

MINUTES
of the
FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
of the
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
VOLUME 1 of 2

PLEASE NOTE:

1. The pages of Volume 1 and Volume 2 are numbered consecutively.
2. The INDEX to both volumes is found at the back of Volume 2.

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***Note – re:** Recommendations in Reports of Committees of Commissioners

Double underlining in Committee of Commissioners (CoC) recommendations indicates that the Committee of Commissioners added or changed the wording from the original Permanent Committee or Agency Recommendation. (Where the original Permanent Committee or Agency Report has proposed a change in the *BCO* or *RAO*, that change is indicated by single underlining.)

SUCCESSION OF MODERATORS

ASSEMBLY	YEAR	NAME	PLACE OF ASSEMBLY
1 st	1973	RE W. Jack Williamson	Birmingham, AL
2 nd	1974	TE Erskine L. Jackson	Macon, GA
3 rd	1975	RE Leon F. Hendrick	Jackson, MS
4 th	1976	TE William A. McIlwaine	Greenville, SC
5 th	1977	RE John T. Clark	Smyrna, GA
6 th	1978	TE G. Aiken Taylor	Grand Rapids, MI
7 th	1979	RE William F. Joseph Jr.	Charlotte, NC
8 th	1980	TE Paul G. Settle	Savannah, GA
9 th	1981	RE Kenneth L. Ryskamp	Fort Lauderdale, FL
10 th	1982	TE R. Laird Harris	Grand Rapids, MI
11 th	1983	RE L. B. Austin III	Norfolk, VA
12 th	1984	TE James M. Baird Jr.	Baton Rouge, LA
13 th	1985	RE Richard C. Chewning	St. Louis, MO
14 th	1986	TE Frank M. Barker Jr.	Philadelphia, PA
15 th	1987	RE Gerald Sovereign	Grand Rapids, MI
16 th	1988	TE D. James Kennedy	Knoxville, TN
17 th	1989	RE John B. White, Jr.	La Mirada, CA
18 th	1990	TE Cortez A. Cooper Jr.	Atlanta, GA
19 th	1991	RE Mark Belz	Birmingham, AL
20 th	1992	TE W. Wilson Benton Jr.	Roanoke, VA
21 st	1993	RE G. Richard Hostetter	Columbia, SC
22 nd	1994	TE William S. Barker II	Atlanta, GA
23 rd	1995	RE Frank A. Brock	Dallas, TX
24 th	1996	TE Charles A. McGowan	Fort Lauderdale, FL
25 th	1997	RE Samuel J. Duncan	Colorado Springs, CO
26 th	1998	TE Kennedy Smartt	St. Louis, MO
		TE Donald B. Patterson (Honorary)	
27 th	1999	RE Thomas F. Leopard	Louisville, KY
28 th	2000	TE Morton H. Smith	Tampa, FL
29 th	2001	RE Stephen M. Fox	Dallas, TX
30 th	2002	TE Joseph F. "Skip" Ryan	Birmingham, AL
31 st	2003	RE Joel Belz	Charlotte, NC
32 nd	2004	TE J. Ligon Duncan III	Pittsburgh, PA
33 rd	2005	RE Howard Q. Davis Jr.	Chattanooga, TN
34 th	2006	TE Dominic A. Aquila	Atlanta, GA
35 th	2007	RE E. J. Nusbaum	Memphis, TN
36 th	2008	TE Paul D. Kooistra	Dallas, TX
37 th	2009	RE Bradford L. "Brad" Bradley	Orlando, FL

MODERATORS, continued

ASSEMBLY	YEAR	NAME	PLACE OF ASSEMBLY
38 th	2010	TE Harry L. Reeder III	Nashville, TN
39 th	2011	RE Daniel A. Carrell	Virginia Beach, VA
40 th	2012	TE Michael F. Ross	Louisville, KY
41 st	2013	RE Bruce Terrell	Greenville, SC
42 nd	2014	TE Bryan S. Chapell	Houston, TX
43 rd	2015	RE James W. Wert Jr.	Chattanooga, TN
44 th	2016	TE George W. Robertson Jr.	Mobile, AL
45 th	2017	RE Alexander Jun	Greensboro, NC
46 th	2018	TE Irwyn L. Ince Jr.	Atlanta, GA
47 th	2019	RE J. Howard "Howie" Donahoe	Dallas, TX
48 th	2021	TE L. Roy Taylor	St. Louis, MO
49 th	2022	RE John R. Bise	Birmingham, AL
50 th	2023	TE Fred Greco	Memphis, TN
51 st	2024	RE Steven W. Dowling	Richmond, VA

SUCCESSION OF STATED CLERKS

YEARS	NAME
1973 - 1988	TE Morton H. Smith
1988 - 1998	TE Paul R. Gilchrist
1998 - 2020	TE L. Roy Taylor Jr.
2021 -	TE Bryan Chapell

PART I

DIRECTORY OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES AND AGENCIES 2024-2025

I. OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Moderator

RE Steve Dowling
445 Shelton Mill Road
Auburn, AL 36830
Phone: 540-446-1720
E-mail: swd81@outlook.com

Stated Clerk

TE Bryan Chapell
1700 North Brown Road, Suite 105
Lawrenceville, GA 30043-8143
Phone: 678-825-1000
E-mail: ac@pcanet.org

II. MINISTRIES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Administration

TE Bryan Chapell, Coordinator
1700 North Brown Road, Suite 105
Lawrenceville, GA 30043-8143
Phone: 678-825-1000
E-mail: ac@pcanet.org
www.pcaac.org

Committee on Discipleship Ministries

TE Stephen T. Estock, Coordinator
1700 North Brown Road, Suite 102
Lawrenceville, GA 30043-8143
Phone: 678-825-1100
E-mail: sestock@pcanet.org
www.pcacdm.org

Covenant College

TE Brad Voyles, President
14049 Scenic Highway
Lookout Mountain, GA 30750-4164
Phone: 706-419-1119
Email: brad.voyles@covenant.edu
www.covenant.edu

Covenant Theological Seminary

TE Tom C. Gibbs, President
12330 Conway Road
St. Louis, MO 63141-8609
Phone: 314-434-4044
E-mail:
tom.gibbs@covenantseminary.edu
www.covenantseminary.edu

Mission to North America

TE Irwyn Ince, Coordinator
1700 North Brown Road, Suite 101
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www.pcamna.org

Mission to the World

TE Lloyd Kim, Coordinator
1600 North Brown Road
Lawrenceville, GA 30043-8141
Phone: 678-823-0004
E-mail: lloyd.kim@mtw.org
www.mtw.org

PCA Foundation, Inc.

RE Timothy W. Townsend, President
1700 North Brown Road, Suite 103
Lawrenceville, GA 30043-8143
Phone: 678-825-1040
E-mail: ttownsend@pcanet.org
www.pcafoundation.com

Geneva Benefits Group

TE Edward W. Dunnington, President
1700 North Brown Road, Suite 106
Lawrenceville, GA 30043-8143
Phone: 678-825-1260
E-mail:
ed.dunnington@genevabenefits.org
www.genevabenefits.org

Reformed University Fellowship

RE Will W. Huss Jr., Coordinator
1600 North Brown Road
Lawrenceville, GA 30043-8143
Phone: 678-825-1070
E-mail: will.huss@ruf.org
www.ruf.org

Ridge Haven

TE Cameron Anderson, Exec. Director
215 Ridge Haven Road
Brevard, NC 28712
Phone: 828-862-3916
E-mail:
cameron.anderson@ridgehaven.org
www.ridgehaven.org

GENERAL ASSEMBLY DIRECTORY

**III. PERMANENT COMMITTEES
(2024-2025)**

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: RE Danny McDaniel **VICE CHAIRMAN:** RE Richard Dolan

SECRETARY: TE Roger Collins

Class of 2028

TE Scott Edburg, Illiana
TE Richard Phillips, Calvary

RE EJ Nusbaum, Rocky Mountain

Class of 2027

TE Jason Helopoulos, Great Lakes

RE Dave Cias, Houston Metro
RE Alan Walters, Mississippi Valley

Class of 2026

TE Michael Dixon, Fellowship

RE Danny McDaniel, Houston Metro

Class of 2025

TE Roger G. Collins, Tennessee Valley
TE Steve Jeantet, Suncoast Florida

RE Richard Dolan, Georgia Foothills

Alternates

TE Michael Hearon, Savannah River

RE Richard Leino, James River

Chairman of Committee/Board or Designate

TE Thomas M. Harr, New Jersey
Committee on Discipleship Ministries

RE R. Craig Wood, Blue Ridge
Covenant College

TE Hansoo Jin, Korean Capital
Mission to North America

RE Miles Gresham, Evangel
Covenant Theological Seminary

TE Thomas Patton, Evangel
Mission to the World

TE Martin Wagner, Evangel
PCA Foundation

TE Josh Martin, Calvary
Reformed University Fellowship

TE Andrew E. Field, Metro New York
Geneva Benefits

TE David Sasser Hall, Fellowship
Ridge Haven

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE ON DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES

CHAIRMAN: TE Thomas Michael Harr Jr. **VICE CHAIRMAN:** TE W. Scott Barber

SECRETARY: RE Taylor Clement

Class of 2029

TE Danny Kwon, Korean Eastern

RE James D. Murphy, Blue Ridge
RE Jack North, Pee Dee

Class of 2028

TE Richard Burguet, Central Florida
TE Robert Cathcart, Calvary

RE David Hinkley, Great Lakes

Class of 2027

TE Christopher Lee Hutchings., Ohio

RE Randy Stair, Metro Atlanta
RE Taylor Clement, Missouri

Class of 2026

TE W. Scott Barber, Georgia Foothills
TE Dean Williams, Mississippi Valley

RE Dan Barber, Central Indiana

Class of 2025

TE Thomas Michael Harr Jr., New Jersey

RE Jacob Lightsey Wallace, James River
RE Jeremy Whitley, South Texas

Alternates

TE Jonathan Medlock, Northern California

RE Larkin Chapman, Mississippi Valley

COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO NORTH AMERICA

CHAIRMAN: TE Hansoo Jin **VICE CHAIRMAN:** RE Timothy Threadgill

SECRETARY: RE Jason Kang

Class of 2029

TE Hunter Brewer, Covenant
TE Nate Shurden, Nashville

RE Samuel K. Suttle, Mississippi Valley

Class of 2028

TE Jeremy Byrd, Great Lakes

RE Brett Doster, Gulf Coast
RE Lance Kinzer, Heartland

Class of 2027

TE Dean Faulkner, Central Carolina
TE Hansoo Jin, Korean Capital

RE Timothy Threadgill, Mississippi Valley

Class of 2026

TE Roland Barnes, Savannah River

RE Brent Andersen, Central Carolina
RE Jason Kang, Metro Atlanta

Class of 2025

TE R. Lyle Caswell Jr., Southwest Florida
TE Robert A. Willetts, Tidewater

RE Ernie Shipman, Northern New England

Alternates

TE Zachary Groff, Calvary

RE Mitch Young, South Texas

GENERAL ASSEMBLY DIRECTORY

COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE WORLD

CHAIRMAN: TE Owen Lee **VICE CHAIRMAN:** TE Billy Dempsey

SECRETARY: TE Josh Rieger **TREASURER:** RE John Bateman

Class of 2029

TE Kevin Smith, Tennessee Valley
TE Patrick Womack, Suncoast Florida

RE John Kunkel, North Florida

Class of 2028

TE Joshua Rieger, Houston Metro

RE Bryan Wintersteen, Evangel
RE Scott Wulff, Ohio

Class of 2027

TE Maranatha Chung, Philadelphia
TE Owen Lee, Korean Capital

RE Theo Hagg, Westminster

Class of 2026

TE Shaun M. Nolan, Pittsburgh

RE John E. Bateman, North Texas
RE Oscar R. Aylor, Blue Ridge

Class of 2025

TE Brett W. Carl, Tidewater
TE William E. Dempsey, Mississippi Valley

RE Byron Johnson, Metro Atlanta

Alternates

TE Larry Trotter, South Florida

RE David Moore, Central Florida

COMMITTEE ON REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP

CHAIRMAN: TE Joshua A. Martin **VICE CHAIRMAN:** TE David Osborne

SECRETARY: RE Stephen Berry

Class of 2029

TE David Felker, Mississippi Valley
TE Brian Frey, Pacific Northwest

RE Stephen Gordon, Ohio Valley

Class of 2028

TE Kenneth Foster, Heritage

RE Stephen Berry, S New England
RE Tobe Hester, Lowcountry

Class of 2027

TE Martin Biggs, Hills and Plains
TE Eric Zellner, Southeast Alabama

RE Justen Ellis, Northwest Georgia

Class of 2026

TE Iron D. Kim, Northern California

RE Jeremy Kath, Nashville
RE Rob Grabenkort, Georgia Foothills

Class of 2025

TE Joshua A. Martin, Calvary
TE David Osborne, Eastern Carolina

RE Charles Powell Jr., Evangel

Alternates

TE Billy Crain, South Texas

RE John Miller, Eastern Carolina

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

IV. AGENCIES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COVENANT COLLEGE

CHAIRMAN: RE John Truschel **VICE CHAIRMAN:** RE R. Craig Wood

SECRETARY: RE Robert Wilkinson **TREASURER:** RE Michael Kramer

Class of 2028

TE Timothy Brindle, Philadelphia Metro West	RE Richard T. Bowser, Eastern Carolina
TE Matthew David Fray, North Texas	RE Gregory J. Moore, Susquehanna Valley
	RE Paul D. Moore, Calvary
	RE William H. Ryan, South Florida
	RE Stephen E. Sligh, Southwest Florida

Class of 2027

TE Thurman Williams, Missouri	RE Michael Kramer, Tennessee Valley
	RE John Kwasny, Mississippi Valley
	RE Ken Smith, North Texas
	RE John Truschel, Eastern Carolina
	RE Robert Wilkinson, Missouri
	RE R. Craig Wood, Blue Ridge

Class of 2026

TE Thomas Groelsema, Central Carolina	RE Don Mellott, Pacific Northwest
TE Lance Lewis, Northern California	RE Towner Scheffler, Piedmont Triad
TE Sean McGowan, Gulf Coast	RE Gordon Sluis, Mississippi Valley
TE Omari Hill, Central Carolina	

Class of 2025

TE Bradley J. Barnes, Southern New England	RE David Caines, Tennessee Valley
TE Alexander Brown, Savannah River	RE Mark Griggs, Tennessee Valley
	RE Bradley M. Harris, Covenant
	RE Drew Jelgerhuis, Great Lakes
	RE Sam Smartt, Tennessee Valley

GENERAL ASSEMBLY DIRECTORY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COVENANT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

CHAIRMAN: RE Miles E. Gresham **VICE CHAIRMAN:** TE Brian Habig

SECRETARY: RE Doug Hickel

TE Brian Habig, Calvary
TE Murray Lee, Evangel

Class of 2028

RE David L. Duren, Houston Metro
RE Bruce Harrington, Rocky Mountain
RE Paul R. Stoll, Chicago Metro
RE Gif Thornton, Nashville

TE Jimmy Agan, Metro Atlanta
TE Robert Flayhart, Evangel
TE Fredric Ryan Laughlin, Potomac

Class of 2027

RE Mark Ensio, Arizona
RE John Fitch, South Texas
RE Dwight Jones, Central Georgia

TE Russell St. John, Missouri
TE David Sinclair, Calvary

Class of 2026

RE James Albritton, Evangel
RE Doug Hickel, Missouri
RE Ron McNalley, North Texas
RE Walter Turner, Pittsburgh

TE Brian Cosby, Tennessee Valley

Class of 2025

RE Samuel N. Graham, Covenant
RE Miles E. Gresham, Evangel
RE Donald Guthrie, Chicago Metro
RE Otis Pickett, Mississippi Valley
RE Curtis S. Shidemantle, Ascension

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF GENEVA BENEFITS

CHAIRMAN: TE Andrew E. Field **VICE CHAIRMAN:** RE Chris Rogers

SECRETARY: TE Jon Medlock **TREASURER:** RE Chet Lilly

TE Andrew E. Field, Metropolitan New York

Class of 2028

RE James S. Clark, Mississippi Valley
DE Theodore J. Dankovich, Calvary

Class of 2027

RE L. Robert Clark, Tennessee Valley
RE David C. Allegood, Pittsburgh
RE Huey Townsend, Mississippi Valley

TE William Chang, Korean SW Orange Co.

Class of 2026

RE Ken Downer, Highlands
RE Chris Rogers, Covenant

TE Roderick Miles, Northern California

Class of 2025

RE Gary D. Campbell, Metro Atlanta
RE Scott P. Magnuson, Pittsburgh

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF PCA FOUNDATION

CHAIRMAN: TE Martin Wagner **VICE CHAIRMAN:** RE W. Russell Trapp

SECRETARY: RE Willis L. Frazer

Class of 2028

TE Patrick W. Curles, Nashville

RE John Alexander, Metro Atlanta
RE Rob W. Morton, Central Georgia

Class of 2027

TE Solomon Kim, Southern New England

RE William O. Stone Jr., Miss. Valley

Class of 2026

RE Owen H. Malcolm, Georgia Foothills
RE W. Russell Trapp, Providence
DE Andrew Schmidt, Central Carolina

Class of 2025

TE Martin Wagner, Evangel

RE Willis L. Frazer, Covenant

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF RIDGE HAVEN

PRESIDENT: TE David Sasser Hall **VICE PRESIDENT:** RE Tuan La

SECRETARY/TREASURER: RE John Randall Berger

Class of 2029

TE J. Andrew White, Westminster

RE Thomas A. Cook, Gulfstream

Class of 2028

TE Travis Hutchinson, Southern New England

RE Tuan La, South Texas

Class of 2027

TE David Sasser Hall, Fellowship

TE Richard Smith, Susquehanna Valley

Class of 2026

RE Art Fox, North Florida
RE Ellison Smith, Pee Dee

Class of 2025

TE Larry Doughan, Iowa

RE John Randall Berger, Eastern Carolina

GENERAL ASSEMBLY DIRECTORY

V. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

THEOLOGICAL EXAMINING COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: TE KJ Drake **SECRETARY:** RE Edward Currie

Class of 2027

TE Drew Martin, Central Carolina

RE Jim Wert, Metro Atlanta

Class of 2026

TE Jonathan Master, Calvary

RE James Elkin, Mississippi Valley

Class of 2025

TE Guy Richard, Metro Atlanta

TE KJ Drake, Central Indiana*

Alternates

TE Christopher Bechtel, Pacific Northwest

RE Josh Spears, Hills and Plains

**elected as an RE*

COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL BUSINESS

CHAIRMAN: RE Matt Fender **SECRETARY:** TE Jason Piland

Class of 2028

TE David Strain, Mississippi Valley

RE John Ward Weis, Southeast Alabama

Class of 2027

TE Stephen Tipton, Gulf Coast

RE Chris Shoemaker, S New England

Class of 2026

TE Jason Piland, Ohio

RE Bryce Sullivan, Nashville

Class of 2025

TE J. Scott Phillips, Providence

RE Matt Fender, James River

Alternates

TE T. David Gordon, Ascension

RE Joshua Torrey, South Texas

COMMITTEE ON INTERCHURCH RELATIONS

CHAIRMAN: RE Dennis Watts **VICE CHAIRMAN:** RE Billy Ball

SECRETARY: TE David Gilleran

Class of 2027

TE Nathan Chambers, Pacific Northwest

RE Aaron Reeves, Hills and Plains

Class of 2026

TE David Gilleran, Blue Ridge

RE Dennis Watts, Mississippi Valley

Class of 2025

TE Wallace Tinsley, Fellowship

RE Billy Ball, Evangel

Alternates

TE Kenneth McHeard, Savannah River

RE James Isbell, Tennessee Valley

Ex-Officio Member

TE Bryan Chapell, Northern Illinois

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

VI. STANDING JUDICIAL COMMISSION

CHAIRMAN: RE Jack Wilson **VICE CHAIRMAN:** TE Guy Prentiss Waters
SECRETARY: TE Fred Greco **ASST. SECRETARY:** TE Hoochan Paul Lee

Class of 2028

TE Jay Bruce, Hills and Plains RE Howie Donahoe, Pacific Northwest
TE Eric Landry, South Texas RE Frederic Marcinak, Calvary
TE Hoochan Paul Lee, Korean Northeastern RE Caleb Stegall, Heartland

Class of 2027

TE Rhett Dodson, Ohio RE Daniel A. Carrell, James River
TE Brad Evans, Southern New England RE John Maynard, Central Florida
TE David Garner, Philadelphia Metro West RE John B. White Jr., Metro Atlanta

Class of 2026

TE Art Sartorius, Siouxlans RE James Eggert, Southwest Florida
TE Fred Greco, Houston Metro RE John Bise, Providence
TE Guy Prentiss Waters, Mississippi Valley RE John Pickering, Evangel

Class of 2025

TE Paul L. Bankson, Central Georgia RE Steve Dowling, Southeast Alabama
TE David F. Coffin Jr., Potomac RE Frederick Neikirk, Ascension
TE Paul D. Kooistra, Warrior RE R. Jackson Wilson, Georgia Foothills

Clerk of the Commission

TE Bryan Chapell, Northern Illinois

JOURNAL

MINUTES OF THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

First Session — Tuesday Evening
June 11, 2024

51-1 Assembly Called to Order and Opening Worship

The Fifty-first General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America gathered for the opening worship service at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, at the Greater Richmond Convention Center in Richmond, Virginia. Outgoing Moderator, TE Fred Greco, called the Assembly to order for worship and the observance of the Lord's Supper (Appendix V, p. 1191).

Following worship, the Assembly recessed at 8:15 p.m. to reconvene in 10 minutes.

51-2 Assembly Reconvened

Declaration of Quorum and Enrollment

The Moderator reconvened the Assembly at 8:26 p.m. for business. The Moderator declared a quorum present with a total of 2160 elders enrolled.

At the Moderator's request, Mr. Jonathan Calloway briefed the Assembly on the use of the voting devices. The Moderator made several announcements to the Assembly.

51-3 Election of Moderator

The Moderator opened the floor for nominations for Moderator of the Fifty-first General Assembly. RE Mel Duncan placed in nomination RE Steven Wayne Dowling. A **motion** to close the nominations was made, seconded, and **passed**, and the Moderator declared nominations closed. RE Steve Dowling was **elected** by acclamation.

RE Dowling assumed the chair and addressed the Assembly briefly, expressing his thanks to the Assembly and his wife.

RE Bob Brunson, Chairman of the Administrative Committee, presented to retiring Moderator Greco a plaque in token of the Assembly's appreciation for his year of service as Moderator of the 50th General Assembly.

51-4 Election of Clerks and Appointment of Assistant Parliamentarians and Committee on Thanks

On recommendation by the Stated Clerk to the Moderator, the following men were **elected** in gross: TEs Paul L. Bankson, Hoochan Paul Lee, and Kenneth A. McHeard, recording clerks; TE Matthew Bradley, timekeeper; and RE Mel Duncan and TE Jon Medlock, Committee on Thanks.

The Moderator appointed the following to serve the Assembly: RE Robert Berman, voting screen operator; RE Sam Duncan, RE John B. White Jr., and TE Randy Schlichting, assistant parliamentarians; TE Tom Stein, Chairman of the Floor Clerks, RE Tom Taylor, Vice Chairman of the floor clerks, and RE Richard "Ric" Springer, Chairman Emeritus of the floor clerks; TE Larry Roff, Assembly organist; TE L. Roy Taylor Stated Clerk Emeritus; and Initial Production Group (IPG), event technology production team.

Stated Clerk Bryan Chapell noted with gratitude that RE Ric Springer has served as chairman of the floor clerks for 38 of the past 40 years and TE Larry Roff has served as Assembly organist for the past 50 years.

51-5 Report of the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly

TE Bryan Chapell, Stated Clerk, presented his report (Appendix R, p. 957). Sharing some of the great things that God is doing in and through the PCA in the past year, he prayed that all of these blessings were indicative of the Lord's grace enabling humble obedience to Christ's mission, and that through that humble obedience, the unique gift of growth that he has given to the PCA would bring new fruit and new faithfulness through the PCA to our people, to generations, and to nations. He gave special recognition to the retiring Business Administrator, TE John W. Robertson, after 25 years of service.

51-6 Docket

On behalf of the Stated Clerk, the Moderator presented the third draft of the Docket (p. 1205), and he declared it **adopted** without objection.

51-7 BCO Amendments Sent to the Presbyteries by the 50th General Assembly

The Moderator reported that all three *BCO* amendments sent down by the 50th General Assembly to the Presbyteries for advice and consent were approved by the requisite number of Presbyteries (see p. 968).

Item 2 (to amend *BCO* 8-2 and 9-3) and **Item 3** (to amend *BCO* 38-1) were **adopted** in gross without objection.

Item 1 (to amend *BCO* 7-3) was **adopted** by a standing vote due to technical difficulties with the voting devices.

TE Fred Greco rose to a **point of order** suggesting that during the technical difficulties with the voting devices, commissioners raise their voting devices to cast their votes to assure that they are entitled to vote. The Moderator ruled the point of order was **well taken**.

