificates of interest as are usually referred to by the term "securities".

5. In addition to and not by way of limitation of the powers now or hereafter vested in trustees by law, the Trustees are specifically authorized in the administration of the Fund:

(a) to sell at public or private sale, or to exchange, or to lease for any term or terms, all or any part of the property at any time held in the Fund for such consideration, in cash or on credit, and upon such terms and conditions as it shall deem advisable;

(b) to borrow money for any purpose in connection with the administration of any property held in the Fund, to execute promissory notes or other obligations for amounts so borrowed, and to secure the payment of any and all amounts so borrowed by mortgage or pledge of any property at any time held in the Fund; and to pay interest thereon;

(c) to vote or consent, in person or by proxy, for any purpose in respect of any securities; to enter into any voting trust or other similar agreement in respect thereof; to deposit any or all thereof under any deposit, merger, consolidation, reorganization, or other similar agreement, or with any committee, depository, or trustees; to accept and retain any new securities or other property issuable in exchange for or in respect of any securities at any time held hereunder; and except as otherwise herein specifically provided, generally to take any and all action in respect of any securities which it might or could take as absolute owner thereof, and to pay any and all fees, assessments, and expenses incurred in connection therewith;

(d) to adjust, settle, or compromise any claim or claims in favor of or against the Trustees and to institute, prosecute, and defend any and all



legal proceedings, on such terms and in such manner and to such extent as it shall deem advisable;

(e) to employ legal counsel accountants, actuaries, administrative and clerical help and agents, to pay to them such compensation as the Trustees shall deem reasonable, and to rely fully upon the advice of such legal counsel, actuaries or accountants, without incurring liability of any kind for action taken or not taken in reliance thereon, except such as shall be due to their own willful misconduct or lack of good faith;

(f) to register any securities in the name "Annuity Fund of the Presbyterian Church in America", or in the name of any nominees that the Trustees may designate and approve, with or without indicating the trust character of the securities so registered, or to hold any such securities in bearer form;

(g) to make, execute, and deliver, as Trustees, any and all deeds, leases, mortgages, conveyances, contracts, waivers, releases, or other instruments in writing necessary or proper for the accomplishment of any of the foregoing powers;

(h) to hold part or all of the trust fund uninvested without liability for interest thereon;

(i) to do all such acts, take all such proceedings and exercise all such rights and privileges, although not hereinabove specifically mentioned, with regard to any property held by them as Trustees as if the absolute owner thereof, except where and as limited by other provisions of the Annuity Plan or by law.

6. The Trustees are specifically authorized to employ an investment advisor or advisors who may be an individual, firm or corporation, hereafter referred to as the "Investment Advisor", to advise them in respect to the investment of the Fund and the making of sales and purchases of fund assets. The Trustees may rely on any direction of the Investment Advisor if in writing, signed by any authorized agent or employee of the Investment Advisor, in accordance with the information from time to time furnished it in writing.

7. (a) No Trustee shall be personally liable for any loss of any kind which may result by reason of any action taken by him in his capacity as a Trustee, and shall not be liable for any loss to or diminution of the Fund, except such as shall be due to his own willful misconduct or lack of good faith.

(b) The Trustees shall be under no duty to question any direction of the Investment Advisor, to review any securities or other property held in the Fund, or to make suggestions to the Investment Advisor in respect of investments. The Trustees shall not be liable for any loss of any kind which may result by reason of any action taken by the Trustees in accordance with any direction of the Investment Advisor or by reason of the Trustees' failure to exercise any of such powers because of the failure of the Investment Advisor to give the required direction.

8. All expenses incurred by the Trustees in the performance of their duties hereunder, including reasonable fees for legal services rendered to the Trustees (whether in connection with any litigation or otherwise), the fees and charges of the Investment Advisor, such compensation for the Trustees employees, and all other proper charges and disbursements of the Trustees, including taxes of any kind whatsoever which may be levied or assessed under existing or future laws upon or in respect of the Fund or the trust created hereby, shall be paid by the Trustees out of the Fund unless paid by the Church and/or Employer.

9. The Trustees shall keep accurate and detailed accounts of all investments, receipts, and disbursements and other transactions hereunder, and all such accounts and the books and records relating thereto shall be open to inspection at all reasonable times by any person designated by the General Assembly of the Church. Within a reasonable time following December 31 in each year, and prior to June 1 of the following year, the Trustees shall file with the Church a written account setting forth all investments, receipts, disbursements, and other transactions effected by them during such year. Each such account shall set forth in summary form the receipts and disbursements of the Trustees for the period accounted for and shall include a description of all securities purchased and sold during the period accounted for and the cost of proceeds of sale thereof, and shall show all cash, securities, and other property held at the



end of such period, and the cost and then market value of each item thereof. The Trustees shall be forever released and discharged from liability or accountability to anyone as respects the propriety of their acts or transactions shown in such account, except with respect to any such acts or transactions as to which the Church or an Employer shall, within sixty (60) days following the close of the General Assembly in which the account is acted upon, file with the Trustees a written statement setting forth exceptions or objections thereto. The approval by the Church, through its General Assembly, of any account filed by the Trustees with it, if no objections or exceptions have been filed with respect thereto as provided above, shall forever release and discharge the Trustees from liability or accountability to anyone as respects the propriety of their acts or transactions shown in such account.

10. The Trustees and any one or more of them, may be removed by the General Assembly of the Church with or without cause. A Trustee may resign at any time upon fifteen (15) days notice in writing to the Church. In the event of such removal or resignation of a Trustee or Trustees, the General Assembly of the Church shall designate one or more successor trustees to succeed the Trustee or Trustees so removed on and after the effective date of such removal or resignation. Such successor trustee or trustees, as the case may be, shall have the same powers and duties as those herein conferred upon the Trustees originally appointed. The Trustees shall reserve such sum of money (and for that purpose shall liquidate such property as may be necessary to produce such sum) as they may deem advisable to provide for payment of all expenses in connection with the resignation or removal of a Trustee or Trustees, and the settlement of his or their accounts to date, and any balance of such reserve remaining after the payment of such charges shall be restored to the Fund.

11. (a) Any action of the Church pursuant to any of the provisions of this Plan shall be evidenced by a written instrument executed on behalf of the General Assembly by an authorized officer thereof. The Trustees shall be entitled to rely conclusively upon any and all notices, directions, orders, requests, certifications, and instructions received by them from the Church and shall act and be fully protected in acting in accordance therewith.

(b) Any action by the General Assembly of the Church pursuant to any of the provisions of this Agreement shall be by amendment hereto and the amendment shall be certified by the Stated Clerk and delivered to the Chairman of The Trustees within ten (10) days. All requests, directions, requisitions, certifications, and instructions by the investment advisor to the Trustees shall be in writing, and the Trustees shall be fully protected in acting in accordance with such requests, directions, requisitions, certifications and instructions, if executed in accordance with the provisions of paragraph "(a)" above.

(c) If at any time there be more than one Trustee hereof, the signature, act, or consent of a majority of them shall be requisite and sufficient to bind the Trustees for all purposes hereunder.

12. The Church reserves the right, at any time and from time to time, by instrument in writing executed pursuant to authorization of the General Assembly, (a) to modify or amend in whole or in part any or all of the provisions of the Annuity Plan or the trust herein created, upon at least ten (10) days notice in writing to the Trustees, or (b) to terminate the Annuity Plan or the trust herein created upon at least sixty (60) days notice in writing to the Trustees; provided, however, that (i) any modification, amendment, or termination may be made effective upon such notice shorter than that above prescribed as shall be satisfactory to the Trustees; (ii) that no modification or amendment which affects the rights, duties, or responsibilities of the Trustees may be made without the Trustees' consent; (iii) that no termination, modification, or amendment may permit, at any time, any part of the Fund to be used for or diverted to purposes other than for the benefit of the members and other beneficiaries referred to in the Annuity Plan; and (iv) that no reduction in credits to a member may occur as a result of such termination, modification, or amendment. In the event of any such termination, the Trustees shall, subject to the foregoing, apply or distribute the Fund in accordance with the instructions of the Church, but if within six (6) months after receipt of notice of such termination the Trustees shall not have received written instructions from the Church with respect to such application or distribution of the Fund, the Trustees may, in their discretion, (a) proceed to apply or distribute such Fund in accordance with the

Annuity Plan, or (b) may seek instructions from a court of competent jurisdiction.

13. Nothing herein contained shall be construed as depriving the Trustees of the right to have a judicial settlement of their accounts. Upon any proceedings by the Trustees for a judicial settlement of their accounts or for instructions, the only necessary parties hereto in addition to the Trustees shall be the Church. None of the Members and other beneficiaries referred to in the Annuity Plan shall have any right to compel an accounting, judicial or otherwise, by the Trustees, and all of them shall be bound by all accountings by the Trustees, and all of them shall be bound by all accountings by the Trustees to the Church, as provided herein.

14. The Annuity Plan and the trust created shall be binding upon, and the powers herein granted to the Church and the Trustees, respectively, shall be exercisable by the respective successors of the Church and the Trustees.

15. The addresses of the Church and the Trustees for the purpose of this trust and of all notices and communications thereunder and with respect thereto shall be as to:

- (a) The Church  
c/o Stated Clerk  
P. O. Box 256  
Clinton, Mississippi 39056
- (b) The Trustees  
c/o The Secretary  
P. O. Box 6287  
Columbus, Georgia 31907

Such addresses may be changed from time to time by registered mail, return receipt requested, by the Church's notice to the Trustees, and by the Trustees notice to the Church.

16. All questions pertaining to the validity, construction, regulation and the effect of this instrument and of any of the provisions hereof shall be determined under and according to the laws of the State of Florida.

17. None of the benefits, payments, proceeds, claims or rights of any Member hereunder shall be subject to any claim of any creditor of any Member, and in particular the same shall not be subject to attachment or garnishment or other legal process by any creditor of any member, nor shall any such member have any right to alienate, anticipate, commute, pledge, encumber, or assign any of the benefits or payments or proceeds which he may expect to receive, contingently or otherwise, under this Agreement.

**In Witness Whereof**, the Church has caused this agreement to be executed in its name by its duly authorized officers, and Trustees have affixed their hands and seals hereto, on the day, month and year set forth on Page 1 hereof.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA  
By \_\_\_\_\_

Moderator

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stated Clerk

**Trustees:**

\_\_\_\_\_(Seal)  
William Joseph  
\_\_\_\_\_(Seal)  
Harry Schutte  
\_\_\_\_\_(Seal)  
W. J. McLeod, Jr.  
\_\_\_\_\_(Seal)  
E. Crowell Cooley  
\_\_\_\_\_(Seal)  
Wm. C. Swain  
\_\_\_\_\_(Seal)  
James E. Allen  
\_\_\_\_\_(Seal)  
Alexander McKensy  
\_\_\_\_\_(Seal)  
C. E. Hornsby

## Appendix C

**REPORT OF THE INSURANCE SUB-COMMITTEE  
TO THE THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY,  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

Fathers and Brethren:

Your Sub-Committee considers it a privilege to have served in the study of insurance needs for the Presbyterian Church in America. We have held three meetings since the last General Assembly. Our main concern has been to clarify and strengthen the Health Insurance program which now provides protection for the employees of the Church. At the instruction of the Trustees we have served to receive and evaluate new proposals for the Group Life Insurance and Long Term Disability Insurance which is a part of our Annuity Plan. We also have under study a program concerning Fire and Liability coverage for our Churches. At the time of the preparation of this report this program is still being studied. We will have a recommendation concerning it for the General Assembly.

**GROUP MAJOR MEDICAL INSURANCE.** Numerous consultations with the representatives of Pacific Mutual, the insurance carrier for our Group Hospitalization and Major Medical Insurance, have resulted in our retaining the same premiums for the insurance for the second year of the policy. We hope to be able to report when General Assembly meets and the Company has had more time to evaluate the program, that these premiums will continue in force for another year. We have had reasonably good experience in our Health coverage. Some difficulties in initiating the program have been worked out satisfactorily and we believe that the Health Insurance will give satisfactory protection in the days ahead. Our supplementary report to be distributed at the General Assembly will include the latest details regarding cost and programs available. The Health Insurance package does offer complete coverage both during the days of employment and after retirement.

**GROUP LIFE INSURANCE AND LONG TERM DISABILITY COVERAGE.** This insurance is part of the Annuity Program for Ministers. The premiums for this insurance are paid from the Annuity dues and provide the Lump Sum Death benefit and Long Term Disability protection which is part of the Annuity Plan. We discovered in the course of the year that the company providing this coverage would not extend the Long Term Disability benefits to our personnel who were serving as overseas missionaries. It was therefore determined to seek new bids for this coverage and to specify in the bid proposal that all benefits must be available to our missionaries as well as employees in the United States. Bids were received and considered by your Committee in our meeting, March 24, 1975. Two companies offered the complete protection that we desired. Your Committee accepted the bid of Ministers Life and Casualty Union and they are now the insurance carrier for this part of the program. We are happy to report that the contract with Ministers Life not only provides the desired protection for our missionaries but was secured at a very reasonable cost.

The second General Assembly adopted our recommendation that the work of the Insurance Sub-Committee be transferred to the Trustees for the Insurance and Annuity Fund after this Third General Assembly. Therefore this will be our final report as your Insurance Sub-Committee. Some of us are privileged to serve as Trustees so we will probably be seen again in the shadows, but future reports and questions concerning insurance matters should be directed to the Trustees for the Insurance and Annuity Fund.

We will present a brief supplementary report at the General Assembly. Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Church as your Insurance Sub-Committee.

Don Esty, Secretary  
William J. McLeod  
Wright Pearson  
William Swain  
E. Crowell Cooley, Chairman

Respectfully submitted,  
E. Crowell Cooley  
Chairman

## Appendix D

# REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE ON INTERCHURCH RELATIONS TO THE THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Your committee has held two formal meetings since the Second General Assembly, both of them in the development of contacts with those denominations with which the General Assembly expressed a desire to enter into fraternal relations.

The first of these, in Pittsburgh, October 25-26, 1974, brought together for an historic first meeting, the official representatives of the Presbyterian Church in America, the Christian Reformed Church, the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, the Reformed Presbyterian Church Evangelical Synod, and the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America. Representatives of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church attended as observers.

Believing that God had brought us together for the purpose of enriching our separate ministries through closer contacts, the assembled group determined to work on a proposal that could be laid before our respective judicatories for the establishment of such further relationships as might seem feasible and possible.

A sub-committee from the group, representing all five participating denominations, held a meeting in Chicago on November 22, 1974, and finalized a proposal for the establishment of a body to be called the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council.

This proposal was acted upon in a subsequent plenary session of all five denominational committees in Philadelphia on January 22-23, 1975. At this meeting, in addition to the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, the Reformed Church in the United States (Eureka Classis) was also represented by observers.

With enthusiasm, the joint body adopted a proposed Constitution and By-Laws for a proposed North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council. This document is herewith offered to the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America with the recommendation of your committee that the Assembly approve and participate in the formation of such a Council.

Pursuant to the instructions of the General Assembly, your committee invited the Churches listed in the Minutes of the Second General Assembly, p. 76, to send fraternal delegates to this Third General Assembly. In your behalf, we also made the following assignments as principal and alternate fraternal delegates to the General Assembly and General Synod meetings of those same Churches as follows:

<b>Churches</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Alternate</b>
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, June 2-5, Bonclarken	Loren V. Watson	Harold Borchert
Christian Reformed Church June 10-21, Calvin College	Donald C. Graham	Palmer Robertson
Orthodox Presbyterian Church May 29-June 6, Geneva College	G. Aiken Taylor	Donald C. Graham
Reformed Presbyterian Church (Evangelical Synod) May 30-June 5, Geneva College	G. Aiken Taylor	Donald C. Graham
Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America May 31-June 6, Geneva College	G. Aiken Taylor	Donald C. Graham

From the Committee on Interchurch Relations of the Christian Reformed Church a communication requesting the adoption of certain language to describe our mutual interchurch relations constitutes Recommendation #4, below. The CRC has abandoned a former designation recognizing "sister churches" and it feels that the designation of Churches with which it wishes formally to relate as "corresponding churches" would be too weak. Consequently, the CRC proposes that all Churches with which ecclesiastical fellowship is being established

should adopt the same term to describe that fellowship and it proposes the term, "Churches in ecclesiastical fellowship."

Your committee would call the attention of the General Assembly, for information only, to an announcement by the National Presbyterian and Reformed Fellowship that a Presbyterian and Reformed Congress of North America is now planned for October 26-30, 1977, in Miami, Fla. The Congress is expected to attract some 2,500 participants for a fresh look at issues confronting Reformed Christians in our time.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the General Assembly approve the formation of a North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council and authorize the Committee on Interchurch Relations to participate in the establishment and organization of such a Council, including the appointment of four (4) delegates. These should be equally divided among Teaching and Ruling elders.
2. That the General Assembly accept the proposed Constitution and By-Laws as the basis for the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council. (The Assembly should notice that a two-thirds vote of the Assembly is requested.)
3. That upon formation of the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council, the Committee on Interchurch Relations is authorized to invite two members of each of the Council's participating Churches to attend the next General Assembly. Further, that the committee be authorized to send delegates to the top judiciary meetings of the Churches comprising the NAPRC.
4. That the language adopted by the General Assembly designating "Churches in Fraternal Relation" (Minutes of the Second General Assembly, p. 75), be changed to read, "Churches in Ecclesiastical Fellowship." This relationship will imply:
  - a. Exchange of fraternal delegates at major assemblies.
  - b. Occasional pulpit fellowship.
  - c. Intercommunion (i.e. fellowship at the Table of the Lord).
  - d. Joint action in areas of common responsibility.
  - e. Communication on major issues of joint concern.
  - f. The exercise of mutual concern and admonition with a view to promoting the fundamentals of Christian unity.
5. That the Committee on Interchurch Relations be authorized to designate fraternal delegates to the meetings of those Churches with which this Church is in ecclesiastical fellowship. These shall include both Teaching and Ruling elders.
6. That the General Assembly authorize members and/or executives of its Permanent Committees to meet regularly for mutual sharing of plans and for consultation with the corresponding committees of those Churches with which we are in ecclesiastical fellowship. Funding of such meetings shall be by the respective committees.
7. That the General Assembly authorize the Committee on Interchurch Relations to designate someone to attend a Consultation on the Lord's Day in Contemporary Culture, to be held in Nashville, Tenn., October 13-14, as an observer.

Respectfully submitted:

John T. Clark  
 William E. Hill Jr.  
 William A. McIlwaine  
 Donald McInnis  
 James R. Peaster III  
 Morton H. Smith, Ex Officio  
 G. Aiken Taylor, Chm.  
 Donald C. Graham, Alt.  
 John McKinstry, Alt.



## PROPOSED CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE PROPOSED NORTH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN AND REFORMED COUNCIL

### CONSTITUTION

#### I. Name

The name of the Council shall be The North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council.

#### II. Basis of the Council

In commitment to Jesus Christ as only Savior and Sovereign Lord over all of life we acknowledge that the basis for the fellowship of Presbyterian and Reformed churches is full commitment both to the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the infallible Word of God and to their teachings as set forth in the Reformed standards, viz., the Heidelberg Catechism, the Belgic Confession, the Canons of Dort, the Westminster Confession of Faith, and the Westminster Larger and Shorter Catechisms.

That the adopted basis of fellowship be regarded as warrant for the establishment of a formal relationship of the nature of a council, that is a fellowship that enables the constituent churches to advise, counsel, and cooperate in various matters with one another and hold out before each other the desirability and need for organic union of churches that are of like faith and practice.

#### III. Purpose and Function

1. Facilitate discussion and consultation between member bodies on those issues and problems which divide them as well as on those which they face in common, and by the sharing of insights "communicate advantages to one another" (Institutes IV.2.1.).
2. Promote the appointment of joint committees to study matters of common interest and concern.
3. Exercise mutual concern in the perpetuation, retention and propagation of the Reformed faith.
4. Promote cooperation wherever possible and feasible on the local and denominational level in such areas as missions, relief efforts, Christian schools, and church education.

#### IV. Nature and Extent of Authority

It is understood that all actions and decisions taken are advisory in character and in no way curtail or restrict the autonomy of the member bodies.

#### V. Membership

1. For the purposes of the initiation of the Council those of the following churches which are officially represented in these organization meetings whose assemblies give their approval be the founding churches of the Council: namely, Christian Reformed Church; Orthodox Presbyterian Church; Presbyterian Church in America; Reformed Presbyterian Church, Evangelical Synod; Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America.
2. Those churches shall be eligible for membership which profess and maintain the basis for fellowship expressed in II and that maintain the marks of the true church (pure preaching of the gospel, the Scriptural administration of the sacraments, and the faithful exercise of discipline).
3. Admission to and termination of membership shall be by recommendation of the Council by two-thirds of the ballots cast and this recommendation must then be adopted by the approval of two-thirds of the major assemblies of the member churches.

#### VI. Amendments

This constitution may be amended by recommendation of the Council by two-thirds of the ballots cast and this recommendation must then be adopted by two-thirds of the major assemblies of the member churches. The amendment as recommended to the member churches is unamendable.

### BY-LAWS

#### I. Meeting of the Council

1. The Council normally shall meet once each year.
2. Before adjournment the Council shall set the date and place for the next meeting. The Interim Committee shall make arrangements for the next



meeting and shall supervise the election of a chairman, secretary, and treasurer.

3. All meetings shall be open to observers and guests except when the Council decides to meet in Executive Session.

## **II. Delegates**

1. Each member church shall appoint no more than four delegates to each meeting of the Council.
2. Each delegate of the member church shall be entitled to vote on items before the Council. Voting on major decisions (as determined by the body) shall be by unit vote of church delegations.

## **III. Officers of the Council**

1. Each meeting of the Council shall elect its own officers, as follows: chairman, secretary, treasurer.
2. The responsibilities of the officers will be as follows:
  - a. Chairman — to preside at meetings of the Council, to make required appointments, to see that business is conducted in an orderly manner.
  - b. Secretary — to keep a roll of delegates, to record and distribute the minutes of the Council, to carry on the correspondence in reference to Standing Committees, Study Committees and the next meeting of the Council, and to prepare the Agenda for the next meeting of the Council.
  - c. Treasurer — to receive bills for the expenses of the meeting of the Council, to receive funds to pay bills incurred by the Council, and to submit reports regularly to the Council.

## **IV. Items for Consideration by the Council**

The Council shall deal only with

1. Communications received from member churches.
2. Inquiries from churches for membership.
3. Reports produced by its Committees.
4. Official documents from organizations in which member churches are co-operating.
5. And such matters as may by majority vote be declared properly before the Council.

