

Minutes
of the
FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
of the
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
IN AMERICA

Part I
DIRECTORY
Of General Assembly
Committees And Officers

Part II
JOURNAL

Part III
APPENDICES

SEPTEMBER 13-17, 1976
GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

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 12, 1977
(The hour of convening to be determined.)
Atlanta, Georgia**

MINUTES
of the
FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

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Second Presbyterian Church
GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA
SEPTEMBER 14, 17, 1976

SUCCESSION OF MODERATORS

Assembly	Year	Name	Place of Assembly
1st	1973	Hon. W. Jack Williamson	Birmingham, AL
2nd	1974	Rev. Erskine L. Jackson	Macon, GA
3rd	1975	Judge Leon F. Hendrick	Jackson, MS
4th	1976	Rev. William A. McIlwaine	Greenville, SC

PART I

DIRECTORY OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES AND OFFICES

Officers of the General Assembly

Moderator

The Rev. William A. McIlwaine
1107 East Hernandez
Pensacola, Florida 32503

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

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Columbus, Georgia 31907
Phone: 404-563-4616

Coordinator for Christian Education and Publications

The Rev. Charles H. Dunahoo (January 1, 1977)
1020 Monticello Court
Montgomery, Alabama 36109
Phone: 205-277-3100

Coordiantor 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

DIRECTORY OF CURRENT ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES

I. PERMANENT COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION

Teaching Elders:

Frank Moser
530 Greenleaf Drive
Monroeville, Pennsylvania 15146

Robert LaMay
1300 McRee Drive
Valdosta, Georgia 31601

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, Chairman
629 Wildwood
Columbia, South Carolina 29203

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

Ruling Elders:

Class of 1980

James Wilkerson
Woodville, Mississippi 39669

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

William Swain
9111 Aduana Avenue
Miami, Florida 33146

William Joseph
3230 Thomas Avenue
Montgomery, Alabama 36106

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

The Moderator:

Rev. William A. McIlwaine
1107 East Hernandez
Pensacola, Florida 32503

The Immediate Past Moderator:

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

The Stated Clerk:

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

The Chairman 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:

Committee for Christian Education and Publications:

Edward Robeson
119 York Street
Chester, South Carolina 29706

Committee on Mission to the United States:

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

Committee on Mission to the World:

The Rev. Kennedy Smartt
1600 Atlantic Street
Hopewell, Virginia 23860

Alternates

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Route 4, Box 375
Gastonia, North Carolina 28052

James A. Middlebrooks
5129 Rivoli Drive
Macon, Georgia 31204

Consultant on Administration

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

SUB-COMMITTEE ON INTERCHURCH RELATIONS

Teaching Elders

Ruling Elders

Class of 1979

Adrian E. DeYoung
585 Upper Kingston Road
Prattville, Alabama 36067

W. D. Carmichael
Ellisville, Mississippi 39437

Class of 1978

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1303 Bellemeade Boulevard
Jacksonville, Florida 32211

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Greeneville, Tennessee 37743

Class of 1977

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Pensacola, Florida 32503

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Alternates

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c/o Sardinia Presbyterian Church
Sardinia, South Carolina 29143

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P. O. Box 190
Manning, South Carolina 29102

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL BUSINESS

Teaching Elders

Ruling Elders

Class of 1980

Thomas A. Cook
P.O. Box 61
Louisville, Mississippi 39339

James Westlake
Route 7, Box 366
Covington, Georgia 30209

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Class of 1979

John P. Clelland
105 George Wallace Drive
Troy, Alabama 36081

Larry Mick
2520 Stewart Road
Signal Mountain, Tennessee 37377

Class of 1978

John Holmes, Convener
P.O. Box 26
Harriman, Tennessee 37748

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

Alternates

Samuel B. Hoyt, Jr.
Route 1, Box 7
McConnells, South Carolina 29726

J. Brookes Smith
1802 Dixon Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21209

TRUSTEES FOR THE INSURANCE AND ANNUITY FUND

Class of 1981: Rev. Russell Flaxman
Box 13005
Chesapeake, Virginia 23325

Mr. Clynard Belcher
Main Street
Haysi, Virginia 24256

Class of 1980: Rev. Thomas Barnes
1401 Bonita Avenue
Opelika, Alabama 36801

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

Class of 1979: Mr. J. A. Durrenberger
206 Brookwood Place
Valdosta, Georgia 31601

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

Annuity Office
P. O. Box 6287
Columbus, Georgia 31907

SUB-COMMITTEE ON STEWARDSHIP

Teaching Elders

Ruling Elders

Class of 1980

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

S. Elliott Belcher
Brent, Alabama 35034

Class of 1979

Harry Schutte
3100 Covenant Road
Columbia, South Carolina 29204

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

Class of 1978

John Stodghill
1805 Father Ryan Avenue
Biloxi, Mississippi 39530

Roy Gamble
1020 Monticello Court
Montgomery, Alabama 36109

Class of 1977

Fred Fowler
309 West Hills Road
Knoxville, Tennessee 37919

Harold Tolsma
2248 Swift Boulevard
Houston, Texas 77025

Milton E. Howland, Director
1020 Monticello Court
Montgomery, Alabama 36109

COMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS

Teaching Elders

Ruling Elders

Class of 1980

John K. Reeves
758 Dantzler Street
Moss Point, Mississippi 39563

Joe Roberson
Route 3, Box 260-B
Greeneville, Tennessee 37743

George Parron
317 West McGinnis Circle
Norfolk, Virginia 23502

Class of 1979

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Marks, Mississippi 38646

Charles Parks
2232 Wilkins Street
Burlington, North Carolina 27215

Don K. Clements
351 Spruce Street
Chula Vista, California 92011

Class of 1978

Jack B. Scott
700 Meadow Hill Lane
Clinton, Mississippi 39056

Edward Robeson, Chairman
119 York Street
Chester, South Carolina 29706
Roy Gamble (Resigned 10-1-76)
1020 Monticello Court
Montgomery, Alabama 36109

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Class of 1977

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

James A. Turner
1728 South Hull Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36104

Donald Boerema
1261 Ramiro
Coral Gables, Florida 33156

Alternates

Dan Barr
Route 4, Box 259
Bluff City, Tennessee 37618

George Wessel
Route 7, Box 24-A
Lexington, South Carolina 29072

Coordinator

The Rev. Charles Dunahoo (after January 1, 1977)
1020 Monticello Court
Montgomery, Alabama 36109

COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES

Teaching Elders

Donald C. Graham
3433 Robinson Bayou Circle
Panama City, Florida 32401
Charles E. Turner
304 Guild Drive
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37421

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

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

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

Frank Barker, Chairman
3181 Dolly Ridge Drive
Birmingham, Alabama 35243

Timothy Keller
3405 North Radford Drive
Hopewell, Virginia 23860

Ruling Elders

Class of 1980

Earl Bolton
4631 Mitchell Street
Forest Park, Georgia 30050

Class of 1979

J. T. Russell
101 Westview Place
Waynesville, North Carolina 28786
Walter Hatterick
White Oak Pike
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Class of 1978

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2248 Swift Boulevard
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Class of 1977

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Alternates

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Coordinator

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P. O. Box 16302
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COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE WORLD

Teaching Elders

Eugene Craven
1919 India Hook Road
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618 North Cleveland
Sherman, Texas 75090

Kennedy Smart, Chairman
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Hopewell, Virginia 23860

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Clinton, Mississippi 39056

James Baird
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David E. Hamilton
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Burlington, North Carolina 27215

James L. Moss
Route 4
Abbeville, South Carolina 29620

Ruling Elders

Class of 1980

L. B. Austin III
1703 Crestwood Drive
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37405

Hugh Brown
2658 Dolly Brook Lane
Birmingham, Alabama 35243

Class of 1979

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

Class of 1978

H. Clifford Horton
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Aliceville, Alabama 35442

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

Class of 1977

Gerald Sovereign
324 Valencia
Gulf Breeze, Florida 32561

Alternates

James H. Campbell
1913 Lynn Cove Lane
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454

Coordinator

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P. O. Box 1744
Decatur, Georgia 30031

ASSEMBLY THEOLOGICAL EXAMINING COMMITTEE

Teaching Elders

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5422 Clinton Boulevard
Jackson, Mississippi 39209

David Jussely
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Centreville, Mississippi 39631

John McNicoll, Chairman
1860 El Mar Lane
Seabrook, Texas 77586

Ruling Elders

Class of 1979

John C. Snyder
3332 Mistywood Drive
Charlotte, North Carolina 28213

Class of 1978

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

Class of 1977

Howard Q. Davis
Indianola, Mississippi 38751

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Alternates

James C. Bland III
P. O. Box 676
Gadsden, Alabama 35902

F. E. DuBose
Box 17
Gable, South Carolina 29051

BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA FOUNDATION

Class of 1980:

W. J. (Jack) Williamson
Box 467
Greenville, Alabama 36037

Russ M. Johnson
4323 Brook Drive
Jackson, Mississippi 39206

Class of 1979:

John W. (Jack) Todd, Jr.
RD 4, Blackburn Road
Sewickley, Pennsylvania 15143

Gordon Reed
14101 S.W. 99th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33176

Class of 1978:

Robert C. Wasson
Route 3
Laurens, South Carolina 29360

Alan Harris
c/o Florida National Bank
P. O. Box 1609
Coral Gables, Florida 33134

Class of 1977:

Erskine Jackson
Box 577
Kosciusko, Mississippi 39090

Kenneth S. Keyes
Box 40
Highlands, North Carolina 28741

II. AD INTERIM AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

AD INTERIM COMMITTEE ON ABORTION

The Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America passed the following action:
" . . . The General Assembly answered Overture 4 from Calvary Presbytery with respect to Abortion in the affirmative and expressed its grave concern over the murder of hundreds of thousands of the unborn through widespread practice of abortion; and that the Assembly appoint a committee to study and bring back to the 1977 General Assembly a biblical, theological statement on abortion with practical application (4-57)."

The following men were named to this committee by the General Assembly (4-81):

Teaching Elders

Carl Bogue
4105 State Road
Akron, Ohio 44319

Thomas Cheely
P. O. Box 388
Locust, North Carolina 28097

Ruling Elders

William Cook
1825 Peachtree
Jackson, Mississippi 39202

Warren Diven
123 Kelvington Drive
Monroeville, Pennsylvania 15146

William Fitzhenry
913 Spring Road
Charleston, West Virginia 25314

Allen Fleece
247 Candler Drive
Macon, Georgia 31204

Francis Nigel Lee
609 Valley
Kosciusko, Mississippi 39090

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

Richard Kennedy
Route 2
Denver, North Carolina 28037

Herman Quantz
2905 Elliott
Alexandria, Louisiana 71301

William Russell
206 Dodson Road
Petersburg, Virginia 23803

James Wilkerson, Convener
P. O. Box 637
Woodville, Mississippi 39669

Alternates

Charles Dunahoo
1020 Monticello Court
Montgomery, Alabama 36109
(After January 1, 1977)

John Foyt
70 Leucadendra Drive
Coral Gables, Florida 33156

AD-INTERIM COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL DOCUMENTS

The Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America continued the Constitutional Documents Committee with the following instructions from 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 Fourth General Assembly added the additional task to this Committee of studying the implementation of I Timothy 3:2 as it relates to divorced men serving in the Gospel Ministry. (4-47; 4-76)

Teaching Elders

Francis Nigel Lee
609 Valley
Kosciusko, Mississippi 39090

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

Charles H. Dunahoo, Chairman
1020 Monticello Court
Montgomery, Alabama 36109
(After January 1, 1977)

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 CONSTITUTIONAL DOCUMENTS EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

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

"(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 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."

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, Chairman
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 (deceased 9-25-76)
1205 Rose Hill Circle
Jackson, Mississippi 39202

**AD-INTERIM COMMITTEE ON STANDING RULES
FOR THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The Fourth General Assembly took the following action:

"That the moderator appoint an ad-interim committee for the purpose of preparing 'Standing Rules for Operation of the Nominating Committee'. This Committee is to be composed of seven (7) members of the present Nominating Committee and to report to the next General Assembly." (4-81)

Teaching Elders

Frank D. Moser
530 Greenleaf Drive
Monroeville, Pennsylvania 15146

Edward A. Jussely, Convener
P. O. Box 384
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39401

Joseph A. Pipa, Jr.
P. O. Box 13
Tchula, Mississippi 39169

R. Eugene Hunt
6848 Vesta Brook Drive
Morrow, Georgia 30260

Ruling Elders

Wallace Musselman
711 South Fifth Street
Gadsden, Alabama 35901

Murdock Campbell
1720 East Blount Street
Pensacola, Florida 32503

Walter Lastovica
307 Stonewall Avenue
Hopewell, Virginia 23860

AD-INTERIM COMMITTEE TO STUDY A CHAPLAIN COMMISSION

The following is the wording of Overture 7 from Pacific Presbytery:

"Whereas a question of seeming merit has been raised among us as to the present practice of endorsing chaplains to civil authorities through the Commission on Chaplains and Service to Military Personnel of the National Association of Evangelicals, and
Whereas it would seem best to have the chaplains of our denomination endorsed by a Presbyterian Commission that would more clearly represent our denomination before civil authorities from our theological and ecclesiological points of view, and
Whereas it is our belief that more careful attention and supervision will be given our chaplains by a commission to which they are more intimately related, therefore
Pacific Presbytery hereby overtures the Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to order a study which will consider at least these two possible answers to the question:

1. A separate Commission on Chaplains be established as a part of the Mission to the United States Committee,
2. A joint commission be proposed to our sister Presbyterian denominations with whom we are in fellowship."

The Fourth General Assembly answered Overture 7 in the affirmative, and directed the Moderator to appoint a committee of 8 with 2 alternates, at least 2 members of the committee being in the

Military Chaplaincy, 1 from the Committee on Mission to the World of the General Assembly, and one from the Committee on Mission to the United States. The Moderator has named the following Committee to study this matter:

Teaching Elders

W. Ingram Philips
350 Hudnutt
Fort Sill, Oklahoma 73503

Douglas R. McCullough
407 Southwick Drive
Fayetteville, North Carolina 28303

J. Philip Clark, Convener
610 N. Glendale Ave.
Glendale, California 91206

James E. Moore
3340 Lynchburg
Memphis, Tennessee 38118

Edward A. Jussely
P. O. Box 384
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39401

Ruling Elders

Gerald Sovereign
324 Valencia
Gulf Breeze, Florida 32561

Earl Bolton
4631 Mitchell Street
Forest Park, Georgia 30050

James Campbell
1913 Lynn Cove Lane
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454

Alternates

Harris Langford
1020 Monticello Court
Montgomery, Alabama 36109

Earl Fleming
514 Sunset Drive
Butler, Pennsylvania 16001

AD-INTERIM COMMITTEE ON THE NUMBER OF OFFICES

The Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America continued the Ad-Interim Committee on the Number of Offices. The entire Committee is listed as follows (4-85):

Teaching Elders

Don K. Clements
351 Spruce Street
Chula Vista, California 92011

Donald Dunkerley
1220 East Blount Street
Pensacola, Florida 32503

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

Robert C. Sproul
Ligonier Valley Study Center
Route 1
Stahlstown, Pennsylvania 15687

Ruling Elders

W. J. Borden
2800 Yorkshire
Irving, Texas 75061

Robert H. Kirksey
Aliceville, Alabama 35442

John C. Snyder
3322 Mistywood Drive
Charlotte, North Carolina 28213

Richard Ayres
1107 Greenbriar Street
Alexandria, Louisiana 71301

For the Ad-Interim Committee:

"3-31 The Assembly adopted the following motion: the whole matter was 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."

PART II
JOURNAL
MINUTES — TUESDAY EVENING

SEPTEMBER 14, 1976

First Session

4-1 The Assembly Called to Order

The Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America, meeting at the Memorial Auditorium, hosted by the Second Presbyterian Church, Greenville, South Carolina, was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by the Moderator, Ruling Elder Leon F. Hendrick, who led the Assembly in an opening prayer.

4-2 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

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Akron, OH	Faith	Carl W. Bogue	George Caler
Butler	Westminster	Stuart Perrin	Carl Daum
Monroeville	Sovereign Grace	Frank Moser	J. Murray Thompson
Pittsburgh	Covenant	K. Eric Perrin	Leland Miller, Jr.
	Providence	Arthur Broadwick	Charles LeSuer
		F. Randall Johovich	John Snyder
Valencia	Gospel Fellowship		George Love
Volant	Church of The Living Word	Richard E. Knodel	
		Harry George	
		Wayne Jamison	
		Palmer Robertson	
		Alvin W. Smith	

2. CALVARY PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Abbeville	Lebanon	Grady R. Love	Bill Barksdale
	New Hope	James L. Moss	W. J. Milford
	Union	Willis D. Kerley	
Aiken	Grace	John Reginald Hill	
Andrews	Andrews	James M. Hope	
Blair	Salem	Rodney King	Claude H. Ragsdale
			Henry Guyton, Alternate
Cheraw	Faith		R. Frank Eskridge
Chester	Trinity		E. J. Robeson
	Zion	Samuel B. Hoyt, Jr.	Roy W. Johnston
Clover	Bethel	Vernon West	William C. Jackson
	Scherer Memorial	Vernon West	Hugh Love
Columbia	Covenant	Harry Schutte	Nolan Armstrong
		W. Alan Mugler	John Goodman
			Bill Jackson

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
	Eau Claire	Harold Patteson	E. Knox Fraley
Conestee	Reedy River	J. Gaynor Phillips	Buddy Ducker
Gaffney	Beach Street	Guy N. Fowler	
	Salem	Kenneth Barnes	
Gray Court	New Harmony		Charles Stoddard
Greenville	Calvary	John R. Smith	Bill Stenhouse
	Second		E. Dave Maney Walter P. White
Greenwood	Rock	W. C. Smith	C. J. Haddon
Greer	Fulton	Loren Watson	James T. McElrath
Kingstree	Bethel	Karl Woodmansee	
	Central	William Shannon	W. N. Kellahan
	Mouzon	Karl Woodmansee	Robert Duke
Laurens	Friendship	Dwight H. Noe'	James Wasson
Lexington	Lexington	Eulice D. Thomas	James Parler
			Sam McNutt, Alternate Larry Micol, Alternate
Manning	New Covenant	Billy Rufus	Thomas L. Burgess, Jr.
McConnells	Olivet	Samuel B. Hoyt, Jr.	T. E. Burris
Moore	Center Point	Frederic D. Thompson	Robert McAbee
Reidville	Reidville	Joseph Beale	E. P. Magill
Rock Hill	Hopewell		Carl Barfield, Jr.
	Westminster	Charles E. Craven	Robert Butts
		Donald Geismann	Robert Sumner
Roebuck	Mt. Calvary	William H. Benchoff	James C. Turner
	Roebuck	Frederic D. Thompson	Dupree Morgan
Salters	Union	Charles M. Plowden, Jr.	J. D. Britten
Saluda (Landrum)	Philadelphia	Otto F. Wiesmann	Henry Linder
Sardinia	Sardinia	Robert Korn	Frank E. DuBose
Spartanburg	Powell	Jack Giddings	Bobby Scruggs
Van Wyck	Trinity		Glenn Alexander J. Edward Dobbs, Alt.
Winnsboro	Lebanon	John R. Thompson	H. L. Brice
	Union Memorial		Daniel Timms
Woodruff	Antioch	Joseph Beale	Joe Kilgore John D. Kilgore, Alternate
York	Filbert		John Hunter
		Fred Manning, Sr. Hugh Powlinson Reuben Wallace	

3. CAROLINA PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Belmont	South Point	Jack Bowling	Donald R. Clayton
Burlington	Northside		John Tarlton Millard Tate
Charlotte	New Life	Jack Eubanks	Evan Holyfield

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
China Grove	New Hope	David Gullett	J. G. Houston
Denver	Lakeshore	Dewey D. Murphy	Robert Wilcox
Durham	Fuller Memorial	Edwin Worstall	
Goldsboro	Antioch	J. Lewis Baker	W. T. Capps
High Point	Westminster	Charles Olim	Logan Porter
Locust	Carolina	Thomas Cheely	
Mooresville	Faith	R. Norman Evans	W. E. Hastings
Mt. Holly	Westview	James Knight	Jack Murphy
North Belmont	Goshen	Alfred Saleeby	D. M. Hartness
Princeton	Progressive	J. Lewis Baker	
Raleigh	Calvary	Warren F. Thuston	John Wynne
Stanley	First	William T. Smith	James Mitchell
		Joseph Farlow	

4. CENTRAL GEORGIA PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Gainesville, FL	Faith		Hugh Cunningham
Garden City	Chapel in The Gardens	Paul Rowland	E. W. Quartermah
Jacksonville, FL	Westminster	H. Timothy Fortner	Porter Ramsey
Macon	First	James Baird Henry Schum	John Clark Thurston Futch James D. Lawhon
	Vineville	Henry Hope	Thomas Alexander Charles Wolf
Martinez	Westminster	Walter Cathey	
Perry	Perry	James Stewart	John Richards
Savannah	Covenant	Larry Morrison	Howard Haupt
	Eastern Heights	Fred Manning, Jr.	Howard Hansen
	Faith	Paul L. Karlberg	James Luce
	Hull Memorial	Robert Canfield	Troy Coleman
Sylvania	Liberty	Oliver Hamby	Robert Bourne
Valdosta	Westminster	Robert L. LaMay	Robert Montague
Waynesboro	First	Kenneth M. Kepler	John J. Jones
		James P. Campbell Don K. Clements Walter DeHart G. Allen Fleece John Oliver John E. Richards Dale Umbriet	

5. COVENANT PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Bassett	Bassett	William P. Shows	
Carrollton, MS	Carrollton	Robert Hayes	Stanny Mattox
Charleston, AR	First	John P. Baldwin	Elmo Lamb
Clarendon, AR	First	David Goodrum	

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Columbus, MS	The Presb. Ch.	Stanley Hartman	Thomas Poheroy
Houston, MS	Houston	Charles Champion	Wesley Patch
Indianola, MS	First	Merrill Easterlin	Howard Q. Davis
Jackson, TN	Grace		Earl Jagers
Little Rock, AR	Covenant		Letcher Langford
Marks, MS	Marks	Thomas Patete	Ben Yandell
Memphis, TN	Eastland	Robert L. Mabson	L. W. Scruggs
	Vanguard	James E. Moore	
Osceola	First	William P. Shows	Arthur Rogers
Vaiden, MS	Blackmonton	Claude Gamble	
	Shongalo	Claude Gamble	H. R. Power
Water Valley, MS	First	Edwin P. Elliott, Jr.	Carmon E. King
	Oak Ridge	Edwin P. Elliott, Jr.	
Winona, MS	First	Harold Richardson	James H. Simpson
		Ford Williams	

6. EVANGEL PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Anniston	Faith	George Mitchell	Roy Flannagan
Birmingham	Briarwood	Frank Barker Peter Doyle Kenneth D. Wilson	Thomas F. Leopard Aubrey Miree William Poole John Spencer
	Faith	Wayne Herring	Hugh H. Brown
Clanton	Clanton	Robert Allyn	
Clayton	Clayton	James Dodson	
	Pleasant View	James Dodson	
Eufaula	Friendship	Joseph P. McGhan, Jr.	
Fort Deposit	Sandy Ridge	William Bell	
Gadsden	Eastside	Hubert Stewart	Earl A. Stine
	First	James C. Bland III Glenn D. Camenisch William Carlson	Joe Morrow Bryan Towers
	Rainbow	Lee Roy Taylor	W. E. Morrow, Jr.
Greenville	First	William Bell	W. Jack Williamson
Hope Hull	Friendship	Paul Long, Jr.	
Hueytown	Continuing		Henry S. Thigpen
Huntsville	Ebenezer	Joe York	C. T. Nalls
	Ye Ole Barn		James Smith
LaFayette	LaFayette	William Giddens, Jr.	
Millbrook	Millbrook	William Dinwiddie	James Crump
Montgomery	Covenant	James Sherwood	Paul Wolff
	First		Charles Hightower Julian McRae
	Oak Park	James D. Hatch	Alton Courtney
	Providence	Paul Long, Jr.	J. Luther Mills

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
	Trinity	Robert Ostenson	J. Clyde Blair Robert E. Carnes C. M. Henderson James T. Johnson William F. Joseph
Notasulga	Woodland	William Giddens, Jr.	George M. Park
Opelika	Trinity	Thomas F. Barnes	Richard Teague
Ozark	Ozark	David Crocker	Clarence Atkinson
Prattville	First	Adrian DeYoung	
Shorter	Calebee	William Giddens, Jr.	
Troy	First	Frank W. Aderholt, Jr.	Holman Johnson
Waverly	New Harmony	William Giddens, Jr. Dennis Disselkoen Harris Langford Jimmy Lyons Michael Quarles Paul Settle Ronald Siegenthaler	

7. GRACE PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Bay Springs	Bay Springs	James Shull	
Biloxi	First	John Stodghill	Beechley Combs
Brookhaven	Faith	Jack Ross	Julian Cameron
Centreville	Thompson Memorial	David Jussely	Hermon Jackson
Collins	Collins	Norman Bagby	
Crystal Springs	First	Donald Hendricks	Arnold Lee
Ellisville	Ellisville	Joseph S. Wilkins	
Gloster	Bethany Hoyte Memorial	David Jussely David Jussely	Dewitt B. Smylie
Hattiesburg	Bay Street First Woodland	Edward A. Jussely Edward Johnson Gerald G. Morgan	A. M. Waites E. W. Liner
Hazelhurst	First	Thomas McClelland	S. W. Thorne
Leakesville	Leakesville	L. Byron Snapp	D. K. McInnis
Liberty	Liberty		E. L. Caston
Magee	Magee Sharon	Craig R. Rowe	Ray Little
Monticello	Monticello	Thomas Meyer	
Moss Point	Moss Point	John Reeves	
Mount Olive	Hopewell Mount Olive	Charles Carroll Charles Carroll	John W. McNair
Picayune	First	Billy Combs	Henry Auter
Prentiss	Prentiss	French W. Tripp	
Slidell, LA	Trinity	James L. Long	George DeBram Terence Flanagan, Alt.
Taylorsville	First	Charles C. Cox	Max M. Kennedy
Waynesboro	First	Vaughn E. Hathaway	

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
	Philadelphus		Paul Griffith
Wesson	Wesson	Thomas Meyer	
Woodville	First	Eugene C. Case John Chinchin Richard H. Davies Larry Mills James Spencer William J. Stanway	James Wilkerson

8. GULF COAST PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Chattahoochee	Chattahoochee		Newton J. Brooks George W. Gibson, Alt. Richard L. Wilcox
Gulf Breeze	Concord	William A. Fox, Jr.	
Ft. Walton Beach	Westminster	C. Don Darling	
Madison	Madison, PCA	Nat Heeth	A. L. Hughes
Mobile, AL	Trinity		C. G. Stokes, Jr.
Panama City	Covenant	Donald Graham	James R. Webb
Pensacola	Fairfield McIlwain Memorial	George B. Brengle	A. W. LaFleur Murdock Campbell O. H. Smith, III
Quincy	New Philadelphia	M. Timothy Elder	James E. Gilbert
Tallahassee	Westminster	John W. Ter Louw	John G. Ter Louw
Valparaiso	First	Richard Adelman	Bobby Blaylock
Warrington	Warrington	E. Crowell Cooley William A. McIlwaine	William A. Lynch Eugene E. Smith

9. LOUISIANA PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Alexandria	Jackson Street	Robert B. Vincent	Herman Quantz
Baton Rouge	Monte Sano	William E. Frisbee	Arvid Nordstrom
Opelousas	First		W. G. Owen Marshall McLeod, Alt.
Ruston	John Knox	J. W. Lipscomb	Sterling Harrell
Shreveport	Grace	Gary K. Edwards Thomas E. Hughes Charles Kukal William L. Mosal	Robert Zeigler

10. MID-ATLANTIC PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Baltimore, MD	Inverness	Onesimus J. Rundus	
Chester	Centralia	Steve Race	Max Hunter
Hopewell	West End	Kennedy Smartt	Walter Lastovica Robert L. Nugent
	West Hopewell	Timothy J. Keller	Sidney Harrison
Lutherville, MD	Valley	Ronald Harding	Brookes Smith

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Manassas	Reformed	Edwin P. Elliott	James W. Kemper
Martinsburg	Pilgrim		James M. Brady
Norfolk	Calvary	Leon F. Wardell	Linwood L. Lowe
Petersburg	Tabb Street	James G. Edwards	William B. Russell
Richmond	Calvin		Daniel B. Ice
Sweet Briar	Faith	Harold V. Kuhn	A. Frankland Brandt
Virginia Beach	New Covenant	Robert Schoof	James H. Campbell
		Ronald Bossom	
		Russell Flaxman	
		William Iverson	

11. MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Bailey	Bailey	George Roberts	D. L. Covington
	Mt. Carmel	George Roberts	
Belzoni	First	Michael Kettering	Harold Stillions
Carthage	Carthage	Malcolm Bonner	Vernon R. Cotten
Clinton	Mt. Salus		T. L. Clark
Delhi, LA	Delhi	Paul Lipe	Lamar Bryant
Forest	Forest	Charley Chase	
Goodman	Goodman	Howard Allen	
Jackson	Alta Woods	B. I. Anderson	F. G. Bratley
	First	Donald B. Patterson	Leon F. Hendrick
		Ronald Musselman	Leland Hume
		James Misner	J. Emund Johnson
		William N. Whitwer	Orrin Swayze
		Bruce Wideman	
	North Park	Brister Ware	Harold McDiarmid
	St. Paul	Arthur Schneider	
	Westminster	Thomas Llewelyn	George Fox
Kosciusko	First	Francis Nigel Lee	Hugh Potts, Jr.
Learned	Lebanon	William Dever	
Lexington	First	Howard Allen	Gordon Russell
Louisville	First	Thomas Cook	Charles D. Fair
Macon	Macon	Henry G. Bishop, Jr.	Ernest Flora
Newton	Mt. Moriah	R. Dale McCord	
	Newton	R. Dale McCord	
	Forest Grove	Malcolm Bonner	
Ofahoma	Pearl		Charles McNamee
Pearl	Pearl		
Philadelphia	Carolina	John Allen Little	
	First	John Allen Little	Joe Turner
Scooba	Scooba	Danny Ketchum	
Shuqualak	Shuqualak	Danny Ketchum	
Tchula	Tchula	Joseph A. Pipa, Jr.	Sam Hutton, Jr.
Terry	Wynndale	Doyle A. Hulse	
Union	First	William H. Smith	
Vicksburg	Westminster	John Allen	Grady Leese

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
West	West		Harvey Campbell
Yazoo City	First	William C. Hughes	Bob Cato

Joseph H. Armfield
Erskine Jackson
John E. Kyle
Douglas McCullough
J. Paul Poyner
Morton H. Smith

12. NEW RIVER PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Charleston, WV	Faith	Charles W. McNutt	Jerry F. Martin
	Kanawha Salines	John Dodd	Harry Gardner
	Rebecca Littlepage	Charles W. McNutt	John P. Jenkins
	South Ruffner	William Fitzhenry	James Gay
Roanoke, VA	Westminster	Michael Bolus	Doug Dority
St. Albans, WV	Covenant	David L. Williams	Donald H. Post

13. NORTH GEORGIA PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Atlanta	Chalcedon	Joseph C. Moorecraft, III	J. Carlisle Smith, Jr.
	Emmanuel	Richard E. Hunt	Rufus E. Bolton
	North Atlanta		Edward C. Hammond
Chestnut Mtn.	Chestnut	Robert Fitler	Andy Watkins
Lithonia	Wee Kirk	Robert G. Valentine	Marvin Sims
Midway	Powder Springs	Wilson Smith	Lloyd Granburg
Smyrna	Smyrna	Charles H. Dunahoo	Thomas R. Boykin
		Michael Woodham	William A. Stevenson
Stone Mtn.	Grace	Edwin C. Cunningham	R. P. Williams
		Sam Cappel	
		Young H. Park	
		Ben Wilkinson	

14. PACIFIC PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Los Alamos, NM	Covenant	Brent Bradley	
Newark	Community	David R. Brown	
Seattle, WA	Bellewood	Don Esty	
		J. Philip Clark	
		Dal Saing Kim	
		Paul McKaughan	

15. SOUTHERN FLORIDA PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Boca Raton	Spanish River	David Nicholas	Albert W. Coty
Coral Gables	Granada	Leonard Bullock	Cassedy Sumrall
		Hal McNeely	Bruce Sutton
			Emerson Travis
Coral Springs	First	Ross Bair	William Coggins
Delray Beach	Seacrest	Joseph Warner	Scott McOwen

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Ft. Lauderdale	Covenant	Daniel D. Sulc	Joseph High
Lake Worth	Lake Osborne	Richard L. Downing	William F. Vier
Miami	Kendall	Gordon Reed	Dan DeLange George Smith Paul Beshlin
	Immanuel	Terry Gyger	Roy Gamble
	LeJeune	Robert Duhs	William Swain
	Pinelands	Harold Borchert	Lester Sheldon
	Shenandoah	Todd Allen	Kenneth S. Keyes E. L. Megathlin
	Trinity	Cecil Brooks	Charles Tartt
Tampa	Seminole	Richard M. Watson	Raymond Menendez Jack Morton
Wauchula	Faith	Russell Toms	Samuel Rosenberger
		James Bowen William Carlson Charles Green Jack Hosman Charles G. McClure Lawrence Roff Ron Swafford Leslie Thompson Luder Whitlock James R. Young	

16. TENNESSEE VALLEY PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Alcoa	Trinity	Basil Albert	Douglas W. Wilson
Chattanooga	Brainerd Hills	Charles E. Turner	Marvin Catrom
	First	Ben Haden Bernard Kuiper	Charles Flatt Eugene Hayes Roy Jackson John M. McWhorter William L. Smith
	St. Elmo	Frederick Marsh	
	Westminster	Michael A. Vitullo	Everett Allen
Columbia	Zion	Roland Travis	Robert M. Stoops
Harriman	West Hills	John D. Holmes	
Hixson	Hixson	Herbert L. Broadwater	Paul Hawkins
Knoxville	Ebenezer	David Howe	Horace E. Rivers
	West Hills	Frederick C. Fowler, III John Morrison	Richard Bell

17. TEXAS PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Dallas	John Knox	Charles Cobb	Ray Sanders
	Lakewood	Lewis Bulkeley	Robert Schmitz
Greenville	Westminster	David Tigrett	
Houston	Covenant	Laurie V. Jones	Duane Prestwood
	Oaklawn	William Jones	L. J. Canniff
	Westminster	John McNicoll	John Hook

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Irving	Irving		W. J. Borden
Paris	First	Eric McQuitty	A. H. Burton
Tyler	Fifth Street	Dan H. McCown Dave W. Matthews Thomas E. Hoolsema Lardner Moore	Glen Milham

18. VANGUARD PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Cynthiana, KY	Covenant	George M. McGuire John D. Johnston Arnie Maves	Walter Hatterick

19. WARRIOR PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Akron	Akron	Marvin Harris	
Aliceville	First	Thomas Kay	James V. Park Cliff Horton, Alternate
Brent	Brent	G. David Russell	
Centreville	First	Leonard Van Horn	
Eutaw	First		Curtis Eatman
Greensboro	First	Marvin Harris	
Linden	Linden	Theodore Martin	
Marion	Marion	Alan Story	M. L. Breland
Newbern	First	Marvin Harris	
Selma	Crescent	Cecil Williamson	
	Woodland Heights	William Rose	John Vanderveer
Sumterville	Bethel		John D. Lavender
York	Covenant	Charles Young Fredrick Carr	John H. Bell, Sr.

20. WESTERN CAROLINAS PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Asheville	Trinity	Robert Sweet	Charles Boyce
Black Mountain	Friendship		William Burgess
Hazelwood	Hazelwood	C. D. Murphy	Rufus Summerrow
Marion	Landis		William Lael
	Story Memorial	Charles Yeargan	Robert K. Hawkins Harold J. Lonon, Alt.
Swannanoa	Swannanoa Valley	Wayne Rogers	Wilbur S. Ward
Waynesville	Covenant	A. Boyce Spooner Daniel Iverson G. Aiken Taylor	J. T. Russell

21. WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERY

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
Abingdon, VA	Abington National	J. Edsel Farthing	Fred Sutherland
Bristol, TN	Beidleman	George G. Felton, Sr.	

Town	Church	Teaching Elder	Ruling Elder
	Eastern Heights	Daniel F. Barr	
	Edgemont	Morse Up De Graff	
Cedar Bluff, VA	Covenant	John Sartelle	Thurman Raines
Coeburn, VA	Coeburn	Harry Barnett	
	Mt. Olivet	Harry Barnett	
Greeneville, TN	Grace		Rodger Joe Roberson
	Meadow Creek	Larry Ball	Ivan L. Ward
Haysi, VA	Dickerson First	W. Sam Martin, Jr.	
Johnson City, TN	Asbury	Frank K. Chapo	Woody Boyd
Kingsport, TN	Bridwell Heights	Bruce Garris	Robert E. Lane
	Westminster	Kerry Hurst	John G. Thompson
Newland, NC	Fellowship		William Gragg
	Frank	Philip Evaul	
Pulaski, VA	Brookmont	Kenneth Pollock	
	Pulaski	David Osborne	
		James Pakala	
		Frank Smith	
Total:	Teaching Elders: 325	Ruling Elders: 265	
Representing:	Churches: 305	Ruling Elder Alternates who served as principal part of the Assembly: 10	

4-3 Excuses for Absence

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

- Wayne A. Buchtel
- Frank E. Coho
- Donald Dunkerley
- C. E. Hornsby, Jr.
- Ben W. Konopa
- Fred A. Malone
- William H. Mason
- David F. Roberts
- John W. Robertson
- Jack B. Scott
- E. Lee Trinkle
- Robert Woodard

4-4 Election of Recording Clerks

On nomination by the Stated Clerk, the Rev. Edwin Elliott, Jr., Covenant Presbytery, Ruling Elder Walter Lastovica, Mid-Atlantic Presbytery, and Ruling Elder John Spencer, Evangelical Presbytery were elected Recording Clerks.

4-5 The following Assistant Clerks were elected:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Ascension | Rev. F. Randall Johovich |
| Carolina | Rev. R. Thomas Cheely |
| Central Georgia | Rev. Hank Gundlach and Rev. Paul L. Karlberg |
| Evangel | Rev. James Dodson |
| Grace | Rev. James Shull |
| Gulf Coast | Rev. E. Crowell Cooley |
| Louisiana | Rev. Gary Edwards |
| Mississippi Valley | Rev. John Allen Little |
| North Georgia | Rev. Edwin Cunningham |
| Pacific | Rev. David R. Brown |
| Southern Florida | Mr. Earl S. Mizell |

Texas	Rev. David Tigrett
Vanguard	Rev. George M. McGuire
Warrior	Rev. Fred Carr
Western Carolinas	Rev. C. D. Murphy
Westminster	Rev. Larry Ball and Rev. Frank Smith

4-6 Election of the Moderator

Ruling Elder Kenneth Keyes was nominated, but requested that his name be withdrawn from nomination.

The Rev. William A. McIlwaine was nominated and elected by acclamation.

4-7 Adoption of the Docket

The Stated Clerk presented the proposed docket for the Fourth General Assembly, which was adopted, with the amendment of a special order set to hear a partial report of the Committee of Commissioners on Administration as a last item of business of the First Session.

A second order was set to hear a presentation by Dr. James Graham on Christ's College of Taiwan for 9:30 on Wednesday, September 15, 1976.

DOCKET FOR THE FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Tuesday, September 14, 1976 — Memorial Auditorium

7:00 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.

Opening Session of the Assembly
 Formal Opening with Prayer
 Report on Enrollment and 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
 Report of the Stated Clerk
 Worship Service, Retiring Moderator's Sermon,
 Observance of the Lord's Supper (Order of Day
 8:00 P.M.)
 (In charge of Committee on Administration)
 Introduction of and Greetings from Fraternal Delegates
 Recognition of Special Guests
 Special Order — last item of business Tuesday
 Partial report of the Committee of Commissioners on Administration

Wednesday, September 15, 1976; Thursday, September 16, 1976;

Friday, September 17, 1976 — Memorial Auditorium

8:00 A.M.

Assembly Reconvened
 Minutes of Previous Day's Sessions Read
 Report of the Constitutional Documents Committee
 Special Order: Dr. James Graham, Presentation on Christ's College
 Report of the Ad-Interim Committee on Number of Offices
 Report of the Nominating Committee

9:30 A.M.

The Clerk indicated that the following business was referred to the Committees of Commissioners as indicated:

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

To the Committee of Commissioners on Interchurch Relations

Communication 1.

November 4, 1975

Presbyterian Church in America
Prof. Morton H. Smith
c/o Reformed Theological Seminary
5422 Clinton Blvd.
Jackson, MS 39209

Dear Morton,

The Reformed Ecumenical Synod Cape Town 1976 will meet August 10-20 at the Dutch Reformed Church Center, Grey's Pass, Cape Town, South Africa. Thirty-seven denominations from all six continents will send delegates to the three weeks of meetings. In all, close to fifty denominations will be represented. On the evening prior to the opening of Synod a special prayer service will be held in one of the churches of Cape Town.

On behalf of the calling church, the Dutch Reformed Mission Church in South Africa, and the RES Interim Committee, I would hereby invite your church to send an observer to the Synod. We believe that your church has a real interest in the confessional ecumenism which the Reformed Ecumenical Synod represents and would welcome the opportunity to participate in the proceedings. Enclosed please find a credentials form that you are asked to complete and return to the RES Secretariat.

The Synod will be preceded by a four day Missions Conference and a day and a half conference on the role of theology in the church. One full day at the Synod will be devoted to a discussion of the biblical teaching on the Holy Spirit and one session to a consideration of the global diaconal task of Reformed and Presbyterian churches. In addition the Synod will deal with such matters as the Sabbath, the Baptism with the Holy Spirit, the need for new confession and race relations. If you desire additional information, we will gladly send it to you.

We look forward to your reply and to meeting the representative of your church at the meetings in Cape Town in August 1976. We will send agenda materials to the designated person when we learn of his name and address. The printed Agenda is due to be off the press very soon. We will send you a copy when it is ready.

Sincerely in Christ,

Paul G. Schrottenboer
General Secretary, Reformed Ecumenical Synod

This invitation was declined. The matter of relation to the Reformed Ecumenical Synod was referred to the Permanent Committee for study. See paragraph 4-59, item 6.

OVERTURES TO THE FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

To the Committee of Commissioners on Administration

Overture 3. From the Presbytery of Southern Florida

Whereas The permanent committees of the General Assembly are housed in four different cities which involves questions of duplication of rents, leases, employees and equipment, utilities, etc. Now therefore be it resolved that this assembly appoint a Committee of Commissioners from each Presbytery represented, one elder and one minister, to bring in a report as early as possible to this Assembly how this Assembly could begin, if it so desires, to bring its committees under one roof in one of the major cities of the U.S. with easy accessibility by highway and air, with recommendations as to what such a complex could envision.

Be it further resolved that if the Assembly passes such a proposal as a unified building to house its committees that it be submitted to the Presbyteries for 2/3 ratification and approved at the next General Assembly.

Joe Warner, Stated Clerk

Not specifically answered except by action to study this matter, paragraph 4-79, item J, 5.

Overture 6. From Warrior Presbytery

Whereas, the B.C.O., 15-1, principles 1-7, states that the primary duty of the General Assembly is to carry out the Great Commission through "equally essential committees;" and also to "evaluate needs and resources, and to act on priorities for the most effective fulfillment of the Great Commission," and,

Whereas, the Great Commission requires that we thoroughly teach all disciples to observe all that Jesus Christ has commanded us (Christian Education), beginning first in Jerusalem (P.C.A.), and, **Whereas**, the received budgets for 1974 and 1975 reflect a low priority and urgent need in financing the work of the Christian Education and Publications Committee, and,

Whereas, the Christian Education and Publications Committee has no vehicle for additional resources as do the Committees on Mission to the World and to the U.S. through special conferences, appeals, and special offerings, and

Whereas, it is to the benefit of the P.C.A. to prevent competition between the three major Committees for funding,

Therefore, be it resolved, that the General Assembly to fulfill the needs of the Christian Education and Publications Committee and to increase this Committee's priority in the fulfillment of the Great Commission adopting the following:

1. The establishment of an annual church wide special offering solely for the Christian Education and Publications Committee, preferably in September of each year, but in October of 1976.
2. The arranging of a more equitable percentage designation of undesignated gifts and increasing the percentage going to the Committee on Christian Education and Publications.
3. The encouragement of the church membership through "Continuing . . ." and "Commitment" to realize that Designated Benevolence giving to Christian Education is just as essential to carrying out the Great Commission as Designated Benevolence giving to U.S. and World Missions.

Respectfully Submitted

John W. Jamison, Jr.
Stated Clerk of Warrior Presbytery

Not specifically answered except by action on budgets, paragraph 4-74, and in response to Overture 11, paragraph 4-76.

Overture 9. From the Chapel-in-the-Gardens, Garden City, Georgia

Whereas, the B.C.O., 15-1, principles 1-7, states that the primary duty of the General Assembly is to carry out the Great Commission through "equally essential committees;" and also to "evaluate needs and resources, and to act on priorities for the most effective fulfillment of the Great Commission," and,

Whereas, the Great Commission requires that we thoroughly teach all disciples to observe all that Jesus Christ has commanded us (Christian Education), beginning first in Jerusalem (P.C.A.), and, **Whereas**, the received budgets for 1974 and 1975 reflect a low priority and urgent need in financing the work of the Christian Education and Publications Committee, and,

Whereas, the Christian Education and Publications Committee has no vehicle for additional resources as do the committees on Mission to the World and to the U.S. through special conferences, appeals, and special offerings, and,

Whereas, it is to the benefit of the P.C.A. to prevent competition between the three major Committees for funding,

Therefore, be it resolved, that Presbytery hereby overtures the General Assembly to fulfill the needs of the Christian Education and Publications Committee and to increase this Committee's priority in the fulfillment of the Great Commission by:

1. Establishing an annual churchwide special offering solely for the Christian Education and Publications Committee, preferably in September of each year, but in October of 1976.
2. Increasing the percentage of undesignated gifts to the Christian Education and Publications Committee from 20% to 35%. This would be accomplished by a 10% reduction in the undesignated funds to the other three committees. The final percentage in undesignated funds would be: 35% — CMTW, 20% — CMUS, 35% — CCE&P, and 10% — COA.
3. Encouraging the church membership through "Continuing . . ." and "Commitment" to realize that designated benevolence giving to Christian Education is just as essential to carrying out the Great Commission as Designated Benevolence giving to Home and World Missions.

Lawrence Harris
Clerk of Session

Not specifically answered except by action on budgets, paragraph 4-74, and in response to Overture 11, paragraph 4-76.

Overture 11. From the Presbytery of Central Georgia

Whereas, the B.C.O., 15-1 principles 1-7, states that the primary duty of the General Assembly is to carry out the Great Commission through "equally essential committees;" and also to "evaluate needs and resources, and to act on priorities for the most effective fulfillment of the Great Commission," and,

Whereas, the Great Commission requires that we thoroughly teach all disciples to observe all that Jesus Christ has commanded us (Christian Education), beginning first in Jerusalem (P.C.A.), and **Whereas**, the received budgets for 1974 and 1975 reflect a low priority and urgent need in financing the work of the Christian Education and Publications Committee, and

Whereas, the Christian Education and Publications Committee has no vehicle for additional resources as do the committees on Mission to the World and to the U.S. through special conferences, appeals, and special offerings, and

Whereas, it is to the benefit of the P.C.A. to prevent competition between the three major Committees for funding,

Therefore, be it resolved, that Presbytery hereby overtures the General Assembly to fulfill the needs of the Christian Education and Publications Committee and to increase this Committee's priority in the fulfillment of the Great Commission by:

1. Establishing an annual churchwide special offering solely for the Christian Education and Publications Committee, preferably in September of each year, but in October of 1976.
 2. Encouraging the church membership through "Continuing . . ." and "Commitment" to realize that designated benevolence giving to Christian Education is just as essential to carrying out the Great Commission as designated benevolence giving to Home and World Missions.
- Adopted by Central Georgia Presbytery July 10, 1976.

Walter V. Worsham, Stated Clerk
Central Georgia Presbytery

Paragraph 1 answered in the negative, paragraph 4-76.

Paragraph 2 answered in the affirmative, paragraph 4-76.

Overture 12. From the Presbytery of Central Georgia

Central Georgia Presbytery overtures the Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to immediately begin a Capital Funds Campaign to undergird the total work of the Presbyterian Church in America.

Adopted by Central Georgia Presbytery July 10, 1976.

Walter V. Worsham, Stated Clerk
Central Georgia Presbytery

Referred to the Permanent Committee on Administration for Study, paragraph 4-76.

Overture 14. From the Presbytery of New River

Whereas, all Christian Churches have but one major job description, and we call it the Great Commission, and

Whereas, many of our churches can testify that only through self-denying work in evangelism from their own door to the ends of the world, have they received great blessings,

Therefore, be it resolved, that New River Presbytery overtures the General Assembly, meeting at Greenville, South Carolina, to appoint a Committee to study our present priorities, and to report its findings to the General Assembly, and further, that the General Assembly instruct the Committee to seek a percentage base for the 1977 budget of undesignated funds other than the 35% for Mission to the World, 35% for Christian Education and Publications, 20% for Mission to the United States, 10% for Administration, proposed in the Administration Committee report.

Whereas, we would recommend to the General Assembly the continuance of a policy which would closely approximate 40% for Mission to the World, 30% for Mission to the United States, 20% for Christian Education and Publications and 10% for Administration.

Passed by Presbytery at a meeting on August 14, 1976.

Attested by James Gay, Stated Clerk

Answered in the negative, paragraph 4-76.

To the Committee of Commissioners on Bills and Overtures

Overture 4. From Calvary Presbytery

Fathers and Brethren:

Calvary Presbytery respectfully overtures the General Assembly as follows:

Whereas the Word of God clearly states, indicates and implies in repeated references that children are a gift from the Lord,

And whereas the Scripture clearly teaches that God ordains life in the womb with perfect intent and definite foreknowledge of the meaning and purpose of that life,

And whereas it is stated in the Scripture that God, on occasion, even named the baby in the womb and declared beforehand His intention for that life,

And whereas on January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court of the United States declared that the fetus is not a "person" in the legal sense and that states are forbidden to outlaw abortions anytime prior to birth if in the opinion of one licenced physician an abortion is necessary to preserve the "life or health" of the mother,

And whereas the "Health" of the mother means, by the court's own definition, "The medical judgment may be exercised in the light of all factors — physical, emotional, psychological, familial, and the woman's age — relevant to the well-being of the patient. All these factors may relate to health."

And whereas there are now about one million abortions per year performed in the United States, Therefore be it resolved that the Presbyterian Church in America protest, decry, and abhor this mass slaughter of unborn babies who are "persons" by every right of the just laws of God and man,

And that the Presbyterian Church in America call upon every responsible citizen to support the enactment of moral legislation that will protect the life of the unborn child.

Answered in the affirmative, paragraph 4-57.

Overture 5. From Calvary Presbytery

Fathers and Brethren:

Calvary Presbytery respectfully overtures the General Assembly as follows:

Whereas the Word of God clearly instructs men to observe the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy and to set aside this one day out of seven as being consecrated to the Lord.

And whereas the Sabbath Day has fallen into widespread profanation and disuse in American society today, and various athletic, commercial, and social enterprises and activities have all but obliterated our former national reverence for this holy day.

Therefore, we the members of Calvary Presbytery Overture the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to reaffirm our unwavering stand against all unnecessary encroachments upon the Lord's Day, and to exhort all citizens everywhere to worship God and to properly set aside and sanctify the Sabbath of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Amended and answered in the affirmative, paragraph 4-57.

Overture 7. From Pacific Presbytery

Whereas a question of seeming merit has been raised among us as to the present practice of endorsing chaplains to civil authorities through the Commission on Chaplains and Service to Military Personnel of the National Association of Evangelicals, and

Whereas it would seem best to have the chaplains of our denomination endorsed by a Presbyterian Commission that would more clearly represent our denomination before civil authorities from our theological and ecclesiological points of view, and

Whereas it is our belief that more careful attention and supervision will be given our chaplains by a commission to which they are more intimately related, therefore

Pacific Presbytery hereby overtures the Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to order a study which will consider at least these two possible answers to the question:

1. A separate Commission on Chaplains be established as a part of the Mission to the U.S. Committee,
2. A joint commission be proposed to our sister Presbyterian denominations with whom we are in fellowship.

Adopted at its meeting May 6, 1976.

Wayne A. Buchtel, Stated Clerk

Answered in the affirmative, paragraph 4-57.

Overture 8. From the Presbytery of Mississippi Valley

The Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley overtures the Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America,

Whereas there is a great need for a distinctively Presbyterian and Reformed work on our campuses, and,

Whereas there are Presbyterian students and groups on our campuses looking for leadership, and, Whereas there is some confusion as who should be responsible on General Assembly and Presbytery level,

Now therefore the Presbytery of Mississippi Valley overtures the Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America

1. To decide whether the Christian Education or the Mission to the U.S. Committee should oversee campus work, and,
2. To begin developing a Presbyterian and Reformed philosophy of campus work.

Answered in paragraph 4-57 Item 3-d.

To the Committee of Commissioners on Christian Education and Publications

Overture 2. From the Presbytery of Southern Florida

Whereas the permanent Committees of the General Assembly are experiencing financial difficulties, and

Whereas our local congregations are being inundated with literature which includes duplicate letters to clerks and ministers, expensive pamphlets (Horizon), committee reports, missionaries' letters, prayer needs from Mission to the World, Mission to the U.S., the publication from the Committee on Education, "Continuing" as well as other special announcements, pleas for support etc., and

Whereas it is impossible to include all these materials in Sunday Bulletins nor can such duplication of energy, resources, stationery, postage and handling justify the tremendous costs of their production.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Presbytery of Southern Florida petitions the Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America

To appoint from this Assembly, two commissioners from each Presbytery represented to study the matter of having this Assembly, direct, coordinate all these publications from the permanent committees into one monthly publication which is to include missionary reports, educational endeavors, etc. And that this committee report as early as possible to the Assembly its recommendation for bringing into existence a co-ordinated monthly publication and how it could be financed through advertisements, and subscriptions, etc.

Joe Warner, Stated Clerk

Answered by reference to item 16, paragraph 4-80. See item 17.

Overture 10. From Covenant Presbytery

The following overture to the 4th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America was adopted by Covenant Presbytery on July 6, 1976.

Whereas the First General Assembly of the National Presbyterian Church chose to place itself in the historic tradition of Old School Presbyterianism by its adoption of a *Message To All The Churches Of Jesus Christ* and in that document specifically set forth its intention to be the agent rather than merely the superintendent of every aspect of the Lord's work; and

Whereas the subsequent development of the Church shows the consistent application of that principal to foreign missions, home missions, and Sunday schools;

Therefore, Covenant Presbytery respectfully overtures the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to appoint a special committee to make recommendations to the next Assembly concerning the following:

1. That the General Assembly study the propriety of training men for the ministry in institutions which are not under the discipline of the Presbyterian Church in America
2. That the General Assembly reconsider its approval of any college or seminary now recognized or endorsed which may permit women to enter degree programs designed to equip men for ordination to the Gospel ministry.
3. That the General Assembly require formal agreements of co-operation similar to those developed by the Mission to the World Committee from any college or seminary recommended to our churches for the preparation of men for the ministry.
4. That the General Assembly establish a seminary under its discipline or provide an auxiliary faculty to be attached to some recognized seminary so that ministerial students could be trained by men primarily responsible to the Presbyterian Church in America rather than other denominations.

Thomas R. Patete, Stated Clerk

Points 2 and 3 answered in the negative. Points 1 and 4 answered in the affirmative as amended. See paragraph 4-80, item 18.

To the Committee of Commissioners on Mission to the World

Overture 1. From Westminster Presbytery

Whereas the Gospel in the Reformed faith necessarily involves a full and free presentation of the Covenant of Grace and

Whereas the Covenant of Grace necessarily involves the doctrines of God's sovereignty, election, particular redemption, the family covenant including infant baptism, and the other doctrines which are summarized in the Westminster Standards, and

Whereas the presentation of these Gospel doctrines must be done with a view toward disciplining within church planting, and growth, and

Whereas the position paper "Toward a Reformed Theology of Mission", paragraph two, page nine, states, "Church planting of Presbyterian congregations usually must be done through distinctly Presbyterian and Reformed sending agencies. Many independent missions already have churches in many of their fields, churches which have a non-Presbyterian theological and governmental tradition. Some practice a type of Presbyterian polity; some are more or less Calvinistic; but few would be open to the Reformed concept of the covenant with its sign of infant baptism. Understandably such independent missions do not want to create unrest in their churches by allowing an unrestricted Reformed witness. Accordingly, Presbyterian missionaries generally are not acceptable to many independent missions as church-planters."

Therefore, be it resolved that Westminster Presbytery overtures the Fourth General Assembly to instruct the Committee on the Mission to the World to cease and desist from any cooperative relationships that do not allow our missionaries complete freedom to preach and teach the Reformed faith and direct their ministries toward church planting and disciplining in this Biblical pattern.

This motion was adopted unanimously, January 19, 1976

Frank Smith, Stated Clerk

Answered in the negative, paragraph 4-41.

Overture 13. From Charley Chase et. al. of Mississippi Valley Presbytery

The following overture was submitted to the Presbytery of Mississippi Valley on January 20, 1976, by the Special Advisory Committee to study papers on Mission to the World. The overture was defeated by a vote of 24-20. The undersigned respectfully submit it directly to the General Assembly as individual members of Presbytery.

Whereas the grounds for mission theology, motivation, and method are to be found solely in Scripture, and in the whole of Scripture (not merely in a few proof texts) showing the Scriptural teaching relating to God's purpose to have a holy people, without blemish in his presence forever, and

Whereas the P.C.A. is a confessional church which holds that the system of doctrine taught in the Scripture is set forth accurately in the Confession of Faith and Catechisms of our Church, and

Whereas the historic practice of the Reformed churches can be both informative and instructive to us regarding how the church of ages past has sought to mold her doctrines and practice of missions by Scripture, and

Whereas the proposed "A Plan for Mission to the World" fails significantly to set forth a doctrine and practice of missions in the light of Scripture, the doctrinal standards of our church, and the historic practice of the Reformed churches, and

Whereas the document setting forth the missions policy of our denomination is of such importance that it will govern the denomination's mission policy and practice for years to come, and there has not been sufficient time for the entire denomination to adequately study

Therefore, we respectfully overture the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to appoint a committee to enter into a full and thorough study of the Scriptures, the doctrinal standards of our Church, and the historic practice of the Reformed Churches to the end that a doctrine and practice of missions, grounded upon and molded by the Scriptures, might be set forth for our Church to follow in her desire to be obedient to her Lord in the evangelization of the world.

Charley Chase
William Hughes
Daniel Morse
James Peaster
Joseph Pipa
George Rozina
Michael Schneider
Jack Scott
William H. Smith

Answered by reference to Missions Manual, paragraph 4-41

BUSINESS CARRIED OVER FROM THE PREVIOUS GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

To the Committee of Commissioners on Administration

Action of the Third General Assembly, par 3-65

That Overtures Nos. 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.

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 alphabetical 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:

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.

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.

Overtures 2, 3, 9 and Resolution 3 were answered by action taken in paragraph 4-76 by reference to actions taken in 4-74, item III, B.

Action of the Third General Assembly

Par. 3-68. 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 the 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.

Amended and adopted, paragraph 4-74.

To the Ad-Interim Committee on Number of Offices 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 to 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 BRETHERN: 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.

To the Committee of Commissioners on Mission to the World

Action of the Third General Assembly

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 A 5, 8, B 1 and 2 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)

2-88 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 carried 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 (No. 8-3,6), and

Whereas, Presbyteries alone have the authority to examine and ordain those called into the ministry (No. 14-5,7), and

Whereas, the General Assembly is responsible to encourage and promote the fulfilment of this mission by the various courts (No. 15-1), and

Whereas the Assembly's committees are to serve, and not to direct any church judicatories and are to serve the church (No. 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 full 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 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.

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.

All of these items were finally answered by reference to the Missions Manual, paragraph 4-45.

To the Constitutional Documents Committee

3-70 Report of Constitutional Documents Committee Continued (3-69)

A temporary 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.

To the Ad Interim Committee on Number of Offices

2-29 Constitutional Documents Committee Report — Ruling Elders Administering Sacraments

The Rev. Charles Dunahoo, Chairman of the Constitutional Documents Committee yielded the floor to the Rev. Harold Borchert, Chairman of the Ad-Interim Committee to Study the Question of Ruling Elders Administering the Sacraments, who presented the Majority Report of the Committee. Mr. Borchert in turn yielded the floor to the Rev. Basil Albert, who presented the Minority Report. (See Appendix pp. 177-179). The whole matter was referred to an Ad Interim Committee to Study the Question of the Number of Offices of the Church, and bring final recommendations on this issue to the General Assembly.