The following commissioners requested that their negative votes on **Item 1** be recorded:

TE Dan Adamson	Chicago Metro
RE Tim Akers	Central Carolina
TE Yamil Alejandro	South Florida
TE John Alexander	Warrior
TE Jarrett Allebach	Southern New England
TE Charles Anderson	Central Indiana
TE Hyung Min Bae	Korean Capital
TE Aaron Baker	Chicago Metro
TE Allan M. Barth	Gulfstream
TE Robert Becker	James River
TE Luke Bert	Eastern Canada
RE Arlen Biersgreen	Rio Grande
TE Jeffrey Birch	Central Georgia
TE Josiah Carey	Blue Ridge
TE Bob Cargo	Metro Atlanta
TE Hace Cargo	Metro Atlanta
TE Patrick Choi	Metro Atlanta
TE Aaron Chung	Metropolitan New York
TE John Chung	Missouri
TE J. Andrew Conrad	James River
TE Jason Cornwell	Palmetto
TE Charles Davis	Heritage
TE Brandon Dean	Metro Atlanta
TE Jay Denton	Eastern Carolina

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

TE David Ellis	Metropolitan New York
RE Jeff Faris	James River
TE Gustavo Formenti	Tennessee Valley
RE Brian Franklin	North Texas
TE Shawn Gendall	Pacific
TE Clyde Godwin	Piedmont Triad
RE Jason Greene	Northern California
TE Bryce Hales	Northern California
TE W. Brian Haring	Gulfstream
TE Andrew Harwell	Metro Atlanta
TE Jonathan Hatt	New Jersey
RE Jeff Heck	Metro Atlanta
TE Walter Henegar	Metro Atlanta
TE Nagib Hermes	Metro Atlanta
TE Pat Hickman	Central Indiana
TE Omari Hill	Metro Atlanta
RE Robert Honey	Wisconsin
TE Larry Hoop	Ohio Valley
TE J. T. Hoover	Fellowship
TE Jason Hsu	Hills and Plains
RE Aaron Jaggard	Potomac
TE Christopher Jhu	New York State
TE Hansoo Jin	Philadelphia
TE Ryan Johnson	Metro Atlanta
TE Todd Johnson	Blue Ridge
TE Lyndon Jost	Eastern Canada
TE Daniel Jung	Korean Northwest
TE David Keithly	Northern Illinois
TE Josh Keller	South Texas
TE Austin Kettle	Potomac
TE Mike Khandjian	Chesapeake
TE Andrew Kim	Korean Eastern
TE Iron Kim	Northern California
TE John Kim	Northern California
TE Paul Kim	South Coast
TE Jeremy King	Ohio
RE George Koontz	Calvary
TE Ken Kostrzewa	Southern Louisiana
TE Jason Kriaski	Blue Ridge

JOURNAL

TE Timothy R. LeCroy	New York State
TE Anthony Lee	Korean Southeastern
TE Isaac Lee	Korean Eastern
TE Owen Lee	Korean Capital
TE Matt Lietzen	Wisconsin
TE David Lindberg	North Texas
TE Nick Locke	South Coast
TE Theo Lodder	Canada West
TE Brad Lucht	Northern Illinois
RE Hans Madueme	Tennessee Valley
TE Stephen Maginas	Metro Atlanta
TE Richard H. McCaskill	Metropolitan New York
TE George Mixon	Calvary
TE Danny Morgan	South Texas
TE Anthony Myles	Central Carolina
TE Mick Palombo	Central Georgia
TE Joe Parker	Metro Atlanta
TE Tom Patton	Evangel
TE Michael Phillips	Rocky Mountain
RE Norman C. Powell	Metro Atlanta
TE Jonathan Richardson	Philadelphia
TE David Richter	Nashville
RE Eugene Rivers	James River
TE Israel Ruiz	Heritage
TE Hector Sanchez	Metropolitan New York
TE Travis Scott	Pittsburgh
TE Alexander Shipman	Providence
TE Stephen Simmons	Nashville
TE Timothy Sin	Rocky Mountain
RE Joshua Spare	Rio Grande
RE William Stackler	Mississippi Valley
TE Bobby Suh	Korean Capital
TE Jeff Suhr	South Coast
RE Brian Terrell	Metro Atlanta
RE Bruce Terrell	Metro Atlanta
RE Matthew Terrell	Metropolitan New York
RE Joseph P. Thompson	Metro Atlanta
TE Timothy Udouj	Calvary
RE Michael L. Vietz	Gulfstream

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TE David Vilches	South Texas
TE Jacob Virtue	Calvary
TE Greg Ward	South Texas
TE Daniel Wells	Tennessee Valley
RE James W. Wert, Jr.	Metro Atlanta
TE Nicholas Whitaker	Pacific
TE Jeffrey White	Metropolitan New York
TE John Wilbanks	North Texas
TE Thurman Williams	Missouri
TE Matt Wilson	Gulfstream
RE John C. Wingard, Jr.	Tennessee Valley
TE John Yenchko	Metropolitan New York
TE Steve Yoon	Korean Capital
TE Geoff Zeigler	Chicago Metro

51-8 Partial Report of the Committee on the Review of Presbytery Records on proposed RAO Amendments

TE Jon Anderson, Chairman, led the Assembly in prayer and presented a partial report (Appendix O, p. 445). **Recommendations V.6** (to amend *RAO* 16-3.e.5) **and V.7**, (to amend *RAO* 16-6.c.1) were **adopted** in gross without objection, meeting the 2/3 vote of those voting, which must also be a majority of the total enrollment of commissioners (*RAO* 20). The Chairman closed the report with prayer.

51-9 Partial Report of the Overtures Committee

TE Stephen Tipton, Chairman, led the Assembly in prayer and presented a partial report. **Recommendation 7** to answer **Overture 7** (to amend *RAO* 11-5) in the **affirmative**, **Recommendation 14** to answer **Overture 14** (to amend *RAO* 4-21.d) in the **affirmative**, and **Recommendation 28** to answer **Overture 28** (to amend *RAO* 16-6.c.1) by **referring it back to the Presbytery** were **adopted** in gross without objection, meeting the 2/3 vote of those voting, which must also be a majority of the total enrollment of commissioners (*RAO* 20). The Chairman closed the report with prayer.

**PARTIAL REPORT OF THE OVERTURES COMMITTEE
TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

IV. Recommendations

7. That **Overture 7** from Ascension Presbytery (“Amend *RAO* 11-5 to Clarify Process for *RAO* Amendments”, p. 1070) be answered in the **affirmative**. **122-1-0**
14. That **Overture 14** from Northwest Georgia Presbytery (“Amend *RAO* 4-21.d to Require Enrollment Data From Higher Ed Institutions”, p. 1082) be answered in the **affirmative**. **118-4-1**
28. That **Overture 28** from New Jersey Presbytery (“Amend *RAO* 16-6.c.1. to Eliminate Conflict with *BCO* 40-5”, p. 1168) be **referred back to the Presbytery**. **114-8-1**

Grounds: The Overture attempts to resolve a purported conflict between *RAO* 16.6.c.1 and *BCO* 40-5. However, it fails to provide sufficient clarity about the conflict's nature or a solution that would avoid future controversy. As a result, we believe it is wisest to send the Overture back to the Presbytery for further refinement.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ TE Stephen B. Tipton, Chairman

/s/ TE Edward Lim, Secretary

51-10 Partial Report of the Standing Judicial Commission (SJC)

RE Jack Wilson, Chairman, led the Assembly in prayer and presented a partial report (Appendix Q, p. 699). The chairman presented **Recommendations 1-7** to amend the *OMSJC*. The recommendations were **adopted** in gross without objection, meeting the 2/3 vote of those voting, which must also be a majority of the total enrollment of commissioners (*RAO* 17-5). The Chairman closed the report with prayer.

51-11 Cooperative Ministries Committee (CMC) Report

TE Fred Greco, Chairman, led the Assembly in prayer and presented the report (Appendix E, p. 233), which was received as information. The Chairman closed the report with prayer.

51-12 Report of the Committee on Constitutional Business (CCB)

RE Fred Marcinak, Chairman, led the Assembly in prayer and presented the report (Appendix C, p. 211), which was received as information. The Chairman closed the report with prayer.

51-13 Theological Examining Committee Report

TE K. J. Drake, Chairman, led the Assembly in prayer and gave the report (Appendix S, p. 985), which was received as information. The Chairman closed the report with prayer.

51-14 Assembly Recessed

At the Moderator's request, Mr. Jonathan Calloway led the Assembly in testing the voting devices.

The Assembly recessed, with prayer by RE Frederick "Jay" Neikirk, at 9:58 p.m. to reconvene at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday.

**Second Session — Wednesday Morning
June 12, 2024**

51-15 Assembly Reconvened and Announcements

The Assembly reconvened at 9:30 a.m. on June 12, 2024, with TE Jere Scott Bradshaw leading the Assembly in prayer.

51-16 Committee on Review of Presbytery Records (RPR) Report

TE Jon Anderson, Chairman, led the Assembly in prayer and presented the report (Appendix O, p. 445).

The Chairman noted that **Recommendation VI.34** (Korean Central) **Exception of Substance 2024-9** is not properly before the Assembly because it is before the Standing Judicial Commission.

The Chairman **moved** the rest of the Recommendations in gross. The following recommendations were removed at the request of commissioners.

TE Fred Greco rose to a **point of order** asking the Moderator to direct the commissioners to include page numbers for the recommendations they request to have removed from the omnibus. The Moderator ruled the point of order was **well taken**.

Recommendation VI.5 (Canada West)

Recommendation VI.13 (Columbus Metro)

Recommendation VI.25.c (Heartland) **2024-2**

Recommendation VI.33.c (Korean Capital) **2024-2**

Recommendation VI.46 (Missouri)

Recommendation VI.47c (Nashville) **2024-4** and **2024-5**

Recommendation VI.56.e (Northwest Georgia).

Recommendation VI.65 (Piedmont Triad)

Recommendation VI.67.c (Platte Valley) **2024-1** and **2024-2**

Recommendation VI.68 (Potomac)

Recommendation VI.73 (Siouxlands)

Recommendation VI.87 (Westminster)

TE David Coffin rose to a **point of order** asking that consideration of the RPR report be postponed following the time to pull recommendations from the omnibus until a complete listing of such recommendations with citations and page numbers could be made available to the commissioners. The Moderator restated the point of order as a **procedural motion** to postpone consideration until the recommendations that have been pulled out could be re-presented in a manner that is more accessible (i.e., a list of citations and page numbers). The motion **failed**.

TE Fred Greco rose to a **point of inquiry** asking if the Assistant Clerks could put on the screen a listing in order of which recommendations have been pulled out of the omnibus with its page numbers. The Moderator answered in the negative. TE Greco asked if when each recommendation is put before the body, the citation with page numbers could be displayed on the screen and remain there through the discussion. The Moderator ordered this to happen.

TE Larry Hoop requested that the email for making motions be put back on the screen. The Moderator so ordered.

Recommendation VI.44 (Metropolitan New York) was pulled out of the omnibus.

The omnibus with the requested recommendations removed was **adopted** (1322-28-44).

TE Peter Green **moved** to strike **Recommendation VI.33.c** (Korean Capital) **2024-2**, **Recommendation VI.47.c** (Nashville) **2024-4** and **2024-5**, and **Recommendation VI.67.c** (Platte Valley) **2024-1** and **2024-2** and that the related dated minutes of Platte Valley be approved without exception.

In response to an inquiry, the Moderator ruled that the citations (**Recommendations IV.1-4**) were passed as part of the in gross motion. TE David Coffin rose to a **point of order** that **Recommendation IV.1** (Columbus Metro) and **Recommendation IV.2** (Metropolitan New York) were not approved as part of the in gross motion as they referred to recommendations that were pulled from the omnibus. The Moderator ruled the point of order was **well taken**.

TE Ryan Biese **moved a substitute** that these (VI.33.c, VI.47.c, and VI.67.c) be referred back to RPR. The substitute **passed** (1249-195-54) and became the main motion.

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RE Bob Mattes rose to a **point of order** that the previous motion was to make the substitute motion the main motion and that the main motion still needs to be voted. The Moderator ruled the point of order was **well taken**.

The motion to refer back to RPR was **adopted** (975-481-61).

TE Peter Green **moved** to strike **Recommendation VI.25.c** (Heartland) **2024-2**. The motion **failed** (274-1234-37). The Recommendation was **adopted** (1305-156-32).

TE Art Sartorius **moved** to strike **Recommendation VI.73.c** (Siouxlands) **2024-4**. The motion **failed** (417-1024-62). **Recommendation VI.73** (Siouxlands) was **adopted** (1209-227-30).

RE Flynt Jones **moved** to strike **Recommendation VI.65.c** (Piedmont Triad) **2024-5**. The motion **passed** (825-602-61). **Recommendation VI.65** (**Piedmont Triad**) was **adopted as amended** (1293-84-57).

RE Flynt Jones **moved** to strike **Recommendation VI.87** (Westminster) **2024-1**. The motion **passed** (864-436-86). **Recommendation VI.87** was **adopted as amended** (1255-49-40).

TE Ken Christian **moved** to strike **Recommendation VI.5** (Canada West) **2024-13**. The motion **failed** (576-704-85). **Recommendation VI.5** (Canada West) was **adopted** (1192-184-33).

TE Joel St. Clair **moved** to change **Recommendation VI.68.e** (Potomac) **Exception 2023-2** from unsatisfactory to satisfactory and to strike the Committee's rationale. The motion **passed** (944-363-85). **Recommendation VI.68** was **adopted as amended** (1294-49-30).

TE Derek Radney **moved** to strike **Recommendation VI.46.c** (Missouri) **Exception 2024-2**. The motion **passed** (849-607-34). **Recommendation VI.46** was **adopted as amended**.

The Chairman requested that the RPR report be paused so that a partial report from the Interchurch Relations Committee could be heard due to time constraints on some of the fraternal delegates. The Moderator so ordered.

51-17 Partial Report of the Interchurch Relations Committee

TE Michael Wichlan, CoC Chairman, introduced RE Dennis Watts of the permanent committee, who introduced the fraternal and corresponding delegates. Corresponding delegates: Rev. Hanwoo Kim, Stated Clerk, and Rev. Tae Young Lee, chairman of the Interchurch Relations Committee brought greetings from the Presbyterian Church in Korea (Hapdong). Fraternal delegates: Pastor Juan Marcos Perez Alonso and Pastor Robelio Roblero Reyes brought greetings from the National Presbyterian Church in Mexico.

51-18 Committee on Review of Presbytery Records (RPR) Report (continued from **51-16**)

TE Larry Hoop **moved** to strike **Recommendations IV.1** and **VI.13.g** (Columbus Metro), to strike “June 21, 2023” from **Recommendation VI.13.a** (Columbus Metro), and to add an **Exception of Substance 2024-4**: “June 21, 2023 (*BCO* PP6; 13-10; 25-6, 7, 9, 11) Presbytery appears to dissolve the congregation without following the correct Constitutional process.” The motion **failed** (94-1024-15). **Recommendation VI.13** was **adopted** (1032-35-11).

TE Dominic Aquila **moved** to strike the RPR recommendation to rescind a previous action in **Recommendation VI.56.e**. (Northwest Georgia). The motion **failed** (142-752-66). **Recommendation VI.56.e** was **adopted** (886-25-11).

51-19 Assembly Recessed

The Assembly recessed at 11:55 a.m. to reconvene at 1:30 p.m.

**Third Session – Wednesday Afternoon
June 12, 2024**

51-20 Assembly Reconvened

The Assembly reconvened at 1:30 p.m. with the singing of “Holy, Holy, Holy” followed by prayer led by TE Caleb Cangelosi.

51-21 Committee on Review of Presbytery Records (RPR) Report (continued from **51-18**)

TE Jon Anderson, Chairman, presented **Recommendation VI.44** (Metropolitan New York). TE Kevin Twit **moved** to amend to find the response regarding SJC case 2023-13 (**Recommendation VI.44.f.1**) satisfactory and strike **Recommendation VI.44.f.2** and **Recommendation IV.2**.

TE Fred Greco rose to a **point of order** that the Chairman should get the last word. The Moderator ruled the point of order was **well taken**.

TE Jerid Krulish rose to a **point of order** to ask the previous speaker to identify himself. The Moderator ruled the point of order was **well taken**.

The Chairman’s designee gave the final word.

TE David Coffin rose to a **point of order** that the topic time had expired. The Moderator ruled that the Chairman’s designee would get his full time of three minutes.

The motion to amend **failed** (326-852-31).

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TE Ryan Biese **moved** the previous question, which was seconded and **passed**.

Recommendation VI.44 (Metropolitan New York) was **adopted** (1005-211-26).

The Chairman closed the report with prayer.

51-22 Interchurch Relations Committee Report

TE Michael Wichlan, CoC chairman, led the Assembly in prayer. The Chairman introduced the chairman of the permanent committee, Dr. L. Roy Taylor, who presented the informational report (Appendix I, p. 301). The CoC Chairman presented the CoC report (below).

Recommendations 1-5 were **moved** in gross and **adopted** (1036-15-48).

RE Dennis Watts, the incoming Chairman of the permanent committee, introduced fraternal delegates from the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America, Evangelical Presbyterian and Reformed Church of Peru, and the Presbyterian Church of Australia. Dr. Watts then introduced the following fraternal and corresponding delegates who addressed the Assembly:

Fraternal Delegates:

Rev. Robert Godfrey, United Reformed Churches of North America

Dr. Davi Gomez, Presbyterian Church of Brazil and the World Reformed Fellowship

Rev. Chad Van Dixhoorn, Orthodox Presbyterian Church

Corresponding Delegate: Rev. David Meredith, Free Church of Scotland

The Chairman closed the report with prayer.

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS ON
INTERCHURCH RELATIONS
TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

I. Business Referred to the Committee

- A. IRC Permanent Committee Report
- B. IRC Permanent Committee Minutes from:
 - September 13, 2023
 - March 26, 2024
- C. IRC Permanent Committee Recommendations

II. Statement of Major Issues Discussed

- A. IRC Permanent Committee Report

- B. IRC Permanent Committee Minutes from:
 - September 13, 2023
 - March 26, 2024
- C. IRC Permanent Committee Recommendations

III. Recommendations

- 1. That all Fraternal Delegates be granted access to the General Assembly Commissioner Handbook. *Adopted*
- 2. That **Overture 2** (2023) from Covenant Presbytery about the PCA joining the International Conference of Reformed Churches (ICRC) which was subsequently referred back to this year’s IRC be answered as follows: The IRC recommends that the 51st General Assembly follow the recommendation the IRC made to the 50th General Assembly, namely that the IRC follow the specific guidelines of the ICRC’s membership procedures by having members of the PCA’s IRC attend the next meeting of the ICRC (which is ordinarily required before membership application can be made) in 2026 to investigate and determine first-hand if formal membership is appropriate for the PCA, and return with a recommendation for the General Assembly to join or not. *Adopted*
- 3. That the minutes of September 13, 2023 be approved without exception. *Adopted*
- 4. That the minutes of March 26, 2024 be approved without exception. *Adopted*
- 5. That visiting ministers be introduced to the General Assembly, BCO 13-13. *Adopted*

**IV. Commissioners Present:
Presbytery**

Commissioner
(Convener marked with *)

Ascension	RE Ben Hardesty
Blue Ridge	TE Jake Hooker
Calvary	TE Carl Robbins
Central Carolina	RE Jordan Clark
Central Florida	TE J.A.T. Abraham van Blerk
Central Indiana	TE David S. Young
Chesapeake	RE Steven Deterding
Chicago Metro	TE R. Aaron Baker
Eastern Carolina	TE John A. Musgrave

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Evangel	TE Michael Wichlan*
Fellowship	RE Neil Allen
Great Lakes	TE Kenneth E. Klett
Gulf Coast	TE Rafael P. LaGuardia
Heritage	TE Charles Davis
Hills and Plains	TE Casey Shutt
Houston Metro	TE Mark J. Blalack
Iowa	TE Brian V. Janssen
James River	RE Rick Hutton
Korean Capital	TE Dong Woo Kim
Lowcountry	RE Ron Woernle
Mississippi Valley	TE Kevin Nathanael Vollema
Missouri	TE Christopher Smith
Nashville	TE Will Young
New River	TE Andrew Styer
North Texas	RE Larry Eugene Perry
Ohio	TE Mark A. Bell
Ohio Valley	TE Charles Hickey
Pacific Northwest	RE Jay Gardner
Piedmont Triad	TE Benjamin Tietje
Pittsburgh	TE Michael D. Bowen
Potomac	TE Dan Doll
Providence	TE James T. Roberts
Rocky Mountain	TE Steven Patrick Stanton
Savannah River	TE Geoff Gleason
Siouxlands	RE Blake Pool
South Texas	TE Gregory Allen Ward
Southeast Alabama	TE Dylan Halter
Southern New England	TE Matthew Kerr
Southwest Florida	RE Jim Eggert
Susquehanna Valley	TE Troy DeBruin
Tennessee Valley	TE Jonathan Brooks

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ TE Michael Wichlan, Chairman

/s/ RE Jim Eggert, Secretary

51-23 Covenant Theological Seminary (CTS) Report

TE Jamie Peterson, CoC Chairman, led the Assembly in prayer and yielded to TE Thomas C. “Tom” Gibbs, President of the Seminary, who presented

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the informational report on the work of the Seminary (Appendix G, p. 249). The CoC Chairman presented the CoC report (below).

Recommendations 1-9 were **moved** in gross and **adopted** (1068-24-26).

Recommendation 10, addressing the budget, was **referred** to the CoC on AC (RAO 14-6.j).

RE Flynt Jones **moved Recommendations 11-14** be referred to the Overtures Committee. The motion was **adopted** (1069-40-33).

The Chairman closed the report with prayer.

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS ON
COVENANT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

I. Business Referred to the Committee

- A. CTS Report to General Assembly
- B. CTS Stated Board Meeting Minutes
Stated Board Meeting Minutes
April 28, 2023; September 22, 2023; January 26, 2024
Called Board Meeting Minutes - None
- C. CTS Executive Committee Minutes
Stated Executive Committee Meetings:
April 27, 2023; September 21, 2023; January 25, 2024
Called Executive Committee Meetings:
April 18, 2023; September 13, 2023; December 5, 2023,
January 19, 2024
- D. CTS 2024-2025 Proposed Budgets
- E. 2023 CTS Audits
- F. CTS Permanent Committee Recommendations

II. Statement of Major Issues Discussed

- A. CTS Report to General Assembly
- B. CTS Stated Board Meeting Minutes
Stated Board Meeting Minutes
April 28, 2023; September 22, 2023; January 26, 2024
Called Board Meeting Minutes - None
- C. CTS Executive Committee Minutes
Stated Executive Committee Meetings:
April 27, 2023; September 21, 2023; January 25, 2024

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Called Executive Committee Meetings:

April 18, 2023; September 13, 2023; December 5, 2023,
January 19, 2024

- D. CTS 2024-2025 Proposed Budgets
- E. 2023 CTS Audits
- F. CTS Permanent Committee Recommendations

III. Recommendations

1. That the General Assembly give thanks to God for the ministry of Covenant Theological Seminary; for its faithfulness to the Scriptures, the Reformed faith, and the Great Commission; for its students, graduates, faculty, staff, and trustees; and for those who support the Seminary through their prayers and gifts. *Adopted*
2. That the General Assembly encourage the congregations of the Presbyterian Church in America to support the ministry of Covenant Theological Seminary by contributing the Partnership Shares approved by the Assembly, and by recommending Covenant Seminary to prospective students. *Adopted*
3. That the General Assembly ask the Lord's blessing on Covenant Seminary's President, Rev. Dr. Thomas C. Gibbs, and grant him and the Seminary's leadership team, faculty, and Board of Trustees great wisdom, biblical faithfulness, and clear vision as they lead the institution forward in training fruitful pastors and other ministry leaders. *Adopted*
4. That the General Assembly ask God to guide Covenant Seminary's ongoing efforts at recruiting new students, evaluating and strengthening our programs, and seeking to make the Seminary a greater resource for the church both locally and globally. *Adopted*
5. That the General Assembly ask God's blessing on the Seminary's planning and fundraising efforts, and on its attempts to recruit a new generation of dedicated pastor-scholars to train new generations of leaders for Christ's church and kingdom. *Adopted*
6. That the General Assembly praise God for his provision of faithful donors and supporters who continue to give generously toward our mission, and for the many ways that he has enabled Covenant Seminary's students, faculty, and staff to continue building effectively on the solid foundation laid by our forebears in the faith. Praise him for the gift of resilient and creative people who enable the institution to function so well during challenging times. *Adopted*

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7. That the General Assembly pray for unity among the brethren of the PCA and ask the Lord to work in all our hearts to foster a deeper desire to engage with one another and the world in compassionate and gospel-centered ways, and that we might bear strong witness to the truth and power of God’s redeeming grace. *Adopted*
8. That the General Assembly approve the minutes of the stated and called meetings of the Seminary’s Board of Trustees and Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees for 2023-2024 as follows:
- *Stated Board Meetings:* April 28, 2023; September 22, 2023; January 26, 2024
 - *Called Board Meetings:* None
 - *Stated Executive Committee Meetings:* April 27, 2023; September 21, 2023; January 25, 2024
 - *Called Executive Committee Meetings:* April 18, 2023; September 13, 2023; December 5, 2023, January 19, 2024
- Adopted*
9. That the financial audit for Covenant Theological Seminary for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, by Capin Crouse LLC, be received. *Adopted*
10. That the proposed budget for 2024–25 for Covenant Theological Seminary be approved. *Deferred to CoC on AC*
11. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 7** from Ascension Presbytery “Amend RAO 11-5 to Clarify Process for RAO Amendments” in the affirmative. *Referred to the Overtures Committee*
12. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 14** from the Presbytery of Northwest Georgia “Amend RAO 4-21.d to Require Enrollment Data from Higher Ed Institutions” in the affirmative. *Referred to the Overtures Committee*
13. That the General Assembly refer **Overture 31** from New River Presbytery “Amend BCO 14-1 Regarding Changes in Permanent Committee and Agency Policy” to the 52nd General Assembly in 2025. *Referred to the Overtures Committee*

Rationale: This overture was not received by the Administrative Committee in time for any Permanent Committees or Agencies, except for Covenant Seminary, to consider prior to the 51st General Assembly in 2024. Given its late date (April 3rd), neither Covenant Seminary nor the Administrative Committee could prepare an informed recommendation to their respective committees and boards.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

14. That the General Assembly refer **Overture 32** from Eastern Pennsylvania Presbytery “Amend *BCO* 23 to Address Dissolution of Call for those employed by a Committee or Agency” to the 52nd General Assembly in 2025. *Referred to the Overtures Committee*

Rationale: This overture was not received by the Administrative Committee in time for any Permanent Committee or Agency Board (or their legal counselors) to consider prior to the 51st General Assembly in 2024.