## **V. Study Committees**

1. Each Council shall appoint as many study committees as circumstances may require.
2. A representative from each church may be appointed to each committee by the delegates of that church to the current meeting of the Council.

## **VI. Interim Committee**

The Interim Committee shall consist of the officers of the previous meeting and two other persons elected by the meeting. Its functions shall be limited to those specified below:

1. Make the arrangements and prepare the agenda for the meeting of the Council.
2. Call meetings of the Council or Study Committees when unusual circumstances warrant.
3. Give counsel to the Secretary regarding correspondence and procedure.
4. Deal responsibly with all matters inadvertently overlooked which call for action before the next meeting of Synod.

## **VIII. Amendments**

These By-Laws may be amended by the Council on a motion passed by two-thirds of the voting delegates.

On motion it was determined to recommend to the respective parent bodies that they accept the Basis of this Council and its Constitution and By-Laws as adopted at this meeting, and agree to the establishment of and participation in the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council.

On motion it was determined that the chairman of this meeting, the secretary and two other members serve as an acting interim committee to call and

make arrangements for the next meeting on October 31 and November 1, 1975. Messrs. Smith and Kromminga were nominated and elected.

On motion it was determined to recommend to the various major assemblies that two members and/or executives of each of the following church agencies meet regularly for mutual sharing of plans and consultation: Foreign Missions, Home Missions (Church Extension, Evangelism, etc.), Relief, Church School Education.

On motion it was determined that each church consider inviting two members of each of the Council's churches to be present as fraternal delegates to the major assemblies throughout the sessions of the assemblies with advisory status and the privilege of the floor.

On motion the meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m. with prayer by the chairman.

Respectfully submitted,  
George W. Knight, III, Secretary

**Appendix E****REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL BUSINESS  
TO THE THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA****INTRODUCTION:**

The Committee on Judicial Business is elected by the General Assembly and performs duties for and reports directly to the Assembly on matters of constitutional nature. In other matters, the Committee functions as advisory to the Stated Clerk and as a sub-committee of the Committee on Administration.

The Committee, in all of its functions, desires to serve our Lord Jesus Christ in such a way that He will be lifted up and His name honored among men. We do pledge this in prayer and in submission to His will as we labor for purity, peace and harmony in His church.

**ACTIONS:**

The Committee selected John M. Barnes of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Rock Hill, South Carolina, chairman for this year. A formal meeting was held on April 11, 1975 in Atlanta concurrently with a meeting of the Committee on Administration.

At that time, meeting separately from the Committee on Administration, the Committee met with Attorney Owen Page and reconfirmed agreement with him (which information is to be furnished to the church) to continue maintaining of a "Clearing House" file of legal briefs and court decisions in church cases and to make copies of pertinent documents available to attorneys representing individual churches upon their request. Mr. Page will continue to be available to local church attorneys for telephone consultation. Should any church or their attorney desire to have Mr. Page associated in a given case or to do specific research, the cost of and arrangements for such will be the responsibility of the local church.

Agreement was reached with the Committee on Administration for the Business Administrator's office to maintain a list of attorneys familiar with church litigation matters and to furnish the names to any church requesting information or recommendation regarding an attorney. Our Committee strongly urges any church facing possible litigation to obtain a competent local attorney and have that attorney contact Owen Page for consultation immediately. Also, local churches are urged to have their attorneys forward copies of all briefs and decisions to Owen Page's office for inclusion in "Clearing House" file.

The status of eleven court cases involving PCA churches was reviewed and is summarized in Attachment "A".

In other areas the Committee approved the letter publicizing to the Church the existence of the "Fund to Assist Needy Churches" as was directed by the Second General Assembly; and the policy approved by the Committee on Administration under which it will be administered; obtained agreement from the Committee on Administration for the chairman to sit in on Committee on Administration meetings until the Assembly can act on recommendations to make the chairman an advisory member of the Committee on Administration since one of the principal functions of Committee on Judicial Business is that of a sub-committee of Committee on Administration; affirmed the desirability of each permanent committee making provisions in its budget for legal expenses since there are matters of leases, contracts, etc. which from time to time will require legal assistance in preparation or execution; reached agreement for Committee to initiate preparation of a manual of operation; agreed to hold its meeting of reorganization for the coming year during General Assembly following election to fill vacancies and expiring terms on the Committee.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The following specific recommendations, which have approval of the Committee on Administration, are made to the Assembly:

1. That the consulting arrangement and provision for maintaining the

"Clearing House" files be continued with Attorney Owen Page of 305-307 Realty Building, Savannah, Georgia 31401.

2. That Article IV, Section 1 of the Bylaws be amended to insert the following at the end of the sentence setting forth composition of Committee on Administration; "The Chairman of the Committee on Judicial Business shall be an advisory member of the Committee on Administration."

3. That each of the four permanent Committees be authorized and requested to include provisions for legal expenses when preparing their budgets.

Respectfully submitted,  
John M. Barnes, Chairman

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**  
**STATUS SUMMARY**  
**OF**  
**CHURCHES IN LITIGATION**  
**A/O 4/11/75**

First, Brookhaven, MS

Adverse lower court decision, case dropped.

Fairmont, Bristol, TN

Adverse lower court decision. On appeal to State Supreme Court.

Faith, Wauchula, FL.

On appeal before State Supreme Court.

Grace Covenant, Hampton, VA.

Supreme Court remanded lower court adverse decision, PCUS has abandoned case.

John Knox, Dallas, TX.

Unknown.

Johnson Memorial, Jackson, TN.

Motion now for summary judgement.

Madison, Madison, FL.

On interlocutory appeal.

First, Rock Hill, SC.

Adverse lower court decision, on appeal before State Supreme Court.

Tobb Street, VA.

Settled by agreement between majority and minority.

Tazewell, VA.

Adverse lower court ruling. Case dropped.

Woodland Heights, Selma, AL.

Unknown.

**SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT**  
**THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**  
**COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL BUSINESS**

Beginning with the Advisory Convention in Asheville in August of 1973 and throughout the formative days of the Presbyterian Church in America, provision has been made for the business of the Assembly to be conducted primarily through four permanent committees; Administration, Mission to the U.S., Mission to the World, and Christian Education.

Also, recognized as a need and provided for by the Advisory Convention was a permanent Committee on Judicial Business, primarily as advisory to the Assembly and to the Committee on Administration.

This Committee was originally composed of seven (7) members elected by the Assembly (Minutes of Advisory Convention, page 24).

The original Bylaws of the Assembly adopted by the First Assembly in December, 1973, elevated this Committee to full standing as a fifth permanent Committee of the Assembly (Minutes of Corporation, Article V, Section 1, page 73).

In the restructured Bylaws adopted by the Second General Assembly in Macon, Georgia, in September, 1974, the Committ was not included. However, the rules for Assembly operation (Appendix A, Section 7-6, page 91) do provide for such an Assembly Committee with responsibilities as originally envisioned by the Advisory Convention. Further, under the duties for the Committee on Administration (Journal, page 73, item 8), approved by the Assembly, a Sub-Committee on Judicial Business is provided for but in neither reference is there any specific provision regarding the number of members nor the method of their selections.

The Committee is now composed of six (6) members and two (2) alternates, with the members divided into three classes of three year terms each. The Nominating Committee is making recommendations for filling expiring and vacant terms.

To clarify this matter and provide for the needs of these services to the Assembly, the following recommendations are made:

1. That Article IV of the Bylaws be amended by adding to the end of section 1 the following:

There shall also be a Committee on Judicial Business composed of six members divided into three classes of two members each serving three year terms. Each class shall be composed of one (1) teaching elder and one (1) ruling elder who is preferably a duly licensed attorney at law.

And to Section 9 an additional sub-section E as follows:

E. The Committee on Judicial Business.

The Committee shall advise the Assembly on all constitutional matters, and between Assemblies shall function as advisory to the Stated Clerk and the Committee on Administration. The Committee shall not be separately funded but administratively will operate as a Sub-Committee of the Committee on Administration. The Committee will make direct report to each Assembly.

2. That the Nominating Committee present nominations to fill expiring or vacant terms in accord with the above proposed amendment to Article IV, and that existing members shall continue to serve the entire term to which they were elected even though it may not be in conformity with proposed amendment.

## Appendix F

# REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS TO THE THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

"And we proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ." Col. 1:28

The Church proclaims one message, Jesus Christ and Him crucified — the Person and Work of Christ (I Cor: 2:1).

This is the content of the Church's witness through education.

It is this message which the Committee for Christian Education and Publications sought earnestly to build into every phase of the denomination's Christian Education ministry in 1974-75. The Committee recognizes that the goal of the Church is to "present every man complete in Christ." The goal is not evangelism. The goal is not education. The goal is Christ — Christ-likeness — every believer grown unto "the Unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God . . . a mature man . . . (who attains to) the measure of the stature which belongs to the fulness of Christ" (Eph. 4:13). The Church is one day to be presented by the Son to Himself "in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing . . . holy and blameless" (Eph. 4:27).

The Church's mission, then, is to witness. The Church's goal is to equip all the saints to do the work of ministry; all of the saints sanctified unto the likeness of Jesus Christ (Acts 1:8; 5:42; Eph. 4-11, 23-27).

Such a goal is possible of achievement when God's people consistently and determinedly **teach** the Gospel evangelistically, **bring** those who are regenerated unto Christ's Church, and continue to **teach** the Gospel educationally (Matt. 28:19-20).

The task of witnessing by teaching the Gospel educationally is not an insignificant one. Indeed, the Committee often is frustrated when it confronts the multiplied responsibilities and opportunities before it. Frustrated because there seems too little time and too few dollars to do the job. But a beginning has been made and we believe the Church may be grateful to God for the ministry that has been initiated and expanded in spite of many obstacles.

The year 1974-1975 has been a year of evaluation, expansion and excitement.

We have had the opportunity for the first time since the Committee was established to learn from experience. With a full year's ministry behind us we took a careful look at where we had been and why, and analyzed the effectiveness of our efforts in relation to the stewardship of energies, abilities, and financial resources. We found that we can operate more efficiently, and subsequently, more economically. We discovered that we must set careful priorities for programs, for the staff simply cannot force more projects and activities into their already bulging portfolio of responsibilities and duties. We had to acknowledge also that priorities sometimes must be established according to the funds on hand, or the lack of them.

In spite of crowded calendars and almost empty coffers we were able, with God's help, to expand the ministries begun in January, 1974.

Staff members traveled many thousands of miles, visited scores of churches, and conducted hundreds of workshops to assist sessions to equip their people to do the work of ministry.

Evaluations of various Sunday School curriculum materials were completed and distributed to the churches. Forms for self-evaluation were devised and made available to the churches, along with an increasing number of denominational publications and other pieces of literature.

Consultations were held which convened specialists and other interested persons from all over the U.S. to assist the staff and Committee with planning for vitally needed ministries to men, women, youth, families, and for the use of media.

The prospect of a joint venture with the Christian Education Committee of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church provided genuine excitement as the Com-



mittee shared in the careful, prayerful planning necessitated by such an ambitious and unique undertaking.

An Assistant Coordinator was added to the staff, thus increasing significantly the ability of the Committee to meet the rapidly growing educational needs of our young denomination.

These and other ministries will be highlighted in this report.

## I. CURRICULUM

**A. The Joint Venture** The Committee is pleased to report that a splendid measure of success attended the effort to establish with the Orthodox Presbyterian Church "a joint administrative structure by means of which our two bodies may join resources and/or personnel for the development of curriculum materials suitable for use in our respective churches and in Reformed and Presbyterian churches at large" (*Minutes*, Second General Assembly, p. 78.)

At meetings of both Committees from October 1974 through February 1975, the terms of agreement were approved and six members from each Committee were elected to serve as provisional trustees with authority to implement the joint venture on July 1, 1975, if the way is clear. In essence the agreement specifies that the joint venture shall bear the name Great Commission Publications, Inc. and that it shall be initiated "on the basis of equal control of editorial policy, recognizing that the joint venture is responsible to the General Assemblies of both denominations through their respective Committees for Christian Education. Equal control assumes equal financial support."

The resolution appearing as recommendation 10 in this report represents the final step toward consummation of this venture (a similar resolution was adopted by the 42nd. General Assembly of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, meeting May 29 in Beaver Falls, Pa.).

While the Committee praises God for His wise guidance in this development, we would remind the Assembly and the churches that the ultimate workability of the joint venture remains to be tested and that a major factor in its success or failure will be our church's response to the urgent need for fervent prayer and adequate funding.

By means of the joint venture we hope to provide an adult curriculum by the Fall of 1976, VBS literature by the summer of 1977, revised Senior High Materials by December, 1977, and pre-school literature by 1979.

**B. Officer/Adult Leadership Series** Writing has already begun on two books in a proposed series of manuals for officer training and adult education.

We hope to publish a *Survey of the O.T.* by Dr. Jack Scott, and an *Introduction to the Book of Church Order* by the Rev. Charles Dunahoo, early in 1976, the Lord willing. Other topics in the series include a survey of the N.T., the biblical basis of missions, evangelism, an introduction to the Westminster Confession of Faith, Christian education, the ruling elder, the deacon, a history of Presbyterianism, what Presbyterians believe, and the Church.

**C. Evaluation of Pre-School Curricula** Consultants Linda Barlow and Joanie Delmar completed in May, 1975, a thorough review and evaluation of the pre-school materials published by Gospel Light Publications, David C. Cook Publishers, and Scripture Press Publications. These were made available to sessions and others who are studying their educational ministries. Currently, the pre-school curriculum offered by the Christian Reformed Church is being evaluated.

**D. WIC Study Guides** Bible study guides for WIC circles and other groups are being prepared for 1975-1976. The second volume of *A Woman Looks at the Confession of Faith* by Mrs. Donald Patterson is now available. Mrs. Patterson's first volume was enthusiastically received and according to reports from pastors and sessions, has significantly increased the women's understanding of and appreciation for our great doctrinal standards.

We continue to offer for 1975-1976 the fine study on the Sermon on the Mount, *Living Life as Christ Taught It*, by the Rev. Gordon Reed. Studies currently being edited for eventual publication treat the Miracles of Christ and the Ten Commandments.

## II. LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

**A. Mini-Conferences** The Committee is greatly encouraged by the enthu-

siastic response given to the leadership training mini-conferences conducted by the staff.

It is estimated that they have taught more than 9,000 people from almost 125 churches in 17 presbyteries. Workshops thus far have been designed to provide church members with 1) a biblical view of the church's mission, 2) an introduction to basic biblical principles for the ministry of the local church, 3) an introduction to principles of Christian pedagogy, 4) an ability to choose and use audio-visual-aids and effective teaching methods according to sound principles, and 5) practical helps for the organization, administration and evaluation of Christian education ministries for families, men, women, youth, children, teachers, officer training, evangelism, missions, and church growth.

The cost of the mini-conferences is borne directly by the sponsoring churches and/or presbyteries.

**B. Extension Seminaries.** The Second General Assembly charged the Committee "in consultation with the Committee on Mission to the U.S., to formulate plans and programs for extension seminaries" (*Minutes*, Second General Assembly, p. 51).

The Committee proceeded immediately, through its Subcommittee on Leadership Development, to formulate plans for such institutions. The Subcommittee's report, as approved and adopted by the Committee, is as follows:

**"The Biblical View of the Minister and Ministerial Training"**

"It is evident from Paul's epistles which deal with the work of the ministry that first of all the minister must be **knowledgeable in the Scripture** and committed to the infallible authority of that Word of God. The high place of God's Word in the making of the minister is seen in II Timothy 3:14-17. The minister is to abide in that Word, to be assured of its authority and to be thoroughly equipped for every service by means of that Word of God. He is able to give heed to reading, exhortation and teaching of the Scriptures (I Tim. 4:13). He must be careful through diligent study to handle God's Word rightly (II Tim. 2:15). The authority with which he preaches and teaches rests solely in God's Word (Titus 2:15).

"To help the man of God called to the ministry of the Word meet this goal he needs training in biblical content, the original languages, exegesis of passages using the best tools, training in teaching scripture to others and experience in applying the lessons taught in a practical way.

"The curriculum for accomplishing this should include courses in the following: English Bible content, Hebrew, Greek, Exegetical method, Interpretation, Teaching methods and principles, study methods and principles, teaching experience under supervision. Such courses ought to be offered by those experienced in English Bible and Christian Education and by those knowledgeable and experienced in the area of Biblical languages and practical exegesis.

"The minister must also be **knowledgeable in doctrine** and committed to sound doctrine. Paul exhorts Timothy to hold the pattern of sound words (II Tim. 1:13) and to keep what was committed to Him (II Tim. 1:14). He is also to commit to others what has been committed to Him (II Tim. 2:2.) The importance of sound doctrine is emphasized throughout the Epistles of Paul (I Tim. 6:3, 4; Titus 1:13; 2:1).

"The one preparing for the ministry therefore needs to know the scope of Christian doctrine, the Reformed distinctives, and how to apply sound doctrine to all areas of life.

"The curriculum for accomplishing this ought to include the history of the church general and of the Reformed churches in particular. It should also include content of doctrine, the Christian world and life view, training in the human and philosophical alternatives to Biblical doctrine and apologetics or training in the defense of the faith. Such courses require men experienced in church history and Reformed theology.

"The minister must also be **evangelistic**. Every minister is an evangelist (II Tim. 4:5). All labor under the command of Christ to be His witnesses (Acts 1:8). All operate under the authority of Christ in the Great Commission (Matt. 28:18-20). All, like Paul, must say "Woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel" (I Cor. 9:16).

"The one called to be a preacher of the Word must know the Biblical meth-

ods of evangelism and the history of evangelism both in his native land and unto the ends of the earth. But above all he must have training in the experience of evangelism and in the responsibilities of congregation, Presbytery and denomination in the work of proclaiming the gospel. Men who teach such courses must be themselves active in evangelism and proven proclaimers of the Word.

"Ministers are also to be **effective preachers of the Word** in the Pauline sense (I Cor. 2:1-5). Excellency of speech and human wisdom are not so important as a personal knowledge of and relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. Persuasive words of wisdom are of far less importance than demonstration of the Spirit and of power. The preachers must be able to communicate.

"The curriculum for preparing men to preach ought to include the following: principles of homiletics, practice preaching, Biblical principles of preaching, study of Biblical sermons, experience in actual preaching, speech, and above all, guidance in the minister's own devotional and spiritual life that his dependence may rest wholly on the Lord.

"Men who teach these courses must themselves be spiritual and apt to preach God's Word, presently active in the pulpit.

"Finally, the ideal minister must also have a **pastor's heart**. This means that he must learn to serve with humility (Acts 20:19); serve under hardship (20:19); teach publicly and house to house (20:20); witness without prejudice or favoritism (20:21); finish his course not becoming too quickly discouraged (29-24); declaring the whole counsel of God (20:27). He must also take heed to his own spiritual life (20:28; I Th. 2:10). The pastor must exercise oversight over the flock (20:28) warning them of the enemies of the gospel (20:29-31). He must not himself be covetous of earthly rewards (20:33-35).

"One word in particular aptly describes the good pastor. He is to be gentle (I Th. 2:7; II Tim. 2:24, 25).

"The training of the ministry then must include internship under proven pastors, lectures from active pastors on pastoral care, courses in Church administration (Book of Church Order), training in Christian education, principles, church curriculum, Home Bible study, etc.

"Those teaching these courses should be men who are active in the pastorate and in Christian education work who can train men to teach others. The attribute of gentleness must be of abiding in Christ so that the spiritual fruit of gentleness may grow. Men of such fruit ought to set the example for those who are being trained.

"All of the above curriculum ought to be Biblically based, that is, all that is taught ought to begin in Scripture where the basic principles for each discipline can be found."

1) Regarding Objectives for Extension Seminaries, we recommend that;

a) The General Assembly utilize the training, experience, interests, and talents of men active in the pastorate, to provide a sequence of courses equivalent to a standard three year seminary program for men who are college graduates. Multiple extension seminaries will be developed as needed in the geographic area served by the denomination. The standards of the requirements in these courses shall be on the same graduate level as are standards in established seminary programs. The typical college graduate will normally require four to five years or even longer to complete the requirements for the degree to be awarded.

b) Since there are many extra-ordinarily gifted men in the congregations of the denomination, the Assembly shall provide the opportunity for training these men for the work of the ministry. The extension seminary courses shall ordinarily be scheduled for evenings and/or weekends and the time for completion of the degree will typically be five years or longer.

c) The extension seminary courses shall also provide the opportunity for others to enroll in courses to train for teaching, witnessing, and serving more effectively in the work of the local church.

d) The Seminaries shall provide training for specialized ministries such as:

### 1. Missions

2. Administration
  3. Christian Education (including DCE training and Christian Day School teacher training)
  4. Counseling
- 2) Immediate goals for Extension Seminaries. We recommend the establishment of two or three extension seminaries no later than the fall of 1976 using the following criteria for the selection of the locations:
- a) Facilities — classrooms shall be in adequate number to house the anticipated enrollment.
  - b) Resources — Qualified teachers for the various courses in the curriculum shall be available. Library resources shall be available in nearby schools, colleges, churches, and ministerial libraries.
  - c) Need — Potential student enrollment in the various areas of the curriculum shall be determined.
- 3) We recommend that, if the way be clear, extension seminaries offer the following options for students preparing for the ministry:
- a) **partial training** (1 or 2 years) at the extension Seminary with study to be completed at a regular Seminary; or
  - b) **total training** with the study being completed at the local extension Seminary.
- 4) Implementation of the Extension Seminary Program of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America. We recommend the following:
- a) That the General Assembly empower the Committee on Christian Education to establish a Sub-committee of 5 teaching elders and 5 ruling elders from the church at large to supervise Seminary training. The Sub-committee shall set conditions and qualifications for the establishment of local schools. The Sub-committee shall employ one Administrator in charge of curriculum, standards, teacher selection and training who shall work directly with the local committees in setting up and continuing local extension Seminaries. The Sub-committee shall accredit local schools which have met the standards approved by the Sub-committee.
  - b) That communities desiring extension Seminaries shall establish local committees to work with the Sub-committee and Administrator. The local committee shall be responsible for maintenance of the local school and for its supervision. The local committee shall maintain and transfer accurate student records.
  - c) Seminaries cooperating with the PCA in this program shall supply outlines of courses required showing areas of expected competence.
  - d) That the teaching and classes at the Extension Seminaries shall be offered by ministers and laymen of dedicated interest and proven ability in their field; by cassette tapes, video-cassette tapes and other mechanical means only as a supplement to personal lectures and only under the supervision of the responsible teachers. Such devices shall supplement and not replace teaching done directly in the classroom.
  - e) That the Sub-committee on Leadership Training of the Christian Education Committee be granted permission to invite representatives from prospective cooperating standard seminaries to meet with such Sub-committee in order that we may invite these schools to cooperate with the PCA in this Extension Seminary Program. We recommend Westminster, Covenant and Reformed Theological Seminary be invited to cooperate in the program at the present time.
  - f) We recommend as a Proposed Curriculum for Extension Seminaries, the following:

	Course Description	Hours
1st Unit	EB I OT Survey .....	4
	PEN I OT Intro. ....	3
	HB I Lang. ....	4
	TH I Intro. to Ref. Doct. ....	3

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2nd Unit	EB II OT-NT Survey .....	4	14
	PEN II OT Intro. ....	3	
	HB II Lang. ....	4	
	HS I To 600 AD .....	3	
3rd Unit	EB III NT Survey .....	4	16
	HB III Lang. ....	4	
	TH II OT .....	5	
	PE I OT-NT Foundations .....	3	
4th Unit	HS II To 1500 .....	3	16
	GK I Lang. ....	4	
	TH III NT .....	5	
	PE II Homiletics .....	2	
	CE I Educ. Min. of Ch. ....	2	
5th Unit	HS III To 1650 .....	3	14
	GK II Lang. ....	4	
	TH IV Systematics .....	3	
	EX I OT .....	2	
	PE III Homiletics .....	2	
6th Unit	HS IV To present .....	3	16
	GK III Lang. ....	4	
	TH V Apologetics .....	3	
	EX II NT .....	2	
	PE IV Preaching .....	2	
	CE II Hist. of Educ. ....	2	
7th Unit	EX III NT-OT .....	4	14
	PC I OT-NT Foundations .....	3	
	CE III Curriculum Design .....	2	
	PE V Evangelism .....	2	
	TH V Ethics .....	3	
8th Unit	EX IV OT-NT .....	4	12
	PC II Polity, Admin. ....	3	
	PE VI Worship .....	2	
	TH VI Contemporary .....	3	
9th Unit	EX V OT NT .....	4	16
	CE IV Organ., Growth .....	3	
	PE VIII Missions .....	2	
	PC III Counseling .....	3	
	EB IV OT-NT Survey .....	4	
EB	English Bible .....	16	Hours
PEN	Pentateuchal Foundations .....	6	
HS	Church History .....	12	
TH	Theology .....	25	
PE	Homiletics, Evangelism, Missions .....	15	
CE	Christian Education .....	9	
PC	Pastoral Care, Practical .....	9	
HB	Hebrew .....	12	
GK	Greek .....	12	
EX	Exegesis (OT, NT) .....	16	
			132 Hours

Recommendations 8, 9 of this Committee, if adopted, will implement the plans contained in this report.