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 Recommitted

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

4-11

Committees of Commissioners (As elected by the Presbyteries)

Committee of Commissioners on Administration

Presbytery:	Commissioner:	Alternate:
Ascension	Mr. Charels E. LeSuer McKees Rocks, PA	
Calvary	Rev. Sam Hoyt McConnells, SC	
Carolina	Mr. Clyde W. Barker Belmont, NC	
Central Georgia	Rev. Robert L. LaMay Valdosta, GA	
Covenant	Mr. Lewis Graeber, Convener Marks, MS	Mr. Stanny Mattox Carrollton, MS
Evangel	Rev. James D. Hatch Oak Park, Montgomery, AL	Rev. Charles Gwin Clio, AL
Grace	Mr. Marvin McLeod Kreole, MS	
Gulf Coast	Rev. John W. Ter Louw Tallahassee, FL	
Louisiana		
Mid-Atlantic	Rev. Harold Kuhn Madison Heights, VA	
Mississippi Valley	Mr. Tom Clark Clinton, MS	
New River	Rev. Michael Bolus Roanoke, VA	
North Georgia	Mr. R.P. (Pete) Williams Decatur, GA	
Pacific	Rev. David Brown Newark, CA	Rev. Wayne Buchtel Los Alamos, NM
Southern Florida	Mr. E.L. Megathlin Miami, FL	
Tennessee Valley	Rev. Richard R. Harris Signal Mountain, TN	
Texas	Mr. L. J. Canniff Houston, TX	
Vanguard		
Warrior	Mr. Charles Miller, Jr. Linden, AL	
Western Carolinas	Rev. Linwood J. Dietz Burnsville, NC	
Westminster	Mr. Bob Lane Bridwell Heights	Mr. Walter Sorah

Committee of Commissioners on Bills and Overtures

Presbytery:	Commissioner:	Alternate:
Ascension	Rev. Richard Knodel, Jr. Volant, PA	
Calvary	Mr. Carroll Haddon Greenwood, SC	
Carolina	Rev. Jack Eubanks Charlotte, NC	
Central Georgia	Mr. Morris Glidewell Garden City, GA	
Covenant	Rev. David Russell Little Rock, AR	Rev. David E. Goodrum Clarendon, AR
Evangel	Mr. Durwood Judah Oak Park Montgomery, AL	Mr. J.L. Mills Providence Montgomery, AL
Grace	Rev. French Tripp	
Gulf Coast	Mr. B.G. Blaylock Niceville, FL	
Louisiana		
Mid-Atlantic	Mr. William B. Russell Petersburg, VA	
Mississippi Valley	Rev. William Smith	
New River	Mr. Jerry Martin Charleston, WV	
North Georgia	Rev. Ben Wilkinson, Convener Decatur, GA	
Pacific		
Southern Florida	Rev. Terry Gyger Miami, FL	
Tennessee Valley	Mr. Marvin Catron Brainerd Hills, TN	
Texas	Rev. Laurie V. Jones Houston, TX	
Vanguard	Mr. Walter Hatterick Cynthiana, KY	
Warrior	Rev. Fred Carr Camden, AL	
Western Carolinas	Mr. William Burgess Friendship Black Mountain, NC	
Westminster	Rev. Morse UpDeGraff Edgemont Bristol, TN	Rev. James Pakala Hatfield, PA

Committee of Commissioners on Christian Education and Publications

Presbytery:	Commissioner:	Alternate:
Ascension	Mr. George Caler Faith Presbyterian Akron, OH	
Calvary	Rev. Rodney King Gaffney, SC	
Carolina	Mr. Millard Tate Burlington, NC	
Central Georgia	Rev. Henry S. Schum Macon, GA	
Covenant	Mr. Tom Pomeroy	Mr. John B. Moore Clarendon, AR
Evangel	Rev. Roy Taylor Rainbow Gadsden, AL	Rev. Wayne Herring Faith Birmingham, AL
Grace	Mr. Terry Flanagan Slidell, LA	
Gulf Coast	Rev. Nathaniel S. Heeth Madison, FL	
Louisiana		
Mid-Atlantic	Rev. O.J. Rundus Baltimore, MD	
Mississippi Valley	Mr. Bob Cato Yazoo City, MS	
New River	Rev. Charles W. McNutt, Convener Charleston, WV	
North Georgia	Mr. R. P. Williams Stone Mountain, GA	
Pacific	Rev. Don Esty Bellevue, WA	
Southern Florida	Mr. Albert Coty Boca Raton, FL	
Tennessee Valley	Rev. Bernard Kuiper First Presbyterian Church Chattanooga, TN	
Texas	Mr. Robert Schmitz Dallas, TX	
Vanguard	Rev. Robert Eppler Louisville, KY	
Warrior	Mr. John VanDerveer W. Heights	
Western Carolinas	Rev. Wayne Rogers Swannanoa, NC	

Presbytery:	Commissioner:	Alternate:
Westminster	Mr. Joe Roberson Grace Greeneville, TN	Mr. Gene Davis

Committee of Commissioners on Insurance and Annuities

Presbytery:	Commissioner:	Alternate:
Ascension	Rev. K. Eric Perrin Covenant Pittsburgh, PA	
Calvary	Mr. Tom Clark York, SC	
Carolina	Rev. Jack Bowling Southwood Gastonia, NC	
Central Georgia	Mr. Hartman Eager Valdosta, GA	
Covenant	Rev. Merrill Easterlin Indianola, MS	Rev. Fred Manning Jackson, TN
Evangel	Mr. Hugh Smith Ye Olde Barn Huntsville, AL	Mr. Tom Leopard Briarwood Birmingham, AL
Grace	Rev. Charles Cox	
Gulf Coast	Mr. John G. Ter Louw, Convener Tallahassee, FL	
Louisiana		
Mid-Atlantic	Mr. J. Brookes Smith Lutherville, MD	
Mississippi Valley	Rev. Doyle Hulse Terry, MS	
New River	Mr. Dough Dority Roanoke, VA	
North Georgia	Rev. Samuel Cappel Atlanta, GA	
Pacific		
Southern Florida	Rev. Joseph A. Warner Delray Beach, FL	
Tennessee Valley	Mr. Paul Hawkins Hixson, TN	
Texas	Rev. William Jones Houston, TX	
Vanguard		
Warrior	Rev. Julian Stennis Boligee, AL	

Presbytery:	Commissioner:	Alternate:
Western Carolinas	Mr. William Kenneth Lael Landis Marion, NC	
Westminster	Rev. Edsel Farthing Abingdon, VA	Rev. Harry Barnett Coeburn, VA

Committee of Commissioners on Interchurch Relations

Presbytery:	Commissioner:	Alternate:
Ascension	Mr. J. Murray Thompson Sovereign Grace Pittsburgh, PA	
Calvary	Rev. William Shannon Kingstree, SC	
Carolina	Mr. W.E. Hastings Mooreville, NC	
Central Georgia	Rev. Oliver N. Hamby Sylvania, GA	
Covenant	Mr. Earl Jagers	Mr. Elmo Lamb
Evangel	Rev. Robert J. Ostenson Trinity Montgomery, AL	Rev. Dennis Disselkoen First Muscle Shoals, AL
Grace	Mr. Jack Thorne Hazlehurst, MS	
Gulf Coast	Rev. Richard Adelman Valparaiso, FL	
Louisiana		
Mid-Atlantic	Rev. William T. Iverson, Convener S. Orange, NJ	
Mississippi Valley	Mr. Hugh Potts Kosciusko, MS	
New River	Rev. William Fitzhenry Charleston, WV	
North Georgia	Mr. Andy Watkins Flowery Branch, GA	
Pacific	Rev. Gerrit DeYoung Scottsdale, AR	
Southern Florida	Mr. Joseph High Pompano Beach, FL	
Tennessee Valley	Rev. Fred Marsh Chattanooga, TN	
Texas	Mr. A. R. Sanders Dallas, TX	
Vanguard	Rev. Arnie Maves Pensacola, FL	

Presbytery:	Commissioner:	Alternate:
Warrior	Mr. J. R. Carlisle Crescent Hill Selma, AL	
Western Carolinas	Rev. A. Boyce Spooner Waynesville, NC	
Westminster	Mr. Fred Sutherland	Mr. Wayne Scott

Committee of Commissioners on Judicial Business

Presbytery:	Commissioner:	Alternate:
Ascension	Rev. F. Randall Johovich Providence Coraopolis, PA	
Calvary	Mr. James Millsap Manning, SC	
Carolina	Rev. A.A. Saleeby Belmont, NC	
Central Georgia	Mr. Thurston, D. Futch, Jr., Con- vener Macon, GA	
Covenant	Rev. William Shows Osceola, AR	Rev. Claude Gamble Vaiden, MS
Evangel	Mr. Joby A. Walker Faith Anniston, AL	Mr. Don McInnis First Montgomery, AL
Grace	Rev. Craig Rowe	
Gulf Coast	Mr. A.L. Hughes Madison, FL	
Louisiana		
Mid-Atlantic	Mr. Max Hunter Chester, VA	
Mississippi Valley	Rev. Tom Cook Louisville, MS	
New River	Mr. L. M. Young, Jr. Roanoke, VA	
North Georgia	Rev. R. Eugene Hunt Morrow, GA	
Pacific	Mr. Duane Harder Los Alamos, NM	
Southern Florida	Rev. Cecil Brooks Miami, FL	
Tennessee Valley	Mr. Larson Mick Wayside	
Texas	Rev. William Buckner Strawn, TX	

Presbytery:	Commissioner:	Alternate:
Vanguard		
Warrior	Rev. Marvin Harris Greensboro, AL	
Western Carolinas	Mr. C. B. Bennett Burnsville, NC	
Westminster	Rev. Preston Sartelle Bristol, TN	Rev. Pete Hurst Kingsport, TN

Committee of Commissioners on Mission to the United States

Presbytery:	Commissioner:	Alternate:
Ascension	Mr. Leland Miller, Jr. Covenant Pittsburgh, PA	
Calvary	Rev. Billy Rufus Manning, SC	
Carolina	Mr. Logan Porter High Point, NC	
Central Georgia	Rev. A. Dale Umbreit Savannah, GA	
Covenant	Mr. Arthur Rogers	Mr. Joel Spragins
Evangel	Rev. James Sherwood Covenant Montgomery, AL	Rev. George Mitchell Faith Anniston, AL
Grace	Mr. A. M. Waites Hattiesburg, MS	
Gulf Coast	Rev. Donald A. Dunkerley Pensacola, FL	
Louisiana		
Mid-Atlantic	Rev. Ronald Bossom Annandale, VA	
Mississippi Valley	Mr. J. Edmund Johnston Jackson, MS	
New River	Rev. John Dodd Charleston, WV	
North Georgia	Mr. R. E. Bolton Forrest Park, GA	
Pacific	Rev. David S. Kim Los Angeles, CA	
Southern Florida	Mr. Charles A. Tartt Miami, FL	
Tennessee Valley	Rev. Charles Turner, Convener Chattanooga, TN	
Texas	Mr. P. Duane Prestwood Houston, TX	

Presbytery:	Commissioner:	Alternate:
Vanguard	Rev. George M. McGuire Cynthiana, KY	
Warrior	Mr. John Lavender Bethel Sumterville, AL	
Western Carolinas	Rev. Carl W. McMurray Marion, NC	
Westminster	Mr. John Thompson Westminster Kingsport, TN	Mr. Edwin Meeks

Committee of Commissioners on Mission to the World

Presbytery:	Commissioner:	Alternate:
Ascension	Rev. Carl W. Bogue Faith Akron, OH	
Calvary	Mr. Nolan Armstrong Columbia, SC	
Carolina	Rev. David Gullett China Grove, NC	
Central Georgia	Mr. Robert N. Bourne Sylvania, GA	
Covenant	Rev. Robert Hayes Carrollton, MS	Rev. Charles Champion Houston, MS
Evangel	Mr. Howard J. Brown Trinity Montgomery, AL	Mr. Henry Thigpen Continuing Hueytown, AL
Grace	Rev. Byron Snapp	
Gulf Coast	Mr. Leo B. Thompson Mobile, AL	
Louisiana		
Mid-Atlantic	Mr. James Brady Martinsburg, WV	
Mississippi Valley	Rev. William Hughes Yazoo City, MS	Rev. Paul Lipe Delhi, LA
New River	Mr. Summers Dunbar Charleston, WV	
North Georgia	Rev. Robert G. Valentine Lithonia, GA	
Pacific	Mr. George Kipper Seattle, Washington	
Southern Florida	Rev. Daniel D. Sulc Ft. Lauderdale, FL	
Tennessee Valley	Mr. Richard Bell West Hills Knoxville, TN	

Presbytery:	Commissioner:	Alternate:
Texas	Rev. Charles Cobb Dallas, TX	
Vanguard		
Warrior	Rev. Thomas G. Kay, Convener Aliceville, AL	
Western Carolinas	Mr. Charles E. Boyce, Jr. Asheville, NC	
Westminster	Rev. Dan Barr Bluff City, TN	Rev. Phil Evaul Banner Elk, NC

Committee of Commissioners on Review and Control of Presbyteries

Presbytery:	Commissioner:	Alternate:
Ascension	Mr. H. Carl Daum Westminster Butler, PA	
Calvary	Rev. Vernon West Clover, SC	
Carolina	Mr. Jack Murphy Mt. Holly, NC	
Central Georgia	Rev. G. Allen Fleece Bradenton, FL	
Covenant	Mr. Cecil Barnett	Mr. Howard Davis
Evangel	Rev. Ron Siegenthaler First Tuscumbia, AL	Rev. Hubert Stewart Eastside Gadsden, AL
Grace	Mr. Malcolm Galbreath Hattiesburg, MS	
Gulf Coast	Rev. Timothy Elder Quincy, FL	
Louisiana		
Mid-Atlantic	Rev. Edwin P. Elliott, Sr. Manassas, VA	
Mississippi Valley	Mr. Charles Fair Louisville, MS	
New River	Rev. David L. Williams St. Albans, WV	
North Georgia	Mr. J. T. Melchers Roswell, GA	
Pacific	Rev. Stanley Allen Costa Mesa, CA	Rev. Peter Cha Los Angeles, CA
Southern Florida	Mr. Carl A. Christensen, Convener Homestead, FL	

Presbytery:	Commissioner:	Alternate:
Tennessee Valley	Rev. Roland Travis Columbia, TN	
Texas	Mr. Glen Milham Tyler, TX	
Vanguard		
Warrior	Mr. Richard Owens Pleasant Ridge	
Western Carolinas	Rev. Charles B. Yeagan Marion, NC	
Westminster	Mr. William Gragg	Mr. Clyde Farmer

Committee of Commissioners on Stewardship

Presbytery:	Commissioner:	Alternate:
Ascension	Rev. Harry C. George, III Verona, PA	
Calvary		
Carolina	Rev. James Knight Mt. Holly, NC	
Central Georgia	Mr. John S. Richards Perry, Georgia	
Covenant		
Evangel	Mr. Ralph M. Langford First Gadsden, AL	Mr. Robert Carnes Trinity Montgomery, AL
Grace	Rev. Jim Long	
Gulf Coast	Mr. Wm. A. Lynch Pensacola, FL	
Louisiana		
Mid-Atlantic		
Mississippi Valley	Rev. Malcolm Bonner Carthage, MS	
New River		
North Georgia		
Pacific	Mr. Bob Hanson Bellevue, WA	
Southern Florida	Rev. Leonard Bullock Coral Gables, FL	
Tennessee Valley	Mr. Charles Flatt, Convener First Chattanooga, TN	
Texas	Rev. David W. Matthews Tyler, TX	



Presbytery:	Commissioner:	Alternate:
Vanguard	Mr. William Martin Louisville, KY	
Warrior	Mr. Curtis Eatman Eutaw, AL	
Western Carolinas		
Westminster		

Committee of Commissioners on Stewardship Approved

The Clerk reported that the Third General Assembly had not provided for a Committee of Commissioners to review the work of the Sub-committee on Stewardship Ministries that it erected. He indicated that in preparation for this Assembly he requested the appointment of such a Committee of Commissioners by the Presbyteries. He moved that the Assembly suspend the Rules for Assembly Operation, and that it add to the Committee of Commissioners one entitled "Stewardship" which is to report to this Fourth General Assembly. The Assembly approved this motion unanimously, thus meeting the two-thirds requirement for suspension of Rules.

JUDICIAL CASES

4-12 Complaint of Trinity Church against Grace Presbytery

Complaint 2. From the Session of Trinity Presbyterian Church, Slidell, Louisiana, against Grace Presbytery

Dear Fathers and Brothers in Christ:

Our complaint concerns an action of Grace Presbytery at its Stated Meeting, July 9, 1976, at the Bay Street Presbyterian Church in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, with respect to Mr. Adrian Pater, a licentiate of Presbytery.

Mr. Pater had asked to be ordained and permitted to labor out of bounds of Presbytery while completing work on his doctorate at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

On July 9, 1976, the Presbytery examined Mr. Pater for ordination. Some members of Presbytery were opposed to examining the candidate on the grounds that he did not have a call to a Presbyterian Church in America (P.C.A.) work. It should be noted that:

1. **The Book of Church Order** (B.O.C.O.) does not specifically require a call from a P.C.A. work (ref. B.O.C.O. 18-3).
2. Grace Presbytery has other ministers laboring out of bounds.
3. Other P.C.A. ministers have been received to labor out of bounds where they were "free to teach and preach according to the doctrines of the **Westminster Confession of Faith**." (ref. Report of the Mission to the United States Committee of Grace Presbytery, July 9, 1976.)
4. Mr. Pater has a letter from the church calling him, promising him freedom to teach and preach according to his convictions. He would remain under the jurisdiction of Grace Presbytery with no compromise of doctrine or affiliation required.

Presbytery moved to examine the candidate. Examination of a candidate for ordination should signify Presbytery's satisfaction of a legitimate call to minister the Gospel of Jesus Christ (ref. B.O.C.O. 21-1). Mr. Pater's examination was sustained. Sustaining the ordination examination should signify full satisfaction with a candidate's personal faith, commitment and doctrinal position. It is then the responsibility of the Presbytery to proceed according to the B.O.C.O., 22-4, paragraph 2: "The Presbytery being fully satisfied of his qualifications for the sacred office, shall appoint a day for his ordination, which ought, if practicable, to be in that church of which he is to be the pastor."

The Presbytery asked Mr. Pater to select an ordination commission and to report back to the assembly later in the day. This should indicate that the Presbytery intended to proceed according to the B.O.C.O. At this point, a motion to reconsider the decision of Presbytery to examine the

candidate, or the decision to sustain his examination may have been in order if properly identified and made by a delegate voting for the action in question.

A motion to delay ordination was made as a substitute motion by Mr. Eugene Case who moved "that ordination of Adrian Pater be held in abeyance until he is called to a particular work in a Presbyterian Church in America and that a notation be made in the minutes of the sustaining of the Presbytery trial." The substitute motion carried. Mr. Case opposed the original motion "that Adrian Pater be examined by Presbytery as an evangelist of Grace Presbytery and that he be allowed to serve the Bethel Church," which motion had carried.

We believe the substitute motion nullified or reversed the earlier action of Presbytery, and thus was in effect a motion which called for reconsideration. It was, therefore, out of order since it was made by a member opposed to the decision to examine the candidate.

We, therefore, pray that the General Assembly will instruct Grace Presbytery to annul the substitute motion and to proceed with the ordination of Mr. Pater in accordance with the B.O.C.O.

Respectfully submitted,

James L. Long, Moderator
Richard B. Carron, Elder
George deBram, Elder
Terence B. Flanagan, Elder
John E. Schrader, Elder

Upon advice of the Permanent Committee on Judicial Business, the Clerk moved that the Complaint of the Trinity Presbyterian Church, Slidell, Louisiana, against Grace Presbytery be handled as follows:

1. That the form of the Complaint be found in order, and that the Complaint be heard.
2. That a Judicial Commission be named to hear and adjudicate the case.
3. That the Committee of Commissioners on Judicial Business, with the exception of any members from Grace Presbytery, be constituted as a Commission for this purpose.

The motion was carried.

See paragraph 4-65 for Assembly action.

4-13 Complaint of Eastland Church against Covenant Presbytery

Complaint 1. From the Session of Eastland Presbyterian Church, Memphis, Tennessee, against Covenant Presbytery

This is a complaint made to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America by the Session of the Eastland Presbyterian Church concerning the action taken by the Covenant Presbytery on July 6, 1976 relating to protest of and repeated verification of the employment of a divorced and remarried man in a ministerial capacity by Covenant Presbytery.

Eastland Presbyterian Church, a founding member of Covenant Presbytery, entered a protest to that Presbytery after its April meeting (1976) concerning the approval of Presbytery of the employment by the Missions and Evangelism Committee of Mr. Tim McKeown in a ministerial capacity as a summer worker, who in oral testimony recorded by this Session at the meeting of Presbytery admitted that he had been married, divorced, and remarried, which action is in violation of our standards in 2 Timothy 3, and Westminster Confession, chapter 24, paragraph 5, sentence 2 (Mr. McKeown was not the "innocent party" and he did not "sue for divorce" but his first wife). At the July meeting of Covenant Presbytery (July 6, 1976) the Presbytery adopted the attached answer, which reiterated the previous action and thoroughly castigated this Session for complaining in the first place.

Evidence to support this complaint would be:

1. Statement of Mr. McKeown to Covenant Presbytery in which he acknowledged his own involvement in the divorce, initiated by his first wife. (The actual tape recording made at the time is held by this Session, and is available should any committee, of General Assembly wish to listen to it, to verify accuracy of the transcription).
2. Scripture: 2 Timothy 3
3. Confession of Faith, chapter 24, paragraph 5, second sentence
4. Original letter of this Session of Eastland Presbyterian Church to Covenant Presbytery
5. A xerox copy of the initial minutes of Covenant Presbytery containing the full answer as adopted by the Presbytery.

The Session of the Eastland Presbyterian Church through this document complains that Covenant Presbytery has itself violated the Standards of the Presbyterian Church in America and should be instructed to adhere strictly to those Standards — specifically 2 Timothy 3 and WCF, chapter 24.

This adopted by the Session, Saturday July 10, 1976 with all ruling elders present, and voting, with unanimity.

Robert L. Mabson,
Moderator-by Invitation
Eastland Presbyterian Church
Memphis, TN
July 19, 1976

Upon advice of the Permanent Committee on Judicial Business, the Clerk moved that the Complaint from the Session of Eastland Presbyterian Church, Memphis, Tennessee, against Covenant Presbytery be handled as follows:

1. That the form of the Complaint be found in order and that the Complaint be heard.
2. That the Assembly name the following Commission of eighteen men to hear and adjudicate the case:

Teaching Elders

Frank Barker
Charles Dunahoo
Erskine Jackson
Laurie Jones
David Nicholas

John W. P. Oliver
Robert Ostenson
Palmer Robertson
William Stanway

Ruling Elders

Robert W. Butts
James Campbell
Leon Hendrick
George Fox
Kenneth S. Keyes

Hugh Potts
Ed Robeson
J. Scott McOwen
Jack Williamson

The motion was carried.

See paragraph 4-64 for Assembly action.

4-14 Worship Service

The Assembly was led in a Worship Service under the charge of the Committee on Administration. The Rev. Charles Dunahoo presided.

The Retiring Moderator preached a sermon entitled "No Fault".

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was conducted by Rev. Gordon K. Reed, assisted by Rev. Harold R. Patteson, Rev. Robert C. Korn, Rev. R. Grady Love, Rev. James L. Moss, Rev. Harry T. Schutte.

The following Ruling Elders assisted.

W. Carl Blackston
J. Ligon Duncan
J. Henry Elrod
Ralph C. Genoble
Lex Giles
P. H. Grayson
Roy B. Gresham
Pat C. Holbrook
Harrison R. King
E. Dave Maney
C. D. Parker

C. Stuart Patterson
Earl H. Russell, Jr.
Raymond B. Smith
Henry H. Veach
Lewis J. Walker
George A. Weathers
Walter P. White
John Barnes
F. E. DuBose
Carroll J. Haddon
John H. Hunter, Jr.

Kenneth S. Keyes
Paul S. May
W. C. Plowden, Jr.
Herman Quantz
Claude H. Ragsdale, Jr.
E. J. Robeson
William Stenhouse
Boyd Stoddard
James C. Turner
Robert Wasson
W. Jack Williamson

4-15 Communications

The Stated Clerk read a communication from the Session of Faith Presbyterian Church, Wauchula, Florida, requesting a Quitclaim Deed from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America. It was referred to the Committee of Commissioners on Judicial Business for their advice. Answered in the affirmative, paragraph 4-71

The Clerk read the following resolution of the Korean Presbyterian Church in the United States of America. It was received as information and referred to the Committee on Interchurch Relations for any response that it deems proper to make. (See paragraph 4-59, item 15.)

"We, the representatives of the Eastern, Central, and Western Presbyteries of the Korean Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, have united with all our hearts and minds, and established the General Assembly of the Korean Presbyterian Church in the United States of America in order to glorify God by doing His will. We believe that we have participated in the great mission of God through our historical decision for the glory of God and for the salvation of the world.

"We, the citizens of the world, shall go beyond the narrow-minded nationalism or racism, and shall keep the friendly and cooperative relations with all Presbyterian Churches in order to expand and nurture church and society. First, we shall do our mission to the Koreans in the United States of America, proud of being Koreans, respectful of our splendid Korean tradition. We shall keep the evangelical faith of Korean Churches, work to improve the living conditions of our people, and lead and nurture Korean Churches dispersed all over this land through the work of ministry and education.

"We believe that God, who once gave Abraham the land of Canaan and made him a blessing, has also made us today a blessing of this land (Gn 12).

"We declare this resolution because we have heard our Lord's saying to all of us: "Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" (Lk 12. 32), and because we believe that our Lord shall empower us to fulfil the mission of God in this land.

August 10, 1976

Korean Presbyterian Church in the United States of America"

Received from Rev. Hyung S. Kim
7131-B Rolling Bend Road
Baltimore, MD 21207

4-16 Greetings from Fraternal Delegates

The Rev. Donald Graham, Chairman of the Interchurch Relations Committee, presented the following fraternal delegates:

Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America

Dr. Lester Kilpatrick, who addressed the Assembly briefly.

Mr. Lee Bittner

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

Rev. James T. Corbitt, who addressed the Assembly briefly.

Reformed Presbyterian Church (Evangelical Synod)

Dr. Thomas Cross, who addressed the Assembly briefly.

Dr. Robert Rayburn

Orthodox Presbyterian Church

Rev. LeRoy Oliver, who addressed the Assembly briefly.

Rev. John Mitchell

4-17 Administration — Partial Report

The Rev. Michael Bolus, Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Administration, presented a report on the possibility of the purchase of Sullins College property, Bristol, Virginia. The following actions were taken in connection with this report.

1. That The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America approved in principle the establishment of educational institutions associated with the Presbyterian Church in America, and controlled by the Church through its Courts.
2. That the Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America, meeting this fourteenth day of September, 1976, at Greenville, South Carolina, establishes a special Steering Committee to study the feasibility of establishing such an institution(s), and report their recommendations to the General Assembly through its Christian Education Committee.
3. That the Permanent Committee on Christian Education be named the special Steering Committee to study this matter.

4-18 Reaffirmation of the Great Commission

The Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America reaffirms its commitment to the Great Commission.

4-19 Grace Presbytery Ordered to Meet

The Assembly ordered Grace Presbytery to meet for the purpose of appointing someone to represent the Presbytery in connection with the Complaint of Trinity Church against the Presbytery. The meeting was set to follow the adjournment of this Session of the General Assembly.

4-20 Nominating Committee Excused

Upon request of the Nominating Committee, it was excused from the opening of the Wednesday morning session of the General Assembly.

4-21 Assembly Recessed

The Assembly was recessed at 11:30 with prayer by Mr. Ken Keyes.

MINUTES — WEDNESDAY MORNING**September 15, 1976****Second Session****4-22 Assembly Reconvened**

The Assembly reconvened at 8:00 A.M. with prayer by Dr. McIlwaine.

4-23 Fraternal delegates were extended the privilege of the floor**4-24 Minutes Approved**

The Minutes of the Tuesday session were read and approved.

4-25 Report of the Constitutional Documents Committee

The Rev. Charles Dunahoo presented the report of the Constitutional Documents Committee (See Appendix J p. 203). The report was received.

4-26 Report of the Nominating Committee

The Rev. Joseph Pipa, Alternate Chairman of the Assembly's Nominating Committee presented the report of the Nominating Committee as follows:

The Nominating Committee of the General Assembly, P.C.A., assembled at the Master Host Inn (West), Atlanta, Georgia, on Friday, May 21, 1976, and was called to order at 10:00 A.M. by the Convener, Ruling Elder Wallace Musselman. The Convener requested that the meeting be opened with a time of prayer and following this Mr. Wallace Musselman was elected to serve as Chairman. Ruling Elder John T. Clark was elected recorder for this meeting.

The following named Presbyteries were represented as indicated:

Ascension	TE*	Frank Moser
Calvary	RE**	Tom Burgess
Carolina	TE	W. Ted Smith
Central Georgia	RE	John T. Clark
Covenant	TE	Tom Patete
Evangel	RE	Wallace Musselman
Grace	TE	E. A. Jussely
Gulf Coast	RE	Murdock Campbell
Louisiana	TE	William Frisbee
Mid-Atlantic	RE	Walter Lastovica
Mississippi Valley	TE	Joseph Pipa
North Georgia	TE	Eugene Hunt
Tennessee Valley	RE	Gordon Mellencamp
Texas	TE	Charles Cobb
Warrior	TE	Thomas G. Kay
Western Carolinas	RE	Wilbur Ward
Westminster	TE	Larry Ball

*TE, Teaching Elder

**RE, Ruling Elder

The Chairman explained the responsibilities of the Committee and requested that an Alternate Chairman be elected for the purpose of making the Committee report to the General Assembly in case the Chairman was unable to serve at that time. Teaching Elder Joseph Pipa was elected Alternate Chairman for this purpose.

The Committee agreed that the nominations to be submitted to General Assembly would be selected from the names presented to the Nominating Committee by the Presbytery representatives. After discussion on methodology to be used in preparing the list of nominees to be presented to General Assembly, the Committee agreed that while it would consider all nominees submitted by the Presbyteries, that in an effort to have broad representation in the General Assembly it would attempt to limit each Presbytery to one representative on each General Assembly committee.

Teaching Elder Joseph Pipa provided members of the Committee with a list of Presbyteries and their current representation on various Committees to be used in this endeavor which he advised had been prepared by the office of the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly. The Chairman explained that prior to voting on names submitted by Presbytery representatives that time would be allowed for Presbytery representatives to present qualifications on each nominee from their Presbyteries. (See Appendix I for nominations of the Nominating Committee) The following were elected:

ASSEMBLY THEOLOGICAL EXAMINING COMMITTEE
For Class of 1979

Teaching Elder, Daniel R. Morse	Mississippi Valley
Alternate, James C. Bland, III	Evangel
Ruling Elder, John C. Snyder	Ascension
Alternate, F. E. DuBose	Calvary

COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION
For Class of 1980

Teaching Elders, Frank Moser	Ascension
Robert LeMay	Central Georgia
Alternate, Jack Bowling	Carolina
Ruling Elder, James Wilkerson	Grace
Alternate, James A. Middlebrooks	Central Georgia

COMMITTEE FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & PUBLICATIONS
For Class of 1980

Teaching Elder, John K. Reeves	Grace
Alternate, Dan Barr	Westminster
Ruling Elders, Joe Roberson	Westminster
George Parron	Mid-Atlantic
Alternate, George Wessel	Calvary

TRUSTEES FOR INSURANCE AND ANNUITY FUND
For Class of 1979

Ruling Elder, J. A. Durrenberger	Central Georgia
(to replace Alexander McKensey)	

For Class of 1981

Teaching Elder, Russell Flaxman	Mid-Atlantic
Ruling Elder, Clynard Belcher	Westminster

Continued in paragraph 4-30.

4-27 Procedural Motion

A motion to table the rest of the report of the Nominating Committee and to hear a partial report of the Committee on Judicial Business was adopted.

4-28 Partial Report of the Committee on Judicial Business

The Rev. Eugene Hunt, Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Judicial Business, reported the following recommendation which was adopted:

That the Assembly interpret the BCO, 15-1-11 by ruling that the intent of this paragraph is that, when a vacancy occurs in a Class during a year the alternate will automatically become the member to fill the unexpired term.

4-29 Procedural Motion

The report of the Nominating Committee was taken from the table.

4-30 Report of the Nominating Committee continued (4-26)

The following were elected:

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL BUSINESS
For Class of 1979

Teaching Elder, John P. Clelland	Evangel
Alternate, Samuel B. Hoyt, Jr	Calvary
Ruling Elder, Larry Mick	Tennessee Valley
Alternate, James Westlake	North Georgia

SUB-COMMITTEE ON INTERCHURCH RELATIONS
For Class of 1979

Teaching Elder, Adrian E. DeYoung	Evangel
Alternate, Robert C. Korn	Calvary

Ruling Elder, W. D. Carmichael	Grace
Alternate, W. J. Millsap	Calvary

COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES
For Class of 1980

Teaching Elders, Donald C. Graham	Gulf Coast
Charles E. Turner	Tennessee Valley
Alternate, Timothy Keller	Mid-Atlantic
Ruling Elder, Earl Bolton	North Georgia
Alternate, James T. McElrath	Calvary

Continued in paragraph 4-34.

4-31 Presentation of Christ's College

Ruling Elder W. Jack Williamson presented Dr. and Mrs. James Graham, missionaries to Taiwan. Dr. Graham made an informational report on Christ's College.

4-32 Recess

The Assembly took recess for fifteen minutes.

4-33 Sullins College

Upon reconvening the following motion was presented:

That as an act of faith, in obedience to the Great Commission, the General Assembly purchase the Sullins College property. The motion was tabled.

4-34 Report of the Nominating Committee continued (4-30)

The following were elected:

COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE WORLD
Class of 1980

Teaching Elder, Eugene Craven	Calvary
Alternate, James L. Moss	Calvary
Ruling Elders, L. B. Austin, III	Tennessee Valley
Hugh Brown	Evangel
Alternate, James H. Campbell	Mid-Atlantic

Continued in paragraph 4-36.

4-35 Dr. Iverson Recognized

The Assembly recognized Dr. Daniel Iverson, one of the oldest ministers of the Church, who addressed the Assembly briefly.

4-36 Report of the Nominating Committee continued (4-34)

To replace members of the Ad-Interim Committee on the Number of Offices in the Church, who indicated that they could not continue, the following were elected:

Ruling Elder, Willaim Joseph Borden, Texas
Ruling Elder, Richard Ayres, Louisiana

Continued in paragraph 4-39.

4-37 Assembly Recessed for Worship and Lunch

The Assembly recessed for its worship service at 11:30 A.M. to reconvene at 1:00 P.M. The worship service was in the charge of the Committee for Christian Education and Publications. The Rev. Harold Borchert preached the sermon and dismissed the Assembly with prayer.

MINUTES — WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

September 15, 1976

Third Session

4-38 Assembly Reconvened

The Assembly was reconvened at 1:00 P.M. with prayer by the Rev. Edwin P. Elliott, Sr., of Mid-Atlantic Presbytery.

4-39 Report of Nominating Committee continued (4-36)

The Committee presented the following to serve on the Judicial Commission to adjudicate the complaint of Trinity Church against Grace Presbytery. The original Commission (4-12) did not have sufficient members to meet the BCO requirements (11-3).

Teaching Elders

Leon Wardell
G. Aiken Taylor
Warren Thuston
Robert Schoof

Ruling Elders

William Russell
John Thompson
William Stevenson
Hugh Brown

Continued in paragraph 4-81.

4-40 Partial Report of the Committee on Insurance and Annuity

Ruling Elder John Ter Louw, Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Insurance and Annuity, presented the report on Insurance. The following were granted the privilege of the floor to assist the Assembly:

Mr. Dan Moore, Business Administrator of the PCA and Consultant to the Board of Trustees
Mrs. Barbara Perry, Insurance secretary from the administrative offices in Columbus, Ga.
Mr. F. Thomas Cherubini, Representative of the Connecticut General Life Insurance Company.
Mr. Richard K. Grantz, Representative of the Frank B. Hall Company, Insurance Brokers.

The report is as follows: It was adopted by the Assembly.

**TRUSTEES' SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT TO THE
FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY INSURANCE MATTERS**

The Trustees appointed an Insurance Committee composed of E. C. Cooley, Chairman, Tom Barnes and Chester Hall. They were instructed to review our Major Medical Insurance Plan, seek bids from the insurance industry and to seek a way to offer supplementary Life Insurance to our people.

The Insurance Committee met November 24, 1975 with several from the church knowledgeable in the field of insurance to discuss our health insurance program. A number of valuable insights were received, and from this meeting we began to develop a set of specifications for the Health Insurance Plan we desired. The specifications underwent several revisions as we reviewed them with our present insurance carriers and our Consultant. The final form was approved by the Trustees and made available to the industry June 15, a fact publicized in *Continuing* and the *Presbyterian Journal*.

We received requests and sent out 65 sets of Specifications, and received 11 proposals from different insurance companies. The bids were reviewed by the Committee on August 5, and negotiations were conducted with the two lowest bidders to evaluate and improve details. The Trustees accepted the Committee's report on August 27 and recommends to the General Assembly that we accept the proposal offered by the Connecticut General Life Insurance Company for our Major Medical Insurance, effective November 1, 1976. A description of the proposed new insurance follows:

Effective November 1, 1976, significant improvements are being offered for covered employees and their families under our Group Medical program. After extensive study, it has been determined to underwrite the new program with Connecticut General Life Insurance Company who offered the lowest bid for our program. It should be noted that there will be no loss of coverage during the transition from our former carrier, Pacific Mutual, to Connecticut General.

A highlight of the new benefits, compared to the old, follows:

COVERAGE	NEW	OLD
Maximum Lifetime Benefit	\$250,000	\$50,000
Deductible	\$100 calendar year \$300 family limit	Same
Deductible waived for -	Accident, X-ray & Lab	Hospital, maternity, Accident
Co-Insurance	80% for all covered expenses with a \$500 annual maximum cost to the employee and \$1,000 maximum per family after the deductible	100% of scheduled amount for surgical physician, x-ray & lab. 80% for prescription, appliance and nursing care. No annual limit on costs to the insured.
Hospital Room Board	Full semi-private	\$62 daily maximum

Maternity	As any other illness	\$300 maximum
Life Insurance,	\$10,000 to age 65	Same
with AD&D, on	\$ 5,000 age 65-70	Same
the employee	\$ 1,000 over age 70	Same
Cost	\$23.17 per month for Employee only	\$24.43
	\$52.74 per month for the Employee and dependents	\$54.83

The advantages of the new plan include increased maternity benefits, increased lifetime maximum, coverage of full semi-private room charges, no internal schedules and an annual maximum cost to the insured under the co-insurance.

Children now will be covered from birth (currently 7 days), thus having nursery care charges covered as any other illness, subject to the deductible. The increased maternity benefit will become effective November 1, 1976 even for those already pregnant. Amounts paid toward your deductible with Pacific Mutual this year will be credited toward the deductible with Connecticut General.

Participants should note that in some cases the benefits under the new insurance program may be less than in our present coverage. The new policy provides that in almost every case, the insured must pay \$100 deductible, then pay 20% of the costs while the Insurance Company pays 80%. The advantage is that all customary and reasonable charges are covered, and there is an annual cost limit to the insured, after which the Insurance Company pays 100% of the costs.

As we sought bids, we asked the insurance companies to submit a bid to provide our current coverage with some increased benefits, as well as the new plan. All but one quoted our present plan as high or higher than the new plan, and one company in declining to quote the present plan said, "While we would be willing to underwrite the existing plan with the modifications indicated, we feel the new plan is superior in design."

WE RECOMMEND that the revised Major Medical Insurance plan as approved by the Trustees for the Insurance and Annuity Fund be adopted effective November 1, 1976 with Connecticut General Life Insurance Company as the insurance carrier, the premiums for the first year being:

\$23.17 per month for employee only coverage, and
\$52.74 per month for the employee and dependents coverage.

WE RECOMMEND that a Supplementary Term Life Insurance program be offered employees who are participants in the Major Medical Insurance plan as follows:

SUPPLEMENTARY TERM LIFE INSURANCE (STLI)

This **additional insurance** is available to participants in the Major Medical insurance plan, who enroll before or during the month of **November 1976**. To enroll you must indicate your interest on your Medical Insurance application and pay at least one month's premium. The STLI insurance will be effective November 1, 1976 and will continue in force as long as the premiums are paid, subject to the conditions of the Group Policy.

Premium charges for in force amounts of insurance will be determined by the Employee's attained age on November 1 each year.

The STLI coverage can be converted to Whole Life Insurance without medical examination if a person has participated at least 1 year and then ceases to be an eligible employee for the insurance.

Employees may elect to participate in Plan A or Plan B. At least 50% of the eligible employees must enroll for this insurance plan to be put into effect. Future open enrollment will be offered during the month of October each year.

Continued in paragraph 4-83.

SUPPLEMENTARY TERM LIFE INSURANCE — PLAN A

EMPLOYEE'S AGE	LIFE INSURANCE AMOUNTS ON:			MONTHLY PREMIUM
	EMPLOYEE	SPOUSE	EACH CHILD*	
Under 30	\$10,000.	\$1,000.	\$ 500.	\$ 2.00
30 thru 39	\$10,000.	\$1,000.	\$ 500.	\$ 3.50
40 thru 49	\$10,000.	\$1,000.	\$ 500.	\$ 5.00
50 thru 54	\$ 6,000.	\$1,000.	\$ 500.	\$ 5.00
55 thru 59	\$ 4,300.	\$ 500.	\$ 500.	\$ 5.00
60 to 65	\$ 2,800.	\$ 500.	\$ 500.	\$ 5.00

SUPPLEMENTARY TERM LIFE INSURANCE — PLAN B

Under 30	\$20,000.	\$2,000.	\$1000.	\$ 4.00
30 thru 39	\$20,000.	\$2,000.	\$1000.	\$ 7.00
40 thru 49	\$20,000.	\$2,000.	\$1000.	\$10.00
50 thru 54	\$12,000.	\$2,000.	\$1000.	\$10.00
55 thru 59	\$ 8,600.	\$1,000.	\$1000.	\$10.00
60 to 65	\$ 5,600.	\$1,000.	\$1000.	\$10.00

*Children are covered until age 19, or, if full time College Students, until age 23.

The STLI coverage also includes Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance (on the Employee only) in the same amount as the Life Insurance Benefit.

See paragraph 4-83.

4-41 Report of the Committee on Mission to the World

Rev. Thomas G. Kay, Sr., Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Mission to the World, presented the report, which is as follows: The recommendations were adopted as printed.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS ON MISSION TO THE WORLD

- I. ITEMS REFERRED TO AND CONSIDERED BY THE COMMITTEE
 - A. Minutes of the Committee on Mission to the World for the following dates: 9/8-11/75; 10/17-18/75; 11/21-22/75; 1/16-17/76; 3/19-20/76; 5/20-21/76; 7/23-24/76.
 - B. Report of the Committee on Mission to the World to the Fourth General Assembly (Appendix G, page 155).
 - C. Overtures 1 (p 33) and 13 (p. 33) to the Fourth General Assembly, and overtures from previous Assemblies (p. 37-39).
 - D. MANUAL FOR MISSION TO THE WORLD COMMITTEE (Appendix G, pages 158-195), and suggested changes from presbyteries and individuals.
 - E. Budget for MTW (p. 71-73).
 - F. 1975 Minutes of the General Assembly, Section 3-93.
 - G. Audit Report (p. 97-108).
- II. STATEMENT OF ISSUES DISCUSSED
 - A. The Missions Manual.
 - B. The role of unordained personnel on the field.
 - C. Relationship of MTW with World Council of Churches.
- III. THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS ON MISSION TO THE WORLD makes the following recommendations:
 - A. From those recommendations initially submitted by the Permanent Committee on Mission to the World :
 1. That the Rev. John E. Kyle be reelected as Coordinator for the CMTW for the year 1977 and that he and his staff be highly commended for their work.
 2. That the budget for 1977 for the CMTW be approved as presented by the Committee on Administration (See p. 71-73)
 3. That the third Sunday in May, 1977, be designated as a Day of Prayer and Fasting for world evangelization.
 4. That the attention of the Fourth General Assembly be called to the opportunities for church planting and evangelism in Brazil, Korea, Mexico, and Taiwan and the need for more ordained men for each of these countries.
 5. That the Committee on Mission to the World be requested to develop a program during the coming year which shall encourage Presbyteries to take the initiative in extending calls for missionary service to ordain ministers, who the Presbytery would judge to be qualified for missionary service.
 6. That the Missions Manual as amended be approved for a period of two years and that an objective review be made of the policies and procedures followed at the end of that time with recommendations to be made to the 1979 General Assembly.
 7. That we continue to encourage our churches and individual members to use World Relief Commission as an avenue of help and hope in disaster areas of the world.
 8. That we take note of the growing number of men serving as chaplains in the various branches of our Armed Forces, both on active duty and in the Reserves, and that we encourage them through prayerful interest in their ministry and by practical support at the presbytery level.
 - B. Additional recommendations coming from the Committee of Commissioners as a result of discussions held:
 1. That a resume of the approved minutes of each MTW meeting be mailed to each Presbytery MTW Committee Chairman so that each Presbytery might be kept abreast of current needs, concerns, and causes for praise.
 2. That the Insurance Committee provide, if available, disability income coverage for short-term missionaries.
 3. That the MTW Committee consider the feasibility of bringing the base salary of short-term missionaries who intend to serve more than one year up to the base salary of long-term missionaries.
 4. That in future Co-operative agreements the statement currently being used (i.e. item 10, page 170) be worded so as to include the following:
 The Mission to the World missionary is to have liberty in the full and free presentation of the whole counsel of God as contained in and understood in

the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechism, and is also to have liberty to practice all principles of these Standards.

C. Recommendations stemming from overtures.

Your committee recommends that:

1. Overture 1 (p. 33) be answered in the negative since all of our cooperative relationships allow our missionaries complete freedom to preach and teach the Reformed Faith.
2. Overture 13 (p. 33) be answered with the following statement:
Because the Presbyterian Church in America has not yet issued a definitive statement on the theology of missions, and because Overture 13 was written before the Missions Manual had been reviewed for presentation to the General Assembly, until the PCA as a Church, issues such a theological statement, we feel that Recommendation 6 (under Section III-A of this report) is the most adequate answer this Committee of Commissioners can give to the subject matter contained in Overture 13.

4-42 Resolution on a New Presbytery

The following Resolution calling for the establishment of a new Presbytery in North and Central Florida was read and referred to the Committee of Commissioners on Mission to the United States.

Whereas, there are well-known advantages to forming Presbyteries around close proximity geographical boundaries for better service to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, Whereas, there are a number of churches in the area of North and Central Florida who must travel great distances to Presbytery meetings and other Presbytery functions, And Whereas, there are a number of organized and mission churches in this area and there appears to be potential for the organization of several more, Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Fourth General Assembly state its intent to form a Presbytery generally within the bounds of North and Central Florida at the Fifth General Assembly and that the Fourth General Assembly encourages churches and teaching elders within these bounds to meet at least twice before the Fifth General Assembly to lay the foundation for organization of the new Presbytery.

Ruling Elder Hugh Cunningham
The Rev. Tim Fortner
The Rev. Jack J. Hosman
The Rev. Walter L. DeHart
Ruling Elder Jack L. Morton
The Rev. Richard B. Watson

See paragraph 4-56.

4-43 Assembly Recessed

The Assembly recessed at 5:00 P.M. with prayer by the Rev. James E. Moore to reconvene at 7:30 P.M.

MINUTES — WEDNESDAY EVENING

September 15, 1976

Fourth Session

4-44 Assembly Reconvened

The Assembly reconvened at 7:30 P.M. being led in prayer by Rev. Erskine L. Jackson.

4-45 Report of the Committee on Mission to the World continued (4-41)

The Assembly adopted the following motions:

3. That the Constitutional Documents Committee be asked to report to the 1977 General Assembly on the merit of a possible addition to our Standards of a statement on the theology of missions.
4. The overtures referred to this committee by previous General Assemblies, as listed in 4-10, pp. 37-39, be answered by reference to the Missions Manual, as approved.

IV. THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS has examined the Minutes listed above (I, A) and recommend the approval of them with the following exceptions:
9/8-11/75; 10/17-18/75; 11/21-22/75; 1/16-17/76; 3/19-20/76; 5/20-21/76; 7/23-23/76;
1.) Kind of meeting not stated, 2.) Members not identified as teaching/ruling elder nor what church they represent.

1/16-17/76: 3/19-20/76: 1.) Secretary did not sign.
 10/17-18/76: 1.) Omitted some visiting Presbytery representatives.
 1/16-17/76: 1.) Bill Poole is mentioned as giving a report but is not identified nor is there mention of his being given the privilege of the floor.

- V. THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS notes that it received the audit report of the financial statement of the Permanent Committee through December 31, 1975. The Permanent Committee is taking necessary action recommended by the audits.
 The Moderator asked that the Rev. Gordon Reed lead the Assembly in prayer.
- VI. The Assembly adopted an action stating that the Presbyterian Church in America shall continue to operate under the policy set forth by the Third General Assembly that the PCA shall maintain separation from the National and World Council of Churches.
- VII. The Assembly provided that an additional section be added to the Manual for Mission to the World Committee as an historical summary for ready reference.
 Such a section would include:
 - the organizing principles which were developed and presented before the First General Assembly, to include that portion of "A Message to All Churches" of the First General Assembly, which deals with the matter of World Mission policy of our Church;
 - a record of the past and succeeding General Assemblies;
 - budget summaries and actual receipts of past and succeeding years;
 - any such items that should be kept before the attention of those involved in the work of World Missions.

VIII. The missionaries and chaplains of the Church, who were present, were introduced and commended to the Assembly.

The Assembly passed a motion to devote the next few minutes to a season of prayer for:

1. Our missionaries now on the field
2. Those preparing to go
3. Those that God will raise up

The Prayer session was opened with prayer by the Rev. Donald Patterson, Chairman of the Permanent Committee and closed by the Rev. William Mosal after a number had prayed.

The Assembly stood in thanks to the Rev. Donald B. Patterson for his leadership as Chairman of the Permanent Committee since the founding of the new Church.

The Assembly joined in singing the Doxology.

The report as a whole was adopted.

ROLL OF COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS FOR MISSION TO THE WORLD:

PRESBYTERY

Ascension
 Calvary
 Carolina
 Central Georgia
 Covenant
 Evangel
 Grace
 Gulf Coast
 Louisiana
 Mid-Atlantic
 Mississippi Valley
 New River
 North Georgia
 Southern Florida
 Tennessee Valley
 Texas
 Warrior
 Western Carolinas
 Westminster

NAME

Rev. Carl W. Bogue
 Mr. Nolan F. Armstrong
 Rev. David Gullett
 Mr. Robert N. Bourne
 Rev. Robert S. Hayes
 Mr. Henry S. Thigpen
 Rev. Byron Snapp
 Mr. C. G. Stokes, Jr.
 Rev. William L. Mosal
 Mr. James M. Brady
 Rev. William C. Hughes
 Mr. Summers Dunbar
 Rev. Robert G. Valentine
 Rev. Daniel D. Sulc
 Mr. Richard Bell
 Rev. Charles Cobb
 Rev. Thomas G. Kay
 Mr. Charles E. Boyce, Jr.
 Rev. Dan Barr

4-46 New Business — Date of the Assembly Meetings

The following resolution was introduced by Commissioner William E. Frisbee, Sr., and referred to the Committee of Commissioners on Administration:

Whereas, the winter and spring months are a time when most preaching and ruling elders are able to attend presbyteries and make selection for General Assembly Committees of Commissioners, and
 Whereas, many more laymen can get a week off work for vacation during the summer months of June, July, and August,
 Therefore, be it resolved, that the Sixth General Assembly meet in early June with successive Assemblies meeting in the late spring months each year.

See paragraph 4-79.

4-47 New Business — Interpretation of I Timothy 3:2

The following resolution calling for the appointment of an Ad-Interim Committee was read and referred to the Committee of Commissioners on Administration:

Whereas, some presbyteries have been faced with determining procedures to be followed in case of one of its ministers being divorced and remarried; and,
 Whereas, some presbyteries have candidates for the gospel ministry who have already been divorced and remarried; and,
 Whereas, it is unclear just how I Timothy 3:2 statement that "presbyter shall be the husband of one wife" shall be interpreted in line with Confession of Faith, chapter 24; and,
 Whereas, the Book of Church Order provides no instruction as to how to handle I Timothy 3:2 and Westminster Confession of Faith, chapter 24;
 Therefore, we request that the Fourth General Assembly of the PCA elect a theological committee to study this problem and direct men how we should interpret I Timothy 3:2.

Signed,
 Robert L. Mabson

See paragraph 4-76, item I, 11.

4-48 Committees Excused

The Nominating Committee and the Committee of Commissioners were excused from the 8:00 A.M. session of the Assembly on Thursday, September 16, 1976.

4-49 Assembly Recessed

The Assembly recessed at 9:30 with prayer by the Rev. Young Park.

MINUTES — THURSDAY MORNING

September 16, 1976

Fifth Session**4-50 Assembly Reconvened**

The Assembly reconvened at 8:00 A.M. with prayer by the Rev. John Morrison.

4-51 Minutes Approved

The Minutes of the Wednesday sessions were read and approved.

4-52 Prayer for the Committee on Mission to the United States

Before hearing the report, the Assembly adopted the following motion:
 That following the report on Mission to the United States, the Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America have a season of prayer for the work of our Lord in the United States of America. Let us give thanks, rejoice, and ask God to supply richly the needs of the Mission to the United States work. Also, let us express our appreciation to the Assembly's Committee on Mission to the United States, and its retiring Chairman, Cecil Williamson, by closing the season of prayer with the singing of the Doxology. (4-56)

4-53 Report of the Committee of Commissioners on Mission to the United States

The report of the Committee of Commissioners on Mission to the United States was presented by the Rev. Charles Turner, Chairman. It was adopted as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES

- I. Items referred to and considered by the Committee.
 1. Report of the Committee on Mission to the United States to the Fourth General Assembly.
 2. Policy Manual Mission to the United States.
 3. Minutes of the Committee on Mission to the United States.
 4. Audit Report of the Committee on Mission to the United States.
- II. Statement of major issues discussed.
 1. The relationship of the Permanent Committee's Executive Committee and Committee of the whole.
 2. The Committee's policy for non-ordained personnel working in MUS projects.
 3. The charging of interest on loans to churches.
 4. Various changes in the Committee's Report and Policy Manual.
 5. The need for a full-time office manager.
- III. Recommendations.
 1. That the minutes of the Committee on Mission to the United States for 9/10/75, 9/11/75, 12/30/75, 1/15/76, 2/6-7/76, 2/24/76, 5/7-8/76, 7/7/76 be approved. Certain matters of grammar, punctuation, and clarification have been corrected and given to the Stated Clerk.
 2. That the Report of the Committee on Mission to the United States be approved as amended (See Appendix F, p. 129).
 3. The following recommendations were adopted:
 - a. 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 participate in this year.
 - b. That the General Assembly now hear and act upon the recommendation that the Reverend Larry Mills be elected to serve as Coordinator of the Committee on Mission to the United States for a period of one year.
 - c. That the General Assembly approve the Manual presented by this Committee as the operating Manual for this Committee.
 - d. That the General Assembly approve a Day of Prayer and Special Offering for home mission work.
 - e. That the General Assembly define the boundaries of Pacific Presbytery as including only the following counties in the State of California: Imperial, San Diego, Riverside, San Bernadino, Orange, Los Angeles, Ventura, Kern, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Tulare, Inyo, and Kings.
 - f. That the General Assembly encourage local congregations and Presbyteries to continue to be active in the work of new church planting.
 4. That the Policy Manual, Mission to the United States be approved as amended. See Appendix F for the Manual as Adopted.
 5. That the Policy Manual include a section establishing guidelines for all non-ordained personnel working for Mission to the United States in mission churches. Example: seminary students on clinical year leaves.
 6. That General Assembly direct Mission to the United States speedily to hire a full-time Office Manager.
 7. That the General Assembly commend the Mission to the United States Permanent Committee and staff for its work during the recent difficult and uncertain months.
- IV. The Committee of Commissioners notes that it received the audit report of the financial statement of the Permanent Committee through December 31, 1975. The Commissioners reviewed and approved the report and found the Permanent Committee's actions regarding the auditor's suggestions are satisfactory.
- V. The following motion was proposed and then tabled:
That the Committee on Mission to the United States cease making available the TV spot utilizing a scene of a Church wedding accompanied with non-Christian wedding music. This motion was tabled.
- VI. The following motion was adopted:
That the General Assembly give thanks to God for the recent healing process of the Mission to the United States Coordinator, Larry C. Mills, asking God for His continued physical health, and that the Commissioners to the Fourth General Assembly be heartily encouraged

to pray for the physical and spiritual well being of each Coordinator of the Permanent Committees.

Continued paragraph 4-56

Ruling Elder Jack Williamson assumed the Chair during this report at the request of the Moderator.

4-54 Assembly recessed for Worship and Lunch

The Assembly recessed for its worship service at 11:30 A.M. to reconvene at 1:00 P.M. The worship service was in the charge of the Committee on Mission to the United States. The Rev. Frank Barker preached the sermon.

MINUTES — THURSDAY AFTERNOON

September 16, 1976

Sixth Session

4-55 Assembly Reconvened

The Assembly reconvened at 1:30 P.M. being led in prayer by the Rev. Richard Adelman. After reconvening the Assembly the Moderator requested Ruling Elder Jack Williamson to assume the chair.

4-56 Report of the Committee of Commissioners on Mission to the United States continued (4-53)

The following was adopted:

- VII. That the Fourth General Assembly state its intent to form a presbytery generally within the bounds of Northeast and Central Florida at the Fifth General Assembly and that the Fourth Assembly encourage churches and teaching elders within these bounds to meet at least twice before the Fifth Assembly to lay the foundation for organization of the new presbytery. These actions shall be under the guidance of the Permanent Committee of the Mission to the United States. See paragraph 4-42.

In accord with Item 4-52 the Assembly engaged in a period of prayer for the Committee on Mission to the United States and its Coordinator, the Rev. Larry Mills. This was concluded with the singing of the Doxology.

The report was adopted as a whole.

THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS

Leland Miller, Jr.	Ruling Elder	Ascension
Logan Porter	Ruling Elder	Carolina
Dale Umbreit	Teaching Elder	Central Georgia
Arthur Rogers	Ruling Elder	Covenant
James Sherwood	Teaching Elder	Evangel
A. M. Waites	Ruling Elder	Grace
Arvid Nordstrom	Ruling Elder	Louisiana
Ronald Bossom	Teaching Elder	Mid-Atlantic
J. Edmund Johnston	Ruling Elder	Mississippi Valley
John Dodd	Teaching Elder	New River
R. E. Bolton	Ruling Elder	North Georgia
Charles A. Tartt	Ruling Elder	Southern Florida
Charles Turner	Teaching Elder	Tennessee Valley
P. Duane Prestwood	Ruling Elder	Texas
George M. McQuire	Teaching Elder	Vanguard
John Thompson	Ruling Elder	Westminster

The Moderator resumed the Chair.

4-57 Report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures

The Rev. Ben Wilkinson presented the report of Committee of Commissioners on Bills and Overtures.

The Assembly adopted the report as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS ON BILLS AND OVERTURES

1. The Committee of Commissioners on Bills and Overtures met at Second Presbyterian Church Monday, September 13, 1976, at 7:30 p.m., recessed at 9:23 p.m., reconvened at 8:00 a.m. September 14, and adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

2. Items considered were:
 - a. Overture 4 from Calvary Presbytery with respect to Abortion (page 31).
 - b. Overture 5 from Calvary Presbytery with respect to Sabbath Observance (page 31).
 - c. Overture 7 from Pacific Presbytery with respect to the Military Chaplaincy (page 31).
 - d. Overture 8 from Mississippi Valley Presbytery with respect to College Campus ministry (pages 31-32).
3. Report of Recommendations on the Overtures.
 - a. Overture 4 from Calvary Presbytery (page 31)
 The General Assembly answered Overture 4 in the affirmative and expressed its grave concern over the murder of hundreds of thousands of the unborn through widespread practice of abortion; and that the Assembly appoint a committee to study and bring back to the 1977 General Assembly a biblical, theological statement on abortion with practical application.
 That the Nominating Committee submit a slate of twelve persons to be elected by the General Assembly to serve on this study committee.
 And that the Nominating Committee give particular consideration to the medical and legal professions in the composition of this committee. See paragraph 4-81, item 3.
 On request of the Moderator, Mr. Jack Williamson took the Chair.
 - b. Overture 5 from the Calvary Presbytery (page 31).
 We recommend that the General Assembly answer Overture 5 from Calvary Presbytery in the affirmative with amendments as follows:
Whereas the Word of God clearly instructs men to observe the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy and to set aside this one day out of seven as being consecrated to the Lord: (Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 20:8-11; Isaiah 58:13-14)
And whereas the Sabbath Day has fallen into widespread profanation and disuse in American society today, and various athletic, commercial, and social enterprises and activities have all but obliterated our former national reverence for this holy day.
Therefore, we the members of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America reaffirm our unwavering stand against all unnecessary encroachments upon the Lord's Day, and exhort all citizens everywhere to worship God and to properly set aside and sanctify the Sabbath of the Lord Jesus Christ. And that we exhort each pastor and session to study the positive application of Sabbath observance to their congregation in order to bring our practice into greater conformity with the Church's Standards.
 - c. Overture 7 from Pacific Presbytery (page 31).
 We recommend that the General Assembly answer Overture 7 from Pacific Presbytery in the affirmative; and that the Moderator appoint a committee of 8 with 2 alternates, at least 2 members of the committee being in the Military Chaplaincy, 1 from the Committee on Mission to the World of the General Assembly, and 1 from the Committee on Mission to the United States of the General Assembly.

Subsequent to the Assembly meeting the Moderator appointed the following Committee:

Teaching Elders

- J. Philip Clark, Convener
 610 N. Glendale Avenue
 Glendale, California 91206
- Edward A. Jussely
 P. O. Box 384
 Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39401
- Douglas R. McCullough
 407 Southwick Drive
 Fayetteville, North Carolina 28303
- James E. Moore
 3340 Lynchburg
 Memphis, Tennessee 38118
- Capt. W. Ingram Philips
 350 Hudnutt
 Fort Sill, Oklahoma 73503

Ruling Elders

- Earl Bolton
 4631 Mitchell Street
 Forest Park, Georgia 30050
- James Campbell
 1913 Lynn Cove Lane
 Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454
- Gerald Sovereign
 324 Valencia
 Gulf Breeze, Florida 32561

Alternates

- | | |
|---|--|
| Harris Langford
1020 Monticello Court
Montgomery, Alabama 36109 | Earl Fleming
514 Sunset Drive
Butler, Pennsylvania 16001 |
|---|--|

- d. Overture 8 from Mississippi Valley Presbytery (page 31).
We recommend that the General Assembly answer Overture 8 from Mississippi Valley Presbytery in the following manner:
- (1.) That the oversight of college campus work be committed to the Committees on Mission to the United States of the Sessions, Presbyteries, and General Assembly.
 - (2.) That the Mission to the United States Committees of the Sessions, Presbyteries, and General Assembly study and develop a philosophy and program of Presbyterian and Reformed college campus ministry.
 - (3.) That such a study of the philosophy and program take into serious consideration the already existing college campus ministries across our nation.
 - (4.) That the Committee on Mission to the United States of the General Assembly function in this matter primarily as a coordinating and resource body.
 - (5.) That the Congregations and Presbyteries become actively involved in a ministry to the college campuses in their geographical bounds.
 - (6.) That the Committee on Mission to the United States of the General Assembly be responsible for the development of college campus ministries where there is no Presbytery that can so function.
4. The Assembly adopted the following affirmation:
In light of the discussion of the Bills and Overture Committee, the Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America reaffirms its commitment to the Confession of Faith, especially chapter 31, paragraph 4 on all related matters.

Ruling Elder Jack Williamson assumed the chair during this report at the request of the Moderator.

4-58 Fraternal Delegates

The Rev. Donald C. Graham, Chairman of the Permanent Committee on Interchurch Relations, introduced the fraternal delegates from the Christian Reformed Church. They were: Dr. William Brink, and Rev. Arthur Hoogstrate. Dr. Brink, the Stated Clerk of the General Synod of that Church, brought formal greetings.

4-59 Report of the Committee on Interchurch Relations

The Rev. William T. Iverson, Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Interchurch Relations, presented the report. It was adopted as follows:

The Rev. William T. Iverson, Convener, called the Committee to order with prayer by the Rev. Tim Fortner, a member of the Permanent Committee, whose members (Clark, Fortner, Graham, Wardell, McIlwaine, Peaster, Ward, and Smith) were present.

A roll of the members of the Committee of Commissioners was taken and a quorum was declared present.

Mr. Iverson was elected chairman by unanimous vote. The Rev. A. Boyce Spooner was elected clerk for the Committee.

A brief period of preliminary discussion covered the work of the Permanent Committee, its mandate from the General Assembly, the nature of "ecclesiastical fellowship" as defined in the report of the constituting meeting of NAPARC, at Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania October 31-November 1, 1975 section 11/c/ii.

There were oral presentations made of several brief meetings of the permanent committee, by their chairman, the Rev. Donald C. Graham. Since there were no written records of these meetings, the Committee of Commissioners by common consent addressed itself to the survey of the recommendations proposed by the Sub-Committee on Interchurch Relations (p 000, 000).

The Committee approved these recommendations as follows:

1. That the General Assembly recognize the establishment of the North America Presbyterian and Reformed Council at its Constituting Meeting, held at Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Pa., October 31-November 1, and receive as information the Minutes of that meeting, deleted slightly, and request that these be included in the Minutes of this Assembly. See Appendix P.)

2. That this Assembly receive as fraternal delegates representatives of the NAPARC member churches, and in addition, of the ARPC, until such time as the NAPARC shall finally act on its application for membership, accepting these member churches as churches in ecclesiastical fellowship with us; furthermore, that one such representative of each denomination named be heard by this Assembly at an appropriate time, in addition, that these brethren be welcomed as corresponding members and be accorded a speaking right on the floor in our deliberations.

3. That the Committee on Interchurch Relations shall be charged with the responsibility of appointing this Church's representatives to all meetings of NAPARC and to act for us according to the limitations of the NAPARC Constitution and of our own.

4. That the Committee on Interchurch Relations be authorized to send delegates to the member churches of NAPARC and to the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, including both Teaching and Ruling Elders.

5. That the General Assembly continue its previous authorization that committees of the General Assembly may designate members of these committees or of the church-at-large to meet as regularly as practical with the corresponding committees of those churches in ecclesiastical fellowship with us in order to encourage the mutual sharing of plans and a consultation on matters of common interest.

6. That the Interchurch Relations Committee study the matter of our participation in the Reformed Ecumenical Synod during the coming year, and bring a recommendation to the next General Assembly.

7. That we commend the work of the Lord's Day Alliance and continue among our people and in our communities a deep concern for the increasing commercialization of the Lord's Day, including its careless use in work and pleasure by church members, urging that the pulpit ministry and teaching instruments of the church support strongly a witness to the Biblical materials on the observance of the Lord's Day as holy unto the Lord.

8. That the General Assembly notes with approval the suggested lists of Study Subjects and Areas of Cooperation included under Item 12 of the October 31-November 1 meeting of the NAPARC, hereby placing responsibility for our response to these matters, and their consideration, in the hands of the Committee on Interchurch Relations, budgetary involvement to be approved by the Committee on Administration and to such extent as they deem wise.

9. That an immediate area of cooperation with those churches in ecclesiastical fellowship with us concerns our open policy with other evangelical mission boards so that we would wherever possible give preference to such boards as are specifically Presbyterian and Reformed in commitment.

10. That the Committee on Administration be authorized to cover our fair share of the NAPARC budget.

11. That this General Assembly acknowledge with gratitude and Christian love the communication of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Evangelical Synod, May, 1976, regarding our common ecumenical concerns, also the action of the General Assembly of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, May, 1976, in instructing its Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations to study a similar communication. In response this General Assembly requests its own Committee on Interchurch Relations, together with the Moderator, Past-moderators, and the Clerk of the General Assembly as Ex-officio members, to consider carefully the matters suggested by the Reformed Presbyterian communication and, furthermore, to endeavor to fashion a long-range policy of mutual concern, activities, and the persurance of unity with these denominations, reporting to the next General Assembly. We remind sister churches that we are still an infant denomination and that obligations we feel for the firm establishment of our church and of our congregations require that we avoid any appearance of haste in these matters. At the same time, we take this initial step so as to support those Biblical principles which place us under the divine tension of unity in the body of Christ visible, wherever and however this may be encouraged or engaged without compromise of our standards or of our primary responsibilities to our member churches.

12. We recommend that local churches and presbyteries of the PCA seek every opportunity for fellowship with churches and presbyteries which are members of bodies with which we have **ecclesiastical fellowship***

Note: *This term is explained in section 11/c/ii, p. 116.

- 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.

13. The Committee of Commissioners urges the Commissioners to the General Assembly to give careful consideration to the deliberate election to the permanent Sub-Committee on Interchurch Relations of at least one man each who has been received from the OPC and the RPCES.

The Stated Clerk has pointed out that over half of the constituent churches of our denomination were *never* in the PCUS; moreover, many of our ministers came from other denominations, and this ecumenical character of the PCA should be recognized, and the available insights of these men utilized.

14. That our representatives to the General Assembly and General Synods, one representative for each, be accorded the opportunity to present four-minute reports on their impression of those bodies' deliberations, inasmuch as such impressions should concern us.

15. That the General Assembly authorize the Subcommittee on Interchurch Relations to explore establishing fraternal relations with the Korean Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., in consultation with the Mission to the World Committee.

The following new motions were referred back to the Committee of Commissioners on Interchurch Relations for its advice. The actions recorded here were taken at the end of the Assembly, paragraph 4-87.