The Chairman plans to present the following recommendations to the assembly in gross: 1-14

**IV. Commissioners Present:
Presbytery**

Commissioner
(Convener marked with *)

Calvary	TE Jonathan Patrick Davis
Central Carolina	RE Bob Rose
Central Georgia	TE R. Parker Agnew
Central Indiana	TE Pat Hickman
Chesapeake	RE Bradley James Chwastyk
Eastern Carolina	TE Jay Denton
Evangel	TE James Corbin Peterson Sr.*
Great Lakes	TE Kevin Phipps
Gulf Coast	TE Chad Watkins
Heartland	RE Marlon Johnston
Heritage	TE Kenneth Foster
Hills and Plains	TE Brandon Van Marel
Houston Metro	TE Benjamin S. Duncan
James River	RE Robert Williams
Korean Capital	TE Walter Chong Won Lee
Lowcountry	TE Steve Walton
Missouri	TE David D. Barnes
Nashville	TE Kenny Silva
New York State	TE Jared Hoyt
North Texas	RE David Gatz
Ohio Valley	TE Joshua Reitano
Pee Dee	RE Jack North
Piedmont Triad	TE Thomas Brown

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Pittsburgh	TE Jonathan Price
Platte Valley	RE Leslie Novak
Potomac	TE J. Walter Nilsson
Providence	TE Alexander Myron Shipman
South Texas	RE Bob Hardister
Southeast Alabama	TE Christopher Thomas
Southwest Florida	RE Ron Avery
Suncoast Florida	TE Dwight L. Dolby
Tennessee Valley	TE Shawn Slate
Westminster	RE Andy McLeod

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ TE Jamie Peterson, Chairman

/s/ TE Pat Hickman Secretary

51-24 Geneva Benefits Group Report

TE Leonard Bailey, CoC Chairman, led the Assembly in prayer and yielded to TE Ed Dunnington, President of Geneva Benefits Group, who presented the informational report (Appendix H, p. 291), including a video highlighting the work of Geneva. The CoC Chairman presented the CoC report (below).

Recommendations 1-2 and 5-8 were **moved** in gross and **adopted** (1039-15-27).

Recommendation 3, addressing the budget, and **Recommendation 4**, dealing with Trustee Fee Agreements, were **referred** to the CoC on AC (RAO 14-6.j).

Recommendation 9 was **adopted**.

Recommendation 10 was **adopted**.

TE David Coffin **asked** the Moderator to rule **Recommendations 11 and 12** and all like recommendations from other Committees of Commissioners moot. The Moderator ruled **Recommendations 11 and 12** and all like recommendations **moot**.

Recommendation 13 was **adopted**.

The CoC Chairman closed the report in prayer.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS ON GENEVA BENEFITS GROUP, INC. TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

I. Business Referred to the Committee

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- A. Geneva Board of Directors Minutes:
 - September 22, 2023
 - November 17, 2023
 - March 08, 2024
 - Called Meeting May 30, 2024
- B. Review of Audited Financials/Report for 2023
- C. Review of the Proposed 2025 Budget
- D. Review of Board of Directors Recommendations

II. Statement of Major Issues Discussed

- A. The Chairman introduced TE Ed Dunnington, Geneva's President. TE Dunnington introduced the Geneva staff then he gave a presentation on the work of Geneva. Specific topics in the presentation included:
 - 1. Geneva's Passion
 - 2. Helping You Provide – Retirement Plan and Investments
 - a. Our Price
 - b. Our Performance
 - c. Our Pledge
 - 3. Helping You Protect – Insurance Plans
 - a. Insurance Plans & Employee Benefits
 - 4. Helping You Thrive – Ministerial Wellbeing (TE Paul Joiner as presenter)
 - a. Our (Geneva) Response
 - 5. Ministerial Relief
 - a. Video from Fred & Shirley Guthrie
 - b. Ministerial Relief Projected Needs
- B. CofC Business:
 - 1. Geneva Scorecard
 - 2. Review of Agency Recommendations

III. Recommendations

- 1. That the General Assembly approve the minutes of the Board of Directors meetings dated September 22, 2023, November 17, 2023, and March 08, 2024, and the called meeting of May 30, 2024; *Adopted*
- 2. That the General Assembly receive the 2023 Audited Financials as reviewed by Capin Crouse LLP; *Adopted*
- 3. That the General Assembly approve the 2025 Operating Budget with the understanding that it is a spending plan and will be adjusted as necessary by the Board of Directors to accommodate changing conditions during

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that fiscal year;

Deferred to CoC on AC

4. That the General Assembly approve the 2025 Trustee Fee Agreements for the 403(b) Retirement Plan Trust, the Health and Welfare Benefit Trust, and the Charitable Relief Trust;

Deferred to CoC on AC

5. That the General Assembly approve the Amended and Restated Trust Agreement for the Presbyterian Church in America 403(b)(9) Retirement Plan and Other Retirement Plans Trust;

Adopted

6. That the General Assembly approve the Amended and Restated Trust Agreement for the Presbyterian Church in America Health and Welfare Benefit Trust;

Adopted

7. That the General Assembly approve the Declaration of Trust Amending the Geneva Benefits Group Charitable Relief Trust;

Adopted

8. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 7** from Ascension Presbytery “Amend *RAO* 11-5 to Clarify Process for *RAO* Amendments” with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee;

Adopted

9. That the General Assembly exhort PCA Presbyteries, churches and related ministries to review and utilize the PCA Call Package Guidelines in creating compensation packages for Teaching Elders;

Adopted

10. That the General Assembly urge member churches to participate in an annual offering to Ministerial Relief or to budget regular benevolence giving to support relief activities through the Ministerial Relief Fund;

Adopted

11. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 31** from New River Presbytery “Amend *BCO* 14-1 Regarding Changes in Permanent Committee and Agency Policy” with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee;

Ruled Moot

12. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 32** from Eastern Pennsylvania Presbytery “Amend *BCO* 23 to Address Dissolution of Call for Those Employed by a Committee or Agency” with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee;

Ruled Moot

13. That the General Assembly commend President Ed Dunnington and the staff of Geneva Benefits Group for their faithful service to the church.

Adopted

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**IV. Commissioners Present:
Presbytery**

Commissioner
(Convener marked with *)

Arizona	TE Alex Diaz
Arizona	TE Paul Muresan
Ascension	TE Nathan Morgan
Blue Ridge	TE Matthew Pinckard
Calvary	RE Jon Barkman
Central Carolina	RE George Kurtz
Central Georgia	RE George Roundtree
Chesapeake	TE Daniel Smith
Eastern Pennsylvania	TE Angel Gomez
Evangel	RE Charles Woodall
Great Lakes	RE Jay Quint
Heartland	TE Timothy Rackley
Heritage	TE Graham Guo
Hills and Plains	RE Tyler Gray
Houston Metro	RE Justin Chandler
James River	TE Leonard Bailey*
Metro Atlanta	TE Bob Carter
Missouri	RE Lowell Pitzer
Northwest Georgia	TE Daniel Myers
Ohio	TE Seth Young
Ohio Valley	RE Michael Nelson
Pacific Northwest	RE Jeff Banker
Pee Dee	TE James Robbins
Piedmont Triad	TE Jeff Miller
Pittsburgh	TE Keith Larson
Potomac	TE Berdj Tchilinguirian
Rocky Mountain	RE Dennis Helsel
Savannah River	RE Travis Peacock
South Texas	TE Allen Taha
Southwest Florida	TE John K. Keen
Tennessee Valley	TE Frank Hitchings
Warrior	TE Michael Perry

Respectfully submitted:

/s/ TE Leonard Bailey, Chairman

/s/ TE Allen Taha, Secretary

51-25 Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) Report

RE Howie Donahoe, CoC Chairman, led the Assembly in prayer and yielded to RE Will Huss, RUF coordinator, who presented the informational report on the work of RUF (Appendix N, p. 413). RE Huss asked TE Cyril Chavis to give a report. A video highlighting the ministry of RUF was presented. The CoC Chairman presented the CoC report (below).

Recommendations 1-3 and **6-11** were **moved** in gross and **adopted** (1173-15-18).

Recommendation 4, addressing the budget, was **referred** to the CoC on AC (RAO 14-6.j).

Recommendation 5 was previously **ruled moot** (see 51-24).

The CoC Chairman closed the report in prayer.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS ON REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

I. Business Referred to the Committee

- A. RUF Permanent Committee Report
- B. RUF Permanent Committee Minutes from:
June 9, 2023; August 22, 2023; October 4, 2023;
March 20, 2024
- C. RUF 2023 Audit
- D. RUF 2025 Proposed Budget
- E. RUF Permanent Committee Recommendations

II. Statement of Major Issues Discussed

- A. RUF Permanent Committee Report
- B. RUF Permanent Committee Minutes from:
June 9, 2023; August 22, 2023; October 4, 2023;
March 20, 2024
- C. RUF 2023 Audit
- D. RUF 2025 Proposed Budget
- E. RUF Permanent Committee Recommendations

III. Recommendations

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. That the General Assembly approve the minutes of the Permanent Committee on Reformed University Fellowship meetings on August 22, 2023, October 4, 2023, and March 20, 2024. *Adopted*
2. That the General Assembly approve the minutes of the executive session meetings of the Committee on Reformed University Fellowship on October 4, 2023. *Adopted*
3. That the General Assembly receive the Financial Audit for Reformed University Fellowship for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023 by Carr, Riggs, & Ingram, LLP. *Adopted*
4. That the action on the 2025 budget for Reformed University Fellowship be deferred until the Report of the Committee of Commissioners on Administration. *Deferred to CoC on AC*
5. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 7** from Ascension Presbytery “Amend RAO 11-5 to Clarify Process for RAO Amendments” in the Affirmative. *Ruled Moot*
Grounds – The RUF Permanent Committee believes the overture will be a helpful amendment to the RAO. The proposed change will clarify the process for how the Assembly authorizes an RAO amendment while protecting the right of the General Assembly’s Committees and Agencies to speak to any proposed changes affecting them. Since the overture was referred to all the Committees and Agencies, it is wise to present a single response to the General Assembly through the RUF Permanent Committee.
6. That the General Assembly re-elect RE Will W. Huss, Jr. as Coordinator of Reformed University Fellowship for the 2024/2025 term. *Adopted*
7. That the 51st General Assembly accept the following RUF Permanent Committee responses to citations to their minutes of exceptions of substance from the 50th General Assembly. *Adopted*
 - A) Item #1 - October 5th, 2022 Minutes - from the 50th GA RUF Committee of Commissioners Report III.1a.a - Contra RAO - 4-21.d.3, no minutes from the executive session were provided.
Response - The RUF Permanent Committee did keep executive session minutes from the meeting on 10.5.22, but inadvertently failed to submit those minutes. We have presented the executive session minutes from our meeting on

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10.5.22 to the 51st GA's Committee of Commissioners for RUF for review. (attachment 8)

- B) Item #2 - October 5th, 2022 Minutes - from the 50th GA RUF Committee of Commissioners Report III.1a.b - although the minutes refer to recommendations regarding compensation, no record of any action taken is recorded.

Response - The RUF Permanent Committee failed to record compensation changes approved during the executive session in our meeting minutes. The minutes have been corrected and we will endeavor to avoid this mistake in the future.

- C) Item #3 - October 5th, 2022 Minutes - from the 50th GA RUF Committee of Commissioners Report - III.1a.c - The permanent committee established and executed a substantial new policy not approved by the general assembly, contrary to BCO 14-1.7.

Response - RUF serves at the pleasure of the General Assembly and willingly submits to its direction. The RUF Permanent Committee submits the attached updated Affiliation Agreement (v.22) for approval by the General Assembly to preserve ongoing partnerships with presbyteries, strengthen collaboration, and provide legal clarity.

8. That the General Assembly, in consideration of his recent passing, formally acknowledge and praise God for His manifold grace through the life and labors of Mark L. Lowery in the founding and development of the ministry of Reformed University Fellowship and posthumously commend his strategic and fruitful work for the glory of God, the edification of His church and the advancement of His Kingdom. *Adopted*
9. That the General Assembly approve the updated Affiliation Agreement version 22 (attachment 1) to preserve ongoing partnerships with presbyteries, strengthen collaboration, and provide legal clarity. *Adopted*
10. That the GA commend RUF Coordinator RE Will Huss, RUF Staff, and the RUF Permanent Committee for the way they responded to actions of the 50th GA with grace and humility, seeking input from others to strengthen the RUF Affiliation Agreement and presenting it to the 51st GA for approval.

Adopted

11. That the General Assembly approve the minutes of the Permanent Committee on Reformed University Fellowship meeting on June 9, 2023. *Adopted*

IV. Commissioners Present:

Presbytery

Commissioner

(Convener marked with *)

Arizona	TE Jonathan Foster
Ascension	TE David W. Hills
Blue Ridge	RE Frank Smith
Calvary	RE Derek Scott
Central Florida	TE Benjamin Shaw
Central Georgia	RE Chris A. Schuster
Chesapeake	TE Jonathan Song
Chicago Metro	TE Caleb Hughes
Covenant	TE Duncan Hoopes
Eastern Pennsylvania	TE Mark A. Herzer
Evangel	RE Michael McMillan
Fellowship	TE Jeff Bryant
Georgia Foothills	RE James Zeller
Grace	TE John Franklin
Great Lakes	RE Jerry Stutzman
Gulfstream	TE W. Brian Haring
Heritage	RE William Zinkand
Highlands	TE James Curtis
Hills and Plains	RE Jeff Chewning
Houston Metro	RE Eric Manthei
Illiana	TE Brian Matthew Sandifer
James River	TE Harrison Ford
Korean Capital	TE Huey Lee
Lowcountry	RE Mark Senn
Metro Atlanta	TE Walter H. Henegar
Mississippi Valley	RE Rob Coker
Nashville	TE Ryan Clark Anderson
North Florida	TE Stephen Spinnenweber
Northern Illinois	TE Josué Pernillo
Ohio	TE Jason Piland

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Ohio Valley	RE Joshua Kiihne
Pacific Northwest	RE Howie Donahoe*
Palmetto	TE H. Curtis McDaniel Jr.
Piedmont Triad	TE Joel Branscomb
Potomac	TE Charlie A. Baile
Providence	RE Mark Hundscheid
Rocky Mountain	RE Doug Duncan
Savannah River	TE Jonas Brock
Siouxlands	TE Ethan Saylor
Southeast Alabama	RE David Shipman
South Texas	RE Andrew Waller
Southern New England	TE Stephen LaValley
Southwest Florida	TE Wright Busching
Tennessee Valley	RE Josh Hurst
Tidewater	TE Timothy J. Schley
Warrior	TE John Alexander
Westminster	TE Bill Leuzinger

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ RE Howie Donahoe, Chairman

/s/ RE Eric Manthei, Secretary

51-26 Mission to North America (MNA) Report

TE Alan Johnson, CoC Chairman, led the Assembly in prayer and yielded to TE Irwyn Ince, Coordinator, who presented the informational report (Appendix J, p. 303), including a video highlighting the work of MNA. The CoC Chairman presented the CoC report (below).

Recommendations 1, 3-8, and 12-13 were **moved** in gross and **adopted**.

Recommendation 2, addressing the budget, was **referred** to the CoC on AC (RAO 14-6.j).

Recommendations 9-11 were previously **ruled moot** (see 51-24).

The CoC Chairman closed the report in prayer.

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS ON
MISSION TO NORTH AMERICA
TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

I. Business Referred to the Committee

A. MNA Permanent Committee Report

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- B. MNA Permanent Committee Minutes
 - April 5, 2024 (called meeting)
 - March 1-2, 2024
 - September 13-14, 2023
- C. MNA 2024 Proposed Budgets
- D. MNA Permanent Committee 2023 Audits
- E. Overtures referred to MNA Committee
- F. Permanent Committee Recommendations

II. Statement of Major Issues Discussed

- A. MNA Permanent Committee Report
- B. MNA Permanent Committee Minutes
 - April 5, 2024 (called meeting)
 - March 1-2, 2024
 - September 13-14, 2023
- C. MNA 2024 Proposed Budgets
- D. MNA Permanent Committee 2023 Audits
- E. Overtures referred to Committee
- F. MNA Permanent Committee Recommendations

III. Recommendations

1. That having reviewed the work of the MNA Coordinator during 2023 according to the General Assembly guidelines, **the MNA Committee commends TE Irwyn Ince for his excellent leadership, with thanks to the Lord for the good results in MNA Ministry during 2023 and recommends his re-election as MNA Coordinator for another year.** Attachment 2 provides a complete list of MNA staff; see Attachment 3 for the list of MNA Permanent Committee members.
Adopted
2. That the **Permanent Committee on Mission to North America 2024 budget, as presented through the Administrative Committee,** be approved by the General Assembly and commended to the churches for their support.
Deferred to CoC on AC
3. That the General Assembly adopts the 2023 MNA Audit.
Adopted
4. That **TE CH (COL) Keith N. Goode, USA** and **TE CH (LTC) James R. McCay, USA, Ret.,** and **RE Captain Rick Owens, USN, (Ret.)** be appointed to serve as a PCA members of the Presbyterian and

Reformed Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel (PRCC) for the Class of 2028. **Major General Brook J. Leonard, USAF**, and **TE Capt. Paul Riley Wrigley, CHC, Ret.** be appointed to serve as PCA members of the Presbyterian and Reformed Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel (PRCC) for the Class of 2027.

Adopted

5. That the MNA Committee recommends to the General Assembly that **Overture 5** from the Piedmont Triad Presbytery, “Adjust Piedmont Triad and Catawba Valley Presbytery Boundaries, to restructure the boundary between Piedmont Triad Presbytery (PTP) and Catawba Valley Presbytery (CVP) such that will extend north to Hwy 64 in Davidson County and PTP will extend south to Hwy 64 in Davidson County, effective July 1, 2024, be answered in the affirmative. See attachment 4. *Adopted*
6. That the MNA Committee recommends to the General Assembly that **Overture 12** from Catawba Presbytery, Concur with Piedmont Triad Presbytery, to “Adjust Catawba Valley and Piedmont Triad Presbytery Boundaries”, and to likewise transfer all existing PCA churches and church plants of the aforementioned territory will come into Catawba Valley Presbytery, and that all teaching elders and churches be received after a successful theological views examination effective July 1, 2024, be answered in the affirmative. See attachment 5. *Adopted*
7. That the MNA Committee recommends to the General Assembly that **Overture 8** from Covenant Presbytery, “Change Boundaries of Covenant and Mississippi Valley Presbytery, to restructure the boundary between The Presbytery of Mississippi Valley and Covenant Presbytery, transfer Choctaw 29 County, Mississippi, from the geographic bounds of Covenant Presbytery to the 30 geographic bounds of the Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley, effective July 1, 2024, be answered in the affirmative. See attachment 6. *Adopted*
8. That the MNA Committee recommends to the General Assembly that **Overture 11** from Mississippi Valley Presbytery, “Change Boundaries of Mississippi Valley and Covenant Presbytery, to restructure the boundary between The Presbytery of Mississippi Valley and Covenant Presbytery, transfer Choctaw County, Mississippi, from the geographic bounds of Covenant Presbytery to the geographic bounds of the Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley,

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

effective July 1, 2024, be answered in the affirmative. See attachment 7. *Adopted*

9. That the MNA Committee Recommends the General Assembly answer **Overture 7** from Ascension Presbytery “Amend *RAO* 11-5 to Clarify Process for *RAO* Amendments” with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee. Attachment 8.

Ruled Moot

10. That the Permanent MNA Committee recommend ~~to the Overtures Committee that the 51st General Assembly refer~~ the General Assembly answer **Overture 31** from New River Presbytery, “Amend *BCO* 14-1 Regarding Changes in Permanent Committee and Agency Policy,” to the 52nd General Assembly in order to give all the Committees and Agencies time to consider it. Recommendation 10. (Attachment 1) with reference to the answer provided by the Overtures Committee.

Ruled Moot

11. That the Permanent MNA Committee recommend ~~to the Overtures Committee that the 51st General Assembly refer~~ the General Assembly answer **Overture 32** from Eastern Pennsylvania Presbytery, “Amend *BCO* 23 to Address Dissolution of Call for those employed by a Committee or Agency,” to the 52nd General Assembly in order to give all the Committees and Agencies time to consider it, as Recommendation 11. (Attachment 2) with reference to the answer provided by the Overtures Committee.

Ruled Moot

12. That the MNA Permanent Committee recommends to the General Assembly that **Overture 34** from Columbus Metro Presbytery, “Merge Columbus Metro Presbytery and Ohio Valley Presbytery, be answered in the affirmative with concurrence of Ohio Valley Presbytery, with an effective date of July 1, 2024. (Attachment 3) with the following amended language:

Adopted

Now therefore, be it resolved, that ~~the Ohio Valley Presbytery and the Columbus Metro Presbytery~~ overture the 51st General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to merge the aforementioned Presbyteries Ohio Valley Presbytery and the Columbus Metro Presbytery into one Presbytery effective July 1, 2024, continuing under the name “Ohio Valley Presbytery,” and with the new Presbytery assuming responsibility for any judicial actions against either presbytery that have or will arise before the merger is effected, to include all mission works and churches located in the counties of Ohio south and west of but not including

Mercer, Auglaize, Shelby, Logan, Hardin, Marion, Morrow, Knox, Coshocton, Muskingum, Perry, Hocking, Vinton, and Meigs; all of Kentucky north and east of and including the counties of Breckinridge, Hardin, Larue, Taylor, Casey, Pulaski, and McCreary; and the Indiana counties of Dearborn, Ohio, Switzerland, Jefferson, Scott, Clark, Floyd, Washington, and Harrison.

Rationale: The changes conform the language to our conventions as an assembly and clarify the responsibility of the receiving presbytery to handle all pending judicial matters coming before the merging presbytery.

13. That the MNA Permanent Committee recommends to the General Assembly that **Overture 35** from Ohio Valley Presbytery, "Merge Ohio Valley and Columbus Metro Presbyteries" Concur with **Overture 34**, be answered in the affirmative, with an effective date of July 1, 2024. (**Attachment 4**) with the following amended language:

Adopted

Now therefore, be it resolved, that ~~the Ohio Valley Presbytery and the Columbus Metro Presbytery~~ overture the 51st General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to merge the aforementioned Presbyteries Ohio Valley Presbytery and the Columbus Metro Presbytery into one Presbytery effective July 1, 2024, continuing under the name "Ohio Valley Presbytery," and with the new Presbytery assuming responsibility for any judicial actions against either presbytery that have or will arise before the merger is effected, to include all mission works and churches located in the counties of Ohio south and west of but not including Mercer, Auglaize, Shelby, Logan, Hardin, Marion, Morrow, Knox, Coshocton, Muskingum, Perry, Hocking, Vinton, and Meigs; all of Kentucky north and east of and including the counties of Breckinridge, Hardin, Larue, Taylor, Casey, Pulaski, and McCreary; and the Indiana counties of Dearborn, Ohio, Switzerland, Jefferson, Scott, Clark, Floyd, Washington, and Harrison.

Rationale: The changes conform the language to our conventions as an assembly and clarify the responsibility of the receiving presbytery to handle all pending judicial matters coming before the merging presbytery.

IV. Commissioners Present:

Presbytery

Commissioner

(Convener marked with *)

Arizona	RE Dirk E. Uphoff
Blue Ridge	TE Roland Mathews
Calvary	TE Zachary Groff
Canada West	TE Theodore E. Lodder
Catawba Valley	TE William Thrailkill
Central Carolina	RE Tim Shorey
Central Florida	TE Tyler Kenney
Central Indiana	TE Ben Reed
Chesapeake	RE Jeremiah Horner
Chicago Metro	TE Philip G. Ryken
Covenant	RE Jason Conner
Eastern Carolina	TE Timothy Inman
Georgia Foothills	TE Alan H. Johnson*
Grace	RE Bryan Kelly
Great Lakes	TE Jerry Riendeau
Gulf Coast	TE Sean McGowan
Heartland	RE Larry Hauck
Heritage	TE Joshua Suh
Highlands	TE Cooper Starnes
Hills and Plains	TE Aaron Douglas Raines
James River	RE Eugene Rivers
Korean Capital	TE Brian Sang Hoon Shim
Korean Southeastern	TE Anthony Lee
Low Country	TE John Schley
Metro Atlanta	TE Eric Ryan
Mississippi Valley	TE Eric Mabbott
Missouri	TE Chad Townsley
Nashville	TE Nathan William McCall
New River	TE Alan Hager
New York	RE Drew McLean
North Texas	RE Steve J. Stallard
Northern Illinois	RE Dean Kuper
Northern New England	TE James Pavlic
Ohio	TE Justin Salinas

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Ohio Valley	TE Kyle McClellan
Pacific Northwest	RE Micah Meeuwsen
Pee Dee	RE Paul Goodrich
Piedmont Triad	RE Kevin Miller
Pittsburgh	TE Seth Dakota Gurley
Potomac	TE Dan Warne
Rocky Mountain	TE Blake Denlinger
Siouxlands	TE Jeffrey Neikirk
South Coast	TE Daniel A. Dalton
South Texas	TE Bryant McGee
Southern New England	TE Solomon Kim
Southwest Florida	RE Bryan Toenes
Suncoast Florida	TE Gary Goodrich
Tennessee Valley	TE Sam Brown
West Hudson	TE Steven Sage
Westminster	TE Bobby T. Roberts

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ TE Alan Johnson, Chairman /s/ TE Eric Mabbott, Secretary

51-27 Covenant College Report

TE Nathan Newman, CoC Chairman, led the Assembly in prayer, and yielded to RE Brad Voyles, President of Covenant College, who presented the informational report (Appendix F, p. 235), including a video highlighting the work of Covenant College. The CoC Chairman presented the CoC report (below).

Recommendations 1-2 and 4-7 were **moved** in gross and **adopted**.

Recommendation 3, addressing the budget, was **referred** to the CoC on AC (RAO 14-6.j).

Recommendations 8-10 were previously **ruled moot** (see 51-24).