**C. Bookstore Ministries** The Christian education staff and Committee mem-



ber E. Lee Trinkle have adopted a manual by Ele Hilleke to assist churches to establish and maintain a Christian bookstore. Interested persons should write the Rev. Mr. Trinkle, 7803 Hestia Place, Pensacola, FL 32506.

**D. Church Library Ministries** The staff is prepared to give assistance to churches desiring to establish or improve a church library. Interested persons should write C.E. Consultant Mrs. Paul Settle (Georgia) 1020 Monticello Ct., Montgomery, AL 36109.

**E. Ministers' Continuing Education** Response to a survey sent to P.C.A. pastors in February, 1975, was excellent. More than 100 forms were returned and only five ministers indicated that they felt no need for a program of continuing education. 119 expressed a strong desire to develop their gifts and professional abilities to a higher degree.

The great majority (66) felt that regional pastor's seminaries or clinics would best fit their schedule.

Of the study categories listed the following were most popular: Counseling (63), Christian education (50), Church growth (44), Administration, management (42), Evangelism (35), Biblical Theology (35), Bible study (31).

Teachers/leaders/speakers most often mentioned as those who the ministers "would particularly like to sit under" were: Dr. Jay Adams, Dr. Edmund Clowney, Dr. Palmer Robertson, Dr. Morton Smith, Rev. Al Martin, Dr. Norman Harper, Rev. Paul Settle.

The Committee's response to the results of the survey was rapid. A three-day seminar for ministers has been set for February 16-18, 1976, in Montgomery, Ala., with Dr. Jay Adams, professor at Westminster Seminary, Philadelphia, as the guest leader. Details will be sent to the ministers as soon as plans are complete. Further opportunities for ministers' continuing education are being discussed and will be announced as soon as plans are completed.

**F. Evaluation of Colleges.** Though the Committee feels that "endorsement" of colleges is not feasible, it is preparing a file on a number of church and/or Christian schools to assist sessions and individuals to counsel youth concerning their choice of an institution for collegiate studies. Information is being gathered from visits to the campuses and personal interviews by Committee members with members of the college administration, faculty, and student body. Files are being compiled on the following institutions: Belhaven College, Jackson, Miss., Covenant College, Lookout Mt., Tenn., Montreat-Ander-son College, Montreat, N. C., Reformed Bible Institute, Grand Rapids, Mich., and Bryan College, Dayton, Tenn. Other schools will be included as Committee members have opportunity to visit them. Persons interested in information concerning the schools should write Coordinator Paul Settle, 1020 Monticello Ct., Montgomery, Ala. 36109.

**G. "Examine Yourself"** The C.E. staff has prepared a set of "forms" to assist churches to evaluate their Christian education ministry." Evaluation instruments and instructions are provided for educational facilities, the Sunday School, the C.E. Committee, WIC organizations, other C.E. Ministries (men, youth, evangelism, missions). There is also a Bible test for the Sunday School. The set, entitled "Examine Yourself" is available from the C.E. office for .25c.

**H. Resource and Research Library** A modest beginning has been made toward the establishment of a Christian education resource and research library. Housed in the Montgomery offices, the library is available to historians, educators, ministers, teachers, church officers, writers and others interested in materials related to the numerous varieties of C.E. ministries.

Included are books, pamphlets, catalogues, cassette tapes, and periodicals representing many of the major publishers. A filing system is being devised, as are systems for the most efficient use of the material by students.

Interested persons may secure a listing of material now included in the library by writing Consultant Georgia Settle, 1020 Monticello Ct., Montgomery, Ala. 36109.

### III. FAMILY MINISTRIES

The Committee feels that a major emphasis in the Church should be given to the development of effective ministries to families. Satan is directing ruthless attacks against the biblical concept of the family and the Church must meet the onslaught with sound teaching from the Word of God.



Consultations were held in February and March, 1975, which gathered men and women from across the Assembly to study biblical principles and explore positive ministries for men, women, youth, and children.

**A. Men of the Covenant** Four men's work specialists met with the staff on Saturday, February 15 to:

- 1) Discuss the biblical basis for men's work ministries.
- 2) Develop a biblical and Reformed concept of men's ministries.
- 3) Consider the present needs in the churches and presbyteries of the PCA.
- 4) Explore ways to meet the needs and opportunities.
- 5) Begin planning a program for 1975-76.

Those present were Messrs. William Simoneau, Columbia, SC, Earl Mizell, Miami, FL, Millard Tate, Burlington, NC and the Rev. Gerald Morgan, Gadsden, AL. Staff members present were the Coordinator, Mr. Herring, Mrs. Settle, and Miss Delmar.

Scriptures examined included Ex. 18:13-26; Rom. 15:5; Phil. 4:6-8; I Tim. 3:1-13; Acts 6:3; Eph. 4:11-16; I Cor. 11:3-14; II Tim. 2:2; Acts 2:42-47.

It was agreed that the Scriptures teach that God has given to **men** the primary responsibility for the ministry of the Christian Church. In the home, the church, and the community **men** are to reflect the nature of God by assuming their rightful, God-given positions of authority.

The biblical goal for men, as for all of God's people, is growth unto holiness — Christ-likeness — to the glory of God.

The aim of men's ministries, whether on the local, presbytery, or denominational levels, must be to equip God's men for complete Christian living in the presence of God. Therefore, the means of grace, especially the Word, prayer and discipline, must be an integral part of every program or publication designed for men.

A total program for men will include opportunities for worship, instruction, fellowship, and expression to the end that men may be brought by God's grace to:

- 1) Belief in God as revealed in Christ Jesus,
- 2) Personal acceptance of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord,
- 3) Vital fellowship with Christ,
- 4) Definite, personal commitment to the Christian life and church membership, and
- 5) Wholehearted participation in the entire program of the Church

GOAL — Christ-likeness

— Complete Christian living

EXPRESSION

FELLOWSHIP

INSTRUCTION

WORSHIP

**B. Youth Ministries** Ten youth specialists met with the staff of the Committee for Christian Education and Publications on March 4, 1975 to:

- 1) Discuss the biblical basis for youth ministries,
- 2) Consider the present needs in the churches and presbyteries,
- 3) Explore ways to meet the needs,
- 4) Begin plans for youth ministries in the PCA for 1975-76.

Those present were: the Rev. Messrs. Wayne Herring, Laurie Jones, Kenneth Ironside, James Turner, Timothy Fortner, and Mrs. Donald Dunkerley, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Parton, Mr. and Mrs. Lon Downs and Mrs. Roy Gamble. Staff members in attendance were Mr. Settle, Mr. Herring, Mrs. Settle, Miss Delmar, and Miss Barlow.

Study was given to such passages as Deut. 6:1ff; Ps. 78; Matt. 28:18-20; Tit. 2; Eph. 4:11-16; Acts 2:42ff.

It was agreed that youth-oriented ministries on denominational, presbytery, and local church levels are indeed biblical and necessary, and should aim for complete Christian living in the Family, Church, and World. A total youth

ministry should include worship, instruction, fellowship, and practical and evangelistic expression through music, youth fellowship, Sunday School, camps, retreats, conferences, weekday Bible studies and prayer groups, Christian Schools, local church service, and counseling.

All youth activities should be consciously and carefully coordinated with the total ministry of the local church so that the session's overall goals may be reached and every member may be properly equipped to show forth God's praises to His glory.

The consultants explored ways to recruit leaders, to involve entire families, to assist pastors and session, to stress training for particular service, and to produce truly biblical and Reformed youth literature.

**C. Women in the Church** God has singularly blessed the Committees efforts to guide sessions and presbyteries to consider biblical principles for women's ministries and to establish WIC organizations that conform strictly to those principles. 18 presbyteries have established WIC organizations for fellowship and inspiration. It is recommended that such presbytery level groups should be organized only to the extent necessary for efficient planning and implementation.

WIC organizations in local churches are reminded through the Assembly-approved manual and by the C.E. staff that they are under the direct oversight of the session.

The Women's Advisory Subcommittee has met regularly to provide general advice and counsel to the Committee and staff and to communicate Committee policies to the women in the churches and presbyteries. Members of the WIC Advisory Subcommittee are Mrs. Joseph High, Pompano Beach, FL, Mrs. Bill W. Cutter, Alexandria, LA, Mrs. Ralph M. Langford, Gadsden, AL, Mrs. C. W. McNutt, Charleston, WV and Mrs. Gaynor Phillips, Greenville, SC.

The Committee voted in November, 1974, to abolish the C.E. staff position of WIC Consultant as of December 31, 1975, with the view that the responsibilities of this position will be assumed by presbytery C.E. chairmen, presbytery WIC presidents, local sessions, local WIC leaders, and members of the C.E. staff.

C.E. Consultant Mrs. Paul Settle is presently editing Bible study guides for 1975-1976 and 1976-1977. It is envisioned that at least three WIC Bible study guides will be available each year so that local sessions may choose such materials from a variety of options.

Mrs. Settle, in consultation with the Committee and the WIC Advisory Subcommittee, is also preparing brief program helps for WIC general meetings and promotional aids for the 1976 Love Gift Offering. These materials will be made available to the churches in time for their effective use by presbytery and local church organizations.

The Committee takes pleasure in announcing that the Women's Love Gift Offering for 1975, which goes to the Mission to the U.S. Committee for its radio ministry, is \$17,863.85.

The Men's and Women's Advisory Subcommittees have been directed to plan together an Assembly level Family Conference for 1976.

#### IV. MEDIA

In cooperation with Westminster Seminary, Christian media specialists and communications consultants met on February 20, 1975 to:

- 1) Consider the capabilities of the various audio-visual media now available to the Church,
- 2) Explore the possible uses of video tape and other media in theological education, lay training programs, extension seminaries, local churches, evangelism efforts, missions, and public relations,
- 3) Discuss the possibility of cooperation between the PCA and Westminster Theological Seminary, as well as between other denominations and/or institutions that may be interested.

The consultation was the result of a request by Westminster Seminary, asking our staff to initiate such a round-table to explore possible cooperative uses of their newly-installed video tape equipment.

Discussion lasted nearly six hours, and covered such topics as video tape,

16 mm movies, filmstrips, slides, cassette and reel-to-reel tape, slide-tape, and printed matter, as well as uses of TV, radio, and closed-circuit broadcasting, and the relationships of such A-V-A to curriculum development, design, and art work.

No specific recommendations were proposed, but it was generally agreed that the Committee for Christian Education and Publications and Westminster Seminary should keep abreast of developments in the media field, and begin to use the available video equipment for simple experimental and research projects until expertise can be developed.

#### V. FINANCES

The needs are great.

As of June 1, the Committee had received only about one-half the funds budgeted for the first six months of 1975.

Such financial stringency must not continue if the Committee is to fulfill the responsibilities given it by the General Assembly. A full program of Christian education which will enable the denomination to fulfill the Great Commission is expensive. The recommended budgets from this Committee have been realistic and based upon careful analyses of needs and opportunities. The proposed budget for 1976 is even less than the 1975 budget, reflecting the staff's and Committee's careful assessment of their ministries in the light of experience and their growing efficiency and expertise.

If the Assembly believes that the Committee's analyses are in error, or that the Committee is not fulfilling its responsibilities, the Assembly should say so. If the Committee does properly understand its task and if it is serving the denomination effectively for the glory of Christ, the General Assembly must give the support needed. It is that simple.

When only enough funds are provided to pay the barest operating expenses, the Committee cannot expand its ministries, write, edit, and publish literature, provide advice and counsel to churches, or do any of a hundred other tasks it might do if sufficient financial support was given. Only a strongly biblical program of Christian education can long support the vital ministries of Reformed evangelism at home and abroad.

#### VI. STAFF

The Committee happily reports that the Rev. Harris Langford has accepted its call to fill the position of Assistant Coordinator. Mr. Langford, a native of Gadsden, AL, comes to us from the pastorate of the Town North Presbyterian Church (RPCES), Dallas, Texas.

He is a graduate of the University of Georgia (AB in Journalism, Masters work in Political Science), and of Reformed Seminary (M. Div., 1968). A son of the First Presbyterian Church, Gadsden, Langford is familiar to many Presbyterians through his series of studies for Youth in **The Presbyterian Journal**.

A much decorated military chaplain, Mr. Langford served in Vietnam and continues his military duties as a Chaplain in the Army Reserve.

He has been received by Evangel Presbytery, and now lives with his family — wife Kay, daughter Sharon — in Montgomery, AL.

#### VII. DENOMINATIONAL PUBLICATIONS

We praise God for the privilege of serving the Church by publishing the official newsletter **Continuing** . . . and the stewardship organ **Commitment**. 50,000 copies of these publications are distributed on an almost-monthly basis to the churches of the P.C.A. and to individuals and institutions in several other denominations. Reports indicate that readership levels are high.

Lists of current publications and prices can be secured from the Committee's offices, 1020 Monticello Ct., Montgomery, AL 36109.

#### VIII. CONCLUSION

We regret that the Rev. Harry Miller, the first chairman of this Committee, was forced to resign his chair and his membership on the Committee due to pressures of schedule in his busy pastorate. Mr. Miller served the Church well and will be sorely missed from this Committee.

Your Committee and staff are sincerely grateful for the privilege of serv-

ing Christ through the ministry of Christian Education. We labor to the end that all of the elect of God may set their hope in Him and not forget His works, but keep His commandments (see Psalm 78:7). Indeed, our goal remains ever before us: "to present every man complete in Christ."

#### IX. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee for Christian Education and Publications makes the following recommendations to the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America. WE RECOMMEND THAT

1. The General Assembly officially designate P.C.A. men's ministries by the title **MEN OF THE COVENANT**.

2. The General Assembly approve the general concept of Men of the Covenant ministries contained in this report and recommend it to the presbyteries and sessions for their consideration.

3. The General Assembly approve the establishment of a Men of the Covenant Advisory Subcommittee of the Committee for Christian Education and Publications, whose members shall be appointed by the Committee for Christian Education and Publications.

4. The General Assembly approve the general concept of Youth Ministries contained in this report and recommend it to the presbyteries and sessions for their consideration.

5. The General Assembly approve the establishment of a Youth Ministries Advisory Subcommittee of the Committee for Christian Education and Publications, whose members shall be appointed by the Committee for Christian Education and Publications.

6. The General Assembly encourage presbyteries or combinations of presbyteries to hold regional youth conferences in 1976.

7. The General Assembly authorize and encourage the Committee for Christian Education and Publications to conduct a Family Conference on the General Assembly level in 1976.

8. The General Assembly approve the concept and authorize the Committee for Christian Education and Publications to implement the plans for Extension Seminaries in this report.

9. The General Assembly empower the Committee for Christian Education and Publications to establish an extension seminary subcommittee of the Committee for Christian Education and Publications to consist of five teaching elders and five ruling elders, whose function shall be to supervise the establishment and operation of extension seminaries.

10. The General Assembly adopt the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America hereby instructs its Committee for Christian Education and Publications to enter upon a joint venture with the Committee on Christian Education of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church for a period of at least five (5) years.

Be it further resolved that in the event that it becomes the judgment of the Committee for Christian Education and Publications that the joint venture should be dissolved, the said Committee will give notice of intent to withdraw from the joint venture at least 18 months prior to the last day of its effective participation; such notice to be given no earlier than three and one half years from the date of initiation of the joint venture.

11. The General Assembly encourage sessions to review samples of Great Commission Publications Sunday School curriculum materials and consider the use of these materials in their educational programs.

12. The General Assembly encourage the use in the churches of **THE TRINITY HYMNAL**, published by Great Commission Publications.

13. The General Assembly be informed that the Committee for Christian Education and Publications is "opposed to the General Assembly's purchasing and/or developing a General Assembly camp or conference facility at this time."

14. The General Assembly approve and adopt the recommended budget for 1976., contained in this report.

15. The General Assembly commend the Women in the Church organizations for their generous contribution of more than \$17,000.00 to the Mission to the U. S. radio ministry through their second annual Love Gift offering.

16. That the General Assembly approve the Tuberculosis Clinic and Rehabilitation Center, Korea — a ministry of the Rev. and Mrs. Hugh Linton as the object for the 1976 Love Gift offering of the Women in the Church.

17. The General Assembly urge presbyteries to conduct conferences for teaching Reformed theology and its implications for the life and work of the churches and members of the P.C.A.

18. The General Assembly approve the Minutes of the Permanent Committee for Christian Education and Publications.

19. The General Assembly declare that all Permanent Committee meetings may be attended by any member of the P.C.A. and that such members shall be afforded a place on the Committee's docket when a request to do so is received by the Committee at least ten days before the Committee meeting, and that the dates of stated Committee meetings must be published at least 30 days prior to the meeting.

20. The General Assembly express its appreciation to the Rev. Harry Miller for his faithful and efficient leadership in the ministry of Christian Education during the period of his service as Chairman of the Committee for Christian Education and Publications.

21. The General Assembly approve the development by the Committee for Christian Education and Publications of summer church service opportunities for P.C.A. youth.

22. The General Assembly elect the Rev. Paul G. Settle to the position of Coordinator for the Committee for Christian Education and Publications for the year 1976.

23. The General Assembly approve the election of the Rev. Harris Langford to the position of Assistant Coordinator for the Committee for Christian Education and Publications.

24. The General Assembly urge the ministers of the Church to attend the continuing education event scheduled for February 16-18, 1976, in Montgomery, AL, with Dr. Jay Adams as guest leader; and, further, that the General Assembly urge sessions to encourage their minister to attend and provide his expenses, if the way be clear.

25. The General Assembly encourage each local session to compile and maintain a history of the church and that the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly be directed to supervise the collection and deposition of such material, at the direction of the Assembly.

26. The General Assembly adopt the following resolution:

**Whereas** "In a day when many forces are at work, consciously and unconsciously, to fragment the family unit, Presbyterians must return again and again to our historic Biblical Covenant theology which underlines the oneness of the family, And

**Whereas** This theology will best be implemented in a practical way by placing primary emphasis upon activities that include entire families at the local



and Presbytery level. (During such activities, separate meetings may be held for men, women, youth, and children, but the overall effect must be to bring families together rather than separating them. Assembly-wide family conferences may be scheduled during vacation periods that would enable whole families to spend more time together in a leisurely atmosphere.)

**Therefore** We do not feel that the Presbyterian Church in America should encourage separate Assembly-wide rallies for men and women."

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Jack B. Scott

Rev. Harry Schutte.

Rev. Michael Schneider

Rev. Jimmy Turner

Rev. Lee Trinkle

Rev. Harold Borchert (Chrmn)

Mr. Donald Boerema

Mr. John Hunter

Mr. Hugh Cunningham

Mr. Roy Gamble

Mr. Ed Robeson

Mr. Frank Horton



## Appendix G

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE  
UNITED STATES TO THE THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY,  
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

Published at Basle in 1536 the **Institutes of the Christian Religion** included an inclusive Prefatory Address to Francis, King of the French, in which John Calvin boldly wrote:

Your duty, most serene Prince, is not to shut either your ears or mind against a cause involving such mighty interests as these: how the glory of God is to be maintained on the earth inviolate. how the truth of God is to preserve its dignity, how the kingdom of Christ is to continue amongst us compact and secure. The cause is worthy of your ear, worthy of your investigation, worthy of your throne.

The precious responsibility of beginning churches in the United States and Canada which are faithful to the Scripture and the Reformed faith and obedient to the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ is a Biblical cause like that of Calvin which seeks to (1) maintain the glory of God in these lands; (2) preserve the dignity of the truth of God; and (3) continue and expand the kingdom of Christ. For these reasons we believe that the cause of Mission to the United States is worthy of the ear, worthy of the investigation, and worthy of the prayer and financial support of the entire constituency of the Presbyterian Church in America.