16. WHEREAS the Word of God urges the unity of those who truly profess the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ in all sincerity according to the Scriptures; and WHEREAS among certain Presbyterian and Reformed denominations with which the Presbyterian Church in America is in formal ecclesiastical fellowship a strong spirit of unanimity has appeared, leading to the formation of the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council; and

WHEREAS the Presbyterian Church in America already has entered into joint ventures of certain kinds with member denominations of the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council and is contemplating additional joint ventures:

NOW THEREFORE, I respectfully recommend to the Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America, for the encouragement of the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council, to affirm its commitment to the unity of those who sincerely profess the historic Reformed faith and are governed according to historic presbyterial order.

We further ask the Assembly to request the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council to schedule discussions — in separate sessions designated for the purpose, if necessary — on the specific question of the possibilities and prospects of Church union.

Boyce Spooner
Commissioner of Presbytery of
Western Carolinas

The committee recommends that this Resolution be answered in the negative.

No other church has approached the matter of union through NAPARC, but rather directly through actions of their General Assembly or Synods.

To approach the matter of union through NAPARC might possibly hamper the attainment of its objectives by giving the impression that NAPARC is being used as a vehicle solely to promote church union.

We encourage our own Permanent Committee on Interchurch Relations to be receptive to discussions regarding the matter of union with any other body with which we have ecclesiastical fellowship, as has already been approved in recommendations of the report of the Permanent Committee. Adopted.

17. That the Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America go on record expressing its concern over reports from the General Synod of the Christian Reformed Church in the matter of upholding the ordination of a man who denied the historicity of certain portions of the Word of God, written, and that such concern be communicated to the General Synod of the Christian Reformed Church.

The Assembly adopted the following action in response to this motion:

Due to the absence of written information to support the statements made on the floor of this Assembly concerning the General Synod of the Christian Reformed Church and its failure to administer discipline in the stated allegation, and the failure of an appellate to follow the prescribed process of discipline, and the documented process of discipline allowed to the appellate, therefore this Committee would recommend that the Assembly answer this motion in the negative.

This matter was thoroughly discussed with the representatives of the Christian Reformed Church, The Rev. Wm. Brink, and Rev. Arthur Hoogstrate, as they met with the Committee. Apparently this information given on the floor of this Assembly was derived from a periodical (The OUTLOOK), in an article written by the pastor of the Dutton church which attempted to effect this discipline with insufficient evidence and had taken the wrong route.

The Synod did not call the candidate before them.

It had become a question of a recall of his ordination, and there was not sufficient grounds for this, as well as the fact that the church had not used the proper means of action.

No knowledge of any substantive denial of Scripture was presented, no one was called for discipline. If this had been true, it was felt by our Christian Reformed Church men that the Synod would have gone on to exercise action.

The report was adopted as a whole.

COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS FOR INTERCHURCH RELATIONS

1	Ascension	Mr. J. Murray Thompson R.*
2	Conventan	Mr. Earl Jagers R.
3	Evangel	Rev. Robert Ostenson T.
	alternate	Rev. Dennis Disselkoe T.
4	Grace	Mr. Jack Thorne R.

- 5 Gulf Coast
- 6 Mid-Atlantic
- 7 North Georgia
- 8 Tennessee Valley
- 9 Western Carolinas
- 10 New River
- 11 Southern Florida
- 12 Central Georgia (Tuesday)
- 13 Texas
- **"R" — Ruling Elder
- "T" — Teaching Elder

- Rev. Richard Adelman T.
- Rev. William T. Iverson, Convener T.
- Mr. Andy Watkins T.
- Rev. Fred Marsh T.
- Rev. A. Boyce Spooner T.
- Rev. William Fitzhenry T.
- Mr. Joseph High R.
- Rev. Oliver N. Hamby T.
- Mr. A. R. Sanders R.

Continued paragraph 4-87.

4-60 Assembly Recessed

The Moderator resumed the chair.

The Assembly recessed at 5:00 P.M. with prayer by Ruling Elder Tom Nalls of Evangel Presbytery to reconvene at 7:30 P.M.

MINUTES — THURSDAY EVENING

September 16, 1976

Seventh Session

4-61 Assembly Reconvened

The Assembly reconvened at 7:30 P.M., being led in prayer by Rev. Timothy Fortner.

4-62 Presentation of the Committee Programs

Dan Moore presided over a presentation of the activities of the Committee on Administration.

The Christian Education and Publications Committee presented a multi-media presentation on the activities of that Committee.

The Rev. Cecil Williamson opened the Committee on Mission to the United States with prayer. Rev. Larry Mills addressed the Assembly on the progress of the work of the Committee, and then introduced Rev. Palmer Robertson, Rev. Eric Perrin and Mr. Joseph "Skip" Ryan, each of whom spoke to the Assembly.

Rev. Donald Patterson presided over the Committee on Mission to the World presentation. He introduced Grayson Smith, Ed Farris, Joe and Beth Farlow, John Johnston, Don and Velma Caviness, Hugh Powlison, Rev. Young Park, Paul Poyner, Larry McCarty, and John Kyle, Coordinator of Mission to the World. An audio-visual was then shown, following which Rev. Donald Patterson closed with prayer.

4-63 Extension of Time

The Moderator reconvened the business session of the Assembly with prayer and then on his request Mr. Jack Williamson assumed the chair.

The Assembly extended its session until 11:00 P.M.

4-64 Complaint of Eastland Church versus Covenant Presbytery

The Rev. Frank Barker, Chairman of the Judicial Commission to handle the Complaint of the Session of the Eastland Church, presented the following report of the Commission:

The Judicial Commission appointed to deal with Complaint 1, in which the Session of Eastland Presbyterian Church, Memphis, Tennessee, complains against the action of Covenant Presbytery in employing Mr. Tim McKeown as a summer worker, finds the complaint to be invalid in that Mr. McKeown was not employed in a ministerial capacity. (This decision in no way implies that if the Presbytery had employed Mr. McKeown in a ministerial capacity this would have involved a violation of the Constitution.)

NAMES OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

Teaching Elders

Frank Barker
Charles Dunahoo
Erskine Jackson
Laurie Jones
David Nicholas

John W. P. Oliver
Robert Ostenson
Palmer Robertson
William Stanway

Ruling Elders

Robert W. Butts
James Campbell
Leon Hendrick
George Fox
Kenneth S. Keyes

Hugh Potts
Ed Robeson
J. Scott McOwen
Jack Williamson

The Assembly adopted the report as its action and judgment.

4-65 Complaint of the Trinity Church versus Grace Presbytery

The Rev. Eugene Hunt, Chairman of the Judicial Commission to adjudicate the Complaint of Trinity Church, Slidell, Louisiana, against Grace Presbytery, presented the following report:

In view of the fact that the provisions of the Book of Church Order (43-5 "the record of the case") were not complied with and inadequate minutes were presented to us, we were unable to adjudicate the complaint.

Therefore, this entire matter is returned to the lower court with instructions for a new hearing.

While it is not a part of the record of the case, the issue precipitating this complaint clearly relates to the ordination of a candidate for service to a congregation of another denomination.

We recommend, apart from this judgment, that the General Assembly concur in the opinion that the *Book of Church Order* does not envisage the ordination of a candidate expressly to pastoral services in a church of another denomination.

Members of the Judicial Commission:

1. Marvin L. Harris	Teaching	Warrior
2. Cecil A. Brooks	Teaching	Southern Florida
3. Bill Stevenson	Ruling	North Georgia
4. A. L. Hughes	Ruling	Gulf Coast
5. J. W. Lipscomb	Teaching	Louisiana
6. T. R. Cook	Teaching	Mississippi Valley
7. William B. Russell	Ruling	Mid-Atlantic
8. Leon F. Wardell	Teaching	Mid-Atlantic
9. Thurston Futch, Jr.	Ruling	Central Georgia
10. Robert C. Schoof	Teaching	Mid-Atlantic
11. Al Saleeby	Teaching	Carolina
12. M. H. Hunter	Ruling	Mid-Atlantic
13. G. Aiken Taylor	Teaching	Western Carolinas
14. Gene Hunt	Teaching	North Georgia
15. Randy Johovich	Teaching	Ascension
16. William P. Shows	Teaching	Covenant

The Assembly divided the report. It approved and accepted the judgment of the Commission as its action and judgment in the case. It then adopted the recommendation by a vote of 238 for and 131 against. See 4-72 for reconsideration, no change made in action.

4-66 Report of the Committee on Judicial Business

Rev. Eugene Hunt, Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Judicial Business, presented the report of the Committee. It was adopted as follows:

- I. The Committee of Commissioners on Judicial Business considered the following items referred to it:
 - A. Minutes of the Committee on Judicial Business
 - B. Report of the Committee on Judicial Business
- II. Your Committee of Commissioners recommends:
 - A. That the Permanent Committee be commended for its work during the past year.
 - B. That the minutes of September 10, 1975 and September 13, 1976, of the Committee on Judicial Business be approved without exception.

- C. That the following change in the Book of Church Order be approved:
Paragraph 58-1 be amended by replacing the first sentence with the following sentence: "Believers' children are children of the covenant, and when baptized shall be recognized as non-communing members of the visible church."
This recommendation was tabled. (See paragraph 4-73 for final action.)
- D. That the Book of Church Order be amended on page 1, paragraph 14-2 by ending the second sentence with the word "held," eliminating the last phrase that reads, "and any corresponding church court with which an affiliate relationship may be established that is satisfactory to both courts." (This Recommendation originated with the Committee on Mission to the World).
- E. Regarding the ordination and installation of an assistant minister, the Committee recommends the following modifications and changes to the Book of Church Order paragraph 22-5 through 22:10:
1. Paragraph 22-5, Following the words "QUESTIONS FOR ORDINATION" add a footnote, as follows: "For an assistant minister only questions 1-7 shall be used."
 2. Paragraph 22-6, Following the words "QUESTIONS TO CONGREGATION" add a footnote, as follows: "For assistant minister address the Session omitting the last phrase of questions 1 and 2."
 3. Paragraph 22-7, Following the words "... to this effect" add a footnote, as follows: "For assistant minister add the word 'assistant' before 'pastor', and charge the Session rather than the Congregation."
 4. Paragraph 22-9, Following the words "QUESTIONS FOR INSTALLATION" add a footnote, as follows: "For assistant minister substitute the word 'serve' for 'take charge of' and add the word 'assistant' before 'pastor'."
 5. Paragraph 22-10, Following the words "QUESTIONS TO CONGREGATION" add a footnote, as follows: "For assistant minister address the Session omitting the last phrase of questions 1 and 2."
- F. That the following recommended changes in the Book of Church Order from the Office of the Stated Clerk be referred to the Editorial Committee:
1. That the title Holy Spirit be used instead of Holy Ghost consistently throughout the text. This will require changes as follows: page 1, paragraph I last word; page 89, last line; page 92, fifth line from bottom of page; page 97, second paragraph, first line; page 102, first line.
 2. Paragraph 15-2 Shift the word 'Elders' in the third line to follow 'Ruling' so it will read 'Teaching and Ruling Elders,' And amend after ... 'fraction thereof' to read, 'but not to exceed three Teaching Elders and three Ruling Elders from any one congregation.'
 3. Paragraph 25-1, Add the words 'in writing' as in 26-2. '... submit names in writing to the session...'
 4. Paragraph 33-7, Substitute 'reasonable' for 'seasonable' as used in 33-8.
 5. Paragraph 35-1, Add the word 'General' twice to precede the word 'Assembly' in both occurrences in the last line.
 6. Paragraph 51-4, Change first word of second line 'every' to the word 'the' consistent with last line of 53-2.
 7. Paragraph 55-2 Add the word 'true' before 'religion.'
 8. Page 89, Substitute 'In Jesus' name' for 'For Jesus' sake.'
 9. Page 105, Capital 'A' for 'Almighty' in the first line, and capital 'E' for 'Everlasting' in the first line of the third paragraph.
 10. Page 106, Add after "... a sermon shall be preached, followed by a prayer, an appropriate psalm or hymn and a benediction."
 11. Page 79, Paragraph 57-4, in the fourth paragraph put all references to 'parents' in the plural ... i.e., 'parents' ... 'them and their children' ... 'let them know' ... 'to themselves and child, if they be' ... 'requiring their solemn' ... 'their duty.'
 12. In the next to last paragraph, page 79, replace 'it' with 'him' in the three places where 'it' occurs.
 13. Page 80, Paragraph 57-5, Lift the parentheses on 'him' or 'his' and add 'her' in parentheses. Similarly, page 101, At the Grave, put 'sister' and 'her' in parentheses and lift those on 'brother' and 'his'.

Continued paragraph 4-71.

4-67 Assembly Recessed

After singing "Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!", the Assembly recessed at 11:00 P.M. with prayer by Rev. John Reeves.

MINUTES — FRIDAY MORNING

September 17, 1976

Eighth Session

4-68 Assembly Reconvened

The Assembly was reconvened at 8:00 A.M. with prayer by Rev. Richard Knodel.

The Moderator requested Mr. Jack Williamson to take the chair.

4-69 Procedural Motion

The Assembly by a two-thirds vote suspended its Rules, and waived the reading of the Minutes for Thursday until the end of Friday's Session; to waive the reading of each report in full; and to set the time for debate on every major motion to ten minutes, with a limit of three minutes to each Commissioner.

4-70 Prayer with each Report

The Assembly approved a motion that the Chairman of each Committee of Commissioners, or the Committeeman designated to present the report lead the Assembly in prayer just prior to giving the report.

4-71 Committee on Judicial Business continued (4-66)

The following recommendations were adopted:

- G. That the report of the Committee on Judicial Business be approved as modified in the supplemental report. (See Appendix D, page 122).
 - H. That "Information on Advice Given to the Stated Clerk from the Permanent Committee" and "Information on an Opinion Given to the Tennessee Valley Presbytery" be received as information.
- III. The following was received as information:
- A. With respect to a communication from Rev. Donald Dunkerley concerning the oversight of a church without a session but with at least one ruling elder, the Committee would direct attention to Paragraph 12-2 of the Book of Church Order beginning with the word "secondly" and continuing through the end of the paragraph which gives church courts latitude to establish rules as needed agreeable with Scripture and doctrines which are not in violation of the Constitution of the Church.
 - B. That an overture filed after July 1 by Gulf Coast Presbytery be referred to the (5th) General Assembly.
 - C. With respect to the inquiry from Rev. Crowell Cooley regarding the signing of the Book of Obligation, it is the Committee's opinion that it is proper for a candidate to sign at the convenience of Presbytery once he is approved by Presbytery to be ordained or in the case of an incoming pastor when he is received by Presbytery. Until a pastor has signed the Book of Obligation he is not a member of Presbytery.
 - D. The Committee on Judicial Business was asked by the Tennessee Valley Presbytery to give an interpretation and its advice regarding the application of the "Extraordinary Clause". The Committee gives the following opinion that each Presbytery has the right and responsibility to interpret the "Extraordinary Clause" for itself and its action in no way binds the action of any other Presbytery.
- IV. That the Committee on Judicial Business be enlarged to four (4) Teaching and four (4) Ruling Elders.
 - V. The request of the Faith Presbyterian Church of Wauchula, Florida, for a quitclaim deed be answered by reference to the BCO 25-9, 26-10, and that the Directors of the Corporation be authorized to grant a quitclaim deed to any congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America that requests it.

4-72 Reconsideration

The Assembly reconsidered its action taken in adopting the second part of the report of the Judicial Commission which handled the Complaint of Trinity Church versus Grace Presbytery (4-65).

No changes in the previous action were made.

4-73 Report of the Committee on Judicial Business continued (4-71)

The Assembly lifted from the table the recommendation for a change in the BCO, paragraph 58-1 (4-66, item C), and committed this matter to the Con-

stitutional Documents Committee so that the BCO 6-1 and 58-1 can be brought into internal integrity with the other sections of the Constitution on baptism.

The report of the Judicial Business Committee was adopted as a whole:

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS FOR JUDICIAL BUSINESS

1. Randy Johovich	Teaching	Ascension
2. Alfred Saleeby	Teaching	Carolina
3. Thurston Futch, Jr.	Ruling	Central Georgia
4. Craig R. Rowe	Teaching	Grace
5. A. L. Hughes	Ruling	Gulf Coast
6. Max Hunter	Ruling	Mid-Atlantic
7. Eugene Hunt	Teaching	North Georgia
8. Marvin Harris	Teaching	Warrior
9. William Shows	Teaching	Covenant

4-74 Report of the Committee on Administration

The Rev. Michael Bolus presented the report of the Committee of Commissioners on Administration. The report was adopted as follows:

- I. Items Referred to and Considered by the Committee
 - A. Overtures 3, 6, 9, 11, 12, and 14, (pp 28-30) to the Fourth General Assembly and Overtures 2, 3, 9, Resolution 3, and Action of the third General Assembly (pp. 34-35) business carried over from previous Assemblies.
 - B. Minutes of the Permanent Committee on Administration for the following dates: 9/8/75, 9/10/75, 11/7/75, 11/8/75, 2/13/76, 2/14/76, 4/9/76, 9/13/76, 9/14/76, and 9/16/76.
 - C. Audit Report of Kent, Nobles & Martin, CPA's pp. 97-108.
 - D. Report of the Permanent Committee on Administration to the Fourth General Assembly.
- II. Statement of Issues Discussed
 - A. The matter of Christ's College, Taipei, Taiwan.
 - B. The matter of Sullins College and the Assembly's role in education.
 - C. Proposed changes in the Budget of the Permanent Committee on Administration.
 - D. Proposed changes in the Budget of the Committee for Christian Education and Publications.
 - E. The matter of Elder Charlie Hightower's concern relative to "Rules for Assembly Operation" which requires Committee of Commissioners to be in executive session when they adopt their final report to the General Assembly (paragraph 8-4, page 214).
 - F. Other Budgetary matters.
- III. Recommendations

THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS ON ADMINISTRATION makes the following recommendations concerning the Report of the Permanent Committee on Administration:

 - A. Budget:
 - 1. The Committee recommends that all undesignated gifts be distributed between the four Permanent Committees in the following percentages for the year 1977.

Committee on Administration.....	10%
Committee on Christian Education and Publications	35%
Committee on Mission to the United States.....	20%
Committee on Mission to the World.....	35%
 - 2. That the General Assembly adopt as corrected below the budgets of the Permanent Committees:
 - a. Committee on Administration budget with the amount for contingencies amended to read \$20,000 and the TOTAL BUDGET amended to read \$496,892.
 - b. Committee on Christian Education and Publications budget with the following changes:

Family Ministries	\$ 4,500.00
Youth Ministries	8,000.00
Assistant Coordinator.....	17,200.00
Business Manager	14,500.00
Consultants (2).....	26,000.00
Stewardship Ministries	26,500.00
Funding for Magazine Proposal.....	35,000.00
TOTAL BUDGET.....	\$496,892.00
 - c. Committee on Mission to the U.S. unamended.
 - d. Committee on Mission to the World unamended.
 - e. Subcommittee for Stewardship Ministries unamended.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION

	<u>1975</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>1976</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>1977</u> <u>Budget</u> <u>Request</u>
Office of Moderator	\$ 192	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Office of Stated Clerk			
Stated Clerk Salary	(1/2) 6,696	(1/2) 9,598	(1/2) 10,558
Annuity 12%	803	1,152	1,267
Secretary: Salary	(1) 6,046	(1) 6,600	(2) 14,124
Annuity, Ins. & FICA	354	1,046	2,697
Rent	1,075	1,800	1,800
Office Expense	474	1,000	1,000
Postage	254	600	800
Telephone	1,053	1,500	2,000
Travel	591	1,000	1,500
Printing	14,540	11,000	12,000
Equipment	—	—	1,000
Historical Files	—	—	1,000
Sub Total	31,886	35,296	49,746
Office of Committee on Administration			
Consultant Salary & Car All.	(3/4) 15,159	(7/8) 16,706	(7/8) 18,329
Annuity (12%) & Health Ins.	2,310	2,555	2,857
FICA	825	825	900
Secretaries: Salary	(3) 19,782	(3) 19,800	(3) 21,186
Annuity, Ins., Soc. Sec.	3,496	3,138	4,046
Travel	1,676	3,500	3,500
Office Rent	3,179	4,500	3,179
Office Expense	1,811	4,500	4,500
Postage	1,363	2,000	2,500
Telephone	3,283	3,500	4,000
Stewardship Ministries	2,800	10,000	10,000
Legal Expense	237	2,500	2,500
Share of General Assembly	773	1,400	2,000
Share of Auditor	811	1,500	1,500
Meetings	13,984	22,000	20,000
Study Committee on Abortion	—	—	4,000
Equipment	—	2,000	2,000
Contingencies	—	10,000	20,000
Staff Training	—	1,000	2,000
Sub Total	71,489	111,424	128,997
TOTAL BUDGET	\$103,567	\$147,720	\$179,743

COMMITTEE FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS

	1975 Actual	1976 Budget	1977 Budget Request
For the C. E. Ministry			
Inservice Training, Staff	\$ 860	2,000	\$ 1,500
Development of Leadership			
Training Ministries		6,000	6,000
Men's Work	479	3,000	3,000
Family Ministries	1,663	3,000	4,500
Youth Ministries	754	3,000	8,000
Women in the Church	1,108	4,000	4,000
Camp & Conference Ministries		3,000	2,000
Great Commission Publications, Inc.	50,000	150,000	168,000
Resource Services	40	1,000	1,000
Program Travel (Staff)	6,640	7,000	8,000
Sub Total	61,544	182,000	206,000
To Support The C. E. Ministry			
Coordinator (Includes all allow)	19,052	21,500	23,650
Assistant Coordinator	9,039	15,500	17,200
Business Manager	10,750	12,500	14,500
Literature Distribution Manager		12,000	8,200
Consultants	(3) 27,085	(3) 34,500	(2) 26,000
Office	(4) 18,086	(4) 26,400	(4) 24,900
Sub Total	84,012	122,400	114,450
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSE			
Office			
Equipment	4,923	5,000	5,000
Office & Printing Supplies	2,470	5,000	4,000
Postage	2,390	6,000	6,000
UPS	2,407	2,500	3,500
Rent	18,475	20,124	20,124
Telephone	3,158	4,000	4,000
Sub Total	33,823	42,624	42,624
General & Administrative			
Automobile: Purchase,			
maintenance insurance	2,884	5,000	2,762
Books	411	750	750
Photographic Materials	140	100	150
Promotional	1,047	10,000	10,000
Equipment rental (postage meter)	216	220	220
Insurance (Annuities)	7,164	4,644	5,928
Insurance (Major Medical)	3,213	3,000	4,026
Insurance (Office)	419	178	500
Insurance (Unemploy. Comp.)		300	
Legal & Accounting Services	3,066	2,000	3,500
Mailing Services	159	700	
Repairs & Maintenance	279	500	400
Printing (misc., no literature)	13,600	15,000	20,000
Subscriptions	225	150	250
Payroll Taxes	3,709	4,681	4,832
C.E. & Presby. Chrmn. Comm. Meetings	4,901	12,000	6,500
Contingency Fund	5,029	12,000	9,000
Stewardship Ministries	9,912	4,000	26,500
Funding of Magazine Proposal			35,000
General Assembly Costs	2,978	6,000	3,500
Sub Total	59,352	81,223	133,818
TOTAL BUDGET	\$238,731	\$428,247	\$496,892

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES

	<u>1975</u> Actual	<u>1976</u> Budget	<u>1977</u> Budget Request
PROGRAM EXPENSE:			
Evangelism			
Churches	\$ 44,847	\$ 20,000	\$ 30,000
Presbytery Co-Sponsored	18,469	30,000	30,000
Loans to Forming Churches	14,750	30,000	50,000
Ministers	4,800	12,000	10,000
Organizing Pastors	44,866	(18) 185,400	(30) 396,000
Minister's Insurance	3,967	8,064	19,738
Minister's Annuity	5,805	19,540	43,200
Student Pastors	7,485	(10) 15,000	(10) 15,000
Specialized	17,558	40,000	40,000
Telephone, LD	2,559	2,500	2,500
Travel & Seminar/O.P.-Iten.	418	5,000	6,000
Advertising	12,964	45,000	50,000
Other	837	3,000	3,000
Sub Total	<u>179,325</u>	<u>415,504</u>	<u>695,438</u>
Designated Funds (Builders Guild)	9,500	—	100,000
GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE:			
Administrative Staff			
Coordinator (incl. all allow)	(1) 21,500	(1) 21,500	(1) 23,650
Administrative Personnel (inc. all)	12,428	(1) 19,300	(5) 62,850
Office Salaries & Benefits	11,107	(2) 15,875	(3) 20,850
Part Time Employees	—	2,400	2,400
Travel/Administrative Staff	15,575	16,000	22,000
Supplies & Printing	6,488	9,500	19,500
Postage	3,784	2,000	3,000
Telephone	1,249	950	1,550
Rent	3,696	6,000	6,000
Service Bonds & Equipment	4,930	2,000	2,000
Other PCA Expenses	12,989	7,500	7,500
Stewardship Ministries	9,600	20,000	20,000
Committee Meetings & Work	7,635	10,000	10,000
Total	<u>110,981</u>	<u>133,025</u>	<u>201,300</u>
SUMMARY:			
Total Program	\$179,325	\$415,504	\$695,438
Builders Guild	9,500	—	100,000
Total Administrative	<u>110,981</u>	<u>133,025</u>	<u>201,300</u>
	<u>\$299,806</u>	<u>\$548,529</u>	<u>\$996,738</u>

COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE WORLD

	<u>1975 Actual Expense</u>	<u>1976 Budget</u>	<u>1977 Budget Request</u>
PROGRAM EXPENSE:			
*Missionaries — persons	(60)	(110)	(150)
Support	\$357,960	\$629,000	\$922,900
Special Projects	10,258	—	—
Work Budgets.....	65,029	130,000	183,000
Sub Total.....	<u>433,247</u>	<u>759,000</u>	<u>1,105,900</u>
Cooperative Grants:			
National Workers	12,180	18,800	18,800
Projects	73,519	112,000	112,000
World Opportunities.....	—	54,549	—
Sub Total.....	<u>85,699</u>	<u>185,349</u>	<u>130,800</u>
Other Program Expenses:			
Candidate Expense	7,358	9,000	11,000
Itineration Expense	8,833	7,000	8,500
Mission Consultant	2,298	20,000	17,000
Field Trips & Evaluation.....	12,001	22,000	20,000
Foreign Property	30,450	99,688	75,000
Sub Total.....	<u>60,940</u>	<u>157,688</u>	<u>131,500</u>
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSE:	<u>579,886</u>	<u>1,102,037</u>	<u>1,368,200</u>
ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENERAL EXPENSE:			
Personnel Expenses:			
Coordinator Salary	18,671	18,609	20,529
Coordinator Benefits	2,829	2,891	3,121
Assistant Coordinator.....	—	16,824	18,002
Administrative Secretary	9,879	16,029	17,151
Missionary Evangelist.....	14,980	16,029	17,151
Field Representative	7,713	15,066	16,121
Financial Secretary	12,291	14,124	15,113
Administrative Benefits	6,784	12,657	13,645
Office Staff	31,812	53,481	61,096
Office Staff Benefits.....	1,489	2,885	3,335
Part-time Help	—	6,800	8,000
Employer FICA	3,137	4,300	4,600
Communications Consultant.....	—	1,200	—
Management Consultant	650	—	—
Sub Total.....	<u>110,235</u>	<u>180,895</u>	<u>197,864</u>
*Missionaries/Pay Units:			
60 people — 35 pay units			
110 people — 67 pay units			
150 people — 87 pay units			

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE WORLD

	<u>1975 Actual Expense</u>	<u>1976 Budget</u>	<u>1977 Budget Request</u>
Administrative Travel:			
Committee	\$ 12,154	\$ 12,000	\$ 13,200
Staff	6,414	8,000	8,800
Field Representative	1,375	10,000	11,000
Missionary-Evangelist	1,985	8,000	8,800
Sub Total	<u>21,928</u>	<u>38,000</u>	<u>41,800</u>
Office Expenses:			
Rent	12,673	19,000	20,330
Telephone	7,908	10,000	11,000
Office Supplies	3,352	4,400	4,840
Postage & UPS	4,470	6,700	8,158
Mailing Service Exp.	3,628	13,200	17,378
Equipment	5,288	5,700	2,000
Equipment Rent & Maint. Fee	4,523	4,700	5,170
Equipment Repairs & Sup.	548	700	770
Accounting/Auditing Fees	4,132	4,500	4,950
Literature for Distribution	1,106	1,300	1,430
Membership Fees, Subscriptions	1,757	2,000	2,200
Bank Charges	174	—	—
Miss-Evang-Office Supplies	668	668	734
Printing Stationery & Forms	3,157	9,400	11,621
Publicity	7,655	11,000	13,640
Discretionary Funds	2,220	10,000	10,000
Policy Manual	5,515	5,000	—
General Assembly Expense	8,141	12,000	13,200
Stewardship Ministries	17,600	24,000	26,400
Miscellaneous	3,240	2,000	2,200
Sub Total	<u>97,755</u>	<u>146,268</u>	<u>156,021</u>
SUMMARY:			
Total Program Expense	579,886	1,102,037	1,368,200
Total Administrative Expense	<u>229,918</u>	<u>365,163</u>	<u>395,685</u>
TOTAL MISSION TO THE WORLD BUDGET:	<u>809,804</u>	<u>1,467,200</u>	<u>1,763,885</u>

SUB COMMITTEE FOR STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES

	<u>1975 Actual 9 mos.</u>	<u>1976 Budget</u>	<u>1977 Proposed Budget</u>
Administration Expenses:			
Director	\$13,771	\$18,000	\$19,500
Committee Meetings	1,428	4,000	5,000
Travel — Director	7,512	9,000	10,000
Stewardship Materials (B)	—	1,750	4,000
Continuing Education (C)	673	1,000	1,000
Presbytery Network	1,191	2,000	2,000
Regional Conferences (D)	—	—	4,500
Secretary	—	6,000	6,600
Annuity & Insurance	—	624	700
Office Supplies	427	500	750
Printing (A)	6,483	6,000	10,000
United Parcel Service	1,523	2,200	4,500
Postage	537	250	750
Rent	814	3,252	3,252
Telephone	221	1,300	1,500
Payroll Taxes	706	1,404	1,500
Photos	—	150	—
Moving Expenses	—	2,500	—
Survey	1,129	—	—
Equipment Purchases	53	—	—
Miscellaneous	96	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$36,564	\$59,930	\$75,552

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
1977 BUDGET REQUESTS SUMMARY

	<u>1975 Actual Income</u>	<u>1975 Actual Expense</u>	<u>1976 Budget</u>	<u>1977 Budget</u>
Committee on Administration	142,370	103,567	147,720	179,743
Christian Education	245,535	238,251	429,747	496,892
Mission to the U. S.	481,183	304,431	548,529	996,738
Mission to the World	\$ 779,333	\$ 809,804	\$1,467,200	\$1,763,885
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$1,648,421	\$1,456,053	\$2,593,196	\$3,437,258

3. The Committee recommends that the Assembly authorize the Committee on Mission to the World to raise a special fund of \$150,000.00 for Christ's College, Taiwan, which shall be disbursed to Christ's College contingent upon the following:
 - a. The replacing of two non-PCA members with two new PCA members on the Board of the Mutual Benefit Society of Taiwan, and the placing of a third PCA member thereon as soon as he is available.
 - b. Approval by Mission to the World of title to land of Christ's College.
 - c. Approval and execution by proper representatives of PCA and Christ's College of rules and regulations providing for giving gradual administrative control of Christ's College to the PCA.

This fund would be in addition to the budget of the Committee on Mission to the World.
4. Since the Committee on Administration received more money than was budgeted in 1975, due largely to a special gift received in December, and in accord with the policy of the General Assembly cited above, the Committee recommends that it be permitted to apply this excess to the 1976 budget. No increase in the 1976 budget is implied by this recommendation.
5. The Committee recommends that the Assembly adopt the following resolution as a fund raising policy:

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, in the light of these events it is best to set these benefit programs in their proper perspective based on principles of Scripture, and,

Whereas, Jesus cast the money changers out of the Temple, saying, "Make not my Father's house an house of merchandise" (John 2:16),

Now, therefore, be it resolved: That the Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America advise its members and churches as follows:

- a. The Lord has ordained that giving should be an act of worship and thus a means of grace.
- b. 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.
- c. Commercial activities such as suppers, bazaars, rummage sales, etc., held primarily to raise money are improper activities for the Church.
- d. Commercial activities designed primarily to provide a ministry such as a bookstore, are proper Church activities.
- e. Neither the Church, nor any organization of the Church should sponsor such benefit promotions which have as a primary purpose raising money for the support of the Lord's work.

B. Representation at Assemblies:

The Committee recommends that there be no change of the structure of future Assemblies until the denomination's membership of churches exceeds 500.

C. Recommendations on Personnel:

The Committee recommends that our present Stated Clerk, the Rev. Morton H. Smith, be employed through the 1977 General Assembly.

The Committee recommends that our present Consultant, Dr. Dan Moore, be employed as Business Consultant through the 1977 General Assembly.

D. Report of the Stated Clerk:

The Committee recommends that the Rules for Assembly Operation be amended by adding at the end of the first sentence in paragraph 5-5, "and all complaints, appeals, or references from lower courts."

E. Assembly Arrangements:

The Committee recommends that we accept the invitation from the Smyrna Presbyterian Church of Smyrna, Georgia, to hold the 1977 General Assembly in the Atlanta area.

F. Sub-Committees:

1. The Committee recommends that the Assembly hear the report of the Sub-Committee on Stewardship.

Continued paragraph 4-76.

4-75 Report of the Committee on Stewardship

The Rev. James Long, Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Stewardship made the following report, which was adopted as amended:

- I. The Committee of Commissioners on Stewardship considered the following items:
 - Report of the Sub-Committee on Stewardship
 - Minutes of the Sub-Committee on Stewardship

Stewardship Materials for 1976

Survey: A Study of Stewardship

Budget for 1977

Audit for 1975

Manual of the Presbyterian Church in America FOUNDATION

Resolution to the Manual of the Presbyterian Church in America FOUNDATION

PCA Stewardship Survey II

II. Your Committee of Commissioners recommended:

- A. The Minutes of the Sub-committee should be kept in accordance with the "Rules for Assembly Operations"
- B. The report of the Sub-committee on Stewardship be approved with the following recommendations:
 1. That the Sub-committee on Stewardship Ministries be continued within the guidelines established by a previous General Assembly.
 2. That the 1977 Budget be approved as submitted.
 3. That a Planned (Deferred) Giving Program be initiated and established as per paper "A". (See Appendix H, p. 197)
 4. That the PCA Foundation be created by the adoption of the enabling resolution. (See the Resolution at the end of this report.) (See paragraph 4-76. Item I, 10 for Funding provision.)
 5. That this Sub-committee be instructed to continue its study on a paper "The Theology of Stewardship" along the lines stated above and present its recommendations to the 1977 General Assembly.
 6. That the General Assembly designate the period of October 14, 1976, through November 14, 1976, be their commitment Sunday for the 1977 Budget.
 7. That General Assembly designate for future years as special Stewardship Season for Commitment with the last Sunday in said season being designated as "Commitment Sunday."
 8. Approval of the General Assembly to allow survey of Commissioners to be taken at this time.

III. Recommendation concerning Materials:

- A. That we approve the material as submitted by the Sub-committee on Stewardship.
- B. That the Sub-committee in conjunction with the Christian Education and Publications Committee include the area of "The Lordship of Christ" in their study of "The Theology of Stewardship." (There was some objection raised concerning the tract, "The Things That are God's" concerning its view of the Lordship of Christ.)

IV. The Committee recommends:

That the Sub-committee on Stewardship be commended for their diligent labor for the Kingdom of Christ.

RESOLUTION ON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA FOUNDATION

BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That there is hereby established a Sub-Committee for a deferred giving ministry, which Sub-Committee shall be known as:
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA FOUNDATION
2. That the manual for this Sub-Committee, (See Appendix H, page 198) to this Resolution, be and the same is hereby adopted as its operating policy.
3. That this Manual may be amended **only** by a majority vote of the General Assembly.
4. That this Sub-Committee's operations shall be supervised by the Sub-Committee on Stewardship; and that it shall annually report to the General Assembly through the Sub-Committee on Stewardship.
5. That the Director of Stewardship Ministries shall serve as administrative and development officer of the Foundation; and that the office of the Foundation shall be the office of the Director of Stewardship Ministries.
6. That the following are nominated to be the initial Trustees, to wit:

Class of 1977

ERSKINE JACKSON — Retired Teaching Elder, Mississippi Valley Presbytery; Moderator, Second General Assembly

KENNETH KEYES — Ruling Elder, Southern Florida Presbytery; Founder of Keyes Realty Company

Class of 1978

ROBERT C. WASSON — Ruling Elder; Chairman, South Carolina Tax Commission
ALAN HARRIS — Deacon; Southern Florida Presbytery; 19 years banking experience in Loan and Trust Departments of large Miami bank

Class of 1979

JOHN W. (JACK) TODD, JR. — Deacon; Presbytery of the Ascension; Retired Executive Vice President, United States Steel Corporation

GORDON REED — Teaching Elder; Southern Florida Presbytery; Retiring Chairman, Committee on Administration

Class of 1980

W. J. JACK) WILLIAMS — Ruling Elder; Evangel Presbytery; Attorney; Moderator, First General Assembly

RUSS M. JOHNSON — Ruling Elder; Mississippi Valley Presbytery; Chairman Emeritus of Deposit Guaranty Corporation, Jackson, Mississippi; 16 years service, Board of Annuities and Relief, Presbyterian Church in the United States.

7. This Sub-Committee shall not be considered a Permanent Sub-Committee under Book of Church Order, Section 15-1(12), as it relates to nominations and service.
8. The first named trustee elected shall serve as initial convener of the Board of Trustees.
9. That the Board of Trustees develop guidelines for operation in accordance with the principles set forth in Paper "A" entitled "A Deferred Giving Ministry" and submit such guidelines for review and approval at the 1977 General Assembly.

4-76 Report of the Committee on Administration continued (4-74)

F. Sub Committees Continued

2. The Committee recommends that the Assembly hear the report of the Sub-Committee on Interchurch Relations.
3. The Committee recommends that the Assembly hear the report of the Sub-Committee on Judicial Business.

G. Resolution of Thanks

WHEREAS members serving on the Assembly's Permanent Committees find it both a privilege and a demanding responsibility on their schedule; and

WHEREAS faithfulness in fulfilling one's task requires personal sacrifice to perform as an active committee member; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Permanent Committee on Administration express its gratitude to God for those having served faithfully during their elected terms and especially to Rev. Gordon Reed who served faithfully as the Chairman of the Committee on Administration for three years, and Mr. John Spencer having served faithfully as Secretary during his three-year term.

The Moderator led the Assembly in a prayer of thankfulness for these men and for Dr. Dan Moore as well.

H. Minutes

The COMMITTEE ON COMMISSIONERS on Administration makes the following recommendations concerning the Committee's examination of the Minutes of the Permanent Committee on Administration:

The Committee of Commissioners examined the minutes of the Permanent Committee on Administration and found them in order with the following exceptions:

1. Guidelines 8-12, paragraph 3 (a), "Kind of meeting" was not followed.
2. Guidelines 8-12, paragraph 3 (f) was only partially followed.

The Committee of Commissioners on Administration recommends adoption of the Minutes of the Permanent Committee on Administration with the exceptions noted in the Minutes of 9/8/75, 9/10/75, 2/13/76, 2/14/76, 4/9/76, 4/10/76, 6/11/76, 6/12/76, 9/13/76, 9/14/76, and 9/15/76.

I. Overtures

The COMMITTEE ON COMMISSIONERS on Administration makes the following recommendations concerning the Overtures submitted to the Committee on Administration:

1. That Overture 2 to the Third General Assembly from Central Georgia Presbytery (p. 34) be answered by reference to recommendation III, B of above. (4-74)
2. That Overture 3 to the Third General Assembly from Calvary Presbytery (p. 34) be answered with reference to recommendation to paragraph 4-74, item III, B. "The expenses of ministers and ruling Elders in their attendance of the courts shall be defrayed by the bodies which they respectively represent."
3. That Overture 9 to the Third General Assembly from New River Presbytery, (p. 34) be answered by reference to recommendation III, B, paragraph 4-74.
4. That Resolution 3 to the Third General Assembly by Ruling Elder Ken Keyes (p. 35) be answered by reference to recommendation III, B, paragraph 4-74.
5. Action of the Third General Assembly, Item 15, (p. 35) was answered by recommendation paragraph 4-79, item III, 5.
6. That Overture 11, from the Presbytery of Central Georgia (p.30) that paragraph 1 be answered in the negative, and that paragraph 2 be answered in the affirmative.
7. That Overture 12 from the Presbytery of Central Georgia (p. 30), be referred to the Permanent Committee on Administration for study and answer to the 1977 General Assembly.
8. That Overture 14 from the Presbytery of New River (p. 30), be answered in the negative.

9. That the following recommendation of the Permanent Committee on Mission to the United States be referred to the Permanent Committee on Administration for study and answer to the 1977 General Assembly.
"That the General Assembly approve a five year five million dollar capital funds campaign for Mission to the United States to be used primarily for the construction of new churches. This recommendation is made in light of the fact that at the present time more than eighty (80) of our Presbyterian Church in America congregations do not have their own "church building", and that that number will increase each year as new congregations are begun throughout the United States."
10. That the 1976 interest money on the Challenge Fund be given to the PCA Foundation (See paragraph 4-75) for seed money to defer their administrative expenses.
11. The Committee of Commissioners on Administration recommends that the resolution concerning divorced men, (paragraph 4-47), be referred to the Permanent Committee on Constitutional Documents.

Continued paragraph 4-79. (Note: Items 10. and 11. were completed after the noon recess, but are included here for greater continuity of the report.)

4-77 Assembly Recessed for Worship and Lunch

The Assembly recessed for its worship service at 11:30 A.M. to reconvene at 1:30 P.M. The worship service was in the charge of the Committee on Mission to the World. The Rev. Allen Fleece preached the sermon.

MINUTES — FRIDAY AFTERNOON

September 17, 1976

Ninth Session

4-78 Assembly Reconvened

The Assembly was reconvened at 1:30 P.M. with prayer by Mr. Eugene A. Thompson, a candidate for the ministry who was given special permission to speak by the Assembly.

Mr. Williamson resumed the Chair at the request of the Moderator.

4-79 Report of the Committee on Administration continued (4-76)

J. Recommendations:

The Assembly adopted the following recommendations:

1. The Committee of Commissioners on Administration recommends that the Fifth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America meet in Atlanta, Georgia, September 12-17, 1977.
2. The Committee of Commissioners on Administration recommends that in accordance with the previous action of this General Assembly, the invitation of the Christian Reformed Church to hold the 1978 meeting in June, 1978, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, at Calvin College, be accepted. (Clerks note: The previous action referred to above was the failure to pass a recommendation not to accept the invitation. Since it was a lost motion it does not appear in the Minutes.)
3. The Committee of Commissioners on Administration recommends that \$4,000.00 be appropriated to fund the Study Commission on Abortion and that the budget be increased by that amount.
4. The Committee of Commissioners on Administration recommends that the General Assembly refer the matter of the permanent change in the meeting dates for the General Assembly to the Permanent Committee on Administration for report to the 1977 Assembly.
5. That the Assembly authorize the Committee on Administration to conduct an in-depth study on consolidation of Church Committee locations and make recommendation to the 1977 General Assembly in reference to this. The report to include the economic consideration of the consolidation, the location, and time of consolidation. That any previous instruction of the General Assembly relating to a time limit that requires the consolidation of the Assembly Committee Offices be removed.
6. That the General Assembly recognize the serious lack of participation on the floor of the General Assembly, which lack is distressing and inconsistent with our commitment to the parity of ruling and teaching elders, and further that the General Assembly instruct the Permanent Committee on Administration to bring to the next General Assembly positive recommendations as to how ruling elders can better be informed and encouraged to participate in all the courts of the Church, and further, that the Committee continue to address this problem as part of its permanent function.

7. That the General Assembly authorize the Committee on Administration to study and implement the funding of transportation, lodging, and meals for retired ministers so that they may attend the General Assembly without personal expense.
8. For information of the Assembly:

The Committee of Commissioners on Administration makes the following recommendations concerning the Audit report on various Permanent Committees and Subcommittees on Stewardship Ministries:

The Committee of Commissioners has received and reviewed the Audit report of Kent, Nobles, and Martin, CPAs, on the balance sheet of the various Permanent Committees on Stewardship Ministries.

The report was adopted as a whole.

The following members of the Committee of Commissioners took part in the work of the Committee:

Teaching Elders	
Central Georgia Evangel ulf Coast Mid-Atlantic New River Pacific	Mr. Robert L. LaMay Mr. James D. Hatch Mr. John W. TerLouw Mr. Harold V. Kuhn Mr. Michael Bolus Mr. David R. Brown
Ruling Elders	
Ascension Covenant Mississippi Valley North Georgia Texas Westminster	Mr. Charles E. LeSuer Mr. Stanny S. Mattox Mr. Tom Clark Mr. R. P. Williams Mr. L. J. Canniff Mr. Robert E. Lane

Mr. Williamson relinquished the Chair, and the Moderator requested that the Rev. William J. Stanway assume the Chair.

4-80 Report of the Committee on Christian Education and Publications

The report was presented by the Rev. O. J. Rundus, and the following recommendations were adopted.:

1. The approval of the Minutes of the Committee for Christian Education and Publications.
2. The adoption of the proposed budget for 1977.
3. Due to the resignation of the Reverend Paul G. Settle as Co-ordinator of the Christian Education and Publications Committee to return to the pastorate, that the General Assembly give it's highest commendation for his long and diligent service to the Lord Jesus Christ and His Church in that capacity during the formative years of this denomination.
4. That the Permanent Committee be authorized to employ a new Co-ordinator for Christian Education during the coming year, subject to approval by the Assembly's Theological Examining Committee, with continued approval subject to the approval of the Fifth General Assembly.
5. That presbyteries or combinations of presbyteries be encouraged to conduct regional youth conferences in 1977.
6. That the session of each P.C.A. Church not already utilizing Great Commission Publications Sunday School materials be encouraged to give serious consideration to using these materials.
7. The commendation of the Women In the Church for their generous 1976 Love Gift offering of \$30,000 for the Korean medical ministry of Mrs. Hugh Linton.
8. The approval of the preparation of a Youth Ministries Manual as the object for the 1977 Love Gift of the WIC.
9. That local churches and presbyteries be encouraged to conduct conferences for teaching the Faith, as expressed in the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms.
10. That local churches and presbyteries be encouraged to consider the establishment of Men of the Covenant organizations in 1977.
11. The approval of February 14-16, 1977, as the date for the next Minister's Continuing Education Seminar.
12. The approval of "The Miracles of Christ and Their Spiritual Application" by the Rev. James Bland, and "A Woman That Feareth the Lord" by Mrs. John Spencer (Emalyn) for use as WIC study guides.

13. The approval of the continuation of denominational Family Conferences to be planned and conducted by the Committee for Christian Education and Publications.
14. The adoption of the Guidelines for the disposition of Christian Education Scholarship Funds, as follows:

Purpose: The Presbyterian Church in America Scholarship Fund shall be established to provide financial assistance to needy students who are members of the denomination and are preparing for a church related vocation within the P.C.A.

Definition: Church related vocation — a minister, a director of Christian education, a missionary, or a Christian school teacher.

Administration

The P.C.A. scholarship fund shall be under a scholarship committee, appointed by the Permanent Committee on Christian Education. The responsibilities of the Sub-committee will be to administer the scholarship fund on the basis of the criteria set forth by the Committee on Christian Education and Publications.

Criteria

1. All applications must first meet the basic scholarship requirements of financial need and grade average as required by the institution they wish to attend.
2. Applicants must be preparing for a church related vocation within the P.C.A.
3. Recipients will be released from any obligation to repay the scholarship funds on the basis of six months of active service within the P.C.A. for each year of scholarship aid received.
4. Applications for scholarship aid must be made through the Session of the local church (a standard form will be available from the sub-committee on scholarship).
5. The institution which a scholarship applicant attends must be approved by the Christian Education Committee, the Session, and the Presbytery of the candidate.
6. The amount of each scholarship shall be set annually by the Scholarship Committee on the basis of funds available and the individual need.

Scholarship Fund Gifts

1. Scholarship funds may be contributed to the P.C.A. through the Permanent Committee for Christian Education and Publications.
 2. Memorial gifts may be made into the general scholarship fund. A proper acknowledgement of the gift will be sent to the family "memorialized" when requested. However, no permanent "Memorial Book" will be kept for these gifts.
 3. An individual scholarship named to honor a particular person and to be perpetuated in that name may be received, provided that the gift is in the amount of \$10,000.00 or more, and that the donor allows the scholarship to be given on the basis of the criteria set forth by the Christian Education Committee.
15. That, in conformity with the instructions contained in Resolution No. 15 of the Third General Assembly, the General Assembly remind each of the Committees of the necessity of publishing dates of all committee meetings at least 30 days in advance of such meetings and that such publication be in "Continuing . . .", or in the proposed denominational magazine.
 16. Regarding a Church Magazine
 - A. That the General Assembly adopt the following procedure in phasing the present "Continuing . . ." into a denominational magazine:

Its design shall be as follows:

1. **News Content** — the primary purpose of the magazine shall be to provide news of the denomination concerning the work of the major committees, the presbyteries and churches.
 2. **Editorial Policy** — the magazine shall contain no purely editorial material.
 3. **Special Features** — space shall be devoted regularly to the following features:
 - a. **Family Section:** including a Bible study suitable for family devotions.
 - b. **Discussion:** pro and con on issues currently under study by any committee of the church.
 - c. **Theological Section:** devoted only to studies in areas already recognized by the denomination (e.g. the Westminster Standards, Book of Church order, etc.).
 - d. **Leadership Section:** designed especially for training officers in the church.
 - e. **Feature Section:** containing articles on music, book reviews, specialized ministries, biographies.
 4. **Advertising** — directory-type advertising shall be included for approved Christian enterprises and for churches and individuals in the P.C.A.
 5. **Size, Layout, Frequency** — the magazine shall be published monthly on 6" x 9" stock and shall contain suitable art work and photographs.
- B. The Committee for Christian Education and Publications shall bring a full mock-up of the proposed magazine to the Fifth General Assembly.

C. \$10,000 shall be added to the Christian Education budget for the purpose of developing the mock-up and the Christian Education staff shall be permitted to cancel one or two issues of "Continuing..." in order to prepare the mock-up.

D. Plans shall be presented to the Fifth General Assembly to begin publishing the magazine on January 1, 1978, contingent upon appropriate financial capability.

E. An Assistant Coordinator for Publications shall be presented to the Fifth General Assembly for examination and approval.

F. That the amount of \$25,000 be added for the purpose of hiring appropriate editorial personnel.

17. Overture 2 be answered by reference to Recommendation 16 of the Permanent Committee.

18. Overture 10 be amended by reference to read: "The Christian Education Committee" rather than "a special committee" and answered as follows:

a. Point 1 in the affirmative.

b. Point 2 in the negative.

c. Point 3 in the negative.

d. Point 4 be amended to read "study the establishment of rather than "establish."

Be answered in the affirmative.

The report was adopted as a whole.

Committee members present were:

Teaching Elders

R. T. King
L. R. Taylor
N. S. Heeth
O. J. Rundus
C. W. McNutt
W. Rogers

Ruling Elders

G. R. Caler
T. B. Flanagan
H. C. Quantz
R. H. Cato
J. VanDerveer
J. Roberson.

4-81 Report of Nominating Committee continued (4-39)

Recommendations:

1. That the Moderator appoint an Ad-interim Committee for the purpose of preparing "STANDING RULES FOR OPERATION OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE". This Committee is to be composed of seven (7) members of the present Nominating Committee and to report to the next General Assembly.

2. That the Assembly accept the resignation of the Rev. Donald B. Patterson from the Committee on Constitutional Documents, and that the Rev. F. N. Lee be named to replace him.

3. The following Committee to deal with the question of abortion (Overture 4, paragraph 4-57) was named. (4-57)

Teaching Elders

Carl Bogue — Ascension
Thomas Cheely — Carolina
William Fitzhenry — New River
Allen Fleece — Central Georgia
Francis Nigel Lee — Mississippi Valley
Fred Thompson — Calvary

Alternate

Charles Donahoo — North Georgia

Ruling Elders

William Cook — Mississippi Valley
Warren Diven — Ascension
Richard Kennedy — Carolina
Herman Quantz — Louisiana
William Russell — Mid Atlantic
James Wilkerson — Grace, Convener

Alternate

John Foyt — Southern Florida

4. **Judicial Business Committee**

Thomas Cook, T.E.

Class of 1980

James Westlake, R.E.

(was removed as alternate, and made principal)

Alternate

J. Brookes Smith, R. E.

5. The committee unanimously recommended that in the future Presbyteries be provided with a standardized form for submitting information to be used by the nominating committee. This form would include information such as: Presbytery, Committee, Teaching Elder, Ruling Elder, Experience, Qualifications, Biographical data, etc. It was the opinion of the committee that the use of such a form would greatly facilitate the work of future nominating committees by providing standard information from all Presbyteries and also assist the Presbyteries in compiling and submitting this information.

The report was adopted as a whole.

The Moderator assumed the Chair during this report.

4-82 Report of the Theological Examining Committee

The Rev. David Jussely presented the report, which was received, as information. The Committee met and conducted a thorough theological examina-

tion for Rev. Thomas Hughes as Assistant Coordinator of the Mission to the United States. The Committee voted unanimously to sustain as a whole the examination and recommend him to the Court.

The new Chairman of the Committee is Rev. John McNicoll.

4-83 Report of the Committee on Insurance and Annuity continued (4-40)

Ruling Elder John G. Ter Louw presented the remaining part of the report of the Committee on Insurance and Annuity. It was adopted as follows:

Present were Teaching Elders Rev. K. Eric Perrin, Rev. Jack Bowling, Rev. Charles C. Cox, Rev. Charles Kukal, Rev. Bill Jones, Rev. Bill Rose, Rev. Edsel Farthing, Rev. Bill Frisbee (alternate), and Rev. Merrill Easterlin; Ruling Elders Mr. John G. Ter Louw, Mr. Tom Leopard, Mr. J. Brookes Smith, Jr., and Mr. Doug Dority.

Also present were the following members of the Board of Trustees: Teaching Elders Rev. Tom Barnes, Rev. E. C. Cooley, and Rev. Harry Schutte, Ruling Elders William Swain, William F. Joseph, Jim Allen, Bill McLeod; and Dan Moore (Coordinator), Edward Johnston (Advisor), F. Thomas Cherubini (Connecticut General Life Insurance Co.), and Richard K. Grantz (Frank B. Hall and Co.).

Ruling Elder John G. Ter Louw was elected Chairman and Teaching Elder Rev. William Jones was elected secretary.

I. The Committee of Commissioners on Insurance and Annuities considered the following items referred to it:

- The minutes of the Board of Trustees for the Insurance and Annuity Fund
- The report of the Board of Trustees for the Insurance and Annuity Fund
- The Recommendations of the Board of Trustees for the Insurance and Annuity Fund
- The Trustees' Supplementary Report to the Fourth General Assembly

II. Your Committee of Commissioners took the following actions:

- A. Review of Minutes
 1. Approved the minutes of November 8, 1975, February 13, 1976, April 9, 1976, August 27, 1976, and September 13, 1976 with notations.
 2. Took exception for lack of a signed copy of the Trust Agreement for the Insurance and Annuity Fund in accordance with the guidelines for keeping minutes of permanent committees of the General Assembly, section 10.
- B. Motion was unanimously adopted that the report of the Board of Trustees for the Insurance and Annuity Fund be recommended for approval by the General Assembly.
- C. The following recommendations were adopted and recommended for approval of the General Assembly:
 1. Motion unanimously adopted to accept the recommended change in the Annuity Plan section 1.2 (b) to be amended to read as follows:
 "who has made written application to the fund and has been enrolled 90 days and has had at least three months' dues paid to the fund in his behalf."
 and section 1.3 be amended to read as follows:
 "In the event an ordained minister of the Church delays application for participation in the Fund ninety days 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 the risks involved."
 2. Motion was unanimously adopted that the Annuity Plan be amended to permit special Gift accounts, personal savings and transfers from other denominations as set forth in the report with the recommendation that the Trustees examine the tax aspect with an appropriate tax consultant.
 3. Motion was unanimously adopted to approve the Insurance Committee's report and the two recommendations contained therein as found in the Trustee's Supplementary Report to the Fourth General Assembly.
 4. Motion was unanimously adopted that the Nominating Committee be informed that the board of Trustees does not admit the appointment of alternates.
 5. Motion was unanimously adopted that Alexander McKensy, Ruling Elder, be replaced on the Board of Trustees at his own request because of inability to attend meetings due to illness.
- D. Other motions were adopted as follows:
 1. Motion adopted unanimously to recommend that the Board of Trustees explore the idea of providing more group life insurance. Also, that it would not reduce so drastically up until the age of 65. Further, that they examine the possibility of increasing the lump sum death benefit portions of the Annuity program if feasible.

2. Motion adopted unanimously that Trustees explore a program to meet the urgent need of educating ministers and sessions for the purpose of providing estate planning for ministers. "But If any provide not for his own, and especially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel" (I Timothy 5:8).
 3. Motion adopted unanimously requesting Trustees to look into the possibility of providing a plan of supplementary long term disability insurance.
 4. Motion adopted unanimously that the Board of Trustees encourage Presbyteries to cover the cost of the dues for a minister who desires to be in the Annuity program and when the church he is serving is financially unable to meet that cost.
- III. The Committee noted the audit of the funds of the Board of Trustees is included in the General audit and will be reported upon by the Committee on Administration.
- IV. Motion unanimously adopted that whereas the Insurance Committee of the Board of Trustees for the Insurance and Annuity Fund and its Chairman, Rev. E. C. Cooley, have in devotion and love for God and their brethren worked diligently and effectively to present recommendations for changes in our insurance program that we do commend and thank them for a job well done.

The report as a whole was approved.

4-84 Report of the Committee on Review and Control of Presbyteries

Mr. Lester Shelden, Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners on Review and Control of Presbyteries presented the following report:

The Committee met on Monday, September 13, 1976 at 7:30 p.m. and again on Tuesday, September 14, 1976 at 8:00 a.m.

The Committee reviewed the minutes of the following Presbyteries: Ascension, Calvary, Carolina, Central Georgia, Covenant, Evangel, Grace, Gulf Coast, Louisiana, Mid-Atlantic, Mississippi Valley, North Georgia, New River, Pacific, South Florida, Tennessee Valley, Texas, Vanguard, Warrior, Western Carolinas, Westminster. The minutes of these Presbyteries were reviewed by the Committee in accordance with the instructions listed in paragraphs 8-14 of the Handbook for Commissioners of the Fourth General Assembly of the PCA.

The Committee makes the following recommendations to the Fourth General Assembly:

- I. That the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly send to each Presbytery Stated Clerk a copy of the Guidelines for Keeping Presbytery Minutes as listed in paragraphs 8-14 and 8-15 of the Handbook for Commissioners of the Fourth General Assembly.
- II. That the General Assembly approve the minutes of the following Presbyteries without exception:
 - A. Calvary
 - April 17, 1975 — without exception
 - July 17, 1975 — without exception
 - October 16, 1975 — without exception
 - December 18, 1975 — without exception
 - January 22, 1976 — without exception
 - B. Carolina
 - May 18, 1975 — without exception
 - May 24, 1975 — without exception
 - September 27, 1975 — without exception
 - December 7, 1975 — without exception
 - January 24, 1976 — without exception
 - C. Central Georgia
 - April 22, 1975 — without exception
 - July 12, 1975 — without exception
 - August 30, 1975 — without exception
 - October 14, 1975 — without exception
 - December 6, 1975 — without exception
 - January 10, 1976 — without exception
 - April 20, 1976 — without exception
 - D. Covenant
 - July 14, 1975 — without exception
 - October 13, 1975 — without exception
 - January 13, 1976 — without exception
 - February 9, 1976 — without exception
 - April 13, 1976 — without exception
 - E. Evangel
 - October 14, 1975 — without exception
 - January 20, 1976 — without exception
 - April 20, 1976 — without exception

- June 15, 1976 — without exception
 - August 10, 1976 — without exception
 - F. Gulf Coast Presbytery
 - June 3, 1975 — without exception
 - June 7, 1975 — without exception
 - September 9, 1975 — without exception
 - December 3, 1975 — without exception
 - January 19, 1976 — without exception
 - February 21, 1976 — without exception
 - May 8, 1976 — without exception
 - June 12, 1976 — without exception
 - July 10, 1976 — without exception
 - G. Mississippi Valley
 - June 17, 1975 — without exception
 - July 21, 1975 — without exception
 - October 21, 1975 — without exception
 - November 21, 1975 — without exception
 - January 20, 1976 — without exception
 - H. Western Carolinas
 - May 20, 1975 — without exception
 - August 19, 1975 — without exception
 - September 23, 1975 — without exception
 - November 21, 1975 — without exception
 - January 20, 1976 — without exception
 - May 18, 1976 — without exception
- III. That the General Assembly approve the minutes of the following Presbyteries with the exceptions noted:
 - A. Ascension
 - July 22, 1975 — A pre-presbytery meeting voted to adopt a resolution as a presbytery guaranteeing that any medical expenses not compensated by insurance (on the part of a minister who was leaving another denomination to enter the PCA) would become the responsibility of the new presbytery to assume.
 - July 29, 1975 — Not opened with prayer.
 - August 26, 1975 — Purpose of called meeting not stated.
 - September 9-12, 1975 — Purpose of called meeting not stated.
 - September 17, 1975 — According to BCO 14-9 Presbytery must have at least two stated meetings per year; however, Presbytery voted to have one stated meeting in January with the remaining meeting to be adjourned meetings.
 - October 24, 1975 — No quorum present but business conducted
 - November 7, 1975 — Without exception
 - December 5, 1975 — A minister was ordained under the exceptional clause yet vote of Presbytery was not indicated.
 - January 2, 1976 — Minister was signed.
 - March 30, 1976 — without exception
 - April 27, 1976 — without exception
 - B. Grace
 - January 17, 1975 — without exception
 - February 7, 1975 — The "call" is not printed in the minutes. Other business conducted which was not proper at a called meeting.
 - March 11, 1975 — without exception
 - June 21, 1975 — without exception
 - July 11, 1975 — without exception
 - September 10, 1975 — The "call" is not printed in the minutes.
 - October 10, 1975 — without exception.
 - January 9, 1976 — without exception
 - February 20, 1976 — The "call" is not printed in the minutes.
 - April 9, 1976 — without exception
 - June 11, 1976 — without exception
 - C. Louisiana
 - September 11, 1975 — Minutes not signed
 - September 26, 1975 — Minutes not signed
 - December 13, 1975 — Minutes not signed
 - March 12-13, 1976 — Without exception
 - D. Mid-Atlantic
 - September 11, 1975 — No opening prayer. Excused/unexcused absences not listed.
 - October 10-11, 1975 — Unexcused absences not listed. No reason given why a minister was ordained under the extraordinary clause.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- January 12-13, 1976 — Excused/unexcused absences not listed. Minutes not approved.
 May 14-15, 1976 — Type of meeting not stated. Minutes not approved. Unexcused absences not noted.
- E. New River Presbytery
 September 11, 1975 — Purpose of called meeting, name of person opening and closing with prayer, those present, excused absences omitted
 November 14-15, 1975 — No details of examination of Don Post, Jr. nor Tom Courtney given
 March 19-20, 1976 — No mention of examination of Kirk Tippey being approved
 August 13-14, 1976 — without exception
- F. North Georgia
 July 19, 1975 — without exception
 October 18, 1975 — without exception
 November 22, 1975 — without exception
 January 24, 1976 — without exception
 March 27, 1976 — without exception
 April 24, 1976 — without exception
 May 25, 1976 — Purpose of called meeting not stated.
- G. Pacific Presbytery
 September 10, 1975 — Without exception
 September 22, 1975 — No quorum present. Substance of a complaint brought against a minister not listed.
 January 17, 1976 — Presbytery voted to "expunge" from the official minutes all references to the complaint filed in the September 22, 1975 minutes. No quorum present.
 May 6, 1976 — Minister against whom the complaint was filed was removed from the Presbytery roll against his wishes without due process. No quorum present.
- H. Southern Florida
 July 15, 1975 — Without exception
 October 21, 1975 — Without exception
 January 20, 1976 — Without exception
 April 20, 1976 — Without exception
 June 8, 1976 — Purpose of called meeting not stated.
- I. Tennessee Valley
 August 26, 1975 — without exception
 September 23, 1975 — no purpose given for called meeting
 October 11, 1975 — no purpose given for called meeting
 December 5, 1975 — no purpose given for called meeting
 January 13, 1976 — without exception
 February 26, 1976 — no purpose given for called meeting
 May 11, 1976 — without exception
- J. Texas
 October 24-25, 1975 — Members of Commissioners to ordain and install are not listed in the minutes. No mention that minister from another denomination was examined in accordance with BCO 14-5.
 All minutes (October 24-25, 1975; January 30, 1976; April 23-24, 1976):
 Minutes are not bound properly.
 No listing of excused or unexcused absences.
 Results of committees are not always listed as approved or received as information.
 Correspondence from Stated Clerk as read before Presbytery does not show disposition.
 No Standing rules of the Presbytery were attached.
- K. Vanguard
 January 29, 1975 — Quorum of three Teaching Elders and three Ruling Elders not present.
 Commission to examine a minister did not have a minimum of two Teaching Elders and two Ruling Elders.
 April 15, 1975 — No quorum present
 August 23, 1975 — without exception
 October 13, 1975 — No quorum present
 January 12, 1976 — No quorum present
 April 12, 1976 — No quorum present

L. Warrior

- May 20, 1975 — without exception
- September 2, 1975 — without exception
- November 4, 1975 — The minutes of the 10th stated meeting indicate that Warrior Presbytery ordained a man who stated that he did not believe revelation had ceased. This, as recorded in the minutes, is in violation of the confessional standards of the church.
- January 20, 1976 — without exception
- June 4, 1976 — without exception
- June 21, 1976 — without exception
- July 6, 1976 — without exception
- September 7, 1976 — without exception

M. Westminster

- January 18, 1975 — no list of Teaching Elders present and churches represented by Ruling Elders.
- April 19, 1975 — no list of Teaching Elders present and churches represented by Ruling Elders
- May 19, 1975 — no list of Teaching Elders present and churches represented by Ruling Elders.
- July 19, 1975 — no list of Teaching Elders present and churches represented by Ruling Elders.
- August 30, 1975 — no reason given for called meeting.
- October 18, 1975 — no list of Teaching Elders present and churches represented by Ruling Elders.