The CoC Chairman closed the report in prayer.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS ON COVENANT COLLEGE TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

I. Business Referred to the Committee

- A. CC Report to General Assembly
- B. CC Permanent Committee Minutes from:

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

June 28, 2023, July 18, 2023, August 1, 2023, August 30, 2023, October 6, 2023, October 12-13, 2023, March 14-15, 2024, and April 8, 2024

- C. CC FY2023 Audit
- D. CC 2024-2025 Proposed Budget
- E. CC Permanent Committee Recommendations

II. Statement of Major Issues Discussed

- A. CC Report to General Assembly
- B. CC Permanent Committee Minutes from:
June 28, 2023, July 18, 2023, August 1, 2023, August 30, 2023, October 6, 2023, October 12-13, 2023, March 14-15, 2024, and April 8, 2024
- C. CC FY2023 Audit
- D. CC 2024-2025 Proposed Budget
- E. CC Permanent Committee Recommendations

III. Recommendations

1. That the General Assembly thank and praise God for the excellent work and faithfulness of the Board of Trustees, faculty, and staff of Covenant College in serving the Presbyterian Church in America by shaping students for lives of service in the Kingdom of God. *Adopted*
2. That the General Assembly encourage congregations of the PCA to support the ministry of Covenant College through encouraging prospective students to attend, through contributing the Partnership Shares approved by the General Assembly, and through prayer. *Adopted*
3. That the General Assembly approve the budget for 2024-2025, as submitted through the Administrative Committee. *Deferred to CoC on AC*
4. That the General Assembly adopt “The Covenant College and Supporting Foundation Consolidated Financial Statements” dated June 30, 2023, as prepared by Capin Crouse LLP. *Adopted*
5. That the General Assembly approve the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Trustees for June 28, 2023, July 18, 2023, August 1, 2023, August 30, 2023, October 6, 2023, October 12-13, 2023, March 14-15, 2024, and April 8, 2024. *Adopted*
6. That the General Assembly receive as information the foregoing Annual Report, recognizing God’s gracious and abundant blessing and

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- commending the College in its desire to continue pursuing excellence in higher education for the glory of God. *Adopted*
7. That the General Assembly designate Sunday, October 20, 2024, as a Lord’s Day on which churches of the denomination are encouraged to highlight Covenant College’s ministry and pray specifically for the College in its mission and ministry. *Adopted*
8. The **Overture 14** from the Northwest Georgia Presbytery entitled “Amend *RAO* 4-21.d to Require Enrollment Data From Higher Ed Institutions” be answered in the affirmative, noting that the enrollment information requested to be reported in the minutes of the Board of Trustees is, and has been, publicly available. *Ruled Moot*
9. That **Overture 31** from New River Presbytery entitled “Amend *BCO* 14-1 Regarding Changes in Permanent Committee and Agency Policy” and **Overture 32** from Eastern Pennsylvania Presbytery entitled “Amend *BCO* 23 to Address Dissolution of Call for those employed by a Committee or Agency” be referred to the 52nd General Assembly to allow Covenant College sufficient time to fully consider. *Ruled Moot*
10. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 7** from Ascension Presbytery “Amend *RAO* 11-5 to Clarify Process for *RAO* Amendments” with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee. *Ruled Moot*

The Chairman plans to present the following recommendations to the assembly in gross: 1-2, 4-10.

**IV. Commissioners Present:
Presbytery**

Commissioner
(Convener marked with *)

Ascension	TE Jeff K. Zehnder
Blue Ridge	TE Andrew H. Trotter Jr.
Calvary	RE Terry Richards
Central Florida	TE Deren Harper
Central Indiana	TE Jeff Nottingham
Chesapeake	TE Joshua P. Sillaman
Covenant	TE Benjamin David Ratliff
Eastern Canada	TE Lyndon Micah Jost
Eastern Carolina	RE Joe Frazier

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Evangel	RE Drew Ricketts
Fellowship	TE Jason Ryan Anderson
Grace	TE Brian McCollough
Great Lakes	RE Ross Harris
Gulf Coast	RE Joel Holston
Heartland	TE Jason T. Wegener
Heritage	TE Rick A. Gray
Highlands	TE David Hina
Houston Metro	RE Neal Hare
James River	TE Dennis Bullock
Metro Atlanta	TE Erik Veerman
Nashville	TE Stephen Thomas Young
North Texas	TE Brian Charles Davis
Northern California	TE Jeremiah Hill
Northern Illinois	TE Brad Lucht
Ohio	TE Jacob Piland
Ohio Valley	RE Herb Melton
Pacific Northwest	TE Michael Awtry
Pee Dee	TE Matthew Dallas Adams
Piedmont Triad	TE Nathan E. Kline
Pittsburgh	RE Adam Kirkton
Platte Valley	TE Jacob Gerber
Potomac	TE Nathan Newman*
Rocky Mountain	RE Mark Shelby
Savannah River	TE Kenneth Anthony McHeard
Siouxlands	TE Arthur Sartorius
South Coast	RE Marty McCullah
South Texas	TE Timothy Lewis Fox
Southeast Alabama	RE Mark Anderson III
Southern New England	TE Nathan Barczy
Southwest Florida	TE Wes Holland Jr.
Susquehanna Valley	TE Erik David Swanson
Tennessee Valley	TE Nathanael Xanders

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ TE Nathan Newman, Chairman

/s/ TE Erik Veerman, Secretary

51-28 Mission to the World (MTW) Report

TE Aaron Messner, CoC Chairman, led the Assembly in prayer and yielded to TE Lloyd Kim, MTW Coordinator, who presented the informational report (Appendix K, p. 329). The CoC Chairman presented the CoC report (below).

Recommendations 1-4 and 6-8 were **moved** in gross and **adopted**.

Recommendation 5, addressing the budget, was **referred** to the CoC on AC (RAO 14-6.j).

Recommendations 9-11 were previously **ruled moot** (see 51-24).

The CoC Chairman closed the report in prayer.

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS ON
MISSION TO THE WORLD
TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

I. Business Referred to the Committee

- A. Review of CMTW minutes from:
March 8-9, 2023
September 27-28, 2023
- B. Review of Recommendations from Permanent Committee
- C. Review of finances for 2022
- D. Review of Proposed 2025 Budget
- E. Permanent Committee Report
- F. Recommendations on Overture 31 and Overture 32

II. Statement of Major Issues Discussed

- A. Review of CMTW minutes from:
March 8-9, 2023
September 27-28, 2023
- B. Review of Recommendations from Permanent Committee
- C. Review of finances for 2022
- D. Review of Proposed 2025 Budget
- E. Permanent Committee Report
- F. Recommendations on Overture 31 and Overture 32

III. Recommendations

- 1. That the General Assembly urge churches to set aside the month of November 2024, as a month of prayer for global missions, asking God

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- to send many more laborers into His harvest field. (MTW will offer a 30 Days of Prayer Calendar, which your church can download from mtw.org/30dop in the fall as well as other prayer resources); *Adopted*
2. That the General Assembly urge churches to set aside a portion of their giving for the suffering peoples of the world; to that end, be it recommended that a special offering for relief and mercy (MTW Compassion offering) be taken during 2024 and distributed by MTW (MTW offers bulletin inserts by mail, as well as a digital version that can be downloaded at mtw.org/compassion); *Adopted*
 3. That the General Assembly urge churches to set aside Sunday, November 3, 2024, as a day of prayer for the persecuted church worldwide; *Adopted*
 4. Having performed his annual evaluation and with gratitude to God, CMTW commends Dr. Lloyd Kim for the excellent leadership he has provided to MTW and recommends that Dr. Kim be re-elected as Coordinator of MTW. *Adopted*
 5. That the proposed budget of MTW, as presented through the Administrative Committee, be approved; *Deferred to CoC on AC*
 6. That the minutes of the meeting of CMTW of March 8–9, 2023, be accepted; and *Adopted*
 7. That the minutes of the meeting of CMTW of September 27–28, 2023, be accepted. *Adopted*
 8. Regarding MTW’s 2022 Financial Audit: the Committee of Commissioners reviewed the financial audit for calendar year ending December 31, 2022. They also noted per CMTW’s minutes that CMTW had accepted the audit. *Adopted*
 9. That **Overture 7** from Ascension Presbytery “Amend RAO 11-5 to Clarify Process for RAO Amendments” be answered with reference to the answer provided by the ~~Administrative~~ Overtures Committee. *Ruled Moot*
 10. That Overture 31 from the New River Presbytery “Amend BCO 14-1 Regarding Changes in Permanent Committee and Agency Policy” be answered in the negative. *Ruled Moot*
 11. That Overture 32 from the Presbytery of Eastern Pennsylvania “Amend BCO 23 to Address Dissolution of Call for those Employed by a Committee or Agency” be answered by referral back to Presbytery. *Ruled Moot*

**IV. Commissioners Present:
Presbytery**

Commissioner
(Convener marked with *)

Ascension	TE Scott P. Moreland
Blue Ridge	TE Todd Pruitt
Central Carolina	TE Matt Harris
Central Florida	TE Cody Alan Brobst
Central Georgia	RE Douglas Pohl
Central Indiana	TE Charles Anderson
Chesapeake	TE Jesse M. Crutchley
Columbus Metro	TE Dan Layman
Covenant	TE Bill Berry
Eastern Canada	TE Michael Chhangur
Eastern Carolina	RE Bruce Narveson
Eastern Pennsylvania	RE Dave Almack
Fellowship	TE John M. McArthur Jr.
Grace	TE James Logan
Great Lakes	RE Zane Meibeyer
Gulf Coast	RE Rick Sullivan
Heartland	TE John Hye Uk Choi
Heritage	RE George Pauley
Highlands	TE Andrew David Shank
Hills and Plains	RE Nathan Jarvis
Houston Metro	RE Ryan Bowling
Illiana	TE James Calvin Ryan
James River	TE Joseph E. Brown
Lowcountry	TE Jon D. Payne
Metro Atlanta	TE Aaron D. Messner*
Mississippi Valley	RE Alan Walters
Nashville	RE Jay Hollis
New York State	TE Tom Kristoffersen
North Texas	TE Matthew Wood
Northern Illinois	TE Zach Rogers
Northern New England	TE Jonathan P. Taylor
Northwest Georgia	TE Clif Daniell
Ohio	TE Rhett P. Dodson
Pacific Northwest	TE Jerid Krulish
Pee Dee	TE Brian Joseph Peterson

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Piedmont Triad	TE Clyde L. Godwin
Pittsburgh	RE Dennis W. Baker
Potomac	RE Chad Reed
Providence	RE Jonathan Haynes
PTP Winston Salem	RE Ozzie Marin
Savannah River	TE Pete Whitney
Siouxlands	TE Luke Bluhm
South Texas	TE Andrew William Triolo
Southern New England	TE Robert Steven Hill
Southwest Florida	TE Jeff Scott McDonald
Susquehanna Valley	TE Vincent L. Wood

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ TE Aaron Messner, Chairman

/s/ RE Nathan Jarvis, Secretary

51-29 Ridge Haven Conference Center (RH) Report

TE Donny Friederichsen, CoC Chairman, led the Assembly in prayer and yielded to TE Cameron Anderson, Ridge Haven Director, who presented the informational report (Appendix P, p. 695), including a video highlighting the work of Ridge Haven. The CoC Chairman presented the CoC report (below).

Recommendation 1, addressing the budget, was **referred** to the CoC on AC (RAO 14-6.j).

Recommendations 2-4 and 7-9 were **moved** in gross and **adopted**.

Recommendations 5 and 6 were previously **ruled moot** (see 51-24).

The CoC Chairman closed the report with prayer.

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS ON
RIDGE HAVEN
TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

I. Business Referred to the Committee

- A. RH Report to General Assembly
- B. RH Board of Directors Minutes:
March 20-22, 2023
June 10, 2023
September 11-13, 2023
- C. RH 2025 Proposed Budget
- D. 2022 RH Audit
- E. RH Permanent Committee Recommendations

II. Statement of Major Issues Discussed

- A. RH Report to General Assembly
- B. RH Board of Directors Minutes:
March 20-22, 2023
June 10, 2023
September 11-13, 2023
- C. RH 2025 Proposed Budget
- D. 2022 RH Audit
- E. RH Permanent Committee Recommendations

III. Recommendations

1. That the Ridge Haven 2025 Budget, as presented through the AC Budget Review Committee, be approved. *Deferred to CoC on AC*
2. That the 2022 audit dated December 31, 2022, performed by Robins, Eskew, Smith & Jordan, be received. *Adopted*
3. That the following minutes of the Board of Directors of Ridge Haven be approved: March 20-22, 2023, June 10, 2023, and September 11-13, 2023 with the following exception of form: The minutes of the June 10, 2023 Called Meeting were not approved at the following Stated Meeting of September 11-13, 2023. *Adopted*
4. That February 16, 2025, be a day for our churches to pray for the ministries of Ridge Haven. *Adopted*
5. That the 51st General Assembly of the PCA answer **OVERTURE 31** from the New River Presbytery “Amend *BCO* 14-1 Regarding Changes in Permanent Committee and Agency Policy” by referring it to the 52nd General Assembly. *Ruled Moot*
6. That the 51st General Assembly of the PCA answer **OVERTURE 32** from the Presbytery of Eastern Pennsylvania “Amend *BCO* 23 to Address Dissolution of Call for those employed by a Committee or Agency” by referring it to the 52nd General Assembly. *Ruled Moot*
7. That the Lord would be praised, and TE Cameron Anderson be commended for his fruitful service to the ministry of Ridge Haven. *Adopted*
8. That Lord would be praised, and the staff and board of Ridge Haven be commended for their work in serving to advance the mission of Ridge Haven. *Adopted*
9. That the churches of the Presbyterian Church in America be encouraged to make use of the tremendous resource for spiritual renewal provided by Ridge Haven. *Adopted*

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

IV. Commissioners Present:

Presbytery

Commissioner

(Convener marked with *)

Blue Ridge

TE Brian Waters

Calvary

RE Kevin Mobley

Catawba Valley

TE Kevin L. Burrell

Central Carolina

TE John Chandler Black

Chesapeake

TE Brian Cummings March

Covenant

TE Tyler Kenyon

Evangel

RE Mike Sanders

Fellowship

TE Lewis Albert Ward Jr.

Grace

TE Gardner Fish

Great Lakes

RE Robert La Fleur

Gulf Coast

RE TJ Neely

Heartland

TE James A. Baxter

Highlands

TE George Andrew Adams

Hills and Plains

TE Jason Hsu

James River

TE Martin Cates

Nashville

TE Keaton Paul

New River

RE James Walling

North Texas

TE Donald Friederichsen*

Northern Illinois

TE Steve Jones

Ohio

TE John Fitzgerald Fennell

Ohio Valley

TE Brian Ferry

Palmetto

TE Jonathan Adam Shields

Pee Dee

TE Don Jacob Stager

Piedmont Triad

TE Taylor Howsmon

Savannah River

TE Philip Ryan

South Texas

TE Nicholas Bullock

Southeast Alabama

RE Sammy Rothfuss

Southern Louisiana

RE Ken Kostrzewa

Southern New England

TE Benjamin Sheldon

Southwest Florida

TE Justin Conner Woodall

Susquehanna Valley

TE Collin Gingrich

Tennessee Valley

TE Rob Herron

Respectfully submitted:

/s/ TE Donny Friederichsen, Chairman

/s/ TE Nicholas Bullock, Secretary

51-30 Standing Judicial Commission (SJC) Report

RE Jack Wilson, Chairman, led the Assembly in prayer and presented the report (Appendix Q, p. 699), which was received as information. The Chairman closed the report with prayer, which served as the closing prayer for this session of the Assembly.

51-31 Assembly Recessed

The Assembly recessed its business at 4:28 p.m. to gather for worship and then to reconvene for business at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday.

51-32 Worship Service

The Assembly entered a time of worship at 4:45 p.m. (Appendix V, p. 1196).

**Fourth Session - Thursday Morning
June 13, 2024**

51-33 Assembly Reconvened

The Assembly reconvened at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 13, 2024. After the Assembly sang “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God,” TE Zach Byrd led the Assembly in prayer.

51-34 PCA Foundation Report

TE W. Duncan Rankin, CoC Chairman, led the Assembly in prayer and yielded to RE Timothy Townsend, President, who presented the informational report (Appendix M, p. 397), including a video highlighting the work of the Foundation. The CoC Chairman presented the CoC report (below).

Recommendations 1, 3, 4, and 8 were **moved** in gross and **adopted**.

Recommendation 2, addressing the budget, was **referred** to the CoC on AC (RAO 14-6.j).

Recommendations 5, 6, and 7 were previously **ruled moot** (see 51-24).

The CoC Chairman closed the report with prayer.

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS ON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA FOUNDATION
TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

I. Business Referred to the Committee

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- A. PCAF Board of Directors Report
- B. PCAF Board of Directors Minutes
August 4, 2023, April 5, 2024 (including Executive Session minutes)
- C. 2023 Audit of PCAF by Capin Crouse, LLP
- D. 2025 PCAF Proposed Budget
- E. Recommendations of the PCA Foundation, Inc., Board

II. Statement of Major Issues Discussed

- A. The work of the PCA Foundation as presented in the PCA Foundation Board Minutes and report
- B. PCAF Board of Directors Minutes
August 4, 2023, April 5, 2024 (including Executive Session minutes)
- C. 2023 Audit of PCAF by Capin Crouse, LLP
- D. 2025 PCAF Proposed Budgets
- E. Recommendations of the PCA Foundation, Inc., Board

III. Recommendations

1. That the financial audit for the PCA Foundation, Inc. for the calendar year ended December 31, 2023, by Capin Crouse, LLP be received and acknowledged. *Adopted*
2. That the General Assembly approve the proposed 2025 Budget of the PCA Foundation, Inc. with the understanding that it is a spending plan and will be modified as necessary by the PCA Foundation's Board of Directors to accommodate changing circumstances during the year. *Deferred to CoC on AC*
3. That the Minutes of Board meetings of August 4, 2023, and April 5, 2024, be approved. *Adopted*
4. That the Gift Acceptance and Management Policy (Attachment I) adopted by the PCA Foundation's Board of Directors be approved. *Adopted*
5. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 7** from Ascension Presbytery "Amend *RAO 11-5* to Clarify Process for *RAO* Amendments" with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee. *Ruled Moot*
6. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 31** from the New River Presbytery "Amend *BCO 14-1* Regarding Changes in Permanent Committee and Agency Policy" with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee. *Ruled Moot*

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7. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 32** from the Presbytery of Eastern Pennsylvania “Amend *BCO 23* to Address Dissolution of Call for those employed by a Committee or Agency” with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee. *Ruled Moot*
8. That the General Assembly commend the PCA Foundation, staff, and board for their superb work. *Adopted*

**IV. Commissioners Present:
Presbytery**

Commissioner
(Convener marked with *)

Ascension	RE Timothy Adams
Blue Ridge	TE Justin Clement
Calvary	TE Dan Dodds
Catawba Valley	RE Frank Lopane
Central Carolina	RE Lane Jones
Central Florida	TE Matthew Matulia
Central Georgia	TE Richard Hunter Stevenson
Chesapeake	TE Michael S. Weltin
Evangel	TE Anton Ivanov
Fellowship	RE Josh Bouldin
Grace	RE Rob T. Jackson Jr.
Great Lakes	TE Ryan Potter
Gulf Coast	TE Joseph C. Grider
Heartland	TE Anthony J. Felich
Hills and Plains	TE Levi Bakerink
Houston Metro	TE W. Duncan Rankin*
James River	RE Matthew Murray
Korean Capital	TE Steve Sun Kyo Yoon
Metro Atlanta	RE Russell Berry
Metropolitan New York	TE Wei Ho
Mississippi Valley	TE Chris Stevens
New York State	RE Curt Lindahl
North Texas	RE Robert Looper
Northern Illinois	RE Fred Winterroth
Pacific	RE Richard Salinas
Pacific Northwest	RE Charles Meeker
Pee Dee	TE Jordan M. Gallo
Philadelphia	TE Maranatha Chung

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Pittsburgh	TE David R. Kenyon
Potomac	RE Mark Doehnert
Rocky Mountain	TE Michael Phillips
South Texas	RE Larry Laine
Southeast Alabama	TE Adam Coppock
Southern New England	RE Mark Slater
Southwest Florida	RE Bob Berry
Susquehanna Valley	RE Jay Hassinger
Tennessee Valley	TE Ryan F. Biese

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ TE W. Duncan Rankin, Chairman

/s/ TE Ryan F. Biese, Secretary

51-35 Committee on Discipleship Ministries (CDM) Report

TE Wiley Lowry, CoC Chairman, led the Assembly in prayer, and yielded to TE Stephen Estock, CDM Coordinator, presented the informational report (Appendix D, p. 221), including a video highlighting the work of CDM. The CoC Chairman presented the CoC report (below).

Recommendations 1-8 were **moved** in gross and **adopted**.

Recommendation 10, addressing the budget, was **referred** to the CoC on AC (RAO 14-6.j).

Recommendations 9, 11, and 12 were previously **ruled moot** (see 51-24). The CoC Chairman closed the report with prayer.

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS ON
COMMITTEE ON DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES
TO THE FIFTIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

I. Business Referred to the Committee

- A. CDM Permanent Committee Report
- B. CDM Permanent Committee Minutes from:
 - September 7-8, 2023
 - March 7-8, 2024
 - May 22, 2024
- C. CDM 2024 Proposed Budget
- D. 2023 CDM Audit
- E. CDM Permanent Committee Recommendations

II. Statement of Major Issues Discussed

- A. CDM Permanent Committee Report
- B. CDM Permanent Committee Minutes from:
September 7-8, 2023
March 7-8, 2024
May 22, 2024
- C. CDM 2024 Proposed Budget
- D. 2023 CDM Audit
- E. CDM Permanent Committee Recommendations

III. Recommendations

1. That the General Assembly approve the minutes of the meetings of the Permanent Committee for the Committee on Discipleship Ministries on September 7-8, 2023, and March 7-8, 2024. *Adopted*
2. That the General Assembly receive the 2023 audit performed by Robins, Eskew, Smith, and Jordan, and approve the same firm for the 2024 audit. *Adopted*
3. That the General Assembly encourage churches and individuals to contribute generously to the “**Love Gift Legacy**” (pcacdm.org/wm-love-gift). For 2023, the funds were used by CDM to publish *Neighbor to Neighbor*, a new ESL curriculum designed by MNA. For 2024, CDM will use the funds to develop and promote resources and training for CDM's Women's Ministry International (WMI), which includes partnerships with MTW and ministries such as the UK Partnership and City to City Latin America. *Adopted*
4. That the General Assembly encourage individuals, local churches, and presbyteries to utilize the many free resources available on the CDM websites (pcacdm.org [especially resources for leaders]; children.pcacdm.org [children]; women.pcacdm.org [women]; pcanextgen.org [youth]; pcabookstore.com). These resources are developed by PCA leaders for PCA leaders. *Adopted*
5. That the General Assembly encourage local churches to consider and use **Reachout Adventures** from CDM for Summer programming (reachoutadventures.com). This reformed and covenantal curriculum was written by PCA members. The 2024 theme is *Olympion*, which corresponds well with the Paris Olympic Games in July. *Olympion* considers the redemption story in the Book of Joshua as it challenges children to run the race of faith. The 2025 theme will be *Upward Bound*, which focuses on the Gospel of Luke. *Adopted*

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

6. That the General Assembly encourage individuals and local churches to consider and utilize the excellent print and digital curricula from Great Commission Publications (GCP), e.g., *Show Me Jesus* and *Kids' Quest Catechism Club* for children, *G2R Genesis to Revelation* Bible studies for preteens to teens—including *G2R God's Promises*—and *So What?* Bible studies for youth. *Digging Deeper: Exploring Shorter Catechism* is a 2-volume, 2-year study of the *Westminster Shorter Catechism*, designed for youth and adults desiring to go deeper in the Christian faith. GCP also provides excellent training resources for ministry staff and volunteers.
Adopted
7. That the General Assembly give thanks to RE Denny Crowe, TE Charles Johnson, TE David Lindberg, and Mrs. Melanie Cogdill for their faithful service as members of and adviser to the Permanent Committee. *Adopted*
8. That the General Assembly re-elect TE Stephen Estock to serve as the Coordinator for the Committee on Discipleship Ministries (CDM).
Adopted
9. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 7** from Ascension Presbytery "Amend *RAO 11-5* to Clarify Process for *RAO* Amendments" with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee.
Ruled Moot

Grounds

CDM believes the overture will be a helpful amendment to the RAO. The proposed change will clarify the process for how the Assembly authorizes an RAO amendment while protecting the right of the General Assembly's Committees and Agencies to speak to any proposed changes affecting them. Since the overture was referred to all the Committees and Agencies, it is wise to present a single response to the General Assembly through the Administrative Committee.

10. That the General Assembly approve the 2025 CDM budget as presented by the Administrative Committee. *Deferred to CoC on AC*
11. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 31** from New River Presbytery "Amend *BCO 14-1* Regarding Changes in Permanent Committee and Agency Policy" with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee. *Ruled Moot*

Grounds

CDM sees value in the recommended change but would like more time to consult with the leaders of the other Committees and Agencies and consider potential consequences of such a change on the daily

operations of CDM's ministry. Since the overture was referred to all the Committees and Agencies, it is also wise to present a single response to the General Assembly through the Administrative Committee.

12. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 32** from Eastern Pennsylvania Presbytery "Amend *BCO* 23 to Address Dissolution of Call for Those Employed by a Committee or Agency" with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee. *Ruled Moot*

Grounds

CDM would like more time to consult with the leaders of the other Committees and Agencies and consider potential consequences of such a change on daily operations of CDM's ministry. Since the overture was referred to all the Committees and Agencies, it is also wise to present a single response to the General Assembly through the Administrative Committee.

The Chairman plans to present the following recommendations to the assembly in gross: Items 1-12.

**IV. Commissioners Present:
Presbytery**

Commissioner
(Convener marked with *)

Blue Ridge	TE Todd Johnson
Calvary	TE Taylor Alexander King
Canada West	TE Don Hulsey
Catawba Valley	TE Daniel Ellingburg
Central Carolina	TE Michael David Mock
Central Florida	TE Seth Wallace
Central Indiana	TE Robert Paul O'Bannon
Chesapeake	RE Gregory T. Hard
Chicago Metro	TE Brad McMurray
Covenant	RE Barron Caulfield Jr.
Eastern Carolina	TE Doug C. Domin
Evangel	TE John Fountain
Fellowship	RE Chris Arnold
Georgia Foothills	TE Travis Joshua Brown
Grace	RE Christopher Bird

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Great Lakes	TE Joel Irvin
Gulf Coast	TE Patrick H. Davey
Heartland	RE Jim Slocomb
Heritage	TE Kevin Gladding
Hills and Plains	TE Wilson Van Hooser
Houston Metro	TE Curt Mire
James River	RE Gregory Bay
Korean Capital	TE Bobby Jin Won Suh
Metro Atlanta	RE Bob Edwards
Mississippi Valley	TE Wiley P. Lowry III*
New York State	TE Eric Walter
North Texas	RE Stephen Wolters
Northern Illinois	RE Larry DeVries
Ohio	RE Ernest A. Miller
Pacific Northwest	TE Brent R. Kilman
Piedmont Triad	TE Austin David Pfeiffer
Pittsburgh	TE Greg Mead
Potomac	TE Nathan Boyette
Providence	TE Jason Ellerbee
Rocky Mountain	TE John Gordon Sackett
South Texas	TE Jonathon Herr
Southeast Alabama	TE Ross Hodges
Southern New England	RE Cris Campelli
Southwest Florida	RE Phil Smith
Susquehanna Valley	RE Mike Evanko
Tidewater	RE Jim Rogers
Westminster	RE BL Peters

Respectfully submitted:

/s/ TE Wiley Lowry, Chairman

/s/ TE Wilson Van Hooser, Secretary

51-36 Administrative Committee Report

TE Josh Reiger, CoC Chairman, led with prayer and yielded to TE Bryan Chapell, PCA Stated Clerk, who presented the informational report (Appendix A, p. 115), acknowledging the good work of planning done by the host committee of James River, Blue Ridge, Tidewater, and Korean Capital Presbyteries. The CoC Chairman presented the CoC report (below).