How the glory of God is to be maintained in the United States and Canada is a cause inherently worthy of the ear, investigation, prayer and financial support of every member of a denomination founded on the truths of the Word of God which clearly declare that man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever! Let those who now desire the glory of God give ear to the cause of Mission to the United States. The unchanging gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ is clearly needed in Kansas as well as in Korea, in Massachusetts as well as in Mexico, in British Columbia as well as in Brazil. Let those who desire the glory of God fully investigate and comprehend the ramifications of the fact that if the United States perishes there will hardly remain any world mission work of the Presbyterian Church in America. Let those who desire the glory of God pray more earnestly that God would begin many churches in our land in which He would call His elect to salvation and nourish them in the faith once delivered to the saints and now summarized in the **Westminster Confession of Faith** and **Catechisms**. Let those who desire the glory of God financially support the work of Mission to the United States to the end that God be glorified in the establishment of many such Presbyterian Church in America Churches in 1976.

How the dignity of the truth of God is to be preserved in the United States and Canada is undoubtedly a cause worthy of the ear, investigation, prayer and financial support of every member of a denomination which unashamedly confesses that the Bible is the inerrant and infallible Word of God written! Let those who sincerely desire to preserve the dignity of the truth of God give ear to the fact that in establishing churches in which the inerrant Word is faithfully preached, the holy Sacraments decently administered, and the proper Scriptural discipline maintained we are preserving the dignity of the truth of God. Let those who earnestly desire to preserve the dignity of the truth of God investigate the sad possibility of the Presbyterian Church in America not being financially able to begin churches which possess the true marks of the Church. Let those who conscientiously desire to preserve the truth of God in its dignity pray more ardently for continuing opportunities and expanding financial support to begin such churches which do possess the marks of the true Church. Let those who truly desire to preserve the dignity of the truth of God graciously support the work of Mission to the United States with their financial gifts.

How the kingdom of Christ is to continue secure and expand among us is doubtless a cause worthy of the ear, investigation, prayer and financial support of every member of a denomination which boldly proclaims itself to be obedi-

ent to the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ! Let those who fervently desire to expand the kingdom of Christ give ear to the Biblical fact set forth in the **Westminster Confession of Faith** (Chapter XXV Section 2) that the "visible church . . . is the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ, the house and family of God, out of which there is no ordinary possibility of salvation." Let those who zealously desire to expand the kingdom of Christ investigate the innumerable possibilities for beginning churches in the United States and Canada. Let those who honestly desire to expand the kingdom of Christ diligently pray that God would give our entire denomination the wisdom to understand that it is through the Church that God is pleased to collect and nourish His elect. Let those who unreservedly desire to expand the kingdom of Christ generously support the cause of Mission to the United States with their financial gifts.

### INFORMATION

Pursuant to the duties of this Committee as set forth in the Minutes of the First General Assembly, page forty-six, we submit the following information to this solemn Assembly:

1. Being satisfied with the excellent work done this past year by the Coordinator the Committee will again nominate the Reverend Mr. Larry Mills as Coordinator. Realizing the necessity for an Assistant Coordinator the Committee is nominating Mr. Jim Alinder of Jackson, Mississippi, for that important position. In accordance with the instructions of the General Assembly we have submitted our proposed budget for 1976 which includes the recommended salaries for the Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator to the Committee on Administration. After reviewing our budget with them we are in accord with their recommendation to this Assembly concerning administrative and program costs for the Committee on Mission to the United States for the coming year.
2. With the knowledge that the following list is by no means exhaustive we inform the Assembly of the following needs in the United States and Canada.
  - a. The continuing urgency of beginning churches in areas where there is no Reformed witness. As Presbyteries in the Presbyterian Church in America continue to become stronger it becomes more evident that much of the work of this Committee will be in areas outside the southern United States.
  - b. Specialized ministries to reach Jews, blacks, foreign speaking individuals in this country, those in the inner city, those in mountain regions, drug addicts, alcoholics, and those in the subculture for Jesus Christ continue to be necessary.
  - c. Special attention should be given to beginning Reformed Churches in university cities.
  - d. Many existing churches need assistance in developing and implementing programs of evangelism and follow-up.
  - e. Christian day schools and orphanages are fields of opportunity in which to nurture covenant children and bring the elect to Jesus Christ.
  - f. Related to mission needs is the continuing need for gifted men to become organizing pastors and home mission pastors.
3. One of the purposes of every mission work begun outside the boundaries of an existing Presbytery by this Committee is that the work soon become self-supporting and related to an existing Presbytery as soon as possible. We rejoice that whereas there were member churches of this denomination in fourteen states at the time of the First General Assembly there are now member churches and/or works of this denomination in more than twenty states. Inquiries about the possibility of beginning churches have been received from most states in our nation and from Canada. We reaffirm our belief that ours will soon be a truly national Church with a strong base of support in the South.
4. The Committee reaffirms that it neither desires nor intends to tell Presbyteries how to begin or sustain mission work; however, we are willing to fully cooperate with any Presbyteries seeking our assistance. It is our policy that all requests for aid from any church and/or individuals within the bounds of

a Presbytery come through the Mission to the United States Committee of that Presbytery. In areas where we have made mistakes this past year we ask the brethren to forgive us and to attribute our errors to the fact that our zeal may have exceeded our knowledge.

5. Under the direction of the General Assembly the Committee has raised funds this year for the support of the programs which the Assembly gave

us to carry out. In cooperation with the other Committees of the Assembly we have participated in the establishment of a Sub-Committee on Stewardship. The attention of our entire constituency should be focused on the fact that beginning churches in areas where there is no Presbytery is financially costly. We endeavour to have the local group assume as much of the financial support for the new work as possible. Our 1976 Budget is commensurate with our objectives of beginning churches of this denomination in this country and Canada. The Committee prayerfully considers each financial request and endeavors to be good stewards of the resources which the Lord has entrusted to our care.

- 6-7. Because these duties are obviously related we speak to them as one. Through the office of the Coordinator we have attempted to keep member churches and Presbyteries informed of the work of home missions at the denominational level. The Coordinator and members of the Committee have presented the work of Mission to the United States to many Presbyteries and local churches in the past year. Our prayer letter and newsletter have been well received and effectively used as instruments of informing the denomination of the needs and progress of home mission work. Through denominational and independent publications we have endeavoured to inform the denomination of what the Lord has done in establishing churches throughout America.

We continue to believe that the great business of God's people is to proclaim God's truth to all people, to gather His elect from the four corners of the earth, and through the Word, ministers, and ordinances, train them for eternal life. Duties which the General Assembly gives to this Committee in addition to those listed on page forty-six of the Minutes of the First General Assembly which will enable this denomination to fulfill these ends are welcomed. We devoutly pray that the whole Church catholic may be afresh baptized with the Holy Spirit and that she may speedily be stirred up to give the Lord no rest until He establishes and makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the General Assembly express its thanks to the sovereign God for the prayer and financial support which individuals, churches and Presbyteries have given to the Committee on Mission to the United States since the last General Assembly and for the work which He has permitted this Committee to begin in 1975.
2. That the General Assembly now hear and act upon the nomination of the Reverend Mr. Larry Mills to serve as Coordinator.
3. That the General Assembly approve a Day of Prayer for home mission work.

Submitted for His Glory,

Cecil Williamson, Jr.

Committee on Mission to the United States

### MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES SUPPLEMENT TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPORT:

#### I. Information

Grateful for God's blessing, M-US has had the privilege under God to have supported more than 35 different fields of evangelism and church planting since the last General Assembly. In the providence of God we have seen new churches organized in California, Arizona, New Mexico, Ohio, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Texas, Arkansas and Tennessee.

There are approximately 30 mission churches spread across the United States at present; seeking to evangelize our nation to fulfill the Great Commission in our homeland. We are grateful to God for His sovereign grace and power.

There continues to be great interest across our nation in the Presbyterian Church in America. Our commitment to the Scripture as the infallible, inerrant Word of God, to the Great Commission and to the Reformed Faith, has captured the hearts of many. The desire to evangelize is evident in every Mission Church. God is working to revitalize His people and to build His Church.

Such continual interest needs the prayerful and financial support of the entire church as God has opened doors to more than 18 new states since the first General Assembly.

One of the blessings of God this year has been the formation of the Presbytery of the Ascension. On January 1, 1975, there were no PCA churches in Pennsylvania or Ohio. Seven months later God had raised up four new PCA churches and two mission churches. Nine ministers and four churches were formed into a provisional Presbytery on July 29, 1975. It is our privilege to present to the General Assembly the Presbytery of the Ascension and commend them to you for full recognition and reception as the Presbytery to the Ascension.

## II. Recommendations

1. The General Assembly now hear a report on the formation of the Presbytery of the Ascension and receive them as a member Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in America.
2. Guidelines adopted by the M-US Committee on May 2 and 3, 1975, be approved by the General Assembly as follows:  
"Standards for Support of New Work Within the Geographic Bounds of Existing Presbyteries"
  - 1) 10 families with 75% attendance of 30 or 40 people
  - 2) Giving should project that it will be self-supporting in two years
  - 3) Half of pastor's salary is to be underwritten by the congregation from the outset
  - 4) Pastor must pass examination by M-US Committee
  - 5) A specific cut-off date of M-US funds scheduled
3. An extension of one year on Policy Manual.

## Appendix H

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE WORLD  
TO THE THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

**INTRODUCTION**

The Committee on Mission to the World sees as its broad purpose the provision of leadership in developing and interpreting to the Church a missionary program, seeking to develop and strengthen the missionary spirit across the denomination. Assigned responsibility for world missions by the General Assembly, the Committee accepts also from the Scriptures the call of the Lord to hold constantly before the Church His summons to obedience to His Great Commission, the making of disciples.

Missions may be defined as the work of the Church, commanded and enabled by Christ, in making disciples. Disciple making encompasses the whole of the Triune God's creative and redemptive purposes, in which the redeemed of the Lord grow in conformity to the image of Christ, bringing life in its entirety under the dominion of Christ, at the very center of which is the making of other disciples.

This report will seek to present a brief accounting of the progress of the Committee in moving toward its purpose and to share the opportunities and responsibilities before the denomination in the area of world missions in the immediate future.

**MISSIONARY FORCE**

As of the date of this report's preparation, the end of May, 1975, the Committee joyfully shares the encouraging news of forty-six missionaries and candidates. Eighteen of these were approved since the meeting of the Second General Assembly. In addition, correspondence with more than thirty candidates makes it very likely that there will be a total of sixty missionaries and approved candidates by the end of 1975. For these servants of Christ we praise the Lord! We are strongly encouraged and consider it very realistic to expect an additional fifty missionaries during 1976.

The present missionary force, in fields of service or in preparation for such fields, includes personnel (assigned and pending) to ten countries: Brazil, France, Germany, Haiti, Korea, Liberia, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Taiwan. They are laboring in evangelism, church planting, theological training and such specialized ministries as medicine, radio, and teaching. Listing our missionaries by countries:

Brazil: Rev. and Mrs. Curtis C. Goodson

Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Williams (technician with Wycliffe Bible Translators)

Rev. and Mrs. Joe W. York (now on leave of absence)

France: Dr. and Mrs. Peter R. Jones

Rev. and Mrs. James A. Jones, Jr.

Rev. and Mrs. Douglas M. Miller

Germany: Rev. and Mrs. George P. Hutchinson\* (teaching in GEM Seminary in Germany)

Haiti: Mr. Charles L. Martin\* (technician with West Indies Mission)

Korea: Rev. and Mrs. Hugh M. Linton

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald R. Ellis

Rev. and Mrs. Robert R. Watts

Liberia: Rev. and Mrs. Grady E. Simpson, Jr. (teaching with CNEC)

Mexico: Mr. and Mrs. Peter W. Anderson (interns)

Miss Ellen Sue Barnett

Rev. and Mrs. Richard H. Dye

Rev. and Mrs. Cecilio N. Lajara

Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Lynch

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew L. Toth



Nigeria: Rev. and Mrs. Sydney Anderson

Peru: Mr. and Mrs. Donald H. Gahagen, Jr.\* (pilot with South America Mission)

Taiwan: Miss Martha Jones

Miss Mary Elizabeth Smith

Mr. and Mrs. William Calvin Smith

Rev. and Mrs. David C. White

Unassigned: Mrs. Grace Berry Brown

Miss Agnes Jean Lappin

\*Pending completion of cooperative agreements.

Pursuing the actions of the Second General Assembly, the Committee has had serious conversations with representatives of the Christian Reformed Church, the Orthodox Presbyterian Church and the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Evangelical Synod. At this writing agreements of cooperation are now being developed.

Similar conversations are on the way with other agencies that will welcome the services and teaching of missionaries holding the Reformed Faith and polity. Definite agreements have been worked out with Wycliffe Bible Translators, and completion of agreements with several other organizations is expected soon. Negotiations have begun only after candidates have expressed a concern to labor with those specific agencies. Missionaries working under such agreements are noted on page two of this report.

### COMMITTEE'S WORK

Officers of the Committee for the year following the Second General Assembly have been: Dr. Donald B. Patterson, Chairman; Rev. James M. Baird, Vice Chairman; Rev. Fred C. Fowler, Secretary; Mr. Jay P. Wood, Treasurer. The Committee met in October and November, 1974, in January, February, April, 1975, with anticipated meetings every other month during the remainder of the year. Each meeting involved two full days of work, with the Candidates Sub-Committee adding an extra evening of work. In November, 1974, three days were given to a retreat and meeting which was also attended by MTW Chairmen of Presbytery Committees.

In seeking to help the Presbyteries and churches find reasonable, judicious and Biblical ways for raising support for approved missionary efforts of the Presbyterian Church in America, the Committee on Mission to the World has had correspondence with several individuals and the Missions departments of the Reformed Theological Seminary and Westminster Theological Seminary in the development of materials and methods that will encourage churches in faithful stewardship that will lead to obedience to the Great Commission. Studies are currently underway of individual churches within the denomination to enable the Committee to know what procedures of giving are being practiced. We are sobered by the fact that the Committee received an average of only \$6.24 per member for the first year of our history.

Attention was constantly given to sources of information about missions in general and specific countries. Staff members attended some retreats and consultations, and staff and Committee members joined in two major fact-finding trips to different areas of the world. Other areas of work by the Committee included providing information to our congregations and Presbyteries, continual encouragement of missions concern through the ministry of our Missionary-Evangelist, and preparation of a basic policy manual.

The past year has seen a tragic drought continue in the sub-Sahara region in Africa. The nation of South Vietnam has fallen to the communist forces from the North. Thousands of refugees have fled their homes and among them are hundreds of fellow believers. Our Committee has called the attention of our denomination to these crises and has urged our people to use the services of the World Relief Commission as their channel for helping.

Part of our responsibility has been to coordinate the work of the Presbyteries in the endorsement of military and institutional chaplains and represent



chaplains in relation to military and civil authorities. Assisted by the Commission on Chaplains of the National Association of Evangelicals, we now have two men who are currently in Chaplain school prior to their assignments to active duty in the U.S. Army. These men are Lt. Ingram Philips, a member of the Presbytery of the Evangel, and Lt. Douglas McCullough, a member of the Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley.

Other men presently serving in a reserve status are: Rev. Fred Thompson, U.S. Navy Reserve; Rev. Edward A. Jussey, U.S. Army Reserve; Rev. Theodore Kline, U.S. Army Reserve; Rev. J. Philip Clark, U.S. Air Force Reserve; and Rev. William H. Whitwer, Civil Air Patrol.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Rev. John E. Kyle be reelected as Coordinator for the Committee on Mission to the World.
2. That the budget for 1976 for Mission to the World be approved, as presented by the Committee on Administration.
3. That the second Sunday of June, 1976, be designated as a Day of Prayer and Fasting for the World Mission of the Church.
4. That the primary thrust of MTW continue to be the establishment and strengthening of Presbyterian and Reformed churches of other countries.
5. That the policy of developing working relationships with other agencies that will welcome the services and teaching of missionaries holding the Reformed faith and polity be continued under the safeguards established by the 1974 General Assembly.
6. That we continue to encourage our churches and individual members to use the World Relief Commission as an avenue of help and hope in the disaster areas of the world.
7. That we take note of those men serving as chaplains in the various branches of our Armed Forces and that we encourage them through prayerful interest in their ministry.
8. That the first draft of the basic Policy Manual presented by Mission to the World be received as information and the Committee be encouraged to move as rapidly as possible in formulating the final draft requested by the G.A.
9. That the Committee on Mission to the World be encouraged to continue the development of materials and methods that will encourage churches in faithful stewardship that will lead to obedience to the Great Commission.

## Appendix I

**REPORT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S  
NOMINATING COMMITTEE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

The Nominating Committee of the General Assembly, P.C.A., assembled at the Hilton (Airport) Inn, Atlanta, Georgia, being called to order by its appointed convener, The Rev. James E. Moore, on Friday, May 9, 1975. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Robert L. La May at 10:20 A.M. The Committee elected as its Chairman, James Moore, and Robert La May was appointed secretary with the members approval.

Roll was taken and there were fifteen elders present:

James C. Turner (RE)*	Calvary Presbytery
Dewey D. Murphy (TE)*	Carolina Presbytery
Harry Brodmann (RE)	Central Georgia Presbytery
James E. Moore (TE)	Covenant Presbytery
Adrian E. DeYoung (TE)	Evangel Presbytery
Ed Jussely (TE)	Grace Presbytery
Robert Cato (RE)	Mississippi Valley Presbytery
Warren Thuston (TE)	New River Presbytery
Kenneth Keyes (RE)	Southern Florida Presbytery
Robert L. La May (TE)	Tennessee Valley Presbytery
L. J. Canniff (RE)	Texas Presbytery
George McGuire (TE)	Vanguard Presbytery
John Lavender (RE)	Warrior Presbytery
C. D. Murphy (TE)	Western Carolinas Presbytery
Ivan Ward (RE)	Westminster Presbytery

(\* - RE, Ruling Elder, TE, Teaching Elder)

A communication was read by Harry Brodmann from the Presbytery of Central Georgia concerning an overture to the next General Assembly on nominations. A motion was made to receive this communication for our information. It was seconded, and after discussion the motion carried.

The Chairman explained the responsibilities of the committee, and after discussion, the following procedure was agreed on: To look at and vote upon nominations for each committee, allowing time for all qualifications available on each nominee sent in by their respective presbyteries. The committee proceeded and placed in nomination the following names:

For class of 1978 on COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION

Teaching Elders, Bruce Wideman — Mississippi Valley  
Paul E. Rowland — Central Georgia  
Alternate: James Edwards — Mid-Atlantic  
Ruling Elders, J. B. Caulfield — Covenant  
L. M. Young — New River  
Alternate: E. C. Hammond — North Georgia

For class of 1978 on COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL BUSINESS

Teaching Elder, Wick Broomall — Central Georgia  
Alternate, Harry Miller — Evangel  
Ruling Elder, H. R. Kirksey — Warrior  
Alternate, James Wilkerson, Jr. — Grace

For class of 1980 for TRUSTEES FOR INSURANCE AND ANNUITY FUND

Teaching Elder, Thomas Barnes — Covenant  
Ruling Elder, Chester Hall — Vanguard

For class of 1978 on COMMITTEE FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PUBLICATION

Teaching Elders, Thomas Patete — Covenant  
Don K. Clements — Central Georgia  
Alternate, William Hill — New River

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Ruling Elders, Charles Parks — Carolina

O. H. Smith III — Gulf Coast

Alternate, Ray Williams — North Georgia

Nominations were made to the committee to fill the vacancy made by the resignation of Harry Miller, class of 1976. The committee voted to nominate Teaching Elder James Hatch for class of 1976 on the Christian Education Committee.

For class of 1978 on the COMMITTEE OF INTERCHURCH RELATIONS

Teaching Elder, Timothy Fortner — Central Georgia

Alternate, Charles McNutt — New River

Ruling Elder, Alvin Ward — Westminster

Alternate, C. Eatman — Warrior

Motion was made and carried to recess for lunch at 12:40.

The committee reconvened at 1:40 and called to order with prayer by Dewey Murphy.

For class of 1978 for the COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES

Teaching Elders, Donald C. Graham — Gulf Coast

Claude Gamble — Covenant

Alternate, Joseph Morecraft III — North Georgia

Ruling Elders, J. T. Russell — Western Carolinas

Walter Hatterick — Vanguard

Alternate — B. F. Gallaher — New River

For class of 1978 for the COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE WORLD

Teaching Elders, Lardner Moore — Texas

Robert La May — Tennessee Valley

Alternate, W. H. Benchoff — Calvary

Ruling Elders, W. D. Carmichael — Grace

James Campbell — Mid-Atlantic

Alternate, Richard Ayres — Louisiana

For class of 1978 for the ASSEMBLY'S THEOLOGICAL EXAMINING COMMITTEE

Teaching Elder, David Jussely — Grace

Alternate, Dan Morse — Mississippi Valley

Ruling Elder, Harry P. Musser — New River

Alternate, Robert Scruggs — Calvary

The communication from Central Georgia Presbytery was brought back to the floor by the body, and after discussion the following motion was carried as amended:

We received the overture from Central Georgia Presbytery as information, and to some extent were guided by the principles set forth; but we feel that the matter needs to be given very careful consideration, and we hesitate to recommend it at this time without further study. We suggest that the overture presented by Central Georgia be applicable to the standing rules of the General Assembly's Nominating Committee, and not to the Book of Church Order.

At 3:00 the minutes were read by the secretary and approved by the body. A motion was made for adjournment, seconded and carried. The meeting was closed with prayer by the Rev. Warren Thuston.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert L. La May, Secretary

## Appendix J

**REPORT OF THE AD INTERIM COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE QUESTION OF THE NUMBER OF OFFICES IN THE CHURCH**

Your committee, composed of Kennedy Smartt, Chairman; Joseph Borden, Murdoch Campbell, Don K. Clements, Thurston Futch, and Mickey Schneider, has been tasked with the responsibility of undertaking a general study of the subject of offices in the Church, especially as regards the office of Elder. Specifically committed to this committee were overtures and motions concerning the administration of Sacraments by Ruling Elders (see 1974 minutes, 2-29); the right of a local Session to elect its own moderator (Overture 11, 1st General Assembly; see 1974 minutes, 2-70); the office of Assistant Pastor (see 1974 minutes, 2-71); and a general, four-part overture concerning the nature of ordination (2-98). As a quick review of these issues will show, this assignment was quite large and covered a broad scope of questions. Because of this, no issued other than those specifically raised in the four overtures and motions were covered, even though these other areas are worthy of much study.