The Assembly requests the Permanent Committee on Judicial Business to look into the exception noted regarding Warrior Presbytery, to see that the Presbytery is dealing appropriately with the matter.

The General Assembly adopted the report as a whole.

The following members took part in the work of the Committee:

Mr. Lester Shelden	Southern Florida
Rev. Roland M. Travis	Tennessee Valley
Rev. G. Allen Fleece	Central Georgia
Rev. Vernon West	Calvary
Mr. Glen Milham	Texas
Mr. Bill Gragg	Westminster
Rev. Ron Siegenthaler	Evangel
Mr. Charles Fair	Mississippi Valley
Mr. M. L. Breland	Warrior
Mr. Carl Dalm	Ascension
Mr. Howard Davis	Covenant
Rev. David Williams	New River

4-85 Report of the Ad-Interim Committee on the Number of Offices in the Church

Ruling Elder John Snyder presented the report of the Ad-Interim Committee on the Number of Offices, found in Appendix L. The Assembly adopted the following recommendations:

1. The Committee recommends that since it has not been able to finish its work, it be continued to the next General Assembly.
2. If the Committee is continued, the Committee recommends that the Assembly encourage members of the Church at large to submit suggestions to the Committee by December 1, 1976.

4-86 Report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures (4-57)

The Rev. Robert Vincent, Secretary of the Committee, presented the final part of the Report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, which was adopted as follows:

We give thanks to our Gracious Sovereign God who has richly blessed the Presbyterian Church in America since last we assembled.

We give thanks to our Gracious Sovereign God for the life and testimony of those who have

entered the Church Triumphant from our fellowship; and for His grace that has enabled them to walk through the valley of the shadow of death and fear no evil.

We give thanks to our Gracious Sovereign God for His causing growth in us — growth in godliness, in experience in developing the organizational procedures of the church, in the number of particular churches, in the number of missionaries and candidates appointed to the fields of the world, in the total communicant members and in the blessedness of being a redeemed child of God.

We give thanks to our Gracious Sovereign God for His presence, authority, and power in this Fourth General Assembly enabling us to be blessed in our worship, strengthened and instructed in the preaching of the Word, informed and inspired in the reports given by our Permanent Committees, our wounds healed and unified by Him in our prayer and fellowship, and motivated to a more zealous desire to serve Him in our local congregations and communities.

We give thanks to our Gracious God and

1. The Congregation, Deacons, and Session of Second Presbyterian Church of Greenville, South Carolina for their invitation to the Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to meet here, for the use of their facilities, for their plentiful provision of meals and refreshments, for their ready transportation, for the cooperativeness and continual service of the commissioners by the staff, men, and women of the church;
2. The local General Chairman, J. Ligon Duncan, and local arrangements/host committees chaired by:

Charles S. Allen, Jr.	Ralph C. Genoble	Frank P. Pettigrew
Waddy M. Anderson, Jr.	Kenneth C. Giles	Bobby L. Shelf
J. Harvey Brown	Harrison R. King	Eugene E. Wells
Edward L. Butler, III	Dr. James T. McElrath	Mrs. E. E. (Betty) Wells
Mrs. W. A. (Sarah) Cooley	E. Dave Maney	Walter P. White
Mrs. J. Ligon (Shirley) Duncan	E. Douglas Patton	Wayne Wuestenberg

and a corps of 300 workers who have served on these committees in a spirit of love and faithfulness;

3. The sixty-five (65) patrons whose financial contributions helped defray the expenses of our General Assembly;
4. The General Assembly's Committee on Planning and Arrangements:
 - Mr. Dan Moore, Business Administrator
 - Rev. Morton H. Smith, Stated Clerk
 - Rev. Gordon K. Reed, Committee on Administration
 - Rev. Don K. Clements, Committee on Christian Education and Publications
 - Mr. William Stevenson, Committee on Mission to the United States
 - Rev. David Hamilton, Committee on Mission to the World.
5. The retiring Moderator, Judge Leon Hendrick, for his service through the past year and challenging message, "No Fault" — Psalm 19;
6. The Permanent Committees that laboured to lead the work of our Church since our last Assembly, our Business Administrator, Mr. Dan Moore, our Coordinators, Rev. Paul Settle, Rev. Larry Mills, Rev. John Kyle, their Field Representatives and office personnel whose unseen ministry enables the things to happen that under God we see and rejoice in;
7. The retiring Chairmen of Permanent Committees, Rev. Donald Patterson, Rev. Gordon Reed, and Rev. Cecil Williamson, for their three (3) years of diligent, fruitful service;
8. The Moderator of this Assembly, Rev. William A. McIlwaine, for his years of service to the cause of World Missions, and his humble, sensitive, and fair presiding throughout this Assembly;
9. The Stated Clerk, Rev. Morton Smith, and Recording Clerks, for
 - a. their careful and meticulous labor since the last Assembly in preparing minutes, statistics, correspondence, directory of churches and ministers and other documents; and
 - b. for their care in recording the actions of this Assembly and giving constant counsel and parliamentary guidance;
10. The Committee of Commissioners, particularly their chairmen and secretaries, whose faithful ministry for long hours before and during the Assembly brought the business to us in understandable and useable form;
11. Those who led in the worship hours: Rev. Harold Borchert, Rev. Gordon Reed, Rev. Frank Barker, Rev. Harold Patterson, Rev. Allen Fleece, and the choral presentation of the Calvary Presbyterian Chorus;
12. The pool of secretaries/typists, the temporary clerks and ushers whose steady, rapid work enabled our work to move forward with greater efficiency and ease;
13. The various Christian organizations who came and shared their concerns and ministries through their displays and representatives;
14. The long hours and evident sincere concern of George Calhoun and his assistants in operating the recording and electronic equipment enhancing the conduct of our affairs;

15. The city of Greenville, South Carolina for its making available the Memorial Auditorium with its spacious facilities, staff and maintenance personnel to assist in expediting our proceedings more effectively.

Respectfully submitted,
 Committee of Commissioners
 on Bills and Overtures.
 Ben Wilkinson, Chairman
 Bob Vincent, Secretary

At the request of the Moderator Rev. Harold Borchert took the Chair.

4-87 Report of the Committee on Interchurch Relations continued (4-59)

The final part of the Committee on Interchurch Relations, which was adopted was made at this point. Clerk's note: The actions taken at this point were those recorded under paragraph 4-59, items 16 and 17.

The Moderator resumed the chair.

4-88 Reading of the Minutes Suspended

The Assembly suspended the reading of the Minutes and committed the review and approval of them to the next meeting of the Committee on Administration.

4-89 Excuses from Part of the Assembly

The following Commissioners filed excuses for absence from a portion of the Assembly as indicated:

Tuesday	3:15 P.M.
Thomas Meyer	C. G. Stokes, Jr.
Thursday	4:00 P.M.
Morning	C. D. Murphy
John Oliver	Rufus Summerrow
Afternoon	4:45 P.M.
James E. Moore	James Crump
Friday	William C. Dinwiddie
Morning	Sam Hutton, Jr.
Lardner W. Moore	D. K. McInnis
Lunch	Joseph A. Pipa
James Edwards	Byron Snapp
William Russell	5:00 P.M.
3:00 P.M.	William Bell
Oliver Hamby	George Brengle
W. E. Morrow, Jr.	Murdock Campbell
Dewey D. Murphy	William Fox
L. Roy Taylor	Vernon N. West
	W. Wilcox

4-90 Adjournment

The Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America closed its final session at 6:15 P.M.

The Moderator pronounced: "By virtue of the authority delegated to me by the Church, I do now declare that the Fourth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America is adjourned, to convene at Atlanta, Georgia, during the week of September 12, 1977.

Appendix A

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION TO THE FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

INTRODUCTION:

Since the duties of the Committee on Administration cover various areas of the church's life, this report will be composed of separate narrative sections in each of the areas of responsibility, followed by the recommendation affecting each area.

The Committee set forth 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. Budget:

One of the chief functions assigned to the Committee on Administration by the First General Assembly (page 51) is the review of the budget requests of all of the Assembly Committees, and to make recommendations regarding them to the General Assembly. We understand it to be our responsibility both to evaluate the requests from the Committees, and to attempt to predict the potential giving of the church. Though it is still too early in the life of our denomination to make exact budgetary predictions, the experience of the past three years is giving us a better base upon which to make projections and to recommend reasonable budgets. The Committee sees the need for the Assembly to frame its budget with better correlation between actual income and attainable goals, rather than a budget based upon unlimited enthusiasm and opportunities. There is something defeating to the spirit of a denomination when we project a budget which we do not expect to meet.

We remind the Assembly of the fiscal policies adopted by the Third General Assembly: (1) "That the budget adopted for a particular year by the General Assembly be the spending limit for each Committee." (2) "That each Committee be allowed to rearrange its budget within the total approved each year." (Paragraph 3-60, page 76.)

See paragraph 4-74 for budget recommendations adopted by the General Assembly.

II. Location of the General Assembly Committee Offices:

The First General Assembly adopted the following action relating to the location of Assembly Offices: "That the four committees of the General Assembly with their offices and staff be authorized to operate from separate locations during the first five years." (Paragraph 1-75, page 56). This five year period ends in December 1978. The Committee realizing that whatever action the General Assembly might choose to take, the time is imminent for some decision to be made. It should also be said that if a change is directed by the General Assembly, it would take some time to accomplish an orderly transition, therefore, the Committee feels that it is responsible to bring this issue to the attention of this Assembly for its consideration and possible action. The Committee on Administration believes that both faithful stewardship of the Lord's money, and efficiency of operation indicate the wisdom of consolidation of the Committee Offices in one location.

(See paragraph 4-79 item J, 5 for recommendation on office locations adopted by the General Assembly.)

III. Fund Raising Policy:

The Third General Assembly assigned to the Committee on Administration the task of framing a statement on fund raising.

(See paragraph 4-74, item A, 5, for recommendation adopted by the General assembly.)

IV. Representation at Assemblies:

The Third General Assembly took the following action regarding representation at General Assemblies: "That representation at the 1976 General Assembly be on the basis as in the past, and that this procedure be reviewed by the Permanent Committee during the year, and that it present a procedure for representation at future Assemblies for consideration by the 1976 Assembly." (Paragraph 3-65, page 79).

(See paragraph 4-74 item B, for recommendation adopted by the General Assembly.)

V. Recommendations on Personnel:

(See paragraph 4-74 item C, for recommendation adopted by the General Assembly.)

VI. Report of the Stated Clerk:

The Office of the Stated Clerk has the responsibility of keeping and publishing the Minutes of the General Assembly. This past year the Office had the additional task of preparing the completed Book of Church Order for printing. Both the Minutes and the Book of Church Order were

published in early December. As is always the case, some errors appear in both items. They are as follows:

Errors in the **Book of Church Order**

<u>Page</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Paragraph</u>	
2	13		"appointed" is misspelled
4	28	1-6	"(see 8-6)" should read "(see 8-7)"
6	20	4-4	"relief" is misspelled, change comma after "discipline" to semicolon
7	38	5-2(5)	"2-5-5" should read "25-5"
11	8	9-4	"elders. They" should read "elders, they"
14	5	12-2	"precepts" misspelled
17	41	14-6	"come" should read "some"
19	8	14-9	add "The Presbytery also shall convene when directed to do so by the General Assembly, for the transaction of designated business only." (Minutes First General Assembly — pg. 134).
23	18	16-3	"at" should read "as"
66	40	44-4	"16" should read "43"
66	41	44-4	"18" should read "45"
69	12	47-5	"1-6" should read "28-5"
77	13	54-6	delete comma
78	22	57-4	last word "or" should read "of"
80	36	58-1	"Believer's" should read "Believers' "
94	17		"are Ephesus" should read "at Ephesus"
94	24		add comma after "wheat"
98	34		"may" should read "my"
102	9		"as" should read "at"
103	16		"by" should read "be"

Errors in the **1975 Minutes**

<u>Page</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Paragraph</u>	
7	19		"Borema" misspelled
24	58		delete "thence east . . . that state"
25	2		delete "line to Lake Erie"
57	56		"original"
57	57		"languages" misspelled
65	48	7	"a actuary" should read "an actuary"
66	57	III,B.6(5)	"user" should read "used"
69	13	III	"1-48-8" should read "1-14-8"
123	11		numbers should read "A-5,8; B-1,2"
221	48	8-1, 7	"World" should read "United"
222	12		"on" should read "of"

A second area of responsibility of the Stated Clerk's Office is the gathering and publishing the statistics of the Church. The Clerk reports that as of December 31, 1975, the following is the summary of our statistics: 393 churches, 397 ministers, 94 candidates, 60,134 communing members, 7,211 non-communing members, total: 67,345. Reported total of all receipts, \$17,438,850, per capita \$290.00. Total of all benevolent giving, \$5,029,318, per capita \$83.69.

In order to expedite future publications of the statistics in the **Yearbook**, the Clerk intends to send the report forms to the Clerks of Presbyteries, who in turn are to distribute them to the Clerks of Sessions. It is urgent that Clerks of Sessions complete these forms carefully, and return them promptly to the Clerks of their Presbyteries.

One matter that was inadvertently overlooked by the Third General Assembly was the fact that with the appointment of a Sub-Committee on Stewardship there should also have been a provision made for a Committee of Commissioners to review the work of this Sub-Committee. The Stated Clerk asked the Presbyteries to provide Commissioners for such a Committee, on the assumption that the Assembly would want such a review of this Committee's work done by this Assembly.

(See paragraph 4-11 and 4-74 for recommendations adopted by the General Assembly.)

VII. Assembly Arrangements:

(See paragraph 4-74 item E and 4-79 item J, 1, 2 for recommendations on Assembly arrangements adopted by the General Assembly.)

Audit Report of Kent, Nobles and Martin
Certified Public Accountants
Montgomery, Alabama

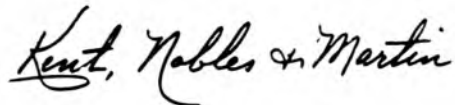
June 29, 1976

Board of Directors
Presbyterian Church in America

We have examined the balance sheets of the various permanent committees and the sub-committee on Stewardship Ministries of Presbyterian Church in America as of December 31, 1975, 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. Additionally, we have examined the financial statements of the Insurance and Annuities Trust Fund as to which our report is presented under separate letter. Our examinations were 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 Committees follow the practice of expensing the total costs of property and equipment in the year the expenditure is made and do not give recognition to such assets in their balance sheet accounts. Other expenditures which apparently have some residual value to the Church are treated in the same manner, including contributions to the "Joint Venture", loans to churches and advances to missionary work budgets. To the extent these expenditures have residual value to the church, such practices result in an overstatement of expenses and an understatement of assets and fund balances and are not, in our opinion, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. As no provision has been made to record allowances for depreciation and uncollectible loans, equity in the "Joint Venture" and unexpended missionary advances, the net effect of these practices on the accompanying financial statements has not been determined; however, for the years covered in this report, net expenditures for these purposes amounted to \$124,541 and \$72,815 for 1975 and 1974 respectively.

In our opinion, except for the effect of expensing and not capitalizing the costs of assets described in the preceding paragraph, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial position of the various committees of Presbyterian Church in America as of December 31, 1975, and the results of their operations and changes in fund balances for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.



Kent, Nobles and Martin
Certified Public Accountants

EXHIBIT "A"

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
BALANCE SHEET
DECEMBER 31, 1975
WITH COMPARATIVE MEMORANDUM TOTALS AT DECEMBER 31, 1974**

	Permanent Committees			Mission To The World	Stewardship Ministries	1975 Memorandum Totals	1974 Memorandum Totals
	Adminis- tration	Christian Education & Publications	Mission To The U.S.				
Assets							
Cash on hand and in banks.....	\$ 30.00	\$ 22,573.21	\$ 3,405.03	\$ 78,474.85	\$ 3,685.24	\$108,168.33	\$ 81,537.62
Cash in savings deposits.....	92,967.43		249,007.56	21,000.00		362,974.99	81,525.75
Short-term investments (at cost).....	100,000.00			151,215.45		251,215.45	214,577.65
Accrued interest receivable.....	338.35	657.77	954.09	3,588.78		5,538.99	4,736.53
Accounts receivable.....		4,733.38				4,733.38	3,658.18
Inventories — Educational Materials (at cost).....		11,745.13				11,745.13	5,840.25
Program advances & deposits.....		500.00	400.00	2,400.00		3,300.00	7,013.61
Other miscellaneous assets.....	2,504.59				379.88	2,884.47	15,929.96
Property & equipment — Note "A".....							
Total assets	\$195,840.37	\$ 40,209.49	\$253,766.68	\$256,679.08	\$ 4,065.12	\$750,560.74	\$414,819.55
Liabilities & Fund Balances							
Liabilities:							
Bank overdraft — Note "D".....	\$ 35,186.71					\$ 35,186.71	
Accounts payable.....	1,003.72	7,077.11	10.00	2,785.08	1,333.06	12,208.97	14,125.21
Notes payable.....		3,462.54				3,462.54	
Other miscellaneous liabilities.....	3,584.71	344.19		524.71		4,453.61	7,787.78
Total liabilities	\$ 39,775.14	\$ 10,883.84	\$ 10.00	\$ 3,309.79	\$ 1,333.06	\$ 55,311.83	\$ 21,912.99
Fund balances:							
Designated:							
Undesignated program commitments.....			\$ 9,824.70	\$110,593.33	\$ 2,732.06	\$123,150.09	\$ 75,050.29
Other designated revenues & appropriations.....	\$114,930.04		11,575.64	17,577.41		144,083.09	156,792.92
Total designated balances	\$114,930.04	\$.00	\$ 21,400.34	\$128,170.74	\$ 2,732.06	\$267,233.18	\$231,843.21
Undesignated:							
Uncommitted balances available for current general operations.....	41,135.19	29,325.95	232,356.34	125,198.55		428,015.73	161,063.35
Total fund balances	\$156,065.23	\$ 29,325.65	\$253,756.68	\$253,369.29	\$ 2,732.06	\$695,248.91	\$392,906.56
Total liabilities & fund balances	\$195,840.37	\$ 40,209.49	\$253,766.68	\$256,679.08	\$ 4,065.12	\$750,560.74	\$414,819.55

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT, REVENUE AND EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1975

WITH COMPARATIVE MEMORANDUM TOTALS AT DECEMBER 31, 1974

	Permanent Committees			Mission To The World	1975 Memorandum Totals	1974 Memorandum Totals
	Adminis- tration	Christian Education & Publications	Mission To The U.S.			
Support & revenue:						
Donations and other support.....	\$141,791.98	248,228.92	\$455,004.25	\$386,172.65	\$1,231,197.80	\$ 787,285.77
Designated donations.....			43,614.33	378,838.90	422,453.23	236,809.49
Literature sales.....		34,958.50			34,958.50	23,647.12
Other special revenue.....				6,732.02	6,732.02	
Investment income.....	416.61	974.45	3,286.07	13,019.59	17,696.72	8,267.10
Total support & revenue.....	\$142,208.59	\$284,161.87	\$501,904.65	\$784,763.16	\$1,713,038.27	\$1,056,009.48
Expenses:						
Program expenses — Note "A".....	\$ 32,607.74	\$100,992.56	\$188,791.93	\$518,122.57	\$ 840,514.80	\$ 508,691.05
Administrative personnel expenses.....	41,571.78	97,425.66	44,917.03	109,278.78	293,193.25	211,640.34
Other administrative expenses — Note "A".....	26,358.81	62,465.91	45,728.01	96,369.39	230,922.12	153,900.12
Other special expenses:						
General Assembly expenses.....	772.55	2,977.73	2,648.76	8,140.71	14,539.75	35,613.52
Stewardship ministries.....	2,800.00	9,912.25	9,600.00	17,600.00	39,912.25	
Total expenses.....	\$104,110.88	\$273,774.11	\$291,685.73	\$749,511.45	\$1,419,082.17	\$ 909,845.03
Excess of support/revenue over expenses (expenses over support/revenue).....	\$ 38,097.71	\$ 10,387.76	\$210,218.92	\$ 35,251.71	\$293,956.10	\$146,164.45
Less: Unexpended program income & other appropriated amounts transferred to designated funds.....			(14,906.84)	(49,001.46)	(63,908.30)	(29,051.07)
Net increases (decreases) to undesignated fund balances for the period.....	\$ 38,097.71	\$ 10,387.76	\$195,312.08	\$ 13,749.75)	\$230,047.80	\$117,113.38

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION**

**STATEMENT OF DESIGNATED SPECIAL SUPPORT, REVENUE AND EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1975
WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS AT DECEMBER 31, 1974**

	1975	1974
Support and revenue:		
Donations to Capital Challenge Fund	\$ 3,890.36	\$101,986.25
Donations to Flewellen Fund	1,000.00	
Distributable start-up funds	298.01	12,539.54
Investment income.....	14,097.06	2,824.07
Other	347.47	3,460.25
Total support and revenue	\$ 19,632.90	\$120,810.11
Expenses:		
Production of stewardship film		
"In Partnership With God"	\$ 10,740.74	
Distribution of start-up funds	14,165.94(A)	\$ 10,241.77
Other expenses	218.80	2,189.48
Total expenses	\$ 25,125.48	\$ 12,431.25
Net increase (decrease) to designated fund balance	(\$ 5,492.58)	\$108,378.86

(A) Start-up funds disbursed for 1975 and 1974 include the cost of purchased equipment for the COA office in the amounts of \$2,581.53 and \$3,139.03 respectively. Other disbursements included the cost of office set up for the Stated Clerk's office, office of the Sub-Committee on Stewardship and a pro-rata distribution of the balance to the other permanent committees.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

EXHIBIT "D"

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1975
WITH COMPARATIVE MEMORANDUM TOTALS AT DECEMBER 31, 1974

	PERMANENT COMMITTEES				1975 Memorandum Totals	1974 Memorandum Totals
	Adminis- tration	Christian Education & Publications	Mission To The U.S.	Mission To The World		
Beginning balances January 1	\$ 3,037.48	\$ 18,937.89	\$ 37,044.26	\$ 102,043.72	\$ 161,063.35	\$ 43,949.97
Add net inter-fund adjustments to beginning balances				20,636.98	20,636.98	
Adjusted beginning balances	\$ 3,037.48	\$ 18,937.89	\$ 37,044.26	\$ 122,680.70	\$ 181,700.33	\$ 43,949.97
Additions (deductions):						
Net increase from Exhibit "B"	\$ 38,097.71	\$ 10,387.76	\$ 195,312.08	(\$ 13,749.75)	\$ 230,047.80	\$ 117,113.38
Net adjustment for prior year expenses paid in current year				(910.60)	(910.60)	
Recovery of prior year expense of Brazilian property				17,178.20	17,178.20	
Net additions (deductions)	\$ 38,097.71	\$ 10,387.76	\$ 195,312.08	\$ 2,517.85	\$ 246,315.40	\$ 117,113.38
Ending balances December 31	\$ 41,135.19	\$ 29,325.65	\$ 232,356.34	\$ 125,198.55	\$ 428,015.73	\$ 161,063.35

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

EXHIBIT "E"

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN DESIGNATED FUND BALANCES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1975
WITH COMPARATIVE MEMORANDUM TOTALS AT DECEMBER 31, 1974

	Permanent Committees		Sub-Committee	1975 Memorandum Totals	1974 Memorandum Totals
	Adminis- tration	Mission To The U.S.	Mission To The World		
Beginning balances January 1.....	\$120,422.62	\$ 6,493.50	\$104,927.09	\$231,843.21	\$ 94,413.28
Net inter-fund adjustment to beginning balances.....			(21,136.98)	(21,136.98)	
Adjusted beginning balance.....	\$120,422.62	\$ 6,493.50	\$ 83,790.11	\$210,706.23	\$ 94,413.28
Additions (deductions):					
Transferred from excess of support/revenue over expenses — Exhibit "B".....		\$ 14,906.84	\$ 49,001.46	\$ 63,908.30	\$ 29,051.07
Transferred from designated special support, revenue and expenses — Exhibit "C".....				(5,492.58)	108,378.86
Net adjustment for prior year expenses paid in current year.....	(\$ 5,492.58)				(2,442.63)
Net adjustment related to Brazilian property.....			(2,442.63)	(2,442.63)	
Unexpended balance of support to Stewardship Ministries Schedule "1".....				(2,178.20)	
Ending balances December 31.....	\$114,930.04	\$ 21,400.34	\$128,170.74	\$267,233.18	\$231,843.21

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SCHEDULE "1"

SUB-COMMITTEE FOR STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICASCHEDULE OF SUPPORT, REVENUE AND EXPENSES
FOR NINE (9) MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1975

Support and revenue:	
Contributions — Committee For Mission to the World	\$ 17,600.00
Contributions — Committee For Mission to the U.S.	9,600.00
Contributions — Committee on Administration	2,800.00 ⁽¹⁾
Contributions — Committee For Christian Education & Publications	9,912.25
Other contributions	2,343.47
Total support and revenue	<u>\$ 42,255.72</u>
Expenses:	
Salary and benefits — Director	\$ 13,512.00
Payroll taxes	705.70
Total personel costs	\$ 14,217.70
Council & conference registration	550.00
Literature purchased	119.10
Office expense	431.36
Printing expense	7,538.81
Postage	537.01
Rent	813.75
Survey expense	1,129.22
Telephone	220.94
Travel — Director	7,664.39
Presbytery Chairmen meetings	1,191.27
Committee meetings	3,433.58 ⁽¹⁾
Shipping expense	1,523.36
Equipment purchased	52.95
Other miscellaneous expenses	100.22
Total expenses	<u>39,523.66</u>
Excess of support and revenue over expenses	<u>\$ 2,732.06</u>

¹The Committee on Administration paid expenses for the Sub-Committee in the amount of \$2,006.90. This amount is included in the above support and revenue as "Contributions — Committee on Administration" and in the expenses as "Committee meetings".

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
DECEMBER 31, 1975**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE "A" — Significant Accounting Policies:

(1) Basis of Accounting:

The books of the various committees are maintained substantially on a cash basis during the fiscal year. On this basis, support and revenue is generally recognized in the accounts when received in cash and expenses are recorded when paid. The costs of property and equipment are charged to expense in the year expended and no provision is made for recording the book values of such assets in general ledger control accounts. Other expenditures which are recorded in this manner by the individual committees are as follows:

Expenditure	Committee
Advances to Missionaries	Mission to the World
Loans to Churches	Mission to the United States
Contributions to "Joint Venture"	Christian Education & Publications

(2) Annual Financial Reporting:

For the purpose of annual financial statements, adjustments are made to reflect accruals of investment income, miscellaneous receivables and accounts payable. The amounts shown in the Committees' annual financial statements for 1975 and 1974 are approximately the same as would be shown if such amounts were determined on the accrual basis, except that the total costs of property and equipment, advances to missionaries, loans to churches, and contributions to the "Joint Venture" are shown as program and administrative expenses in the statement of support, revenue and expenses, and changes in fund balance and are not included as assets and fund balance in the balance sheet.

Funds restricted as to use by the donor or Committee action are presented in the statements under the heading "Designated Funds". Funds received as gifts nor individuals and to support the program activities of other agencies are classified as "Channel Funds" and are passed directly to the recipient and are not shown in these statements as support or expense.

NOTE "B" — Pension Plan:

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". Contributions to the Plan on behalf of the administrative staff are included in administrative personnel expense on Exhibit "B".

NOTE "C" — Joint Venture with Orthodox Presbyterian Church:

The Third General Assembly adopted a resolution instructing the Committee For Christian Education and Publications to enter upon a joint venture in publications with the Orthodox Presbyterian Church. The joint venture is to operate as a non-profit corporation as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, and to be known as Great Commission Publications, Inc. Both parties are to possess equal ownership and equal representation on the Board of Trustees for the duration of the Corporation's existence. Along with equal control, the Committee would assume equal financial support. Final approval was given to the "Joint Venture" by the General Assembly at its meeting in September, 1975. For 1975, the Committee For Christian Education and Publications provided \$50,000.00 as its share of support which is reflected as an expenditure on Exhibit "B".

NOTE "D" — Bank Overdraft — \$35,186.71, Committee on Administration:

All available monies are deposited to a savings account in the American Federal Savings and Loan Association for the purpose of earning the maximum interest on money available to the Committee on a temporary basis. Transfer deposits are timed and made from savings to the checking account in Trust Company Bank of Columbus in order to insure that sufficient money is on hand when a check is presented for payment. The overdraft of \$35,186.71 actually represented an overdraft per books due to checks being written and recorded on December 31, 1975, but which did not clear the bank until later in January, 1976. The book overdraft, however, was more than offset by funds available in the savings account of \$92,967.43. The bank statement of the checking account with Trust Company of Columbus showed a balance of \$6,648.43 at December 31, 1975, which was an adequate amount to cover checks clearing prior to the next deposit on January 5, 1976. Trust Company of Columbus was aware of the practice and indicated satisfaction with the arrangement.

Kent, Nobles and Martin
Certified Public Accountants
Montgomery, Alabama

May 5, 1976

Board of Trustees For The
Insurance and Annuity Fund
Presbyterian Church in America
Columbus, Georgia

We have examined the balance sheet of the Board of Trustees For The Insurance and Annuity Fund of the Presbyterian Church in America as of December 31, 1975, and the related statement of fund transactions and changes in fund balances for the year then ended. 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.

In our opinion, the aforementioned statements present fairly the financial position of the Board of Trustees For The Insurance and Annuity Fund of the Presbyterian Church in America at December 31, 1975, and its fund transactions and changes in fund balances for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles which, except for the change, with which we concur, in presenting dues receivable and deferred receipts as described in Note "A" (2), have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kent, Nobles & Martin". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name of the firm.

Kent, Nobles and Martin
Certified Public Accountants

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

EXHIBIT "A"

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FOR THE INSURANCE AND ANNUITY FUND
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

BALANCE SHEET

**DECEMBER 31, 1975
WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS AT DECEMBER 31, 1974**

ASSETS

	<u>1975</u>	<u>1974</u>
Cash on hand and in banks.....	\$.00	\$ 34,266.09
Cash in savings deposits.....	72,287.32	225,000.00
Accrued interest receivable.....	5,195.31	5,062.50
Security investments (Note "B").....	550,582.41	.00
Health insurance premiums receivable.....	4,785.74	2,100.00
Annuity dues receivable.....	6,108.11	.00
Total assets.....	<u>\$638,958.89</u>	<u>\$266,428.59</u>

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES

Liabilities:		
Bank overdraft (Note "C").....	\$ 18,622.76	\$.00
Insurance premiums payable.....	.00	11,463.74
Accounts payable and accrued payroll taxes.....	101.31	.00
Annuity dues paid in advance.....	3,077.49	.00
Health insurance premiums collected in advance.....	1,323.49	.00
Total liabilities.....	<u>\$ 23,125.05</u>	<u>\$ 11,463.74</u>
Fund balances (Exhibit "B"):		
Annuity Fund.....	\$531,360.70	\$212,934.00
Ministerial Relief Fund.....	74,652.94	29,205.60
Health Insurance Fund.....	9,820.20	12,825.25
Total fund balances.....	<u>\$615,833.84</u>	<u>\$254,964.85</u>
Total liabilities and fund balance.....	<u>\$638,958.89</u>	<u>\$266,428.59</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

EXHIBIT "B"

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FOR THE INSURANCE AND ANNUITY FUND
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

**STATEMENT OF FUND TRANSACTIONS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1975
WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS AT DECEMBER 31, 1974**

	Annuity Funds	Ministerial Relief Funds	Health Insurance Funds	1975 Totals	1974 Totals
Additions:					
Dues from members & organizations	\$324,074.75			\$324,074.75	\$219,219.80
Designated donations		\$ 47,509.26		47,509.26	22,290.47
Insurance premiums income			\$148,090.79	148,090.79	106,459.15
Investment income — interest	27,637.57	4,722.88	1,406.10	33,766.55	13,560.53
Total additions	<u>\$351,712.32</u>	<u>\$ 52,232.14</u>	<u>\$149,496.89</u>	<u>\$553,441.35</u>	<u>\$361,529.95</u>
Deductions:					
Administrative expenses:					
Salaries & FICA	\$ 1,518.40			\$ 1,518.40	
Printing & ofc. exp.	431.98			431.98	
Actuarial consultant	3,000.00			3,000.00	
Church Pension Conference	159.00			159.00	
Promotional expenses		\$ 6,528.42		6,528.42	\$ 2,556.75
Total administrative expenses	<u>\$ 5,109.38</u>	<u>\$ 6,528.42</u>		<u>\$ 11,637.80</u>	<u>\$ 2,556.75</u>
Insurance premiums expense	26,576.99	26.80	\$152,338.03	178,941.82	119,290.53
Payments to retired members	300.00			300.00	50.00
Total deductions	<u>\$ 31,986.37</u>	<u>\$ 6,555.22</u>	<u>\$152,338.03</u>	<u>\$190,879.62</u>	<u>\$121,897.28</u>
Net increases (decreases) in funds for the year	<u>\$319,725.95</u>	<u>\$ 45,676.92</u>	<u>(\$ 2,841.14)</u>	<u>\$362,561.73</u>	<u>\$239,632.67</u>
Other deductions:					
Adjustments to beginning balances transferred from COA	(1,299.25)	(229.58)	(163.91)	(1,692.74)	
Fund balances, beginning of year	<u>212,934.00</u>	<u>29,205.60</u>	<u>12,825.25</u>	<u>254,964.85</u>	<u>15,332.18</u>
Fund balances, end of year	<u>\$51,360.70</u>	<u>\$74,652.94</u>	<u>\$9,820.20</u>	<u>\$615,833.84</u>	<u>\$254,964.85</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FOR THE INSURANCE AND ANNUITY FUND
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
DECEMBER 31, 1975**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE "A" — Significant Accounting Policies:

(1) Basis of Accounting:

The general ledger accounts are maintained on a cash basis during the fiscal year. Subsidiary records provide a basis for determining accruable items affecting balance sheet and fund transactions accounts.

(2) Annual Financial Reporting:

Amounts are shown for the years ended December 31, 1975 and 1974 which reflect accruals of investment income and insurance premiums receivable and payable at those dates. Additionally, for the year ended December 31, 1975, accruals are shown to reflect annuity dues receivable and deferral of annuity dues and insurance premiums collected in advance. The accruals and deferrals are reflected in the statement of fund transactions and changes in fund balance on Exhibit "B" as well as in the balance sheet on Exhibit "A" and amounted to a net increase in fund balance for the year of \$1,707.13. The comparative data presented for the year 1974 has not been adjusted to reflect these items, however, the amounts and the net effect on fund balance for 1974 would have been approximately the same as for 1975, had such adjustments been shown.

NOTE "B" — Security Investments:

Security investments are shown at cost, except that nominal adjustments for amortization of bond premiums and discounts have been made to long-term investments. The following is a schedule of security investments at December 31, 1975:

Face Amount	Industrial & Public Utilities Bonds:	Cost	Approximate Market Values
Short-Term:			
\$ 50,000.	Litton Industries, debentures 8.75% , due 12/1/76	\$ 49,826.00	\$ 49,750.00
200,000.	Consumer Power Co. 8.75% , due 1976	201,518.00	201,000.00
200,000.	Ohio Power Co., 7.25% , due 1976	200,050.00	199,000.00
Long-Term:			
50,000.	Bell Telephone of PA, 9.625% , due 2014	53,244.82	53,500.00
50,000.	Michigan Bell Telephone, 7.75% , due 2011	45,943.59	44,937.50
<u>\$550,000.</u>		<u>\$550,582.41</u>	<u>\$548,187.50</u>

NOTE "C" — Bank checking account overdraft — \$18,622.76:

All available monies are deposited to a savings account in The American Federal Savings and Loan Association for the purpose of earning the maximum interest on money available on a temporary basis. Transfer deposits are timed and made from savings to the checking account in Trust Company Bank of Columbus in order to insure that sufficient money is on hand when a check is presented for payment. The overdraft of \$18,622.76 actually represented an overdraft per books due to checks being written and recorded on December 31, 1975, but which did not clear the bank until later in January 1, 1976. The book overdraft, however was more than offset by funds available in the savings account of \$72,287.32. The bank statement of the checking account with Trust Company of Columbus showed a balance of \$303.10 at December 31, 1975, which was an adequate amount to cover checks clearing prior to the next deposit on January 5, 1976. Trust Company of Columbus was aware of the practice and indicated satisfaction with the arrangement.

NOTE "D" — Actuarial Valuation of Pension Plan for Ministers:

The Fund engaged John N. Corey Company, Inc., Actuarial Consultants of Birmingham, Alabama, to perform an evaluation of the Annuity Fund For Ministers as of December 31, 1974. The valuation report indicated that current assets of the Fund at that date, with a 12% rate of dues, were adequate to maintain the Plan on an actuarially sound basis. The annual valuation for 1975 had not been completed at the date of this report.

Appendix B

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INSURANCE AND ANNUITY FUND TO THE FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Fathers and Brethren, your Board of Trustees has addressed itself to those matters assigned to it by the Third General Assembly and has been pleased to serve the Presbyterian Church in America in carrying these assignments to the conclusions given herein.

We have had three meetings during the year.

An Insurance Sub-Committee was appointed, consisting of: Rev. E. C. Cooley, Chairman, Rev. Thomas Barnes, and Mr. C. B. Hall. This committee was authorized to study and revamp the health insurance program for presentation to General Assembly meeting in September 1976. The Board of Trustees suggested the consideration of increased coverage, fully realizing that this would increase premiums.

The Trustees set a rate of 5% to be used in all actuarial computations for all members. Actual earnings in excess of 5% would become part of the "Good Experience" credit to be distributed to the total membership from time to time.

CHANGES IN LIFE AND LONG TERM DISABILITY INSURANCE

In order to keep the cost of Life and Long Term Disability insurance coverage as low as possible, the insurance carrier suggested that we make the eligibility period for enrollment 90 days with the understanding that any application delayed beyond the first 90 days of eligibility would be treated as a late applicant. This requires changes in Sections 1.2 and 1.3 of the Plan as follows:

Section 1.2 (b) to read as follows: "... who has made written application to the fund and has been enrolled 90 days and has had at least three months' dues paid to the fund in his behalf."

Section 1.3 to provide that the limit be 90 days instead of two years so that in the case of application after 90 days the trustees could request proof of insurability or could limit their liability under the terms of the insurance policy in the annuity plan.

The Board of Trustees adopted the following policies:

Leave of Absence

"That we limit our leave of absence provision to a maximum of 24 months at a salary no larger than the last reported salary." The policy was adopted.

Pastors Without Call

Our contract with the insurance company be amended whereby "pastors without call could remain participants in the plan for six months at their last reported salary level. For a second six months, the salary could be no greater than one-half of his last earned salary. At the end of 12 months, the general situation would be reviewed by trustees and insurance company and no pastor would be permitted to remain insured beyond 24 months without a call."

The following plan is presented to the General Assembly to provide a way for a member of the Plan to transfer funds he has accumulated in another pension plan and to apply personal savings to our plan in order to increase his pension benefits, at the same time allowing him authorized income tax advantages:

"The Official Plan of the Annuity Fund For Ministers of the Presbyterian Church in America, as amended, adopted on September 10, 1975, by the Third General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America, is hereby further amended to provide for a "Special Gift Account", in which shall be administered voluntary Member contributions, funds transferred from other denominations, and special contributions made by Employer Churches or individuals for the benefit of designated members, by adopting the following as an adjunct thereto:

Special Gift Account

"Although the primary purpose of the "Annuity Fund" is to administer dues paid by the Employer Churches, agencies, or organizations, and eligible Members, to accumulate funds for retirement, disability, death and survivor benefits in accordance with provisions of the Official Plan, the Church also wishes to establish a facility for the administration of funds received from Members as voluntary savings investments as special gifts from churches or individuals, or as transfers from other denominations for the account of designated Members. For this purpose, a "Special Gift Account" shall be established for each eligible minister who makes voluntary savings deposits, has special gifts made or funds transferred from other organizations on his behalf. Such accounts shall be completely separate and distinct as a matter of bookkeeping and reporting, but all funds administered therein may be commingled with the Annuity Fund for investment purposes. The adoption of a Special Gift Account and the provision for voluntary savings shall not be construed as required such deposits as a condition of Membership in the Annuity Fund.

Personal Savings

"Any Member who is eligible to participate in the Annuity Fund may make contributions to a Special Gift Account on the condition that withdrawals therefrom shall be deferred to the extent

hereinafter provided, for the purpose of affording Members the benefit of tax deferral on earnings allocated or credited to such personal savings deposits. Voluntary contributions by any one Member during any calendar year shall not exceed 10% of the total compensation paid to him by his Employer during such year.

"A Member who wishes to make contributions to his Special Gift Account shall so indicate in writing on a form prescribed by the Trustees of the Annuity Fund. His Church or other Employer agency may be authorized to make deductions from his compensation in whole dollar amounts, which shall not be less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) a year. All deductions by the Employer for such personal savings pursuant to authorization by Members shall be held in trust until the funds are transmitted to the Committee on Administration or other designated agency appointed by the Trustees for this purpose. The funds shall be transmitted from time to time as may be convenient to the Employer Church or other agency, but not less frequently than once during each calendar year. The deposits shall be credited to the Special Gift Account maintained for the contributing Member, and shall be invested as a part of the Annuity Fund.

Transfers From Other Denominations

"Any minister who transfers to the Presbyterian Church in America from another denomination and becomes a Member of the Annuity Fund shall have deposited to this Special Gift Account any funds held by and transferred from his former denomination for his benefit, and such funds shall be administered in accordance with the terms and provisions hereof and applicable provisions of the Annuity Fund Plan Agreement.

Special Contributions

"Any funds contributed by Employer Churches or individuals for the benefit of a designated Member shall be deposited in his Special Gift Account for administration in accordance with the terms and provisions hereof and applicable provisions of the Annuity Fund Plan Agreement.

Allocation of Earnings and Special Credits

"The aggregate of sums credited to the special Gift Accounts from Voluntary contributions, transfers from other denominations and special contributions from churches or individuals shall constitute the Special Gift Account Fund for the purpose of the allocation of earnings and special credits. As of the last day of each calendar year, earnings for such year shall be allocated to each Member's Special Gift Account by applying the same rate of interest as that approved by the Trustees and used by the actuary for funding Members' benefits under the Annuity Fund Plan. In addition thereto, special credits, as provided for in Section 9.1 of the Annuity Fund Plan Agreement, shall be apportioned to the Special Gift Accounts in the same manner and at the same times that such credits are apportioned among all other accounts of Members of the Annuity Fund.

"The balance in a Member's Special Gift Account as of the first day of the year, less withdrawals made during same year, and before the allocation of any interest or credits, shall be the basis for crediting interest and any such special credits. Further, no allocation of earnings or special credits shall be made to the Special Gift Account of any Member for whom such an account was first opened during such year.

Distributions From Special Gift Accounts

"In providing a facility for the administration of Member's Special Gift Accounts, it is contemplated that all deposits of voluntary contributions, special contributions, or funds transferred from other denominations for designated Members, shall be administered on the same basis as dues paid to the Annuity Fund, and distributions from such accounts shall be made generally upon retirement, disability, death or termination of the employment of the Member, the same events and for the same purposes as provided in the Annuity Fund Plan Agreement; provided, however, that hardship distributions may be made to a Member while still employed, subject to the limitations herein provided.

Withdrawal for Hardship or Emergency

"In the event of personal emergency or hardship, as defined by rules to be adopted by the Annuity Fund Trustees and uniformly and consistently applied, a Member may request from the Trustee permission to withdraw a portion or all of his Special Gift Account, at any time after thirty (30) days written notice in advance of the proposed withdrawal date; and the Trustees may grant such request consistent with its rules relating to emergencies or hardship withdrawals. It is contemplated that withdrawals by Members shall be permitted in the event of an accident or illness involving the Member or a member of his immediate family or a loss of property attributable to tornado, fire, windstorm, flooding or other such catastrophe or in the event Member shall be ordered to active duty with the military forces or in the event of a death in Member's immediate family.

Limitation on Right to Make Voluntary Contributions After Withdrawal

"Any withdrawal by a Member shall first be attributed to his voluntary contributions, if any, held in his Special Gift Account. After any such withdrawal, a Member shall be ineligible to make personal deposits to a new or existing Special Gift Account during the entire year next succeeding the calendar year during which such withdrawals occurred.

Members' Vested Interest

"The interest in a Member's Special Gift Account shall always be 100% notwithstanding any other provision of this amendment or the Annuity Fund agreement."

Appointment of the Investment Advisor as Authorized by Trust Agreement

After careful consideration by the Board of Trustees of investment advisory services available to it by five of the leading bank trust departments in the Southeast, four of which sent representatives to present their services, the Board unanimously elected the Trust Department of the Deposit Guaranty National Bank, Jackson, Mississippi, as investment advisor to the Board of Trustees. The Agreement between the bank and the Board has been executed and the pension funds turned over to the bank for handling under supervision of the Board of Trustees.

The following recommendations were adopted by the Board of Trustees covering information to be added to financial statements:

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Investments

"Preferred stocks and common stocks are stated at values based upon market quotations.

"Since it is anticipated that bonds will be held until the maturity dates, bonds are stated, in general, at cost, adjusted for amortization of purchase premiums and discounts. However, in certain transactions which are equivalent to exchanges and the purpose of which is to improve the yield, the Board sells bonds and invests the proceeds in bonds of similar investment quality. Inasmuch as the investment position is viewed as essentially unchanged, no gain or loss is recognized, and the bonds acquired are stated at the amortized cost of the bonds sold.

"Mortgage and other notes are stated at the uncollected balances; commercial paper is stated at cost.

"Certain properties received as gifts are stated at appraised values.

"The average cost per unit is used in the computation of the amount of gain or loss realized on sale of securities.

Actuarial Liabilities for Annuity and Death Benefits

"The amounts at which the actuarial liabilities for annuity and death benefits are stated in the balance sheet are the amounts which, with additions from dues to be received from members and organizations and with interest on such amounts compounded annually, are calculated to be sufficient to meet the obligations for annuities and death benefits."

POLICY OF PAYING FOR HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS FOR RETIRED PEOPLE

A motion was adopted that, in the case of a person who is about to retire who has not been buying our group health insurance, we not include them in the Major Medical coverage but that we pay to them the amount of the premium in cash from the Ministers relief fund.

In response to the question concerning the policy of the trustees regarding the payment of premium for retired ministers and their families not covered by Medicare, the following motion was adopted:

"The policy of the Board of Trustees is to provide to the Retired Ministers and their families the premium for Part "B" Medicare and the supplementary coverage under our Major Medical policy. If the minister and his family is not covered by Medicare, then we will pay them in cash an amount equal to the Part "B" premium."

ACTION ON MATTERS OF INSURANCE

A motion was adopted to change the terms of the Major Medical proposals to be presented to the industry for quotations to treat maternity hospitalization in the same manner as other hospital coverage.

A motion was adopted to receive proposals from Major Medical Insurance Companies by August 1st in order to present our recommendations.

INVESTMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

A motion was adopted to appoint Mr. William Swain, Mr. William McLeod and Rev. Thomas Barnes to serve on the Investment Sub-committee. Consultant Dan Moore was elected as ex-officio member.

POLICY REGARDING INVESTMENT OF MINISTERIAL RELIEF FUNDS

Motion was adopted to invest the reserve (80%) of the Ministers Relief Fund with our Investment Advisors.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

James E. Allen
 Thomas Barnes
 Rev. E. Crowell Cooley
 Chester B. Hall
 C. E. Hornsby
 Alexander McKensy
 William J. McLeod, Jr.
 Rev. Harry Schutte
 William Joseph, Secretary
 William C. Swain, Chairman

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES' TO THE FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY INSURANCE MATTERS

The Trustees appointed an Insurance Committee composed of E. C. Cooley, Chairman, Tom Barnes and Chester Hall. They were instructed to review our Major Medical Insurance Plan, seek bids from the insurance industry and to seek a way to offer supplementary Life Insurance to our people.

The Insurance Committee met November 24, 1975, with several from the church knowledgeable in the field of insurance to discuss our health insurance program. A number of valuable insights were received, and from this meeting we began to develop a set of specifications for the Health Insurance Plan we desired. The specifications underwent several revisions as we reviewed them with our present insurance carriers and our Consultant. The final form was approved by the Trustees and made available to the industry June 15, a fact publicized in *Continuing* and the *Presbyterian Journal*.

We received requests and sent out 65 sets of Specifications, and received 11 proposals from different insurance companies. The bids were reviewed by the Committee on August 5, and negotiations were conducted with the two lowest bidders to evaluate and improve details. The Trustees accepted the Committee's report on August 27 and **recommends** to the General Assembly that we accept the proposal offered by the Connecticut General Life Insurance Company for our Major Medical Insurance, effective November 1, 1976. A description of the proposed new insurance follows:

Effective November 1, 1976, significant improvements are being offered for covered employees and their families under our Group Medical program. After extensive study, it has been determined to underwrite the new program with Connecticut General Life Insurance Company who offered the lowest bid for our program. It should be noted that there will be no loss of coverage during the transition from our former carrier, Pacific Mutual, to Connecticut General.

A highlight of the new benefits, compared to the old, follows:

COVERAGE	NEW	OLD
Maximum Lifetime Benefit	\$250,000	\$50,000
Deductible	\$100 calendar year \$300 family limit	Same Same
Deductible waived for Co-Insurance	Accident, X-ray & Lab 80% for all covered expenses with a \$500 annual maximum cost to the employee and \$1,000 maximum per family after the deductible	Hospital, maternity, Accident 100% of scheduled amount for surgical physician, x-ray & lab. 80% for prescription, appliance and nursing care. No annual limit on costs to the insured.
Hospital Room Board	Full semi-private	\$62 daily maximum
Maternity	As any other illness	\$300 maximum
Life Insurance, with AD&D, on the employee	\$10,000 to age 65 \$ 5,000 age 65-70 \$ 1,000 over age 70	Same Same Same
Cost	\$23.17 per month for Employee only \$52.74 per month for the Employee and dependents	\$22.43 \$54.83

The advantages of the new plan include increased maternity benefits, increased lifetime maximum, coverage of full semi-private room charges, no internal schedules and an annual maximum cost to the insured under the co-insurance.

Children now will be covered from birth (currently 7 days), thus having nursery care charges covered as any other illness, subject to the deductible. The increased maternity benefit will become effective November 1, 1976, even for those already pregnant. Amounts paid toward your deductible with Pacific Mutual this year will be credited toward the deductible with Connecticut General.

Participants should note that in some cases the benefits under the new insurance program may be less than in our present coverage. The new policy provides that in almost every case, the insured must pay \$100 deductible, then pay 20% of the costs while the Insurance Company pays 80%. The advantage is that all customary and reasonable charges are covered, and there is an annual cost limit to the insured, after which the Insurance Company pays 100% of the costs.

As we sought bids, we asked the insurance companies to submit a bid to provide our current coverage with some increased benefits, as well as the new plan. All but one quoted our present plan as high or higher than the new plan, and one company in declining to quote the present plan said, "While we would be willing to underwrite the existing plan with the modifications indicated, we feel the new plan is superior in design."

WE RECOMMEND that the revised Major Medical Insurance plan as approved by the Trustees for the Insurance and Annuity Fund be adopted effective November 1, 1976, with Connecticut General Life Insurance Company as the insurance carrier, the premiums for the first year being:

\$23.17 per month for employee only coverage, and
\$52.74 per month for the employee and dependents coverage.

WE RECOMMEND that a Supplementary Term Life Insurance program be offered employees who are participants in the Major Medical Insurance plan as follows:

SUPPLEMENTARY TERM LIFE INSURANCE (STLI)

This **additional insurance** is available to participants in the Major Medical insurance plan, who enroll before or during the month of **November 1976**. To enroll you must indicate your interest on your Medical Insurance application and pay at least one month's premium. The STLI insurance will be effective November 1, 1976, and will continue in force as long as the premiums are paid, subject to the conditions of the Group Policy.

Premium charges or in force amounts of insurance will be determined by the Employee's attained age on November 1 each year.

The STLI coverage can be converted to Whole Life Insurance without medical examination if a person has participated at least 1 year and then ceases to be an eligible employee for the insurance.

Employees may elect to participate in Plan A or Plan B. At least 50% of the eligible employees must enroll for this insurance plan to be put into effect. Future open enrollment will be offered during the month of October each year.

SUPPLEMENTARY TERM LIFE INSURANCE — PLAN A

EMPLOYEE'S AGE	LIFE INSURANCE AMOUNTS ON:			MONTHLY PREMIUM
	EMPLOYEE	SPOUSE	EACH CHILD*	
Under 30	\$10,000.	\$1,000.	\$ 500.	\$ 2.00
30 thru 39	\$10,000.	\$1,000.	\$ 500.	\$ 3.50
40 thru 49	\$10,000.	\$1,000.	\$ 500.	\$ 5.00
50 thru 54	\$ 6,000.	\$1,000.	\$ 500.	\$ 5.00
55 thru 59	\$ 4,300.	\$ 500.	\$ 500.	\$ 5.00
60 to 65	\$ 2,800.	\$ 500.	\$ 500.	\$ 5.00

SUPPLEMENTARY TERM LIFE INSURANCE — PLAN B

Under 30	\$20,000.	\$2,000.	\$1000.	\$ 4.00
30 thru 39	\$20,000.	\$2,000.	\$1000.	\$ 7.00
40 thru 49	\$20,000.	\$2,000.	\$1000.	\$10.00
50 thru 54	\$12,000.	\$2,000.	\$1000.	\$10.00
55 thru 59	\$ 8,600.	\$1,000.	\$1000.	\$10.00
60 to 65	\$ 5,600.	\$1,000.	\$1000.	\$10.00

*Children are covered until age 19, or, if full time College Students, until age 23.

The STLI coverage also includes Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance (on the Employee only) in the same amount as the Life Insurance Benefit.

(See paragraphs 4-40 and 4-83 for actions of the General Assembly on this report.)

Appendix C

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE ON INTERCHURCH RELATIONS TO THE FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Your committee has conducted its business through meetings at the time of the Third General Assembly and of this Assembly but, also, through correspondence.

We have considered our chief responsibility the pursuance of our relationship with the newly established North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council, approved by the Third General Assembly. Because of the special significance of the Constituting Meeting of NAPARC, held at Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Pa., October 31-November 1, 1975, we are attaching the Minutes of that meeting, slightly deleted and consider this a part of our report.

The Rev. Harry T. Schutte has represented PCA on an important committee of NAPARC assigned the responsibility of considering the application of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church for membership in that body. They conducted lengthy meetings during the ARP General Synod and following and he is being asked to continue in this role until the work of the committee is concluded.

We have received the following significant communication, addressed to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America:

"The General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, extends its warmest greetings to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of America. May grace, mercy and peace attend the continuing growth of your witness to our Lord Jesus Christ.

"As we seek together the Lord's will in our time, we are increasingly persuaded that God is calling us to a more united testimony than we have hitherto enjoyed. We do not know how He would have us express the greater unity we seek, nor how to bring it about.

"However, we continue to pray that He will bring about new dimensions of cooperation, a deeper fellowship, and an ultimate united walk among those who sincerely love the Lord Jesus Christ and have given cordial acceptance of His Infallible Word and the testimony of the Gospel according to the Reformed Faith.

"We earnestly hope that you are of one mind with us in the pursuit of this objective."
(May, 1976)

The Clerk of the General Assembly of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, Richard Barker, stated in a telephone conversation with the Chairman of this Committee of PCA, June 6, 1976, that the above communication, either in copy or similar form, was sent to the General Assembly of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, May 1976, and that it was referred to its Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations for their further study and for their recommendation to a later General Assembly.

Pursuant to the instructions of the Third General Assembly, your committee invited the member churches of NAPARC, as well as the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church whose application for membership in NAPARC is presently under consideration, to send fraternal delegates to this General Assembly. In your behalf, we also made the following assignments to the General Assembly or General Synod meetings of those same churches as follows:

FRATERNAL DELEGATES

Churches	Principals	Alternates
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, June 7-10, Bonclarken	Harry T. Schutte	C. D. Murphy
Christian Reformed Church Calvin College, June 8-18	Carl W. Bogue Stuart H. Perrin	
Orthodox Presbyterian Church Geneva College, May 27-June 3	Timothy Fortner Charles E. LeSuer	G. Aiken Taylor
Reformed Presbyterian, Evangelical Synod Colorado Springs, May 21-27	Wayne Buchtel G. Aiken Taylor	Duane Harder
Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America Carleton College, MN., Aug. 12	Alvin W. Smith, Jr.	

(See paragraphs 4-59 and 4-57 for recommendations adopted by the General Assembly.)

THE CONSTITUTING MEETING
of the
NORTH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN AND REFORMED COUNCIL
(NAPARC)
Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania
October 31-November 1, 1975

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by J. P. Galbraith, chairman of the acting interim committee on a council, at 2:10 p.m. on October 31, 1975, in the Holiday Inn, Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania.

2. **DEVOTIONS**

The Chairman read Isaiah 40, presented a devotional based on this passage and led in prayer.

3. **ROLL**

The chairman appointed G. W. Knight as secretary pro-tem. The roll was called and the following were present as delegates of the constituent churches:

Christian Reformed Church (CRC):

Mr. Albert A. Bel, Rev. John Bratt, Rev. William P. Brink, Rev. John H. Kromminga; Rev. Nelson Vander Zee (alternate).

Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC):

Rev. Edmund P. Clowney, Rev. John P. Gailbraith, Rev. George W. Knight, III, Rev. LeRoy B. Oliver; Rev. Jack J. Peterson (alternate).

Presbyterian Church in America (PCA):

Rev. Donald E. Boerema, Rev. Donald C. Graham, Rev. O. Palmer Robertson, Mr. W. J. Williamson; Rev. Morton H. Smith (alternate).

Reformed Presbyterian Church, Evangelical Synod (RPCES):

Rev. Thomas G. Cross, Rev. R. Laird Harris, Rev. J. Barton Payne, Rev. Lynden H. Stewart; Alternates: Rev. Franklin S. Dyrness, Rev. George C. Miladin, Rev. Robert G. Rayburn.

Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America (RPCNA):

Rev. Lester E. Kilpatrick, Rev. Dean R. Smith, Rev. Bruce C. Stewart, Rev. S. Bruce Willson; Rev. John H. White (alternate).

Also present, as observers, were:

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARPC):

Mr. Gordon Parkinson, Mr. Dodd Vernon.

Reformed Church in the United States (Eureka Classis) (RCUS):

Rev. Paul Treick.

4. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Joint meeting of January 22-23, 1975, were presented, and approved with this correction: the addition of the initials, M. H., to the name Smith on page 7, second paragraph.

5. **SYNOD ACTIONS ON NAPARC**

Reports of delegates on actions of the respective Synods/General Assemblies on membership in the Council were presented orally.

6. **Report No. 1 of the Interim Committee was presented:**

(Matters pertaining to the Call of this meeting omitted.)

The Interchurch (Fraternal) Relations Committee of each founding church was requested to present to this meeting a formal report of the action of its Synod of General Assembly regarding membership in the Council, and regarding the recommendation of the joint meeting of January 22-23 to the several churches that representatives of their agencies meet together on a regular basis. Each Committee was requested also to present to the Interim Committee by October 15, through its chairman, a report on matters as a planning meeting — to institute the carrying out of the Council's Purpose and Function. The specific matters on which reports were requested are:

(1). Subjects of study, including studies which have been completed by member churches which they believe might be of profit to the other churches, and subjects which any of the member churches might wish to consult with the other churches.

(2). Areas of cooperation with other churches, including such as may already have been engaged in, and others which member churches may wish to explore for the future.

The Committee prepared an agenda for this meeting.

The Committee recommends:

(1). That the actions of the several founding churches of the Council, as reported to this meeting, be spread on the minutes of the meeting.

(2). That the following resolution constituting the Council be adopted:

WHEREAS a Constitution and Bylaws for a North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council were adopted in joint session of the Interchurch (Fraternal) Relations Committee of the Christian Reformed Church, the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, the Presbyterian Church in America, the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Evangelical Synod, and the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America, and

WHEREAS the several Committees presented the said Constitution and Bylaws to their respective Synods or General Assemblies for approval, and

WHEREAS the said Synods and general Assemblies did so give their approval, and WHEREAS representatives of the said churches are, at the call of the authorized Interim Committee, here met in the city of Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, on this the 31st day of October in the year of our Lord 1975.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the said churches named above do hereby, by the authority vested in them by their churches, declare the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council to be duly constituted. To God be the glory. Amen.

(3). That the proposed agenda (as indicated by the numbered paragraphs in these minutes) be adopted.

Respectfully submitted,
John P. Galbraith, Chairman
Interim Committee

7. ELECTION OF SECRETARY

The floor was opened for nominations for secretary. Drs. Knight and Payne were nominated. Ballots were cast. B. Payne was elected. He then assumed his responsibilities.

8. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The floor was opened for nominations for chairman. J. Galbraith was nominated. There being no further nominations, the secretary was on motion instructed to cast a white ballot for Mr. Galbraith's election.

9. ELECTION OF TREASURER

On motion the election of a treasurer was postponed until consideration of item 15, provision of funds for council affairs.

10. DOCKETED TIMES

Set times of recess and adjournment had been adopted (item 6, above).

11. REPORTS FROM SYNODS

Reports of the delegations on actions by their major assemblies relative to NAPARC included the following:

a. CONSULTATION BY AGENCIES

On the proposed consultation of representatives of the denominational agencies (see January 1975, NAPARC Minutes, p. 7): Approved: OPC, PCA, RPNA (if not more than one per year). No action: CRC, RPCES. The latter two churches are to take cognizance of this request from the Council and of its approval by three of the churches and are requested to take action at the next meeting of their synods. The chairman appointed the OPC delegation to be responsible for convening the meetings of the agencies.

b. FRATERNAL DELEGATES

On the proposed invitation of fraternal delegates to the major assemblies (see *ibid.*). Approved: CRC, PCA, RPCNA (while reserving the right not to send two delegates). No action: OPC, RPCES. The latter two churches are to take cognizance of this request from the Council and of its approval by three of the churches and are requested to take action at the next meeting of their major assemblies.

c. AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION

Other reports.

i. The RPCES delegation reported the instructions of its General Synod (see item 5, above). It was moved and seconded that the Council recommend to its member churches that its Constitution, Art II, Basis of the Council, be amended by inserting after the words, "...full commitment to the Scriptures as the infallible Word of God," the phrase, "including those passages where Scripture speaks of history and the cosmos." It was moved and carried that a committee of five, one appointed by each of the delegates, consider this matter and report to the Council at the beginning of the next morning session. The chairman appointed the CRC representative as convener. Representatives appointed were: CRC, Kromminga; OPC, Clownwy; PCA, Robertson; RPCES, Harris; RPCNA, Willson.
PCA

ii. The PCA delegation reported an action by its General Assembly that "This (NAPARC) relationship... (of) Churches in Ecclesiastical Fellowship... 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." It also reported a further action in the form of a resolution on prayer (see item 13-b-ii, below).

12. INTERIM COMMITTEE REPORT 2

Report No. 2 of the Interim Committee was presented as follows:

In response to your Committee's request to the Interchurch (Fraternal) Relations Committee of the several founding churches of the Council, dated July 25, 1975, three of these Committees made suggestions regarding possible subjects for study and areas of cooperation among the member churches.

They are as follows, in the order appearing in the Proposed Agenda:

- I. Study subjects
 - a. Already completed, which can be shared — OPC
 - (1) Oath-bound secret societies
 - (2) Local Evangelism
 - (3) Theological Education
 - (4) Song in Public Worship
 - (5) Proof Texts for the Westminster Confession of Faith
 - (6) The Free Offer of the Gospel
 - (7) The Doctrine of Guidance
 - (8) Scripture and Inspiration
 - (9) Sabbath Question
 - (10) Abortion
 - (11) Race

The OPC Committee proposes, in this connection, that "each denominational delegation prepare an index of major reports to assemblies/synods for integration into a common index"
 - b. On which consultation and study is desired
 - (1) Officers of the church — RPCNA
 - (2) Number of offices in the church — PCA
 - (3) Nature of diaconate office — RPCNA
 - (4) Guidelines for reception/dismissal of ministers — RPCNA
 - (5) Proof-texts of Westminster Confession and Catechisms — PCA
 - (6) Reformed evangelism — OPC
 - (7) Unity of the church and denominations — OPC
 - (8) Advice on how to explore possibility of church union — OPC
2. Areas of cooperation
 - a. Already engaged in
 - (1) Formerly

Christian Education — CRC/OPC
 - (2) Presently
 - (a) Christian Education — OPC/RPCNA, PCA
 - (b) Foreign Missions — OPC/RCUS, RC New Zealand, RC Australia, RC (Art. 31) of the Netherlands
 - (c) Verbal revision of Westminster Confession — RPCNA/OPC, RPCEs
 - b. Which should be explored
 - (1) Verbal revision of Westminster Confession — RPCNA, PCA
 - (2) Concert of prayer — PCA
 - (3) Conduct of missionary work — PCA
 - (4) Use of churches' major reports — OPC
 - (5) Cooperative work by respective agencies — OPC

These responses indicate a widespread sense of need and desire for mutual instruction and help among our churches. The number of matters placed before this meeting reinforces this Committee's opinion, expressed in our July 25 letter, that this meeting should be, after organization, chiefly a planning meeting for future operation. Provision is made in the Proposed Agenda for this under the item "Formulation of Plans."