Recommendations 3-5, and 30 were previously **ruled moot** (see 51-24).

Recommendations 2, and 6-29 were **moved** in gross and **adopted**.

Recommendation 1 was moved.

TE David Coffin rose to the following **point of order**.

“It is my understanding that *Commissioner Handbook*, p. 323, item 1, line 26, “That the General Assembly elect Dr. Bryan Chapell for another term as Stated Clerk.” is not a recommendation to be debated under regular order, but is rather “nominating speech,” that must be considered under RONR, 46:27, -28, “Debate on Nominations.”

As such, RONR, 46:28, sets forth the parameters of such debate: “... speakers must exercise caution to avoid making any personal criticism of [candidates] in debate. Rather than attacking a nominee, a speaker may advocate the election of a rival candidate.” However, as there are no rival candidates with respect to this election, speakers must exercise caution to avoid making any personal criticism of the candidate for Stated Clerk.

Further, I note that according to RONR 23:10-11: “The weight given to precedent increases with the number of times the same or similar rulings have been repeated and with the length of time during which the assembly has consistently adhered to them.” In my 40 some years of attending our Assembly, I do not believe we have ever allowed criticism of a nominated candidate as a part of debate.

I ask the Moderator to so rule.”

RE Matt Fender rose to a **point of order** that the previous point of order is out of order because it is referring to actions that might happen in the future. The point of order was ruled **not well taken**. The Moderator was **challenged** and **sustained**.

TE Coffin continued in his **point of order**, and the Moderator ruled it was **well taken**. The Moderator reminded the Assembly that decorum must be maintained.

TE Ryan Biese **moved** the previous question, which was seconded and **passed**.

Recommendation 1 was adopted (892-259-22).

The CoC Chairman closed the report with prayer.

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS ON
ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

I. Business Referred to the Committee

- A. AC Permanent Committee Report to GA
- B. Minutes of the 2023 meetings of the AC and Board of Directors

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. AC – April 20, 2023, June 5, 2023, June 13, 2023, and October 5, 2023
2. BD – April 20, 2023, and October 5, 2023
- C. Budgets for the permanent Committees and Agencies
- D. Overtures Referred to the AC
- E. Recommendations of the AC Committee

II. Statement of Major Issues Discussed

- A. AC Permanent Committee Report to GA
- B. Minutes of the 2023 meetings of the AC and Board of Directors
 1. AC – April 20, 2023, June 5, 2023, June 13, 2023, and October 5, 2023
 2. BD – April 20, 2023, and October 5, 2023
- C. Budgets for the permanent Committees and Agencies
- D. Overtures Referred to the AC
- E. Recommendations of the AC Committee

III. Recommendations

1. That the General Assembly elect Dr. Bryan Chapell for another term as Stated Clerk. *Adopted*
2. That the Assembly commend Stated Clerk Dr. Bryan Chapell, Business Administrator Dr. Dixie Zietlow, and the entire staff of the Administrative Committee for their faithful and effective labors for the Lord and their skillful and joyful service to the ministers, churches, presbyteries, permanent committees, agencies, and General Assembly in promoting the unity, purity, and mission of the Presbyterian Church in America in the past year and to commend RE Ric Springer for his 40 years of service to General Assembly with the floor clerks. *Adopted*
3. That **Overture 7** from Ascension Presbytery, “Amend RAO 11-5 to Clarify Process for RAO Amendments,” be answered in the affirmative. *Ruled Moot*

Grounds:

The proposed *Rules of Assembly Operations (RAO)* changes were drawn up by Ascension Presbytery in consultation with the PCA’s Stated Clerk. The overture changes will clarify that the Overtures Committee should determine the procedures of the General Assembly’s RAO. The overture changes will also mandate that the General Assembly’s Permanent Committees or Agencies which

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are affected by future, proposed *RAO* changes be consulted by the Overtures Committee before deciding upon such changes. Such a proposal wisely requires consultation of those who are most likely to be informed about, and affected by *RAO* changes, while leaving the process for approving *RAO* amendments with the Overtures Committee. The proposed changes in this overture thus provide protection of the Assembly's Committees or Agencies from uninformed decisions while enabling the Assembly to effect changes to the *RAO* through the body authorized to make such amendments.

4. That the Overtures Committee recommend that the 51st General Assembly refer **Overture 31** from New River Presbytery, "Amend *BCO* 14-1 Regarding Changes in Permanent Committee and Agency Policy," to the 52nd General Assembly in order to give all the Committees and Agencies time to consider it. *Ruled Moot*

Rationale:

This overture was not received by the AC in time for any Permanent Committee or Agency to consider prior to the 51st General Assembly in 2024. The AC also received the overture too late (April 3—AC meeting materials were sent to members April 5) to prepare an informed recommendation for the AC.

5. That the Overtures Committee recommend that the 51st General Assembly refer **Overture 32** from Eastern Pennsylvania Presbytery, "Amend *BCO* 23 to Address Dissolution of Call for those employed by a Committee or Agency," to the 52nd General Assembly in order to give all the Committees and Agencies time to consider it. *Ruled Moot*

Rationale:

This overture was not received by the Administrative Committee (AC) in time for any Permanent Committee or Agency Board (or their legal counselors) to consider prior to the 51st General Assembly in 2024. The AC also received the overture too late (April 11—AC meeting materials were sent to members April 5) for its staff, officers, or legal counsel to review in order properly to inform the AC at its spring meeting regarding an AC recommendation to the General Assembly.

6. That the Administrative Committee 2025 budget of \$3,702,519 be approved. *Adopted*

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

7. That the PCA Building 2025 budget of \$395,907 be approved. *Adopted*
8. That the CDM 2025 budget of \$2,693,700 be approved. *Adopted*
9. That the CC 2025 budget of \$36,674,848 be approved. *Adopted*
10. That the CTS 2025 budget of \$10,506,366 be approved. *Adopted*
11. That the Geneva 2025 budget of \$6,310,798 be approved. *Adopted*
12. That the MNA 2025 budget of \$30,237,191 be approved. *Adopted*
13. That the MTW 2025 budget of \$76,032,310 be approved. *Adopted*
14. That the PCAF 2025 budget of \$2,419,270 be approved. *Adopted*
15. That the RUF 2025 budget of \$59,495,241 be approved. *Adopted*
16. That the RH 2025 budget of \$4,220,000 be approved. *Adopted*
17. That the “2025 Budgeted Partnership Shares and Ministry Asks of PCA Ministry Partners by the Participating General Assembly Ministries” be approved (see p. 124). *Adopted*
18. That the Assembly take note that the 2023 Audit performed by Robins, Eskew, Smith & Jordan on the Administrative Committee was received and reviewed as required by RAO 14-7.h. *Adopted*
19. That the Assembly take note that the 2023 Audit performed by Robins, Eskew, Smith & Jordan on the PCA Building Fund was received and reviewed as required by RAO 14-7.h. *Adopted*
20. That Robins, Eskew, Smith & Jordan, PC, be approved as auditors for the Administrative Committee and the Committee on Discipleship Ministries for the calendar year ending December 31, 2024. *Adopted*
21. That Capin, Crouse, & Company be approved as auditors for the Committee on Mission to the World and the Committee on Mission to North America for the calendar year ending December 31, 2024. *Adopted*
22. That Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLP, be approved as auditors for the Committee on Reformed University Fellowship for the calendar year ending December 31, 2024. *Adopted*
23. That the Assembly receive the charts below as the acceptable response to the GA requirement for an annual report on the cost of the AC’s mandated responsibilities. *Adopted*

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**2023 Unfunded Mandates
GENERAL ASSEMBLY COSTS**

Year	# of Commissioners	Total Costs	Cost per Commissioner	Amount of Fee Allotted to GA	Total Avg Standard Fee
2018	1537	\$628,815	\$409	\$350	\$450
2019	1652	\$729,515	\$442	\$350	\$450
2021	2114	\$844,600	\$400	\$350	\$450
2022	2385	\$920,326	\$386	\$350	\$450
2023	2301	\$1,104,136	\$480	\$350 (TE) \$300 (RE)	\$457*

* The TE standard fee rose to \$525 and the RE standard fee dropped to \$300 in 2023 (approved by the 49th GA).

AC GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESPONSIBILITIES

Description	2023 Total ²	Per Commissioner
Committee on Constitutional Business	\$15,125	\$6.57
General Assembly ¹	\$1,104,136	\$479.85
Interchurch Relations Committee	\$18,880	\$8.21
Nominating Committee ²	\$23,324	\$10.14
Standing Judicial Commission	\$238,558	\$103.68
Theological Examining Committee ³	\$0	\$0
	<u>\$1,400,023</u>	<u>\$608.45</u>

¹ Review of Presbytery Records is included in the General Assembly Total. In 2023, RPR cost \$48,856. Production and delivery of the General Assembly Minutes costs will be reflected in the 2024 financials.

² The expense of the Nominating Committee is shared by the PCA Committees and Agencies.

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³The Theological Examining Committee did not incur any material expenses in 2023 as per their report to the AC.

24. That the registration fee remain at \$525 (TEs) and \$300 (REs) for the 2025 General Assembly, with \$350 of the TE fee allocated to the GA expenses, \$50 for publication of the GA Minutes, and \$125 allocated to the Standing Committee cost center for the expenses that include the Standing Judicial Commission; and the full \$300 RE fee allocated to GA expenses. Honorably retired or emeritus elders would continue to pay \$150. Elders coming from churches with annual incomes below \$150,000, as per their 2023 statistics, may register for \$300.

Adopted

25. That the plan outlined below for the payment of the required contribution from the PCA Committees and Agencies to the PCA Administrative Committee be approved.

Adopted

PLAN: Committees and Agencies are asked to pay in one of the following three options:

1. Semiannual – one-half paid in January and one-half paid in July.
2. Quarterly – one-fourth paid the first month of each quarter:
January, April, July, and October.
3. Monthly – one-twelfth paid on the first of each month.

NOTE: The chart shows the agreed-upon amounts for 2025.

AC	None
CDM	\$11,500
CC	\$11,500
CTS	\$11,500
MNA	\$11,500
MTW	\$11,500
PCAF	\$11,500
GEN	\$11,500
RH	\$11,500
<u>RUF</u>	<u>\$11,500</u>
Total	\$103,500

26. That the Annual Administration Fee paid by ministers be set at \$100 for 2025.

Adopted

27. That the General Assembly set the request to Presbyteries for GA Host Committee assistance at \$500 for 2025.

Adopted

28. That the Assembly approve the minutes of the Board of Directors for April 20, 2023, and October 5, 2023.

Adopted

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29. That the Assembly approve the minutes of the Administrative Committee for April 20, 2023, June 5, 2023, June 13, 2023, and October 5, 2023. *Adopted*

30. That **Overture 33** from TE Benjamin Inman to Eastern Carolina Presbytery and rejected by the Presbytery at its stated meeting, to “Erect Ad Interim Committee on the Book *Jesus Calling*”, be answered in the negative. *Ruled Moot*

Grounds:

The Administrative Committee recommends that the 51st General Assembly not approve this Overture on the grounds that it has no “plan for how sufficient, designated funds for the Ad Interim Committee will be raised,” as required by RAO 9-3.

*Note: This overture was received after the Spring meeting of the Administrative Committee and can only receive this informal recommendation from the Stated Clerk’s Office unless other Administrative Committee business requires a called meeting prior to the General Assembly.

The Chairman plans to present the following recommendations to the assembly in gross: 1-2, 4-30

IV. Commissioners Present:

Presbytery

Commissioner

(Convener marked with *)

Blue Ridge

RE Mark Coddington

Calvary

TE Bryan Jordan Counts

Central Carolina

TE Wendell F. Collins III

Central Florida

TE Kevin D. Gardner

Central Georgia

TE William C. Douglas

Central Indiana

TE KJ Drake

Chesapeake

RE Steven Madden

Chicago Metro

TE Joe Cristman

Columbus Metro

TE Hayden Nesbit

Covenant

RE Jacob Taylor

Evangel

TE Hunter Twitty

Fellowship

RE Steven Palecek

Grace

RE Robert Lee

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Great Lakes	TE Chad DeGraff
Gulf Coast	TE Richard A. Fennig
Highlands	TE Sean McCann
Hills and Plains	TE Jeremy Fair
Houston Metro	TE Joshua Michael Rieger*
James River	RE Daniel A. Carrell
Korean Capital	TE Peter Kim
Lowcountry	TE Jeremy Mullen
Metro Atlanta	TE Randy Schlichting
Metropolitan New York	TE E. Bruce O'Neil
Mississippi Valley	TE Charles M. Wingard
Nashville	TE Ryan Hudson
New Jersey	TE Stephen O'Neil
New River	TE William Michael Hall
New York State	TE Timothy LeCroy
North Florida	TE J.D Funyak
North Texas	RE Tony Mangefeste
Northern California	TE Benjamin Kappers
Northwest Georgia	TE Joel Smit
Ohio	RE James Parkin
Pacific Northwest	TE Adam Parker
Palmetto	TE Jason Cornwell
Pee Dee	RE Dwain Curtis
Piedmont Triad	TE Ethan Andrew Smith
Pittsburgh	TE Rick Appleton
Potomac	RE Doug Leepa
Providence	TE Matthew Duraski
Rocky Mountain	TE Shawn Young
Savannah River	TE Mike Hearon
South Texas	RE Barry McBee
Southeast Alabama	TE Parker Johnson
Southern New England	RE David Nok Daniel
Southwest Florida	RE Todd Bayley
Suncoast Florida	RE Brent Phillips
Susquehanna Valley	RE Christopher Menges
Tennessee Valley	TE John Blevins III
Tidewater	RE Timothy Panek
Westminster	TE Thomas Edwin Rickard

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ TE Josh Reiger, Chairman

/s/ TE Sean McCann, Secretary

51-37 Overtures Committee Report

The Moderator reminded the Assembly of the rules that govern the Assembly's actions with reference to the Overtures Committee report.

TE Stephen Tipton, Chairman, led the Assembly in prayer and began the report (see p. 83).

The Chairman noted that **Recommendations 7, 14, and 28** were dealt with by the Assembly on Tuesday evening.

Recommendations 2, 4, 6, 9, 10, 15-27, 29-32 were **moved** in gross. **Recommendations 17 and 26** were removed from the omnibus at the request of commissioners. The omnibus was **adopted**.

Recommendation 17 was **moved**. TE Jeremy King **moved** to recommit **Overture 17** to the Overtures Committee of the 52nd General Assembly. The motion **failed**. **Recommendation 17** was **adopted**, answering **Overture 17** in the affirmative as amended.

51-38 Special Order: Nominating Committee Report

At 9:30 a.m. a Special Order was recognized by the Assembly. TE Jared Nelson, Chairman, led in prayer and presented the report of the Nominating Committee (Appendix L, p. 353).

Hearing no objection, the Moderator declared all uncontested nominees **elected**.

The following contested nominees were elected by the Assembly (see the Supplemental Report in Appendix L, p. 389).

Committee on Constitutional Business, Class of 2028

TE David Strain, Mississippi Valley (679-625)

Committee on Interchurch Relations, Alternate:

RE James B. Isbell, Tennessee Valley (808-483)

Committee on Mission to North America, Class of 2029

TE Nate Shurden, Nashville (676-616)

Committee on Mission to the World, Class of 2029

TE Kevin Smith, Tennessee Valley (692-642)

Board of Trustees of Covenant College, Class of 2027

RE John C. Kwasny, Mississippi Valley (910-426)

Standing Judicial Commission, Class of 2028

TE Jay Bruce, Hills and Plains (857-497)

The Chairman closed the report with prayer.

51-39 Standing Judicial Commission (SJC) Vows and Declaration to be Assembly's Judicial Commission

The newly elected members of the SJC who were present (TE Jay Bruce, TE Eric Landry, TE Hoochan Paul Lee, RE Howie Donahoe, and RE Frederic Marcinak) took their vows before the Assembly.

The Moderator **declared** the Standing Judicial Commission to be the Judicial Commission of this Assembly in accord with *BCO* 15-4.

51-40 Overtures Committee Report (continued from **51-37**)

TE Trevor Scott asked for division on the previous vote before the order of the day. The Moderator ruled that request was **out of order** because there was no way to affirm that no one had departed or entered the Assembly hall. The Moderator apologized personally regarding the voice vote on **Recommendation 17**. The chair was **challenged** and **sustained**.

It was **moved to reconsider Recommendation 17**. The motion **failed**.

The following commissioners requested that their negative votes be recorded:

RE Andrew Augenstein	Central Florida
TE Timothy R. LeCroy	New York State
TE Eric Schievenin	Savannah River
TE Travis Scott	Pittsburgh

Recommendation 26 was **moved**. Regarding a previous question regarding the printed report on **Overture 26**, the Chairman asked that the Secretary of the Overtures Committee, TE Eddie Lim, be given permission to address the Assembly just on the issue of what the Committee's report should read. Permission was granted by the Assembly. TE Lim explained the Committee's report on Recommendation 26. Recommendation 26 was **adopted** (1456-119-20), answering **Overture 26** in the affirmative as amended.

Recommendation 3 was **moved**. Debate was extended by five minutes (835-783-22). TE Mike Khandjian rose to a **point of order** about a speaker questioning motives. The Moderator ruled the point of order was **not well taken** as the speaker referenced widely reported historical information. Recommendation 3 was **defeated** (857-906-13), answering **Overture 3** in the negative.

Recommendation 13 was **moved**. Recommendation 13 was **adopted** (985-727-35), answering **Overture 13** in the affirmative as amended.

Recommendation 33 was moved. TE Jerid Krulish spoke against the Recommendation. TE Zachary Groff spoke for the Recommendation. Other speakers spoke on the matters. Debate was extended by five minutes. The recommendation was **adopted** (947-834-20), answering **Overture 33** in the affirmative as amended.

51-41 Protest regarding Item 1 (to amend BCO 7-3)

TE Matthew Terrell filed the following **protest** regarding **Item 1** (to amend *BCO 7-3*) (see **51-7**, p. 17):

“On this Assembly’s first night we held a vote to clarify titles for church officers. But in attempting clarity for some, we also laid a heavy burden on our Korean speaking brothers and sisters. Our action seems analogous to what was happening in Acts 6 when a language and cultural barrier between Hellenists and Jews led to the neglect of serving the needs of the those most easily overlooked, in that case the Hellenistic widows. Whether intentionally or not, we neglected to heed the words of those who serve faithfully in the margins of this denomination but are easy to overlook because they are not part of the dominant culture. Our Korean speaking brethren who spoke on Tuesday night were clear: the results of our vote on amendments to *BCO 7-3* would place a great burden on their life together as God’s people, making ordinary, culturally appropriate and respectful communication between members of Christ’s body unconstitutional. I register this protest with great respect for our denomination and deference to the decision of this court, but also with grief that in seeking to solve one problem we created a significant new one for our Korean speaking brothers and sisters.”

The Moderator ruled the protest to be in temperate language and respectful to the court and ordered it recorded.

The following commissioners signed the protest:

TE Dave Abney	Hills and Plains
RE Paul Adams	Ohio Valley
TE Dan Adamson	Chicago Metro
TE Justin Adour	Metropolitan New York
TE Jarrett Allebach	Southern New England
TE Per Almquist	Northern New England
TE Charles Anderson	Central Indiana
TE Jon Anderson	Blue Ridge
TE Drew Archer	Metro Atlanta
RE Andrew Augenstein	Central Florida
RE Ron Avery	Southwest Florida
TE John Baber	Southwest Florida

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TE Ben Bae	Southern New England
TE Leonard Bailey	James River
TE Aaron Baker	Chicago Metro
TE Nathan Barczi	Southern New England
TE Cameron Barham	Northwest Georgia
TE Allan M. Barth	Gulfstream
TE Robert Becker	James River
RE Glen Berkel	Eastern Carolina
TE Luke Bert	Eastern Canada
RE Arlen Biersgreen	Rio Grande
TE Jeffrey Birch	Central Georgia
TE Caleb Blow	Fellowship
TE Kyle Bobos	Houston Metro
TE Nathan Boyette	Potomac
TE Bill Braeford	Covenant
TE Jeremy Britt	Covenant
TE Sam Brown	Tennessee Valley
TE Marshall Brown	Chicago Metro
TE Kevin Burrell	Catawba Valley
TE Matthew Cadora	Ohio Valley
RE Robert Caldwell	Calvary
TE Josiah Carey	Blue Ridge
TE Hace Cargo	Metro Atlanta
TE David Cassidy	Gulfstream
RE Benjamin Christmann	Tennessee Valley
TE Caleb Click	Evangel
TE Donnie Clinton, Jr.	James River
TE J. Andrew Conrad	James River
TE Bruce Cooke	Southern New England
TE Jason Cornwell	Palmetto
TE Bryan Counts	Calvary
TE Joseph L. Creech	Central Florida
RE Chad Cureton	Fellowship
TE Charles Davis	Heritage
TE Jonathan Davis	Calvary
TE E. Brandon Dean	Metro Atlanta
TE Matthew DeLong	Potomac
TE Joe Dentici	Calvary
TE Jay Denton	Eastern Carolina

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TE Sam DeSocio	Heritage
TE Josh Diack	Potomac
TE Mark Dodd	Calvary
TE David Driskell	Evangel
TE Ryan Egli	Philadelphia
TE Robert Eickelberg	Susquehanna Valley
TE Daniel Ellingburg	Catawba Valley
TE David Ellis	Metropolitan New York
TE Matt Esswein	Arizona
TE Logan Ford	Missouri
TE Gustavo Formenti	Tennessee Valley
RE Jeremy Foster	Covenant
TE Kenny Foster	Heritage
RE Brian Franklin	North Texas
RE David Fuller	Philadelphia
TE J. D. Funyak	North Florida
TE Jonathan Garrett	Fellowship
TE Chris Garriott	Chesapeake
RE Larry Goodman	Tennessee Valley
TE Timothy Gorbey	Eastern Pennsylvania
RE Wyatt Graves	Southwest Florida
TE Peter Green	New River
RE Jason Greene	Northern California
RE Miles Gresham	Evangel
RE Cole Gresham	Evangel
TE Chad Grindstaff	Ohio Valley
TE Elliot Grudem	Eastern Carolina
TE Matt Guzi	Central Carolina
TE Brian Habis	Calvary
TE Kyle Hackmann	Eastern Canada
TE J. Hager	Nashville
TE Bryce Hales	Northern California
RE Derek Halverson	Tennessee Valley
TE Moses Han	Central Florida
TE Brian Hand	Eastern Pennsylvania
RE Bob Hardister	South Texas
TE W. Brian Haring	Gulfstream
RE Jeff Heck	Metro Atlanta
RE Joseph Heidler	Susquehanna Valley

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TE Walter Henegar	Metro Atlanta
RE Jason Henning	North Florida
TE Nagib Hermes	Metro Atlanta
TE Daniel F. Herron	Rio Grande
TE Pat Hickman	Central Indiana
TE Omari Hill	Metro Atlanta
TE Wei Ho	Metropolitan New York
RE Tyler Hogan	Heritage
RE Robert Honey	Wisconsin
TE Larry Hoop	Ohio Valley
TE J. T. Hoover	Fellowship
TE Ryan Hudson	Nashville
TE Caleb Hughes	Chicago Metro
TE Dustin Hunt	Rio Grande
RE Josh Hurst	Tennessee Valley
TE Matthew Hutchins	Piedmont Triad
TE Daniel Iverson III	Chesapeake
RE Aaron Jaggard	Potomac
TE Steve Jeantet	Suncoast Florida
TE Christopher Jhu	New York State
TE Hansoo Jin	Philadelphia
TE Charles Johnson	Evangel
TE Todd Johnson	Blue Ridge
TE Reid Jones	Calvary
RE Scott C. Jones	Tennessee Valley
TE Lyndon Jost	Eastern Canada
TE Jay Joye	Southeast Alabama
TE Daniel Jung	Korean Northwest
TE Josh Keller	South Texas
TE Jeremy Kemp	Nashville
TE Samuel Kennedy	Eastern Carolina
TE Jeffrey Kerr	Canada West
TE David Kertland	Susquehanna Valley
TE Austin Kettle	Potomac
TE Mike Khandjian	Chesapeake
TE Sungyak John Kim	Korean Southeastern
TE Andrew Kim	Korean Eastern
TE Dae Kim	Potomac
TE Iron Kim	Northern California

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TE John Kim	Northern California
TE Solomon Kim	Southern New England
RE Robert King	Highlands
TE Jeremy King	Ohio
RE Nathan Kirkpatrick	Evangel
RE George Koontz	Calvary
TE Ken Kostrzewa	Southern Louisiana
TE Jason Kriaski	Blue Ridge
TE Duke Kwon	Potomac
TE Samuel Lago	Southwest Florida
TE Luke Le Duc	Susquehanna Valley
TE Timothy R. LeCroy	New York State
TE Isaac Lee	Korean Eastern
TE Jacob Lee	Lowcountry
TE David Lindberg	North Texas
TE Nick Locke	South Coast
RE Frank Lopane	Catawba Valley
TE Brian LoPiccolo	Chesapeake
TE Brian Lum Shue Chan	Central Florida
RE Hans Madueme	Tennessee Valley
RE Forrest L. Marion	Tennessee Valley
RE Dave Martin	Georgia Foothills
TE Daniel Mason	Eastern Carolina
TE Paul May	Rocky Mountain
TE Curtis McDaniel III	North Florida
TE Justin McGuire	Palmetto
RE Mark Midyette	Evangel
TE Tim Mindemann	Highlands
TE George Mixon	Calvary
RE David Moore	Central Florida
TE Danny Morgan	South Texas
TE Jeremy Mullen	Lowcountry
RE Mike Nelson	Ohio Valley
TE Murray Nickel	Ohio Valley
TE Daniel Paik	Southern New England
TE Joe Palekas	Potomac
TE Mick Palombo	Central Georgia
TE Moses Park	Southern New England
TE Joe Parker	Metro Atlanta

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TE Jake Patton	North Texas
TE Michael Phillips	Rocky Mountain
RE Norman C. Powell	Metro Atlanta
TE Jon Price	Pittsburgh
TE Dan Quakkelaar	Wisconsin
TE Adam Radcliff	South Texas
RE Joseph Raine	Chesapeake
TE Ben Reed	Central Indiana
RE Timothy Reisinger	Heritage
TE Jonathan Richardson	Philadelphia
TE David Richter	Nashville
RE Eugene Rivers	James River
TE Chandler Rowlen	Tennessee Valley
TE Israel Ruiz	Heritage
TE Matt Ryman	Siouxlands
TE Mark Samuel	Chesapeake
TE Steve Schuper	Missouri
TE David Schweissing	Pittsburgh
TE Travis Scott	Pittsburgh
TE Andrew Shank	Highlands
TE Corby Shields	Tennessee Valley
TE Alexander Shipman	Providence
TE Christ Sicks	Potomac
TE Stephen Simmons	Nashville
TE Timothy Sin	Rocky Mountain
TE Shawn Slate	Tennessee Valley
RE Gordon Sluis	Mississippi Valley
TE Charles "Trip" Smith III	Central Carolina
TE Kevin Smith	Tennessee Valley
RE Robert Smole	Tidewater
TE Jonathan Song	Chesapeake
RE Joshua Spare	Rio Grande
TE Will Spink	Providence
RE William Stackler	Mississippi Valley
TE Scott Strickman	Metropolitan New York
TE Bobby Suh	Korean Capital
TE Jeff Suhr	South Coast
TE Aaron Sunu	Korean Southwest
TE Parker Tenent	Covenant

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RE Bruce Terrell	Metro Atlanta
TE Timothy Udouj	Calvary
TE Andrew Vander Maas	Great Lakes
RE Michael L. Vietz	Gulfstream
TE Mike Viera	Suncoast Florida
TE Jacob Virtue	Calvary
TE Richard Vise	Warrior
TE Nathan Waddell	Chesapeake
TE Greg Ward	South Texas
TE Daniel Wells	Tennessee Valley
TE Clay Werner	Georgia Foothills
RE James W. Wert, Jr.	Metro Atlanta
TE Mark Whipple	Eastern Carolina
TE Nicholas Whitaker	Pacific
TE Noah Wiersema	Missouri
TE John Wilbanks	North Texas
TE Thurman Williams	Missouri
TE Matt Wilson	Gulfstream
TE Keith Winder	Susquehanna Valley
TE Jonathan Winfree	Southwest Florida
RE John C. Wingard, Jr.	Tennessee Valley
TE Joel E. Wood	South Coast
TE Justin Woodall	Southwest Florida
TE John Yenchko	Metropolitan New York
TE Daniel Ying	West Hudson
TE David Young	Central Indiana
TE Joo Young	Potomac
TE Will Young	Nashville
TE G. Eric Youngblood	Tennessee Valley
TE Geoff Zeigler	Chicago Metro

TE Ryan Biese **moved** that the Moderator to appoint a commission to answer the protest (*BCO 45-5*). RE Rich Leino **moved to amend** to make it a committee rather than a commission. The amendment **passed**. TE Fred Greco **moved to amend** that the committee was to report back to this Assembly. The amendment **passed**.