Your committee has met 4 times during the year. At one of those meetings, we invited three knowledgeable professors of Church Government — Morton Smith of Reformed Seminary; Edmund Clowney of Westminster Seminary; and George Knight of Covenant Seminary — to meet with us. This meeting was also open to the public and several ministers and elders attended and took part in the open discussions. In preparation for all of our meetings, a great deal of reading and research has been done. The results of this study go far beyond this particular report.

Our report to you will be in five parts. Part I is a theological paper, prepared for the committee at its direction by Professor George Knight of Covenant Seminary setting forth what we unanimously feel to be the Biblical picture concerning the office of Elder. Part II then spells out, briefly, the essential Biblical and theological issues at stake before the Assembly. Part III consists of our specific recommendations to the Assembly. Part IV is our specific responses to the four overtures and questions submitted to us for consideration. Part V contains our recommended changes to the Book of Church Order for this Assembly to act upon.

Your Committee thanks you for having been given this assignment. It has brought each of us to a closer examination not only of the Scriptures, but also of our history and traditions, to the end that we sincerely feel that the Presbyterian Church in America stands fully and firmly upon its commitment to the Word of God and foremost in each and every area of its life.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kennedy Smartt, Chairman

June 16, 1975

**PART I: BIBLICAL STUDY OF OFFICES IN THE CHURCH**

The Lord Jesus Christ is Lord and Head of the Church which is His body. He rules over the Church by His Word and Spirit. Through the work of the Spirit he gives men to the Church to serve His Church, so that the Church may more faithfully serve Christ in maturity and love (Eph. 4:11ff.) Through His Word, the Bible, He indicates the characteristics and duties of those men so that His people may recognize such men, elect and appoint such, and recognize Christ's rule in and through them. Thus, God's Word, the Scriptures, provides the description of the offices or officers that Christ gives His Church and serves as the only infallible guide for the Church in recognizing those offices and those who serve in them.

The Scripture not only functions by describing the characteristics, gifts, and qualities of such servants, but also focuses on the functions that they are to fulfill in the Church. In so describing these offices by their functions and in using specific designations, the Scripture provides for the Church the answer to the question: What offices does Christ continue to give to the Church and how many are there?

It is important to recognize that this question, which we naturally ask,

recognizes that Christ does not continually give to the Church those special and extraordinary offices of Apostles and Prophets, The Apostles of Jesus Christ are those personally and directly chosen by Him (Mk. 3:14; Lk. 6:13; Gal. 1:1), eye-witnesses of His resurrection (Acts 1:22; 1 Cor. 15:8-10), and with the prophets are the special recipients of revelation (Eph. 3:5) and thus form the non-repeatable foundation of the Church (Eph. 2:20). These two offices, since they have accomplished their unique and non-repeatable functions and tasks, occur only during the foundation days of the Church, the New Testament Age, and are not now found in the growing and continuing superstructure of the Church (cf 1 Peter 2:5ff).

When we move beyond the apostles and prophets, we find that the offices which Christ continues to give His Church are sometimes referred to without a specific name or title, but simply by their functions and activities (cf. Heb. 13:7 and 17; 1 Thess. 5:12, 13), and sometimes by different words (elders, pastors and teachers, bishops or overseers). But in the midst of this variegated usage, we find two terms (elders and bishops) being used throughout the New Testament, in Acts (19:30; 14:23; 15:2,4,6,22,23; 16:4; 20:17,28) and by Paul (Phil. 1:1, 1 Tim. 3:1 and 2; 5:17; Titus 1:5,7), Peter (1 Peter 5:1) and James (5:14), that serve to overarch and include the other terms and the descriptions of functions that relate to oversight. On two occasions we find the term deacons used alongside of this pervasive use of elders/bishops (Phil. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:12). We thus find three terms used in a more or less technical sense to describe offices. They are elder (**presbyteroi**), bishops (**episkopoi**) and deacons (**diakonoi**). The first two refer to the same group of men and thus are different words for the same office. We can therefore speak of the New Testament as referring to elders and bishops on the one hand and deacons on the other, and therefore grouping the offices into two categories or functions.

That the two words "elders" and "bishops" refer to the same office is manifest from the following passages (Acts 20:17 and 28; Titus 1:5 and 7; and a comparison of 1 Tim. 3:1ff and 1 Tim. 5:17). In Acts 20:28 he designates that same group of elders as bishops or overseers (**episkopoi**). Paul directs Titus to appoint elders in every city (Titus 1:5) and then goes on to describe those same officers by the term bishops or overseers (Titus 1:7). In 1 Timothy 3:2 Paul uses the term "bishop" to speak of the office of those who teach and rule the Church (1 Tim. 3:2 and 5), but then when he returns to the question of remuneration for those who rule and also spend their full time in the occupation of teaching the church, he calls them elders or presbyters (1 Tim. 5:17). Thus, we see that with these two terms, elders and bishops, we have two words to designate one and the same group of officers in the church. The one term, elder or presbyter, reflecting particularly the Old Testament background and usage designates them in reference to their maturity and authority. The other term, bishop or overseer, more common to the Greek-speaking world, designates them in terms of their particular responsibility of having the oversight and care of the church.

These two terms, elders and bishops, serve as the encompassing terms to cover and include the other designations found in the New Testament for the same activities or functions. This is most evident in 1 Peter 5:1, where the Apostle Paul is willing to speak of himself as a fellow elder, in view of the fact that he shares with the elders the responsibility for the oversight of the people of God. And this is specifically manifest in Acts 15 when the decision is rendered by the apostles and elders acting together and sharing the oversight (15:2,4,6,22,23; 16:4). Likewise, the ordination or laying on of hands is said to be by the presbytery (1 Tim. 4:14), and that includes the Apostle Paul (2 Tim. 1:6) and, furthermore, in Acts 13:1-3 men who are more specifically designated as prophets and teachers. We may, therefore, refer to the evangelists and to the pastors and teachers of Ephesians 4:11 as elders.

When we see that the term elders and bishops serve as the designation of one particular group of men or office and that the general term of servant (**diakonos**) has become a technical term for the ones who specifically have the task of service in the church, i.e., the deacons, we are impressed by the fact that the New Testament can refer to the offices in the church under these two heads or two offices (Phil. 1:1, 1 Tim. 3:1,2, and 12; compare Acts 6:1-6). When the Apostle Paul desires to address the officers of the church of Philippi, he does so using two terms and addresses two groups of officers — "the bishops (overseers) and



deacons" (Phil. 1:1). And in his letter especially written to order the life and government of the church, 1 Timothy, (see 1 Tim. 3:13), he again speaks of only two groups under these two words, bishop and deacons (1 Tim. 3:1 and 2, and 12). Similarly, when the divisions of labor and of functions is accomplished in the early church, we find the same two-fold division in Acts 6:1-6. The apostles (fellow-elders) continue in the oversight functions of ruling and teaching (Acts 6:2 and 4), while the seven are given the function of service (**diakonein**) at tables (Acts 6:2 and 3). Thus, we see the New Testament speaking of two offices, bishops (or elders) and deacons (Phil. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:1 and 2, and 12), and the church of Jesus Christ today should follow that authoritative norm and pattern.

When we ask the distinction between those two offices, we find that the terms used serve themselves to describe that difference. The elders/bishops (overseers) are those who have the spiritual oversight (cf. 1 Peter 5:2, **episkopountes**), which is specifically said to be ruling and teaching (1 Tim. 3:2 and 5; 5:17; Titus 1:9ff). Such ruling and teaching is not specified for the deacons (**diakonoi**) in an almost parallel list in 1 Timothy 3, but these two functions are clearly omitted (see 1 Tim. 3:8ff). We deduce from Acts 6 that they continue to serve the poor and needy, and to perform other service ministries for the church under the oversight of the elders (cf. Acts 11:30). When the congregation is first being formed, the deacons may be omitted from the officers elected and their functions are carried on by the elders until the work is heavy and men are available for such service (Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5ff; cf. Acts 6:1-6).

The perspective of the New Testament that there are essentially only two permanent and ordinary offices that continue in the church, elders/bishops and deacons, is borne out not only by the fact that all the offices in the church are referred to by these two terms, but also by an awareness of the fact that the elders/bishops are always considered as a group of men who share together those two responsibilities involved in oversight, namely, teaching and ruling. These references to a plurality of elders in every church preclude these references from referring only to those whom we call ministers or preachers today and clearly include those whom we call ruling as well as teaching elders. The first churches established by Paul on his first missionary journey, small and persecuted as they may have been, each have a plurality of elders appointed for them (Acts 14:23). Elders (plural) are called from Ephesus to Miletus and all of them are called overseers (**episkopoi**) and are given the task of shepherding or pastoring (**poimainein**, Acts 20:28) the church of God and defending it (Acts 20:30,31). The Scripture gives a triple perspective on the function of the elders in the church in Ephesus. Not only is that function referred to in Acts 20:28ff, but also it is further described in 1 Tim. 3:1ff as caring for the church and being able to teach it (1 Tim. 3:2 and 5), and then in 1 Tim. 5:17 as ruling it and some among the elders so able to teach that they give their full time to that ministry. This combination and distinction of 1 Tim. 5:17 seems also to be reflected in Ephesians 4, where among those who are all called pastors or shepherds (**poimenas**, Eph. 4:11, cf. Acts 20:28), some are even more particularly called teachers. As in the case of Ephesus, so also the new congregations on the island of Crete located in the cities are to have a plurality of elders in every city. And, again, like the elders at Ephesus, these elders have their unified oversight function described in the two tasks of teaching and ruling (Titus 1:9-11 and 13). James similarly speaks of calling a group of men designated elders to minister to a particular need in a congregation (James 5:14). Peter also refers to elders in the plural (1 Peter 5:1, notice also all the plural references in verses 2-4) in each of the congregations addressed by his letter (cf. 1 Peter 1:1), and speaks of them as shepherding (**poimanan**) the particular flock among them (1 Peter 5:2). In 1 Thessalonians 5 and in Hebrews 13 the elders or bishops are not referred to by such names, but are referred to in both cases in the plural as a group which has the unified and shared responsibility of teaching and ruling (1 Thess. 5:12, 13; Heb. 13:7 and 17). Thus a uniform picture emerges from the New Testament. From the earliest days of the New Testament church to the last letter written by Paul (from Acts 11:30 and 14:23 to 1 Tim. 3:1ff, 5:17 and Titus 1:9) the various writers (Acts, Paul, Peter, James, the writer of Hebrews), there is agreement that there is one group of men who have the oversight, called elders or bishops, and that this oversight



includes both teaching and ruling. Such evidence is an overwhelming testimony to the fact that the oversight of the church is committed into the hands of a group of men called by the New Testament elders/bishops and that their task or function includes both teaching and ruling as one unified and shared responsibility.

To this clear evidence for the two offices or elders/bishops and deacons, and the function or task committed to the elders/bishops should be joined the distinction that 1 Timothy 5:17 introduces among those who serve in the office which is there designated by the official term elders (or presbyters).

Although all elders are to be able to teach (1 Tim. 3:2) and thus to instruct the people of God and communicate with those who oppose Biblical teaching (Titus 1:9ff), and 1 Timothy 5:17 passage recognizes that among the elders, all of whom are to be able to teach, there are those so gifted with the ability to teach the Word that they are called by God to give their life in such a calling or occupation and deserve therefore to be remunerated for such a calling and occupation. The relation between the elder especially gifted to teach and all the other elders who are to be able to teach is like that of the heightened ability of all the elders compared to that of all believers who are called on to teach one another (Col. 3:16 and Eph. 5:19). Those elders especially gifted to teach labor or work hard at their ministry (1 Tim. 5:17) and like the ordinary laborers, they deserve their wages from such labor. Although any elder who devotes his time to the ruling of the church so that it becomes his calling and occupation is worthy not only of the honor of respect, but also the "double honor" of the honorarium or wages, the one whom we designate the teaching elder or the teacher among the elders is especially in view in this passage because such responsibility demands full time service in this calling and occupation. This passage may well be paralleled by Ephesians 4:11, where all the elders are called pastors or shepherds and then to that term is joined the term teachers as describing among those shepherds those who labor in that activity of teaching. Therefore, the New Testament makes a distinction within the one office of elders of some who labor in teaching the Word. The church through the ages has been faithful to the New Testament when it has done the same. When we inquire further about the duties and responsibilities of those among the elders who are laboring in the Word and teaching, we must not only return to the passages about elders and bishops in general, but also consider those passages referring to Timothy and to Paul who were involved in this particular aspect as fellow-elders who were laboring in the Word and teaching (cf. 1 Cor. 9; 2 Cor. 3,4,5; 1 Tim. 4:6-6; 6:11-16; 2 Tim. 1:3-14; 2; 3:10-4:8).

Therefore, the church which seeks to be faithful to the New Testament will seek to keep in perspective and balance the unity of the office of elders/bishops which when joined by the deacons leads the New Testament to speak of the permanent offices of the church as just these two, and also the distinguishing function given to some among the elders by means of a particular gift of teaching and a corresponding activity. This will mean that all the elders rule together and are together responsible for the teaching of the church. It will also mean that of that plurality some will be more gifted by God to teach than the others and therefore in distinction from those others will make that ministry their vocation, whereas the others possessing the same authority will remain in other vocations while they share in the oversight. The unity and parity within the one office of elder helps to foster the mutual submission to one another, which in turn helps to preserve the humble servant quality of the eldership, and, at the same time, the unique Lordship of Christ. The recognition of differing manifestations of gifts, especially in that of teaching, within the unified eldership exalts the sovereignty of Christ's Lordship, who gives gifts as he will for the good of His church and helps to ensure that most needed gift of teaching Christ's Word will have full emphasis and free course in His church. So Christ's Word of instruction and the enabling of His Spirit together express his rule through elders/bishops over His Church for the upbuilding of His people and the glory of God.

## **PART II: BIBLICAL AND THEOLOGICAL ISSUES:**

Following the Biblical pattern set forth above, it is the finding of the committee that the Scriptures teach that there are only two ordinary and perpetual

offices in the Church today -- the office of Elder and the office of Deacon. Within the office of Elder there are some men who, because of additional gifts and calling from God, perform functions which have been historically performed by those called, at various times, Ministers, Pastors, Teaching Elders, and such other terms. It will be the consistent usage of the committee report to refer to Elders who are involved in the regular public preaching of the Word as 'Preaching Elders.' The usage of this terminology in no way implies that 'Preaching Elders' have a separate office, but is only used to identify those Elders who have special gifts, calling, and subsequent training to be used regularly in the public preaching of the Word and the administration of the Sacraments.

This view, sometimes known as the 'Two-Office' view, is not what is consistently spelled out in our current Book of Church Order, nor in common practice throughout our churches today. Since we find the 'Two-Office' view to be the Biblical picture, and since we reaffirm that the Bible must be our infallible rule of both faith and practice we will recommend that changes be made to the Book of Church Order in this area.

Since there is only one office of Elder, and since the Scriptures teach that ordination is to an office (not to be confused with the laying on of hands for commissioning, as in Acts 13); then there should be one ordination of all Elders, and only one. This ordination may be by any court of the church, as a plurality of Elders or Presbyters. The basis for qualifications for the office of Elder should be a man's knowledge of Biblical doctrine; gifts for rule and teaching; commitment to Christ; and fulfillment of the specific spiritual requirements set forth in I Timothy 3 and Titus I. This means that a man originally ordained as an Elder in a local Church (currently referred to as a 'Ruling Elder') who subsequently completes the training and examination for functioning as a 'Preaching Elder' should NOT BE AGAIN ORDAINED.

The Scriptures teach that some Elders are specially called and gifted by God to the regular public preaching of the Word. The overwhelming evidence of Reformed church history teaches that it is necessary to the good order of the Church that these men receive specialized training. Therefore, it is important to continue the practice of the current church situation to test these men through a period of licensure, and for the Presbytery to examine and approve such men to function as 'Preaching Elders'. This function includes not only the regular public preaching of the Word, but also the administration of the Sacraments and other ordinances such as marriage.

We recognize that there is no direct 'proof-text' which requires the limitation of administration of the Sacraments to 'Preaching Elders'. But at the same time we affirm the necessity to continue the good order in the church developed over centuries of Reformed church history, and as specifically spelled out in our Confession of Faith, and to make some such limitation. However, in special situations where a specially trained 'Preaching Elder' is not available to administer the Sacraments, other Elders may be approved and licensed by the Presbytery to function in the place of a 'Preaching Elder' for a stated period, with authority to administer the Sacraments. This approval and licensure must be carried out by proper and full examination by the Presbytery.

### PART III: RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

The Committee makes the following recommendations to the Third General Assembly concerning the adopting of policy and providing for its implementation through changes in the Book of Church Order.

**Recommendation #1:** That the General Assembly adopt the committee's proposed responses to overtures and questions A, B, C, and D — dealing seriatim — as contained in PART IV of this report.

**Recommendation #2:** That the General Assembly affirm that the Scriptures teach that there are but two ordinary and perpetual offices in the Church — the office of Elder and the office of Deacon — and that the Scriptures also teach that some Elders, with special gifts, calling, and preparation, serve as 'Preaching Elders'.

**Recommendation #3:** That the General Assembly recognize that the Book of Church Order requires modification at some points, and therefore:

a) act at this Assembly upon the proposed changes to the Book of Church Order contained in Part V of this report; and

b) require the Constitutional Documents Committee, supplemented by one or two members of the current Ad Interim Committee, appointed by the Moderator, to bring back to the Fourth General Assembly any necessary changes to the Book of Church Order and confessional standards (if any), following the basic guidelines of this overall report.

#### **PART IV: SPECIFIC RESPONSES TO OVERTURES AND MOTIONS ASSIGNED TO THIS COMMITTEE**

**Overture 11.** From McIlwain Memorial Presbyterian Church, Pensacola, Florida

**Whereas**, there is not to be any differentiation between the office of ruling elder and teaching elder (Minister of the Word), and each is given equal authority in church government according to the Scriptures \*(Book of Church Order, III, page 20);

**Whereas**, the power of jurisdiction is to be equally exercised by ruling and teaching elders (ministers), but jointly in church courts (Book of Church Order, 1-4, 3-3, pages 22 and 23);

**Whereas**, the Minister of the Word and the ruling elder are to share equally in the governing of the church (Book of Church Order, 9-3, page 32);

**Whereas**, Christ has furnished others (ruling elders), besides the Minister of the Word, with gifts and commissions to govern when called and ordained thereto (Book of Church Order, 11-1, page 35);

**Whereas**, in all courts of the church the ruling elders possess the same authority and the same eligibility to office as the Minister of the Word (Book of Church Order, 11-2, page 35);

**Whereas**, the Session is the only court that is denied the right to elect its own moderator;

**Whereas**, the office of Moderator of Session is the only office in the entire Presbyterian Church system of government to which an elder cannot be elected: and that in his own particular church;

**Whereas**, the requirement that the Minister be the Moderator of Session (Book of Church Order, 13-2, page 38) denies the ruling elder (1) the exercise of his gifts and commission to rule; (2) to share equally in the governing of the church; (3) the same eligibility to office as the Minister of the Word and differentiates between the teaching and ruling elder in matters of church government — all contrary to the Book of Church Order. Furthermore, the principle implies ruling elders are not capable of moderating the Session (Book of Church Order 15-4, page 42);

**Whereas**, the appointment of a moderator of a session by a presbytery when a church is without a pastor (Book of Church Order, 15-4, page 42) denies the session the exercise of its proper and efficient jurisdiction and governing of its church. It is subject to the convenience and/or whims of a moderator unacceptable to a session because of his theological position, personality or availability;

**Whereas**, the requirement that a Minister of the Word be the moderator of session under the Book of Church Order (13-2 and 15-4) places another unnecessary burden and additional responsibilities on a minister already encumbered so heavily that the minister of the Word is rendered less effective in his total ministry;

**Whereas**, the minister of the Word is so encumbered that he ought to have relief from the task and responsibility of moderator of session;

**Whereas**, the principal parity of the ruling and teaching elders is violated;

**Whereas**, there is no Spiritual grounds for the teaching elder to moderate the session, only the tradition of men;

**Therefore**, to rectify the inequities, to promote a more harmonious relationship in and between courts, to provide some relief to an encumbered ministry, and to maintain the parity of teaching and ruling elders, the Session of McIlwain Memorial Presbyterian Church overtures the first General Assembly of the Continuing Presbyterian Church to amend the Book of Church Order so that a session may exercise its right to elect its moderator.

(\*References are the BOCO copyrighted by the PCUS in 1965, 12th printing 1969, paperback edition).

A. In response to the overture from the McIlwain Memorial Presbyterian Church of Pensacola, Florida, concerning the right of a local Session to elect its own moderator (Overture 11, 1st General Assembly; see 1974 minutes, 2-70); your committee recommends the following reply:

Since the Bible teaches only one unified office of Elder, and since the Session of a local church is composed of such Elders — regardless of their other gifts and functions — it should therefore be the right of the local Session to elect as its moderator that Elder it feels is best gifted and qualified for such service, and would have the time and ability to fulfill the office. Therefore, the policy of the Presbyterian Church in America shall be that the moderator of a local Session shall be any member of the Session. He should be elected annually for a term of one year, and he can succeed himself in the office. In addition, a vice-moderator may be elected for a one year term for the purpose of moderating the Session in the absence of the moderator or at the request of the moderator.

(If this reply is adopted by the Third General Assembly, your committee recommends that the Assembly immediately act on the following change to the Book of Church Order: "Change #11-3 (page 14, line 18, to read as follows: 'All duly installed Elders are eligible to hold all offices of the court on which they serve. The Moderator of a Session (and Vice Moderator, if any) shall be chosen for a specific period, normally one year. The Moderator of the Presbytery . . . ' (continue remainder as now printed)."

**Overture 4.** From First Presbyterian Church, Belzoni, Mississippi

**FATHERS AND BRETHREN:** The Reverend General Assembly, First Presbyterian Church, Macon, Georgia

Whereas the nature of ordination and its several facets is not clear in the Book of Church Order,

Now, therefore, the Session of the First Presbyterian Church overtures the Second General Assembly to raise a competent committee of scholars and churchmen to study and to:

1. Affirm and declare the nature of ordination in the National Presbyterian Church to be functionary and strictly Biblical,

2. Describe the limits to which Scripture permits ordination to be used apart from the pastorate,

3. Review and clarify the concept of parity of Teaching Elders other than full time pastors are to be permitted to serve on the committees of the higher courts and have the franchise in those courts.

4. Clarify the matter of unordained personnel, their proper examination and certification, the regulation of their work and the limits of women's participation.