As noted in this Committee's Report No. 1 five churches named as the "founding churches" of the Council have approved participation. In addition, the Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church voted to notify the Council "that we desire full membership and participation in that body," and the chairman of their Committee on Interchurch Relations requested that their church also be regarded as a "founding church" at this constituting meeting of the Council. It was the unanimous opinion of the Interim Committee that since the several churches had approved the Council with specific churches named in its Constitution, and with a specific procedure for receiving additional churches, it was not within the authority of either the Interim Committee or the Council itself to change the procedure that had been accepted by the churches. The Committee informed the ARP Committee, however, that it would inform the Council of their request. A later communication from the ARP Committee states that they "readily accept your assessment of the situation, though we are glad the matter will be brought before the whole Council." They expect to be represented at this meeting in response to your Committee's invitation to send observers.

The endeavor to coordinate the time of this meeting of the Council with a meeting of the National Presbyterian and Reformed Fellowship indicates both a commonality and an overlapping of interests between these groups. It is your Committee's judgment that an attempt should be made to avoid duplication of effort and multiplication of meetings, and to achieve cooperation where possible. It is conceivable that the NPRF, having been largely responsible for the birth of NAPARC, may not have as great usefulness in the future. It should be borne in mind, however, that there is a

clear difference between the groups in that the NAPARC is an organization of churches and the NPRF is of individuals.

Two other matters are of concern to this meeting: determining how funds, however minimal, shall be provided for the work of the Council, and the setting of a policy regarding the distribution and preserving of the Council's records. Because the Committee has not been able to meet, it has no recommendations in these matters.

The Committee recommends:

1. That the action of the 1975 Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church to notify the Council "that we desire full membership and participation in that body" be regarded as an application for membership under provisions of the Constitution, Article V, 2 and 3, that the application be considered at the point specified in the agenda, and that their representatives be welcomed to sit as observers at this meeting.

2. That the officers of the Council, with the members of the acting Interim Committee, make recommendations to this meeting of the Council to establish guidelines for possible future discussions with representatives of the NPRF concerning their respective interests and coordination of efforts.

3. That in order to initiate meetings of representatives of the agencies of the churches, as recommended to the major assemblies by the January 22-23, 1975, Joint Committee meeting, the Council urge those agencies whose major assemblies have approved such meetings to endeavor to hold such meetings as soon as possible, appoint a convening agency, and inform all the specified agencies of the Council's churches of this action.

4. That the minutes of the joint meetings of the Interchurch (Fraternal) Relations Committees leading to the establishment of the Council, namely, those of October 25-26 and November 22-23, 1974, and January 22-23, 1975, be bound with those of the Council.

Sincerely yours,

John P. Galbraith, Chairman

It was moved and seconded that Recommendation 1 be adopted. It was moved and seconded that the ARPC be granted the status of observer until the next meeting of the Council and that their application be assigned to a committee to verify their qualification, according to Article V, Sec. 2, of the Constitution. It was moved and carried that a committee of five, one appointed by each of the delegations, consider this matter, and also the possibility of charter membership for the ARPC, and report to the Council as the second item of business of the next morning session (cf. item 11-c, above). The chairman appointed the PCA representative as convener. Representatives appointed were: CRC, Bratt, OPC, Knight; PCA, Graham; RPCES, Cross; RPCNA, B. A. Stewart. The ARPC delegates were welcomed as observers.

On motion, Recommendation 2 was adopted.

Recommendation 3 had been acted on previously (see item 11-a, above).

On motion, Recommendation 4 was adopted with the deletion of the reference to the meeting of November 1974 (since this was only a sub-committee).

On motion, it was determined as a matter of policy each member church is to be represented on committees of the Council.

Appreciation was expressed to Mr. Galbraith, as chairman of the Interim Committee, for his preparation of reports and plans for this meeting.

13. PLANS

The Council took up plans for cooperative activity (see list in item 12, above).

a. STUDY SUBJECTS

Study subjects, i. those already completed. On motion it was decided that each delegation should prepare and submit to the Council at its next meeting a list of the completed major reports of its denomination, with references to where it may be found, and that each delegation determine how far back to go chronologically and what constitutes a "major" report.

ii. It was decided, on motion, that each delegation should furnish to the Council at its next meeting a list of topics that are currently under study in its denomination and that these lists be updated annually by each interchurch relations committee.

On motion it was decided that the Council should send the index and the list of subjects under study to the stated clerks and to the interchurch relations committees of the respective denominations. Each committee is requested to include this information in its report to its major assembly.

On motion the Interim Committee was instructed to consider arranging a conference on the subject "Office in the Church."

Recess was taken at 5:30 p.m. The Council reconvened at 7:40 with prayer by Mr. Oliver.

It was moved and carried that a committee of five, one appointed by each delegation, consider procedures for the Council's finances, records, and next meeting (items 9-cont. and 15-17, below), and report to the next morning session. The chairman appointed the CRC representative as convener. Representatives appointed were: CRC, Bel; OPC, Peterson; PCA, Williamson; RPCES, Rayburn, RPCNA, Kilpatrick.

On motion it was decided that the meeting would recess at 8:00 p.m. for committee meetings.

b. AREAS OF COOPERATION

Areas of cooperation, i. those already engaged in. It was reported that to the list of such areas there should be added under foreign missions, the participation in the CRC's World Relief by the OPC and the RPCEs.

ii. Those areas of cooperation to be explored — The PCA delegation reported that their church is open to working with other evangelical missionary boards and would appreciate receiving information and that copies should be sent to all members of their Committee on Mission to the World.

The PCA delegation also presented their General Assembly's resolution on a concert of prayer. It was adopted in the following revised form:

The North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council, at their first meeting calls 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 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 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.

Recess was taken at 8:10 p.m., with prayer by Dr. Kromminga, to reconvene at 8:30 a.m. at Geneva College, Beaver Falls. The Council reconvened on November 1, 1975, at 8:35 a.m. at the college, with the singing of Psalm 23 and devotions led by Dr. Clowney.

14. NPRF

Consideration of Item 14, on the relation of NAPARC to the NPRF (see item 12, Recom. 2, above), as well as the docketed continuation of items 11-c-i, on amendment to the constitution, and 12 — Recommendation 1, on membership of the ARPC, were postponed to allow duplication of the reports of the committees concerned.

15. FUNDS

The Committee on Council Procedures presented its report. The following financial recommendations were, on motion, adopted:

That the NAPARC budget for 1975-76 be set at \$500.; for 1976-77, at \$2,500.;

That the budgets be met by per capita contributions from the member churches, the treasurer to determine the proportions and amounts for each church and to forward his request to the various interchurch relations committees, and that each committee furnish the treasurer with its church's total communicant membership;

That Mr. A. Bel be elected as treasurer and Mr. N. Vander Zee as assistant treasurer;

That the treasurer execute on behalf of the Council any resolution requested by the bank for the opening of a bank account.

The Council set September 1 to August 31 as its fiscal year.

16. MINUTES

The following secretarial recommendations of the Committee were, on motion, adopted:

That each interchurch relations committee determine the number of copies of NAPARC minutes that it will need and report this figure to the secretary;

That the secretary keep in separate locations two copies of the minutes of each meeting.

17. NEXT MEETING

The Committee's recommendation was, on motion, adopted that the next meeting of the Council be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, on October 29-30, 1976.

11-c-i AMENDMENT TO CONST. (Cont'd)

(Cont'd.) The Committee on Amendment to the Constitution presented its report as follows:

Your Committee with regard to the insertion of the phrase in Basis of the Council (Constitution, Sec. II), following, the Word of God, "Including those passages where Scripture speaks of history and the cosmos..." recommends the following:

1. That the Council not recommend the proposed amendment at this time, for the following reasons:

- a. It is difficult to incorporate the words of the proposed amendment smoothly into the words of the "Basis."
- b. The Council did not have advance notice of the proposed change, and it is unwise to attempt an important revision on short notice.
- c. The constituent major Assemblies accepted the existing "Basis" less than a half-year ago as an adequate working basis for the Council.
- d. There is some question as to whether the proposed amendment expresses so succinctly the principal issue with respect to the authority of Scripture, as to justify its adoption as a balanced strengthening of the "Basis."

2. While the word "infallible" was included in the existing "Basis" in order to reflect the high doctrine of Scripture held by the member churches, the Constitution can be improved in the direction of defining more clearly, as this amendment seeks to do, the distinctive character of this fellowship in opposition to modern errors concerning the doctrine of Scripture.

Therefore, we recommend a study committee be appointed in keeping with the regulation of the Bylaws (V,1,2) to propose an appropriate revision of the "Basis" to the next meeting of the Council and to provide the respective Inter-Church Committees with a copy of its report and recommendations three months in advance of the Council meeting.

On motion Recommendation 1 was adopted in the following form: That the Council not recommend to the member churches the proposed amendment at this time.

On motion Recommendation 2 was adopted. The chairman appointed the RPNA representative as convener. Representatives appointed are: CRC, John Kromminga; OPC, Clowney; PCA, Palmer Robertson, chairman; RPCEs, Harris; RPCNA, S. Bruce Wilson; (CRC and PCA are to report their appointees to Bruce Wilson as chairman of the RPNA Committee).

14. NPRF (Contd)

The Committee to Establish Guidelines for Future Discussions with the National Presbyterian and Reformed Fellowship submitted its report as follows:

Your Committee has sought to distinguish between the respective Purposes and Functions of the NPRF and NAPARC on the basis of the statements of their constitutions. In the judgment of the Committee the distinctions are as follows:

Purposes

NPRF: Provide encouragement and mutual assistance among individuals who are in Reformed churches and Reformed individuals in other churches.

NAPARC: Enable the constituent churches to advise, counsel, and cooperate with each other, as churches, and to hold out the goal of union.

Functions

NPRF: Bring members together in colloquia for instruction and inspiration, to enlarge the fellowship, and to enter into broader kingdom matters (e.g., politics, education, and economics).

NAPARC: Consult and cooperate in those matters that are uniquely ecclesiastical.

Your Committee also wishes to point out that the two organizations have obligations to each other. NPRF should, for example, encourage its members to pray for the NAPARC churches and to seek ways for its members to express more fully a pure witness to the Word of God. And NAPARC should encourage the members of its churches to aid the NPRF in achieving its stated purpose.

In conclusion, your Committee recommends:

1. That the Council express its appreciation to the NPRF for gathering into Reformed fellowship Christian people of Reformed commitment who had had little such fellowship, and for laying the groundwork for the foundation of this Council;

2. That the Council express its appreciation for the initiative of the NPRF in conceiving of a Congress as a witness of the Reformed faith to the world and suggest to the NPRF that it make specific plans for the Congress and report them to the Interchurch Relations Committees of the NAPARC churches for their support and inclusion in their reports to their synods/general assemblies; and

3. That a copy of this report be sent to the Board of NPRF with an invitation to consult with the Council's Interim Committee which shall report to the Council with recommendations.

Respectfully submitted, (Signed) Bratt, Galbraith, Oliver, Payne, Smith

On motion Recommendation 1 was adopted.

On motion Recommendation 2 was adopted.

On motion Recommendation 3 was adopted in the following form: That an invitation be sent to the Board of NPRF to consult with the Council's Interim Committee, which shall report to the Council.

18. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Committee on Application for Membership submitted its report as follows:

Your NAPARC Advisory Committee was appointed with a mandate to advise the Council re the processing of the ARPC application for membership in NAPARC.

Your Committee recommends:

1. That the ARPC application for membership be received for consideration by NAPARC and its constituent members in accord with the provisions of the Constitution, Article V, 2 and 3.

2. That the application of the ARPC be processed as follows:

- a. A committee of the member churches shall be appointed to consult with the leadership of the ARPC (including the Interchurch Relations Committee) to express our gratitude for their application and to obtain the acquaintance and understanding of the Reformed character of the ARPC necessary to make a meaningful recommendation.

- b. The Committee report shall be presented to NAPARC and to the interchurch relations committees of its member churches to assist in the decisions re the acceptance of the ARPC.
- c. NAPARC invites and urges the ARPC to send observers to our meetings during the processing.

Grounds:

- 1. With the exception of a recent relationship with the PCA, the constituent members of NAPARC have had little acquaintance and no ecclesiastical fellowship with the ARPC.
- 2. A fuller mutual acquaintance will be helpful both to the ARPC and NAPARC and will make the contemplated membership more meaningful for both.

On motion Recommendation 1 was adopted with deletion of the words "and its constituent members."

On motion Recommendation 2, with Grounds, was adopted. The chairman appointed the PCA representative as convener of this committee. Representatives appointed by their respective delegations were: CRC, Bratt; OPC, Oliver; PCA, Schutte; RPCES, Cross; RPCNA, Stewart.

19. NEW BUSINESS

a. The OPC delegation reported that on the instruction of the OP General Assembly they were initiating exploratory conversations toward church unity with the other member denominations of NAPARC and with the RCUS (Eureka Classis). They also reported that, as a result of a joint meeting with the RPCES Fraternal Relations Committee held on the previous day, both groups were petitioning their major assemblies for authority to initiate three-way talks, including the PCA, concerning possible church union.

b. It was moved and seconded that a committee representing each member body in the Council be instructed to consider the problems and prospects of eventual union of the member bodies. It was moved and carried that the motion be laid on the table.

The Council decided to continue without recess until business was finished.

c. Nominations were opened for the election of two additional members to the 1975-76 Interim Committee (Bylaws VI). Nominated were: J. White, P. Robertson, and M. H. Smith. Dr. Robertson requested that his name be withdrawn. On motion his request was granted, the nominations were closed, and J. White and M. Smith were declared elected.

20. ADJOURNED

The Council adjourned at 12:45 p.m., with appreciation being expressed to the 1975 chairman, Mr. Galbraith, for his effective moderating, and with prayer by the chairman.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. Payne, Secretary

Appendix D

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL BUSINESS
TO THE FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

INTRODUCTION:

The Committee on Judicial Business is composed of the following elected teaching and ruling elders:

Teaching Elders

John Holmes

James E. Moore

Todd W. Allen

Class of 1978

Class of 1977

Class of 1976

Ruling Elders

Robert H. Kirksey

George Gulley

John M. Barnes

James Wilkerson, Jr.

(Alternate)

The Committee selected Todd W. Allen of Shenandoah Presbyterian Church, Miami, Florida, Chairman for this year at a meeting held September 10, 1975 in Jackson, Mississippi.

Since that time the Committee has acted on matters coming before it by written communication and telephone. The Committee has requested that the Committee on Administration include in its Manual of Operation a section to cover the function and operating procedures for the Committee on Judicial Business since this Committee, between Assemblies, functions as advisory to the Stated Clerk and as a sub-committee of the Committee on Administration. On matters of a constitutional nature the Committee on Judicial Business performs duties for and reports directly to the General Assembly.

The Committee on Judicial Business has received several requests for changes to the Book of Church Order. These changes are listed below and it is recommended that these changes be referred to the Editorial Committee for their consideration and review, and to be included as a part of that Committee's Report.

ACTIONS:

1. That the request for clarification of the Book of Church Order, Par. 14-8 by the Third General Assembly be made by ruling that this paragraph is satisfied by the Minutes of Presbytery being submitted to each General Assembly for review, plus the annual statistical reports.

2. That the Overture from Rev. Charles McNutt of Faith and Rebecca Littlepage Churches, Charleston, West VA, requesting clarification of Book of Church Order, paragraph 58-1 be answered by replacing the first sentence of the paragraph with the following sentence: "Believer's children are children of the covenant, and when baptized become non-communing members of the visible church."

3. That the request for clarification by the Stated Clerk of the Book of Church Order, paragraph 15 1-11 be made by ruling that the intent of this paragraph is that, when a vacancy occurs in a Class during a year the alternate will automatically become the member to fill the unexpired term.

4. That the following recommended changes in the Book of Church Order from the Office of the Stated Clerk be referred to the Editorial Committee:

(a) That the Book of Church Order be amended on page 1, paragraph 14-2 by ending the sentence with the word "held," eliminating the last phrase that reads, "and any corresponding church court with which an affiliate relationship may be established that is satisfactory to both courts." (This Recommendation originated with the Committee on Mission to the World).

(b) That the title Holy Spirit be used instead of Holy Ghost consistently throughout the text. This will require changes as follows: page 1, paragraph I last word; page 89, last line; page 92, fifth line from bottom of page; page 97, second paragraph, first line; page 102, first line.

(c) Paragraph 15-2 shift the word 'Elders' in the third line to follow 'Ruling' so it will read 'Teaching and Ruling Elders.' And amend after ... 'fraction thereof' to read, 'but not to exceed three Teaching Elders and three Ruling Elders from any one congregation.'

(d) Paragraph 25-1, Add the words 'in writing' as in 26-2. "...submit names in writing to the session..."

(e) Paragraph 33-7, substitute 'reasonable' for 'seasonable' as used in 33-8.

(f) Paragraph 35-1, Add the word 'General' twice to precede the word 'Assembly' in both occurrences in the last line.

(g) Paragraph 51-4, Change first word of second line 'every' to the word 'the' consistent with last line of 53-2.

(h) Paragraph 55-2 add the word 'true' before 'religion.'

(i) Page 89 substitute 'In Jesus' name' for 'For Jesus' sake.'

(j) Page 105, Capital 'A' for 'Almighty' in the first line, and capital 'E' for 'Everlasting' in the first line of the third paragraph.

(l) Page 79, paragraph 57-4, in the fourth paragraph put all references to 'parents' in the plural . . . i.e., 'parents' . . . 'them and their child' . . . 'let them know' . . . 'to themselves and child, if they be' . . . 'requiring their solemn' . . . 'their duty.'

(m) In the next to last paragraph, page 79, replace 'it' with 'him' in the three places where 'it' occurs.

(n) Page 80, paragraph 57-5, Lift the parentheses on 'him' or 'his' and add 'her' in parentheses. Similarly, page 101, At the Grave, put 'sister' and 'her' in parentheses and lift those on 'brother' and 'his.'

Respectfully submitted,

TODD W. ALLEN, CHAIRMAN
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL BUSINESS

June 10, 1976

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL BUSINESS TO THE FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

The Permanent Committee on Judicial Business submits the following supplemental report:

1. That our recommendation for a change in the *Book of Church Order Paragraph 58-1* (under Action 2) that the word "become" be replaced by the Phrase "shall be recognized as" so that the amendment shall read "Believers' children are children of the covenant, and when baptized shall be recognized as non-communing members of the visible church."
2. That 4(a) become Action 4 so that it can be handled as a first reading amendment to the Book of Church Order.
3. That Action 4 (b through n) be changed to 5 (a through m) for handling by the Editorial Committee.
4. With respect to a communication addressed to the Stated Clerk from Rev. Donald Dunkerley regarding the ordination and installation of an assistant minister, the Committee recommends the following modifications and changes to the Book of Church Order paragraph 22-5 through 22-10:
 - a. Paragraph 22-5, Following the words "QUESTIONS FOR ORDINATION" add a footnote, as follows: "For an assistant minister only questions 1-7 ending with the word "flock" shall be used.
 - b. Paragraph 22-6, Following the words "QUESTIONS TO CONGREGATION" add a footnote, as follows: "For assistant minister address the Session omitting the last phrase of questions 1 and 2.
 - c. Paragraph 22-7, Following the words ". . . to this effect" add a footnote, as follows: "For assistant minister add the word 'assistant' before 'pastor', and charge the Session rather than the Congregation."
 - d. Paragraph 22-9, Following the words "QUESTIONS FOR INSTALLATION" add a footnote, as follows: "For assistant minister substitute the word "serve" for "take charge of" and add the word "assistant" before "pastor".
 - e. Paragraph 22-10, Following the words "QUESTIONS TO CONGREGATION" add a footnote, as follows: "For assistant minister address the Session omitting the last phrase of questions 1 and 2

INFORMATION ON ADVICE GIVEN TO THE STATED CLERK FROM THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE

1. That the complaint of Trinity Presbyterian Church, Slidell, Louisiana, against Grace Presbytery be handled as follows:
 - a. That the form of the complaint be found in order and the complaint be heard.
 - b. That a Judicial Commission be named to hear and adjudicate the case.
 - c. That the Committee of Commissioners on Judicial Business, with the exception of any members from Grace Presbytery, be constituted as a Commission for this purpose.
2. That the complaint from the Session of Eastland Presbyterian Church, Memphis, Tennessee, against Covenant Presbytery be handled as follows:
 - a. That the form of the complaint be found in order and the complaint be heard.
 - b. That the Assembly name the following commission of 18 men to hear and adjudicate the case:

Teaching Elders

Frank Barker
 Charles Dunahoo
 Erskine Jackson
 Laurie Jones
 David Nicholas

John W. P. Oliver
 Robert Ostenson
 Palmer Robertson
 William Stanway

Ruling Elders

Robert V. Butts
 James Campbell
 Leon Hendricks
 Frank Horton
 Kenneth S. Keyes

Hugh Potts
 Ed Robeson
 Joby Walker
 Jack Williamson

3. With respect to a communication from Rev. Donald Dunkerley concerning the oversight of a church without a session but with at least one ruling elder, the Committee would direct attention to Paragraph 12-2 of the Book of Church Order beginning with the word "secondly" and continuing through the end of the paragraph which gives church courts latitude to establish rules as needed agreeable with Scripture and doctrines which are not in violation of the Constitution of the Church.
4. That an overture filed after July 1 by Gulf Coast Presbytery be referred to the (5th) General Assembly.
5. With respect to the inquiry from Rev. Crowell Cooley regarding the signing of the Book of Obligation, it is the Committee's opinion that it is proper for a candidate to sign at the convenience of Presbytery once he is approved by Presbytery to be ordained or in the case of an incoming pastor when he is received by Presbytery. Until a pastor has signed the Book of Obligation he is not a member of Presbytery.

INFORMATION ON AN OPINION GIVEN TO THE TENNESSEE VALLEY PRESBYTERY

1. The Committee on Judicial Business was asked by the Tennessee Valley Presbytery to give an interpretation and its advice regarding the application of the "Extraordinary Clause". The Committee gives the following opinion that each Presbytery has the right and responsibility to interpret the "Extraordinary Clause" for itself and its action in no way binds the action of any other Presbytery.

Respectfully submitted,
 Todd W. Allen, Chairman

September 14, 1976

(See paragraph 4-66 for actions of the General Assembly on this report.)

Appendix E

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS TO THE FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

INTRODUCTION

"Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or
whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of
God." — I Corinthians 10:31

If the Church is truly the Church, she must be involved in Christian education. Anything less is testimony that that Church or denomination is no true part of the body of Jesus Christ, the Master Teacher.

No less important than evangelism is Christian education. The two always must be combined by those who sincerely wish to obey Christ's great Commission.

And, though the ministry of teaching the Gospel is carried on by local churches, the General Assembly must also conduct such a ministry. The First General Assembly established this Committee to provide "resources and counsel to the Church in matters related to her teaching and training ministries." The Committee exists to "assist the courts and local churches in the task of learning and proclaiming the truth" (*Minutes*, First General Assembly, 1-77, p. 56).

Local churches, with few if any exceptions, cannot develop their own Sunday School curriculum materials. They cannot write, edit, and publish program and study literature for youth, women, men, church officers, and ministers.

The General Assembly's Committee for Christian Education and Publications continually challenges the churches to adopt a united stance and to develop a common ministry of Christian nurture and discipline which will raise a banner of witness to the world.

No other publisher in America produces Presbyterian literature and materials totally suitable for our churches. If we take seriously Christ's command to "teach all things, whatsoever He has commanded," we must support a General Assembly level ministry to provide such biblical guides and helps. Without an office of education the denomination will rapidly disintegrate into a loose, congregational federation of independent churches, with a consequent proliferation of programs and activities and costly duplications of resource materials.

This report seeks to highlight some of the ministries of the Presbyterian Church in America which are a part of her obedience to Christ's command to teach.

PREPARING CHRISTIANS FOR GROWTH AND SERVICE

One of the most urgent tasks the Lord has given to His Church is that of equipping His people for purposeful service. Every believer is to be trained to function in Christ's kingdom as a prophet, priest, and king. Sessions, presbyteries, and the General Assembly may not biblically set any priority above this: "the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry" (Eph. 4:11-13). Only in this way may the Church's God-given goal be reached, the goal of all the saints brought to "the unity of the faith, and of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fulness of Christ."

Mini-conferences The Committee and staff, therefore, have given leadership training a top priority in the denomination's ministry of Christian nurture. Staff members have traveled many thousands of miles to conduct conferences, workshops, and seminars for church workers. Almost 10,000 people in 165 churches and 17 presbyteries have received instruction in biblical principles and methods for church growth, officer and leadership training, Christian teaching, the roles of men and women in the church, organization and administration, educational psychology, and youth work. The response everywhere has been enthusiastic and plans are being developed for conference trips to South Florida in November of this year, and to the mid-Atlantic states in the Winter and Spring of 1977.

On occasion, the teaching team has included staff members from Great Commission Publications, as well as committee members and other persons who possess expertise in the field of Christian education.

Because the sponsoring group or groups pays the costs for travel and room and board it has not been necessary to use regularly budgeted funds to support the "Equipping the Saints" training program.

Ministers' Continuing Education Dr. Jay Adams, internationally recognized counselor and a professor at Westminster Theological Seminary, conducted a 19-hour seminar on pastoral counseling for the more than 100 ministers and Christian education workers who attend our denomination's first Minister's Continuing Education event, February 16-18, 1976, in Montgomery, Alabama.

The next such event is scheduled for February 14-16, 1977. Details will be mailed soon to ministers and Sessions in the PCA.

Library Helps A manual has been developed to assist local churches to establish and maintain an adequate library ministry. An outgrowth of this work has been the development of a small but rapidly growing resource and research library in the Christian education office. Books, tapes, and

periodicals are being filed and arranged for easy access to Christian education workers, writers, and researchers.

Scholarship Fund In compliance with the request of the General Assembly the Committee is in the process of establishing a scholarship fund for deserving PCA members who are studying for a Christian vocation within the denomination. A \$10,000 gift has been provided as the first step in establishing this account. It is realized that if the scholarship fund is to provide adequate financial assistance to those who request aid, a much larger amount of funds is needed. We anticipate that as the denomination becomes aware of this program, it will gain increasing financial support from our constituency. Guidelines for the administration and disposition of the scholarship funds have been written and are being submitted to this assembly.

FAMILY MINISTRIES

Our Covenant Theology forces us to take seriously the responsibility of the head of the family to minister to his spouse and children. Due to the vicious attacks being made on the family in modern society, the Committee for Christian Education is determined to emphasize the necessity for providing instruction and encouragement to Christian families.

The first denomination-wide conference sponsored by the PCA was a resounding success. More than 400 persons (125 families) gathered in July, 1976 at Covenant College, for four days of study, worship, fellowship and recreation — all geared to family needs and growth.

Dr. Robert Ostenson brought morning messages which developed the theme of the church as the family of God. Eleven daily "fellowships" gave opportunity for just about any member of the church family to learn how God's Word applies to his particular circumstances. Groups were offered for Singles, Husbands, Wives, Parents, College Students, Children, the Divorced, the Elderly, Youth, the Widowed, and Parents without Partners. Activities for young children and a nursery for infants were provided.

Women in the Church More than 24,000 women are using study materials provided by this Committee. Women's organizations have been established in almost every local church and all but three presbyteries. Suggested by-laws and organizational guide-lines, approved by the First General Assembly, are available for Sessions and other Leaders. Literally thousands of PCA women gather monthly in church and presbytery meetings for Bible study, fellowship, and inspiration.

The printing of WIC study guides is scheduled as follows:

Fall of 1976	"Living Life as Christ Taught It" by the Rev. Gordon Reed	— Reprint
	"A Woman Looks at the Confession" Part I, by Mrs. Jeanne Patterson	— Reprint
	"A Woman That Feareth the Lord" (Proverbs), by Mrs. Emalyn Spencer	— First Printing
	"The Miracles of Christ and Their Spiritual Application" by the Rev. James Bland	— First Printing
Fall of 1977	"A Woman Looks at the Confession" Part II, by Mrs. Jeanne Patterson	— Reprint
	"A Woman That Feareth the Lord" by Mrs. Emalyn Spencer	— Reprint
	"The Miracles of Christ", Bland	— Reprint
	Missions Manual (untitled) by the Rev. Allen Fleece	— First printing

One title is discontinued and one is added each year.

Men of the Covenant Due to a lack of funds, the Committee has been unable to provide program helps or organizational guides for the many MOC groups being established by local churches and presbyteries. Copies of by-laws and other helps used by established groups are shared with newly-organizing groups upon request.

The Third General Assembly adopted a brief biblical and theological statement to assist Sessions who are contemplating starting men's work.

Youth Ministries The Committee regrets that sufficient funds have not been available to allow the development of an adequate program for youth in the PCA. Though many local churches and some presbyteries have established excellent ministries to and for youth, little assistance has been available from the denomination's office. It is hoped that at least a beginning may be made in 1977 toward the preparation of program helps and organizational guidelines.

Though the Third General Assembly "approved the development of" a program of Summer of Service ministries for youth, it has been impossible to fully establish such a ministry due to restrictions of time and funds. The Committee reports that progress is being made, however, and plans are now being formulated for the Summer of 1977.

PUBLICATIONS

Thousands of study guides, copies of the Westminster standards, and the Book of Church Order, educational booklets and helps, and denominational forms have been produced in the staff offices in Montgomery and distributed to members and friends of the denomination in the United States and several foreign countries (this refers only to items sold through the denomination's

Literature Distribution Center, not to newsletters, prayer sheets, or free materials produced and mailed out by other denominational agencies).

The pamphlet "The Presbyterian Church in America Is ..." has introduced thousands of Americans to the new denomination and makes a significant contribution to our MUS efforts. Written in 1974 by the C.E. Coordinator, the pamphlet has gone through a revision and several printings. Almost 50,000 have been distributed by our first General Assembly committees.

The doctrinal standards and the Book of Church Order are prepared by the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, printed in Montgomery, and distributed from the C.E. office. More than 16,000 copies are in use.

Educational materials and certificates and forms for churches and presbyteries comprise the bulk of the remainder of the publications of this Committee. Several thousand of these have been distributed — including baptismal certificates, applications for church membership, certificates of dismission and/or reception of members, certificates of ordination for ministers, the **Memory Work Notebook**, and WIC study guides.

Numerous requests have been received for printed materials for MOC ministries, officer training courses, youth programs, and Sunday School curricula, but a lack of funds has slowed development of these items.

Due to the generosity of a Ruling Elder in a RPCES church in Texas, we have published a **Directory of Reformed Churches** which provides names and addresses of churches and ministers of the PCA, the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Evangelical Synod, the Christian Reformed Church, the Reformed Church of North America, and the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. Such a directory is of great value to persons seeking a Reformed church to visit or join in various cities of the USA, as well as a means of facilitating communications between brethren of like mind.

CURRICULUM

Since the Third General Assembly, two milestones have been reached in our program to provide a solidly biblical educational curriculum for all members of the PCA.

First, the joint venture with the Orthodox Presbyterian Church was consummated in January, 1976, involving us in a unique cooperative publishing arrangement with Great Commission Publications. This gave our denomination immediate possession of a Sunday School curriculum for grades 1-12 and an editorial and writing staff housed in Philadelphia. The Rev. Harold Borchert, pastor of the Pinelands Presbyterian Church (PCA) of Miami, Florida, was elected President of the Board of Trustees of GCP, and another PCA minister, the Rev. Harry Miller, of Montgomery, Alabama, was elected Treasurer.

Second, field-testing was accomplished for newly-revised Senior High Sunday School materials. In May of this year sixteen PCA churches and a like number of OPC congregations participated in this important "in-the-classroom" testing program — an important step towards publication of the complete new Senior High curriculum in December, 1977. The PCA churches were:

Lebanon, Abbeville, SC	Covenant, Columbia, SC
First, Stanely, NC	First, Water Valley, MS
Briarwood, Birmingham, AL	Covenant, Montgomery, AL
Moss Point, Moss Point, MS	McIlwain Memorial, Pensacola, FL
West End, Hopewell, VA	St. Paul, Jackson, MS
Tchula, Tchula, MS	Hixon, Hixon, TN
Fifth Street, Tyler, TX	Crescent Hill, Selma, AL
Covenant, Cedar Bluff, VA	Pinelands, Miami, FL

Results of the four-week testing period have been compiled and analyzed, and will be utilized during the editing process. Such testing by teachers of Senior High young people in our local churches provides valuable information which will help us provide the very best in sound, usable materials.

In another action of the Board of Trustees, Mr. Frank Horton, a Ruling Elder in the Clinton, MS Church (PCA), and a member of the Committee for Christian Education and Publications, was designated as the "Copyright Holder" for Great Commission Publications.

COLLEGE SURVEY

Information concerning colleges is still being gathered by a subcommittee which hopes to complete its fact-finding survey and submit a report to the Committee of Commissioners at the Fifth General Assembly (see **Minutes** of the Third General Assembly, p. 91, Rec. 30).

PROMOTION

The ministry of Christian education was publicized to the denomination in a variety of ways in 1975-76.

Committee members and staff personnel visited almost all the presbyteries, presenting a program designed to inform, interpret, and challenge. A 12-minute color slide presentation aided these efforts, as did a number of printed pieces.

Staff members also represented the Committee during mini-conferences, speaking engagements, and in various meetings of denominational committees. The Coordinator participated in the "Vision '76" promotional events sponsored by the Stewardship Subcommittee.

Plans are being made for an ambitious program of promotion utilizing men, media presentations, and literature which hopefully will take the message of Christian Education to almost every local church in the denomination.

FINANCES

In 1975 the denomination's ministry of Christian education was poorly supported. The Committee received barely one-half of its budgeted funds. The year 1976 began with an excellent January income of more than \$54,000.00, but contributions declined in February and March, forcing the Committee and staff to undertake stringent economizing measures. An urgent appeal for support, published in the March, 1976 issue of "Continuing . . .", resulting in an overwhelming response from concerned sessions and individuals. April's income was \$33,000, only \$2,000 less than this Committee's monthly budget requirements. When this report was written, contributions for the first half of May were also highly encouraging. However, if full support is not forthcoming in late 1976 and early 1977, our curriculum program will be curtailed (delaying the publication of adult Sunday School Bible study guides for at least two years) and the work of the Committee will be seriously hampered.

The denomination is committed to a five-year program of curriculum development whose cost is projected as follows: 1976 — \$150,000; 1977 — \$168,000; 1978 — \$190,000; 1979 — \$210,000; 1980 — \$220,000.

These figures include the development of a competent staff of editors and writers and office personnel to produce and distribute materials that will be acceptable to the churches. Already our curriculum extends our evangelistic and educational outreach into nine denominations in foreign countries. Forty-one schools, conferences and institutions, and 615 local churches use *Trinity Hymnal*, of which 135,000 have been printed since 1961. Almost 700 churches with 18,000 pupils are using Great Commission Publications Sunday School literature.

When one considers the world-wide impact of our curriculum it is distressing that only 45% of Presbyterian Church in America congregations contributed to the ministry of Christian Education in the first half of 1976.

CONCLUSION

God has graciously enabled us to accomplish significant goals in spite of serious financial difficulties. Your Committee is thankful that God has seen fit to thrust its Christian Education program into the forefront of Reformed and Presbyterian ministries. Few denominations or Christian organizations offer the kinds of Christian nurture aids already developed in the PCA. Biblical church growth concepts, Christian discipling, church management, leadership training, curriculum development, continuing education for ministers — these and other Christian education concerns form a vital part of your Committee's program. Almost every member of the local congregation — from the cradle roll to the Session — is ministered to through one or more publications or programs. Thus, this Committee is a service committee in the broadest biblical sense. We serve Christ by serving His Church through programs designed to "proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ" (Col. 1:28).

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Horton
 Hugh Cunningham
 Roy Gamble
 Donald Boerema
 Charles Parks
 Edward Robeson
 O. H. Smith, III (alt.)
 Thomas Robert Patete
 Don Keith Clements
 James Albert Turner
 Jack Brown Scott
 Elbert Lee Trinkle, III
 Richard Eugene Hunt (alt.)
 Harold Borchert, Chairman

See paragraph 4-80 for recommendations adopted by the General Assembly.

Appendix F

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES TO THE FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (As amended and adopted by the General Assembly)

INTRODUCTION

On the eve of the American War Between the States in 1859 the eminent British historian and statesman Thomas Macauley made this amazingly accurate statement about the United States:

"America will be destroyed in the twentieth century as Rome was in the fifth with this one notable exception. The Huns and Vandals who destroyed Rome came from without while those who will destroy America will arise from within."

In this Bicentennial year we are cognizant of the political and revolutionary Huns and Vandals who have arisen from within our nation seeking to turn

race against race
class against class
women against men
children against parents

in an effort to create such an ungovernable and chaotic situation in our land that the government will have to become a socialist dictatorship under the guise of restoring law and order.

The political Huns and Vandals have been aided by their ecclesiastical counterparts within Protestant denominations which once faithfully proclaimed the Biblical doctrines of adoption, atonement, and assurance but now proclaim the social gospel of abortion, amnesty, and acid.

Though spoken in 1886 the incisive words of Dr. B. M. Palmer remain valid for those of us in the Presbyterian Church in America in 1976:

"The simple fact remains that we are separated from the Church of our fathers upon a strictly Biblical issue. Whether we ourselves fully comprehend or not the significance of our withdrawal, the logic of the case constituted us the asserters and guardians of this vital truth and ... we must preach to the world the Gospel of the Kingdom."

We of Mission to the United States believe that "blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord" and the assertion of the truth of God as revealed in an inerrant Bible and the survival of this Republic are bound together. The precious responsibility of beginning new churches in the United States which are faithful to the Scripture and the Reformed faith and obedient to the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ not only maintains the glory of God in our land, preserves the dignity of the truth of God, and expands the kingdom of Christ but also contributes to the continuation of the United States as the "land of the free and the home of the brave."

Therefore, let those who desire the glory of God and who love this country give ear to the cause of home missions
pray more earnestly that God would establish many new churches and
generously support financially the cause of Mission to the United States.

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 Larry Mills as Coordinator. Realizing the necessity for an Assistant Coordinator, the Committee thanks God for giving us the Reverend Tom Hughes to fill this position. Upon his approval by the Assembly's Theological Examinations Committee and reception into Louisiana Presbytery Mr. Hughes assumed his duties in April. We commend Mr. Rembert Johnson, who after two years of unselfish service as Mission to the United States Accountant-Bookkeeper, retired on April 30. We are also thankful for the efficient secretaries which the Lord has given Mission to the United States.
In accordance with the instructions of the General Assembly, we have submitted our proposed budget for 1977 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. We believe that the critical need for the gospel in our own country justifies our 1977 budget asking for nearly one million dollars.
2. With the knowledge that the following list is by no means exhaustive, we inform the Assembly of the following mission needs in the United States and Canada:
 - a. The continuing urgency of beginning churches in areas where there is no Reformed witness. As Presbyteries become stronger in the South we envision that more and more of our effort will be outside of the Southern United States. We are pleased to report that

from churches and/or works in 14 states on January 1, 1974, the Presbyterian Church in America now has churches and/or mission works in 23 states as of June 1, 1976.

We believe that it is possible for the Presbyterian Church in America to accomplish by the end of this decade what no other Reformed or Presbyterian body in the history of our country has achieved and that is a Church which is Reformed and in all fifty states of our great nation.

- b. Specialized ministries to reach minority groups, the inner city, and those in the sub-culture should be a vital part of the ministry of this denomination. During this year the Committee has been involved in specialized ministries in Augusta, Atlanta, Newark, and Virginia, among others.
 - c. Special attention should be given to beginning Reformed churches in university cities.
 - d. Related to mission needs is the continuing need for men with necessary gifts to offer themselves to be organizing pastors.
3. One of the purposes of every mission work begun outside the boundaries of an existing Presbytery is that the work become self-supporting as soon as possible and related to an existing Presbytery. We are grateful for the large number of new churches which have consistently endeavored to decrease their support from this Committee and assume more of their own support. We are thankful that there is no "welfare syndrome" among our new churches.
 4. The Committee reaffirms that it neither desires nor intends to tell Presbyteries how to begin or sustain their home mission work; however, we are willing to co-operate with any Presbytery which seeks our assistance. We see the role of this Committee as that of servant to member Presbyteries and churches. It remains our policy that all requests for aid from any local church or mission group must come to this Committee through and with the approval of the local Presbytery.
In the area of relations with Presbyteries where we have made mistakes we ask the brethren to forgive us in the spirit of love shown by our Lord Jesus Christ, to correct us from the Word, and to attribute our errors to the fact that our zeal for the Lord's Church may have exceeded our knowledge at certain times.
 5. Under the direction of the General Assembly we have raised the funds for the support of the program, which the General Assembly approved in our 1976 Budget. We praise and thank God for His all-sufficiency in providing for the financial need of the Committee since the last General Assembly. The Committee continues to prayerfully consider each request for financial assistance and endeavors to be good stewards of the resources which the Lord has entrusted to us.
 - 6-7. Because these duties are inherently related we speak to them as one. Through the office of the Coordinator, our newsletter, prayer letter, and "Continuing" we have attempted to keep the denomination informed of the work of Mission to the United States. The staff members and committee members have presented the work of Mission to the United States throughout the country during this last year.

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 empowered anew 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.

Submitted for His Glory,

Cecil Williamson, Jr., Chairman
Committee on Mission to the United States

(See paragraphs 4-53 and 4-56 for recommendations adopted by the General Assembly.)

POLICY MANUAL
MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
(As amended and adopted by the Fourth General Assembly)

INTRODUCING MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES

Relationship to Presbyterian Church in America and Its Church Courts:

Mission to the U.S. is an arm of the Presbyterian Church in America. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America has established this Committee as one of its permanent committees. Membership on the Committee is through election by the General Assembly, which itself has received nominations from the constituent Presbyteries.

Relationship of the Committee to the Presbyteries and Sessions of the denomination is defined by the duties assigned to the Committee by the General Assembly:

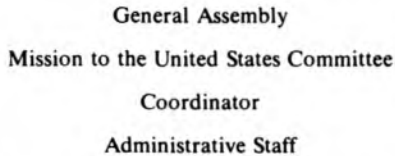
1. To nominate a Coordinator to each General Assembly and recommend his salary to the Committee on Administration.
2. To study the mission needs in the nation, and inform the Assembly of these needs.
3. To promote mission work outside the boundaries of the Church until such work can be integrated into the regular Presbytery, and to assist in the coordination of such work by Presbyteries.
4. To cooperate with Presbyteries in their mission work.
5. To promote financial aid where needed and other mission support throughout the denomination.
6. To interpret the mission program to the denomination.
7. To maintain liaison with the Mission to the United States Committee of all the judicatories.
8. To organize provisional Presbyteries.

Its broad task is, then, to provide leadership and consultation to the Church in developing a missionary program for the U.S. and Canada, seeking to develop and strengthen the missionary spirit across the denomination.

Mission to the United States Organizational Structure

Membership of the Committee is composed of twelve elders, six teaching and six ruling. They are elected by the General Assembly in four classes, each class serving four years and consisting of two teaching elders and one ruling elder, or one teaching elder and two ruling elders.

Administrative lines of responsibility may be visualized by the following organizational chart:



Meetings of the Committee are set according to need, at least every three months exclusive of meetings held during General Assembly. A quorum has been established as seven members. Alternate members, elected by the General Assembly, may serve to constitute a quorum, in which case they serve as voting members (otherwise they participate in discussion but do not vote.)

Administrative staff positions and job descriptions and actual employment are determined by the Committee upon recommendation by the Coordinator. The Coordinator and administrative staff are responsible for employment and management of office staff.

PURPOSE AND MINISTRY OF EACH HOME MISSION CHURCH IS

- A. To present the Gospel to people, urging them to receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ and inviting them to become members of the church.
- B. To provide instruction in the Word of God within the context of Christian fellowship so that believers may be strengthened in their faith.
- C. To reach out in Christian love so that those who are in need may be given help. All of this is done to the glory of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- D. As these ministries are carried on the churches grow in number and in maturity. On Sunday people join in singing the songs of salvation and hearing the preaching of the Word. All during the week activities of study and service are carried on for people of various ages and needs. Many non-members participate and through the work of the Spirit some of them also join the church. As the Word of God is heard and obeyed, these communities of Christians become increasingly engaged in bringing the Kingdom of God to expression.

M-US COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

I. Preparation

Each member, upon election, will be expected to become familiar with the basic procedures and policies of M-US.

II. Corporate Responsibilities

The Committee as a corporate body is responsible for:

- A. Adopting or modifying procedure and policies;
- B. Annually adopting a budget and submitting it to the proper Presbyterian Church in America Committee;
- C. Nominating the M-US Coordinator;
- D. Regular review of all the ministry of M-US to determine that it is both efficient and effective and to communicate its conclusions to the Coordinator so that they are reflected in the ongoing ministry;

- E. Assessing the response of the General Assembly to the ministry of M-US and to communicate its conclusions to the Coordinator so that they are reflected in the ongoing ministry;
- F. Organizing itself
The executive committee which shall consist of two ruling and two teaching elders, with the chairman of the Permanent Committee an ex-officio member, shall be elected by the Permanent Committee for a term of one year. The executive committee shall be elected at the first meeting of the Mission to the United States Committee following each General Assembly. "The executive committee shall have authority to act for the Permanent Committee in matters that require immediate attention only. All actions of the executive committee shall be subject to approval, modification, or change by the full Committee. All actions by the executive committee shall be reviewed by the full Committee at each stated meeting.

III. Individual Responsibilities

- A. A commitment to pray:
The members of the Committee on Mission to the U.S. constitute the most basic core of prayer support for the entire Mission. This at least involves each member's commitment to:
Pray for M-US daily (probably using the Prayer Calendar);
Pray for M-US in depth (which will demand the effort to know at least two or three M-US projects in detail and the current financial situation in detail, about which to pray).
- B. A commitment to make personal assessments:
In every situation about which the individual Committee member can have personal knowledge and/or expertise, he is responsible to communicate regularly with the M-US office.
- C. A commitment to personally promote M-US:
Each Committee member should personally communicate with other churches in addition to his own about M-US' ministry. This would include explaining contemporary developments in the light of M-US procedures and policies. It would also include relaying back to the M-US office any data and responses he gets through these communications.
- D. A commitment to serve on M-US Sub-committees on occasion:
A commitment to attempt to accompany the Coordinator and Assistant Coordinators on their invitation, on M-US trips or in M-US meetings/rallies, etc., or to assist them by way of carrying out special assignments from them.

STRATEGY FOR AMERICA

I. Preamble

In compliance with the evangelization mandate of our Lord, it is the responsibility of every congregation to carry on the work of witnessing and of evangelization.

Wherever that mandate has been obeyed, men and women have become believers and have banded themselves together in worshipping communities. Churches have been planted.

The conversion of individuals is an important goal of evangelism, but the ultimate goal is the conversion of households and the establishment of new Christian churches. A well planted Christian church provides God's people with worship, the means to grow in grace, acts of mercy, and outreach. Thus each new church, a product of evangelism, becomes a new base for evangelism and church planting.

In accordance with the **Book of Church Order**, and in the interest of unity and cooperation, the Committee on Mission to the United States of the Presbyterian Church in America is established by the General Assembly to assist the congregations and presbyteries in meeting their responsibilities under the Lord's commission, and to prosecute the work of evangelism and church planting in areas where congregations do not exist or the work exceeds the ability of a local church or group of churches or presbytery.

The objective of Mission to the United States is the extension of the Church of Jesus Christ, through the preaching of the Gospel and the organization of believers into churches of Christ.

We recognize the truth of Scriptures of our Lord's Great Commission, to proclaim the Gospel to every person, regardless of human position, in our area, in our nation, and around the world — Matthew 28:18, Mark 16:15-18, Luke 24:46-48, Acts 1:8; that this be done zealously by every means at our disposal — Ezekiel 3:17-21, Acts 5:42, Acts 8, Acts 20:20, I Thessalonians 2, II Timothy 2:2; that we are to gather together those who, by all outward appearances become Christians into a continuing body of believers for worship, growth, and witness — Matthew 28:19-20, Mark 16:17-18, Acts 2:41-47, Hebrews 10:25.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America has given to its Committee on Mission to the United States the precious privilege and awesome responsibility of establishing churches in this country in those areas where there is no Reformed witness. In obedient response to the directive of the General Assembly and in view of the obvious need for a brief and practical

guide based on Scripture setting forth the Biblical method of establishing churches in areas void of a Reformed witness, the Committee on Mission to the United States has prayerfully prepared this manual.

Thus, enabled by God the Holy Spirit, we accept the responsibility of participating in, training and assisting all those born again in actively doing evangelism and engaging in church planting, and in such careful and prayerful follow-up the fruit which He brings is conserved and developed in spiritual maturity; and in leading them to a body of believers loyal to Scripture, adhering to the historic Reformed faith, and actively obeying the Great Commission.

We recognize the truth taught in Scripture: "We who are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak" — Romans 15:1: "bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ" — Galatians 6:2. And how the stronger churches gave support to those that were struggling — Acts 24:17.

Using the simple headings of "Why Establish Churches," "Where To Establish Churches," and "How To Establish Churches," we seek to give Scriptural direction to those truly interested in establishing local churches where the inerrant Word is preached, the holy sacraments properly administered, and Biblical discipline exercised.

WHY ESTABLISH CHURCHES?

God's Word demands it. A careful understanding of the Great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20, Luke 24:46-53 and Acts 1:4-14 demands the establishment of the church today. A careful examination of the New Testament will clearly establish the Church as Christ's vehicle for saving, consolidating and preserving God's people. Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, spoke about the Bible and enduring nature of His Church when he said, "I will build my Church; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it." Matthew 16:18.

It is obvious as you read and study the New Testament that Christ was establishing His Church. (Acts 2:1-33, Acts 2:37, Acts 2:38, Acts 2:41, Acts 2:47, Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15-16, Luke 24:46-53, Acts 1:4-14).

The Presbyterian Church in America honestly and prayerfully desires to be used of God to establish congregations in which the true religion is professed, the inerrant Word preached, the holy sacraments decently administered, and the proper Scriptural discipline maintained. By the true preaching of the Word we mean preaching which is faithful to "the fundamentals and which has a controlling influence on faith and practice." By the decent administration of the sacraments we mean that they are not divorced from the preaching of the Word and are "administered by lawful ministers of the Word in accordance with the divine institution." By the proper administration of discipline we mean that which the Word of God insists be exercised in the Church of Jesus Christ (Matthew 18:18, I Corinthians 5:1-5, 13, 14:33, 40, Revelations 2:14-15, 20). Wherever congregations are established which manifest these marks we may be certain that we are beholding a true visible manifestation of the universal Church of Jesus Christ invisible.

The historic Reformed position as originally set forth by John Calvin is that in each local assembly "wherever we see the Word of God sincerely preached and heard, wherever we see sacraments administered according to the institution of Christ, there we cannot have any doubt that the Church of God has some existence, since His promise cannot fail. 'Where two or three are gathered together in My Name, there am I in the midst of them.' In this way the Church comprehends single churches, which exist in different towns, villages, according to the wants of human society, so that each of them justly obtains the name and authority of the church..." (Institutes, Book IV, Section 9).

It is churches in different places which obtain the name and authority of the Church because they have the marks of the true Church that the Presbyterian Church in America ardently wishes to establish. We acknowledge it is Christ who builds His Church (Matthew 16:18) and that we are but his humble and obedient instruments in this generation.

The Presbyterian Church in America desires to establish "single churches ... in different towns and villages ..." which "justly obtain the name and authority of the church ..." for the following reasons:

1. The Scriptures undeniably teach and the Westminster Confession of Faith affirms that it is the command and will of God that people be organized into individual churches. "God has commanded His people to organize themselves in distinct, visible ecclesiastical communities with constitutions, laws and officers, badges, ordinances, and discipline for the great purpose of giving visibility to His Kingdom, of making known the Gospel of that Kingdom, and of gathering in all His elect subjects" (A. A. Hodge, *The Confession of Faith*, Chapter XXV, Section 2). This being true it is incumbent upon us to establish local churches throughout the United States and Canada to fulfill that holy purpose. In humble obedience to the divine command of God and for His glory the Presbyterian Church in America continues to establish "single churches in different towns and villages which justly obtain the name and authority of the Church" throughout the United States and Canada.
2. God has imposed upon his people duties which render it necessary for them to associate in a visible, organized body. They are to unite in worship, in teaching, in propagating

His truth, and in testifying for God in all ages and in all parts of the world." (Charles Hodge, *Systematic Theology*, Part III, Chapter XX). While individual Christians have responsibilities to God which they must and may fulfill, as individuals they nevertheless have certain duties to God which must of necessity be fulfilled with other believers in an organized body. This being true, how earnestly the Presbyterian Church in America should seek to establish local organized bodies throughout the United States and Canada in which believers may fulfill their corporate duties to the Sovereign God.

3. It is through the visibly organized church that God is pleased to collect and nourish His children. Calvin writes, "I will begin with a church into whose bosom God is pleased to collect His children, not only that by her aid and ministry they may be nourished so long as they are babes and children, but that they may also be guided by her maternal care until they grow up in manhood, and finally obtain perfection of faith." (*Institutes*, Book IV, 1) One great end of the establishment of the Church on earth as the communion of saints, is the edification of the people of God. It is by the church-life of believers, by the communion and worship and service of God, and by their mutual good offices and fellowship that the spiritual life of the soul is developed. Therefore, the Apostle says, "Let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the day approaching." (Hebrews 10:24-25) This being true how unceasingly the Presbyterian Church in America should labour to establish "single churches in towns and villages" throughout the United States and Canada which will collect and nourish the people of God.
4. To prevent His truth from perishing in the world God has made His Church his faithful guardian of truth. There is no small weight in the designation given to the Church as "the house of God" and "the pillar and ground of the truth." God is pleased to preserve the pure teaching of His Word by her instrumentality and to exhibit Himself to us as apparent while He feeds us with spiritual nourishment and provides whatever is necessary for our salvation. This being true, that the true Church is the faithful guardian of God's truth in this world, it behooves us to steadfastly be about the task of establishing locally true churches to the end that God's truth be preserved throughout the United States and Canada.
5. We must not lose sight of the fact that there are pockets of population in the United States and Canada which are completely untouched. There are millions of people in desperate need of the Gospel. People who are lonely. People who are afraid. People who are lost. People whose lives are being ruined because they don't know the Lord Jesus. In recognizing that "faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of Christ," (Romans 10:14-17), M-US seeks to establish churches that will call God's elect to Himself.

While these reasons for establishing churches are not exhaustive they are sufficient to give us a compelling motivation to be about the most important work of our Lord. May God the Holy Spirit give us to understand that the Church Catholic "has been sometimes more, sometimes less visible," and cause us to pray and labour to the end that in this generation the Church Catholic will be more "visible."

WHERE TO ESTABLISH CHURCHES?

New churches should be started in any community, or city or area that lacks the Christian Church.

As we understand the New Testament we see the expansion of Christ's Church outlined clearly in the Book of Acts. The Lord gave the plan for the expansion of His Church when He said, "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and ye shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." (Acts 1:8) As you read the Books of Acts you see how God's plan was carried out.

1. The Jewish growth pattern — Jerusalem of Judea — Acts 2:1-8:4.
2. The Jewish-Gentile extension — Samaritans — Acts 8:5-25.
3. Special ministry of Philip — Preaching to the Ethiopian Eunuch and to the cities — Acts 8:26-40.
4. The Gentile Church planted through special revelation — Joppa, Caesarea — Acts 10:1-11:18.
5. Planning new churches — Acts 13:1-28:31.
 - a. Churches established in Asia Minor cities: Salamis, Acts 13:5; Paphos, Acts 13:9-11; Perga, 13:13; Antioch of Syria, 13:16-41; Iconium, 13:50-51; Lystra, 14:5-6, 8:19; Derbe, 14:20; Attalia, 14:25; Troas, 16:9 (second trip); Ephesus, 18:18-19.
 - b. Churches established on the European continent: Philippi, Acts 16:11-12; Thessalonica, 16:40-17:1; Berea, 17:10-11; Athens, 17:14-15; Corinth, 18:1-17.
 - c. Paul to Rome in his letters to the now established churches: Acts 23:31-28:31.

Roland Allen in his book, *Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours?*, says, "By establishing the Church in two or three centers St. Paul claimed that he had evangelized the whole province. Ten years after his first start from Antioch he told the Romans that he had 'fully preached the

Gospel of Christ from Jerusalem and round about Illyricum' (Romans 15:19) and that he had 'no more place in these parts' (Romans 15:23). In that single sentence we have the explanation and justification of St. Paul's establishment of churches in a province. When he had occupied two or three centers he had really and effectively occupied the province."

Believing and proclaiming that the authority of Scriptures is an objective and permanent fact, the Presbyterian Church in America desires to follow the guidance of Scripture in establishing churches in regions of the United States and Canada. From Scripture it would be most difficult to effectively maintain that the Apostle Paul carefully planned his journeys beforehand, selected certain strategic cities in which to establish churches, and then carried out his plan. On his second missionary journey he wanted to go to Asia and was forbidden to do so by the Spirit (Acts 16:6-7). Finding himself at Troas he was directed by the Lord in the vision to proceed to Macedonia.

Conversely, on his third missionary journey he apparently planned to go to Ephesus, but his uncertainty after that left him open to the charge of vacillation (II Corinthians 1:15-18). It was on this journey that Paul first expressed a definite plan for future work. "Paul purposed in the spirit when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia to go to Jerusalem saying: After I have been there, I must also see Rome" (Acts 19:21). Even a cursory examination of Scriptures reveals Paul's strategy for establishing churches in certain cities was neither totally premeditated nor unthoughtfully haphazard.

What emerges from a study of Paul's methodology in establishing churches is that the Apostle planted churches in cities which were centers of Roman administration, of Greek civilization, of Jewish influence, and of commercial importance. A diligent study of the New Testament will reveal the church being established in large centers of population. Jerusalem was a large, urban area and it must have been heavily populated because 3,000 were baptized on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:38-47). Later we find additional preaching taking place and another 5,000 believed (Acts 4:4). As you read the New Testament you will notice the Church being planted in city after city and flourishing. Paul, in the presence of Roman officials, found the influence for world-wide empire encompassing the idea of a common citizenship, with a strong authority of one peace and one law materially assisting him in the teaching of the Kingdom of Christ with its common citizenship for all Christians. In the Greek civilization he found the influence of general education with a common language throughout the Empire which facilitated the spread of the Gospel. In the centers of Jewish influence he found an audience in synagogues which were at least familiar if not agreeable to the underlying principles of his teaching. In centers of commerce he found mobile individuals carrying ideas as well as goods throughout the Empire.

Circumstances in the United States are not dissimilar to those faced by the Apostle. We too have a common citizenship with one law, one peace, and one language. In many areas we too will find an audience which has heard the teaching. Surely there is not a more mobile population than our own. From Scripture in general and from Paul's methodology in establishing churches we may "by good and necessary consequence" deduce certain principles to direct the Presbyterian Church in America in beginning churches in certain areas. As we try to study these methods there are certain questions that we need to ask. Where are the people? What percentage of these people are unchurched? What percentage of these people do not have a Reformed witness? Who are they? Are they receptive to the Gospel? Will they be receptive to the Presbyterian Church in America? What are our resources? As we find answers to these questions we can effectively plan according to the Scriptures where to go.

As we examine the New Testament and Paul's methods certain things stand out. First, Paul desired the will of the Lord in the selection of centers in which to begin churches. If it was not the Lord's will for him to go into Asia (Acts 16:6) or into Bithynia (Acts 16:7) then he went away to Troas until the Lord's will was revealed. After the Lord had spoken the Apostle and his companions moved immediately, "assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us to preach the Gospel to them" (Acts 16:10). If it was the Lord's will for Paul to remain in Corinth despite personal danger the Apostle would continue "there a year and six months teaching the Word of God among them" (Acts 18:9-11). Paul's letters to the Corinthian church speak volumes of a church established and growing in a cityfied atmosphere.

Secondly, Paul and Luke, who under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit chronicled the Apostle's journeys, saw the world to be evangelized in terms of provinces or regions. Thus they speak of Galatia (Galatians 1:2, I Corinthians 16:1, Acts 16:6, 18:23), Asia (Acts 16:6, 19:10), of Macedonia (Acts 16:9-10, 18:5, 19:22, II Corinthians 1:16), and of Achaia (Acts 18:12, 19:21, Romans 15:26, I Thessalonians 1:8).

Thirdly, Paul's strategy in evangelizing a region or Roman province was to establish centers of Christian life in two or three key cities and from these cities have the knowledge of the Gospel spread throughout the region. When he had established vibrant churches in a key city in a region he could claim that he had evangelized the entire province (Romans 15:19, 23). This is especially true of his efforts to spread the Gospel throughout the Roman province of Asia. At Ephesus the magnificent center of the imperial highway from Rome to the east, a thriving Christian center was established from which the Gospel spread throughout the entire province. "... so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the words of the Lord Jesus..." (Acts 19:10). A similar strategy had occurred in the evangelization of the province of Achaia. Corinth, the principle city of the Roman

Empire, was the site of a thriving though troubled Christian Church (Acts 18:1-17). From there the Gospel spread throughout the region so that there was a church at Cenchrea (Romans 16:1) and Christians throughout the province (II Corinthians 1:1). The Church grew strong in the great cities of the ancient world and must grow strong in the cities of the United States and Canada.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America directed the Committee on Mission to the United States to provide strategy papers for the formation of a new congregation. While we believe that the following strategy is based firmly on Scripture and are prepared to explain the strategy further we do not claim inerrancy for it. It is certainly subject to revision in light of Scripture.

For the establishment of Presbyterian Church in America congregations throughout the United States we propose to use the following Biblical strategy:

1. We call the entire denomination including all constituent members to prayer to the end that the Lord would reveal to us His will concerning the time and place for establishing Presbyterian Church in America congregations. We remember that "it is not enough for a church to be established where many are coming and going unless the people who come and go not only learn the Gospel, but learn it in such a way that they can propagate it." (Allen, *Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours?*, p. 13). May God be pleased to reveal to us the places He has chosen for Presbyterian Church in America churches.
2. We seek to view the country in terms of regions. We believe that this is a Scriptural methodology in seeking places in which to establish churches. In evangelizing these regions, vibrant strong churches must be established in certain key cities. From this base the Gospel may spread throughout the states and entire regions. let us, like the Apostle Paul, concentrate on seizing strategic cities, establishing flourishing churches in them, and from them reaching out to the entire United States and Canada.

Ten years after the Apostle first started from Antioch he was able to tell the Romans that he had fully "preached the Gospel of Christ from Jerusalem and round about Illyricum" (Romans 15:19) and that he had "no more place in these parts (Romans 15:23). May God be pleased to give to the Presbyterian Church in America such vision and means that in our own generation we might say that churches have been established throughout the United States and Canada and that we have "no more place in these parts." America's vast cities challenge us as never before.

In these vast cities, certainly there is a prime area for one church development.

- a. New Subdivisions
- b. Planned Communities
- c. Apartment Complexes
- d. Mobile Home Courts
- e. Inner Cities
- f. Shopping Centers
- g. University Cities

We need to be sensitive to the shifting population and move to establish churches where the people are hurting and in need of the Gospel. We should also be sensitive to our brothers in other true Presbyterian and Reformed denominations and have consultation with them before entering their areas for church planting, where areas of church planting overlap.

Certainly churches ought to be established where people are receptive to the Gospel regardless of size. Knowing it is God who builds the Church and it is the Spirit who regenerates sinners and makes them saints, we of the Mission to the United States, following Paul's example, say to the people of the church: "Please pray for us" (II Thessalonians 3:1).

HOW TO ESTABLISH CHURCHES

With the schoolroom as his headquarters (Acts 19:9), speaking publicly and from house to house (Acts 20:20), day and night for three years (Acts 20:31), Paul shook the mighty city of Ephesus to its foundations. From the account given by the sacred historian effects of the Apostle's preaching were that a great number of Jews and Greeks were converted and that a large and flourishing church was established at Ephesus.

The truth is that Jesus Christ is the owner and builder of His Church (Matthew 16:18) which He has purchased with His own blood (Acts 20:28.) The Presbyterian Church in America fully realizes that "flesh and blood" cannot build a local branch of the true Church. There is no sufficiency in human calculation, cognition, or tradition upon which to establish the local church. Jesus Christ is "the Church's one foundation" (I Corinthians 3:11). As we contemplate how to begin a church let us understand that it is Jesus Christ who owns and builds not only the true Church universal but every single manifestation of that Church.

The Greek (ecclesia) corresponding to our word "church" is derived from "calein" which means "to call" or "to call out" and thus constitute a separate body. The word "calein" is used especially to express the effectual call of the Holy Spirit by which He brings dead souls to life in the work of regeneration (Romans 8:28-30, I Peter 2:9, 5:10). As we contemplate how to begin a local church let us fully understand that it is built by Jesus Christ with "living stones" (I Peter 2:5) effectually called (I Corinthians 1:2, 24).