Upon a point of personal privilege, prayer was offered regarding Steve and Sarah Young.

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TE Jason Piland rose to a **point of order** that based on *RAO 9-2* the motion to appoint a committee is out of order. The Moderator ruled the point was **not well taken** as that provision is for ad interim and study committees and does not apply to this committee.

TE Joshua Suh **moved to amend** that the at least half the committee be comprised of Korean or Korean American brothers.

RE Bob Smole rose to a **point of order** that the previous speaker spoke to the matter prior to the amendment and speeches should address the amendment. The Moderator ruled the point was **not well taken** due to the order of who had the floor.

TE David Fischer rose to a **point of order** that debate is supposed to be about the most recent amendment. The Moderator ruled the point was **not well taken** due to the order of who had the floor.

TE Joseph Pipa **called the question** on all matters.

TE Fred Greco rose to a **point of order** that TE Suh's motion was made and seconded, and so, properly before the body, and therefore the motion to call the question on all matters was appropriately before the Assembly. The point of order was **well taken**.

The **motion** to call the question **passed** (1201-494-26).

The **motion to amend** to have more than 50% of the committee be comprised of Korean or Korean Americans **passed** (1069-630-39).

The **motion** as amended for the Moderator to appoint a committee to answer the protest, with at least half the Committee being Korean or Korean-Americans, to report back to this Assembly **failed** (665-1066-19).

TE Derek Radney **moved** that the Assembly recess for an early lunch and reconvene at 1:30. The Moderator asked that we show a video highlighting Ridge Haven as part of that process. The motion **passed**.

51-42 Assembly Recessed

The Assembly recessed for lunch at 11:27 a.m. to reconvene at 1:30 p.m.

Fifth Session, Thursday Afternoon June 13, 2024

51-43 Assembly Reconvened

The Assembly reconvened at 1:30 p.m. with the singing of "Stand Up Stand Up for Jesus" followed by prayer led by TE Tim LeCroy.

51-44 Overtures Committee Report (continued from **51-40**)

Recommendation 1 was **moved** to answer **Overture 1** in the negative. RE Trevor Laurence made a **substitute motion** on behalf of the Committee's Minority Report to answer Overture 1 in the Affirmative as Amended (see p. 102).

TE John Keen **called the question** on all matters before the court. The motion **passed** (1425-275-16).

The motion to substitute the committee Recommendation 1 with the Minority Report **failed** (843-880-18)

Recommendation 1 was **adopted** (950-750-34), answering Overture 1 in the negative.

The following commissioners requested that their negative votes be recorded:

TE Michael Awtry	Pacific Northwest
TE Jeff Birch	Central Georgia
TE Ian Hard	Northern New England
TE Hansoo Jin	Philadelphia
TE Danny Morgan	South Texas
TE Mike Polombo	Central Georgia
TE Israel Ruiz	Heritage
TE Michael Vogel	Wisconsin
TE Noah Wiersema	Missouri

The Chairman closed the report with prayer.

**REPORT OF THE OVERTURES COMMITTEE
TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

I. Business Referred to the Committee

29 Overtures: 1-4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13-33. One overture (33) was referred to AC as well as to the OC. Twenty-three overtures (1-4, 6, 9, 10, 15-30) were referred to CCB as well as to the OC. One overture (14) was referred to CCB, CC and CTS as well as OC. Three overtures (7, 31, 32) were referred to CCB, AC, CC, CDM, CTS, GEN, MNA, MTW, PCAF, RH and RUF as well as to the OC. Six overtures, referred exclusively to other Committees or Agencies, were not considered by the OC (5, 8, 11, 12, 34, 35 to MNA).

II. Statement of Major Issues Discussed

Each overture was discussed and recommendations were made. If the OC recommended no amendment to an overture, then that overture is not

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reprinted here, and we have included only the Clerk’s Summary Title. In instances where the OC proposed amendments to an overture, the Presbytery’s proposed action is reprinted, noting the changes proposed by OC (single underlining and ~~single strikethrough~~ for original overture; double underline and ~~double strikethrough~~ for OC amendment).

The full text of the Overtures is found on pp. 34-162 of this *Commissioner Handbook*. OC Recommendation numbers in this report correspond to the Overture numbers.

III. Summary of Recommendations

- | | | |
|---|---------------------|----------|
| 1. Piedmont Triad – Amend <i>BCO</i> 35-1; 35-8 | Negative | 71-59-0 |
| 2. Northern California – Amend <i>BCO</i> 13-6 | Affirmative/Amended | 119-5-6 |
| 3. Pee Dee – Constitutional Status of <i>BCO</i> 53 | Affirmative/Amended | 94-39-1 |
| 4. Central Indiana – Study Committee-Judicial Rules | Negative | 116-7-2 |
| 6. Susquehanna Valley – Require Background Checks | Ref. to O-17 | 117-2-1 |
| 7. Ascension – Amend <i>RAO</i> 11-5 | Affirmative | 122-1-0 |
| 9. Metro Atlanta – Great Commission requirement to <i>BCO</i> 12-5 | Negative | 114-16-3 |
| 10. Metro Atlanta – Presbytery TE Care to <i>BCO</i> 13-9 | Negative | 85-44-0 |
| 13. Calvary – Letter Regarding Gender Reassignment for Minors | Affirmative/Amended | 78-56-1 |
| 14. Northwest Georgia – Amend <i>RAO</i> 4-21.d | Affirmative | 118-4-1 |
| 15. Session of West End PC – Amend <i>BCO</i> 7-2 | Negative | 129-2-0 |
| 16. Warrior – Amend <i>BCO</i> 13-6, 21-4, and 24-1 | Ref. to O-17 | 117-2-1 |
| 17. Ohio – Amend <i>BCO</i> 13-6, 21-4, and 24-1 | Affirmative/Amended | 115-13-4 |
| 18. Ohio – Amend <i>BCO</i> 35-1 and 35-8 | Ref. to O-1 | 98-20-3 |
| 19. Session of Fountain Square PC – Amend <i>BCO</i> 41 | Negative | 104-4-1 |
| 20. Session of Fountain Square PC – Amend <i>BCO</i> 31, 32, and 35 | Negative | 117-2-1 |
| 21. Central Indiana – Amend <i>BCO</i> 43-1 | Affirmative/Amended | 117-3-1 |
| 22. South Florida – Amend <i>BCO</i> 13-2 | Refer back | 120-6-0 |
| 23. Missouri – Amend <i>BCO</i> 13-6, 21-4, and 24-1 | Ref. to O-17 | 117-2-1 |
| 24. South Texas – Amend <i>BCO</i> 13-6, 21-4, and 24-1 | Ref. to O-17 | 117-2-1 |
| 25. Tennessee Valley – Amend <i>BCO</i> 31-2 | Negative | 88-30-1 |
| 26. Tennessee Valley – Amend <i>BCO</i> 32-19 | Affirmative/Amended | 116-7-1 |
| 27. Potomac – Amend <i>BCO</i> 13-6 | Affirmative | 110-15-1 |

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28. New Jersey – Amend <i>RAO</i> 16-6.c.1	Refer back	114-8-1
29. Session of Bryce Avenue PC – Amend <i>BCO</i> 53	Ref. to O-3	120-10-2
30. Lowcountry – Amend <i>BCO</i> 23-1	Negative	77-57-1
31. New River – Amend <i>BCO</i> 14-1	Negative	118-3-3
32. Eastern Pennsylvania – Amend <i>BCO</i> 23	Refer back	130-1-1
33. TE Benjamin Inman – Erect <i>Ad Interim</i> Committee on the Book <i>Jesus Calling</i>	Affirmative/Amended	80-53-2

IV. Recommendations

1. That **Overture 1** from Piedmont Triad Presbytery (“Amend *BCO* 35-1 and 35-8 Regarding Witness Eligibility”, p. 1036) be answered in the **negative**. *Adopted*

Grounds: The Overture introduces the problem of having those who do not believe in the existence of God or a final judgment and who are unable, therefore, to swear an oath before God to give testimony in an ecclesiastical trial. Ecclesiastical trials are not criminal matters but judgments regarding sin and repentance, something non-theists are incapable of understanding. Further, the direct testimony of those who cannot meet the requirements of *BCO* 35-1 is not necessary in many cases. Documents, forensic evidence, medical tests, etc., can be submitted to a church court. Additionally, our *BCO* does not have the restrictive rules of evidence that civil courts do; most prominently, hearsay is admissible. Finally, the Overture would do away with courts’ ability to determine who is a competent witness and do away with the historical requirement of oaths (*BCO* 35-8).

2. That **Overture 2** from Northern California Presbytery (“Amend *BCO* 13-6 for Clarity in Transfers of Ordination”, p. 1048) be answered in the **affirmative as amended**. *Adopted*

13-6. Ministers Transferring into the Presbytery

- a. A Ministers seeking admission to a Presbytery from another Presbyteries Presbytery in the Presbyterian Church in America shall be examined on Christian experience, and also touching as to his their views in theology, the Sacraments, and church government. If the examining Presbytery does not accept the Minister seeking admission, it shall record this fact along with its rationale, if one is adopted in the minutes, and shall communicate its rationale to his current Presbytery.

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- b. If an applicants comes from another denominations, the Presbytery shall examine him ~~them~~ thoroughly ~~in knowledge and views~~ as required by the trials listed in BCO 21-4, and require them him to answer in the affirmative the questions put to candidates at their ordination. Ordained ministers from other denominations being considered by Presbyteries for reception may come under the extraordinary provisions set forth in *BCO* 21-4.
- c. In every case, Presbyteries shall also require each ordained ministers ~~coming from other denominations entering the Presbytery~~ to state the specific instances in which ~~they~~ he may differ with the *Confession of Faith and Catechisms* in any of their statements and/or propositions, which differences the court shall judge in accordance with *BCO* 21-4 (see *BCO* 21-4.f-g (see also *RAO* 16-3.e.5.a-d). ~~Each ordained minister accepted into the Presbytery shall also be required to answer in the affirmative the questions put to candidates at their ordination.~~

So the amended section would read:

13-6. Ministers Transferring into the Presbytery

- a. A Minister seeking admission to a Presbytery from another Presbytery in the Presbyterian Church in America shall be examined on Christian experience, and also as to his views in theology, the Sacraments, and church government. If the examining Presbytery does not accept the Minister seeking admission, it shall record this fact along with its rationale, if one is adopted in the minutes, and shall communicate its rationale to his current Presbytery.
- b. If an applicant comes from another denomination, the Presbytery shall examine him thoroughly as required by the trials listed in *BCO* 21-4 and require him to answer in the affirmative the questions put to candidates at their ordination. Ordained ministers from other denominations being considered by Presbyteries for reception may come under the extraordinary provisions set forth in *BCO* 21-4.
- c. In every case, Presbyteries shall require each ordained minister entering the Presbytery to state the specific instances in which he may differ with the *Confession of Faith and Catechisms* in any of their statements and/or propositions, which differences

the court shall judge in accordance with *BCO* 21-4.f-g (see also *RAO* 16-3.e.5.a-d).

Grounds: The Overture fixes a potential problem when the transfer of a minister from one presbytery to another is not accepted, by making it possible for the Presbytery to adopt a rationale for such action. It also would require presbyteries to obtain a man's stated differences to the Standards in accordance with long-standing practice.

3. That **Overture 3** from Pee Dee Presbytery ("Grant Constitutional Status to *BCO* 53 re Preaching", p. 1050) be answered in the **affirmative as amended**.
Not Adopted

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Pee Dee Presbytery hereby requests the 51st General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America to amend our Book of Church Order 53 (single underlining and single strikethrough for original overture; double underline and double strike through for OC amendment) and give this chapter constitutional status.

CHAPTER 53

The Preaching of the Word

53-1. The preaching of the Word is an ordinance of God for the salvation of men. Serious attention should be paid to the manner in which it is done. The minister or a qualified man should apply himself to it with diligence and prove himself a "worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).

53-2. The subject of a sermon should be some verse or verses of Scripture, and its object, to explain, defend and apply some part of the system of divine truth; or to point out the nature, and state the bounds and obligation, of some duty. A text should not be merely a motto, but should fairly contain the doctrine proposed to be handled. It is proper also that large portions of Scripture be sometimes expounded, and particularly improved, for the instruction of the people in the meaning and use of the sacred Scriptures.

53-3. Preaching requires much study, meditation, and prayer, and ministers or qualified men should prepare their sermons with care, and not indulge themselves in loose, extemporary harangues, nor serve God

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with that which costs them naught. They should, however, keep to the simplicity of the Gospel, and express themselves in language that can be understood by all. They should also by their lives adorn the Gospel which they preach, and be examples to believers in word and deed.

53-4. As a primary design of public ordinances is to unite the people in acts of common worship of the most high God, ministers, or a qualified man, should be careful not to make their sermons so long as to interfere with or exclude the important duties of prayer and praise, but should preserve a just proportion in the several parts of public worship.

53-5. By way of application of the sermon the minister, or a qualified man, may urge his hearers by commandment or invitation to repent of their sins, to put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior, and to confess him publicly before men.

~~**53-6.** No person qualified man should be invited to preach or exhort in any of the churches under our care without the consent of the Session. Only qualified men may be invited to preach in any of the churches under our care and only with the consent of the Session.~~

Grounds: The amended version of the Overture clarifies the language of 53-6, and otherwise supports the proposal of the Presbytery.

4. That **Overture 4** from Central Indiana Presbytery (“Establish Study Committee for Judicial Rules Changes”, p. 1053) be answered in the **negative**. *Adopted*

Grounds: The Overture is not the ordinary, or best, solution for amending the Constitution, and we are not persuaded there is a systematic problem with the Rules of Discipline that might indicate the need for an extraordinary process. Historically, *BCO* amendments have been offered by Presbyteries on specific matters or provisions, handled by the Overtures Committee, and submitted to the General Assembly for approval. We believe it is not the best course to submit a series of Overtures to a temporary committee for further refinement. Additionally, it is highly unusual both to propose a specific composition for a committee and also require that the committee be self-funding.

5. *[Overture 5 was referred by the Stated Clerk to MNA.]*

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6. That **Overture 6** from Susquehanna Valley Presbytery (“Amend *BCO* Sections to Require Background Checks for Church Office”, p. 1067) be answered **with reference to the answer to Overture 17**. *Adopted*
7. That **Overture 7** from Ascension Presbytery (“Amend *RAO* 11-5 to Clarify Process for *RAO* Amendments”, p. 1070) be answered in the **affirmative**. *Adopted*
8. *[Overture 8 was referred by the Stated Clerk to MNA.]*
9. That **Overture 9** from Metro Atlanta Presbytery (“Add Great Commission Requirement to *BCO* 12-5”, p. 1074) be answered in the **negative**. *Adopted*

Grounds: The Overture is unnecessary. The Church exists to fulfill the Great Commission and has been the work of PCA congregations throughout its history. Not every Biblical and laudable work needs to be explicitly laid out as a duty of a Session. Further, *BCO* 12-5.d already charges Sessions “to promote obedience to the Great Commission in its totality at home and abroad.”

10. That **Overture 10** from Metro Atlanta Presbytery (“Add Presbytery TE Care to *BCO* 13-9”, p. 1075) be answered in the **negative**. *Adopted*

Grounds: The Overture is unnecessary. Because Teaching Elders are members of Presbytery (*BCO* 13-1), the Presbytery already has both the jurisdiction and obligation to shepherd them.

11. *[Overture 11 was referred by the Stated Clerk to MNA.]*
12. *[Overture 12 was referred by the Stated Clerk to MNA.]*
13. That **Overture 13** from Calvary Presbytery (“Commend and Encourage Distribution of Commission Letter Regarding Gender Reassignment for Minors”, p. 1078) be answered in the **affirmative as amended**. *Adopted*

That the 51st General Assembly commend as biblically faithful the letter written by the PCAGA50 Moderator’s Commission, humbly petitioning leaders of the United States Government “to protect the lives and welfare of minor children from the physical, mental, and emotional harms associated with medical and surgical interventions for the purpose of

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gender reassignment.” ~~Furthermore, we call upon you to use your positions to promote the health, bodily integrity, and wellbeing of minors who are suffering from gender dysphoria and related conditions.”~~

~~That the 51st General Assembly further encourage PCA Sessions and Presbyteries to communicate with their own respective regional and/or municipal governments the same.~~

Grounds: This answer affirms the Biblical faithfulness of the letter drafted by the Commission, while leaving it to the discretion of each court to determine whether or how to share the letter with civil magistrates.

14. That **Overture 14** from Northwest Georgia Presbytery (“Amend *RAO* 4-21.d to Require Enrollment Data From Higher Ed Institutions”, p. 1082) be answered in the **affirmative**. *Adopted*

15. That **Overture 15** from the Session of West End PC (“Amend *BCO* 7-2 to Specify Ordination for Biological Males Only”, p. 1083) be answered in the **negative**. *Adopted*

Grounds: Our Standards are clear that ordained offices are open only to men by Biblical warrant. Efforts to further define the term “men” is to accept the current cultural confusion on the issue.

16. That **Overture 16** from Warrior Presbytery (“Amend *BCO* 13-6, 21-4, 24-1 to Require Background Checks”, p. 1084) be answered **with reference to the answer to Overture 17**. *Adopted*

17. That **Overture 17** from Ohio Presbytery (“Amend *BCO* 13-6, 21-4, and 24-1 to Require Background Checks for Church Office”, p. 1089) be answered in the **affirmative as amended**. *Adopted*

~~**Be it resolved** that *BCO* 13-6 be amended by adding a final paragraph to the end of the section: (single underlining and single strikethrough for original overture; double underline and ~~double strikethrough~~ for OC amendment):~~

~~**13-6...**~~

~~A Presbytery shall order and review a background check on each candidate, administered under the specific rules and policies of the Presbytery, as part of its examination of the candidate’s Christian~~

~~experience (if seeking admission from another Presbytery in the Presbyterian Church in America) or acquaintance with experiential religion (if seeking admission from other denominations [see BCO 21-4.e.(1)(a)]). The candidate shall be permitted to address the results of the background check.~~

Be it further resolved that ~~BCO 21-4.e.(1) be amended by adding a final unnumbered paragraph to the end of the subsection:~~

~~**21-4.e.(1) ...**~~

~~A Presbytery shall order and review a background check on each candidate, administered under the specific rules and policies of the Presbytery, as part of its examination of a candidate's experiential religion (BCO 21-4.e.(1)(a)). The candidate shall be permitted to address the results of the background check.~~

So that the unnumbered paragraphs will read

~~“A Presbytery may accept a seminary degree which includes study in the original languages in lieu of an oral examination in the original languages.~~

~~A Presbytery shall order and review a background check on each candidate, administered under the specific rules and policies of the Presbytery, as part of its examination of a candidate's experiential religion (BCO 21-4.e.(1)(a)). The candidate shall be permitted to address the content of the background check.”~~

Be it further resolved that ~~BCO 24-1 be amended by inserting a second unnumbered paragraph after subsection c. and before the unnumbered paragraph that begins, “Notwithstanding the above ...”:~~

~~**24-1.e...**~~

~~A Session shall order and review a background check on each candidate, administered under the specific rules and policies of the Session, as part of its examination of a candidate's Christian experience (BCO 24-1.a.). The candidate shall be permitted to address the results of the background check.~~

Be it further resolved that Presbyteries and Sessions are hereby encouraged to adopt policies for conducting ~~mandatory~~ background checks on every candidate for office.

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Grounds: The Overture would have mandated background checks without mandating the process and procedures. A “one-size-fits-all” mandate in our *BCO* raises several issues, including who gets to see the results of background checks, who pays for them, and who protects the private information required. The amended language encourages church courts to adopt policies and procedures, which is wise, without making specific mandates.

18. That **Overture 18** from Ohio Presbytery (“Amend *BCO* 35-1 and 35-8 Regarding Witness Eligibility”, p. 1095) be answered **with reference to the answer to Overture 1**. *Adopted*

19. That **Overture 19** from the Session of Fountain Square PC (“Amend *BCO* 41 to allow Venue Change in Judicial Cases”, p. 1100) be answered in the **negative**. *Adopted*

Grounds: The Overture would fundamentally change the way a matter or case is handled when a court is unable or unwilling to adjudicate a matter or a case. Current *BCO* 41 provides an avenue in such situations. The Overture would move matters to a court that does not have jurisdiction (*BCO* 46) over a person or church – requiring someone to submit to a non-jurisdictional court. *BCO* 41 does not suffer from that weakness.

20. That **Overture 20** from the Session of Fountain Square PC (“Proposed Systematic Changes to *BCO* 31, 32, and 35”, p. 1103) be answered in the **negative**. *Adopted*

Grounds: The Overture proposes amending three chapters of the *BCO*, a far too ambitious prospect for either the Overtures Committee or the General Assembly, particularly given we are not persuaded there is a systematic problem with the Rules of Discipline. It would be better for such a large series of *BCO* changes to be submitted in a more discrete and focused fashion.

21. That **Overture 21** from Central Indiana Presbytery (“Change the Prohibition Against ‘Interlocutory Appeal’ by Complaint in *BCO* 43-1”, p. 1153) be answered in the **affirmative as amended**. *Adopted*

Resolved that the *Book of Church Order (BCO)* 43 be amended as follows (single underlining and ~~single strikethrough~~ for original overture; double underline and ~~double strikethrough~~ for OC amendment):

43-1. A complaint is a written representation made against some act or decision of a court of the Church. It is the right of any communing member of the Church in good standing to make complaint against any action of a court to whose jurisdiction he is subject, except that no complaint is allowable in a judicial case ~~in which an appeal is pending after process has commenced. If a complaint is filed at any time after process has commenced, a BCO 43-1 complaint is timely filed, the court's adjudication shall be delayed until after the judicial case has been completed, or, if an appeal is filed, after it has been fully adjudicated or withdrawn. During judicial process, the accused may raise BCO 32-14 objections on a variety of matters and the original court shall decide each. Those decisions could be reviewable on appeal.~~

Grounds: The changes to the Overture address CCB's concerns about the timeliness of complaints while preserving the Overture's desire that complaints arising in the course of judicial matters do not delay the adjudication of the judicial matter.

22. That **Overture 22** from South Florida Presbytery ("Amend *BCO* 13-2 to clarify Teaching Elder Presbytery Membership", p. 1155) be **referred back to the Presbytery**. *Adopted*

Grounds: This Overture would benefit from additional work, as it shows a potential conflict in the *BCO*, that 8-7 and 13-2 define the place of a Teaching Elder's membership differently. However, the Overture does not resolve this conflict fully, as some Teaching Elders have a field of labor that spans multiple presbyteries and others do limited work outside the geographic bounds of their presbytery, but have a call to a work in their presbytery.