Rev. Eurie Hayes Smith, III Moderator

B. In response to the overture from the Session of the Church at Belzoni, Mississippi, concerning general questions in the area of the nature of ordination (see 1974 minutes, 2-71); your committee recommends the following reply:

In answer to request number one, we would affirm that ordination is to an office and not to a function, and the office of Elder, ideally at least, includes certain functions which are listed in Scripture, among which we find: exhortation (Titus 1:9); convincing the gainsayers (Titus 1:9); keeping out heresy (Titus 1:9-11 and Acts 20:29-31); feeding the flock (Acts 20:28 and I Peter 5:2); caring for the needy (Acts 20:35); laboring and admonishing (1 Thess 5:12); speaking the Word of God (Hebrews 13:7); exercising government (Hebrews 13:7, 17); oversight of the congregation (Hebrews 13:17); accounting to God for the congregation (Hebrews 13:17); praying for the sick (James 5:14); and others. In the contemporary pattern of church life and custom there are other functions normally assigned to the Eldership, and except under extraordinary circumstances, only to the 'Preaching Elder', such as the public preaching of the Word on a regular basis, administering the Sacraments, performing marriage ceremonies, etc.

In answer to request number two, we would again affirm that ordination is to an office, and not to a function. However, since the office of elder includes various functions, not limited to the 'pastorate', we would affirm that it is



proper for a "Preaching Elder" to be ordained upon satisfactory evidence of a call to one of the following functions: Missionary, Evangelist, Chaplain (military or institutional), Church executive or administrator, Seminary professor, Teacher of Bible or Religion in college or university, Headmaster or teacher in Christian Day School.

In answer to question number three, since both historically and by definition, the concept of parity does not refer to equality of numbers but rather equality of condition, rank, value, etc., and since the office of Elder is not limited to the 'pastorate' (see above); therefore the current practice of the church to permit 'Preaching Elders' other than full-time pastors to serve on committees of the higher courts and to have franchise in those courts is in keeping with the concept of parity.

In answer to request number four, we would affirm that all unordained personnel, both men and women, such as administrative assistants, directors of Christian Education, secretaries, music directors, youth workers, teachers in the local church school, Session operated Christian Day Schools, or employees or appointees of one of the committees of the General Assembly or other courts of the Church shall be approved by, and are under the jurisdiction of the Session of the church to which they belong. The appropriate examination, certification, and regulation of their work shall be determined and administered by the court of committee under which they will be working. In the case of a committee employee or appointee, the type of examination, certification, and regulation will be subject to the approval of the court of jurisdiction.

C. In response to the question raised by the motion from the floor at the First General Assembly concerning the administration of the Sacraments by Ruling Elders (see 1974 minutes, 2-29); your committee would recommend the following reply:

The administration of the Sacraments, by its nature, is a proclamation of the Word of God by example, and as practiced consistently throughout most of Reformed church history, should normally be done in conjunction with the preaching of the Word. The continuation of this practice is necessary to continue good order in the church. Therefore, the administration of the Sacraments should normally be left to those Elders who are specially gifted, called, trained, and thereafter examined and approved by Presbytery to serve as 'Preaching Elders'. In situations where such a 'Preaching Elder' is not available to meet a specified need, another Elder — after appropriate examination — may be approved and licensed by the Presbytery to function in the place of a 'Preaching Elder' for a stated period, with authority to administer the Sacraments. (This does not preclude the occasional public preaching of the Word by any Elder).

(If this reply is adopted by the Third General Assembly, your committee recommends that the Assembly immediately act on the following change to the Book of Church Order: "Change #20-2 (Page 30, line 26) to read as follows:

#20-2. Elders may be licensed to supply the ministrations of the Word and Sacraments upon their giving satisfaction to the Presbytery of their gifts. Such licensure must be for a specific need (e.g., a particular church unable otherwise to procure ministration of the Word and Sacraments) and for a stated period, not to exceed two years. Other than a thorough examination on the floor of Presbytery, further provisions of this chapter designed for pre-ordination licensure of regular candidates for the Gospel ministry, may be waived by the Presbytery at its discretion.")

D. In response to the question by the motion from the floor at the Second General Assembly concerning the office of Assistant Pastor (see 1974 minutes, 2-71), your committee would recommend the following reply:

Since the Book of Church Order states explicitly, in Section #17-2: "The government of the Church is by officers gifted to represent Christ, and the right of God's people to recognize by election to office those so gifted is inalienable. Therefore no man can be placed over a church in any office without the election, or at least the consent of that church.", and since the present practice of allowing for the calling to office of an Assistant Pastor merely by vote of the Session of the Church is inconsistent with this section of the Book of Church Order, we would recommend that this practice be eliminated and that only the titles of Pastor and Associate Pastor be recognized. This does not preclude,

however, the hiring of non-ordained personnel by the Session to carry out specific functions within the church (e.g., youth ministries, Christian Education directors, Administrative Assistants, etc.). Such non-ordained personnel could well be seminary-trained men who are candidates for service as 'Preaching Elders.'

(If this reply is adopted by the Third General Assembly, your committee recommends that the Assembly immediately act on the following change to the Book of Church Order: "Change Section #23-1 (page 43, line 5ff) to read: 'The various pastoral relations are pastor and associate pastor.' Change Section #23-2 to read: 'The pastor and associate pastor are elected by the congregation using the form of call in 21-6. Being elected by the congregation, they become members of the Session.' Delete #23-3. Renumber and change 23-4 as follows: '23-3. The relationship of the associate pastor is determined by and spelled out in the call, and regarding dissolution, must comply with Section 24-1.'")

## PART V: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE BOOK OF CHURCH ORDER

Having approved Recommendation #2 concerning the views of the office of Elder, it will be necessary to bring consistency into our Book of Church Order. Your committee recommends that only major, substantive changes be acted on at this Assembly, and that other changes be delegated to the work of a supplemented Constitutional Documents Committee to work out other details. Therefore, we recommend only the following changes be adopted at this time:

**A. Page 9, line 10:** Change paragraph #7-2 to read as follows: "The whole polity of the Church consists of doctrine, government, and distribution. The ordinary and perpetual offices in the Church are Elders and Deacons. The office of Elder is to have the government and spiritual oversight of the church, including teaching. Some Elders are specially gifted, called and trained by God to serve as 'Preaching Elders.' They are ordained and installed by the Presbytery to preach the Gospel regularly and to administer the Sacraments. The office of Deacon is not one of rule, but rather of service both to the physical and spiritual needs of the people. Special emphasis should be made in the area of care for widows and orphans. As in Scripture, the office of Elder is given to men only."

**B. Page 9, line 22:** Combine Chapters 8 and 9 as follows and renumber all following chapters accordingly.

### Chapter 8. The Elder.

**#8-1.** This office is the first in the Church, both for dignity and usefulness. The man who fills it has in Scripture different titles expressive of his various duties. As he has the oversight of the flock of Christ, he is termed bishop or pastor. As is his duty to be grave and prudent, and an example to the flock, and to govern well in the house and kingdom of Christ, he is termed presbyter or elder. As he expounds the Word, and by sound doctrine both exhorts and convinces the gainsayer, he is termed teacher. These titles do not indicate different grades of office, but all describe one and the same office.

**#8-2.** He that fills this office should possess a competency of human learning and be blameless in life, sound in the faith and apt to teach. He should exhibit a sobriety and holiness of life becoming the Gospel. He should rule his own house well and should have a good report of them that are outside the Church.

**#8-3.** It belongs to the office of Elder both severally and jointly, to watch diligently over the flock committed to their charge, that no corruption of doctrine or of moral enter therein. They must exercise government and discipline, and take oversight not only of the spiritual interests of the particular church, but also the Church generally, when called thereunto. They should visit the people at their homes, especially the sick. They should instruct the ignorant, comfort the mourner, nourish and guard the children of the Church. All those duties which private Christians are bound to discharge by the law of love are especially incumbent upon them by divine vocation, and are to be discharged as official duties. They should pray with and for the people, being careful and diligent in seeking the fruit of the preached Word among the flock.

**#8-4.** As the Lord has given different gifts to the Elders and has commit-



ted to some special gifts and callings, the Church is authorized to call and appoint some to labor as 'Preaching Elders.'

#8-5. When an Elder is called to labor as a 'Preaching Elder' it belongs to his office, in addition to those functions he shares with all other Elders, to feed the flock, by reading, expounding and preaching the Word of God and to administer the Sacraments. As he is sent to declare the will of God to sinners, and to beseech them to be reconciled to God through Christ, he is termed ambassador. As he bears glad tidings of salvation to the ignorant and perishing, he is termed evangelist. As he stands to proclaim the Gospel, he is termed preacher. As he dispenses the manifold grace of God, and the ordinance instituted by Christ, he is termed steward of the mysteries of God.

#8-6. When an Elder is appointed to the work of a Missionary or Evangelist, he is commissioned to preach the Word and administer the Sacraments in foreign countries or the destitute parts of the Church, and to him may be entrusted power to organize churches and ordain Elders and Deacons therein.

C. **Page 46, line 1:** Change remainder of questions to read as follows:

(To be pronounced only to Elders)

(6) Do you promise to be zealous and faithful in maintaining the truths of the Gospel and the purity, peace, unity and edification of the Church, whatever persecution or opposition may arise unto you on that account?

(7) Have you been induced, as far as you know your own heart, to seek the office of Elder from love to God and a sincere desire to promote His glory in the Gospel of His Son?

(8) Do you engage to be faithful and diligent in the exercise of all your duties as a Christian and an Elder, whether personal or relational, private or public; and to endeavor by the grace of God to adorn the profession of the Gospel in your manner of life, and to walk with exemplary piety before the flock of which God shall make you an overseer?

D. **Page 46, line 5:** Change questions as follows:

(To be propounded in the case of Elders)

(1) Do you, the members of this church, acknowledge and receive this brother as an Elder having oversight over you, in accordance with the Word of God and the constitution of this Church?

(2) Do you promise to receive the word of truth from his mouth with meekness and love, and to submit to him in the due exercise of discipline?

(3) Do you promise to encourage him in his labors and to assist his endeavors for your instruction and spiritual edification?

(To be propounded in the case of Deacons)

(1) Do you, the members of this Church, acknowledge and receive this brother as a Deacon, and do you promise to yield to him all that honor, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord to which his office, according to the word of God and the constitution of this Church, entitles him?

**Appendix K****REPORT OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL DOCUMENTS COMMITTEE  
TO THE THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY,  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA****INTRODUCTION:**

The Constitutional Documents Committee met in Atlanta on April 25-26, 1975. Present were: Teaching Elder Charles Dunahoo, Chairman, Teaching Elder Morton H. Smith, and Ruling Elder John Barnes.

The Committee makes its report to the Assembly in the following fashion: first, a review of our present situation regarding the Constitution; second, a procedural recommendation. If the Assembly approves the procedures recommended, then the report would be handled in two divisions, namely, hearing the Ad-Interim Report on the Number of Officers, and then hearing the remaining report of the Constitutional Documents Committee.

**I. The Status of the Constitution**

The Constitutional Documents Committee reminds the Assembly of the fact that at the organizing Assembly in Birmingham, the Assembly agreed to adopt the proposed Book of Church Order, but to hold the amending procedure for the Book (27-2) in suspension until the final report of the Constitutional Documents Committee was made at the Second Assembly. The First Assembly was able to work through the Form of Government, leaving the Book of Discipline and the Directory for Worship in the original Forms as a working document. The Second Assembly worked through the Rules of Discipline, leaving only the Directory for Worship to be completed. Though it was not a formal recommendation of the Committee at the Second Assembly, it was the stated intention of the Committee that the Third Assembly deal only with the third part of the Book, and that the first two parts be viewed as adopted. At the Second Assembly the Constitutional Documents Committee did make some minor changes in the language of portions of the Form of Government, as well as major changes in the Rules of Discipline. The Committee intends in this report to make a few such minor changes in the Form of Government, as well as recommending a major revision of the Directory for Worship. The Committee is of the opinion that major changes of content in either the Form of Government or the Directory for Worship should not be made under the suspension of the rule, but should be submitted to the Church under Rule 27-2. If the Assembly agrees to this procedure, the Committee will then make its recommendations in two categories.

**II. Procedural Recommendations:**

Recommendation #1 — The Constitutional Documents Committee recommends:

1. That the Assembly hereby declares that Part 1, the Form of Government, and Part 2, the Rules of Discipline, having been adopted by the previous Assemblies are open only to minor changes by this Assembly under the suspension of Rule 27-2.
2. That any changes of major content being recommended either by the the Constitutional Documents Committee, or from any other source, must be handled under the regular constitutional process provided in 27-2.
3. That the Assembly now hear the report of the Ad-Interim Committee on Number of Officers.

**III. Minor Changes to the Form of Government**

Recommendation #2 — The Committee recommends the following minor changes in the Form of Government:

- a. Amend Paragraph 14-1 (page 19) by adding the following sentence: Congregations which fail to submit annual statistical reports required by the General Assembly for two years in succession shall not be eligible to send Ruling Elder Commissioners to the Presbytery, until such reports have been submitted to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery.

- b. Amend 15-1, Item 12 (page 23, line 19) Add the following sentence: Persons who have served for a full term, or for at least two years of a partial term, on one of the Assembly's Permanent Committees or Permanent Sub-Committees, shall not be eligible for re-election to an Assembly Committee until one year has elapsed.
- c. Amend Paragraph 15-2 by adding the following sentence: Congregations which fail to submit the annual statistical reports to the General Assembly for two years in succession shall not be eligible to send Ruling Elder Commissioners to the Assembly, until such reports have been submitted to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.
- d. Amend 19-1, line 12. After "to preach the Gospel," replace the remainder of the sentence with "submits himself to the care and guidance of the Presbytery in his course of study and of practical training to prepare himself for this office."
- e. Amend 19-2. Substitute the following paragraphs for the original: "Every candidate for the ministry must put himself under the care of Presbytery, which should ordinarily be the Presbytery that has jurisdiction of the church of which he is a member. The endorsement of his Session must be given to the Presbytery, consisting of testimonials regarding his Christian character and promise of usefulness in the ministry. The endorsement should also describe the activities of ministry the applicant has participated in with brief evaluation.  
Every applicant for care shall be a member of the congregation whose Session provides an endorsement for at least six months before filing his application.  
Every applicant must file his application with the clerk of the Presbytery at least two months before the meeting of the Presbytery.  
An applicant may not be received under care and examined for ordination at the same meeting of the Presbytery. An applicant for licensure who is not already under care must be taken under care and examined for licensure at the same meeting of the Presbytery."
- f. Amend 19-4, line 22. After the words "as tests for" omit the words "licensure and."
- g. Amend 19-5, line 5, page 30. After the words "unless he has" substitute the following words for the remainder of the sentence: "been licensed and approved for that supply by the Presbytery having jurisdiction of the church."
- h. Amend 20-1, line 22. Delete the following sentence: "Ruling Elders who have demonstrated their gifts are eligible for licensure by their Presbytery to preach the Word." (This same instruction appears in 20-2.)
- i. Amend 20-1, line 23. Substitute the following two sentences for the last sentence of the paragraph: "Candidates for the Gospel ministry who desire to preach more than occasionally in the pulpits of the Presbyterian Church in America should be licensed. A licentiate requested by a church Session to preach in its pulpit on a regular basis must first have permission of the Presbytery having jurisdiction of the church."
- j. Amend 20-2, line 27. Substitute the following sentence for the last sentence of the paragraph: "To this end, the requirements of 20-5 may be waived by the Presbytery at its discretion."
- k. Amend 20-3. Substitute the following paragraph for the entire paragraph: "Ordinarily a man for the ministry shall be licensed by the Presbytery in which he is to preach prior to his examination for ordination. However, if a candidate, yet unlicensed, is called to a definite work, the Presbytery may proceed to his examination for ordination, if the candidate has met the requirements for ordination. Ordinarily, a man seeking ordination to the Gospel ministry should be a licensed candidate under care of a Presbytery. In the event that he is not a candidate under care of the Presbytery, may after examination proceed directly to ordination. The same procedure may be applied to an unlicensed candidate."
- l. Amend 20-4, line 23. Delete the last two sentences of the paragraph. (The same instruction also appears in 20-6.)
- m. Amend 20-6. Substitute the following paragraph for the entire paragraph: "The examination of a candidate for licensure shall be as follows: The candidate must

- A. Give a statement of his Christian experience and inward call to the Gospel ministry both
  1. written, and
  2. before Presbytery;
- B. be tested with a written examination for his
  1. basic knowledge of Biblical doctrine as outlined in the Confession of Faith and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms of the Presbyterian Church in America;
  2. practical knowledge of the English Bible;
  3. basic knowledge of the government of the Presbyterian Church in America as defined in the Book of Church Order;
- C. be examined orally before Presbytery for his views of the areas of practical knowledge outlined in Part B;
- D. Provide his own written sermon on an assigned passage of Scripture embodying both explanation and application."
- n. Amend 20-13, line 13. Add the following sentences to the paragraph: "The Presbytery shall require every licentiate under its care to make a report to it at least once a year describing his ministerial experiences. If the licentiate is still in school, the Presbytery shall secure from his instructors an annual report upon his reportment, diligence, and progress in study."
- o. Amend 22-4, line 15. After the words "Trials for ordination" delete the words "At a different time from that in which the candidate was licensed."
- p. Amend 22-4, page 39, line 2. Delete the following sentence: "Trials for ordination in the same Presbytery in which the candidate was licensed may be omitted when the examination for licensure has satisfied the Presbytery of his fitness for ordination."
- q. Amend 23-1, line 7. Add the following sentence to the paragraph: "If a church is unable to secure a regular pastor or a Stated Supply, then the Session with approval of Presbytery may establish a temporary relation between the church and a licentiate called Student Supply."
- r. Amend 23-2. Substitute the following paragraph for the original paragraph: "Such temporary relationships can take place at the invitation of the Church Session to the minister of the Word, the licentiate, or the ruling elder. The length of the relationship will be determined by the Session and the minister, the licentiate, or the ruling elder, with the approval of the Presbytery. Stated Supply, Student Supply, or Ruling Elder Supply relationships will be for no longer than one year, renewable at the request of the Session and at the review of the Presbytery."
- s. Amend BCO 10-2, p. 13, line 8 to read "action without the approval of the Session and consent of the congregation."
- t. Amend BCO 10-4, p. 13, line 18 by inserting "from their number," after "secretary".
- u. Amend BCO, 13-6, p. 18, line 17 by inserting after ":", "to approve actions of special importance affecting church property, and calling congregational meetings when necessary."
- v. Amend BCO 15-1-12, p. 23 to read: "The Assembly permanent committees are to consist of four classes of three men each."
- w. Authorize the changing of the present three class system into a four class system as follows:

#### COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION

##### Class of 1978

##### Teaching Elders

Frank E. Smith  
Harold E. Patteson

##### Ruling Elders

S. Elliott Belcher

##### Class of 1977

E. Crowell Cooley

William Swain  
Bill Joseph

##### Class of 1976

Gordon Reed, Chairman  
Charles Dunahoo

John Spencer

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## Class of 1975

Bob Ostenson

M. B. Swayze  
Jules Vroon

## COMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS

## Class of 1978

**Teaching Elders**

Jack B. Scott

**Ruling Elders**Edward Robeson  
Dr. W. G. Glass

## Class of 1977

Harold Borchert, Chairman  
James A. Turner

Donald Boerama

## Class of 1976

E. Lee Trinkle III  
Hugh Cunningham

Frank Horton

## Class of 1975

Harry Schutte  
Michael Schneider

John Hunter

## COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES

## Class of 1978

**Teaching Elders**Robert A. Koren  
Henry M. Hope, Jr.**Ruling Elders**

Harold Tolsma

## Class of 1977

Frank Barker

Robert Wilcox  
Vernon Cotten

## Class of 1976

Cecil Williamson, Chairman  
Ben Haden

Bill Stevenson

## Class of 1975

William Frisbee

Glen Bondurant  
Frank Tindal

## COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE WORLD

## Class of 1978

**Teaching Elders**

William J. Stanway

**Ruling Elders**H. Clifford Horton  
Charles T. Wolf, Jr.

## Class of 1977

James Baird  
David E. Hamilton

Gerald Sovereign

## Class of 1976

Don Patterson, Chairman

Jay Wood  
Roger DeHaven

## Class of 1975

Fred Fowler  
Kennedy Smartt

Hugh Smith

- x. Amend 15-1-11 as amended by the Second General Assembly, found in changes of the BCO made by the Second General Assembly, reference to p. 23, line 17. Add ", and vote only as necessary to meet the quorum."
- y. Amend BCO II. 16-4, p. 78, line 15-17, by substituting a new paragraph: "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."

- z. Amend BCO II 16-5, p. 78, line 25 by adding after "record", without the consent of the parties in the case. Should new evidence come to light, the case shall be remitted to the lower court, from which the appeal was made."
- aa. Amend II, 16-8, p. 79, line 20 by changing "the lower court" to "both parties."
- bb. Amend II, 16 by adding a new section 16-9, and changing the numbering of successive paragraphs accordingly. New 16-9 to read: "An appellant shall have the right of counsel, which shall be limited to the aid of one advocate appearing before the court."

Change in the text of the Directory for Worship, Handbook p. 14, line 54. Place period after "damnation" and delete the rest of the sentence. Add the following new sentences: "By virtue of being born of believing parents children are, because of God's covenant ordinance, made members of the Church, but this is not sufficient to make them continue as covenant members and members of the Church. When they have reached the age of discretion they become subject to obligations of the covenant: faith, repentance and obedience. They then must make public confession of their faith in Christ, or become covenant breakers, and subject to the discipline of the Church."

#### IV. Proposed Directory for Worship

The Committee felt that the Directory for Worship, which was part of the 1933 Presbyterian Church in the United States Book of Church Order, was defective in a number of places, and is therefore proposing major revisions in this Directory, seeking to strengthen the Directory at a number of points. The primary sources for the materials in this newly proposed Directory are: The original Westminster Assembly Directory for Worship, an older form of the PCUS Directory, the current PCA form, and the Orthodox Presbyterian Church form. In at least two places the Westminster Catechism has been paraphrased so as to bring the Directory into closer connection with the Doctrinal Standards of the Church.

In addition to the Directory for Worship the Committee is proposing the approval of optional forms for particular services of worship, such as, the marriage service, funerals, dedication of buildings, etc. This is in response to the request made by an Overture to our First General Assembly. It is also in keeping with the earlier Southern Presbyterian practice and the Orthodox Presbyterian practice. The Committee proposes the approval of these forms as optional forms, and that they be printed with the Book of Church Order, but that they be noted as not being a part of the Constitution of the Church. This is also in accord with both the older Southern Presbyterian and the Orthodox Presbyterian practice. See the attached proposed Directory for Worship.