As Calvin points out, the true Church includes all local churches which manifest the Scriptural marks of a church. In Scripture the common term "church" is applied variously to the entire Body of Christ (Colossians 1:18), to an assembly in a particular province or city (II Thessalonians 1:1), to several churches in a province (I Corinthians 16:1, II Corinthians 8:1), and the Christian families and/or groups which meet in homes of believers (Romans 16:5, Colossians 4:15, Philemon 2). As we speak of how to establish churches we have reference to a single assembly of called out believers in a particular area with the true marks (the preaching of the Word, the proper administration of the Sacraments, and exercise of discipline) of the Church.

The experiences of the Committee on Mission to the United States in beginning or helping begin groups which presbyteries have organized into churches are not sacrosanct; however, the Lord has been pleased to use M-US to the extent that we are able to share the following information with those interested in beginning a Presbyterian Church in America in a particular area.

1. Personal Preparation

There is "no revealed number" as to how many people are needed to form a group seeking to become a Presbyterian Church in America. Regardless of the number of people involved initially, whether only one or a group, each individual should personally be prepared for the joyous challenge of having to begin a new church.

Each person committed to forming a Presbyterian Church in America should be:

- Trusting completely in the Sovereignty of God, knowing that He has His elect in every area and that "as many as were ordained to eternal life" (Acts 13:38) will believe;
- Relying on the Biblical truth that it is Jesus Christ who builds His Church universal (Matthew 16:18) and every branch of it;
- Praying for the direction of the Holy Spirit, realizing that the Apostle Paul who was used of the Lord to begin many churches was sent out in prayer (Acts 13:3), strengthened the churches in prayer (Acts 14:23), was faithful in his own prayer life (Acts 16:16), prayed in all circumstances (Acts 16:25), and repeatedly prayed for the local church (Romans 1:9, I Corinthians 1:4, Ephesians 1:16, Philippians 1:3, Colossians 1:3, I Thessalonians 1:2);
- Studying the Word of God, understanding that beginning a truly Reformed church is beginning a church which is truly evangelical. We of the Presbyterian Church in America are firmly persuaded, and desire those who wish to begin Presbyterian Church in America churches to be likewise persuaded, that the more thoroughly Reformed a church is the more evangelistic it will be. Far from rendering evangelism superfluous, the Reformed doctrines of the sovereignty of God, predestination, and election demand zealous evangelism. In fact, the Reformed doctrine of election guarantees that evangelism will result in genuine conversions and thus in the growth of the local church. God is sure to bless His Word to the hearts of the elect unto salvation (Ephesians 1:11, Romans 9:11, 13, 16, 18, II Timothy 1:9, Acts 13:48, Romans 8:29-30, 10:17, II Thessalonians 2:13,14).

Several suggestions have been made as to how churches can be planted:

How does it work — practically speaking?

First, several principles should be noted:

- Get the vision.** Every church can help in getting another church started. Wherever your church may be located, there is a neighboring vicinity where a new church could be planted.
- Pray about it.** As a session, as a congregation, as individuals, pray that God will prosper your church with the blessings of parenthood!
- Make a commitment.** Commit yourself to try. That's all. Just try something. If it prospers, God has done the work. But you are commissioned by the Sovereign, loving God to try.
- Huddle for strategy.** Meet as a session. Pray and plan. Where is the most likely place? What resources do you have? Who can teach a Bible study? Who is willing to do door-to-door canvassing? How should you begin?
- Consider the suggestions below.** Each situation is different. But perhaps within the suggestions below may be a spark of an idea that could help you begin a new church.

1. For the country church:

Most country churches are near enough to a small town or a larger community where no congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America is located. Often members of the country church know relatives or friends who have moved into the larger community and are committed to the principles of the Presbyterian Church in America. Perhaps:

- These relatives or friends would be willing to invite friends into their home to meet with the pastor of your church to talk about the goals of the Presbyterian Church in America.
- They could offer their home as the place to begin a Bible study group led by someone from your church.
- They could serve as the base for a door-to-door canvas of an area of the larger community. Perhaps your church could hire a student assistant for the summer. If the assistant had special gifts as an evangelist, he could be commissioned to attempt to start a new work in a neighboring area. If the regular pastor of the church has the greater gifts as an evangelist, perhaps the summer assistant could take on most of the jobs of the local church, and thus free your pastor for the work

of trying to start a new congregation in a neighboring area. This procedure would require that a congregation be especially self-sacrificing, but in the long run it would benefit the whole church greatly.

2. For the town church:

All the suggestions offered under the above situation could apply to the town church.

In addition, it may be that ruling elders in your church have proven themselves to be effective in personal evangelism, preaching, or leading Bible studies. Perhaps they could make use of those gifts in a nearby metropolitan area.

Advertising in newspapers in neighboring areas has also proven to be effective in uncovering people interested in beginning a new church.

3. For the city church:

The larger metropolitan church has unlimited opportunities for beginning new churches. One of the most important tasks will be determining what may prove to be the most fruitful method to attempt.

Normally the hiring of an assistant with a view specifically toward the establishing of a new work would be a real option. Other methods suggested above also would apply.

One method which the larger church could follow which would not be available to the smaller churches is that of deliberate colonization. Select an area where a new church would be desirable. Notice the members of your church who already live in that area. Then talk with them about the possibility of their forming the nucleus of a new church.

4. For the presbytery:

Working in cooperation with the committee on Mission to the United States, presbyteries are natural agents for starting new works inside and outside their own boundaries where there is no other existing presbytery. Each presbytery could have an evangelist or church planter. Presbyteries could begin by searching among the pastors in their own churches, and calling one from their number, if the gifts for starting a new church are apparent, that he might represent concretely the presbytery's efforts in this manner.

In any event, now is the time for concrete action. It will not be easier later. While the fresh flower of the "church reborn" still exists, it is time to move out. Now is the time for churches to plant churches.

Some of the steps to follow in developing a church in a target city or area are as follows:

1. Contact Assisting Family (or families)
 - a. Pray about which male will assume some leadership (i.e., contact others, through personal visits, phone calls; do leg-work for surveys, below)
2. General Survey is Taken on the Community
 - a. Type of community: upper, middle, lower, ghetto, professional, white collar, blue collar, military, etc.
 - b. Financial Status: average income, taxes
 - c. Kind of Development: apartments, large or small families, young or older couples, etc.
 - d. Communications: roads and public transportation. Trade routes.
 - e. Schools
 - f. Future for area: growth, or otherwise. Which directions?
 - g. Political orientation and influence.
3. Sources of General Survey Data
 - a. Regional director of a utility company — projected number of homes — telephones, etc.
 - b. Planning Commission
 - c. Real Estate Development Companies
 - d. What's there and what to do about it
4. Religious Survey is Taken on the Community
 - a. What does name "Presbyterian" mean in the community?
 - b. What are evangelicals doing in the area?
 1. Visit evangelical preachers: friend or foe?
 2. Talk to those who name the name of Christ.
 3. Be on their side if possible — Never ask for names
 4. Mark churches on map, with one-line description of their ministry: liberal, evangelical, fundamentalist; image in the community
 5. Contact other Reformed churches, specifically.
5. Decision is Made Whether to Develop Work; If Affirmative, Begin Development Thusly:
 - a. Secure radio time for 60-second spot announcements. Saturate area for 6-12 weeks with spot announcements.
 - b. While radio announcements continue, run newspaper ad with message and clip-out twice (one in Sunday A.M. paper in first section, other in Wednesday or Thursday or religion page).
 - c. Follow up on replies to ad, with personal letter from M-US office, telling who we are and what we want to do in the area (This is most important!)

- d. Make personal visits or phone calls (preferably by staff, but may be done by someone in the area). These are to answer questions about PCA, history, growth, beliefs, etc.
 - e. Have interested people contacted, and begin to meet in a home for prayer and Bible Study.
 - f. Arrange a place for a meeting for the general public (wise to have a steering committee lined up by this time. Bank or motel likely places.)
 - g. Advertise the public meeting — time, place, speakers, purpose, and give telephone number.
 - h. Plan the public meeting carefully: know what is to be said and who is to say it (need to find names and addresses of those in attendance).
 - i. At the meeting: Have a coffee/cake break — give time for questions. Announce next meeting, time and place, etc.
 - j. Before this time, search should begin for a place to meet on a regular basis.
 - k. Staff or sponsoring presbytery should give close supervision for 6 months — will require several visits, and much encouragement.
6. Various Approaches to New Church's Sponsorship May Be Taken
- a. "Missionary" Approach
 1. Select special organizing pastor
 2. Select area
 3. Commit funds to support organizing pastor
 4. Establish goals (house-church estab., church estab., tent-making, team ministry, etc.)
 - b. Daughter Church
 1. Established in same locality as another, mature PCA church
 2. Totally sponsored by this "mother church".
 - c. Adopt-a-Church
 1. New work is distantly located from the adopting congregation or presbytery.
 2. Not supported totally, but sponsored by the congregation or presbytery.
 - d. House Church, or Larger Parish
 - e. Tent-Making
 - f. Team Ministry

SERVICES OFFERED BY MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES

- A. Establishing New Churches
 1. Making the Initial Contacts:
 - a. Generate contacts by national advertising.
 - b. Generate contacts by means of telling everyone we meet about PCA.
 - c. Generate contacts by follow-up of PCA members who move, by referrals from PCA members, etc.
 2. Developing Initial Contacts
 - a. PCA Coordinators, with initial help from M-US Presbytery Representatives and in association with the local presbytery, carry out outreach and development program until strength is sufficient to establish a mission church. (Note: This will usually demand the extended presence and work of the coordinator or his staff.)
 - b. Preparation to locate and situate the organizing pastor — primarily the work of the coordinator.
 - c. Establish a budget and, if necessary, arrange for organizing pastor support for specified length of time.
 - d. Enlist prayer support.
 - e. Provide specialized training for organizing pastors.
 3. Consultant Responsibilities:
 - a. For the development of the mission church into a particular church.
 - b. For the presbytery's task to assess the qualifications to become a particular church.
 - c. For the continued development of the particular church for some time after it is constituted.
 - d. For building programs, finances, etc.
 4. Denominational Responsibilities:
 - a. To keep the denomination aware of its responsibilities for church extension.
 - b. To generate the financial base from which to proceed with the work, through gifts, pledges, church support, and planned giving.
 - c. To encourage the denomination by reporting the work of God through M-US.
- B. Church Building Programs
 1. Builder's Guild
 2. Revolving Building Fund Loans
 3. Planning Advice and Consultation
- C. Promote PCA
 1. National advertising

2. Involvement in national and regional organizations and rallies.
 3. Speak at colleges and seminaries as well as doing interviews with seminary students.
 4. Work with college and seminary students whenever possible.
 5. Point of contact with ministers seeking a relationship with the PCA.
- D. Service to PCA
1. Assist existing PCA churches to solve growth, development, location, building, etc., problems, upon written request from the Session.
 2. Service the administration of small denominational or regional programs if needed.
 3. Service to specialized problems of local churches.
 4. Service open to pastors and/or elders in conjunction with any training programs for organizing pastors.
 5. Occasional teaching opportunities at seminars and seminaries.
 6. Occasionally helping seminary students locate pastorates.
- E. Promotion of M-US
1. Bi-monthly Newsletter and monthly Prayer Calendar.
 2. Presentation to local churches, to presbyteries, and participation in missionary conferences, etc.
 3. Preparation and publishing of books, brochures, tapes and mission material for public use.
- F. Existing Home Mission Churches
- G. Specialized Fields and Opportunities for Evangelism
- H. Church and Community Crusades

PLAN USED IN CHURCH PLANTING

MAJOR PREMISE OF THIS PLAN

The major premise of this plan is to provide M-US and presbytery a framework within which the objective evidence of the Holy Spirit's work can be readily discerned. This framework provides:

- a. a tangible and easily comprehended goal and several equally tangible and easily comprehended intermediate testing points.
- b. the necessity to discern the objective evidence of the Spirit's work at each testing point and at the ultimate goal.
- c. a consequent opportunity for using the various evaluations to refine the program and development of the church or, if necessary, to abort it.

POSSIBLE DANGERS IN USING THIS PLAN

This approach dare not be considered either a mechanical formula guaranteeing the successful development of the work with or without the blessing of God, or an inflexible rule depriving those charged with making objective evaluations the joy of waiting on God for minds and hearts courageous enough to make decisions of faith.

TERMINOLOGY

"Committee of Assessment" is M-US Coordinator and/or members of General Assembly's Committee on Mission to the U.S. or Assistant Coordinator.

"Organizing Pastor" is a term adopted by M-US for the Moderator of the unorganized group of believers who is laboring full time to develop the church.

PRESBYTERY AND M-US RELATIONSHIP IN THIS PLAN

A. In Developing the Plan Itself

1. Special Use of M-US Coordinator and Assistants
 - a. In those situations that indicate that public meetings to describe the PCA are in order, the Coordinator and the Assistant Coordinator often prepare for, conduct, and help assess the follow-up of the meetings.
 - b. In those situations that indicate that an organizing pastor will soon be needed, the Coordinator often will arrange for someone to be on the scene two or three days each week, including Sunday, for eight to twelve weeks. In this way they provide the preaching necessary during the time the organizing pastor is being found; they provide mature help in uniting the infant group and in guiding it through the many decisions of the first weeks of operation, and, they orient the people and the organizing pastor to each other so that he can begin his ministry immediately upon his arrival.
2. Locating Seed Families

There are several ways to locate seed families:

 - a. Place an evangelist on a field to win souls, train the believers and prepare them.
 - b. Calls for help from transplanted PCA church members and from others desiring our type of church. In these cases M-US will follow up the initial contact. In any situation that develops enough to warrant a personal visit, the presbytery is notified and urged to work with the situation. Usually this amounts to a period of close

cooperation between presbytery and M-US, followed by presbytery's taking over complete responsibility.

- c. New opportunities to be developed by the M-US Committee.

THE ORGANIZING PASTOR

The organizing pastor must be a member under the discipline of the presbytery in which the mission church is located. In those cases in which the potential organizing pastor is not a member of the presbytery in which the mission church is located, he will be presented to that presbytery for examination and reception before any commitment is made with the man and the mission church. He carries the major responsibility from and to presbytery.

A. Recruitment of Organizing Pastors

Certain desirable attributes are to be looked for in each Organizing Pastor.

1. His Natural Attributes

- a. Socially and educationally acceptable to the people he seeks to reach
- b. Outgoing personality — must be able to meet new people easily, and engage in conversation about spiritual things with all classes of people.
- c. Sincerely interested in people and have a deep concern for their personal problems. He must have the ability to apply spiritual truths for their solution. He must be willing to give time and energy to help others. He should constantly trust God to give him needed insight into the problems of the people and manifest his deep concern for them (I Thessalonians 2:5-9).
- d. Self Starter — must have "hustle," and be committed to the work to the extent of working hard, long hours, and steadily, without supervision.
- e. Self-Discipline — refers to above, plus all personal habits.
- f. Health and physical condition
- g. Home interview — His home life should come under scrutiny. Is his marriage healthy? Does he manage his children well? Are they in subjection to him? Is his home "exemplary?"
- h. Financial condition — Any outstanding debts? Credit rating?

It is obvious that perfection can be found in no man. However, the possession of the attributes listed above will place the minister in a much better position to win his hearers to Christ.

2. His Spiritual Attributes

- a. Man of God — a deep sense of calling.
- b. Compassion for the lost — a deep and abiding motivation (Luke 15)
- c. Man of prayer (Col. 1:9-11, Col. 2:1-3, Eph. 3:14-18, I Thess. 1:2-3)
- d. Man of vision — He will see opportunities where others see only obstacles. He is highly motivated and will persevere despite discouraging setbacks. His vision is backed by a solid sense of call, i.e., that God has called him to this work, and will see him through.
- e. Maturity, through former experience.
- f. Preaching gifts

Most solid churches are established because of the vision, spiritual burden, sacrifice, and perseverance of some individual who gave himself entirely to the task of church planting.

3. Ways to Recruit Organizing Pastors

- a. Visits to seminaries
- b. Ads in religious journals
- c. Referrals (Be careful!)
- d. Personal knowledge

4. Training Requirements For Organizing Pastors

- a. Training seminar, within first year on the field.
- b. Time spent with a senior pastor.
- c. Special Training in evangelism.

APPLICATION FORM FOR ORGANIZING PASTORS (See Appendix A)

B. The Organizing Pastor and the Message

The Apostle Paul placed prime importance on the message that he preached. In his writing to the Ephesian church he showed the connection between the message preached and the church that he had founded, "In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were reared with the Holy Spirit of promise" (Ephesians 1:13 or see I Thessalonians 2:13).

The local church comes into existence as a result of the message preached. The quality of the message determines the quality of the church. The message that builds churches is a Bible-based message. It is in the Scriptures that God's revelation of saving truth is found. Let the church planter be a proclaimer of redemption truth as set forth in the written Word of God, so that the converts may become people of the Book.

Not all preaching today resembles the preaching of the apostles. We do not hesitate to affirm that the preaching of the apostolic message in the power of the Spirit will produce a vital apostolic church (Acts 2:38-39).

A Christ-centered message!

The planter of churches will avoid too great an emphasis on negative preaching in his message. However, some negative preaching is necessary. The sinner must hear the thunderings of God's righteous law against his sin in order to be awakened to his need of a Savior. Idolatrous practices must be challenged in the name of the true God. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, the tragedy of a sinful life must be revealed, but all of this is only preliminary to pointing to the one true Savior.

Let us be careful not to give the impression that being a Christian consists in not doing certain things. The fact that a person does not drink, smoke, dance, or gamble does not make him a Christian, nor do the clothes, jewelry, or makeup that he or she does not wear. Only faith in the living Christ can save. This fact must be kept ever preeminent.

Let his message present the living Gospel, backed up by the power of God. Let him preach deliverance from fear and bondage. Let him proclaim Christ as the great deliverer, the loving Savior, and the powerful Redeemer.

The message that the church planter preaches must be relevant to the needs of his hearers. The gospel must be presented in such a way that it will show how the specific needs of individuals can be met.

Need for hope — Man wants something to live for in this life and a hope beyond the grave. What a message we have when we can present a resurrected Christ who imparts eternal life now, and gives promise of life beyond the present world! Certainly, this is the message that appeals to a universal need.

It is important that the supernatural element in the gospel be presented to the people. The message of Christianity is not simply a code of ethics or a way of life. The Gospel is about a Person who died and rose again. The gospel presents the exciting prospects of divine intervention in the lives of ordinary men.

Interested in man as an individual.

In preaching the gospel, the church planter must be careful to show man's responsibility to God. It is not enough to preach simply the benefits of the Gospel — how that Christ delivers from sin, gives a person peace and happiness, breaks the chain of evil habits, and gives us hope of eternal life. We must show that Christ is not only Savior, but Lord.

Let us then preach a Christ-centered message, proclaiming all of the marvelous benefits that may be received, and arming our message at the felt-need of the hearers. At the same time, let us not neglect to insist on total commitment as a requisite of discipleship, so that the converts will be sold out to God, men who will follow the footsteps of the apostles. In so doing, we shall lay a solid foundation for the church and for its expansion in our corner of the earth.

C. The Organizing Pastor is required to participate in a training seminar conducted by the Coordinator.

THE PARTICULAR CHURCH

A. "STEPS TOWARD ORGANIZING A CHURCH"

B. Financial Matters

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 regarding the man's qualification for starting a new work.
5. A specific cut-off date of M-US funds scheduled

C. It must be understood that M-US supports a total church program which includes a pastor. All financial commitments will be reviewed every six months. It is assumed the church will be self-supporting within two years.

D. M-US Policy

APPLICATION

A. An "Application for Support" form will be submitted by the church. See Appendix B.

B. A presbytery approval letter will be submitted for "Application for Support" form certifying that:

1. It approves the work and agrees that it has the potential to grow.
2. It approves the man, indicating that he is a member in good standing, or at least approves him as a member of another presbytery, with permission to be laboring within its bounds.
3. It is aware of its general obligation for nurture and oversight and of its specific financial obligation, if any, concerning the work.

C. Presbytery must authorize this certification by official presbytery action, but may implement it through its own M-US committee, or its equivalent committee.

D. The application must be approved by at least the Executive Committee.

E. Checks will be made out the 25th of each month for that month and sent either to the organizing pastor, the church, or the presbytery.

REQUESTS FOR DEVIATION

Contact M-US office for details.

M-US INCOME

- A. All monies received and designated for either the pastor or the church involved in these support programs will go to make up or underwrite M-US' commitment to the programs.

TERMINATION

If a pastor leaves during the term of the M-US' financial support, support will stop, since this program is designed for the support of the church-pastor relationship. When a new pastor is called, the church must reapply for support.

REVOLVING BUILDING FUND LOANS

- A. Loans are made only to churches, and the loans are for purchase or development of real estate. The loans shall be limited to \$10,000 for each church situation and shall be approved by the Executive Committee.
- B. Any exceptions to the above require the full Committee's approval and the full supporting data.
- C. The following is quoted from the Revolving Building Fund brochure:
 "Terms of Loan to the Church:"
1. Loans shall be interest free.
 2. A service fee may be assessed to defray administrative costs.
 3. Principal payments are not due for the first two years. Thereafter, one-quarter of the principal is to be paid each year for the remaining four years, in quarterly payments.
 4. If a new major financial obligation is assumed during the course of this loan, the remaining principal must be paid at that time.

"Re-Investment": This fund continually revolves. Repaid monies are re-invested in other churches building programs. Your investment thus works in various churches over a period of time.

M-US BUILDER'S GUILD

Purpose: To provide a means of helping the infant church begin to build the first unit of its church building.

Membership: Those who will pledge \$10.00 per appeal, to be used completely for a specific church building program.

Program:

- a. The assistance will be used only on M-US and Presbytery-approved programs.
- b. An appeal for help will be limited to a maximum of four a year, none to be less than three months apart.
- c. The assistance will be used only for the actual construction program, and only for the first building program of a church.
- d. Each member will receive detailed information about each proposal, and will receive progress reports.

— From MINUTES of the Second General Assembly, pp. 79-80.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES FOR ESTABLISHING A CHURCH WHEN IT DOES NOT MEET THE GUIDELINES

When attempting to establish a mission church which does not meet the guidelines, the following should be prerequisites:

- A. The in-depth survey indicates an exceptional potential (refer back to survey to be taken);
- B. A nucleus of a PCA church exists which is well-qualified, but insufficient in number to meet the minimum requirements for a mission church, yet willing to supply substantial funds with which to attempt to establish a mission church;
- C. A properly qualified man is available to live on the scene; and,
- D. He is willing to accept the challenge.

MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL DATA AND PRINCIPLES

- A. As a prerequisite before any funds may be given to a mission church development, an in-depth survey must have been conducted which has produced sufficient data to warrant an involvement of men and finances within reasonable limits of time and magnitude, with a high degree of anticipated success in establishing a mission church.
- B. The Moving Formula:
 1. The minister must determine the most economical means of moving consistent with the proper care of his furniture.
 2. The mission church to which he is going must cover as much of that cost as possible.
 3. M-US covers the difference.
 4. The limit is \$2,000.00
- C. M-US' attitude towards stewardship responsibilities:
 M-US will give some degree of consultative service in each place that it gives grants and/or

loan funds, and in those cases where it guarantees bonding programs, as a necessary exercise of stewardship.

PRINCIPLES AND LIMITATIONS FOR ASSISTING PARTICULAR CHURCHES THROUGH DIFFICULT TIMES

1. Each request for M-US help must be accompanied by written notification to M-US that presbytery has been notified and approves the request made to M-US.
2. Each request must be assessed by at least an M-US representative, who in turn would consult with M-US Coordinator and the M-US Committee members in that presbytery (and, when it exists, the appropriate presbytery committee) before any proposals are made to the church. They must decide that the potential is at least as good as a group moving into a mission church situation.
M-US will make major proposals (primarily in the area of goals) before consultative commitments are finalized. They shall be forwarded to the appropriate committee of presbytery (if it exists) before consultative commitments are finalized.
Commitments ultimately are the responsibility of the congregation. The Session and/or the presbytery's appropriate committee usually are the vehicles though the terms of the consultative commitments are made to the congregation.
3. At no time shall M-US accept responsibility for such an involvement if:
 - a. it is apparent that the basic problem is the need to administer judicial discipline;
 - b. it is apparent that any degree of reclamation will take well over two years to accomplish;
 - c. it is apparent that M-US will not be accepted as unbiased or unprejudiced or will not be respected as a qualified consultant by the majority of the church; and
 - d. it is apparent that M-US is not supported in the request by the proper committee of presbytery participating in the initial assessment (as outlined in No. 2 above).
4. In all situations where assistance is needed, M-US will endeavor first to use the equity of the church before it commits any of its own funds.
5. If presbytery has funds available for church extension or has undesignated funds in its treasury, M-US and presbytery must determine some formula which involves the presbytery in any assistance action.
6. If financial help is needed, M-US will underwrite only up to three-fourths of any financial program.

CONCLUSIONS

From Holy Scriptures, we of the Presbyterian Church in America steadfastly affirm that the salvation of souls, the growth of Christ's Church, even the coming of Christ's kingdom, of momentous importance though they may be and actually are, are but means to a still higher end, the highest of all ends — God's glorification (Romans 11:36).

From Holy Scripture, we of the Presbyterian Church in America affirm that in the Presbyterian system of church government the church is not merely a superintendent, but an agent of mission work. We wish to develop the idea that the congregation of believers, as visibly organized, is the very assembly which is divinely called to do the work of the Lord. From the Session to the General Assembly we shall strive to enlist all of our courts, as courts, in this Christian effort of establishing Reformed churches in the United States and Canada. We are not ashamed to confess that we are intensely Presbyterian. We embrace all other Christian denominations in the arms of Christian fellowship and love, but our own scheme of church government we humbly believe to be according to the pattern shown in Scripture, and by God's grace, we propose to put its efficiency to the test in beginning new churches throughout the United States and Canada. May the Holy Spirit lead us all to work more diligently, pray more faithfully, believe more joyfully, and love more ardently, to the end that God be glorified in the establishment of many new Presbyterian Church in America churches.

APPENDIX A

Mission to the U.S.
P. O. Box 16302
Jackson, MS 39206

APPLICATION FORM FOR ORGANIZING PASTOR

(Please type or print)

1. FULL NAME _____

2. HOME ADDRESS _____ TELEPHONE _____

3. ORDINATION: Date _____ By _____
(Presbytery or Church)

4. EDUCATION: **Name of Each Institution Attended** **Degree** **Yr. Grad.**
(a) College:
(b) Seminary:
(c) Graduate Training:
(d) Other Professional School:
(e) Special Training:

5. EXPERIENCE: (Please list in order since Ordination) Month & Year

Church or Field	City & State	Presbytery	Begun	Terminated

Other Experience — Professional, Business or other — that contributes to your use — in the Ministry?

6. Date of Birth: _____ Place: _____

7. MARITAL STATUS:

(a) Single ___ ; Married ___ ; Remarried ___

(b) Wife's Full Name: _____

Date of Marriage: _____ Date of Birth _____

(c) HAVE YOU EVER BEEN DIVORCED? (If so, please state the circumstances below, briefly, including the attitude of your Presbytery at this time.)

(d) Children:

Names	Ages	Names	Ages
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

(e) Other Dependents:

8. HEALTH STATEMENT:

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Your Health _____				
Wife's Health _____				
Children's Health _____				

State any limiting Factors:

9. (Please be specific in answering the following)

(a) ARE YOU IN AGREEMENT WITH THE SYSTEM OF DOCTRINE, DISCIPLINE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA?

Yes _____ No _____ If "No", please explain briefly.

(b) ARE YOU A DISPENSATIONALIST? Yes _____ No _____

(c) IF YOU ARE NOT NOW A MEMBER OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA, DO YOU INTEND TO SUPPORT AND BE ACTIVE IN THE DENOMINATION?

(d) WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT?

(e) WHAT IS YOUR VIEW ON THE USE OF ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO?

10. Member: Presbytery of _____

11. (a) PRESENT PASTORATE: _____ No. of Members: _____

(b) REMUNERATION: Present yearly cash salary \$ _____ ; Manse Provided \$ _____
 Other Allowances — Books \$ _____ , Car \$ _____ , Utilities \$ _____ ;
 Other — (Specify) _____ \$ _____ , Vacation _____ weeks.
 Do these meet your needs? _____

(c) DO YOU OPERATE AN AUTOMOBILE IN YOUR WORK? _____ Personal _____
 or Church owned? _____

(d) DO YOU HAVE A RADIO MINISTRY? Yes _____ No _____ : A TV MINISTRY?
 Yes _____ No _____

- (e) DESCRIBE YOUR EVANGELISM PROGRAM:

- (f) ARE YOU PRESENTLY INVOLVED IN PERSONAL EVANGELISM? Explain.

- (g) WHAT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MATERIALS DO YOU USE? (Specify):

- (h) DO YOU HAVE A COMMICANTS' CLASS FOR CHILDREN? _____
TEEN-AGERS? _____ ADULTS? _____

- (i) WHAT IS YOUR OBJECTIVE AND PROGRAM IN PASTORAL ATTENTION?

- 12. (a) PREFERENCE AS TO GEOGRAPHICAL SECTION AND WHY:

- (b) TYPE OF COMMUNITY PREFERRED: (Underscore) College, Industrial, City, Suburban, Town, Urban, Rural, Inner City, Other (give detail).

- 13. PLEASE UNDERScore AREAS IN WHICH YOU ARE HAPPIEST AND DO YOUR BEST WORK:
Pastor, Preaching, Teacher, Church Administration, Church Finance, Youth Work, Recreation Leader, Community Service, Evangelism, Christian Education, Other (Specify):

- 14. (a) SERMON DELIVERY METHOD: (Underscore) With Manuscript, With Notes, Without Notes.

- (b) LIST TITLES, TOPICS & TEXTS OF SEVERAL SERMONS RECENTLY PREACHED:

- 15. (a) STUDY HABITS (Comment briefly)

- (b) PERSONAL DEVOTIONAL LIFE (Comment briefly)

- 16. STUDY CONFERENCES OR INSTITUTES ATTENDED, OR TRAVEL, DURING PAST FIVE YEARS:

- 17. HOBBIES AND SPECIAL INTERESTS:

- 18. NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF AT LEAST 3 LAYMEN (NOT MEMBERS OF YOUR PRESENT CHURCH) ACQUAINTED WITH YOUR PRESENT WORK AND TO WHOM COMMUNICATIONS MAY BE ADDRESSED:

19. THREE MINISTERS ACQUAINTED WITH YOUR PRESENT WORK AND TO WHOM COMMUNICATIONS MAY BE ADDRESSED:

20. WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER YOUR WEAKNESSES IN YOUR MINISTRY, IF ANY?
21. WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS AND OBJECTIVES IN YOUR MINISTRY?
22. WHAT ARE YOUR STRONG POINTS IN THE MINISTRY? (Major Capabilities)
23. DO YOU FEEL THAT YOU HAVE THE ABILITY TO RAISE UP AND TRAIN CHRISTIAN DISCIPLES? IF SO, EXPLAIN.
24. HOW IS YOUR WIFE INVOLVED IN YOUR MINISTRY?
25. IF YOU ARE LED TO MAKE A CHANGE, HOW SOON WOULD YOU PROBABLY BE AVAILABLE?
26. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, IF YOU DESIRE, CONCERNING YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN GOD'S KINGDOM:
27. VIEWPOINTS: APPEND BRIEF AND SUCCINCT STATEMENTS ACCURATELY REFLECTING YOUR OWN POSITION ON THE FOLLOWING MATTERS:
- (a) Describe in your own words your basic Christian convictions, i.e., your concept of God, the person and work of Jesus Christ, the condition of man, the authority of Scripture, the significance of the Church, and the Christian's responsibility to individuals and to society. Include other convictions you may want to add.
- (b) In a brief paragraph characterize your own personal approach and style as a pastor of a congregation.

- (c) In a brief paragraph describe the kind of witness you would like the church to make in our society.

- (d) In a brief paragraph describe your understanding of the nature and purpose of preaching and the type of sermons you normally preach.

28. BRIEFLY OUTLINE OR STATE HOW YOU WOULD BEGIN A NEW CHURCH:

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

PLEASE NOTE: It would be appreciated if you would treat this Ministerial Data Form in a confidential manner. We hope you will assist us in avoiding embarrassment to the minister who submitted this Form and thereby shows his desire to cooperate in the program of our Church.

APPENDIX B
APPLICATION FOR SUPPORT

Mission to the United States — P. O. Box 16302, Jackson, MS 39206

1. Church or Presbytery:

a. Name of church _____

Address _____
Street and Number City State Zip

b. Name of pastor _____

Address _____
Street and Number City State Zip

c. Name of clerk _____

Address _____
Street and Number City State Zip

d. Name of treasurer _____

Address _____
Street and Number City State Zip

2. If a mission of a church or Presbytery:

a. Name of Mission _____

Address _____
Street and Number City State Zip

b. Name of key layman _____

Address _____
Street and Number City State Zip

3. Short statement re history of church (or mission). Attach to this form.

4. Statistics of church (or mission):

a. No. church members _____ ; families _____ ; wage earners _____

b. Average attendance morning worship _____ ; evening worship _____ ;
 midweek service _____

c. Number of Professions of Faith since beginning _____ .

Statistics of Sunday School:

a. No. members _____ ; families _____ ; children 12 or under _____

b. Average attendance _____

5. Finances — Church:

a. Total monthly income for past six months:

\$ _____
 \$ _____
 \$ _____
 \$ _____
 \$ _____
 \$ _____

b. Estimate of monthly operating expenses (not including pastor's salary or mortgages):

Rent	\$ _____
Utilities	\$ _____
Printing	\$ _____
Advertising	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

c. Pastor's monthly income:

(1) Cash salary from the church	\$ _____
(2) Cash allowance:	
Manse	_____
Car	_____
Utilities	_____
(3) Estimated income from secular work	_____
	Total _____

d. If no manse allowance in cash is supplied, do you have a manse supplied for your use, at no rental cost to you?

Yes _____ No _____

e. Estimate the cash support from churches and/or individuals to underwrite M-US financial program: _____

f. Building fund (or proposed):

(1) Total present mortgage	\$ _____
(2) Monthly payments (mortgage plus interest)	_____

g. Benevolence programs (or proposed):

Percentage of total monthly budget _____ %

(1) _____	\$ _____
(2) _____	\$ _____
(3) _____	\$ _____
(4) _____	\$ _____
(5) _____	\$ _____
(6) _____	\$ _____
	Monthly total \$ _____

6. The Pastor: (Include following material in a concise statement and attach to this form.)
- a. Size family; general health of self and family; education and standing in presbytery.
 - b. The following questions are a compilation of questions which are apparently the most often asked of a minister of the PCA. Short answers to the following questions: (Brevity is part of the expected answers.)
 - (1) What is the difference between PCA — RPCES — UPUSA and/or PCUS — BPC — OPC.
 - (2) How large is the PCA — ministers, churches, income?
 - (3) Name several distinct features of the government of the PCA.
 - (4) Why baptize babies?
 - (5) What is predestination?
 - (6) Why are there so many different denominations?
 - (7) Will you unite in marriage all who ask for the service?
 - (8) How can you begin to help a family ready to be divorced?
 - (9) What is the position of your church on the social issues of the day?
7. Potential of the Field:
A letter from the pastor or clerk describing the nature of the field and the opportunity for reaching souls MUST be attached to this application.
8. Letter of reference from presbytery. (M-US will correspond directly with the Clerk of Presbytery.)

Date

(Signature Organizing Pastor

APPENDIX C

FORM REQUESTING ASSISTANCE OF PRESBYTERY

(From an unorganized group of believers wishing to be established as a mission church.)

_____, 19 _____

Stated Clerk

_____ Presbytery

Fathers and Brethren:

In God's providence, an unorganized group of believers has requested to be established in (Name of City), as a mission church of the PCA. Your Mission's Committee has been abreast of all the developments. (Name of Man) has been the local contact.

In accordance with M-US's standard practice and the Form of Government, Chapter _____, Paragraph _____, this group, at a duly called meeting on _____, 19 _____, with _____ acting as Moderator, and with Elders _____ present, voted to request the (Name of Presbytery) Presbyterian Church in America, to give the group the assistance necessary in order to become a particular church of the PCA within a few months to two years.

As soon as an organizing pastor is located, he will present himself to your presbytery for membership. If he is so received, M-US hereby, requests that he be authorized to work with this mission church, within the bounds of your presbytery, anticipating that he will shortly present the group to presbytery for constitution by presbytery as a particular church of the PCA.

Acting Moderator for the Meeting

ATTACHMENT D

— From **THE BOOK OF CHURCH ORDER, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**
Chapter 5. **The Organization of a Particular Church**

5-1. A new church can be organized only by the authority of Presbytery. The Presbytery may proceed with the organization directly, or through an especially appointed commission, or through an evangelist to whom the Presbytery has entrusted the power to organize churches. In the organization of a church, whatever be the way in which the matter originated, the procedure shall be as follows:

(1) The Presbytery ordinarily shall receive and approve a petition subscribed to by those persons seeking to be organized into a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America, appointing a time and date for a service of organization.

(2) At the service and following the preaching of the Word, testimonials shall be presented to the Presbytery by such persons as are members of the Church, if there be any, and applicants for admission to the Church on profession of faith in Christ shall, on satisfactory examination, be received.

(3) These persons shall in the next place be required to enter into covenant, by answering the following question affirmatively, with uplifted hand: "Do you, in reliance on God for strength, solemnly promise and covenant that you will walk together as an organized church, on the principles of the faith and order of the Presbyterian Church in America, and that you will be zealous and faithful in maintaining the purity and peace of the whole body?"

(4) The presiding minister shall then say: "I now pronounce and declare that you are constituted a church according to the Word of God and the faith and order of the Presbyterian Church in America. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen."

(5) Action shall be taken to secure, as soon as practicable, the regular administration of the Word and Sacraments.

ATTACHMENT E

— From **THE BOOK OF CHURCH ORDER, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA 5-2**. The following procedures shall be used in electing Ruling Elders in a newly organized congregation:

(1) Not less than thirty days prior to the date of organization, petitioners shall submit, from among their body, nominations of male members for the office of Ruling Elder to the presbytery or its designated organizing commission or evangelist, keeping in mind the qualifications set forth in I Timothy 3 and Titus 1.

(2) Nominees shall be instructed and examined concerning their Christian experience, their knowledge and acceptance of the constitutional standards of the church and their willingness to assume the responsibilities of the office of Ruling Elders.

(3) The congregation will, at the organizational meeting, determine the number of Ruling Elders to be elected.

(4) Report shall be made to the congregation of those eligible to be elected, from whom the Ruling Elders shall be chosen, following procedures outlined in Paragraphs 25-3 and 25-4 of the Book of Church Order.

(5) Ordination and installation shall follow the procedure set forth in Paragraph 25-5 of the Book of Church Order.

(6) Those elected, ordained and installed Ruling Elders should meet as soon as is practicable to elect a moderator and a clerk. The moderator may be one of their own number, or, any Teaching Elder of the Presbytery with Presbytery's approval.

Appendix G

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE WORLD
TO THE FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

INTRODUCTION

The Committee on the Mission to the World submits the following report to the 4th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America:

The Committee has met regularly as scheduled in September, October, November, 1975, and January, March and May of this year. It is anticipated that there will be meetings of the Committee in July and September.

Members of the Committee are as follows:

	Class of 1976	
Teaching Elders Donald B. Patterson		Ruling Elders Jay P. Wood Roger DeHaven
	Class of 1977	
James Baird David Hamilton		Gerald Sovereign
	Class of 1978	
William J. Stanway		H. Clifford Horton Charles T. Wolf, Jr.
	Class of 1979	
Lardner Moore Kennedy Smartt		Kenneth Keyes
	Alternates	
William H. Benchoff		James Campbell

Created by the First General Assembly to serve as an "enabling committee, the purpose of the Committee on the Mission to the World was to encourage and enable the Presbyterian Church in America to function as a missionary church. Promotion of missions throughout the church, encouraging the various courts of the church in their missionary responsibility and coordinating the work of missions throughout the denomination has occupied the time of the Committee and its competent staff. God has been pleased to bless with an expanding work force overseas and a growing interest among our churches. It is our desire to share some of the highlights of the year in order that the entire Assembly might praise God with us for His faithfulness.

MISSIONARY FORCE:

While each committee meeting changes the picture overseas, it can be reported at this writing (May, 1976) that there are now 53 missionaries on the field with 21 approved candidates in various stages of preparation for their overseas assignment. This reflects a 60% growth since our last report to the General Assembly.

PCA missionaries are now located in the following countries:

Arabia: Miss Jean Lappin, medical, assigned to the World Presbyterian Mission.

Brazil: Rev. and Mrs. Curtis Goodson, evangelist, teaching at McKenzie University.
[redacted] technician.

Ecuador: Mr. and Mrs. Al Hatch, radio technician, assigned to World Radio Missionary Fellowship.

France: Dr. and Mrs. Peter Jones, professor.

Rev. and Mrs. Douglas Miller, evangelist, presently in language school.

Germany: Rev. and Mrs. George Hutchinson, professor, assigned to German Theological Seminary at Seeheim.

Guatemala: Rev. and Mrs. Cecilio Lajara, evangelist/professor

Rev. and Mrs. Henry Mueller, evangelist, assigned to South America Crusades.

Haiti: Mr. Charles Martin, medical technician, assigned to West Indies Mission.

Korea: Mr. and Mrs. Ron Ellis, evangelist.

Rev. and Mrs. Hugh Linton, evangelist.

Rev. and Mrs. Robert Watts, evangelist.

Liberia: Rev. and Mrs. Grady Simpson, evangelist/teacher, assigned to Sudan Interior Mission.

Mexico: Miss Ellen Barnett, teacher.

Rev. and Mrs. Richard Dye, evangelist.

Mr. and Mrs. John Lynch, evangelist.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Toth, evangelist.

New Guinea: Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hendren, administrator, assigned to Wycliffe Bible Translators.

Nigeria: Rev. and Mrs. Sidney Anderson, professor, assigned to Christian Reformed Church.

Peru: Mr. and Mrs. Donald Gahagen, Jr., pilot, assigned to South American Mission.

Mrs. Virginia Rogers, teacher, assigned to Wycliffe Bible Translators.

Philippines: Mr. and Mrs. John Rollo, technician, assigned to Wycliffe Bible Translators.

Taiwan: Rev. and Mrs. Joseph Farlow, evangelist/teacher.

Miss Martha Jones, teacher.

Miss Kathy Koren, teacher.

Miss Marion Mounger, teacher.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Smith, teacher.

Miss Mary Elizabeth Smith, teacher.

Rev. and Mrs. David White, evangelist/teacher.

The following have been accepted and assigned by the Committee:

Colombia: Mr. and Mrs. James Patterson, administrator, assigned to Wycliffe Bible Translators.

Ecuador: Mr. and Mrs. David Brooks, agriculturist, assigned to Wycliffe Bible Translators.

Mr. Larry McCarty, medical technician, assigned to World Radio Missionary Fellowship.

France: Rev. and Mrs. James Jones, evangelist.

Guatemala: Rev. and Mrs. Hugh Powlison, evangelist.

Ivory Coast: Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Frank, translator, assigned to Wycliffe Bible Translators.

Mexico: Mr. and Mrs. Ed Farris, translator, assigned to Wycliffe Bible Translators.

New Guinea: Mr. and Mrs. Jayson Kyle, teacher, assigned to Wycliffe Bible Translators.

Philippines: Miss Rebecca Lemly, teacher, assigned to Wycliffe Bible Translators.

Taiwan: Rev. and Mrs. Lee Trinkle, pastor/evangelist/teacher.

USA: Miss Susan Harville, writer, assigned to West Indies Mission.

Zambia: Mrs. Grace Brown, teacher, assigned to Africa Evangelical Fellowship.

While we were greatly encouraged by the action of the General Assembly calling the denomination to prayer for 10 ordained ministers, we have had only 2 respond at this writing. The command of Jesus is still valid for our time: "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest, that He would send forth laborers into His harvest." (Luke 10:2)

HOME PERSONNEL:

Under the able leadership of John E. Kyle, Coordinator of the CMTW, the home staff has functioned effective and efficiently over the year. The Rev. Paul Poynor, a member of the Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley and former missionary to Laos, replaced the Rev. David White as Administrative Secretary. At this writing, Mr. Poynor and Mr. Quarles, the latter serving as Field Representative, are both making application for overseas work.

The Rev. Jimmy Lyons, missionary-evangelist, has maintained a full schedule of conference assignments. Now an author of note, Mr. Lyons' effectiveness as a communicator of the Gospel is proved by the increased interest in spiritual things wherever he goes.

John McDavid, the Financial Secretary, and the staff of capable secretaries continue to carry a heavy load of correspondence and reports.

The staff has continued to up-grade its understanding of world needs by evaluation trips to the Far East and to South and Central America. Attendance at various seminars and conferences has given a perspective from government and fellow-Reformed churches that has been very valuable. A close check has been maintained on the changing financial and political conditions around the world by our close relationship with Organization Resources Counselors, Inc. and the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association.

PROGRAM:

The Committee has continued to be challenged by the many opportunities that are being opened to the Presbyterian Church in America. Our largest concentration of missionaries continues to be on the beautiful campus of Christ's College, Taipei, Taiwan. Here more than 600 Chinese students are given a liberal arts education from the Christian perspective.

A careful study has revealed the need for a church-planting ministry in Taiwan immediately and a call has gone out for five ordained evangelists.

Korea continues to excite the person interested in church growth. More than a year ago a call went out for ten evangelists to assist Hugh Linton in his church-planting ministry. Two men have responded and are now in language school. The need for the additional eight remains.

Brazil has been called the "sleeping giant." The CMTW sensing the need for missionaries for that nation has asked for a team of five evangelists to respond. The leaders of the National Presbyterian Church of Brazil have encouraged the PCA to respond.

Guatemala and Mexico offer unlimited opportunities to the man or woman called of God to extend the borders of His kingdom.

The CMTW, in order that it might serve the Lord more effectively and efficiently, has developed working agreements with the following agencies:

Africa Evangelical Fellowship
Christian Reformed Church

West Indies Mission
World Presbyterian Mission

Sudan Interior Mission
 South America Crusades
 South American Mission

World Radio Missionary Fellowship
 Wycliffe Bible Translators

In providing leadership in developing and interpreting to the Church a missionary program, the CMTW has conducted several "How To" seminars in various parts of the Assembly. A "Team" seminar was conducted in Jackson, Mississippi, that attracted students from at least six seminaries. Churches have been assisted in producing mission conferences that have stimulated growth in other areas of the church's life.

OVERSEAS RELIEF:

Spurred on by the General Assembly to be more actively engaged in the assistance of refugees from Indo-China, the Committee on Mission to the World sought to inform the churches of the tremendous need for support.

Working through the World Relief Commission, the PCA came to the assistance of hundreds of refugees flooding into Portugal from Angola. National worker, Jaime Vieira, a Presbyterian pastor, was elected president of the Evangelical Alliance of Portugal and served as the coordinator to dispense our funds in the name of Christ.

In February our churches responded favorably when an appeal was made for assistance for the earthquake-stricken people of Guatemala. Providentially, the Rev. Cecilio Lajara and the Rev. Henry Mueller were in Guatemala at the time of the earthquake and were able to serve in the name of Christ. Again, the World Relief Commission and the PCA demonstrated the wisdom of cooperative work.

A ministry that has received little, or no, publicity has linked together the PCA and World Relief Commission in Korea. For several years WRC has been assisting Hugh and Betty Linton. He directs the massive Kangsan Land Reclamation project, a reclaiming of over 500 acres of land, while she oversees activities at the Soonchun Clinic for TB patients.

DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING:

While it is too early to have the results of our "Day of Prayer and Fasting," it is known that May 16, 1976, was special in the lives of many. Thousands of pieces of literature were sent to the churches with the hope that people would be reminded to pray for our missionaries.

CHAPLAINS:

Assigned to the Committee on the Mission to the World was the responsibility to coordinate the work of the presbyteries in the endorsement of military and institutional chaplains and represent them in relation to military and civil authorities.

The Committee on the Mission to the World has been assisted by the Commission on Chaplains of the National Association of Evangelicals. We now have four men on active duty:

U.S. Army — Douglas McCullough, Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley

W. Ingram Philips, Presbytery of the Evangel

David F. Roberts, Presbytery of Texas

U.S. Navy — Donald K. Clements, Presbytery of the Pacific

Reserve Chaplains are as follows:

U.S. Air Force Reserve — J. Philip Clark

David E. Crocker

U.S. Navy Reserve — James L. Fishel

John Register

Fred Thompson

U.S. Army Reserve — Edward A. Jussely

Theodore Kline

Civil Air Patrol — William Whitwer

(See paragraphs 4-41 and 4-45 for recommendations adopted by the General Assembly.)

MANUAL FOR MISSION TO THE WORLD COMMITTEE (As amended by the Fourth General Assembly)

Section I

INTRODUCING MISSION TO THE WORLD

Basis of Mission to the World Policy

Mission to the World is a committee of the Presbyterian Church in America. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America has established this Committee as one of its permanent committees. Membership on the Committee is through election by the General Assembly, which itself has received nominations from the constituent Presbyteries.

Relationship of the Committee to the Presbyteries and Sessions of the denomination is defined by the duties assigned to the Committee by the General Assembly. Its role is to serve and offer coordinating facilities to these church courts. It seeks to aid these courts in the seeking of candidates for mission service overseas, in processing candidates, maintaining essential services for and communication with missionaries on the field and in keeping the home church aware of and supportive of the ministries of such missionaries.

Its broad task is, then, to provide leadership and consultation to the Church in developing a missionary program, seeking to develop and strengthen the missionary spirit across the denomination. As a special function, it is also charged with the responsibility for coordinating the work of Presbyteries in the endorsement of military and institutional chaplains and representing chaplains in relation to military and civil authorities.

The doctrinal position of Mission to the World is that of the Presbyterian Church in America, of which it is a committee. This position begins with affirmation of confidence in the Scriptures as the infallible written Word of God. The teachings of the Scriptures are set forth in the constitution of the PCA, in the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms.

Based upon the absolute authority of the Scriptures, distinctive features of the system of doctrine set forth in the Confession of Faith (a system known as Calvinism) include: the sovereignty of God, focused in His sovereignty in salvation; the covenant relation between God and His chosen people; and the compatibility (though still a mystery) between God's sovereign will and man's responsibility, both in salvation and in the life of obedience on the part of those who are saved.

Obedience to the Great Commission involves missions as an essential task of the visible church, namely, proclaiming the Gospel and making disciples at home and around the world, to the glory of God, as the church is commissioned to do in such passages as Matthew 28:18-20 and Acts 1:8. Further motivating factors, in addition desire for the glory of God and obedience to our Lord's commission are an awareness of the redemptive love and purpose of God and a Christlike compassion for lost sinners.

Since a primary goal of the Great Commission is to make disciples, Mission to the World is committed to working toward a growing church in every field of missions as God in His sovereign grace gives the increase. While M.T.W. is concerned for both quantitative and qualitative growth, the church in and of itself cannot accomplish either. Disciple-making is wholly dependent upon the sovereign grace of God. Yet the Lord of the harvest, who prepares the harvest and trusts forth the laborers, has stated specifically that He came to seek and to save the lost. He is pleased to call redeemed men to use His appointed means of grace and thus to share in bringing others to saving faith and to edify the body of the redeemed.

As the Committee on Mission to the World approaches the task of providing leadership and coordination to the denomination's obedience to the Great Commission, it is also committed to the kind of flexibility of working field patterns demanded by the various fields of service. Maintaining the unchanging character of the Scriptures and the Gospel, and adhering without wavering to the Reformed faith as expressed in the denomination's constitution, MTW seeks to be open to better application of traditional methods and to such innovative methods as are in accord with Scriptural principles.

Flexibility is evidenced in the two-pronged approach of relating missionaries to fields of service. The primary thrust will be in the familiar denominational pattern of developing a mission work in particular countries that is completely Presbyterian and Reformed in character, with all the missionaries on such fields being missionaries of the PCA, though some may be serving on a cooperative basis as having come from sister churches in the Reformed family of denominations.

Such cooperative possibilities serve to focus attention upon the secondary thrust of MTW in relating missionaries to fields. The General Assembly has approved the establishment of working relationships with other evangelical missionary agencies that welcome the services and teaching of missionaries holding the Reformed faith and polity. We are thus enabled to send candidates through them, as it may seem best for the greatest effectiveness in proclaiming the Gospel. These missionaries work under their auspices while at the same time maintaining full relationship to the Presbyterian Church in America. It is understood that the primary thrust will emphasize the planting and strengthening of Presbyterian and Reformed churches. The secondary thrust may also pro-

duce Presbyterian and Reformed churches. Such would be the case where the cooperation was with other Reformed mission agencies or denominations. It could also be the case when broadly evangelical mission agencies open areas of service where Reformed churches would be the pattern of church development. Often, however, cooperation with broadly evangelical agencies would not center upon church planting ministries by PCA personnel. They would be engaged in support ministries and specialized tasks.

In every case of cooperation, however, agreements developed as a basis of field work together with PCA missionaries on a full membership or a loan basis, would be governed by the principle set forth in the following statement:

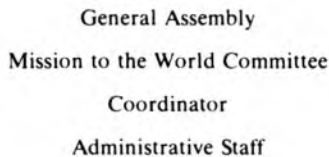
With full appreciation of the effective work of evangelical missionary enterprises, we of the Presbyterian Church in America are committed to a distinctive theology. Therefore, when we enter into working relationships with other agencies, written agreements must safeguard that PCA missionaries under the joint program be assured of their liberty in the full and free presentation of the whole counsel of God as contained and understood in the Reformed view. In all other matters, the missionaries on the fields shall be subject to the rules of the agencies under which they serve. Final discipline as relates to theology and morals, rests in the proper court of the Presbyterian Church in America.

It is the duty of every Christian to bear witness to the truth according to the gifts that have been given unto him (Matthew 28:18-20; Romans 12:16-18; I Corinthians 12:4-30). There are in mission work fields of labor such as education, medicine, translation, administration, evangelism, and others, where persons who are not ordained can be of great service in accordance with Biblical guidelines (Acts 18:18,24-28; I Timothy 2:12). MTW seeks to channel to appropriate places of service candidates with such gifts who are commended to us by sessions and presbyteries.

Mission to the World Organizational Structure

Membership of the Committee is composed of twelve elders, six teaching and six ruling. They are elected by the General Assembly in four classes, each class serving four years and consisting of two teaching elders and one ruling elder or one teaching elder and two ruling elders.

Administrative lines of responsibility may be visualized by the following organizational chart:



The Committee itself chooses a chairman, a vice-chairman, a secretary, and a treasurer. Each committee member is appointed to a sub-committee (present sub-committees being: Candidates, Personnel, Finance, Churches and Presbyteries and Long Range Planning) and to a field interest sub-committee (Europe and Africa, Far East, South and Central America).

Meetings of the Committee are set according to need, ordinarily being held every two months. A quorum has been established as seven members. Alternate members, elected by the General Assembly, may serve to constitute a quorum, in which case they serve as voting members (otherwise they participate in discussion but do not vote).

Administrative staff positions and job descriptions and actual employment are determined by the Committee, in consultation with the Coordinator. The Coordinator and administrative staff are responsible for employment and management of office staff.

Fields of Service

Mission to the World's two-pronged thrust regarding missions leads to two types of mission field designations: Primary and Cooperative.

Primary fields of service are countries in which a specifically PCA work is being conducted, with missionaries sent and coordinated by the Committee. In 1975 there are:

- Brazil
- Ecuador
- France
- Guatemala
- Korea
- Mexico
- Taiwan

New Primary fields may be entered after the Committee undertakes careful study of the needs and opportunities in specific countries.

Cooperative fields of service are countries in which missionaries from PCA are serving directly in cooperation with and coordinated by another missions agency. The present fields are:

Arabia
Brazil
Columbia
Ecuador
Germany
Haiti
Ivory Coast
Liberia
Mexico
New Guinea
Nigeria
Peru
Surinam

Additional countries may be entered on a cooperative basis as candidates from the denomination go to specific countries through a cooperating mission agency.

Section II

REFORMED THEOLOGY AND PRACTICE OF MISSIONS

INTRODUCTION

The two main divisions of this section are: "Toward a Reformed Theology of Missions" and "Toward a Reformed Practice of Missions." The word "toward" is important. We recognize the tentative nature of what is written here. This is not a final statement. It cannot be, since our denomination and our Mission to the World are both in their infancy, but, more importantly, because our theological heritage demands that we maintain our life as a Reformed and **reforming** church. We desire to be more and more shaped in our theology and practice by the Lord of the church, who is also the Lord of the harvest, through His Word. We pray that increasingly our belief and our action will reflect adequately, if not perfectly, that source of life. We recognize that the work of missions is the work of the whole church. We will listen to our church as it speaks in its various ways and we will obey as it speaks through its highest court. It is our earnest desire that in this way the Presbyterian Church in America will move toward a more biblical theology and practice of missions.

The order of the division is important. The first part of the section deals with theology and the second with practice. Theology must always judge practice. It can never be reversed. When practice judges or manipulates theology, it means the death not only of theology but also of missions. Theology cannot live under the domination of practice, but practice can and must live under the domination of theology. We commit ourselves to be a theological mission. We reject pragmatism as a guide for our action. We deplore a superficiality which seeks biblical grounds for positions already taken for other reasons. We recognize, however, that in missions we must operate as elsewhere: gaining insight biblically and finding our way. Often this insight is not prior to experience but is given in and after experience. This means that we will not have all the answers to the theological questions before we move in practice. We have the directions, but our findings and expression will often be tentative, judged continually by an increasing understanding of God's Word in the concrete situations in which God places us.

I. Toward a Reformed Theology of Missions

A. Biblical Models for Missions

Two controlling facts guide our search for a biblical theology and practice of missions. First, the entire Bible concerns itself with missions. It is not a matter of finding an occasional missionary text but of understanding the covenant purpose of God expressed in His Word from Genesis through Revelation and the work of God in bringing to Himself those whom He chose in Christ before the foundation of the world and forming them into a people for His possession whom He commissions to proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called them out of darkness into His marvellous light. (See Ephesians 1:3-14; I Peter 2:9-10.) Secondly, the Bible does not give us a missions manual a such. It gives us the material from which we must draw our missions theology on which we must build our missions practice, but we must work diligently and openly with all the Scripture, seeking to do justice to the whole will of God and not bending or ignoring any word in the interest of a theory.

The biblical data for missions which are presented here are some of the guides which have inspired and directed the church in its mission to the world.

1. Old Testament

God who created man in His own image for fellowship with Himself and for dominion over His creation did not abandon His creature to the consequences of his sin when man fell. Rather, in the words of the Shorter Catechism, "God having, out of His mere good pleasure,

from all eternity, elected some to everlasting life, did enter into a covenant of grace to deliver them out of the estate of sin and misery, and to bring them into an estate of salvation by a Redeemer." (Q. 20)

The Covenant promise of a Redeemer is found in Genesis 3:15 as it was given to our first parents. The covenant of grace comes to fuller expression in God's declarations to Abraham, for example, assuring him, "I will establish my covenant between me and you and your descendants after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God to you and to your descendants after you" (Genesis 17:7), but assuring him also, "And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (Genesis 12:3). The election of Abraham had the nations in view. Through Abraham, his family, and then Israel, God made His love and power known before the nations with a view to reaching the nations. Israel was called by God to be preacher and example for the nations. The specific form of Israel's missionary activity was primarily to attract and draw the attention of the nations to the God of Israel, but there was also the outward going to the nations, as implied in such passages as Isaiah 49:6 and stated in the book of Jonah. "I will also make you a light of the nations so that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth." (Isaiah 49:6) Israel was called out from the nations to be a witness to the nations; we are sent into the nations to witness to the nations. God's people of all times and places join in the prayer of the Psalmist: "God be gracious to us and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon us, that Thy way may be known on the earth, Thy salvation among all nations." (Psalm 67:1-2)

2. New Testament

a. Christ

(1) His Life

Twice Matthew gives a description of Jesus' ministry: "And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their Synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people." (Matthew 4:23 and 9:35). Luke summarizes Jesus' ministry as **doing** and **teaching** and implies that this pattern will be continued by the risen Christ and His church. (Acts 1:1, "All that Jesus began to do and teach"). Following the compassionate Christ today means involvement in the very same pattern. We must both proclaim and demonstrate the salvation of God. As J. H. Bavinck said, the church is not only God's mouth but also His heart.¹

(2) His preaching

The proclamation of the kingdom of God forms the heart of the evangelistic ministry of Jesus: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matt. 4:17). He says: "I must evangelize about the Kingdom of God in the other cities also; for I was sent for this purpose (Luke 4:43)." Jesus Himself is the most important and central element of the kingdom: "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing" (Luke 4:21). The kingdom's deepest nature is spiritual: "Unless one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:37). This new spiritual life, however, will make itself felt in all spheres of a person's life (Matt. 5:13-16).

(3) His Death

Jesus said of himself, "The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." (Matthew 20:28) He said, "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:14-16). Jesus said again, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself," and the Apostle John adds the explanatory comment, "But He was saying this to indicate the kind of death by which He was to die." (John 12:32-33) In His Good Shepherd discourse Jesus also said, "I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. . . . And I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they shall hear my voice; and they shall become one flock with one shepherd." (John 10:11, 16)

His death on the cross as a substitutionary atonement for the sins of His people coupled with His resurrection provides the basis, the message, and the motivation for missionary outreach in search of the "other sheep." In a sermon John 10:17-18, entitled "The Sacrifice of Christ, the Type And Model of Missionary Effort," James Henley Thornwell said that the supreme reverence for the glory of God which prompted Jesus to regard not His life dear unto Himself must be the dominant principle of action in missions. He said moreover that "As Jesus by His sacrifice purchased redemption, we by ours must make it known . . ."

(4) His Resurrection and Ascension

Between His resurrection and His ascension — and linked to both — Jesus gave the "Great Commission." (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:45-49;

John 20:21) As Matthew 6:9-13 was given as a model for prayer, so Matthew 28:19-20 has been given as the model for missions.

Jesus begins the Great Commission with the statement: "All authority in heaven and earth has been given to me." Missions then is the summons of the Lordship of Christ. It is carried on in the name of and under the control of the One who has all authority in heaven and on earth. It cannot be done hesitantly, fearfully or despairingly. It is triumphant work because it is the King's work.

Jesus then charges his disciples: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." There is now a great thrust outward to all nations. This is anticipated and to some extent begun in the Old Testament; it is indicated and prepared by earlier statements of Jesus. (Matt. 13:38; 22:1-14; 24:14, etc.). Going, they are to make disciples, baptizing and teaching them. We must witness, preach and live to make disciples; we must incorporate them into the body of Christ, the church, as responsible, functioning members; we must teach them all Christ's instructions, all His Word, with its implications for life in our world.

Jesus then concludes with the promise: "And, lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age." The disciples' mission is supported by both His authority and His presence. He charges them to mission but He does not delegate it to them. He continues all He began to do and teach. He continues it through them — through us. He has not turned over His work to us. He has called us to His work, and His presence is His great gift to us. Therefore, "we are not standing in the world bearing witness to Christ, but we are standing in Christ bearing witness to the world."²

b. Pentecost

The unique way in which the risen Christ carries on His work through His body, the church, was instituted and demonstrated at Pentecost. It is solely by the authority of the Holy Spirit that the disciples were in a position to be witnesses of Christ to the uttermost parts of the earth, Acts 1:6-8 (cf. Luke 24:47 and John 20:21). The church's work of mission is bound both to the Resurrection and to Pentecost. The Resurrection message can be brought to the nations only by the reality of Pentecost.

c. Acts

The whole structure of the Acts of the Apostles is determined by the course of the Gospel through the world. The pattern is given in Acts 1:8: "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth." The book of Acts then traces the outworking of the pattern through the witness of the early Christians, guided and empowered by the Holy Spirit, with the repeated direct intervention of God (a characteristic of the book of Acts) to keep missions thrust outward and onward. The account runs from the preaching of the Gospel in Jerusalem to preaching in Samaria to the connecting links of the baptism of the Ethiopian, Peter's being sent to Cornelius, the preaching of the Jewish Christians from Cyprus and Cyrene to the Greeks to the church at Antioch separating Barnabas and Paul and sending them out, the actual beginning of missionary work among the nations — "to the end of the earth." Acts then traces the ministry primarily of Paul and his companions in the spread of the Gospel in Asia and Europe.

d. Epistles

Numerous models for missions could be presented from New Testament epistles. In fact, Paul's epistles were missionary epistles. Not only is missions an essential part of the life of the church but it also feeds the church. By giving, it receives.

We will note here only one passage from the epistles, Romans 9:11. The great doctrines of sovereign grace — the truth that God saves men — are foundational in any biblical theology of missions. Neglect of this truth which is found in Paul and summarized in our Confessional Standards cripples missions and reduces it to a human enterprise, seeking the help of God. Missions is a divine enterprise in which God commands, empowers, and uses the obedience of His servants.

The position of Paul in Romans 9:11 is that, apart from the transforming power of God's call of grace, all men are dead in sin and resistant to Him. Paul quotes Isaiah's words of God concerning the Gentiles: "I have been found by those who did not seek me; I have shown myself to those who did not ask for me" (Romans 10:20). It was not because of their responsiveness that God found them; because God found them, they were responsive. From among the rejecting Gentiles as well as among the rejecting Israelites, God has chosen His people. Far from discouraging missions, this truth is the only real ground for missions, and the guarantee of the success of missions.