23. That **Overture 23** from Missouri Presbytery ("Amend *BCO* 13-6, 21-4, and 24-1 to Require Background Checks for Church Office", p. 1156) be answered **with reference to the answer to Overture 17**. *Adopted*

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24. That **Overture 24** from South Texas Presbytery (“Amend *BCO* 13-6, 21-4, and 24-1 to Require Background Checks for Church Office”, p. 1160) be answered **with reference to the answer to Overture 17**. *Adopted*
25. That **Overture 25** from Tennessee Valley Presbytery (“Amend *BCO* 31-2 to Expand Who May Assist in an Investigations”, p. 1164) be answered in the **negative**. *Adopted*

Grounds: The Overture introduces non-binding language into the *BCO*. Courts are already free to use third parties in *BCO* 31-2 investigations (or even in informal inquiries). The Overture creates a potential problem because its language may create an assumption that courts should always use third parties, and if they do not, they have somehow failed in their duty.

26. That **Overture 26** from Tennessee Valley Presbytery (“Amend *BCO* 32-19 To Expand Representation of Accused Persons Before Church Courts”, p. 1165) be answered in the **affirmative as amended**. *Adopted*

Therefore, be it resolved that *BCO* 32-19 be amended as follows (single underlining and ~~single strikethrough~~ for original overture; double underline and ~~double strikethrough~~ for OC amendment):

32-19. No professional counsel shall be permitted as such to appear and plead in cases of process in any court; but an accused person may, if he desires it, be represented before the Session or the Presbytery by any member in good standing of a church in the same Presbytery or by any Teaching Elder member of that Presbytery, or before the General Assembly by any court by a communing member of the same particular church, or before any other court, by any member of that court in good standing of a PCA church or any member in good standing of a in the PCA court. A member of the court so employed shall not be allowed to sit in judgment in the case. Courts are encouraged to suggest to the accused/appellant the names of potential representatives and potential advisors he might contact.

So the amended section would read:

32-19. No professional counsel shall be permitted as such to appear and plead in cases of process in any court; but an accused person may, if he desires it, be represented before the Session or the Presbytery

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by any member in good standing of a church in the same Presbytery or by any Teaching Elder member of that Presbytery, or before the General Assembly by any member in good standing in the PCA. A member of the court so employed shall not be allowed to sit in judgment in the case. Courts are encouraged to suggest to the accused/appellant the names of potential representatives and potential advisors he might contact.

Grounds: The Overture, as amended, solves the problem that existing *BCO* 32-19 is too restrictive on who may assist an accused person before a Session. It is very possible that there would be no other “communing member of the same particular church” with sufficient knowledge of the Rules of Discipline to help an accused person. The amended language avoids a counter problem in that allowing any member of the PCA to represent an accused before a Session could enable an ecclesiastical “expert” to overmatch a small local Session. The amended language provides an appropriate balance that will aid church courts in judicial cases.

27. That **Overture 27** from Potomac Presbytery (“Amend *BCO* 13-6 to Add Personal Character and Family Management to the Examination of Transferring Ministers”, p. 1167) be answered in the **affirmative**.

Adopted

28. That **Overture 28** from New Jersey Presbytery (“Amend *RAO* 16-6.c.1. to Eliminate Conflict with *BCO* 40-5”, p. 1168) be **referred back to the Presbytery**.

Adopted

Grounds: The Overture attempts to resolve a purported conflict between *RAO* 16.6.c.1 and *BCO* 40-5. However, it fails to provide sufficient clarity about the conflict's nature or a solution that would avoid future controversy. As a result, we believe it is wisest to send the Overture back to the Presbytery for further refinement.

29. That **Overture 29** from the Session of Bryce Avenue PC (“Amend *BCO* 53 by Addition To Ensure Only Men Preach”, p. 1170) be answered **with reference to the answer to Overture 3**.

Adopted

30. That **Overture 30** from Lowcountry Presbytery (“Amend *BCO* 23-21 To Require that the Presbytery of Jurisdiction *Conduct* an Exit Interview Prior to Dissolution of Call”, p. 1171) be answered in the **negative**.

Adopted

Grounds: The Overture would mandate “exit interviews” for a Teaching Elder leaving a call. There are several reasons not to create such a mandate, including that Presbyteries already may conduct “exit interviews” with TEs and commissioners of a congregation per *BCO* 23-1; the mandatory nature of this meeting could delay the transfer of a Teaching Elder in good standing when there are no problems for months until the Presbytery can meet and have this exit interview; and no Teaching Elder is currently Constitutionally hindered from any discussion with his Presbytery. What a Teaching Elder or a congregation discusses should be left to their discretion.

31. That **Overture 31** from New River Presbytery (“Amend *BCO* 14-1 Regarding Changes in Permanent Committee and Agency Policy”, p. 1175) be answered in the **negative**. *Adopted*

Grounds: The Overture contains confusing terms, which could exacerbate the problems it seeks to solve. No clear definition is given for “ministry priority” or “operational policy.” It is unclear what would be an “organization that remain[s] entirely under the oversight of the committee or agency.” Further, the Permanent Committees have not had an adequate opportunity to study the Overture and assess its effects.

32. That **Overture 32** from Eastern Pennsylvania Presbytery (“Amend *BCO* 23 to Address Dissolution of Call for those Employed by a Committee or Agency”, p. 1180) be **referred back to the Presbytery**. *Adopted*

Grounds: The Overture raises significant issues relating to non-congregational calls to Teaching Elders from PCA Committees and Agencies. It does not, however, resolve or address all possible concerns beyond the dissolution of such calls (e.g., issuing of such calls, transfers of Teaching Elders with such calls, or questions for installation). The Overture would benefit from additional work.

33. That **Overture 33** from TE Benjamin Inman (“Erect *Ad Interim* Committee on the Book *Jesus Calling*”, p. 1182) be answered in the **affirmative as amended**. **80-53-2**

~~Therefore be it resolved that the General Assembly erect an Ad-Interim Committee tasked to return a report to the next convened General Assembly:~~

- ~~1. Documenting the PCA's historical relationship to the book, *Jesus Calling*.~~
- ~~2. Demonstrating whether the book constitutes a violation of the Second Commandment according to our Subordinate Standards as proved from Scripture.~~
- ~~3. Bringing recommendations for any warranted actions of repentance by the PCA.~~

~~Therefore be it further resolved that the General Assembly's Theological Examining Committee be empowered as a commission to populate the ad-interim committee with four (4) Teaching Elders and five (5) Ruling Elders (including from their own number if they so decide).~~

~~Therefore be it further resolved that the committee be encouraged to make judicious use of video conferencing and to seek assistance from TE Wayne Sparkman of the PCA Historical Center, and the budget not exceed \$10,000 to be funded by gifts to the AC designated for this purpose.~~

Therefore be it resolved that the General Assembly request reports to be returned to the 52nd General Assembly from the permanent committees of the two agencies most connected with the *Jesus Calling* book.

From the permanent committee for the Committee on Discipleship Ministries, a brief report that will:

1. Examine the history of the CDM's relationship with the book and outline its reasons for withdrawing the book from its inventory previously and not offering it for sale since.
2. Assess the book's appropriateness for Christians in general and PCA members and congregations in particular with special regard for its doctrine and method.
3. Provide recommendations (if needed) for remedial materials, advisory statements, or General Assembly actions concerning *Jesus Calling*.

And from Mission to the World, a brief report that will:

1. Examine MTW's relationship with the book, knowledge of its content, and any counsel given to the author.

2. Consider actions that MTW and the General Assembly should take in light of this study of the book and of the agency's relationship to it.

Grounds: The amended version of the Overture allows the relevant permanent committees to examine and demonstrate the PCA's relationship with this book and its appropriateness for Christians, while not creating an unnecessary study committee.

V. Commissioners Present

Presbytery

Arizona
Arizona
Ascension
Ascension
Blue Ridge
Blue Ridge
Calvary
Calvary
Canada West
Canada West
Catawba Valley
Catawba Valley
Central Carolina
Central Carolina
Central Florida
Central Florida
Central Georgia
Central Georgia
Central Indiana
Chesapeake
Chesapeake
Chicago Metro
Columbus Metro
Columbus Metro
Covenant
Covenant
Eastern Canada
Eastern Canada

Commissioner

RE Dave Price
TE Joshua Walker
TE Cody Hooper
RE Frederick Neikirk
RE Stephen Hobson
TE Burress McCombe
TE Brian C. Habig
RE Scott Hultstrand
RE Paul Mandry
TE Adam Harris
RE Jim Aldridge
TE Michael Colvard
TE Ralph Johnston
RE Flynt Jones
RE Andrew Augenstein
TE Justin Borger
TE Paul L. Bankson
RE John Mitchell
TE Taylor Bradbury
RE Joe Raine
TE Mark C. Samuel
TE Geoff M. Ziegler
RE Chip Crickard
TE Chris Mabee
TE Douglas M. Barcroft
RE Jonathan Barlow
RE Ewan Goligher
TE Kyle Hackmann

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Eastern Carolina	TE Sam Kennedy
Eastern Carolina	RE Michael Newkirk
Eastern Pennsylvania	TE Taylor Anthony Bradley
Evangel	TE Jim Alexander
Evangel	RE Brandon Robbins
Fellowship	TE Caleb Blow
Fellowship	RE Chad Cureton
Georgia Foothills	TE Scott Barber
Georgia Foothills	RE Jack Wilson
Grace	RE Troy Gibson
Grace	TE David T. Irving
Great Lakes	TE Bruce Baugus
Great Lakes	RE Jerome Gorgon
Gulf Coast	RE Mike M. McCrary
Gulf Coast	TE Stephen B. Tipton
Heartland	TE Rick Franks
Heartland	RE Lance Kinzer
Heritage	TE Steve Coward
Heritage	RE Conrad W Judy Jr
Highlands	TE Jonathan D. Inman
Hills and Plains	RE Noel Henley
Hills and Plains	TE Chris Taylor
Houston Metro	RE Dave Cias
Houston Metro	TE Fred Greco
Illiana	TE Scott Edburg
Illiana	RE Andre Kok
Iowa	RE Chris Sutton
James River	TE Eric Ansell Dugan
James River	RE Matt Fender
Korean Capital	TE Hyung Min David Bae
Korean Central	TE Brian Park
Korean Northeastern	TE Hoochan Paul Lee
Korean Southeastern	TE Edward Lim
Lowcountry	RE Donald Cummings
Lowcountry	TE Alexander Dorn Mark
Metro Atlanta	TE Drew Archer
Metro Atlanta	RE James W. Wert Jr.
Metropolitan New York	TE Scott Strickman
Mississippi Valley	RE Chuck Murphy

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Mississippi Valley	TE David Strain
Missouri	TE Charles Stover
Nashville	TE Mitchell Carter
Nashville	RE Bryce Sullivan
New Jersey	RE Aaron Snethen
New Jersey	TE Ted W. Trefsgar Jr.
New River	TE John W. Downs
New York State	TE Christopher Jhu
North Florida	TE Tommy Peterson
North Texas	TE Anton Heuss
North Texas	RE James Poteet
Northern California	TE Alex Ford
Northern California	RE Jason Greene
Northern Illinois	RE Lee Gerriettes
Northern Illinois	TE David Keithley
Northern New England	TE Ian G. Hard
Northwest Georgia	TE Job Dalomba
Northwest Georgia	RE Chuck Lokey
Ohio	TE Christopher Lee Hutchings
Ohio	RE Scott Wulff
Ohio Valley	RE Shay Fout
Ohio Valley	TE Zach Meyer
Pacific	TE Christian Bland
Pacific	RE Ron Warren
Pacific Northwest	TE Matthew H. Allhands
Pacific Northwest	RE Camden Spiller
Palmetto	TE Joshua Knott
Pee Dee	RE Carl Bazemore
Pee Dee	TE John Mark Irwin
Piedmont Triad	RE Trevor Laurence
Piedmont Triad	TE Jacob Morrison
Pittsburgh	RE David Auman
Pittsburgh	TE Ray E. Heiple Jr.
Platte Valley	RE Robert DeYoung
Platte Valley	TE Andrew Lightner
Potomac	RE Aaron Jaggard
Potomac	TE Joel C. St. Clair
Providence	RE John R. Bise
Providence	TE Joe Henry Steele III

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Rio Grande	RE Arlen Biersgreen
Rio Grande	TE Daniel Ferrell Herron
Rocky Mountain	TE Matthew William Giesman
Rocky Mountain	RE EJ Nusbaum
Savannah River	RE Ty Donaldson
Savannah River	TE David Senters
Siouxlands	TE Nathan Lee
Siouxlands	RE Ben Wiener
South Florida	TE David Barry
South Florida	RE Gregory Misesyko
South Texas	TE Eric Landry
South Texas	RE Joshua Torrey
Southeast Alabama	TE Brannon Bowman
Southeast Alabama	RE Rick Clark
Southern Louisiana	TE Anthony Pyles
Southern New England	TE Daniel J. Jarstfer
Southern New England	RE Chris Shoemaker
Southwest Florida	RE Frank McCaulley
Southwest Florida	TE Aldo Omar Mondin
Suncoast Florida	TE Brent Stuart Lauder
Suncoast Florida	RE Michael Levenhagen
Susquehanna Valley	RE John Barry
Susquehanna Valley	TE Angelo Valle
Tennessee Valley	RE James Isbell
Tennessee Valley	TE Brian Salter
Tidewater	RE Timothy Nargi Jr.
Warrior	TE Derrick Brite
Westminster	RE Kerry Belcher
Westminster	TE Steven E. Warhurst
Wisconsin	TE Michael Bowman
Wisconsin	RE Steve Iler

Commissioners from the following Presbyteries were not present:

Gulfstream
Korean Northwest
Korean Southern
Korean Southwest
Korean Southwest Orange County

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Philadelphia
Philadelphia Metro West
South Coast
West Hudson

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ TE Stephen B. Tipton, Chairman /s/ TE Edward Lim, Secretary

**OVERTURES COMMITTEE
MINORITY REPORT
On Overture 1**

Motion of the Minority Report

We, the minority, move the following to be adopted as a substitute motion to the recommendation of the Overtures Committee.

That the General Assembly answer Overture 1 in the affirmative as amended:

Be it resolved: That *BCO* 35-1 and 35-8 be amended by deleting some current language (indicated below by strikethrough) and adding some new language (indicated below by underlining).

35-1. All persons of proper age and intelligence are competent witnesses, ~~except such as do not believe in the existence of God, or a future state of rewards and punishments.~~ Either party has the right to challenge a witness whom he believes to be incompetent, and the court shall examine and decide upon his competency.

No changes to BCO 35-2 through 35-7

35-8. ~~The oath or affirmation to a witness shall be administered by the Moderator in the following or like terms:~~ The court shall inform the witness that, regardless of whether he believes in God or in a future state of rewards and punishments, his oath or affirmation is made in the presence of God and God will judge him on the truthfulness of his answers. The Moderator shall then ask the witness the following:

Do you solemnly swear ~~promise~~, in the presence of God, that you will declare the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, according to the best of your knowledge in the matter in which you are called to witness, as you shall answer it to the great Judge of the living and the dead?

If, however, the witness cannot take an oath either for conscientious reasons or because he is not a Christian and thus not able to take a lawful oath invoking God, the Moderator shall then ask the witness the following: at any time a witness should present himself before a court, who for conscientious reasons prefers to swear or affirm in any other manner, he should be allowed to do so.

Do you solemnly promise that you will declare the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, according to the best of your knowledge in the matter in which you are called to witness?

Such that the final text reads:

35-1. All persons of proper age and intelligence are competent witnesses. Either party has the right to challenge a witness whom he believes to be incompetent, and the court shall examine and decide upon his competency.

No changes to BCO 35-2 through 35-7

35-8. The court shall inform the witness that, regardless of whether he believes in God or in a future state of rewards and punishments, his oath or affirmation is made in the presence of God and God will judge him on the truthfulness of his answers. The Moderator shall then ask the witness the following:

Do you solemnly swear, in the presence of God, that you will declare the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, according to the best of your knowledge in the matter in which you are called to witness, as you shall answer it to the great Judge of the living and the dead?

If, however, the witness cannot take an oath either for conscientious reasons or because he is not a Christian and thus not able to take a lawful oath invoking God, the Moderator shall then ask the witness the following:

Do you solemnly promise that you will declare the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, according to the best of your knowledge in the matter in which you are called to witness?

Clarifying Questions Regarding the Proposed Amendment

What does the current BCO 35 allow and prohibit?

BCO 35-1 currently prohibits courts from hearing the testimony of those who do not believe in God or a future state of rewards and punishments. Witnesses who believe in God and a future state of rewards and punishments—including Christians and non-Christian theists—are permitted to provide testimony as witnesses. Significantly, non-believers who are adherents of other religions and thus meet the theistic requirement of *BCO 35-1* are currently permitted as valid witnesses in PCA courts.

BCO 35-8 currently specifies the oath to be administered to witnesses. However, the provision permits witnesses who for conscientious reasons prefer to swear or affirm in any other manner to do so. Thus, *BCO 35-8* as currently written does not universally mandate oaths for all witnesses in PCA courts.

What does the amendment change?

The amendment strikes part of one sentence in *BCO 35-1*, removing the prohibition against witnesses who do not believe in God or a future state of rewards or punishments. The amendment thus expands witness eligibility so that courts may receive testimony from non-theists, alongside the Christians and non-Christian theists who are currently permitted.

The proposal also amends *BCO 35-8* such that every witness must be informed that his oath or affirmation is offered in the presence of God and that God will judge him on the truthfulness of his answers. In addition to the scripted oath that is the default for Christian witnesses, there is also a scripted affirmation applicable to all witnesses with conscientious objections to oath-taking and to all non-Christian witnesses—theist and non-theist alike—who, according to WCF 22.2, are not able to take a lawful oath.

What is the goal of the amendment?

The goal of the amendment is to expand witness eligibility—permitting the courts of the church to hear the testimony of non-theists—so that PCA courts have access to all relevant testimony in their pursuit of truth, justice, righteousness, and faithfulness. The current provision constrains the courts of the church,

prohibiting them from receiving potentially valuable testimony from non-theists. The amendment aims to free the courts to receive relevant testimony regardless of the personal beliefs of any potential witness as the courts seek the peace and purity of the church in all their judicial deliberations and are entrusted to exercise the responsibility placed upon them by *BCO 35-5* “to judge the degree of credibility to be attached to all evidence.”

Is this the same Overture that the Committee on Constitutional Business (CCB) ruled as “constitutionally vague”?

No, this is an amended version of Overture 1 that resolves the issue identified by CCB.

Does this amendment give atheists standing in PCA courts?

No, the amendment does not give atheists standing in PCA courts. Rather, the amendment simply gives PCA courts the right to hear their testimony and render faithful, informed judgment as shepherds of the sheep.

Does this amendment seek to open witness eligibility to non-Christians?

PCA courts are already permitted to receive testimony from non-Christian witnesses according to *BCO 35-1*, so long as those witnesses believe in God and a future state of rewards or punishments. Muslims, Jews, deists, pagans, and the “spiritual but not religious” may thus currently serve as valid witnesses in cases of process, while non-theists are barred from testifying. The amendment seeks to extend the eligibility already granted to non-Christian theists to non-theists. There is no compelling reason why the court may receive testimony from adherents of false religions and yet be prohibited from receiving testimony from non-theists.

Does this amendment open witness eligibility to individuals who are not under the jurisdiction of PCA courts?

BCO 35-1 already permits any non-Christian theist—who is not subject to the court’s jurisdiction or authority to discipline—to testify as a witness. As currently written, *BCO 35-1* does not require potential witnesses to be under the court’s jurisdiction, and expanding witness eligibility to non-theists would not change this aspect of the PCA’s existing policy.

Does this amendment remove the necessity of oath-taking from PCA courts or diminish the gravity of oaths?

BCO 35-8 already permits witnesses for conscientious reasons to forego the exemplary oath and “affirm in any other manner.” As currently written, *BCO* 35-8 does not require all potential witnesses to swear an oath. The amendment’s provision for an affirmation is therefore not a novel introduction into the PCA’s existing policy.

While non-Christian theists are currently permitted to testify in the courts of the church—and, presumably, to swear the included oath in its present language by God’s name—the amendment’s added promise removes the possibility that a non-Christian witness might be asked to swear an oath by God’s name. In this way, the amendment is more consistent with the claims of *WCF* 22.2 that oaths by God’s name require “holy fear and reverence” and must not be sworn “vainly and rashly”—conditions that are impossible for non-Christians to meet. Rather than diminishing the gravity of oaths, the amendment upholds the significance and gravity of oaths, guarding against their improper use in PCA courts.

Is this amendment specifically concerned with scenarios involving abuse?

No, the amendment is concerned with the availability of witness testimony in every type of case that might appear before PCA courts. In any judicial matter where witness testimony is necessary, non-theist witnesses may be able to offer substantive testimony regarding an offense or provide exculpatory testimony regarding an accused individual’s innocence. The amendment thus seeks to give courts the freedom to obtain such testimony so that they might arrive at the truth, justly convicting the guilty and exonerating the innocent.

Does this amendment confuse the role of civil and ecclesial courts?

No, there is nothing in the amendment that attempts to take jurisdiction over criminal matters away from the civil magistrate or to wield the power of the sword. Criminal offenses ought to be reported to the civil authorities, and such authorities bear the responsibility of rendering legal judgment. Ecclesial courts are concerned with determining the truth and exercising discipline in matters of sin, many of which are non-criminal in nature and never fall under the purview of any civil magistrate. In all ecclesial matters, the amendment seeks to free the courts to receive any and all relevant testimony as they discipline sin, exonerate the falsely accused, and guard the peace and purity of the church.

Does documentary evidence make atheist testimony unnecessary?

No, the potential availability of documentary evidence in certain criminal matters does not render unnecessary the testimony of any witness. There are all manner of offenses and situations that are of interest to ecclesial courts that do not leave documentary evidence and thus require witness testimony for substantiation and adjudication (e.g., lying, adultery, alcoholism). Documentary evidence is in reality only available in a small fraction of cases relevant to the courts of the church. In those criminal matters that result in documentary evidence, documentation may be unavailable, incorrect, or incomplete, rendering it of little value to ecclesial courts.

Even where documentary evidence is available, documents—unlike human witnesses—cannot answer the questions posed to them by various parties seeking clarification, disputing facts, clarifying assertions, or pursuing further related information in a judicial process. The courts' ability to hear all relevant witness testimony is therefore immensely important to their pursuit of truth and justice both when documentary evidence may be available and in the far more frequent scenarios when it is not.

Does the admissibility of hearsay make atheist testimony unnecessary?

No, the admissibility of hearsay does not render the first-person testimony of any witness unnecessary. If the aim of the courts is to determine the truth, the opportunity for parties to cross-examine an actual witness rather than merely receive hearsay is of profound importance, since this enables the prosecution and defense to seek clarification, dispute facts, clarify assertions, and pursue further related information that may be necessary for right judgment. What is more, if atheist testimony is indeed already functionally admissible as hearsay, it serves the interests of the court to be able to cross-examine the actual witness in order to better determine the veracity and relevance of any statements and to judge the degree of credibility to be attached to the evidence.

What about the concern that “all atheists are liars” and thus pose a unique threat to the courts?

It is indeed true that all non-believers “by their unrighteousness suppress the truth” (Rom 1:18) that God has revealed to all about himself. However, from this it does not follow that every non-believer always and only speaks lies. Further, it is unclear why non-theists should be understood as more egregious liars or as a unique threat in comparison to theistic adherents of false religions, who are already permitted by *BCO 35-1* to serve as valid witnesses before the courts of the church. PCA courts are already empowered and entrusted to judge the degree of credibility to be attached to all evidence, including the testimony of non-Christian witnesses,

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and there is no reason to believe the courts are incapable of doing so with the testimony of non-theist witnesses.

Further, a non-theist willing to lie in order to intentionally and maliciously bring harm to the church will presumably have no ethical qualms about lying concerning his belief in the supernatural in order that he be permitted to testify as a witness in the first place. Consequently, the current provisions of *BCO 35* functionally do nothing to protect the church from an individual committed to spreading lies about and within the church. Ironically, the provisions as presently constructed serve only to prohibit the testimony of an honest atheist who forthrightly acknowledges his non-belief and yet wishes to bear truthful witness to the court, even as they are impotent against the dishonest atheist who is willing to lie about his beliefs in order to be admitted as a witness. The proposed amendment, however, removes the obstacle barring the honest atheist from testifying and, rather than relying on ineffective safeguards against malicious liars, focuses attention on the court's responsibility to judge the degree of credibility to be attached to the testimony of theist and non-theist witnesses alike.

Conclusion

We, the minority, appeal to the assembly to vote to answer Overture 1 in the affirmative as amended, thereby granting our courts access to the truth wherever it may be found so that they may faithfully and diligently perform their task of guarding and promoting the peace and purity of church.

Minority Report Signers

TE Charles Stover	TE Geoff Ziegler	TE Jacob Morrison
RE Andrew Augenstein	TE John Downs	TE Tony Pyles
TE Ian Hard	RE Joshua Torrey	TE Steve Coward
TE Matt Allhands	RE Joseph Ruine	TE Brian Park
TE Drew Archer	RE Jason Greene	TE Alex Ford
TE Brian Salter	RE John Mitchell	TE Mark Samuel
TE Joshua Knott	RE Chris Sutton	RE Ewan Goligher
TE Hyung (Davie) Min Bae	TE Chris Jhu	RE Jim Wert
TE Caleb Blow	TE Mitchell Carter	TE Christian Bland
RE Arlen Biersgreen	RE Ron Warren	TE David Keithley
TE Zach Meyer	TE Joel St. Clair	RE Aaron D. Jaggard
TE Kyle Hackmann	TE Sam Kennedy	RE Trevor Laurence

51-45 Singing of a Hymn

The Assembly sang Psalm 23 a cappella led by TE Larry Roff.

51-46 Committee on Thanks Report

RE Mel Duncan led the Assembly in prayer and gave the report, which was received as information. The **Resolution on Thanks** was **adopted** by acclamation. RE Duncan thanked TE Caleb Cangelosi serving in the historical center with research for this report. RE Duncan closed the report in prayer.