Recommendation #3 — The Committee recommends the adoption of the proposed Directory for Worship, and that upon its adoption the Assembly declare the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in America to be fully adopted, and that the suspension of paragraph 27-2 approved by the First General Assembly now be ended.

Recommendation #4 — The Committee recommends the approval of the optional forms for Particular Services (See Appendix B), with the understanding that they are to be printed with the Book of Church Order, but not be a part of the Constitution of the Church.

#### V. Matters Carried over from the First and Second General Assemblies

The First General Assembly (Item 179) in the report of the Constitutional Documents Committee recommended that a special Theological Committee be appointed to study the matter of Scripture proofs for the Confession and Catechisms. The Nominating Committee of the First Assembly recommended that the Constitutional Documents Committee itself be charged with this matter. The Committee reports that it has not been able to move into this matter yet.



Recommendation #5 — The Committee recommends to the Third General Assembly that it be continued for the purpose of preparing Scripture proofs for the Confession and Catechisms in consultation with Committees of other denominations who are working on the same. It is the understanding of the Committee, in accord with the First Assembly's actions, that such proofs would be printed with the Constitution, but would not become a part of it. "This would allow for the addition of new proof texts, without the complex procedure of having to amend the Constitution."

The First Assembly (Item 1-80) answered in the affirmative an Overture to the effect that a study be made of all aspects of Reformed Worship. The Committee feels that with its submission of the revision for the Directory for Worship that it has in substance fulfilled this task.

Recommendation #6. The Committee recommends that the Assembly declare that Item 1-80 from the First General Assembly has been answered by the adoption of the Directory for Worship.

Communication 4 to the First General Assembly called for the following items:

1. To investigate and publish to the Congregations of the Continuing Presbyterian Church the rich spirit filled, but neglected heritage of Reformed Worship and,
2. To contrast this with the many non-Reformed liturgies presently in use among us and,
3. To provide a Reformed Liturgy and a Reformed psalter (including hymns and other appropriate music) that clearly exists in our faith and,
4. To recommend to the ministers what constitutes proper pulpit (liturgical) dress for Reformed pastors and,
5. To recommend to the congregations what constitutes proper architecture as exhibits the Reformed Christian faith truly, accurately and majestically and,
6. To demonstrate by its attention to those matters that for the Reformed Faith, faithful, true, biblical worship in the Church is as important as the Great Commission to the world.

The Committee feels that the proposed Directory for Worship answers items 1 and 2 of this Communication. Historically the Reformed view of liturgy, as seen in the Westminster Assembly's Directory for Worship, has been marked by simplicity with few stated forms. The Committee, in accord with this outlook, has suggested only a few "Optional Forms" for special services. These forms are to serve as guides only, and not to be slavishly followed.

Recommendation #7 — The Committee recommends the approval of the "Optional Forms" as answer to Communication 4 Items 1, and 2 to the First General Assembly.

Recommendation #8 — Regarding item 3 calling for a Reformed Psalter, the Committee recommends that the Assembly recommend the use of hymnbooks that include a good selection of the Psalms and hymns, that are true to the Word, set to music suitable for the worship of God, such as, the **Trinity Hymnal** of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, and the **Psalter Hymnal** of the Christian Reformed Church.

Recommendation #9 — The Committee recommends that Item 4 be answered as follows:

To item 4 asking for direction as to what constitutes proper pulpit dress for Reformed pastors, the Assembly makes the following response: There is no description in the New Testament of suitable dress for the pulpit, and thus the Church has no warrant to legislate in this area. A general principle can be stated which should govern the individual in his choice of dress for the pulpit. To lead the congregation in worship and to minister the Word and Sacraments are the highest sacred duties of the Minister. The dress of the Minister should be such that it does not detract from the worship of God by calling attention to the man. Simple, dignified dress suitable to the cultural setting should be the rule to guide the Minister in his attire.

Recommendation #10 — The Committee recommends that item 5 be answered as follows:

To item 5 asking for a definition of what constitutes proper architecture

"to exhibit the Reformed Christian Faith truly, accurately and majestically," the Assembly responds: The Bible does not describe buildings for use of congregations in worship, and thus the Church has no right to legislate regarding architecture. There are some basic principles that should govern our thoughts in this area.

First, there should be nothing that directly contradicts any clear Scriptural teaching, such as, the erecting of images or idols as forbidden by the Second Commandment.

Second, the Reformed principle of worship should be observed, namely, that we are to include in our worship only that which is either expressly set down in Scripture, or may by good and necessary consequence be deduced

from it. Nothing should be built into the sanctuary that would cause the congregation to break this principle. For example, the Bible does not authorize the use of any visible representations of God or any part of His creation as a center of worship. The sanctuary should not include such, either as stained glass windows, crosses or other symbols. Christ gave us only one thing by which to remember Him — the Lord's Supper. The use of other things for this purpose has no Biblical basis, and should be discouraged.

Third, the Reformed view of worship emphasizes the centrality of the reading and proclamation of the Word. Thus, the preferred arrangement of the sanctuary is one that preserves the centrality of the pulpit.

Fourth, since the Reformed Faith views the Sacraments as an extension of the pulpit in that they are "sensible signs" by which "Christ and the benefits of the new covenant are represented, sealed and applied", the placement of the baptismal font and communion table in relation to the pulpit so as to symbolize this concept is most desirable.

Fifth, since the Lord's Supper portrays the communion of the congregation with her Lord, it is most suitable that the congregation be seated around the table of communion, or at least, that the table be placed on the level of the congregation and not elevated above it.

Finally, it should be remembered that the true beauty of worship is found in the presence of the Holy Spirit with the congregation. Thus elaborate places of worship are not necessary for proper worship of the Living God. Care should be taken, on the other hand, to provide a place of suitable dignity for the Spiritual worship of God. The exact form of the sanctuary is thus unimportant, so long as the congregation has a suitable place in which to worship God in an orderly fashion. Since church buildings, as such, have no place in the life of the Church in the New Testament, it is incumbent upon modern congregations to consider carefully the matter of how much should be invested in such properties, lest they become an end in themselves, diverting the efforts of God's people from their primary task.

Recommendation #11 — The Committee recommends that Overture #2 to the Second General Assembly asking that the Directory for the Worship of God 6-7 read:

"No person is to be invited to preach in any of the Presbyterian Church in America churches or occupy the time set aside for the preaching of the Word without consent of the Session."  
and 9-1

"Any other person must be approved by the Session" has been answered in the affirmative with the adoption of the revised Directory for Worship (7-6).

Recommendation #12: Answer Communication 2 from Mississippi Valley (p. 34) calling for clarification of paragraphs 21-8 and 21-9 by amending these paragraphs as follows:

Paragraph 21-8, p. 36, line 27, change "the" to "their".

Substitute new 21-9 to read: "When a pastor desires to accept a call to another Presbytery, he must be examined and approved by the presbytery for the pastorate to which he is being called, and must be released for transfer by his present presbytery from his pastorate."

Recommendation #13: Answer Communication 3 from Mississippi Valley Presbytery (p. 34) calling for clarification of the requirements on Hebrew and Greek examinations, by answering in the affirmative Overture 17 from the Presbytery of Mississippi Valley requesting the following be added

to paragraph 22-4: "A Presbytery may accept a Seminary degree which includes study in the original languages in lieu of an oral examination in the original languages." Add this sentence after "Church." on page 38. line 19.

Recommendation #14: Answer Communication 4 from the Presbytery of Mississippi Valley requesting clarification on election of officers by amending BCO 25-1 and 25-3 as follows:

Amend 25-1, page 44, line 16 by adding the following: "The number of officers to be elected shall be determined by the congregation after hearing the Session's recommendation."

Amend 25-3, page 44, line 24 substitute the following sentence: A majority vote of those present is required for election."

Recommendation #15: Answer Overture #5 from Warrior Presbytery requesting an additional paragraph on non-ordained persons serving as regular supply or in a pastoral way (pp. 33-34), in the negative, since this matter is covered by BCO 20-1.

Recommendation #15: Answer Overture #6 from Warrior Presbytery requesting an additional paragraph 14-7 (p. 34) in the negative.

Recommendation #16: Overture #19 from the Presbytery of Southern Florida requesting that due constitutional process be used hereafter for all changes in the Book of Church Order (p. 34) is answered in the affirmative by Recommendation #2 of the Committee.

Recommendation #17 — The Committee recommends that the Assembly hear the report of the Special Constitutional Documents Editorial Committee.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charles Dunahoo, Chairman

**Appendix L****RULES FOR ASSEMBLY OPERATIONS  
As Amended by the Third General Assembly****I. Organization of a General Assembly's Meeting**

1-1 The Assembly shall be opened with a sermon by the retiring Moderator. The Lord's Supper shall be celebrated after the opening sermon.

1-2 The Stated Clerk shall present a report on the enrollment of Commissioners, and declare if a quorum is present. If it is present, then the Assembly shall be declared to be properly constituted for the transaction of business.

1-3 The first order of business shall be the election of a Moderator. There shall be only one nominating speech not to exceed five minutes for each nominee. No seconding speeches shall be permitted.

1-4 If more than one Commissioner is nominated, election shall be by ballot, on ballots provided by the Stated Clerk. Tellers appointed by the Stated Clerk shall gather and count the ballots, and report the tabulation to the Stated Clerk. If no nominee receives a majority of the votes cast, a second ballot shall be called on the two nominees who receive the highest number of votes on the first ballot. The Moderator shall declare an election when a nominee receives a majority of the votes cast by the commissioners present and voting.

1-5 As soon as a Moderator shall have been declared elected he shall assume his constitutional duties as Moderator.

**II. The Moderator**

2-1 The Moderator shall preside at all sessions of the Assembly except when he may temporarily invite another Commissioner to act as the presiding officer.

2-2 The Moderator shall call the succeeding Assembly to order and preside over its sessions until a successor has been elected. Ordinarily he shall preach a retiring Moderator's sermon. If the Moderator is unable to act the Stated Clerk shall call the Assembly to order and preside over its sessions until a Moderator has been elected.

**III. The Stated Clerk**

3-1 The Stated Clerk shall be elected in connection with the annual report of the Committee on Administration, which shall present a nomination. It is understood that further nominations are in order. A new Stated Clerk shall assume office at the end of the Assembly meeting.

3-2 The Stated Clerk shall perform the duties assigned by the Book of Church Order and by the Standing Rules of the General Assembly, and such other duties as are assigned by action of the Assembly. The Stated Clerk shall administer these duties under supervision of the Committee on Administration.

3-3 The Stated Clerk shall prepare and distribute, with the cooperation of the Committee for Christian Education and Publications, a Handbook for Commissioners prior to the meeting of the Assembly to all commissioners. This Handbook shall contain a proposed docket, overtures, reports of permanent committees, reports of ad interim committees and of special committees, and any other information regarding the Assembly that may be useful to the commissioners. The Handbook shall be mailed so as to reach commissioners one month prior to the convening of the Assembly. Items received too late for inclusion in the Handbook shall be mailed to commissioners in the form of a supplement, if possible, or be distributed to them at the time of registration.

3-4 The Stated Clerk shall assemble the items of business to come before the Assembly and refer each item to the proper committee. If the Clerk has question regarding reference, he is to consult with the Committee on Judicial Business before making reference.

3-5 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 agencies of the Assembly, and give certified extracts therefrom when the business of the Assembly requires. He shall prepare and supervise the printing of the Minutes in cooperation with the Committee for Christian Education and Publications. The costs shall be borne by the Committee on Administration.

**3-6** The Stated Clerk shall have the privilege of the floor in all matters pertaining to his office, shall have the privilege of the floor to present necessary information on business before the meeting concerning the work and report of any committee on which he serves, and at such times when the Moderator, the coordinators, chairmen of Assembly committees (or their designated representatives), or any commissioner may request that he clarify matters before the court.

**3-7** The Stated Clerk shall be an **ex officio** member of the Committee on Interchurch Relations, and shall serve as a member of or an advisory member of any such other committees as the General Assembly may direct.

**3-8** The Stated Clerk shall be the parliamentarian of the General Assembly.

#### **IV The Assembly Arrangements**

**4-1** A brief worship service shall be included in each morning session.

**4-2** The first order of the day, except the opening day, at the beginning of the business session, and during the day as may be necessary, shall be the presentation of a docket listing the business which is to be considered that day.

#### **V Communications and Overtures**

**5-1** A communication to the General Assembly is formal correspondence received by the Stated Clerk from other churches, from interchurch agencies to which this Church may be related, from committees of this Church on matters which could not be included in regular reports, and from organized bodies outside the Church proper having business with the General Assembly.

**5-2** Ordinarily, communications from individuals shall not be received by the General Assembly, unless they originate with persons who have no other access to the Assembly. If the Assembly desires to receive and consider any such communications, other than as information, the Stated Clerk shall recommend reference to the proper Assembly Committee. Letters, telegrams, or telephone calls from communicants or congregations of the Presbyterian Church in America are not proper communications, and are not to be received by the Assembly.

**5-3** The Stated Clerk shall recommend to the Assembly reference for all proper communications.

**5-4** An overture ordinarily is the request of a presbytery for action by the General Assembly upon a specific matter.

**5-5** Upon receipt the Stated Clerk shall refer to the Permanent Committee on Judicial Business all overtures requesting amendment of the Book of Church Order or interpretation thereof by the General Assembly. All other overtures shall be referred by the Clerk to the appropriate Committee for Commissioners. All overtures shall be printed in the Handbook with reference for consideration indicated.

**5-6** All overtures requiring reference to the Committee on Judicial Business shall be delivered by July 1 to the Stated Clerk in order to be referred to the Committee. No overture requiring reference to the Permanent Committee on Judicial Business received after July 1 by the Stated Clerk shall be referred or considered by the General Assembly convening in that year.

**5-7** All other overtures shall be delivered to the Stated Clerk by June 1 in order to be included in the Handbook for the next meeting of the General Assembly. Overtures received after the Handbook is printed, and at least one (1) month (31 days) prior to the opening of the General Assembly shall be reported to the Assembly by the Stated Clerk, together with reference. No overtures received by the Stated Clerk less than one month prior to the opening of the meeting of the General Assembly shall be referred to or considered by the General Assembly convening in that year.

**5-8** No overture will be considered by the General Assembly until it first has been presented to a presbytery. If approved by the presbytery, it will come before the Assembly as the overture of that court. An overture requested by an individual communicant, a teaching elder, or a session, but rejected by the



presbytery, may be presented to the Assembly, provided the fact that it was rejected by the presbytery is clearly stated with the overture.

## **VI Reports to the General Assembly**

**6-1** The Board of Directors, the permanent committees, ad interim committees, and all other agencies of the Assembly shall make annual reports, which shall be transmitted to the Stated Clerk by June 1. These reports shall be referred to the proper Committee of Commissioners by the Clerk.

## **VII New Business**

**7-1** 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.

**7-2** New business must be presented to the Assembly before the close of the second day of business.

**7-3** All new business presented by members of the court must be in written form in triplicate, and if received shall be referred to the proper Committee of Commissioners.

**7-4** The Committee on Judicial Business shall be available as a reference committee, to assist the Clerk in referring all new business coming to the Assembly.

**7-5** The appropriate committee shall receive and consider all such references, deliberate and report to the Assembly in compliance with the directions of these Rules.

**7-6** The Committee on Judicial Business shall serve as a Constitutional Committee. All matters introduced as new business, if received, and touching on constitutional matters, including requested rulings by the Moderator on questions of order involving constitutional questions, shall be referred in writing to the Committee on Judicial Business for consideration.

**7-7** The Committee on Judicial Business shall consider each such constitutional matter referred to it, and make recommendation directly to the Assembly.

## **VIII Committees of Commissioners**

**8-1** All business shall ordinarily come to the floor of the Assembly for final action through Committees of Commissioners, except reports of Ad Interim Committees, which shall report directly to the Assembly. The following Committees of Commissioners shall handle the matters indicated:

<b>Committees<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Reports of</b>	<b>Overtures, resolutions or communications</b>
1. Administration	Permanent Committee	Touching Administrative matters
2. Bills and Overtures		Of general nature
3. Christian Education and Publications	Permanent Committee	Touching Christian Education and Publications
4. Insurance and Annuities	Sub-committee	Touching insurance and annuities
5. Interchurch Relations	Sub-committee	Touching comity, cooperation, relations to other churches.
6. Judicial Business	Permanent Committee	Touching Constitution
7. Mission to the World States	Permanent Committee	Touching home missions
8. Mission to the World	Permanent Committee	Touching world missions
9. Review and control of Presbyteries	Presbytery Minutes	



**8-2** Each Presbytery shall, prior to the meeting of the Assembly, elect one of its commissioners to each of the Committees of Commissioners, dividing them as to ruling and teaching elders by a formula established by the Stated Clerk. In the event that Presbytery does not have sufficient teaching elders to supply the Committees thus assigned, the Presbytery may, at its own discretion, elect ruling elders to these Committees. In the event that Presbytery is not able to supply members for all the Committees, the Presbytery may select the Committees to which they wish to appoint representatives. Commissioners serving on permanent committees or sub-committees of the Assembly or the staffs thereof are not eligible to serve on any Committees of Commissioners.

**8-3** The Conveners of the Committees shall be designated by the Moderator.

**8-4** The Committees on Commissioners shall proceed as follows:

(1) At the proper time each committee shall assemble in its assigned room, elect a chairman and a secretary, review material in hand, appoint sub-committees as may be necessary, and begin its work.

(2) Each committee shall be available to reconvene to consider additional references that may come from the floor of the Assembly.

(3) A committee with a heavy work load of business requiring extended conference with parties not members of the committee may create subcommittees as needed.

(4) Meetings of a Committee of Commissioners shall ordinarily be open to the public as nonparticipating visitors, to the extent made possible by the physical facilities of the available meeting room. The Committee may go into executive session under Robert's Rules of Order when the Committee determines, and must be in executive session when it adopts finally the report to the General Assembly. The Chairman and members of the Permanent Committee, and the Coordinator shall meet for consultation with the Committee reviewing their work. The Committee of Commissioners may invite other persons for consultative purposes, when this is felt necessary to the Committee's performance of its business.

**8-5** The report of the Committee of Commissioners shall be brief and concise. It shall include the following:

(1) A list of all items referred to and considered by the Committee.

(2) A statement of the issues discussed.

(3) A report of all recommendations contained in an agency or committee report under consideration. (If any of the recommendations contained in a report were not approved, this shall be reported with reasons. New recommendations may be added, with words of explanation. Amendments to original recommendations shall be reported and explained.)

(4) A statement of the division of the vote on every official recommendation made to or by the Committee.

(5) Reference to overtures by number with brief statement of content and recommended answer.

(6) Reference to communications by number with brief statement of content and recommended answer.

(7) Only such portions of narrative sections of the printed reports as are necessary to make the report of the Committee of Commissioners intelligible.

(8) A note that the audit of the reporting Committee has been received and that the Committee is taking any necessary action on any recommendation of its audits.

**8-6** The Chairman of the Permanent Committee or his designated representative shall be granted the privilege of the floor of the Assembly by the Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners to present the report of the Permanent Committee to the Assembly. No report printed in the Handbook shall be read in full to the Assembly. The Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners shall present the recommendations of the Committee of Commissioners to the Assembly. The Chairman of the Permanent Committee or his designated representative shall have the privilege of defending the position of the Permanent

Committee on any recommendations in which the Committee of Commissioners differ from the Permanent Committee's report.

**8-7** Minutes of the Permanent Committee shall be submitted to the Committee of Commissioners for review.

**8-8** Informational presentation of some special aspects of the work reported by a Committee of Commissioners shall be limited to five minutes.

**8-9** Any recommendation affecting the Budget of the Assembly or the coordination of the program of the church shall be referred to the Committee of Commissioners on Administration.

**8-10** The completed report of a Committee of Commissioners shall contain the full text of the report and shall be handled as follows:

(1) Typed, double spaced, original and two carbon copies, by Assembly stenographers.

(2) Proofread and signed by the chairman of the committee; and then delivered to the Stated Clerk when duplicated copies are available for the commissioners.

(3) Docketed by the Program Committee (Moderator, Stated Clerk) for consideration by the Assembly.

(4) Presented to the Assembly by the chairman or his designate, by reading through the entire text of the report from the original typed copy. Any change ordered by the Assembly shall be noted and included by the chairman with the assistance of the Stated Clerk on the original copy.

(5) The report, as adopted by the Assembly, shall be filed with the Recording Clerk for the permanent record.

**8-11** No partial report of a Committee of Commissioners shall be presented without the consent of the Assembly.

#### **8-12 GUIDELINES FOR KEEPING MINUTES OF PERMANENT COMMITTEES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

1. The minutes of Assembly Committees should be kept either in a lock-type record book, with numbered pages, or be printed, mimeographed, or otherwise reproduced.
2. The minutes should be typewritten or printed, or reproduced from typewritten masters, and should be neat and legible.
3. The opening paragraphs of the minutes should contain the following information (which need not, however, be divided into numbered or separate items):
  - (a) The kind of meeting: regular, called, adjourned regular, or adjourned called;
  - (b) The name of the Committee;
  - (c) The date and time of the meeting, and the place;
  - (d) The name of the Chairman, and if someone other than the regular Secretary served as a Clerk Pro-tem, his name should be indicated;
  - (e) If the minutes of the previous meeting were not approved at that meeting, a record of their having been read and approved by this session should be indicated, including the date of the minutes being so approved;
  - (f) The names of those present at the meeting should be recorded, indicating whether they were teaching elders, or ruling elders, and the church represented in each case. The names of alternate ruling elders and their respective churches should also be included, and the names of visitors should be included.
4. The contents of the minutes should include the following items:
  - (a) The names of persons leading in opening and closing prayers at all sessions;
  - (b) In the event of a called meeting, the portion of the call stating the purpose of the meeting should be recorded verbatim in the minutes;
  - (c) The minutes should record the actions of the Committee, including all motions adopted and business transacted, together with such additional information as the Committee deems desirable for historical purposes.

Ordinarily in Church Courts motions that are lost are not included in the record unless an affirmative vote for the lost motion is recorded, in which case the lost motion must be shown. Each main motion should normally be recorded in a separate paragraph. Subsidiary and procedural motions may be recorded in the same paragraph with the main motion to which they pertain. Main motions may be recorded in the same paragraph, if they are closely related and pertain to the same item of business.