We have looked at some of the material out of which we must create our theology of missions. What we do with these Biblical data and with other related parts of God's Word will determine what we do in missions. The triune God who has sent the prophets,

Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit and the apostles also sends the church. He sends us, and our task is to do the will of Him who sends us.

B. Priority and Urgency of Planting and Strengthening Presbyterian Churches Overseas

1. Priority and Urgency of Planting and Strengthening Churches

It is more and more recognized that both the agent and the goal of missions is the church. From the beginning Jesus Christ did not envisage individual followers and witnesses creating additional followers but a church united by Him both to Himself and to one another growing by enlarging and multiplying congregations.

Church growth must not be defined too narrowly. Biblical church growth includes at least three dimensions. The church grows by evangelistic proclamation with the goal of multiplying Christian congregations. The great concern of the early church was to tell the good news about Jesus and the resurrection, but proclamation was not an end in itself. The biblical pattern is to form new converts into local congregations. Also the church grows by the building up of the saints. Also the church grows by the exercising of spiritual gifts. The important discussions of spiritual gifts in Romans 12, I Corinthians 12-14 and Ephesians 4 all place gifts in the context of the community life of the church. Therefore, total church growth involves numerical, spiritual and functional or organic growth.

Foreign missions is necessarily concerned with the establishing of the whole ministry of the church. This includes instruction and service as well as evangelization — church strengthening as well as church planting. Neither evangelization nor "perfecting" can become ends in themselves. They must continually lead to each other.

If the chief work of missions is "the planting, propagating and perfecting of congregations," church planting and strengthening must remain the priority of our mission to the world.

2. Priority and Urgency of Planting and Strengthening Presbyterian Churches

It is no accident that we are Presbyterians. We acknowledge that we have much in common with evangelicals in every church but we remember that we also have certain important distinctives. We hold our Reformed doctrine and Presbyterian polity as valued treasures because we believe they are Biblical. We hold them gratefully and humbly, recognizing that they are gifts of God and not of our "works."

The priority and urgency of planting and nurturing churches overseas and our God-given identity as Reformed and Presbyterian mean that our mission to the world must, through our own efforts and in cooperation with compatible Reformed churches overseas and Reformed missions at home, be engaged primarily in the work of planting and strengthening true Presbyterian churches.

In the event PCA missionaries are working with independent agencies in a church planting capacity, they must be at liberty to establish churches which are thoroughly Presbyterian and Reformed in both theology and government.

C. Propriety of Cooperative Work With Evangelical Mission Agencies in Service and Support Ministries

There are many evangelical Christian agencies serving the Lord in a variety of ways in world missions. Many PCA congregations and members have had long and close associations with a number of such agencies. The personnel of these agencies and their support are drawn from various denominations. Although many such missionary agencies are one with the PCA in recognizing the Bible as the very Word of God and as the infallible rule of faith and practice and in adherence to many of the basic doctrines of the Word of God, some of them do not hold to those distinctives of Presbyterian and Reformed theology and polity which we hold dear because we believe they are Biblical. However, such organizations with which we have working agreements, do give absolute confirmation of the liberty of the PCA missionaries as stated and clarified in other places in this document.

Church planting of Presbyterian congregations usually must be done through distinctly Presbyterian and Reformed sending agencies. We believe, however, that there are areas of mission endeavor in which, with proper safeguards for the theological integrity and freedom of our PCA missionaries, M.T.W. may work with such agencies in terms of carefully drawn cooperative agreements.

D. Relations to Church Councils

In dealing with such as the World Council of Churches, the Committee on MTW of the Presbyterian Church in America shall operate under the policy set forth by the Third General Assembly (C-2, p. 123, Minutes of the Third General Assembly), "that the PCA shall maintain separation from the National and World Council of Churches, and that the committee on MTW (will) 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 throughout the world and not surrender any mission field as long as the Gospel is not compromised.

II. Toward a Reformed Practice of Missions

Our practice of missions is based on our theology of missions. Theology is not a preliminary activity; it is the controlling force in all our activity. It must constantly judge, correct and reshape our missions practice. But just as missions without theology cannot be true missions, theology without missions cannot be true theology. Theology without missions is dead. Our theology must be theology in action.

The plan for a Reformed practice of missions presented here discusses 1) (the sending bodies — the session and the presbytery, 2) the enabling Committee — Mission to the World, 3) the receiving bodies — the Mission to the World (field committee), other Reformed missions and evangelical agencies.

A. Sending Bodies

The Great Commission and related New Testament passages make it clear that every believer has been called to make disciples of all nations. This involves him in a vital witness in his own community and in an outreach to other places — either personally or through his representative and by his prayer and support. He discharges his missionary responsibility in and through the church.

The book of Acts sets forth the scriptural role of the church — the local church — as the sending authority and as the prayer and financial base for world evangelism. In our Presbyterian system, the proper sending bodies, therefore, are the session of the local church for laymen and the presbytery for ministers. The Book of Church Order says: "The church is responsible for carrying out the Great Commission." "The initiative for carrying out the Great Commission belongs to the church at every court level. . . ." (Chapter 15-1)

The responsibilities of these sending bodies, in consultation with the General Assembly's Committee on Mission to the World, include recruitment, examining, training, support, commissioning, contact, and furlough.³

1. Recruitment

It is significant that in the sending of missionaries in Acts, the emphasis is upon the initiative of others. The congregation of Jerusalem selected and sent Barnabas to Antioch (11:22). Barnabas took Saul to Antioch (11:25-26). The Church at Antioch, in obedience to the Holy Spirit set apart Barnabas and Saul for missionary work (13:1-4). In Chapter 15, Barnabas took Mark (15:39) and Paul chose Silas (15:40). Later Paul wanted Timothy to go with him; the congregations in Lystra and Iconium were consulted and involved in Timothy's going out ("He was well spoken of by the brethren who were in Lystra and Iconium" 16:3).

Sessions and presbyteries should actively seek God's wisdom in laying before persons, in whom they recognize gifts, a missionary call. This call, of course, will either follow or create the individual's own call to missionary service (B.C.O. 17-1). The church must take seriously its role to motivate by its challenge and discernment those of its own number to serve God overseas.

2. Examining

It is the responsibility of the sending body to examine each missionary candidate thoroughly in the areas of call, life and doctrine. It should seek to evaluate his gifts and calling, his fitness for the missionary task and give him counsel and guidance as he seeks God's will in missions. The session or presbytery will maintain basic oversight for his doctrine and morals and will seek ways of effectively carrying out this responsibility while the missionary is overseas.

3. Training

When the session or presbytery determines that further training or experience is necessary, it, in consultation with the Committee on Missions to the World, will recommend to the candidate a plan to follow and will assist him in it. This may mean placing him in a field of work under the session's or presbytery's supervision or sending him to a school, recommended by the session or presbytery for further training (with financial assistance, if this is necessary).

4. Support

It is clear that the sending churches in the book of Acts were involved in the support — prayer and financial — of their missionaries. When a session or presbytery encourages an individual to mission service, it accepts the responsibility to back up that person by prayer and giving.

5. Commissioning

The Commissioning of missionaries should be done by the sending body — the session or the presbytery.

6. Contact

Following the above procedure, the church at home will feel far more involved in the missionary's work. He came from them; he is supported by them; in a real sense his work is an extension overseas of their own local or presbytery ministry. There should be maintained a vital contact between the missionary and the sending body. The session or presbytery should

arrange to receive regular reports from its missionary on the field. It should evaluate his work and seek to offer advice and encouragement. It must take seriously its basic oversight for his doctrine and morals.

7. Furlough

It is significant that, when Paul and Barnabas returned from their first term of service in Cyprus and Galatia to the church "from which they had been commended by the grace of God for the work that they had accomplished," they gathered the church together and began to report all things that God had done with them and how he had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles" (Acts 14:26-27). "They remained no little time with the disciples (14:28)." This can form an appropriate pattern for furlough missionaries. Their main responsibility is to the church or presbytery which sent them out. The session or presbytery should seek to provide a residence for use during furlough, appropriate ministry and supervision or oversee the sphere of the missionary's activities. It will want to provide some opportunity for the missionary to share with the whole denomination his work — and thus serve to enlarge the mission vision of the whole church. Itineration will be coordinated with the General Assembly's Committee on Mission to the World.

B. Enabling Committee

The Mission to the World Committee serves as an "enabling" committee. It was created by the General Assembly to encourage and enable the Presbyterian Church in America at every level to function as a missionary church. The Book of Church Order, Chapter 15, defines the role of the General Assembly and its Committees. "The Assembly is responsible to encourage and promote the fulfillment of this mission (the Great Commission) by the various courts." "The work of the church as set forth in the Great Commission is one work, being implemented at the General Assembly level through equally essential committees." "It is the responsibility of the General Assembly to evaluate needs and resources, and to act on priorities for the most effective fulfillment of the Great Commission." "The Assembly's committees are to serve and not to direct any church judicatories. They are not to establish policy, but rather execute policy established by the General Assembly." "The committees serve the church through the duties assigned by the General Assembly." The Book of Church Order sets forth the role of the committees as that of **important** but **limited** servants of the whole church. Within this description, the Mission to the World Committee promotes missions throughout the church, encourages the various courts of the church in their missionary responsibility, co-ordinates the work of missions throughout our denomination.

The role of the Mission to the World Committee is to serve the General Assembly and all the courts of the church, to obey fully the directives of the General Assembly, to be sensitive to its mood and style and to maintain humbly its role as servant.

Foreign missions is not the special preserve of the Mission to the World Committee; rather the Committee acts representatively for the whole church, which is inherently the missionary community. It is not the Committee which sets missionary policy. The church — the whole church in its General Assembly — must take this responsibility.⁴ The Committee is an "enabling" committee. It seeks to enable the churches and the presbyteries of the PCA to fulfil their obligations to God in missions. It seeks to bring a mission vision to the **whole** denomination. It seeks "to encourage and promote" foreign missions in churches and presbyteries, by sharing resources, ideas, and personnel.

It assists churches and presbyteries in the recruitment of missionary candidates. It also recruits in a broader setting — challenging students in colleges and seminaries and those persons outside the Presbyterian Church in America who desire to serve God in biblical missions. In some cases, persons are brought into the PCA through contact with Missions to the World.

It examines and processes missionary candidates. In this important area, Mission to the World works with sessions and presbyteries. The examination by these sending bodies is primary and basic. Mission to the World examines further, especially in the areas of missiology and cross-cultural concerns (such as linguistic ability, etc.).

It works with the missionary candidate and his church or presbytery in planning for further training or experience where this is necessary. It assists churches and presbyteries in the matter of support. It does not replace the sending bodies in this responsibility but can and will assist congregations and presbyteries who desire assistance in the matter of support for their missionaries by introducing those missionaries to other churches. It also assists those missionaries who do not have large support from their churches or presbyteries to find interested churches.

It recommends fields of service and assignment of candidates. ("It is the responsibility of the General Assembly to evaluate needs and resources, and to act on priorities for the most effective fulfillment of the Great Commission." BOCO, 15-1) In our highly complex world, with its political problems, cultural complexity and denominational confusion, it is necessary for the church to give considerable care to the matter of establishing works and ministries overseas. It is necessary that the General Assembly enter into its mission commitments in a careful, prayerful and skillful manner, not carelessly and haphazardly.

It recommends salary and benefit levels, assists the missionary in itineration (in co-operation with session or presbytery) and helps him in the technical matters related to his going overseas.

It relates the missionary to the receiving body, assists the churches and presbyteries in evaluating his performance, assists the missionary in maintaining contact with the sending body and the denomination. It assists the missionary and his church or presbytery in planning for the use of his furlough time.

The Mission to the World Committee exists to enable the Presbyterian Church in America — the whole church — to be a mission church and to enable each church and presbytery to fulfil its mission obligation. We believe that there can be harmony, mutual trust and effective, creative co-operation between the Mission to the World Committee and the churches and presbyteries of our denomination.

C. The Receiving Bodies and Coordinators

There are three³ different models for mission work which are currently being used or considered by Mission to the World. The first two are related to "The Priority and Urgency of Planting and Strengthening Presbyterian Churches Overseas" (Section I,B) and the third to "The Propriety of Cooperative Work With Evangelical Mission Agencies In Service And Support Ministries (Section I,C).

1. Mission to the World

It is of greatest importance that the Presbyterian Church in America find Reformed churches overseas to which it can relate its mission work and create such churches through its own witness where these do not exist. There are problems and difficulties in establishing such relationships. Considerable time may be required. There must be care and caution.

In areas where there is no church with which we can work or where there is such a church but factors prevent (at least temporarily) our developed relationship, Mission to the World will carry on directly its own work, with a view to establishing Presbyterian churches in that country and/or strengthening the Reformed witness.

The co-ordination in this model will be the responsibility of the Mission to the World Committee or the Mission to the World Field Committee in that country, as detailed in the Manual.

2. Reformed Missions

There are many places where we can work in closest co-operation with other distinctly Reformed denominations or mission agencies. 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).

3. Evangelical Missions

The above two models relate specifically to the planting and strengthening of Presbyterian churches overseas. The third relates to support and service ministries and other mission endeavors in co-operation with evangelical missions and to a Reformed witness in deed and word overseas. This model is 1) secondary to the task of planting and strengthening Presbyterian Churches overseas, and 2) 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 MTW, 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 evangelical mission. (See Appendix C for sample copy.) 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 evangelical 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 evangelical missions. It responds to requests from its constituency — the Presbyterian Church in America.⁶ 2) Mission to the World does not participate in any way in its planning function in cooperative effort with 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.)⁷ 5) The missionary with an evangelical 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 co-ordination in this model will be the responsibility of the field committee of the evangelical mission.

Conclusion

The Mission to the World Committee commends this plan to the Presbyterian Church in America. We believe that it represents serious and careful treatment of theology. The major applications have been tested in practice. We believe that it is in the interest both of the peace and the purity of the church. It presents a program of missions which is in the best Reformed tradition and one that all our churches can accept and support. Because of the insistence on the scriptural role of the church and presbytery as the sending bodies and because of the variety of models, the conscience of no individual church member, minister, session or presbytery is violated. This program can maintain the peace and purity of our church and it can unite us in the great work of world missions.

FOOTNOTES

¹Quoted by Paul Schrottenboer in "Toward Catholicity in Missions," *International Reformed Bulletin*, Winter/Spring 1974, p. 49.

²Attributed to A. J. Gordon.

³For a helpful brief discussion of some of these topics see *Who Really Sends the Missionary?* by Michael C. Griffiths.

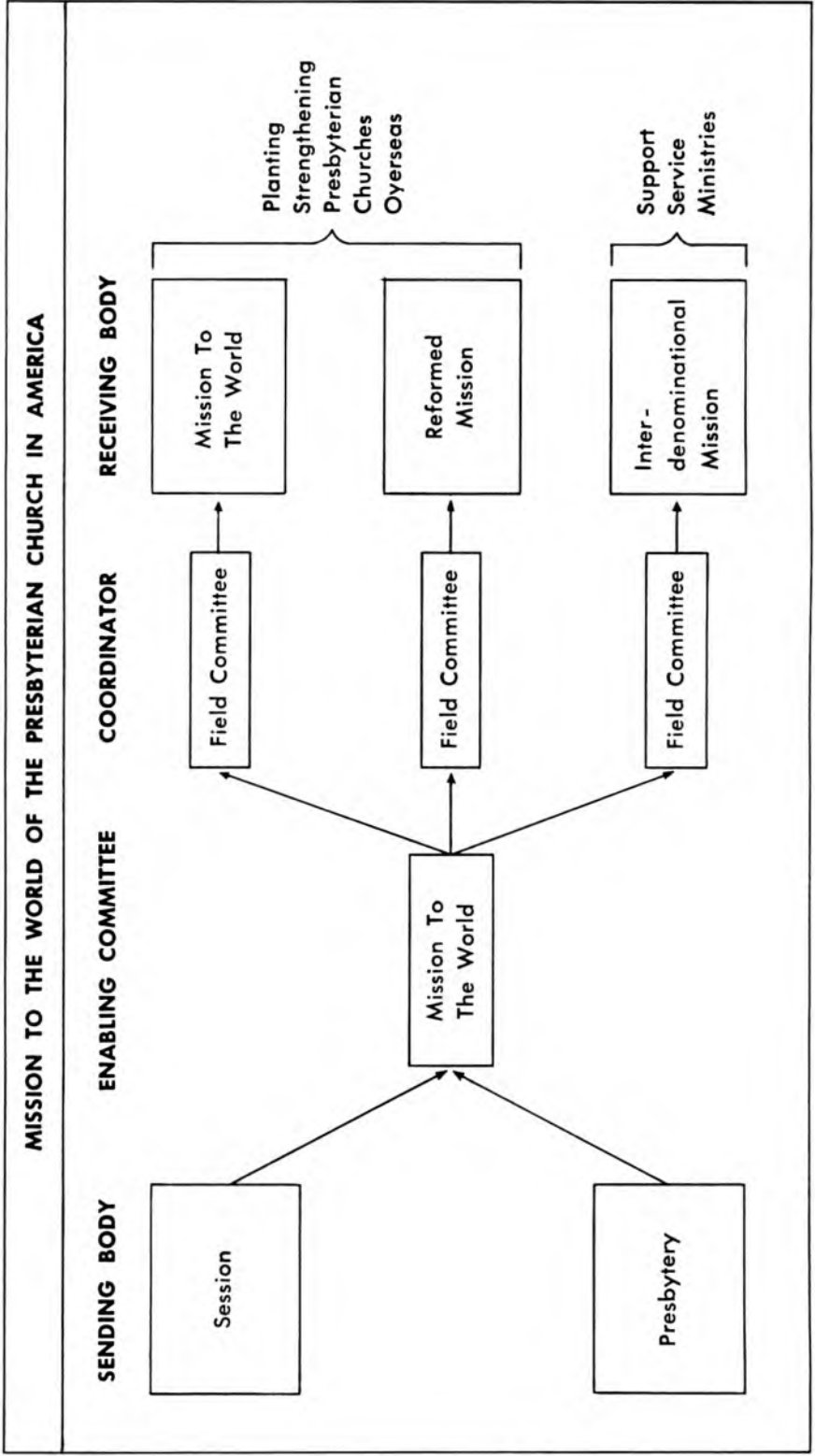
⁴See Acts 15 where the church through its representatives dealt with a theological issue which arose in the contest of missions.

⁵There are other models which may be considered, for example, the non-professional missionary. There are 2.5 million Americans overseas. For every missionary overseas from the U.S. today, it is estimated that there are 105 other Americans serving in self-supporting positions. American Christians overseas need orientation, prayer support and guidance in ministry. See "Missionaries: How to Bring Them In," by Phillip Butler in *Christianity Today*, July 4, 1975, p. 16.

⁶Note that the Book of Church Order states that "the church recognizes the right of individuals and congregations to labor through other agencies in fulfilling the Great Commission." (15-1) Mission to the World acts in the spirit of the statement when it seeks to respond to and guide individuals and congregations who wish to use their right in laboring through other agencies in fulfilling the Great Commission.

⁷As of August 1, 1975, there were 47 missionaries, either on the field or approved. Six are working with evangelical missions and seven are assigned to such missions, pending completion of the agreement between the mission involved and Mission to the World. Seventy-two percent (72%) of our total missionary force, as of August 1, 1975, was involved in, or assigned to, work in the first three models — "planting and strengthening Presbyterian churches overseas."

Appendix A



Appendix B**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.
6. 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

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 of 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.

* See paragraph 4-41, item III, B, 4, for new wording to be used in future agreements.

Section III

HANDBOOK FOR CANDIDATES
Outline

Introduction

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 - b. Call
 - c. Spiritual
 - d. Doctrinal
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 - f. Health
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 - j. Church relationships
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 3. Application for Foreign Missionary Service
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HANDBOOK FOR CANDIDATES, MISSION TO THE WORLD

There are three stages for applicants for missions service with Mission to the World:

1. Candidate — a person who has filled out full application forms for missions service with MTW.
2. Approved Candidate — a person who has completed successfully all applications requirements and has been approved for missions service with MTW.
3. Missionary — an approved candidate whose support has been provided, who has been assigned to a field, and who has been commissioned by his Session or Presbytery.

This section of the manual is to provide essential information for candidates and approved candidates. The next major section will serve as a handbook for missionaries of the Mission to the World.

A. Application for Missionary Service Overseas

1. Qualifications
 - a. Every individual who applies will be evaluated in light of his own person and in light of field needs.
 - b. Conviction of a call. While all Christians are responsible for obedience to the Great Commission, each candidate should be able to give reason why he believes it is God's will for him to serve on the foreign mission field.
 - c. Spiritual. A vital experience of Christ as Savior, a measure of spiritual maturity, and experience as a witnessing Christian will be expected of all candidates.
 - d. Doctrinal. A firm belief in and love for the Bible as God's Word should be coupled with a basic understanding of and sincere agreement with the Reformed faith as expressed in the doctrinal standards of the Presbyterian Church in America.
 - e. Educational. Normal expectations will include college, seminary or professional training, or proven ability in one's profession or trade, with Bible background. Short-term missionaries may be approved with minimal Bible training, but long-term missionaries will be expected to have a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures. Ordinarily there will be no financial assistance provided for minimum professional or Bible training required for approval as a candidate.
 - f. Health. Examinations must be passed in three areas:
 1. General physical health. MTW provides necessary forms.
 2. Dental health. A candidate should obtain necessary dental care so that essential work has been completed before approval by MTW.
 3. Emotional health. An examination by a Christian psychologist/psychiatrist is ordinarily required of all candidates who have not served on a mission field and may be required of those with field experience. In light of the intimate relation between spiritual and emotional health, and in view of such large numbers of missionaries who leave the field because of emotional problems, this examination is considered an important factor, both in evaluation and in providing counsel to avoid potential problems.
 - g. Personal. The candidate's personal traits and abilities, experience, and relationships should demonstrate potential for adapting to a new culture and representing Christ as a vital member of a mission team.
 - h. Language aptitude. Except in the case of appointment to specifically English-speaking ministries, candidates should evidence ability to learn a new language.
 - i. Experience. A minimum of one to two years of experience in one's profession or trade will ordinarily be required. This will be particularly true of one who had no prior experience in a different area of work before entering his present profession or trade.
 - j. Church relationship. Prior to approval, candidates will be expected to be members of (or in process of becoming members) a congregation or Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in America.
 - k. Wife. Since the wife of a candidate will also, if approved, represent Christ and His work through Mission to the World in a special situation, she will be expected to fill out all application forms and meet applicable qualifications.

1. Policy regarding divorced persons. Mission to the World recognizes that in many instances a divorce in the past life of a missionary can have adverse effects upon his service as a missionary. There is, however, also the recognition that Scripture acknowledges certain just causes for divorce. In this light, MTW may appoint divorced persons, whether remaining single or already married, if the following conditions are satisfied:
 1. The Committee is convinced that there were Scriptural grounds for the divorce and the candidate was not the source of the basic cause of divorce.
 2. Three or more years have elapsed since the divorce and the candidate has demonstrated Christian character and spiritual growth.
 3. MTW, and the field mission (Director of the Field), and if appropriate, the national church are convinced the divorce will not be a hindrance to the work.
 - m. Policy regarding Christian Nationals. The responsibility assigned to the Committee on MTW by the General Assembly lies in the area of cross cultural missions, and the Committee must maintain this emphasis. Therefore, a Christian national who is now a member of a PCA, wishing to return to his country of origin under MTW, must — in the light of MTW's mandate from the General Assembly — be equipped to provide a contribution which is both strategic and unique. At the same time, since God is no respecter of persons or nationality, the Committee on MTW is committed to view all members of the PCA who apply for missionary service as equal members of our communion to be afforded the same options for service and subject to the same screening process and operational policies, irrespective of ethnic and cultural background.
2. Application procedures.
 - a. See "Ordinary Procedure for Volunteers in the Presbyterian Church in America for Missionary Service Overseas" for initial procedures with Session or Presbytery.
 - b. The same processing procedures will be followed for short-term and long-term service candidates.
 - c. Processing by Mission to the World:
 1. Initial correspondence or interview with the Candidates' Secretary will give opportunity for completing the Preliminary Information Report form. Information will be given to the candidate on MTW salary policy and benefits.
 2. Full application forms, including school transcripts.
 3. Physical health report forms.
 4. Dental care statement
 5. References, both those named by candidate and others.
 6. Psychological/psychiatric examination. See statement on emotional health under "Qualifications."
 7. Approval by Session or Presbytery.
 8. All papers and examination reports on a candidate will ordinarily be reviewed by the Candidate's Sub-Committee one meeting prior to interviewing the candidate.
 9. Interview with Candidate's Sub-Committee and with full Committee on Mission to the World
 10. Wives of candidates will be expected to follow the same processing procedures as their husbands.
 - d. Processing with cooperating mission agency.
 1. Candidates seeking to serve in a cooperative relationship with Mission to the World and another mission agency may expect to meet the processing requirements of both organizations.
 2. Every effort will be made to avoid duplication of examinations.
 3. All information gathered on a candidate by one agency may be shared with the cooperating agency, with the understanding that such information will be kept confidential.
 - e. Processing candidates transferring from another mission agency.
 1. A candidate will ordinarily be required to wait six months between membership in his former agency and acceptance by Mission to the World.
 2. Candidates may be transferred from active status with another missions agency without delay if there is mutual agreement between the agencies concerning the transfer.
 3. Approval and assignment to a field of service.
 - a. Candidates may be approved when they have met the requirements detailed above, or they may be approved pending the meeting of additional requirements, at the discretion of the MTW Committee.
 - b. When approved, candidates will be informed regarding the date on which they will be added to the roll of salaried approved candidates.

- c. Either when approved or before departure for a field of service, a candidate will be assigned for a specific term of service.
 - d. When approved, a candidate will arrange for a conference with MTW's Financial Secretary to receive specific information about MTW's salary and benefits policies and to provide pertinent information in this area.
 - e. Assignment to a field may be made at the time of approval or at a later date.
- B. Relationships to Mission and to Church Courts
- 1. Areas of authority and responsibility
 - a. Mission agency.
 - 1. Mission to the World (and where applicable, the cooperating mission agency) is not to be considered by approved candidates simply as a means of getting to the mission field. Approval by the MTW and acceptance of such by a candidate mean that he is becoming part of a real team or family. For effective service, mutual cooperation, common goals, and recognition of lines of authority and responsibility are essential.
The approved candidate becomes in a very real sense identified with the MTW involved in relationships which affect him and others and the work of Christ in very significant ways. He cannot permit a spirit of arbitrary freedom in himself, but must seek gladly to submit to proper authority and to submit personal plans and projects to the planning and accomplishment of such strategic goals as the field organization considers best. Such cooperation and willing submission to authority will be a vital part of his witness to nationals on the field.
 - 2. In addition to anticipated cooperation with field administration, Approved candidates will demonstrate the same relationship with the home office administration of the MTW.
 - b. Church courts.
 - 1. The Church court having immediate oversight for approved candidates and missionaries will expect to be kept informed concerning their training and work.
 - 2. Such courts will maintain basic oversight for their doctrine and morals.
 - 2. Commissioning of approved candidates.
 - a. Suggested schedule. Commissioning by the appropriate church court will be suggested as most suitable after approval, field assignment, reasonable expectation of adequate support, and during the three-month period prior to departure for the field.
 - b. Suggested service. See accompanying pages on "Suggestions for a missionary Commissioning Service by Presbytery or Session." Note that where a minister and his wife are being commissioned it would be appropriate to have a joint service in the local congregation, with a Commission from Presbytery and the local Session both participating.
 - c. Commissioning certificate. Appropriate and attractive commissioning certificates will be provided, to be signed by Chairman of Commission and/or Moderator of Session.
- C. Itineration and Pre-Field Orientation for Approved Candidates.
- 1. Itineration.
 - a. Approved candidates will be required to visit congregations and presbyteries in the PCA prior to departure for the field. This itineration is for the following purposes:
 - 1. Sharing the missionary vision, challenging others to make themselves available in response to God's call to missionary service.
 - 2. Encouraging prayer support for the candidate's anticipated ministry overseas, providing personal acquaintance and information as an encouragement to such prayer.
 - 3. Providing personal acquaintance with candidates as a helpful factor in the consideration of financial support by particular congregations. NOTE that the candidate is not to appeal for such support. Consideration of financial support will be initiated by the staff of MTW, in correspondence with the local pastor and Session.
 - b. Coordination of itineration schedules will be through the office of MTW.
 - c. Conduct while itinerating. Candidates will seek the Lord's enabling grace to be effective in forwarding the purposes of their itineration. Such characteristics as neatness, promptness, prayerfulness, basic knowledge of missions and particular field of service, freshness in Bible-based messages, and thoughtfulness will be constantly encouraged on the part of all candidates.
 - d. Finances while itinerating. For those candidates on salary, any honorarium received by them while itinerating will be transmitted to the MTW office, to be applied to their accounts. For those candidates not on salary, honoraria may be retained by the candidates. Expenses of itineration will be the responsibility of

churches served or of MTW, in the case of churches not able to meet such expenses. Personal gifts may be received, but must be reported to MTW. Candidates should not encourage such gifts on a regular basis, since such would make it difficult to present an accurate picture of regular support and needs.

- e. While financial support is the responsibility of MTW and local pastors, candidates will not be approved for departure for the field until 100% of personal support needs have been promised.
2. Orientation.
 - a. Ordinarily all approved candidates will be required to attend special training classes in preparation for service on a foreign field. Present requirements are the two-week Language Acquisition Techniques program and the three-week Pre-Field Orientation program at Missionary Internship, Farmington, Michigan, or their equivalents.
 - b. A basic reading list will be required, including the Policy Manual of Mission to the World, introductory books on missions, mission anthropology, church growth, and information about the country in which service is anticipated.
 - c. Language training will ordinarily be provided for all approved candidates, preferably on the field. Long-term missionaries will be given a minimum of one full year of language study and short-termers will be given basic introduction to the language. Ordinarily long-term missionaries will proceed directly into language study their first year on the field. Short-term missionaries may obtain language study part time or at a point of greatest opportunity consistent with their short-term responsibilities.
 - d. The Field Director, or in the absence of such, senior PCA missionaries, will provide assistance with housing arrangements, introduction to local culture, government, and mission and church policies.
- D. Preparation and Departure for the Field.
 1. Preparation.
 - a. Passport. Application for U.S. passport(s) should be made immediately upon approval as a candidate, unless a lengthy time of additional training or other delay is required. Forms may be obtained from the office of MTW. Application must be made in person at a U.S. Passport Office. It is suggested that husband and wife obtain separate passports, with any children included on the wife's. Requirements will be detailed on the application form.
 - b. Visa. Visa applications should be made through the MTW office at least three months prior to anticipated departure for the field. Separate applications should be made for husband and wife. Proper forms may be obtained from the office of MTW.
 - c. Immunizations. Immunizations should be begun three months prior to anticipated departure for the field. The International Certificate of Vaccination is the only acceptable document for recording these. This certificate may be obtained from the office of MTW, from a passport office, or from a public health office. Required immunizations will include smallpox and cholera for all countries. Others may be required for specific countries. In addition to those requirements, MTW will recommend others, for the further protection and health of missionaries. Candidates should obtain from the office of MTW a list of those required and recommended. Some of the immunizations may be obtained from a public health office, and others must be obtained from a private physician.
 - d. Other papers to be carried with you in travel.
 1. Extra passport-size photos, twelve suggested.
 2. Letters of introduction, addressed "To Whom It May Concern," six copies suggested.
 - e. Papers to leave with MTW office.
 1. A copy of a will.
 2. Publicity materials, including good quality, glossy photos, a biographical sketch, and a statement of personal testimony.
 3. Vital information, including permanent address, next of kin, with information re important changes in personal and family life to be supplied as they occur.
 4. Address of dentist. List of identifying, distinctive marks on the body.
 5. Death on the field. Directions concerning interment in the case of sudden death on the field.
 - f. Personal bank account. It is suggested that a personal checking account be opened in the same bank used by MTW, which facilitates deposit of salary and other monies. A supply of deposit slips should be left with the office.
 - g. Personal indebtedness. Missionaries will not ordinarily depart from the field with outstanding debts, unless suitable arrangements to take care of them have already been made.

- h. Outfitting. An initial outfitting allowance for the first term of service will be provided, in the amount of \$1000 for a family and \$700 for a single person. Suggestions for items to be included in outfit may be obtained from the office of MTW.
- i. Packing and shipping.
 - 1. Packing. For shipment by air, sturdy cardboard boxes are adequate. For shipment by ship, steel drums, trunks, or wooden crates will be needed. The office of MTW should be contacted for suggestions. Itemized lists (four copies) should be made of contents of each container, together with replacement value. Detailed instructions will be provided by the office and the shipping company.
 - 2. Shipping. Truck freight lines are suggested for shipment from home to forwarding company or airline. The office of MTW will provide suggestions and may be able to give names of specific forwarding agencies or freight lines. Consideration of additional insurance coverage is encouraged.
- 2. Departure for the Field.
 - a. An anticipated departure date should be set in consultation with the MTW office. This will usually be set following any pre-field orientation, reasonable time for itineration, and when there is definite promise of support in the amount of 100% of personal support.
 - b. Travel arrangements will be made by the office.
 - c. A field director or senior missionary will be notified re travel arrangements and will meet the new arrivals in the country of service.
 - d. Estimated additional travel costs will be provided and should be carried in the form of traveller's checks.
 - e. The field director or senior missionary meeting the new arrivals will inform them regarding procedures of informing the U. S. consulate on the field and protecting U.S. citizenship.
- E. Forms for Candidates — see following pages:
 - 1. "Ordinary Procedure for Volunteers in the PCA for Missionary Service Overseas," for Sessions and Presbyteries.
 - 2. Preliminary Information Report Form.
 - 3. Application for Foreign Missionary Service.
 - 4. Physical Report Form.
 - 5. Reference Form.
 - 6. Travel Expense Voucher.
 - 7. "Suggestions For a Missionary Commissioning Service."

ORDINARY PROCEDURE FOR VOLUNTEERS IN THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN
AMERICA
FOR MISSIONARY SERVICE OVERSEAS
FOR SESSIONS AND PRESBYTERIES

I. Personal Call of God

Every missionary volunteer should feel that he is called of God to foreign mission service. This is to be related to the Scriptural mandate of God to all Christians to "go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." It is also to be related to them personally so that the candidate can give reason why he thinks it is God's will for him to serve on the foreign mission field.

II. If the Candidate be a Minister

A. In the event that the candidate is a minister of the PCA or any other evangelical Presbyterian fellowship, he should make his conviction known to his Presbytery MTW Committee. The Presbytery MTW Committee will then counsel with the candidate, and if the way be clear, recommend him to the Presbytery as a candidate for foreign missionary service. If there is no MTW Committee in his Presbytery, the candidate shall apply directly to the Presbytery for approval.

B. At this point the Presbytery shall examine the candidate to determine if there is indeed the proper conviction and compulsion on the part of the candidate necessary for the great task of being a missionary in a foreign country. The Presbytery shall examine:

1. The candidate's spiritual and social maturity.
2. The candidate's record as a Pastor, if he has served home churches.
3. The candidate's family situation; if the wife shares the feeling of call; and what complications there might be so far as children are concerned.
4. It is assumed that the Presbytery has already examined the minister for ordination. In the event that the candidate is also a candidate for ordination, regular Presbytery ordination procedures should be accomplished prior to or at the same time as consideration of the candidate as a foreign missionary.

C. If the way be clear, the Presbytery shall take the following action:

The Presbytery of _____ having examined the foreign missionary candidate _____ does hereby approve and present _____ to the General Assembly's Committee on Mission to the World as worthy and fit to be examined to be a candidate for foreign missionary service. (This recommendation should be made either "without qualification" or "with the following qualifications." If the Presbytery feels there are some problem areas, these should be stated at this point.)

III. If the Candidate Be a Layman

A. In the event that the candidate is a layman, he (and his family) should make his convictions known to his session. The Session will counsel with the candidate and shall examine:

1. The candidate's spiritual and social maturity.
2. The candidate's record of participation and service in the church.
3. The candidate's family situation; if the wife shares the feeling of call; and what complications there might be so far as children are concerned.
4. The candidate's knowledge of the English Bible, of basic theology, of the sacraments, and of church government.

B. If the way be clear the Session shall take the following action:

1. The Session of _____ having examined foreign missionary candidate, _____, does hereby approve and present _____ to the General Assembly's Committee on Mission to the World as a worthy and fit candidate for foreign missionary service.

This recommendation should be made either "without qualification" or "with the following qualifications."

C. The Session will also present the candidate to Presbytery's Committee on Mission to the World, or if there is no MTW Committee in his Presbytery, directly to the Presbytery. This presentation should be for the purpose of seeking the approval of the Committee and Presbytery to the extent of recommending this candidate to the churches in the Presbytery. Since a candidate is a layman and subject to his Session, not a member of Presbytery, the Presbytery will not be expected to examine the candidate in the manner in which they would examine a minister, and the approval of Presbytery will not be required by the General Assembly's Committee on Mission to the World.

IV. General Assembly's MTW Committee

A. Both ministers and laymen may apply directly to the General Assembly's Committee. In all cases in which the applicant is a member of a local church or Presbytery of the PCA, the MTW Committee will require the applicant to seek approval of the Church court to which he is immediately subject as part of his processing. Applicants who are not members of the PCA may apply directly to the General Assembly's MTW Committee, in which cases the Committee may provide information and counsel while encouraging the applicant to become subject to a court of the PCA.

B. The General Assembly Committee on Mission to the World shall then proceed with a full examination of the candidate presented by the Session or by the Presbytery.

C. If the candidate is approved by the court to which he is immediately subject and the MTW Committee and in fact becomes a foreign missionary appointee of the PCA, and if the way be clear, the candidate's home church and Presbytery shall have the first opportunity to have the candidate itinerate among them in order to raise prayer and financial support.

D. The Committee on Mission to the World has been given the responsibility and authority by General Assembly for approving and placing of missionaries. MTW will thus not be obligated to approve all candidates presented by Session or Presbytery. If a Session or Presbytery and MTW should disagree regarding approval of an applicant, two representatives from the Session or Presbytery and two representatives from MTW shall meet to work out an understanding. Should they not be able to do so, the matter could be taken to the General Assembly.

V. Presbyterian Church in America Missionaries Going Out with Other Boards Endorsed by the General Assembly.

Any layman or Minister of the PCA who feels the Call of God to serve with some other foreign mission board or society endorsed by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America should:

A. Be approved by the Session of his home church (if a layman) or Presbytery (if a minister), and

B. Be approved by the MTW and commissioned by his Session or Presbytery;

C. Be given opportunity to present his work and needs first to his congregation and the congregations within that Presbytery, and then to the denomination at large, and

D. Be given prayer support throughout the denomination;

E. Be helped in any other way that the Presbytery, individual churches and/or members of churches see to be a fit means of support.

VI. Conclusion.

Let the word go forth that, by whatever means God makes available, the Presbyterian Church in America shall "go, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever He hath commanded us, that in that place where it was said of them, ye are not my people, there they shall be called the Children of the living God." (Matt. 28:19, 20; Hosea 2:23)

MISSION TO THE WORLD
Presbyterian Church in America
P. O. Box 1744
Decatur, Georgia 30031

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION REPORT
CANDIDATES

QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED OF THE CANDIDATE

A. NAME (in full) _____

Nickname (if preferred) _____

B. PRESENT AGE _____

Street and Number City State Zip

Street and Number City State Zip

DATE OF BIRTH _____

PLACE OF BIRTH _____

C. PRESENT MARITAL STATUS _____

(If married, get husband's or wife's name and names and ages of children.)

D. PRESENT HOME ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____

E. GENERAL BACKGROUND (home and church)

F. EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND (high school, college, graduate school)

G. PERSONAL TESTIMONY OF CANDIDATE (See guidelines below)

Does candidate have personal knowledge of Jesus Christ?

Under what circumstances did this occur?

Theological persuasion of candidate: Calvinist, Arminian, etc?

Other facts of testimony, such as preaching experience?

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- H. WHY DO YOU DESIRE OVERSEAS MISSIONS WORK? (Get motive and vision of what will candidate DO overseas?)

HAVE YOU MADE ANY VISITS OVERSEAS? (When and where)

- J. DO YOU DESIRE **SHORT TERM SERVICE** (only one term)? Why?

DO YOU DESIRE **LONG TERM SERVICE** (Permanent)? Why?

- K. WHICH COUNTRY OR LOCATION DO YOU PREFER? WHY?
- L. KNOWLEDGE (present) OF LANGUAGES AND COMPETENCE THEREIN.
- M. PARENTS' ATTITUDE TOWARD CANDIDATE'S DOING OVERSEAS MISSION WORK (or wife's/husband's).
- N. GENERAL HEALTH
- O. SPECIFIC HEALTH PROBLEMS (Allergies, Back problems, etc.)
- P. CANDIDATE'S ATTITUDE TOWARD OTHER RACES OF PEOPLE (intermarriage and mixing of races, etc.)
- Q. PHOBIAS AND FEARS (snakes, insects, animals, heights, etc.)
- R. MECHANICAL ABILITY (cars, planes, motors, plumbing, carpentry)
- S. HOBBIES AND TALENTS
- T. ABILITY OF CANDIDATE TO WITHSTAND EXTREME HEAT/COLD/DUST/-RAIN/etc.
- U. CANDIDATE'S ATTITUDE CONCERNING EXTENDED SEPARATION FROM FAMILY AND CHILDREN (if there are children). DOES CANDIDATE SUFFER LONG PERIODS OF DEPRESSION? IF SO, EXPLAIN.
- V. WHAT IS CANDIDATE DOING NOW IN MISSIONS (witnessing, fund raising, giving, etc.)?
- W. IS THE CANDIDATE NOW DOING PERSONAL EVANGELISM?
- X. WHY DID CANDIDATE COME TO PCA (i.e., under what circumstances)?

HAS HE APPLIED TO OTHER MISSION BOARDS?

- Y. WHEN IS HE CONSIDERING GOING OUT?

II. QUESTIONS THE CANDIDATE MAY WISH TO ASK OF PCA.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF INTERVIEWER CONCERNING THIS CANDIDATE(S).

DO YOU RECOMMEND THAT PCA MAIL APPLICATION FORM TO THIS CANDIDATE?
IF NOT, WHY NOT? (Use back side of sheet.)

NAME OF INTERVIEWER _____ DATE _____

MISSION TO THE WORLD
Presbyterian Church in America
P. O. Box 1744
Decatur, Georgia 30031

APPLICATION FOR FOREIGN MISSIONARY SERVICE

Name in full _____

Address _____

_____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Age _____ Birth Date _____ Sex: ()M ()F

Citizenship _____ Race _____ Draft Classification _____

Married _____ Single _____ Divorced _____ Widowed _____ Remarried _____

If married, give names and ages of your dependent children _____

Give names and ages of non-dependent children _____

Your wife's/husband's name _____ Age _____

If single, are you now engaged? _____ How soon do you plan to be married (if engaged)? _____

Give your parents' names, ages, and present address _____

List names and addresses of those who should be first contacted in case of emergency _____

List your financial obligations, including debts which must be paid before going to field. Include any relatives dependent upon you for support/how much/how long? _____

List any other obstacles that might keep you from the field and the nature of these obstacles. _____

Have you ever been refused appointment by another board or agency? _____

Which one and why? _____

Have you ever served under another foreign missions board? _____

Which one and why did you leave? _____

What is the state of your present health? Excellent _____ Good _____ Fair _____

Poor _____ Handicapped _____ (Please explain handicap) _____

Have you ever required psychological counselling? _____

If so, under what conditions and why? _____

Your education: Grammar school _____ High School _____ Bible School _____ College (give name/s of college/s): _____

Graduate school (give name/s): _____

Are there any further courses of study you have completed? _____

What degrees do you hold? _____

What certificates or licenses do you hold? _____

Are you an ordained minister of the Word? _____ When? _____ Where? _____

What countries have you visited abroad? _____

Language skill:	Speak	Write	Understand	Now studying
French	_____	_____	_____	_____
German	_____	_____	_____	_____
Spanish	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Your years of working experience: None _____ Less than one _____ 1-2 years _____
 3-5 years _____ 6-10 years _____ More than 10 years _____ . What sort of jobs have you held
 and what sort of work have you done? _____

What is your present church membership (i.e., where are you a member?) _____

What is your denomination? _____

How many years have you been a Christian? Less than one _____ One to two _____ Three to
 five _____ Six to ten _____ More _____ . List your present or former Christian service _____

For what sort of work are you best qualified? _____

Where do you prefer to serve? _____

Would you accept assignment elsewhere? Yes _____ No _____

Your preference in length of service, i.e., Long term/Short term? _____

What are your plans regarding financial responsibility in connection with short term service?

When would you be available to go to the field? _____

What additional information would be helpful to PCA in locating the best area for you?

REFERENCES: List below the names and addresses of five persons, not related to you who are
 qualified to furnish information about you. Please include their zip codes.

Please answer the following questions as best you can. You may use additional sheets of paper
 where needed.

1. Describe your purposes in seeking an assignment as a foreign missionary.

2. Are you **CONVINCED** you must go to the field and would you press on even if PCA did not
 appoint you as a missionary? _____

3. Are you prepared to face real hardships which could include loss of possessions and perhaps
 even your very life in order to be loyal to the **CALL** of Jesus Christ? _____

4. Describe in your own words your basic Christian convictions, i.e., your concept of God, the purpose of Jesus Christ, the condition of man, the authority of Scripture, the significance of the Church, and the Christian's responsibility to individuals and to society. Include other convictions you may want to add.
5. Do you adhere to the system of doctrine as stated in the Westminster Confession of Faith, with Larger and Shorter Catechisms? _____
If no, why not? _____
6. Are you prepared to go through long periods of separation from your children (if need be) while they are obtaining education?

7. If appointed, would you be able and willing to wait patiently, perhaps months, until PCA with God's leading is able to raise salary and other expenses for your trip to the field?

Please send us a recent photograph of yourself which is suitable for a passport.

Mail this application form to the office as listed below:

Social Security Number _____

Date _____

MISSION TO THE WORLD
Presbyterian Church in America
P. O. Box 1744
Decatur, Georgia 30031

**MISSION TO THE WORLD
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
P. O. Box 1744
Decatur, Georgia 30031**

_____ is being considered for appointment as _____

Will you kindly aid the Committee in judging the candidate's fitness for such service by supplying the information requested in this blank?

We suggest that you read the form in its entirety before beginning to write and that you answer only those questions about which you are reasonably certain, passing over any items which may be outside the range of your knowledge of the candidate. Wherever possible, give specific instances.*

Since it is our purpose to secure an understanding of the candidate's personality as a whole, we urge you to be completely frank, in justice both to the person under consideration and to the Committee. Feel free to offer pertinent facts and judgments not covered by the questions and to exceed space limitations whenever you think necessary. Please withhold nothing, favorable or unfavorable, that will enable us to assess the candidate's qualifications for Christian service.

We shall be grateful for your assistance and shall treat your reply confidentially.

INTRODUCTORY

1. How long, how intimately, and under what circumstances have you known the candidate?

2. Give any information you can concerning home conditions and family background which bears upon the candidate's suitability for this service.

3. Estimate the candidate's care and efficiency in handling finance.

QUALIFICATIONS

4. Please rate the candidate with respect to each of the characteristics listed below by checking the item under each heading which most nearly represents your evaluation. In the space to the right, describe briefly and concretely specific instances which support or interpret your judgment. Do not check items concerning which you feel uncertain or have had no opportunity to observe.

PHYSICAL CONDITIONS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently incapacitated | <input type="checkbox"/> Good health |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat below par | <input type="checkbox"/> Rugged and vigorous |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fairly healthy | |

ATTRACTIVENESS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Avoided by others | <input type="checkbox"/> Well liked by others |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tolerated by others | <input type="checkbox"/> Sought by others |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Liked by others | |

INTELLIGENCE

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Learns and thinks slowly | <input type="checkbox"/> Alert; has a good mind |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Average mental ability | <input type="checkbox"/> Brilliant; exceptional capacity |

ACHIEVEMENT

(Ability to formulate, execute, and carry plans to conclusion)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Does only what is assigned | <input type="checkbox"/> Superior creative ability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meets average expectations | <input type="checkbox"/> Starts but does not finish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resourceful and effective | |

LEADERSHIP

(Ability to inspire others and maintain their confidence)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Makes no effort to lead | <input type="checkbox"/> Tries but lacks ability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Has some leadership promise | <input type="checkbox"/> Good leadership ability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unusual ability to lead | |

TEAMWORK

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently causes friction | <input type="checkbox"/> Works well with others |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prefers to work alone | <input type="checkbox"/> Most effective in teamwork |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Usually cooperative | |

RESPONSIVENESS

(To the feelings and needs of others)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Slow to sense how others feel | <input type="checkbox"/> Understanding and thoughtful |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reasonably responsive | <input type="checkbox"/> Responds with unusual insight and consideration |

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

EMOTIONAL STABILITY

- Somewhat over emotional Maintains balance and control under most difficult circumstances
 Usually well-balanced Inclined to be apathetic
 Well-balanced and controlled

WILLINGNESS TO SERVE

- Reluctant to serve Motives confused
 Usually willing to serve Eager to serve as needed
 Devoted to service of God

RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE

- Relatively superficial Over emotional
 Genuine but mild Rich and growing
 Profound and contagious

LIMITATIONS

5. Listed below are some of the tendencies which if present may reduce the effectiveness of the missionary's work and witness. Consider if the candidate tends to be —

Impatient, intolerant, argumentative, domineering, sullen, "cocky," or critical of others.
 Easily embarrassed, offended, discouraged, depressed, or irritated.
 Frequently worried, anxious, nervous or tense.
 Prejudiced towards groups, races or nationalities.
 Given to exclusive and absorbing friendships, i.e., to "crushes."
 Lacking in humor, or in the ability to take a joke.

If the candidate seems relatively free from all such tendencies, check here _____. If you have noted any of these or similar limitations in the candidate, please specify, describing the form and intensity of such behavior.

6. Is there any indication that the candidate's decision to enter this service has been significantly influenced by (1) a desire for travel, adventure or cultural development, (2) a desire to exercise power or control over less privileged people, or (3) a desire to escape a difficult personal, family or vocational situation? Please discuss.

PROFESSIONAL ABILITY

7. Estimate the candidate's ability in his profession, i.e., as doctor, teacher, etc. (Supervisors, directors, and others in positions to observe please comment professionally.)

SUMMARY

8. How do you rate the candidate's promise in this service? Check:
 A rare find. Exceptional. Superior. Good. Average
 Below average. Should be discouraged.
9. Summary paragraph: Please state frankly your opinion of the candidate's all-around fitness for Christian service, adding any significant information and impressions which have not been brought out by the preceding questions.
10. If possible, list other persons qualified to give a sound appraisal of the candidate.
 Name Address Connection with the candidate (teacher, employer, friend, etc.)

Date _____ Signature _____

Return to: Mission to the World
 Presbyterian Church in America
 P. O. Box 1744
 Decatur, Georgia 30031

*e.g. "She played eighty-four games of tennis in one day to win the college championship."

"He tried to put on a Daily Vacation Bible School with insufficient preparation. When the work lagged, he lost interest in the project."

EXPENSE VOUCHER

MISSION TO THE WORLD

DATE _____

TRAVEL EXPENSE FOR:
 (LIST PURPOSE, LOCATION, POINTS OF TRAVEL) _____

TICKET (ROUND TRIP) _____

TO AIRPORT AND RETURN _____

MEALS _____

MOTEL _____

TAXI _____

OTHER EXPENSES (SPECIFY) _____

TOTAL REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTED _____

SIGNED _____

MISSION TO THE WORLD
 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
 P. O. BOX 1744
 DECATUR, GA 30031

Suggestions for a Missionary Commissioning Service by Presbytery or Session

(See Presbyterian Church in America Book of Church Order, 22 - 5 through 8.)

1. Sermon, following opening portion of service.
2. Statement of proceedings leading to Commissioning Service, by presiding officer.
3. Propounding of constitutional questions to candidate:
 - a. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as originally given, to be the inerrant Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice?
 - b. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the Confession of Faith and the Catechisms of this Church, as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures; and do you further promise that if at any time you find yourself out of accord with any of the fundamentals of this system of doctrine, you will of your own initiative, make known to your

Presbytery (or Session) the change which has taken place in your views since this Commissioning Service?

- c. Do you approve of the form of government and discipline of the Presbyterian Church in America, as being that which conforms to the general principles of Biblical polity?
 - d. Do you promise subjection to brethren in the Lord?
 - e. Have you been induced, as far as you know your own heart, to seek missionary service from love to God and a sincere desire to promote His glory in the Gospel of His Son?
 - f. Do you promise to be zealous and faithful in maintaining the truth of the Gospel and the purity and peace of the Church, whatever persecution or opposition may arise unto you on that account?
 - g. Do you engage to be faithful and diligent in the exercise of all your duties as a Christian and a missionary, whether personal or relative, 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 those whom you serve?
 - h. Are you now willing to accept commissioning as a missionary of the Presbyterian Church in America. And do you, relying upon God for strength, promise to discharge the duties God shall set before you in mission service?
4. Questions to the Presbytery (or Session).
 - a. Do you, the people of this Presbytery (congregation), continue to profess your readiness to support _____, in his service as a missionary of the Presbyterian Church in America?
 - b. Do you promise to encourage him in his labors, to pray for him faithfully, and as the Lord leads you and enables you to assist in providing for his needs on the mission field?
 5. Prayer of Commissioning.
(Setting the missionary apart to his calling in the Lord. The laying-on of hands may be employed, as the Presbytery or Session shall choose. For women missionary it is suggested that the laying-on of hands not be employed but that the Commissioning Body circle her for this prayer.)
 6. Pronouncement of Commissioning by presiding officer.
 7. Charge to the candidate.
 8. Charge to the Presbytery (or Session).
 9. Prayer.
 10. Hymn.
 11. Benediction.

Section IV

HANDBOOK FOR MISSIONARIES Outline

INTRODUCTION

- A. Field Organization
 1. Missionaries assigned to national churches or to other missions
 2. Mission to the World Field Organization
 - a. Stages of organization
 1. Staff direction
 2. Field Director
 3. Field council
 - b. Responsibilities of field organization
 - c. Assignment and duties on the field
 1. Missionaries not employees
 2. Flexible re-assignment to posts
 3. Goal-oriented work
- B. Terms of Service and Furloughs
 1. Terms of service
 - a. Categories
 - b. Long-term
 - c. Short-term
 2. Furloughs
 - a. Length and frequency
 - b. Responsibilities
 - c. Location
 - d. Travel schedule and arrangements
 3. Emergency furloughs
 - a. Not returning for all emergencies
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 - c. Conditions when granted
 4. Vacations

- C. Relationships of Responsibility
 - 1. Responsibilities to the denomination
 - a. Continuing responsibilities to MTW, church court, supporters
 - b. Regular reports to each
 - 2. Responsibilities in field relationships
 - a. Relating to field organization
 - b. Relating to the national church
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 - d. Personal relationships in the field
- D. Termination of Missionary Service
 - 1. Retirement
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- E. Financial Policies
 - 1. Salary and allowances
 - a. Basic principles
 - b. Variable base salaries
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 - d. Field Adjustment
 - e. Sample computation of salary
 - f. Payment of salary
 - 2. Benefits
 - a. Health insurance
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 - c. Annuity
 - 3. Taxes
 - 4. Social security
 - 5. Work budgets
 - a. Requests for
 - b. Separate, joint bank account with MTW
 - c. Quarterly reports
 - d. Approval for year-end carry over
 - e. Payment of work budget
 - 6. Property
 - a. Records of MTW field property
 - b. Purchase of land and large equipment
 - c. Copies of deeds to MTW
 - d. Vehicles
 - 7. Oversupport, surplus
 - 8. Authorization to negotiate personal checks
 - 9. Required expenses
 - 10. Loans
 - 11. College education funds.

HANDBOOK FOR MISSIONARIES MISSION TO THE WORLD

In the previous section, consideration was given to the major transition from candidate to commissioned missionary preparing for departure for a particular field of service. This section will begin at the point of the first term of service and seek to set forth basic operating principles and details. Each missionary should become thoroughly familiar with both the principles and the specific details.

A. Field Organization.

- 1. Missionaries assigned to national churches or other missions.

Missionaries who are assigned to national churches overseas or to other missions will work under the field jurisdiction of the church courts or the mission field structure, according to agreements between the church or mission and Mission to the World.
- 2. Mission to the World Field Organization
 - a. Stages of organization
 - (1) Mission to the World, through its Coordinator and home staff, will function to provide administration and direction to the work of missionaries during the initial stages of the development of a field. MTW recognizes that this is a temporary situation and not desirable on a continuing basis. Nevertheless, the establishment of field leadership will be carefully and deliberately considered

separately for each field. There will be no automatic number of missionaries or period of time which will dictate establishing field leadership.

- (2) When the Committee is convinced that the right person is available on a field, they will proceed to appoint him as Field Director and provide encouragement and opportunity for developing his leadership abilities and role. Any such appointment of Field Director will be for a term of two years and will be subject to review and evaluation at that time and reappointment if appropriate. The Field Director will choose a missionary to serve as Field Treasurer.
- (3) At such time as the Committee feels it is warranted, a Field Committee will be organized to work with the Field Director in administration on the field.
 - a. The appointment of the Field Director must now be ratified by a two-thirds vote of the field membership.
 - b. All missionaries who have completed one full year on the field are eligible to vote.
 - c. Missionaries shall elect three of their number to serve with the Field Director and the Treasurer as members-at-large on the Field Council.
 - d. The Field Council shall draw up by-laws to govern its operation and administration of the field and present these to the Mission to the World Committee for approval.

b. Responsibilities of field organization.

The Field Director, or Field Council (when constituted) shall have primary responsibility, under the Mission to the World Committee, for development and oversight of the work of MTW in that field. This will include the proposing of areas of work, overseeing the work of individual missionaries, assignment to specific posts of work, and recommendations to MTW regarding proposed work and work budgets for the field.

c. Assignment and duties on the field.

- 1. It is acknowledged by the Committee that MTW missionaries are not employees of the Committee but are fellow servants of Christ. All assignments to particular posts of service and duties in that post, whether by the Committee, a Field Director, or a Field Council, will be made with this important awareness in mind.
- 2. When approved as a candidate, the missionary should have clearly understood that his call was primarily to missions service. Assignment to a particular field becomes then the next major focus of service. As the call to serve as a missionary becomes a call to a particular field, the assignment to a post on that field must remain secondary. As needs on the field vary and available personnel vary, each missionary must remain flexible and open to change of post assignment and duties.
- 3. Goal-oriented work. It will be the responsibility of the leadership making assignment to specific posts (whether MTW, Field Director, or Field Council) to provide a job description and standards of evaluation for each missionary. This will naturally be adjusted as experience allows the missionary to add insights regarding the relationships developing between needs and opportunities and his abilities in the Lord to meet them. There will be a determined effort to work in a goal-oriented manner, with regular joint evaluation of goals, plans of action, and progress toward the goals.

B. Terms of Service and Furloughs

1. Terms of service.

- a. Categories. Terms of service will vary according to the category in which a person serves. He may be called to serve in a regular or long-term category, or as a short-term worker. The Committee will also seek to develop possibilities of summer service, intern service, and very flexible special service.
- b. Long-term missionaries are those who meet all qualifications for and anticipate career service.

Terms of service in relation to furlough time will be:

Two years	Three months
Three years	Six months
Four-five years	Twelve months

Furlough time will be requested by the missionary and determined in consultation with the field organization and MTW.

- c. Short-term missionaries will ordinarily commit themselves to a term of two or three years. There will be no furlough periods. In the event, however, that a short-term missionary is approved for a long-term service, following his initial term of service, furlough time will be provided according to the same basis as that used for those going out initially as long-term missionaries.

2. Furloughs

- a. Length of furloughs and setting of time of furloughs have been mentioned above.
- b. The specific responsibilities of the missionary during furlough will be determined by consultation between the missionary, the session or presbytery which is responsible for him and Mission to the World. These should include ministry in informing supporting churches of current work and stimulating missions concern across the church, opportunity for study and special training and vacation and physical check-up and care.
- c. Location on furlough will be determined in consultation with the session or presbytery and MTW. The Committee is encouraging local congregations and presbyteries to provide furlough homes and is not projecting the development of denominational or Committee-directed furlough homes or centers. MTW will pay the cost of furlough housing and at the same time cover the cost of retaining the missionary's home on the field only when the Committee feels this is necessary in order to have adequate housing upon his return from furlough.
- d. When furlough dates have been agreed upon, the missionary will adhere to the travel dates carefully, making travel arrangements from the field himself and having the MTW office arrange for return travel to the field.

3. Emergency furloughs.

- a. In preparation for missionary service, each missionary will need to consider before the Lord the possibility that he will not be available to return home on many occasions that would be considered emergencies were he residing in the U.S.
- b. There will be occasions, however, when personal consideration will lead a missionary to request approval for emergency furlough.
- c. When such emergency furlough is granted, the following conditions shall apply:
 1. Travel costs will be shared by the missionary and MTW in the proportion that field time since the last furlough relates to the time remaining until the next regular furlough. (Please see item E 10.)
 2. Length of the emergency furlough may be limited to and be accounted as that year's vacation, extended to and counted as a furlough period (with the next term of service beginning at its conclusion), or may be extended further through application for a leave of absence.
4. Vacations. Whether on the field or in the U.S., each missionary and family will be granted and expected to take an annual vacation of one month. The time scheduled should of course be agreeable to the field organization leaders when in the field and agreeable to the MTW Staff when in the U.S.
5. Medical leaves. Necessary medical leaves including time for travel to receive treatment will be granted by MTW, the Field Director, or Field Council on a case basis.

C. Relationships of Responsibility.

1. Responsibilities to the denomination.

- a. Each missionary will remain mindful of continuing relationships of responsibility to Mission to the World, to the primary church court which commissioned him/her and to the congregations and individuals who support him/her in his/her work.
- b. Regular reports will be expected to each of these:
 - (1) To Mission to the World:
 - a. Brief monthly reports, to field leadership when established and directly to MTW office when there is no field organization. When there is a field organization, the leadership on the field will send a summarized report to MTW at least quarterly.
 - b. An annual report, with a copy for the field leadership and a copy directly to the MTW office.
 - (2) To the home church court.
Reports as required by the court (a minimum of an annual report).
 - (3) To supporting congregations and individuals, MTW encourages a personal letter at least four times a year.
 - (4) To the denomination as a whole, particularly to interested supporters, normally write prayer letters four times a year. These will be reproduced by the MTW office and mailed to those persons and congregations on the personal mailing list of each missionary. They will be subject to approval by the MTW Staff and may be edited to hold their length to one page.

2. Responsibilities in field relationships.

- a. Relating to field organization. Section A. above has considered responsibilities of field leadership. Such responsibilities bring serious accountability and necessarily carry a measure of authority. Although missionaries are fellow servants of the Lord together, they must accord to leadership, and to all on the field, proper respect and support in the Lord, including acknowledgement of authority that may require duties and adjustments not personally sought by the individual missionary.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- b. Relating to the national church.
1. With due consideration of recommendations from the field, only the MTW Committee will determine to which church bodies MTW missionaries will officially seek to relate in a particular field. The Committee will take into careful consideration the relationship of such churches to national and international organizations.
 2. The pattern of official relationship to national churches must be flexible from field to field. It would be the ideal to move toward such a stage of relationship in which missionaries are laboring as brothers and sisters in Christ of equal standing as nationals in the membership and service of the national church structure. Conditions in a field may require, however, varying relationships at different stages. This could include parallel structures between mission field organization and national church, or even an independent status enabling the mission to serve more than one national church body or to serve as a service organization to one or more national churches.
 3. Mission to the World strongly supports the development of national churches which are truly indigenous, progressing from the very beginning toward self-government, self-support, and self-propagation. This does not mean, however, that MTW's goal is to work toward evacuation of all MTW missionary personnel from a country as a measure of achieving indigenous stature. Missionaries from the U.S. to the national church with which MTW is working and missionaries from the church to the U.S. (including the PCA) may continue to be necessary as each body and both together seek to be faithful to the Great Commission.

c. Relating to national governments.

1. Field leadership will seek to establish and maintain such official status as the national government may require or permit.
2. Both field organization as a whole and individual missionaries will be diligent to avoid as much as possible difficulties in relating to the national government.

Being constantly mindful of Scriptural injunctions to support and obey lawful authorities, and remembering their status as guests of the government in a foreign country, they shall seek to make use of privileges accorded by such government but will make no demands of it.

d. Personal relationships in the field.

1. Engagement and marriage. MTW must be consulted regarding intention to become engaged and to marry while in service. Since husband and wife are both considered missionaries, the intended spouse must meet all requirements and be accepted as a missionary of MTW. Marriage to a person before he is so approved will necessitate resignation. The possibility of a national who marries a missionary becoming a member of MTW will be considered in each individual case by the Committee.
2. Adoption. MTW should be consulted regarding any desire to adopt children in the country where a missionary couple are serving.
3. Personality conflicts and disagreements. Personal difficulties in relationships should be resolved as quickly as possible, following Scriptural principles and relying upon the grace of the Lord. Should assistance be needed, field leadership should be consulted in confidence.

Strong disagreement with decision of proper field or staff leadership may be appealed to the next source of authority — from particular mission post to field leadership (or staff if no field leadership) to Committee to General Assembly. In matters of doctrine or morals, discipline rests with the appeals may be made to the proper church courts.

4. Personal mail received by MTW. A signed statement of authorization to open personal mail received by the office of MTW is requested, to allow proper handling of any contributions that may be enclosed.

Due notice of correct address to all correspondents is the responsibility of individual missionaries. MTW will forward only first class mail received for missionaries, destroying second class mail and holding magazines for a maximum of three months until authorized to forward at the missionary's expense or to destroy.