5. It may be desirable to number these paragraphs consecutively, and to give a title over each paragraph indicating succinctly the content of business included. This is not mandatory, but is desirable for the later reading of the minutes. For historical purposes, some notes as to the kind of extent and kind of debate may be included, but minutes should never reflect the secretary's opinion, favorable or otherwise, on anything said or done.
6. The minutes of the Committees should appear in the minute book in the order in which the meetings occur. When a previous action of the Committee is cited, the date shall be given, and the volume and page and paragraph number.
7. The minutes of each meeting should be signed by the Secretary.
8. The Coordinator, if there be one, and if not, the Chairman, shall be responsible for the custody of the minutes of the Committee. He is responsible for the presentation to the General Assembly for approval of all minutes of the Committee which have been approved by the Committee not previously approved by the General Assembly. All other minutes of the Committee to which specific reference is made in the minutes submitted to the General Assembly for approval shall be submitted for purposes of information.
9. A copy of the **Guidelines for Keeping Committee Minutes** should be kept with the minutes of the Committee.
10. An up to date copy of the by-laws and manual of the Committee, if such exist, should be kept with the minutes.

### 8-13 GUIDELINES FOR EXAMINING COMMITTEE MINUTES

1. Minutes of Assembly Committees shall be examined for conformity to:
  - (a) The primary and secondary standards of the Church, as to substance of the actions recorded;
  - (b) the Assembly's **Guidelines for Keeping Minutes of Permanent Committees of the General Assembly**, as to form, structure, and minimum content, and;
  - (c) appropriate standards as to the use of the English language.
2. Each set of Committee minutes should be read by at least two members of the Committee of Commissioners.
3. The Committee may divide its work so that two or more members examine them primarily as to form, and two or more members may examine them primarily as to substance.
4. The findings of the Committee with respect to the minutes of each Permanent Committee shall be reported under the following categories as appropriate:
  - (a) **Notations:** typographical errors, mis-spellings, improper punctuation, non-prejudicial statements of fact, etc., may be reported under this category. Also failures to provide proper or sufficient information or identification, prejudicial mis-statements of fact, etc., may be reported under this category.
  - (b) **Exceptions:** violations of the Assembly's **Guidelines for Keeping Minutes of Permanent Committees of the General Assembly** and actions which in substance appear not to conform to the Standards of the Presbyterian Church in America, or to be out of accord with the deliverances of the General Assembly, should be reported under this category.
5. The Committee shall prepare a report concerning the minutes of the permanent Committee. The filling out of a form, designed for the purpose

for each Committee, shall meet the requirement for this section. After action by the Assembly, one copy of the report shall be sent by the Stated Clerk to the Permanent Committee. A second copy shall be retained by the Stated Clerk in a permanent file. A third copy shall be kept in the records of the Committee, which shall be maintained in a suitable binder. The custody of the records of the Committee shall be the responsibility of the Stated Clerk in the period between the General Assemblies.

6. Notations and exceptions in the Committee's reports shall be disposed of as follows:
  - (a) Notations shall normally be sent to the Committees by the Stated Clerk without being read before the General Assembly or recorded in its minutes.
  - (b) Exceptions shall be read before the Assembly, recorded in its minutes, and disposed of as the Assembly determines.
  - (c) The Assembly shall adopt an appropriate motion with respect to the minutes of each Permanent Committee, the following being examples:
    - (1) That the minutes of the Committee of \_\_\_\_\_ be approved without exception (show dates of minutes being approved);
    - (2) That the minutes of the Committee of \_\_\_\_\_ be approved with the exceptions noted (show dates of minutes being approved).
7. The Permanent Committee shall take note in their minutes of exceptions taken by the Assembly, together with the corrections or explanations adopted by the Committee to rectify them. Committees shall advise the next General Assembly of the disposition they have made of the exceptions.
8. Reports to the Assembly from the Permanent Committees concerning disposition of exceptions taken by the Past Assembly shall normally be referred to the Committee.

#### **8-14 GUIDELINES FOR KEEPING PRESBYTERY MINUTES**

1. The minutes of Presbytery should be kept either in a lock-type record book, with numbered pages, or be printed, mimeographed, or otherwise reproduced.
2. The minutes should be typewritten or printed, or reproduced from typewritten masters, and should be neat and legible.
3. The opening paragraphs of the minutes should contain the following information (which need not, however, be divided into numbered or separate items):
  - (a) The kind of meeting: stated, called, adjourned stated, or adjourned called;
  - (b) The name of the Presbytery;
  - (c) The date and time of the meeting, and the place;
  - (d) The name of the Moderator, and if someone other than the regular Stated Clerk served as a Clerk Pro-tem, his name should be indicated;
  - (e) If the minutes of the previous meeting were not approved at that meeting, a record of their having been read and approved by this session should be indicated, including the date of the minutes being so approved;
  - (f) The names of those present at the meeting should be recorded, indicating whether they were teaching elders, or ruling elders, and the church represented in each case. The names of alternate ruling elders and their respective churches should also be included, and the names of visitors should be included.
  - (g) Excuses for teaching elders and churches, and unexcused teaching elders and churches should be noted.
4. The contents of the minutes should include the following items:

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- (a) The names of persons leading in opening and closing prayers at all sessions.
  - (b) In the event of a called meeting, the portion of the call stating the purpose of the meeting should be recorded verbatim in the minutes.
  - (c) The minutes should record the actions of the Presbytery, including all motions adopted and business transacted, together with such additional information as the Presbytery deems desirable for historical purposes. Ordinarily in Church Courts motions that are lost are not included in the record, unless an affirmative vote for the lost motion is recorded, in which case the lost motion must be shown. Each main motion should normally be recorded in a separate paragraph. Subsidiary and procedural motions may be recorded in the same paragraph with the main motion to which they pertain. Main motions may be recorded in the same paragraph if they are closely related and pertain to the same item of business. It may be desirable to number these paragraphs consecutively, and to give a title over each paragraph indicating succinctly the content of business included. This is not mandatory, but is desirable for the later reading of the minutes. For historical purposes, some note as to the extent of and kind of debate may be included, but minutes should never reflect the clerk's opinion, favorable or otherwise, on anything said or done.
5. All points of order and appeals, whether sustained or lost, together with the reasons given by the Chair for his ruling, should be included. This is for the sake of any case that may be carried to a higher court. The complete record of the Presbytery's actions should be recorded for this purpose.
  6. Additional guidelines, adapted from **Robert's Rules of Order**:
    - (a) The names of the mover and the seconder of a motion should not be entered into the minutes unless ordered by the Presbytery.
    - (b) When a count has been ordered, or the vote is by ballot, the number of votes on each side should be entered.
    - (c) The proceedings of a committee of the whole should not be entered in the minutes, but the fact that the assembly went into the committee as a whole, and the committee report should be recorded.
    - (d) When a question is considered informally, the same information should be recorded as under the regular rules, since the only informality in the proceedings is in the debate.
    - (e) Committee reports that are adopted by the Presbytery may be handled in either of two ways. They may be entered directly into the record at the time when they are presented, and it should be reflected as the report of a committee adopted by the Presbytery. The other way by which they may be handled is to give the report as an appendix, to which reference is made by motion in the body of the minutes. Reports and other matters that are received as information should be retained by the Clerk of the Presbytery, but need not be printed with the minutes, unless so directed by the Presbytery.
  7. The minutes should be signed by the Clerk.
  8. At least once a year the Minutes of Presbytery should include, in addition to the minutes themselves, the following items:
    - (a) A directory of the Presbytery, including a listing of all of the regular committees of Presbytery.
    - (b) A roll of the Presbytery, including a list of all teaching elders, with their addresses; and of all churches, with the name and address of the Clerk of Session, and the address of the church.
    - (c) A list of all candidates under care of the Presbytery, including the addresses.
    - (d) A list of all licentiates of the Presbytery, including the addresses.
    - (e) An up to date copy of the Standing Rules of the Presbytery.
  9. The Stated Clerk is responsible for the custody of the minutes of the Presbytery. He is responsible for the presentation to the General Assembly for approval of all minutes of the Presbytery which have been approved by



the Presbytery not previously approved by the General Assembly.

10. A copy of the **Guidelines for Keeping Presbytery Minutes** should be kept with the minutes of the Presbytery.

### 8-15 GUIDELINES FOR EXAMINING PRESBYTERY MINUTES

1. Presbytery minutes shall be examined for conformity to:
  - (a) the primary and secondary standards of the Church, as to substance of the actions recorded,
  - (b) the Assembly's **Guidelines for Keeping Presbytery Minutes**, as to form, structure, and minimum content, and
  - (c) appropriate standards as to the use of the English language.
2. Each set of Presbytery minutes should be read by at least two members of the Committee of Commissioners on Review and Control of Presbyteries.
3. The Committee may divide its work so that two or more members examine minutes primarily as to form [4(a)], and two or more members may examine them primarily as to substance [4(b)].
4. The findings of the Committee with respect to the minutes of each Presbytery shall be reported under the following categories as appropriate:
  - (a) **Notations:** typographical errors, mis-spellings, improper punctuation, non-prejudicial statements of fact, and other minor variation in form, may be reported under this category. Also failures to provide proper or sufficient information or identification, prejudicial mis-statements of fact, etc., may be reported under this category.
  - (b) **Exceptions:** violations of the Assembly's **Guidelines for Keeping Presbytery Minutes** and actions which in substance appear not to conform to the Standards of the Presbyterian Church in America, or to be out of accord with the deliverances of the General Assembly, should be reported under this category.
5. The Committee shall prepare a report concerning the minutes of each Presbytery. The filling out of a form, designed for the purpose for each Presbytery, shall meet the requirement for this section. After action by the Assembly, one copy of the report shall be sent by the Stated Clerk to the Presbytery. A second copy shall be retained by the Stated Clerk in a permanent file. A third copy shall be kept in the records of the Committee, which shall be maintained in a suitable binder. The custody of the records of the Committee shall be the responsibility of the Stated Clerk in the period between the General Assemblies.
6. Notations and exceptions in the Committee's reports shall be disposed of as follows:
  - (a) Notations shall normally be sent to the Presbyteries by the Stated Clerk without being read before the General Assembly or recorded in its minutes.
  - (b) Exceptions shall be read before the Assembly, recorded in its minutes, and disposed of as the Assembly determines.
  - (c) The Assembly shall adopt an appropriate motion with respect to the minutes of each Presbytery, the following forms being examples:
    - (1) That the minutes of the Presbytery of \_\_\_\_\_ be approved without exception. (Give dates of minutes being approved.)
    - (2) That the minutes of the Presbytery of \_\_\_\_\_ be approved with the exceptions noted. (Give dates of minutes being approved.)
7. The Presbyteries shall take note in their minutes of exceptions taken by the Assembly, together with the corrections or explanations adopted by the Presbytery to rectify them. Presbyteries shall advise the next General Assembly of the disposition they have made of the exceptions.
8. Reports to the Assembly from the Presbyteries concerning disposition of exceptions taken by the past Assembly shall normally be referred to the Committee without being read before the Assembly. The Committee shall examine such reports and shall report to the Assembly its judgment as to the suitability of the disposition that has been made. Committees shall also present recommendations concerning all exceptions taken by previous Assemblies or Committees that have not been disposed of suitably.

## IX Parliamentary Procedure

**9-1** Except as otherwise specifically provided in these Rules, REVISED ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER shall be the standard in parliamentary procedure.

**9-2** The entire report of each Committee of Commissioners, including narrative, shall be read before any comment. 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 portion of the majority report affected.

**9-3** Each recommendation in each report must be read, considered and acted upon separately.

(1) The chairman moves the adoption.

(2) Motion to adopt is seconded from the floor.

(3) The Moderator asks: Is there objection or question?

(4) Hearing no objection or question, the Moderator states: It is adopted. (The above procedure is known as the "Short Form of Voting.")

**9-4** Procedure in debating a question:

(1) The chairman or his designate may answer questions concerning the report addressed to him through the Moderator.

(2) The chairman shall have an 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) When any main motion has been debated for 15 minutes the Moderator shall inquire of the court whether it wishes to place some definite limit upon further debate.

(5) Debate shall be free and open, with equal time being given to proponents and opponents in so far as possible.

**9-5 Special Provisions**

(1) The assistants to the Stated Clerk shall have the privilege of the floor when requested by the Moderator to render some specific service to the court.

(2) All motions shall be presented in writing and read before being voted upon.

**X Amendment or Suspension of Rules**

The Rules of the General Assembly may be amended or suspended only by a two thirds vote of the total enrollment of commissioners. A motion to amend is debatable. A motion to suspend is not debatable.

**Appendix M**  
**BY-LAWS**  
**OF**  
**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (A CORPORATION)**  
**As Amended by the Third General Assembly**

**ARTICLE I NAME AND LOCATION.**

**Section 1.** The name of this corporation shall be Presbyterian Church in America (A Corporation).

**Section 2.** The registered office in the State of Delaware is to be located at 229 South State Street, in the City of Dover, County of Kent. The registered agent in charge thereof is The Prentice-Hall Corporation System, Inc., at 229 South State Street, Dover, Delaware. The official business address of the Corporation is the office of the Business Administrator.

Other offices for transaction of business shall be located at such places as the General Assembly or its Permanent Committees shall designate.

**ARTICLE II. MEMBERS AND MEETINGS OF THE CORPORATION**

**Section 1.** The members of the corporation shall be those duly ordained Teaching Elders (Ministers) enrolled in a Presbytery affiliated with the Presbyterian Church in America and those Ruling Elders representing local congregations, which congregations are affiliated with Presbyteries affiliated with the Presbyterian Church in America who have been designated or commissioned to attend the annual General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America. Such Teaching Elders and Ruling Elders shall be designated or commissioned by Presbyteries or Congregations in accordance with rules and regulations prescribed by the Book of Church Order (15-2) (See Article VI.). Such individuals shall be the members of the corporation until the next annual meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America at which time the members of the corporation shall be those individuals designated or commissioned as hereinabove set forth to attend such annual General Assembly.

**Section 2.** The annual meeting of the corporation shall be at such time and such place as designated by the General Assembly, and ordinarily will be held during the month of September. Each General Assembly shall have the power to designate the time and place for more than one annual General Assembly, and shall also have the power to authorize the Committee on Administration to designate the time and place of the next General Assembly.

**Section 3.** Special meetings of the General Assembly may be called in accordance with the Book of Church Order (15-3).

**Section 4.** A quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the General Assembly shall be that prescribed in the Book of Church Order (15-5).

**Section 5.** The Moderator shall call all meetings to order and shall preside until his successor has been selected and takes office. If the Moderator is unable to act, the Stated Clerk shall call the Assembly to order and preside over its sessions until a Moderator has been elected.

**Section 6.** Proxies shall not be allowed at General Assembly meetings.

**ARTICLE III. OFFICERS.**

**Section 1.** The officers of the corporation shall be the Moderator, the Clerk, the Business Administrator-treasurer, and such assistant clerks and treasurers as may be deemed desirable by the Committee on Administration. The officers, with exception of the assistant clerks or assistant treasurers, shall be elected by the General Assembly as set forth in the Book of Church Order and the Rules for Assembly Operation. In the event that the Stated Clerk or the Business Administrator are unable to act, the Committee on Administration shall be authorized to appoint a provisional Clerk or a provisional Business Administrator to serve until a regular Clerk or Business Administrator may be elected by the next General Assembly.

**Section 2.** The Moderator shall have such duties and responsibilities as set

forth in the Book of Church Order and the Rules of Assembly Operation. The Moderator, unless specifically authorized by the General Assembly, shall have no authority to and shall not be expected to perform any functions for the corporation other than those specifically set forth in these By-Laws or those set forth in the Book of Church Order, and the Rules for Assembly Operation.

**Section 3.** The Clerk shall have such duties and responsibilities as set forth in the Book of Church Order and Rules of Assembly Operation. He shall be immediately responsible to the Committee on Administration. The Clerk shall prepare and forward all notices required by law or by these By-Laws, and shall have general charge of the corporate books and records. He shall sign such instruments as may be required, and perform the duties incident to the office of Clerk, and such duties as may be assigned by the Moderator, the Committee on Administration, the members of the corporation in General Assembly.

**Section 4.** The Business Administrator-treasurer shall be the custodian of the funds and securities belonging to the corporation, and not otherwise designated to one of the three program committees. He shall receive deposit and disburse such funds as directed by the General Assembly, including any provisions set forth in the Book of Church Order. He shall keep an accurate account of the finances of the corporation, not only of these funds in the custody, but by means of monthly reports from the other committees of their funds also, on a uniform form, which he shall provide. He shall prepare or have prepared such reports of the financial condition of the corporation as be required, and, in general, perform all of the duties incident to the office of Business Administrator-treasurer. He shall be bonded in an amount to be determined by the Committee on Administration.

#### **ARTICLE IV. PERMANENT COMMITTEES.**

**Section 1.** The affairs of the corporation shall be conducted primarily through Permanent Committees, to wit: Committee on Administration; Committee for Christian Education and Publications; Committee on Mission to the United States; Committee on Mission to the World. The Committee of Administration, shall be composed of six Teaching Elders and six Ruling Elders elected as prescribed by the General Assembly, plus the Moderator of the General Assembly, the immediate past Moderator, the Stated Clerk and the Chairman of the other three Permanent Committees. The Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Judicial Business shall be an advisory member of the Committee on Administration. The other Committees shall consist of six Teaching Elders and six Ruling Elders, elected as prescribed by the General Assembly. There shall also be a Committee on Judicial Business composed of six members divided into three classes of two members each serving three year terms. Each class shall be composed of one (1) teaching elder and one (1) ruling elder who is preferably a duly licensed attorney at law.

**Section 2.** The power and authority of the Permanent Committees shall be those set forth in these By-Laws or by direction of the General Assembly.

**Section 3.** The Permanent Committees shall, unless specifically directed otherwise by the General Assembly, be authorized to operate from separate locations with separate offices and separate staffs. The budget for each Permanent Committee, including specifically the compensation to be paid the chief administrative officer of each Permanent Committee, shall be submitted to the Committee on Administration, which shall consider the requests of each committee as it relates to the budget requests of other committees, to needs and to opportunities, and shall recommend an over all budget to the General Assembly, for its approval. All funds received by the corporation that are designated for the benefit of any particular Permanent Committee shall be disbursed by the Business Administrator to the proper committee. There shall be no equalization of funds so designated. Any funds received by the corporation not designated as being for the benefit of a particular Permanent Committee shall be distributed by the Business Administrator as directed by the General Assembly.

**Section 4.** Each Permanent Committee, by resolution adopted by a majority of its committee members, may designate the place, date and time for

regular meetings of the committee, which should be held at least quarterly. Written or printed notice of such resolution should be given to all committee members within a reasonable time after the adoption thereof. Notice of the time, place or purpose of such regular meetings of the Permanent Committee shall not be required to be given.

**Section 5.** Special meetings of the Permanent Committees may be called at any time or place by the Chairman of the Committee, or by a majority of the committee members. Written notice stating the place, date and hour of such special meeting shall be delivered by the Chairman of the Committee to each committee member at least ten days prior to the date of such meeting, and such notice should specify the purpose of such special meeting. Attendance of a committee member at such a meeting will constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting. The act of the majority of the committee members present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Committee.

**Section 6.** A majority of a Permanent Committee shall constitute a quorum.

**Section 7.** The Chairman and the Secretary of each Permanent Committee shall be elected annually at the first meeting of the Committee following the General Assembly. The incumbent Chairman and Secretary shall continue to serve until their successors have been elected and assume their duties. In the event that the Chairman is rotated off of a Committee, the Moderator of the General Assembly shall name a Convener of the Committee, who shall preside over the Committee until a Chairman is elected and assume his duties.

**Section 8.** In the event any administrative personnel employed by a Committee and approved by the General Assembly is unable to act, such Committee may employ a provisional replacement, who has been examined and approved by the Assembly's Theological Examining Committee, and who shall serve until the next General Assembly.

**Section 9. The Individual Permanent Committees**

**A. The Committee on Administration**

1. The business affairs of the corporation as distinguished from the ecclesiastical matters, and those not specifically assigned to one of the other Permanent Committees by these By-Laws or an act of the General Assembly, shall be managed by the Committee on Administration, which serves as the Board of Directors provided in the Charter of Incorporation, subject to such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the General Assembly, including all applicable provisions of the Book of Church Order.

2. The Committee on Administration shall hold an annual meeting in conjunction with the annual General Assembly meeting, at a time and place to be determined by the Committee. Notice shall not be required to be given of the time or place of the annual meeting of the Committee, other than that which shall be included in the Commissioner's Handbook for the General Assembly.

**B. The Committee for Christian Education and Publications**

The affairs of the Church in the areas of Christian education and publications are assigned to the Committee for Christian Education and Publications, whose duties and authority shall be designated by the General Assembly.

**C. The Committee on Mission to the United States**

The affairs of the Church involved in its extension in the United States and Canada are assigned to the Committee on Mission to the United States, whose duties and authority shall be designated by the General Assembly.

**D. The Committee on Mission to the World**

The affairs of the Church in the area of world missions outside of the United States and Canada are assigned to the Committee on Mission to the World, whose duties and authority shall be designated by the General Assembly.

**E. The Committee on Judicial Business**

The Committee shall advise the Assembly on all constitutional matters, and between Assemblies shall function as advisory to the stated clerk and



the Committee on Administration. The Committee shall not be separately funded but administratively will operate as a Sub-Committee of the Committee on Administration. The Committee will make direct report to each Assembly.

#### **ARTICLE V. FISCAL MATTERS.**

**Section 1.** The fiscal year of the corporation shall be from January 1 through December 31 of each year. The General Assembly shall annually designate the auditors for the corporation on recommendation from the Committee on Administration, which auditing firm shall make an audit of the financial affairs of the corporation and of each Permanent Committee promptly following the close of each fiscal year. The expenses of such audit shall be prorated among the corporation and each Permanent Committee.

**Section 2.** All funds of the corporation shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the corporation in such banks, savings and loan institutions, trust or other depositories as the Permanent Committees by resolution may select.

**Section 3.** All checks, drafts or other orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the corporation shall be signed by such officer or officers of the corporation as the Committee on Administration shall designate. All checks, drafts or other orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of any of the Permanent Committees shall be signed by such representative of the Committee as the Committee by resolution shall designate.

#### **ARTICLE VI. ECCLESIASTICAL MATTERS.**

**Section 1.** The ecclesiastical Constitution of the Church is composed of: the Westminster Confession of Faith, the Larger and Shorter Catechisms as adopted by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America, and the Book of Church Order of the Presbyterian Church in America. The provisions of the Constitution shall control over any provisions of these By-Laws that may be in conflict therewith.

#### **ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS**

These By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote at any annual or special meeting of the General Assembly.

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