D. Termination of Missionary Service.

1. Retirement. Honorable retirement from active missionary service on the field will ordinarily be required on the sixty-fifth birthday. At his own request, a missionary may be allowed to continue in service on a yearly basis, up to the age of seventy.
2. Resignation. Intent to resign should be given first to the Committee and sending body before any public notice. The Committee will notify supporters. Since support funds are

the responsibility of MTW and not the individual missionary, funds remaining in the account of one who resigns will be placed in the general fund.

If the resignation becomes effective while a missionary is on the field the total expense of his outfit, travel and freight to and from the field for that term of service, shall be prorated between MTW and the missionary in the proportion that the time spent on the field bears to the intended term of field service. For example, if half of a term is completed, the missionary will then owe MTW 50 percent of the above listed expenses. This amount shall become due when he leaves the work and arrangements shall be made with MTW for a repayment of this amount. If a missionary on furlough contemplates resignation, he should give early notice to MTW.

3. Recall. Either the Committee on Mission to the World, or the sending body in consultation with the other reserves the right of recall of missionaries from the field and may terminate their services as missionaries of PCA. Reasons for such action will be recorded by MTW and will be sent to the missionary, to the church court with immediate responsibility, and to the General Assembly.

Should the missionary be on the field when service is terminated, full expenses of travel to the U.S. and shipment of goods will be covered by MTW. Support will be maintained for a period of three months beyond the effective date of termination of service.

4. Leave of absence. Upon request and for reasons the Committee deems valid (ill-health or any equally weighty reason) a leave of absence from active missionary service may be granted for a period of up to three years. The status of those on leave of absence will be reviewed by the Committee annually. If more than three years expire before return to active service, reapplication for approval for service must be submitted. If such leave of absence begins while on the field, except for health reasons, expenses of travel to the U.S. and shipment of goods shall be prorated between MTW and the missionary in the proportion that the time spent on the field bears to the intended term of field service.

When leave of absence begins, support funds in the missionary's account will be transferred to the general fund. Upon return to service he will be assisted in itineration and the Staff will encourage new support from congregations and individuals.

Support will be maintained for a period of three months beyond the date leave of absence begins for all reasons other than health. When the leave is due to health, support will be continued for three months, at which time the Committee will review the situation and decide whether further support (up to one year) is necessary.

E. Financial Policies.

1. Salary and allowances.

a. Basic principles.

Two important concepts are shaping missions' support by many missions today. The structure outlined here is based upon these concepts. First is the principle of a **total compensation program**. This means that rather than beginning with a minimum base salary and adding many allowances as required, such as children's allowances, there is an effort to begin with a more adequate base salary. This avoids such difficulties commonly experienced as new missionaries with several children receiving larger salaries than experienced and more effective missionaries whose children no longer live at home.

Another principle that is foundational here is that of a **balance sheet approach**. By this is meant the goal in view on making necessary adjustments regarding such items as purchasing power in various countries and taxes so that the missionary neither gains nor loses financially by living in a foreign country. Such a goal and policy also aids in making more equitable the actual purchasing power of missionaries serving in different countries.

b. Variable base salaries. 1976

Base salaries will vary according to long- or short-term category of service, and depending upon being married or single.

Long-term missionary base salaries:

Married — \$8,500

Single — \$5,100

Short-term missionary base salaries:

Married — \$6,500

Single — \$3,900

c. Allowances and increments.

1. Housing actual costs, with \$2400.00 for married and \$1800.00 for single used in computing annuity.
2. Education of children, K-12. When such education is possible while residing at home, either in a nearby school or using the Calvert System at home, all non-optional costs above \$200 per year per child will be paid by MTW through high school. When it is necessary to send children to a boarding

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

school, the same figure will apply, but it is required that the school be selected in consultation with and with approval of the Staff of MTW.

- 3. Service increments. Pre-mission field experience in like service will be recognized with an annual increment of \$50 per year of service, with a maximum of ten years. Experience on the mission field will be recognized with an annual increment of \$100 per year of experience, academic training beyond the baccalaureate degree will be recognized with an annual increment of \$100 per year of training, with a combined maximum of fifteen years of experience on the mission field and for academic training.

A combined total of these two annual increments will not exceed \$2,000.00. The increments will be computed as of January 1, each year, including six months or more of the first year computed.

- 4. Responsibility increment. Field directors will be granted an increment of \$100 per month.
- d. Field adjustment. A field adjustment will be made to compensate for the varying cost of living and purchasing power on various fields. It will be based on the base salary, will be computed using professionally supplied current field cost of living information, and may be either positive or negative (increasing or decreasing net salary).
- e. Sample computation of salary (not showing deductions).

	Annual	Monthly
Base salary	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 708.33
Prior service	100.00	8.33
Field service	100.00	8.33
Housing	3,600.00	300.00
Child education	600.00	50.00
Field adjustment	3,732.00	311.00
	\$16,632.00	\$1,385.99

- f. Payment of salary. Payment will be on the twenty-fifth of each month. Prior to field organization, deposits will be made to individual accounts in U.S. banks and copies of deposit slips forwarded to missionaries.

When field organization permits, salaries will be forwarded to the field treasurer for distribution to individual accounts.

2. Benefits.

- a. Health insurance. MTW provides comprehensive medical coverage for all missionaries. This is backed up by a \$1000 deductible policy held with Christian Medical Society. Some differences between MTW's coverage and that of the CMS policy are: MTW is more comprehensive, including, for example, 50% of optical and dental expenses, counting the CMS policy as insuring MTW against unbearable loss; MTW requires \$100 deductible per year for each family member, with a maximum of \$300 per family per year; MTW pays 100% of covered expenses beyond this deductible; MTW will cover cost of all pregnancies including those existing at time of approval and enrollment.

- b. Life Insurance. the CMS health insurance coverage also provides \$2000 life insurance for the head of the family, \$1000 for spouse, and \$1000 for each child ages six months to 21 years (23 if single and in school). Additional life insurance benefits are provided through the denomination's annuity program for missionaries who are covered.

- c. Annuity. Annuity program membership is provided for all long-term missionaries. This will be membership in the denomination's annuity program, unless the Committee specifically approves an alternate annuity program.

- 3. Taxes. In relation to income taxes, the salary program's balance sheet approach is continued. Prior to a lay missionary departing for a foreign field, income tax will be deducted from his salary and payments made to federal and state governments. The missionary's salary is exempt from these taxes upon his arrival in a foreign country, based upon rules and regulations as set forth in IRS Publication 54. After the missionary departs for his field of service, a hypothetical U.S. income tax will be deducted from his salary. The MTW will reimburse the missionary for any foreign taxes levied against him.

- 4. Social Security. All lay missionaries receiving salary directly from MTW are covered by Social Security. Lay missionaries in a cooperative mission relationship and receiving salary from the cooperating mission should check with that mission regarding Social Security coverage. All ordained missionaries are covered unless they have filed notice of election not to be covered due to conscientious objection.

Social Security will be deducted from the lay missionary's salary and MTW will pay the normal employer's matching share.

Quarterly estimates will be withheld and forwarded for the ordained missionaries, at their request and if they supply information and signed forms.

5. Work budgets. Work budgets will be provided for approved field work and projects. The following requirements must be met:
 - a. Request for approval of a new year's work budget must be submitted to the Committee by September 30 of the prior year.
 - b. When a work budget has been approved, a separate bank account for it will be opened. It will be in the same bank used for MTW accounts and will be a joint account with MTW.
 - c. Quarterly reports, on forms provided by MTW, must be submitted, and the new quarter's deposit will not be made until the report for the preceding quarter has been received.
 - d. There will be no carry over of funds remaining in the work budget from the prior year, without specific approval by MTW.
 - e. Payment of work budget funds will ordinarily be on the twenty-fifth of the first month of each quarter. Like personal funds, they will be deposited to individual accounts in the U.S. bank until there is a field treasurer, at which time they will be transmitted to him for distribution.
6. Property.
 - a. Accurate, up-dated records will be kept of all property on the field which is owned by MTW. At any time when MTW assists a missionary in purchasing any personal or real property, there shall be clear indication as to ownership. It should be noted particularly that control of funds and property is very important in relation to tax deductions for donors and recipients.
 - b. In purchasing large items of equipment and any real estate for MTW, field leadership will work out the details with MTW approval and MTW will transmit payment directly to the seller.
 - c. Copies of deeds to land purchased in foreign countries shall be kept on deposit with MTW's home office.
 - d. Vehicles. MTW may provide mission-owned and controlled vehicles as is deemed wise for particular fields. There will not be automatic provision of such for a field and there will not be provision of such for every missionary or missionary couple. When so provided, use will be controlled by mission leadership — MTW Staff, Field Director, or Field Council, depending upon the stage of field organization.

Private ownership of vehicles is allowed if purchased with personal funds or in the event that a personal gift of a vehicle is made to the missionary with no request for a letter of acknowledgement from MTW for tax purposes. Otherwise all vehicles are owned by MTW even though registered in a missionary's name.
7. Oversupport, surplus in support accounts. When pledged support for a missionary reaches a level of 100% of personal and work budget needs, offers of new support will be referred to other missionaries. Should the support reach 125% of combined salary and project needs, supporting churches will be approached regarding redesignation of support to other missionaries.
8. Occasionally support checks are received made out to a missionary by name rather than to MTW. Each missionary will be requested to leave signed authorization with the office to sign and negotiate these checks and others so as to avoid the necessity of returning them to donors for reissue.
9. Required expenses. MTW will cover all expenses incurred by required procedures and activities, including application procedures and examinations, passport and visa applications, immunizations, travel, study, etc.
10. Loans. MTW will not make loans to missionaries or staff personnel. Immediate or emergency needs may be met through advances of salary ordinarily not to exceed \$500 and to be repaid within three months. Even these advances will not become a pattern for any missionary or other personnel.
11. College education of dependent children. MTW will establish a special college education fund for missionary children. Monies for this purpose will be acquired through donations with such donations being designated for the fund itself and not for particular children.

Appendix H

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON STEWARDSHIP

The Stewardship Committee considers itself a servant to the Presbyteries and the membership of each local church in the Presbyterian Church in America. We seek to inspire and inform our people in both the theology and practice of biblical stewardship. Our goal is to enlist each member of each local congregation in a revived personal commitment of talent, time and treasure to our Lord's Great Commission.

The Committee is not primarily a fund-raising committee but supports, in a complimentary role, the fund-raising responsibilities assigned by the General Assembly to each of the four Permanent Committees.

In its first full year of operation, the Committee has attempted to move towards these goals by:

1. Establishing a small office at:
1020 Monticello Court
Montgomery, Alabama 36109
Phone: 205-277-3100
2. This office adjoins the offices of the Committee on Christian Education so that the two staffs may coordinate and cooperate in the development of Stewardship materials.
3. Moved M. E. "Pappy" Howland, Director of Stewardship Ministries, from Miami, Florida to Montgomery, Alabama, and employed one secretary.
4. Produced the 16mm color film "In Partnership with God" and distributed to over 150 churches.
5. Produced Stewardship materials for use in the fall of 1976, which will be offered to our churches at no charge.
6. Compiled quarterly summary financial progress reports of each of the four Committees and distributed to each pastor and clerk of session for local church information and guidance.
7. Published "Commitment" as an informational and inspirational tool. This publication has been discontinued and the material will be incorporated in "Continuing..."
8. Conducted a random sample survey with the assistance of the services of the Graduate School of Communications of Wheaton College. The purpose of the survey was to evaluate our communication methods and gather data for improving our stewardship witness. Over 2345 questionnaires were mailed to a cross-section of the PCA. We learned many valuable facts, such as (assuming this is a true sample):
 - (a) 57% of our people are from small or rural towns.
 - (b) 68% had schooling at college level or higher.
 - (c) Only 39% could name the four permanent committees.
 - (d) 54% of the laity did not know the financial problems of some of the committees.
 - (e) 88% of pastors and ruling elders were aware of the needs of the Assembly; but only 46% of the laity were aware of these needs.
 - (f) The principal sources from which the man in the pew receives his information are the pastors and personal contacts.
 - (g) 63% agreed that tithing is the Biblical method for beginning to give.
 - (h) The people have a fragmented view of the work of PCA.
 - (i) These and other returns of this project have been tabulated and are an invaluable source of information to all the Committees as they seek to meet the mandates of the Assembly and serve our people in their knowledge and growth in the Reformed faith.
9. Personal appearances and reports to our Presbyteries have been made on 11 occasions.
10. Developed a Speakers Bureau for furnishing Stewardship speakers to local churches.
11. Held Region Conferences in Evangel and Ascension Presbyteries with each of the Four Committees being represented by their chairman and/or coordinators. These "eye-ball to eye-ball" meetings have been very helpful to the local leadership in learning of the work of the whole church. Further conferences are scheduled in the following Presbyteries:
 - Mid-Atlantic, October 22 and 23, 1976
 - Evangel (North), December 4, 1976
 - Mississippi Valley and Grace, January 7 and 8, 1977
 - Southern Florida, February 18 or 19, 1977
 - Calvary, March 4 and 5, 1977
 - Tennessee Valley, April 1 or 2, 1977
 (check for your area time and place).
12. A network of Presbytery Stewardship Chairman has been established with the hope of expanding these personal contacts to every local church.
13. The Committee on Administration suggested that this Sub-Committee prepare and present to the General Assembly a paper on the theology of Stewardship in the Presbyterian Church in America. We have begun to work on such a paper which we envision would include:

- (a) The biblical principles for an individual's stewardship of time, talent and treasure.
- (b) The biblical principles for our corporate stewardship as local churches and at the level of the General Assembly.
- (c) The practical application of these principles as they relate to the collection and distribution of gifts by the General Assembly and its four major committees with particular attention to the implications and implementations of these four principles, previously adopted, for the organization of the General Assembly, to wit:
 - (1) The Church is responsible for carrying out the Great Commission.
 - (2) The work of the church as set forth in the Great Commission is one work, being implemented on the General Assembly level through our equally essential committees.
 - (3) It is the responsibility of every member and every member congregation to support the whole work of the denomination as they be led in their conscience held captive to the Word of God.
 - (4) It is the responsibility of the General Assembly to evaluate needs and resources, and to act on priorities for the most effective fulfillment of the Great Commission.
- (d) The practical application of these principles to the present practice of placing the fund raising responsibility on each of the four major committees and the present practice of distribution of undesignated gifts by the General Assembly.

To this end, we have asked certain of our leaders and theologians to submit papers on the subject for our guidance; and we propose to bring to the 1977 General Assembly for study, consideration and possible adoption of a suggested statement of "The Theology of Stewardship".

14. Future plans of the Committee include continued work on these present projects; the development of a Planned Giving Program and establishment of a legal entity to administer the gifts received from bequests, trusts, gift annuities and other sources; and as a top priority, the development of an effective stewardship network reaching into each local congregation. (See paragraph 4-75 for recommendations adopted by the General Assembly.)

PAPER "A"

REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON STEWARDSHIP

A DEFERRED GIVING MINISTRY

The purpose of this paper is to examine the question of the Presbyterian Church in America embarking upon a ministry of deferred giving within the frame work of the overall stewardship program of the denomination. The basic question is: Can the church participate in a deferred giving program and still be faithful to the Word of God and be consistent with the Confessional Standards of the church? We believe that the answer is: YES!!!

DEFERRED GIFTS DEFINED

Simply stated, a deferred gift is a gift for which legal provision is made during the donor's lifetime, but whose principal benefits do not accrue to the institution until some future time.

Deferred gifts are usually received upon the death of the individual donor and/or his income beneficiary, but may be received during donor's lifetime such as an *inter vivos* gift.

If the gift is made upon the death of the individual it generally takes the form of a bequest in a will, a trust fund, or life insurance. If the gift is made while the donor is living it usually takes the form of a living trust, an annuity, or gifts of cash, stock or real estate.

THE COMMITTEE'S POSITION

In recognition of the concern for carrying the Great Commission given us by our Lord and being of practical assistance to our constituency, the Presbyterian Church in America should embark upon a ministry of deferred giving.

A foundation should be established to encourage, and advise our membership on their God given responsibilities to themselves, their families and to their church. The foundation should also receive, invest, and distribute gifts for the fulfilling of the ministry of the Church.

THE COMMITTEE'S REASONING

The committee believes that there is absolutely no question regarding the wisdom of the proper planning of one's estate so as to make future provisions of an individual's family or for making gifts to the Lord's work through the means of wills, life insurance, or *inter vivos* gifts.

One question of concern that must be properly handled in order to be consistent with God's Word and the Doctrines of the Church is the correct guidelines for receiving, administering, investing and distributing such gifts. It is evident from Scripture that wise planning and investing for the future, as in the example of Joseph "storing up for the lean years" in Genesis 41 and the wise investing of money by the servants in our Lord's parable of the talents in Matthew 25:14-29, are

proper ways to be just stewards of the worldly possession given us by God. The Church of Jesus Christ can wisely invest the Lord's treasure and still not be considered as competing "in the world's market place".

Hence the committee recommends that strong guidelines be drawn that would:

- (a) Exclude investment in stock in the liquor, tobacco, and gambling industries and all other stocks which play upon a weakness of the human nature.
- (b) Establish a firm policy that prohibits the hoarding of assets beyond the liabilities of the foundation and requires regular distribution thereof as prescribed by the General Assembly.
- (c) Forbid the Church from ever assuming an active role in a competitive business through management, voting of stocks, or use of stock for political pressure.

We believe that the scope of the ministry of the Presbyterian Church in America within the world is limited only by our own vision and resources. A deferred giving program would be a great supplement to the resources of the church. It would be impossible for a deferred giving program to ever raise the total operational budget of a church. The needs of our denomination are great and the challenges and opportunities so vast that the resources needed could never be over-subscribed; and the continued challenge to our members to regularly tithe is an absolute necessity as the main method for the financial support of our Church. But the wise use of our time, talent and treasure in the light of Scripture demands that we provide every opportunity for Christian liberality among our brethren; and this should include a ministry of deferred giving.

MANUAL OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA FOUNDATION

Preamble

In response to God's reconciling love to us revealed through the cross and resurrection, in recognition of our mandate as His people to be trustees of His creation through the exercise of God-glorifying stewardship of energy, talent, and material possessions, and in order to express love for God and our fellow man, this Foundation is established for the promotion of creative giving designed to promote the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

ARTICLE I

Purpose

The Foundation is established to receive, accumulate, manage, invest, and disburse capital funds entrusted to it with a view to using such funds for the support of the cause of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ, primarily through the Presbyterian Church in America, but through other groups, societies, organizations, and institutions which minister in Jesus' name to man's spiritual, physical, emotional, and intellectual capacities. The orientation of the Foundation is to that element of Protestantism commonly known as Reformed and its efforts are especially designed to further the programs of those entities which advance the world and life view that is peculiar to Reformed Christianity. The Foundation shall promote its stewardship program through cooperation with and assistance to participating agencies by publishing materials, providing speakers, preparing programs, educating development personnel, and supplying technical assistance to its donees with a view to achieving responsible, creative, and effective giving for support of the cause of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ.

All groups, societies, organizations and institutions which shall be served by this Foundation through its stewardship programs or through the disbursement of any undesignated gifts made to this Foundation shall be organizations which are exempt from taxation under the Internal Revenue Code of the United States.

ARTICLE II

Rights, Privileges and Powers

Except as limited by law and by the provisions of this Manual, this Foundation shall have the following right, privileges and powers in furtherance of the purposes set forth above:

(a) To solicit, receive and accept gifts, devises or bequests of all forms of property, both real and personal, tangible and intangible, or the income therefrom, outright or in trust, and to exercise all the powers given or granted by the donor or testator thereof together with such other express or implied powers as may be vested in it by law;

(b) To solicit, receive and accept gifts, devises or bequests of all forms of property, both real and personal, tangible and intangible, subject to such retained interests and other conditions, including but not limited to the payment of a portion of or all of the income therefrom or payments from the principal thereof, or both, to one or more designated individuals, as are not inconsistent with the purposes hereof;

(c) To receive and accept gifts, devises or bequests of all forms of property, both real and personal, tangible and intangible, or the income therefrom, with full power of control and disposition of the same;

(d) To receive and accept all forms of property, both real and personal, tangible and intangible, held in trust or otherwise, from bodies, corporate and unincorporated, particularly such organizations as are committed to the Reformed faith, for the purpose of managing and investing or reinvesting the same for such bodies upon such conditions as may be agreed upon;

(e) Except as limited by any instrument of conveyance, to administer all property received and the income therefrom, with full discretionary powers of investment, reinvestment, disposition and control thereof, and to sell, contract to sell or otherwise convey for just and adequate consideration within a reasonable time after receipt thereof any property which, within the sole discretion of the Board of Trustees, is considered to be too speculative in nature or inconsistent with the principles and purposes thereof for retention as an investment of the Foundation;

(f) To borrow money for such purposes as are consistent herewith, on such terms and from such sources as the Board of Trustees considers proper and to mortgage or pledge any property being administered pursuant hereto for uses not inconsistent with the purpose for which money borrowed subject to such mortgage or pledge is to be spent;

(g) To loan money for such purposes as are consistent herewith, on such terms and subject to such security as the Board of Trustees considers proper;

(h) To combine property or any separate fund with any other fund for convenience of administration and investment, and for such purposes to hold such several funds in one or more common accounts in which separate funds have undivided interests;

(i) To employ agents and counsel and such other personnel as the Board of Trustees considers necessary and to delegate to them such of the powers of the Board of Trustees as shall be considered desirable;

(j) To compromise, contest, arbitrate or abandon claims or demands, all in the discretion of the Board of Trustees;

(k) To pay all reasonable costs, charges and expenses incurred in the administration of the programs and property administered hereunder, including compensation to agents and counsel, but excluding compensation to any member of the Board of Trustees by reason of his or her service as such Trustee;

(l) To appropriate, disburse and devote all property, and income received hereunder for the achievement of the purposes of this Foundation in the manner ordered and directed by resolution of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America, and in its sole discretion, except as limited by the terms of any instrument of conveyance; and

(m) To exercise and enjoy, in addition to the powers enumerated above, all the general rights, privileges and powers necessary, incidental or convenient to the attainment and accomplishment of the purposes set forth above, and to exercise and enjoy, in furtherance only of the purposes above set forth, all the rights, privileges and powers of corporations under the law under which the Presbyterian Church in America is organized.

ARTICLE III Board of Trustees

This Foundation shall be governed by a Board of Trustees which shall be vested with and may exercise all the powers of this Foundation, except as otherwise provided by law. The creation and operation of the Board of Trustees shall be governed by the following provisions:

(a) **Qualifications.** Every trustee must be either a Teaching elder, a Ruling Elder or a Deacon in the Presbyterian Church in America.

(b) **Number of Trustees.** The Board shall be composed of 8 individuals. At least 2 of the trustees shall be Teaching Elders; and at least 4 shall be Ruling Elders or Deacons. The Director of Stewardship Ministries of the Presbyterian Church in America shall be an additional member ex officio of the Board, without the right to vote.

(c) **Terms of Office of Trustees.** Each trustee shall be elected to serve for a four year term. The Board shall be divided into four classes of two men in each class. One fourth of the initial Board shall serve one year; one fourth shall serve two years; one fourth shall serve three years; and one fourth shall serve four years. The terms shall begin with their election by the General Assembly and shall end with the election of their successors by the General Assembly.

(d) **Election of Trustees.** Nominations for the Board of Trustees shall be made to the General Assembly by the Nominating Committee. Other nominations may be made from the floor. The General Assembly shall elect the trustees. If a vacancy occurs on the Board of Trustees prior to the expiration of the terms of office of the trustee creating the vacancy, the next subsequent meeting of the General Assembly shall fill the vacancy through the nomination and election process above set out.

(e) **Quorum.** Five members of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Any act of a majority of the trustees present at a meeting shall be the act of the Board of Trustees, unless the action of a greater number is required by law.

(f) **Meeting of Board of Trustees.** Meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be held at least annually and upon such notice, at such times and places, and in accordance with such rules of procedure as shall be adopted by this Board.

(g) **Executive Committee.** The Board of Trustees shall appoint at least three of its members to serve as its Executive Committee to fulfill the duties of the Board of Trustees between meetings of the Board of Trustees. All actions of the Executive Committee shall be submitted for ratification at the next meeting of the Board of Trustees or may be submitted for ratification by mail at any time prior to such meeting unless the power to take such action previously shall have been delegated to the Executive Committee by resolution of the Board of Trustees.

(h) **Officers and Committees.** The Board of Trustees shall elect from among its members such officers and shall appoint from among its members and others such committees as may be deemed necessary or advisable for the proper functioning of the Board of Trustees and this Foundation.

ARTICLE IV

Liability of Trustees and Parties Dealing with this Foundation

No Trustee serving hereunder shall incur any personal liability for any acts, omissions or errors as such Trustee except for his or her own negligent or willful misconduct. No Trustee shall be liable for the acts, neglect, default, omissions, errors or misconduct of any officer, employee, fellow Trustee, successor Trustee or predecessor Trustee in which he has not participated, concurred or acquiesced. No person dealing with this Foundation shall be obliged to see to the application of any money or other property contributed, loaned or otherwise paid or delivered to this Foundation. The certificate of the Board of Trustees that they are acting according to this instrument and any other applicable instrument or conveyance shall fully protect all persons dealing with this Foundation.

ARTICLE V

Compensation of Employees

No part of the net earnings or property of this Foundation shall inure to the benefit of any member of this Foundation, or other individual, except that in order to carry out the purposes of this Foundation, the Board of Trustees may employ such individuals as are deemed necessary, and each individual so employed may be paid such compensation for his or her services actually rendered in the course of such employment as may be reasonable fixed in the manner provided by the Board of Trustees. No individual shall be precluded from taking any such employment and compensation by reason of the fact that he is a member, trustee or officer of this Foundation.

ARTICLE VI

Duration and Dissolution

The duration of this Foundation shall be perpetual. However, in the event of dissolution of this Foundation, by the General Assembly, all Funds held in trust or pursuant to contract shall be distributed in accordance with the provisions of the applicable instrument of conveyance or applicable law. All assets owned or belonging to this Foundation remaining after such distribution and after payment of all costs and expenses incurred prior to or associated with such dissolution shall be distributed to such organizations and institutions as are selected by the General Assembly, provided that such selection shall include only organizations and institutions which are exempt from taxation under the Internal Revenue Code of the United States of America and whose purposes and activities are not inconsistent with the purposes of this Foundation as set forth above.

Appendix I

**REPORT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S
NOMINATING COMMITTEE
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

The nominating committee of the General Assembly, P.C.A., assembled at the Master Host Inn (West), Atlanta, Georgia on Friday, May 21, 1976 and was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by the convener, Ruling Elder Wallace Musselman. The convener requested that the meeting be opened with a time of prayer and following this Mr. Wallace Musselman was elected to serve as Chairman. Ruling Elder John T. Clark was elected recorder for this meeting.

The following named Presbyteries were represented as indicated:

Ascension	TE*	Frank Moser
Calvary	RE**	Tom Burgess
Carolina	TE	W. Ted Smith
Central Georgia	RE	John T. Clark
Covenant	TE	Tom Patete
Evangel	RE	Wallace Musselman
Grace	TE	E. A. Jussely
Gulf Coast	RE	Murdock Campbell
Mid-Atlantic	RE	Walter Lastovica
Mississippi Valley	TE	Joseph Pipa
North Georgia	TE	Gene Hunt
Tennessee Valley	RE	Gordon Mellencamp
Texas	TE	Charles Cobb
Warrior	TE	Thomas G. Kay
Western Carolinas	RE	Wilbur Ward
Westminster	TE	Larry Ball

*TE, Teaching Elder

**RE, Ruling Elder

The chairman explained the responsibilities of the committee and requested that an Alternate Chairman be elected for the purpose of making the committee report to the General Assembly in case the Chairman was unable to serve at that time. Teaching Elder Joseph Pipa was elected Alternate Chairman for this purpose.

The committee agreed that the nominations to be submitted to General Assembly would be selected from the names presented to the nominating committee by the Presbytery representatives. After discussion on methodology to be used in preparing the list of nominees to be presented to General Assembly, the committee agreed that while it would consider all nominees submitted by the Presbyteries, that in an effort to have broad representation in the General Assembly it would attempt to limit each Presbytery to one representative on each General Assembly committee. Teaching Elder Joseph Pipa provided members of the various committees to be used in this endeavor which he advised had been prepared by the office of the Stated Clerk of General Assembly. The Chairman explained that prior to voting on names submitted by Presbytery representatives that time would be allowed for Presbytery representatives to present qualifications on each nominee from their Presbyteries. The committee then proceeded and placed in nomination the following names:

ASSEMBLY THEOLOGICAL EXAMINING COMMITTEE

For class of 1979

Teaching Elder, Dan R. Morse	Mississippi Valley
Alternate, James C. Bland, III	Evangel
Ruling Elder, Jim Snyder	Providence
Alternate, F. E. DuBose	Calvary

COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION

For class of 1980

Teaching Elders, Frank Moser	Ascension
Robert LeMay	Central Georgia
Alternate, Jack Bowling	Carolina
Ruling Elder, James Wilkerson	Grace
Alternate, James A. Middlebrooks	Central Georgia

COMMITTEE FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & PUBLICATIONS

For class of 1980

Teaching Elder, John K. Reeves	Grace
Alternate, Don Barr	Westminster
Ruling Elders, Joe Roberson	Westminster
George Parrin	Louisiana
Alternate, George Wessel	Calvary

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

TRUSTEES FOR INSURANCE AND ANNUITY FUND

For class of 1981

- Teaching Elder, Russell Flaxman Mid-Atlantic
- Alternate, Fred Malone Warrior
- Ruling Elder, Clynard Belcher Westminster
- Alternate, Dr. J. A. Durrenberger Central Georgia

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL BUSINESS

For Class of 1978

- Teaching Elder, Thomas A. Cook Mississippi Valley
(to fill the unexpired term of Wick Bromall)

For Class of 1979

- Teaching Elder, John P. Clelland Evangel
- Alternate, Samuel B. Hoyt, Jr Calvary
- Ruling Elder, Larry Mick Tennessee Valley
- Alternate, Jim Westlake North Georgia

SUB-COMMITTEE ON INTERCHURCH RELATIONS

For class of 1979

- Teaching Elder, Dr. Adrian E. DeYoung Evangel
- Alternate, Robert C. Korn Calvary
- Ruling Elder, W. D. Carmichael Grace
- Alternate, W. J. Millsap Calvary

COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES

For Class of 1980

- Teaching Elders, Donald C. Graham Gulf Coast
- Charles E. Turner Tennessee Valley
- Alternate, Timothy Keller Mid-Atlantic
- Ruling Elder, Earl Bolton North Georgia
- Alternate, Dr. James T. McElrath Calvary

COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE WORLD

For class of 1980

- Teaching Elder, Joe Moorecraft North Georgia
- Alternate, James L. Moss Calvary
- Ruling Elders, W. B. Gibb, Jr Western Carolinas
- Hugh Brown Evangel
- Alternate, L. B. Austin, III Tennessee Valley

The committee unanimously recommended that in the future Presbyteries be provided with a standardized form for submitting information to be used by the nominating committee. This form would include information such as: Presbytery, Committee, Teaching Elder, Ruling Elder, Experience, Qualifications, Biographical data, etc. It was the opinion of the committee that the use of such a form would greatly facilitate the work of future nominating committees by providing standard information from all Presbyteries and also assist the Presbyteries in compiling and submitting this information.

The committee having completed all the business for which this meeting had been called, a motion was made to adjourn which was seconded and approved. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. with prayer by Teaching Elder Thomas G. Kay.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. Clark
Recorder

Appendix J

A REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL DOCUMENTS

Subject Matter: The footnoting of the Book of Church Order.

The following is a progress report and an example of what your committee is attempting to do with the Book of Church Order. The preface will be sufficient. (Beginning at Page 1, second paragraph).

Jesus, the Mediator (I Timothy 2:5), the sole Priest (Hebrews 5:5 - 6; Hebrews 4:12ff), Prophet (Acts 3:22ff; Hebrews 1:1-2), King (Ephesians 1:20-23, Isaiah 9:6 - 7), Saviour (Matthew 1:21; Ephesians 5:23), and Head of the Church (Ephesians 1:22; Acts 4:11; Ephesians 5:23), contains in Himself, by way of eminency, all the offices in His Church, and has many of their names attributed to Him in the Scriptures. He is Apostle (Hebrews 3:1), Teacher (John 3:2), Pastor (John 10:11 - 14), Minister (Matthew 20:28), Bishop and the only lawgiver in Zion (I Peter 2:25).

It belongs to His Majesty from His throne of glory to rule and teach the Church through His Word and Spirit by the ministry of men; thus mediately exercising His own authority and enforcing His own law, unto the edification and establishment of His Kingdom (Ephesians 4:11-13).

Christ, as King, has given to his Church officers, oracles and ordinances; and especially has He ordained therein His system of doctrine, government, discipline and worship, all of which are either expressly set down in Scripture, or by good and necessary inference may be deduced therefrom; and to which things He commands that nothing be added, and that from them naught be taken away (Ephesians 4:11-13; Matthews 28:18-20; Revelation 22:18 & 19).

Since the ascension of Jesus Christ to heaven, He is present with the Church by His Word and Spirit, and the benefits of all His offices are effectually applied by the Holy Ghost (John 16:17; Acts 2:33).

II. PRELIMINARY PRINCIPLES

The Presbyterian Church in America, in setting forth the form of government founded upon and agreeable to the Word of God, reiterates the following great principles which have governed the formation of the plan:

(1) God alone is Lord of the conscience, and has left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men which are in anything contrary to His Word, other than in matters of faith or worship. Therefore, the rights of private judgment in all matters that respect religion are universal and inalienable. No religious constitution should be supported by the civil power, further than may be necessary for protection and security equal and common to all others (Acts 5:29; James 4:12; Confession of Faith, Chapter 20).

(2) In perfect consistency with the above principle, every Christian Church, or union or association of particular churches, is entitled to declare the terms of admission into its communion and the qualifications of its ministers and members, as well as the whole system of its internal government which Christ has appointed. In the exercise of this right it may, notwithstanding, err in making the terms of communion either too lax or too narrow; yet even in this case, it does not infringe upon the liberty or the rights of others, but only makes an improper use of its own (Confession of Faith, Chapters 20 & 25).

(3) Our blessed Saviour, for the edification of the visible Church, which is His body, has appointed officers not only to preach the Gospel and administer the Sacraments, but also to exercise discipline for the preservation both of truth and duty. It is incumbent upon these officers and upon the whole Church in whose name they act, to censure or cast out the erroneous and scandalous, observing in all cases the rules contained in the Word of God (Ephesians 4:11 - 12; Matthew 16:19; I Corinthians 5:3-5).

(4) Godliness is founded on truth. A test of truth is its power to promote holiness according to our Saviour's rule, "By their fruits ye shall know them" (Matthew 7:20). No opinion can be more pernicious or more absurd than that which brings truth and falsehood upon the same level (John 17:7; Proverbs 17:13, 15).

On the contrary, there is an inseparable connection between faith and practice, truth and duty. Otherwise it would be of no consequence either to discover truth or to embrace it (John 1:23; 2:26).

(5) While, under the conviction of the above principle, it is necessary to make effective provision that all who are admitted as teachers be sound in the faith, there are truths and forms with respect to which men of good character and principles may differ. In all these it is the duty both of private Christians and societies to exercise mutual forbearance towards each other (II Timothy 4:2f; Ephesians 4:15, 25).

(6) Though the character, qualifications and authority of Church officers are laid down in the Holy Scriptures, as well as the proper method of officer investiture, the power to elect persons to the exercise of authority in any particular society resides in that society (I Timothy 3; Acts 6:3).

(7) All Church power, whether exercised by the body in general, or by representation, is only ministerial and declarative since the Holy Scriptures are the only rule of faith and practice. No Church judicatory may make laws to bind the conscience. All church courts may err through human frailty, yet it rests upon them to uphold the laws of Scripture though this obligation be

lodged with fallible men (I Corinthians 2:5; Ephesians 2:20; Acts 17:11; Confession of Faith, Chapter 31).

(8) If the preceding Scriptural principles be steadfastly adhered to, the rigor and strictness of discipline will contribute to the glory and well-being of the Church (Matthew 18:17 - 18; I Timothy 5:2; Confession of Faith, Chapter 30).

It is the hopes of the Constitutional Committee that by the 1978 Assembly the entire proof text of the Book of Church Order will be complete and ready to be added to the Book.

Respectfully,

Charles H. Dunahoo, Chairman

Appendix K

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL EDITORIAL COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL DOCUMENTS TO THE FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Your committee consists of Teaching Elders O. Palmer Robertson, Harold R. Patteson, G. Aiken Taylor, Fred D. Thompson Jr., and Ruling Elder M. B. Swayze. The Committee was charged by the Third General Assembly to proceed with a "thorough editing of the whole" **Book of Church Order**, "agreeable to the form and content of" work already begun, in order to bring this portion of the Church's constitutional documents into modern language and style.

In view of the fact that the Church continues to adjust to its corporate life as a separate entity, and suggestions continue to be received from the presbyteries for additional alterations to the **Book of Church Order** as approved and published at considerable expense, the committee has not felt that its task represented an urgent priority. Consequently, it has held no meetings this year, but its members have been in correspondence and two of the members have been working on preliminary drafts of BOCO sections.

We recommend that the committee be continued.

Respectfully submitted,

G. Aiken Taylor, Chairman

Appendix L

REPORT OF THE AD INTERIM COMMITTEE ON THE NUMBER OF OFFICES IN THE CHURCH

The Ad Interim Committee on the Number of Offices in the Church, which was erected by the Third General Assembly to continue the study of the subject of offices in the Church, was made up of the following: Robert H. Kirksey, Chairman, Ligon Duncan, John Snyder and Jules Vroon, Ruling Elders, and Don Clements, Donald Dunkerley, Morton H. Smith and R. C. Sproul, Teaching Elders.

This is the third Ad Interim Committee assigned this study. The first Committee was appointed at the First General Assembly to study the question of the administration of the Sacraments by Ruling Elders (See **1974 Minutes**, 2-29). The second Committee was erected to study the question of the number of Offices in the Church. In addition to this question the following matters were also assigned to the Committee: the right of a local Session to elect its own moderator (Overture 11 to the First General Assembly, see **1974 Minutes**, 2-70); the office of Assistant Pastor (See **1974 Minutes**, 2-71); a general four part overture concerning the nature of ordination (See **1974 Minutes**, 2-98). The Third General Assembly decided not to act on the report of this second Committee, and thus recommitted the whole matter to the present Committee, with the added instruction that the Committee "include in its report exegetical defenses of both the two office and three office views" (See **1975 Minutes**, 3-31, 3-33, 3-83).

The Committee has met three times during the year. At the first meeting the subjects assigned the Committee were divided among the members of the Committee for special study and the preparation of papers. The subsequent meetings of the Committee have been spent in reviewing the papers produced by its members. The Committee plans a fourth meeting to be held at the time of the Fourth General Assembly in Greenville, South Carolina.

The Committee has, in the course of its study, come to the realization that the matters assigned to it are too involved for it to come to a quick and ready solution. For this reason the Committee will not bring in a final report to this Assembly, but rather present a progress report, with the request that it be continued to the next Assembly. One of the things that has brought the Committee to this conclusion was the directive of the Third General Assembly that it present a defense of both the two and three office views. Since this question lies at the root of the differences in the Church on this whole matter, the Committee feels that it would be useful for it to share with the Assembly something of its present studies on this particular question. This is done for two reasons. First, the Committee feels that the whole Church would be enlightened to know more clearly the issues that lie before us. Second, it is the hope of the Committee that this report will stimulate further study and reaction by the Church at large. The Committee is thus soliciting response from the Church at large on this subject. In order to provide an opportunity for any one who has further insight in these matters to present their views, the Committee will hold an open meeting on Tuesday afternoon, September 14, 1976, at 3:00 P.M. at the Second Presbyterian Church in Greenville, South Carolina. The Committee would welcome papers or oral presentations from any interested parties on this important subject, which can assist it in the completion of its task.

"A Preliminary Study of the Two and Three Office Theories"

Introduction:

The following study seeks to present the Biblical and historical background for the different views as to the number of offices in the Church. At this stage no attempt is being made to settle this matter, but rather this is intended to be an informative study of the question. All are agreed that there are at least two offices in the Church, namely, the offices of elder and deacon. The difference lies in the nature of the office of elder. Are there two separate classes of elders, or is there just one class? This study seeks to deal with the office of elder alone, and does not treat the office of deacon.

I. Old Testament Background

The office of elder is rooted in the family itself. The period of the patriarchs reflects a time of both rule and teaching as proper functions of the head of the family (Gen. 18:19; 24:2). Even before the exodus there is evidence of the office of elder in Israel. Moses was sent to "gather the elders of Israel together" (Ex. 3:16) and to announce the forthcoming exodus. They were thus the representatives of the people. After Israel came out of Egypt, Moses set up a graduated court system (Ex. 18:21). In Numbers 11:16-17 reference is made to seventy men of the elders, who were to "bear the burden of the people" with Moses. The promise of the gift of the Spirit to equip these elders was made, thus confirming the fact that this was of the Lord. (See also: Deut. 25:7-9; 29:10; 31:9,28.) These passages clearly indicate the establishment of the office of elder, with the specific function of ruling. The function of teaching in the Old Testament was generally in the hands of the prophets and priests.

In the exile the people were scattered, and the Temple was destroyed. This gave rise to the synagogue or Jewish congregations wherever there were at least ten Jewish families. Douglas Bannerman in his *Scripture Doctrine of the Church* points to Acts 15:21 as indicating that the synagogue had Divine approval, even though its particular institution is not described in the Old Testament. The basic elements found under the ministry of Ezra and Nehemiah, prior to the reestablishment of the Temple, are those found in the synagogue. Bannerman points out that the presbytery was found in the synagogue.

There is universal agreement among competent scholars who have studied the subject, that the whole authority of the synagogue in every normal instance was in the hands of the small body or consistory of elders. (p. 134)

Bannerman then continues in the study of the function of the elders in the synagogue. He finds that there were two general departments, namely, teaching and ruling. In connection with the teaching function there grew up a professional class known as the Scribes. These were men who took professional training in the knowledge of Scriptural Law and its traditional interpretation. Ezra in the Old Testament, though of the priestly line of Aaron, was also designated a ready scribe of the Law of Moses (Ezra 7:6). The body of Scribes was quite prominent at the time of the New Testament period. Though their own lives may often have been unworthy, their position as teachers of the Word was acknowledged by our Lord Himself (Matt. 23:2-6).

Out of the synagogue system, and perhaps the original appointment of the elders by Moses, came the development of the Sanhedrin. It was sometimes called "the presbytery", "the presbytery of the people", or "the Sanhedrin". (Matt. 26:59; Mark 14:55; Luke 22:66; Acts 22:5; 4:15; 5:21, 27, 34, 41; 6:12, 15; 22:30; 23:1, 6, 15, 20, 38; 34:20). The members of the Sanhedrin were spoken of in several ways: "counselors" (Luke 23:50; Mark 15:43); "the chief priests, elders and scribes" (Matt. 27:41; Mark 11:27; 14:43-53; 15:1); "the rulers, elders and scribes" (Acts 4:5); or "chief priests and rulers" (Luke 23:13; 24:20). From this we gather that the Sanhedrin was made up of three elements: first, the chief priests; the scribes; and third, the elders. It is of interest to note that the word elders may be used to designate the whole council, the non-priestly members, or the teaching elders.

Matthew 15:2 uses the phrase "traditions of the elders", which seems to be a reference to the teaching of the scribes.

II. New Testament Teaching

Though this is but a brief summary of the Old Testament on this subject, it is sufficient to show that there were some elders who were just rulers, and some who were rulers and elders. As we move to the New Testament, the question must be asked whether this pattern continued or not. It is obvious that certain basic changes took place with the fulfillment of the ceremonial law by Christ. Did similar changes take place in the government of the congregations as they became Christian congregations, or did they essentially borrow the synagogue polity?

The matter of fact way in which elders are first mentioned in connection with the Christian congregation in Jerusalem suggests that the Church borrowed the Jewish system (See Acts 11:30). The appointment of the first group of men to assist in temporal affairs in Acts 6 also parallels the servants or assistants in the Jewish synagogue. In addressing the Church at Philippi Paul refers only to two groups of officers, "The bishops and deacons" (Phil. 1:1). Further, he gave qualifications for only two classes of officers, namely, bishops (elders) and deacons (1 Tim. 3; Titus 1).

The question that is before the Presbyterian Church in America is whether the office of elder is properly divided into two distinct classes of elders, or whether there is just one class of elder. Arguments for both views are given here.

First, there is the position that 1 Timothy 3:2 says all elders are to be apt to teach. It is understood from this that all elders have both functions of teaching and ruling, though some who are more gifted in teaching make it their full-time occupation. These, as 1 Timothy 5:17f indicates, deserve the support of the Church. This is essentially the position set forth by the report of the Ad-Interim Committee in the 1975 Minutes, page 204.

The late Dr. R. C. Reed, Professor of Church History at Columbia Theological Seminary, held to only one class of elders. He wrote regarding this in the *Union Seminary Review*, Volume XXI, No. 3, April, 1920. His argument may be summarized as follows: First, there is no evidence for two classes of elders in early post-apostolic history. The reason for this, he maintains, is that the New Testament itself did not teach such. He indicates that the New Testament Epistles, which include addresses to the officers of the Church, makes no distinction such as, pastor and elders. They are addressed either simply to the elders or to the bishops, which are, of course, interchangeable terms. Secondly, he lays upon the whole body of elders of the Ephesian Church the full task of shepherding the flock (Acts 20:28). Peter in 1 Peter 5:1-3 does the same thing. Reed maintains that all of the elders then were under charges to feed the flock, which included preaching and the administering the sacraments, as well as ruling. Thirdly, the same qualifications are given for all (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9).

We quote Reed's argument at this point:

"We have now reached this point, the same titles are applied to all, the same duties are assigned to all, and the same qualifications are prescribed for all. They are all called bishops, presbyters, pastors; they are all enjoined to exercise the functions of a shepherd toward the flock, and they are all to possess the qualifications which will fit them for the common task.

"In view of this, is it by any means certain that we do well to divide them broadly into two official classes? Had there been such a division in apostolic times as obtains in our time, is it not likely that we should be able to discover it? Would they all have had the same titles, the same duties, the same qualifications? . . . (He then notes the **Book of Church Order** assigns nine different titles to the ministry of the Word, and only one title, which he speaks of as not a scriptural title, the ruling elders.) . . . While we assign some duties in common, yet on the whole the spheres of the duties of the two classes are vastly different. We expressly assign them to two distinct and dissimilar offices. We do not demand the same qualifications for both classes. If in all of this we are apostolic, obviously the apostles expressed themselves with far less precision and accuracy than we have done in our **Book of Church Order**."

Reed then goes on to argue what would happen if we were to erase the distinction within the offices. He says, "For one thing, every elder would have the official right to do whatever any other elder had an official right to do. Every elder would be authorized to preach, to administer the sacraments, to solemnize marriages, and would, no doubt, enjoy the privilege of traveling on the railroad that reduced fair on a clergyman's permit."

He then raises the question of whether all would be obligated to do so. He says, "Certainly not. I Timothy 5:17 would still furnish apostolic authority for distributing the work according to gifts. The elder who could preach most to edification would give himself to laboring in the Word and doctrines; those who had no special gifts or liking for public speaking would look after the morals and manners of the people; and here and there, the elder who had been elected because of his wealth or social eminence would continue to be a mere knot-on-a-log, a worthless cumberer of the ground."

Reed then argues for the advantages of such a change. First, he says that there would be no vacant churches. In answer to the argument that it would lower the standard of ministerial education, he says: "If all our elders should be recognized as preachers, we should have on an average a ministry no better educated than that of the Methodists and the Baptists. Well, perhaps even that disaster would not be as bad as dead churches." He further indicates that he believes that we would continue to have a number who would devote themselves full-time to preaching, and would seek the training necessary to this work.

He then asks the question of the precedence in history for this position. He indicates that first of all, this is found in the history of the Church of Scotland. In 1560 the First General Assembly of the Church of Scotland had only thirteen ministers for the whole realm of Scotland.

"Consequently, under the leadership of John Knox, they appointed godly men to gather the congregations into their houses of worship, and to read the Word of God to them. It was demanded of these readers that after they had grown familiar with the Scriptures, they should add to reading exhortation. It was further contemplated that those engaged in these sacred labors would ultimately fit themselves for ordination and enter the regular ministry."

The second historical precedent is found in the foreign mission fields. He indicates that, "Just so soon as a native Christian can be put into possession of sufficient knowledge to enable him to tell the story of the Cross to his fellow-countrymen, he is sent forth to do the work of an evangelist. The exigency of the case controlled the policy of the Church."

The third historical precedent is that of the Campbellite Church. He indicates that Alexander Campbell was reared a Presbyterian, and when he organized an independent church, "He introduced the very innovation which we are considering, thinking thereby to conform his church more nearly to the apostolic pattern. The Campbellites have a plurality of elders in every church, just as we have, but they all belong to the same class. They try to provide an educated preacher for each pulpit, but in the absence of such a trained elder, the service proceeds the same as if he were there. No church is ever closed, and the sacrament of the Lord's Supper is administered every day. The growth of the Campbellite Church has been phenomenal. There is reason to believe that it is due in no small measure to this effective use of the eldership."

The Committee finds in Reed the best and most straightforward statement of the simple two-office view, with no distinctions to be made within the office of elder. If the PCA is to adopt this position, the full implications of it need to be set forth before the Church very simply and clearly.

Among the best arguments given against the single eldership without any distinction, are the following by Dr. David King of the Church of Scotland. He deals with this as he seeks to treat the work of a Congregationalist, Dr. Samuel Davidson, Professor of Biblical Literature in the Leicestershire College, London, in his work entitled **Ecclesiastical Polity of the New**

Testament Unfolded, and Its Points of Coincidence or Disagreement with Prevailing Systems Indicated. King sets forth the position in these words:

"What, then, is the difference between us and Dr. Davidson, wherein does he think that we are wrong? He thinks that though some of the primitive elders only ruled, they were entitled to preach. He holds that 'the nature of the distinction is merely such as arises from the possession of the various talents, direct to the discharge of different duties, while all have an equal right to perform the same functions.' (*Ecclesiastical Polity*, page 183). The sum of this statement is, that the elders who did not preach possess the right to do so, but wanted the talents; and so they had been appointed to functions for which their talents do not qualify them. They were appointed to preach when they could not preach; and they receded from a duty that they had undertaken, because they failed in the attempt to discharge it. This doctrine seems strange.

"We have sometimes difficulty in getting elders. If we told men of eminent but modest worth that their appointment would include preaching as well as ruling, they would not likely be quicker to enter the office; nor should we overcome their objections probably by telling them, 'You have only to be appointed to preach, and then neglect this duty to which you have been solemnly set apart, for this conduct was quite common in the apostolic churches.' I prefer to believe that the elders severally did what they were severally appointed to do — that their practice corresponded with their appointment, and is to us explanatory of their commission." (*The Ruling Eldership in the Christian Church*, pages 23-24).

The problem phrase is, of course, the phrase "apt to teach" in I Timothy 3:2. Those who maintain that all elders are to be able to preach the Word insist that this phrase implies this fact. Those who do not hold to this, insist that the phrase means nothing more than the ability to communicate the faith, perhaps on a person to person basis, perhaps in a Sunday School situation, or perhaps in the pulpit situation. It is argued by these that the passage in I Timothy 5:17 implies the distinction between the two classes of elders. Further, it is argued that the phrase in Ephesians 4:11 where the list of offices given by Christ to the Church is given: "And he gave some apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some pastors and teachers," suggests the two classes of elders. The pastors and teachers, on the one hand, are in the same general classification as distinguished from all the other offices listed. On the other hand, the two functions of pastoring and teaching are named separately, suggesting two classes of elders.

Let us now return more specifically to the problem that the Church is facing, namely, the question of whether all elders are of one class, or whether there are two distinct classes of elders. Those who maintain that there is only one essential class of elders, and that not only must they jointly rule, but that every elder ought also to be apt to teach, do so on the basis of the fact that the phrase "apt to teach" is found in the list of qualifications for all elders. The issue hangs on the interpretation of this phrase, and also on the interpretation of the language to "feed the flock" and upon the definition of the word "pastor". Those who maintain the one office idea believe that the phrase "apt to teach" along with the instruction of Paul in Acts 20:28 to all elders that they are to "feed the flock" indicates that all elders are to be able to serve in teaching or preaching functions. The distinction in I Timothy 5:17 between those who rule well and those who teach is thereby minimized. Dr. Knight treats this in the **1975 Assembly Minutes**, page 204. He indicates that this distinction really is recognizing the fact that there are some of the elders who are especially gifted in teaching, though they belong to a class of officers, all of whom must have the ability to teach. This is the same as R. C. Reed's position, already cited above, it was the position adopted by the past Ad-Interim Committee dealing with this subject. (See **1975 Minutes**, pages 205ff.)

The other view maintains that the phrase "apt to teach" does not necessarily mean preaching. It is the idea that all elders should be able to communicate the Gospel, at least on a one-to-one basis with those who desire to understand it. If elders have the task of pastoring or shepherding the flock, then they need to be able to talk to members of the flock about the meaning of the Gospel. Surely, this is the minimum of what this phrase means. Dr. King treats this matter as follows:

"Paul requires that a bishop be 'apt to teach.' Does not this show that all bishops should be teaching bishops? — I answer, first, that there are various kinds of teaching, and that all elders have need of aptness to communicate instructions in various ways. They should be apt to train the young, to comfort the sorrowful, to convince the gainsaying. I answer secondly, that Dr. Davidson, and others who think with him, have quite an urgent reason to understand the teaching in this modified sense as we can have. It is Dr. Davidson's theory that though all the primitive elders had a right to preach, some of them did not exercise the right, because they wanted the requisite talent. Why then, if public teaching is meant, did Paul declare aptness to teach to be indispensable, and yet ordain men to the office by whom no such qualifications were possessed? The door of escape which will give Dr. Davidson relief from this difficulty will suffice for our release." (*Op. cit.*, page 35).

It is interesting that Dr. Thornwell in his treatment of the matter brings out the fact that the term pastor or shepherd does not necessarily involve the idea of teacher. He says,

"Pastor or shepherd, in its metaphorical acceptance, expresses the general idea of guidance and authority, and may refer either to the instructions of a teacher or the directions or government of a ruler. Perhaps in the Old Testament it is more commonly descriptive of government than of the office of teaching; and we are inclined to think that the true ground of this application to a teacher is the tendency of his instructions to regulate the conduct of life. Be this as it may, a pastor is unquestionably a ruler. . . . In Ezekiel 37:24, the shepherd and king are evidently employed as synonymous: 'And David my servant shall be king over them, and they all shall have one shepherd.' 'Pastor', says Schleusner, 'Hoc est rex unus erit omnium.' God promises His people in Ezekiel 34:23-24, that He will 'set up one shepherd over them' even His servant David who is immediately described as a little 'Prince among them.' To feed the people of Israel is explained, in I Chronicles 11:2, by being their ruler: 'Thou shalt feed my people Israel, and thou shalt be ruler over my people Israel.' When we come to the New Testament, the idea of rule seems to be intimately associated with the word shepherd or pastor, and its derivatives. The clause which our translators have rendered, Revelation 2:27, 'He shall rule them with a rod of iron,' is, in the original, He shall feed them with a rod of iron. In Matthew 2:6 — 'Out of thee shall come a governor that shall rule my people' — the Greek is, that shall feed, or be shepherd of, my people Israel; and in Paul's enumeration of the officers whom the ascended Saviour bequeathed to the Church, if pastor and ruler are not synonymous, as Ambrose evidently thought them to be, there is no mentioned rulers at all.

"These passages are sufficient to prove that pastors are not necessarily teachers, that elders may be pastors, both the classical and Scriptural sense, without being ordinary ministers of the Word. The generic idea is that of guidance of direction; the specific form of this guidance may be instruction or government." (*Collected Writings*, Volume IV, pages 110-111).

Thornwell then goes on to treat the word bishop or overseer, and cites Numbers 31:14, Judges 9:28, and Nehemiah 11:9, 14, 22, as indicating that overseers were rulers, entrusted with authority, but not necessarily teachers. He concludes:

"The considerations which have been presented we deem sufficient to show that our Standards and the Scriptures concur in teaching that the ruling elder is truly and properly a presbyter; and therefore has a right to participate in all acts which any other presbyter can there impart. It does not follow, however, that because he is a Scriptural pastor and bishop he is therefore a minister of the Word and a steward of the mysteries of God. Preaching is a very different part of labor from ruling; and though all preachers, whether apostles, evangelists, or pastors, in the technical sense of our Standards, are rulers according to the appointment of God, yet the converse of the proposition is by no means true — that all rulers whether elders, bishops, . . . are preachers. We affirm, without hesitation, that all ministers of the Word, lawfully called and ordained, are presbyters, but we are very far from affirming that all presbyters, lawfully called and ordained, are ministers of the Word. We maintain that Christ has appointed two classes of rulers, or chosen representatives of the people — one to preach and rule, the other only to rule; that presbyter and bishop are terms expressive of government and not of instruction." (*Collected Writings*, Volume IV, page 114).

III. The Office in Church History

In addition to surveying the Biblical grounds, the assignment for this paper included something of the survey of the historical practices regarding this matter. Samuel Miller devotes some thirty-three pages to the testimony of the early church fathers. Let us simply quote his conclusion regarding this matter, and not get into the details of citation of the different fathers.

"Such then is the amount of the testimony of the early church fathers. They tell us, with a unanimity and frequency truly remarkable, that, in every church, there was a bench or college of elders: that they sat with the bishop or pastor, as an ecclesiastical judicatory, and with him ruled the church: that this bench or body of rulers was called by various names in different parts of the world: . . . that they were always present with the bishop or pastor when he presided in public worship: that he did nothing of importance without consulting them: that they seldom or never preached, unless in cases of necessity, or when especially requested to do so by the pastor: that they were more frequently than otherwise called clergymen, like the elders who 'labored in the Word and doctrine,' but sometimes distinguished from the clergy: that, however, whether called clergymen or not, they 'ecclesiastical men,' that is, set apart for ecclesiastical purposes, devoted to the spiritual rule and edification of the Church; that all questions of discipline, such as admitting members into the Church, inspecting their Christian deportment, and censuring, suspending, and excommunicating, were decided by these elders: and, finally, from all it

is apparent, that as discipline became unpopular, and ecclesiastics more aspiring, the ruling part of the elder's office was gradually laid aside, and the teaching part alone retained." (*An Essay on the Warrant, Nature, and Duties of the Office of the Ruling Elder in the Presbyterian Church*, pp. 105-106)

Miller then gives a treatment about the period between the Ancient Church and the Reformation. He indicates that at least in one case there is testimony to the existence of the Waldensian Christians, in opposition to the Roman Church, dating as early as 314. Whether this is an accurate dating or not, they certainly date from around the year 1,000. That is, they were existing at least 500 years prior to the Reformation. The Waldensian Confession (Article 31) reads: "It is necessary for the Church to have pastors, to preach God's Word; to administer the sacraments, and to watch over the sheep of Jesus Christ; and also elders and deacons, according to the rules of good and holy church discipline, and the practice of the primitive church." (Cited in Miller, *op. cit.*, page 110). Miller then goes on to cite rather extensively from the Bohemian Brethren, considered by some a branch of the Waldensians, that they had elders as well. He indicates that in 1540 Calvin corresponded with the Bohemian pastors, inquiring particularly regarding their form of Church government. All of this is to the point that Calvin did not originate the office of ruling elder as has been charged by those who do not believe that such an office is Biblical.

Moving then to the Reformers, Miller cites Zwingli as the first of the Reformers to refer to elders. He cites him thus:

"The title of presbyter or elder, as used in Scripture, is not rightly understood by those who consider it as applicable only to those who preside in preaching; for it is evident that the term is also sometimes used to designate elders of another kind, that is, senators, leaders, or counselors. So we read Acts 15, where it is said, 'The apostles and elders came together to consider this matter.' Here we see that the elders spoken of are to be considered as senators or counselors. It is evident that the *presbuteroi* mentioned in this place are not ministers of the Word; but they were aged, prudent, and venerable men, who, in directing and managing the affairs of the church, were the same thing as the senators in our cities. And the title elder is used in the same sense, in many other places in the Acts of the Apostles." (Citation of Zwingli taken from the *Politicae Ecclesiasticae* of Voetius in Miller, *op. cit.*, pages 122-123).

Calvin held a fourfold office position, with the ruling elders clearly distinct from the teaching elders. This view maintains that there are three distinct offices, separating ministers from elders. In other words, elders are simply rulers. Edmund Clowney presented a paper to the last Ad-Interim Committee on the Number of Offices defending the office of rulers as Biblical. He based this on the Old Testament primarily, and down through the Book of Acts, but not including the statements of the Pastoral Epistles.

Actually, this is the view set forth by the Westminster Divines in the original **Form of Presbyterian Church Government**. The Form reads: "The officers which Christ hath appointed for the edification of His Church, and the perfecting of the saints, are, some extraordinary, as apostles, evangelists, and prophets, which are ceased.

"Others ordinary and perpetual, as pastors, teachers, and other Church governors, and deacons." The Divines then went on to define each office, which I shall quote also: "The pastorate is an ordinary and perpetual officer in the Church, prophesying of the time of the Gospel." This section then sets forth the duties of what we would call ministers of the Word, including prayer for the congregation, reading and preaching of the Word of God, and the ruling over the flock as a pastor.

The teacher or doctor is described thus: "The Scripture doth hold out the name and title of teacher, as well as of the pastor. Who is also a minister of the Word, as well as the pastor, and hath power of administration of the sacraments." This original form of government does not say that these teachers or doctors had any office of rule in the Church.

The third category of officers is that of "other Church governors." The paragraph describing these reads:

"As there were in the Jewish Church elders of the people joined with the priests and Levites in the government of the Church; so Christ hath instituted government, and governors ecclesiastical in the Church, hath furnished some in His Church, beside the ministers of the Word, with gifts for government, and with the commission to execute the same when called thereunto, who are to join with the minister in the government of the Church. Which officers Reformed churches commonly called elders."

The final office is that of deacons, which is described thus: "The Scripture doth hold out deacons as distinct officers in the Church. Whose office is perpetual. To whose office it belongs not to preach the Word, or administer the sacraments, but to take special care in distributing to the necessities of the poor."

From this description of the Westminster Divines we see actually four offices. There are two classes of ministers of the Word, namely, pastors and teachers. The pastors minister the Word and rule, whereas the teachers only preach the Word and teach it. The other rulers, or elders, simply rule without being involved in the teaching function. The Christian Reformed Church maintains essentially this position today. Presbyterian Churches in America, and in

particular, Southern Presbyterian Churches, have not kept the professors separate from other teaching elders. Rather, they have subsumed them under the same general category, giving them the privileges of both teaching and ruling. The Southern Presbyterian Church also expanded the office of the deacon to include more than just ministry to the poor. It has taken the idea of all temporal functions legitimately belonging to this office, in order to allow the elders to devote themselves to the spiritual functions of prayer and ministry of the Word. This Southern Presbyterian position has been carried over into the PCA.

This became the position of American Presbyterianism in its early development. On the other hand, John Knox, as R. C. Reed indicated, used even the rulers in the capacity of teaching elders. The Church of Scotland, with its adoption of the **Confession and Form of Government** of the Westminster Divines, eventually abandoned this position. The Congregationalists in England and Scotland, as is indicated by men like Wardlaw and Davidson, took the position that all elders should be able to teach.

In American Presbyterian history the debate between Thornwell and Hodge was whether ruling elders were actually qualified to lay hands on a teaching elder at his ordination. Hodge argued against this, and the Church in general did not accept this view until sometime after the division of the PCUS from the Northern Church. Also involved in the early Southern Church history was the question of whether ruling elders had the right to preach at all. The original order was that ruling elders did not have the right to preach, and that, therefore, if one were elected moderator of a court, he was to appoint someone to preach the retiring moderator's sermon. An interesting development that gradually became more acceptable in the Presbyterian Church in the United States was the fact that ruling elders were encouraged to fill vacant churches. The first action regarding this was in 1866-67, which was, of course, right after the War between the States. The next action of the Church regarding this matter was in 1919, again during the war situation, and the next in 1943, again in the war situation. It was due to the fact that so many teaching elders were involved in military service, leaving the churches at home vacant, that the Church looked to its ruling elders to fill the pulpits. This is the background for the idea that the ruling elder has the right to preach. It lies behind the First PCA Assembly's action providing in its **Book of Church Order** for the licensure of ruling elders to preach on a regular basis. It should be noted that this was not what Thornwell argued for when he argued the parity of the ruling elders with the teaching elders as presbyters in the courts. Hodge and others prior to this time had seen ruling elders sometimes as something less than full members of the court. The Southern Presbyterian tradition has always maintained a parity of the ruling and teaching elders insofar as their authority in the court is concerned.

(See paragraph 4-84 for recommendations adopted by the General Assembly.)

Appendix M

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 received 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 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 questions 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 Inter-church 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 can 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 and all complaints, appeals or references from lower courts. 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:

Committees	Reports of	Overtures, resolutions or communications
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 United 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 of 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 non-participating 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 approved without exception (show dates of minutes being approved); be
 - (2) That the minutes of the Committee of approved with the exceptions noted (show dates of minutes being approved). be
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:
 - (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. Notions 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.

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 commissioners 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 N
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 meetings, and such notice should specify the purpose of such special meetings. 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 of 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.

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These By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote at any annual or special meeting of the General Assembly.

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