**RESOLUTION OF THANKS
FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

FOR YOU CREATED MY INMOST BEING YOU KNIT ME TOGETHER IN MY MOTHERS WOMB! For the past week our hearts have been encouraged and knit more tightly together by four PCA Presbyteries; Blue Ridge, James River, Korean Capital and Tidewater cooperating to host the 51st General Assembly on the banks of the James River. The PCA family has enjoyed the wonderful Southern hospitality of Greater Richmond and our local churches.

We thank God for the privilege of dwelling for a season in the Old Dominion where twenty-five-year-old Samuel Davies founded the historic Polegreen Presbyterian Church in 1748, where old Hanover Presbytery was formed in 1755. We thank God for the liberty that we enjoy as Presbyterians and as Americans because of the seeds that were sown by our forefathers in the faith.

We are full of gratitude for River City Presbyterianism; the ministry of William Swan Plumer, pastor of First Church Richmond from 1834-1846, and his heart for church planting that led to the establishment of Second Church, faithfully served by Moses Drury Hoge for fifty-four years.

We also cherish the memory of the remarkable John Chavis, Revolutionary War veteran and the first African American college graduate in the United States, who studied under Witherspoon at Princeton who served Presbyterian institutions here in the Commonwealth and was a pioneer for the Reformed Faith in the African American Community.

We remember with thanksgiving the ministries of William Hill and Kennedy Smart at West End Church in Hopewell, and the early days of Tim Keller's ministry at

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

West Hopewell Church. It is remarkable to recall that when the PCA was formed in 1973, not a single Presbyterian congregation in Richmond joined the fledging denomination; yet in addition to two churches that came into the PCA in the Joining and Receiving of 1983, the Lord has been at work planting churches, so that Richmond and its surrounding counties now have nine churches and three church plants. We remember fondly Dr. Howard Griffith, the founding pastor of All Saints Reformed Presbyterian Church and professor of RTS-DC, who went to be with the Lord in 2019.

We thank God for the committee chairmen, Harry Long and Rich Leino, and for all the volunteers from the four host Presbyteries. The music and worship have been God honoring and every local PCA volunteer has worked graciously for the church of Christ, serving us and the Lord with faithfulness and joy. A special word of thanks to Dr. Chapell and his PCAAC staff for their endless labors well received. God's word has been expounded powerfully by Fred Greco, Ben Robertson and Joel Kim. Our Moderator Steve Dowling has ably led us with grace and wisdom. *Semper Fidelis* Mr. Dowling!

As we enter into the second half of our first century as a denomination, our prayer is that the triune God might continue to grant us grace to "reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of [His] mystery, which is Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Colossians 2:2-3).

TE Jon Medlock, Northern California, Chairman
RE Melton L. Duncan, Calvary, Secretary

51-47 Appointment of Commission to Review

The Moderator appointed as a Commission to review and approve the minutes of the 51st General Assembly: TE L. Roy Taylor, RE John B. White, Jr., TE Randy Schlichting, and TE Per Almquist.

51-48 Adjournment and Benediction

Upon the acclamation of the Assembly, the Moderator declared the 51st General Assembly adjourned at 3:19 p.m., to reconvene in Chattanooga, TN, on June 23, 2025. TE L. Roy Taylor led the Assembly in singing Psalm 133. The Stated Clerk pronounced the benediction.

PART III

APPENDICES

NOTE: Appendices A-O are included in Volume 1 of these *Minutes*.
Appendices P-V are found in Volume 2.
See a Table of Contents for these Appendices on the back of this page.

The Appendices include the Reports of the General Assembly Committees, Agencies, and Standing Judicial Commission as originally submitted to the General Assembly. The recommendations in this section are those originally submitted and may have been amended or not adopted by the Assembly. See Part II, Journal, to find the recommendations as they were adopted by the Assembly.

Appendix U presents the Overtures as originally submitted by the presbyteries. See the Overtures Committee report and other Committee of Commissioner reports for Assembly action on these overtures, including any amendments.

The PCA Committee and Agency budgets, as approved by the Assembly, are found in Appendix A, Attachment 2, beginning on p. 135.

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APPENDIX A

REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA 2024

FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY in Richmond, VA, June 10-14, 2024

Registration for the 51st General Assembly to be held in Richmond, June 10-14, opened in early January. As of the writing of this report in April, over 1600 commissioners have registered. Such large interest and involvement is deeply encouraging and profoundly important as we address issues vital to our church's witness to our culture and seek God's favor and guidance for our united mission.

MEETINGS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE (AC) AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (A CORPORATION)

The Administrative Committee handles the ecclesiastical matters committed to it by the General Assembly (*BCO* 14-1.12; *RAO* 4-2; V). The twenty-member AC is unique among the other General Assembly Committees and Agencies in that it has eleven voting members elected at-large and nine voting members representing the other nine General Assembly Committees and Agencies. Moreover, the Coordinators and Presidents of the other nine General Assembly Committees and Agencies often attend AC meetings but have no vote.

The Administrative Committee of the General Assembly also serves as the Board of Directors of the Presbyterian Church in America (A Corporation) [PCA Corporate Bylaws," Article II Section 2]. The purpose of the corporation is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which corporations may be organized under the general Corporation Law of Delaware" (PCA Certificate of Incorporation). Matters requiring civil actions are handled by the PCA Board of Directors. The Board of Directors meets immediately following the stated meetings of the Administrative Committee to deal with civil actions and activities. The stated and called meetings of the AC from June 2023 to April 2024 were:

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June 5, 2023 – Called Meeting – Zoom

June 13, 2023 – General Assembly, Memphis, Tennessee

October 5, 2023 – MTW Building, Lawrenceville, Georgia

April 18, 2024 – MTW Building, Lawrenceville, Georgia

SUMMARY OF THE ACTIONS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

These actions of the Board of Directors are reported to the General Assembly. No action of the General Assembly is required on the following items:

- 1) All required corporate filings of the Presbyterian Church in America (A Corporation) have been filed in the relevant states. The Presbyterian Church in America (A Corporation) is a registered Delaware corporation. The Presbyterian Church in America (A Corporation) is currently registered as a foreign corporation in Georgia, Missouri, Mississippi, and Washington.
- 2) All required corporate filings of the corporations of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Evangelical Synod (acquired in the Joining and Receiving of 1982) have been filed in the relevant states. **Delaware Corporations:** World Presbyterian Missions, Inc.; National Presbyterian Missions, Inc.; Christian Training, Inc. **Michigan Corporation:** Board of Home Ministries. **Pennsylvania Corporation:** Reformed Presbyterian Church, Evangelical Synod.
- 3) The current Officers of the Corporation (through the end of this Assembly) are: **President:** TE Robert Brunson; **Secretary and Treasurer:** Dr. Bryan Chapell (Stated Clerk); **Assistant Secretaries/Treasurers:** Dr. Dixie Zietlow (Business Administrator), Ms. Heidi Harrison (Operations Manager), Ms. Angela Nantz (Meeting Planner) [RAO 3-2.o, PCA Corporate Bylaws,” Article IV].
- 4) The Stated Clerk updated the Board of Directors on our current legal status and concerns. The PCA has been named in a lawsuit dated March 11, 2024, related to a car accident in October 2022. Our insurer is defending the claim and there is nothing further the PCA can do at this time outside of following instructions provided by the attorney or adjuster.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE (AC) OFFICERS FOR THE 2024-2025 ASSEMBLY YEAR

At its 2024 spring meeting, the Administrative Committee elected the following men to serve as the 2024-2025 AC officers:

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Chairman: RE Danny McDaniel
Vice-Chairman: RE Richard Dolan
Secretary: TE Roger Collins

FUTURE ASSEMBLIES

2025 - Chattanooga, Tennessee, the location for the 52nd General Assembly hosted by Tennessee Valley Presbytery
2026 - Louisville, Kentucky, the location for the 53rd General Assembly hosted by Ohio Valley Presbytery

TRANSLATIONS OF THE *BCO* AND OTHER DOCUMENTS

The AC continues to make progress with foreign language (Spanish and Portuguese) translations of our *Book of Church Order (BCO)* to help our church minister to all peoples and generations.

The elders on the Spanish review committee are working hard each week to complete their work. Their goal is to have the BCO portion ready in time for General Assembly. They have had to do significant revisions because words mean different things in different Hispanic contexts. Just about every paragraph and not a small number of headings have needed to be reworked. They are working on the 2021 BCO.

“The Lord’s favor to us in 2023 was unmistakable,” says Hernando Sáenz-Oggioni, Hispanic Ministries Coordinator at Mission to North America (MNA). “We grew to 62 Hispanic Teaching Elders, 52 candidates, and 42 churches. To put it into perspective, over the past decade, we have doubled the number of PCA Hispanic pastors and more than tripled the number of Hispanic candidates for the gospel ministry in the PCA”. That said, I’m sure other Latin American contexts will make use of our BCO. Chairman Luis Garcia is working on translating the 2022 and 2023 change packets for us.

The Portuguese BCO translation team has also made good progress, having translated the BCO through Chapter 32 at this time. We praise God for the work this group has accomplished so far to bring this much needed project to a reality. There are a growing number of Brazilian-heritage pastors and churches in the PCA.

With the help of Korean heritage leaders, the AC has also continued to update the Korean language version of the *BCO*. We realize that we cannot reach across language barriers by waiting for significant growth of ethnic

communities and various nationalities in our churches before providing services to the rapidly growing populations of our nation. Instead, we reach people groups by serving them before they are established in our church communities.

STANDING JUDICIAL COMMISSION (SJC)

The Standing Judicial Commission is one of the treasures of the PCA, with members of differing perspectives typically rising above partisan debates and internet suppositions to issue decisions according to how sworn testimony aligns with our Standards. The Lord has blessed our entire denomination through the dedication and sacrificial service of these men pursuing their responsibilities with integrity.

The SJC is not separately funded but operates administratively as a subcommittee of the AC (*RAO* 17-1). The Stated Clerk serves as Clerk of the Commission and parliamentarian (*OMSJC* 3-8). Since the meeting of the 50th General Assembly, the 24 members of the SJC have handled approximately 25 cases this past year. For a report of the cases handled by the SJC, see the Standing Judicial Commission Report, p. 2001 of this *Handbook*.

THEOLOGICAL EXAMINING COMMITTEE (TEC)

The AC provides administrative assistance and arrangements for the Theological Examining Committee (TEC) that evaluates the theological commitments of the first- and second-tier employees of our Permanent Committees and Agencies. For a report of the Committee's examinations, see the Theological Examining Committee Report, p. 1101 of this *Handbook*.

COOPERATIVE MINISTRIES COMMITTEE (CMC)

The AC provides administrative assistance and arrangements for the Cooperative Ministries Committee (CMC), and the Stated Clerk is a member and serves as secretary (*RAO* 7-4.c). The CMC is designed to unite the leaders of our various agencies and institutions with the elected leaders of the General Assembly in coordinated ministry to advance the mission of the PCA as a whole. The simple goal is to have all the horses in the harness pulling in the same direction. That goal is achieved by relational camaraderie as well as by ministry strategizing, denominational assessment, and shared insights regarding best practices and resources for advancing Christ's mission in our challenging times.

The CMC met on January 17, 2024. Committee and Agency leaders shared challenges, goals, and prayers. See the Cooperative Ministries Committee Report, p. 321 of this *Handbook*.

INTERCHURCH RELATIONS COMMITTEE (IRC)

The AC provides administrative assistance to the Interchurch Relations Committee (IRC), and the Stated Clerk is an *ex officio* member and secretary. The IRC, which met on September 13, 2023, and March 26, 2024, corresponds and maintains relationships with churches and organizations with whom we have fraternal or ecclesiastical relations. The Committee has invited Fraternal Delegates to address the General Assembly. Delegates will also be welcomed to the General Assembly at a luncheon hosted by IRC members and the IRC Committee of Commissioners members.

In response to the 50th General Assembly, the IRC continues to explore requests that the PCA join the International Conference of Reformed Churches (ICRC). At its spring meeting, the IRC voted to respond this way:

The IRC recommends that the 51st General Assembly follow the recommendation the IRC made to the 50th General Assembly, namely that the IRC follow the specific guidelines of the ICRC's membership procedures by having members of the PCA's IRC attend the next meeting of the ICRC (which is ordinarily required before membership application can be made) in 2026 to investigate and determine first-hand if formal membership is appropriate for the PCA, and return with a recommendation for the General Assembly to join or not.

Our founding fathers strongly believed that we in the PCA constituted a blessed branch, but not the only branch, of Christ's true church. That is why we, as a denomination, seek cooperative ministry and understanding with like-minded and Bible-believing organizations. Supporting the mission and faith of those serving Christ with us leverages our resources, furthers our Savior's mission, and links us with those of like faith for matters of legal and legislative protection.

Nevertheless, we have wrestled since our founding with what level of affiliation to have with organizations that are not exactly like us. The question

persists: When does an affiliation move from mission cooperation to mission compromise? The IRC is elected to gather accurate information to help us make such determinations because we know that inaccurate perceptions can drive unfortunate decisions in the quick assessments of a General Assembly. For the IRC Report, see p. 901 of this *Handbook*.

PRESBYTERY CLERKS CONFERENCE

The annual training conference for Presbytery Clerks was held December 1-2, 2023. The AC has an important duty of facilitating communication among clerks for sharing knowledge and experience, and one way we do this is through the annual Presbytery Clerks Conference, which provides instruction for new clerks as well as a forum where experienced clerks can compare notes and discuss challenges they face. The AC office also provides tools to this group (e.g., the Clerks' Handbook and presbytery portal) to help all clerks in their work. The staff of the AC works hand-in-hand with presbytery clerks to serve the whole church in a unified effort that enables local presbyteries and churches to thrive in accordance with our mission and standards.

LAWSUITS

The AC navigates legal matters at the denominational level for the PCA. While we dealt with a number of legal matters this past year, none were of serious consequence for the denomination as a whole. The PCA has been named in a lawsuit dated March 11, 2024, related to a car accident in October 2022. Our insurer is defending the claim, and the PCA can do nothing further at this time except follow the instructions provided by the attorney or adjuster.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

In the year of our 50th-anniversary celebration with its associated expenses and the continuing impact of inflation, God has blessed the funding of the Administrative Committee. First of all, God has blessed our development efforts. In 2023, Undesignated Contributions came in at \$1,539,548 and Designated at \$286,844, for a total of \$1,826,392. In the same year, we had Earned Income of \$1,801,179 and Interest Income of \$26,822, bringing Total Revenues to \$3,654,393.

Our thanks go out to our Development Team, which is organized by Karen Cook and implemented by Paul Kooistra, Wayne Herring, and Craig Wilkes, with several other AC staff and Committee members contributing.

APPENDIX A

- The annual audits of the AC and the PCA Office Building were completed as required (*RAO 14-7.h*).
- The PCA Committees and Agencies have submitted their 2025 proposed budgets for approval by the 51st General Assembly (these may be found on p. 401 of this *Handbook*).
- The AC evaluated the Committee and Agency Chief Administrative Officer compensation guidelines as required (*BCO 14-1.13*). The Committees and Agencies state CAO compensation as separate line items or notes in their respective proposed budgets presented to the Assembly. The AC annually reviews compensation guidelines. Every four years the Committees and Agencies do an in-depth study of comparable CAO compensations. We completed an in-depth study in the fall of 2021.
- The AC reviewed the General Assembly Commissioner's Registration fee as required (*RAO 9-4*) and is recommending no increase this year.¹ (Please be aware that scholarships are available for those with qualifying need.)
- The 2023 true cost of unfunded mandates was \$608.45 per commissioner, which exceeds the current \$525 TE and \$300 RE Assembly Registration Fee.
- The AC reviewed the required contributions of other General Assembly Committees and Agencies to the AC (*RAO 5-4.a*) and is making appropriate recommendations.
- The AC reviewed the requested Annual Administrative Fee paid by ministers to the AC (*RAO 5-4.c*) and is recommending no increase this year.
- As a point of information, 2025 building occupancy costs were discussed.
- The AC approved auditors for the various Committees and Agencies as requested and is making appropriate recommendations to the Assembly.

¹ Commissioners should note that the General Assembly Registration fees do not fully cover all the costs associated with the General Assembly, that not all commissioners pay the full fee, and that the AC Funding Plan adopted by the General Assembly in 2012 recommended that the General Assembly Registration fees more realistically cover costs. About one-third of the costs of the Assembly's annual meeting are underwritten by Exhibitors. The larger costs to commissioners are usually not the registration fee but travel, hotel, and meal expenses.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- Certificate of Compliance” forms were signed by AC members and collected for the file (as part of the Conflict of Interest Policy, per *M21GA*, 1993, 21-64, pp. 174ff).

PERSONNEL

We give thanks for the faithful and diligent service of all of the staff of the Administrative Committee/Office of the Stated Clerk. We praise God for the genuine faith and committed hearts of the men and women who serve the administrative and legal responsibilities of the entire PCA with sacrificial dedication and great expertise. Additional responsibilities of the AC are fulfilled by the PCA Historical Center (see Attachment 1) and *by Faith*.

The AC staff presently includes Bryan Chapell, Dixie Zietlow, Richard Doster, Heidi Harrison, Paul Kooistra, Angela Nantz, Wayne Sparkman, Roy Taylor, Margaret Baker, Karen Cook, Ashley Davis, Erika Derr, Anna Eubanks, Karen Frey, Wayne Herring, Larry Hoop, Monica Johnston, Margie Mallow, Billy Park, Craig Wilkes, Per Almquist, Priscilla Lowrey and John Robertson. Several staff members work remotely and/or part-time.

The AC evaluated the job performance of Stated Clerk Bryan Chapell as required by *RAO* 3-3.d and unanimously recommends the election of Dr. Bryan Chapell as Stated Clerk of the PCA for the Assembly year 2024-2025.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the General Assembly elect Dr. Bryan Chapell for another term as Stated Clerk
2. That the Assembly commend Stated Clerk Dr. Bryan Chapell, Business Administrator Dr. Dixie Zietlow, and the entire staff of the Administrative Committee for their faithful and effective labors for the Lord and their skillful and joyful service to the ministers, churches, presbyteries, permanent committees, agencies, and General Assembly in promoting the unity, purity, and mission of the Presbyterian Church in America in the past year.
3. That **Overture 7** from Ascension Presbytery, “Amend *RAO* 11-5 to Clarify Process for *RAO* Amendments,” be answered in the affirmative.

Grounds:

The proposed *Rules of Assembly Operations (RAO)* changes were drawn up by Ascension Presbytery in consultation with the PCA’s Stated Clerk. The overture changes will clarify that the Overtures

APPENDIX A

Committee should determine the procedures of the General Assembly's *RAO*. The overture changes will also mandate that the General Assembly's Permanent Committees or Agencies which are affected by future, proposed *RAO* changes be consulted by the Overtures Committee before deciding upon such changes. Such a proposal wisely requires consultation of those who are most likely to be informed about, and affected by *RAO* changes, while leaving the process for approving *RAO* amendments with the Overtures Committee. The proposed changes in this overture thus provide protection of the Assembly's Committees or Agencies from uninformed decisions while enabling the Assembly to effect changes to the *RAO* through the body authorized to make such amendments.

4. That the Overtures Committee recommend that the 51st General Assembly refer **Overture 31** from New River Presbytery, "Amend *BCO* 14-1 Regarding Changes in Permanent Committee and Agency Policy," to the 52nd General Assembly in order to give all the Committees and Agencies time to consider it.

Rationale:

This overture was not received by the AC in time for any Permanent Committee or Agency to consider prior to the 51st General Assembly in 2024. The AC also received the overture too late (April 3—AC meeting materials were sent to members April 5) to prepare an informed recommendation for the AC.

5. That the Overtures Committee recommend that the 51st General Assembly refer **Overture 32** from Eastern Pennsylvania Presbytery, "Amend *BCO* 23 to Address Dissolution of Call for those employed by a Committee or Agency," to the 52nd General Assembly in order to give all the Committees and Agencies time to consider it.

Rationale:

This overture was not received by the Administrative Committee (AC) in time for any Permanent Committee or Agency Board (or their legal counselors) to consider prior to the 51st General Assembly in 2024. The AC also received the overture too late (April 11—AC meeting materials were sent to members April 5) for its staff, officers, or legal counsel to review in order properly to inform the AC at its spring meeting regarding an AC recommendation to the General Assembly.

6. That the Administrative Committee 2025 budget of \$3,702,519 be approved.
7. That the PCA Building 2025 budget of \$395,907 be approved.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

8. That the CDM 2025 budget of \$2,693,700 be approved.
9. That the CC 2025 budget of \$36,674,848 be approved.
10. That the CTS 2025 budget of \$10,506,366 be approved.
11. That the Geneva 2025 budget of \$6,310,798 be approved.
12. That the MNA 2025 budget of \$30,237,191 be approved.
13. That the MTW 2025 budget of \$76,032,310 be approved.
14. That the PCAF 2025 budget of \$2,419,270 be approved.
15. That the RUF 2025 budget of \$59,495,241 be approved.
16. That the RH 2025 budget of \$4,220,000 be approved.
17. That the “2025 Budgeted Partnership Shares and Ministry Asks of PCA Ministry Partners by the Participating General Assembly Ministries” be approved.

2025 Partnership Share Fund					Ministry Asks
Participating Ministries of the PCA	2025 Total Expense Budget	P.S. Fund	% of Total	Per Capita Calculation*	\$ Per Member
AC ¹	\$3,702,519	\$1,962,000	4.84%	\$6.43	\$8
CDM	\$2,693,700	\$1,299,750	3.21%	\$4.26	\$7
CC ²	\$36,674,848	\$2,500,000	6.17%	\$8.20	\$10
CTS	\$10,506,366	\$2,000,000	4.93%	\$6.56	\$10
MNA	\$30,237,191	\$11,768,008	29.02%	\$38.58	\$28
MTW	\$76,032,310	\$9,759,555	24.07%	\$31.99	\$30
RUF	\$59,495,241	\$10,010,323	24.69%	\$32.82	\$18
RH	\$4,220,000	\$1,250,000	3.08%	\$4.10	\$4
TOTALS	\$223,562,175	\$40,549,636	100%	\$132.93	\$115

* Based on the total number of “Communicant Members” of 305,045 as of December 31, 2023, according to the PCA Administrative Committee.

GENERAL NOTE

Gifts designated "spread per Partnership Shares" (or some equivalent) and the totally undesignated gifts (which amount to less than \$3,000 a year) will be spread according to the "Ministry Ask" column (by percentages of the total).

SPECIFIC COMMITTEE AND AGENCY NOTES

1. The PCA Administrative Committee requests that you contribute on the basis of 0.35% of total tithes and offerings (excepting contribution to capital campaigns for such efforts as new buildings). In the same manner, CDM would like to be supported on the basis of 0.20% of total tithes and offerings. Please support us in this way if you are able to do so.
2. By giving \$10 per member to Covenant College, churches qualify for the Church Scholarship Promise program at Covenant College.

18. That the Assembly take note that the 2023 Audit performed by Robins, Eskew, Smith & Jordan on the Administrative Committee was received and reviewed as required by *RAO* 14-7.h.
19. That the Assembly take note that the 2023 Audit performed by Robins, Eskew, Smith & Jordan on the PCA Building Fund was received and reviewed as required by *RAO* 14-7.h.
20. That Robins, Eskew, Smith & Jordan, PC, be approved as auditors for the Administrative Committee and the Committee on Discipleship Ministries for the calendar year ending December 31, 2024.
21. That Capin, Crouse, & Company be approved as auditors for the Committee on Mission to the World and the Committee on Mission to North America for the calendar year ending December 31, 2024.
22. That Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLP, be approved as auditors for the Committee on Reformed University Fellowship for the calendar year ending December 31, 2024.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

23. That the Assembly receive the charts below as the acceptable response to the GA requirement for an annual report on the cost of the AC s mandated responsibilities.

2023 Unfunded Mandates
GENERAL ASSEMBLY COSTS

Year	# of Commissioners	Total Costs	Cost per Commissioner	Amount of Fee Allotted to GA	Total Avg Standard Fee
2018		\$628,815	\$409	\$350	\$450
2019	1652	\$729,515	\$442	\$350	\$450
2021	2114	\$844,600	\$400	\$350	\$450
2022	2385	\$920,326	\$386	\$350	\$450
2023	2301	\$1,104,136	\$480	\$350 (TE) \$300 (RE)	\$457*

* The TE standard fee rose to \$525 and the RE standard fee dropped to \$300 in 2023 (approved by the 49th GA).

AC GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESPONSIBILITIES

Description	2023 Total ²	Per Commissioner
Committee on Constitutional Business	\$15,125	\$6.57
General Assembly ¹	\$1,104,136	\$479.85
Interchurch Relations Committee	\$18,880	\$8.21
Nominating Committee ²	\$23,324	\$10.14
Standing Judicial Commission	\$238,558	\$103.68
Theological Examining Committee ³	\$0	\$0
	<u>\$1,400,023</u>	<u>\$608.45</u>

¹ Review of Presbytery Records is included in the General Assembly Total. In 2023, RPR cost \$48,856. Production and delivery of the General Assembly Minutes costs will be reflected in the 2024 financials.

²The expense of the Nominating Committee is shared by the PCA Committees and Agencies.

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³The Theological Examining Committee did not incur any material expenses in 2023 as per their report to the AC.

24. That the registration fee remain at \$525 (TEs) and \$300 (REs) for the 2025 General Assembly, with \$350 of the TE fee allocated to the GA expenses, \$50 for publication of the GA Minutes, and \$125 allocated to the Standing Committee cost center for the expenses that include the Standing Judicial Commission; and the full \$300 RE fee allocated to GA expenses. Honorably retired or emeritus elders would continue to pay \$150. Elders coming from churches with annual incomes below \$150,000, as per their 2023 statistics, may register for \$300.
25. That the plan outlined below for the payment of the required contribution from the PCA Committees and Agencies to the PCA Administrative Committee be approved.

PLAN: Committees and Agencies are asked to pay in one of the following three options:

1. Semiannually – one-half paid in January and one-half paid in July.
2. Quarterly – one-fourth paid the first month of each quarter: January, April, July, and October.
3. Monthly – one-twelfth paid on the first of each month.

NOTE: The chart shows the agreed-upon amounts for 2025.

AC	None
CDM	\$11,500
CC	\$11,500
CTS	\$11,500
MNA	\$11,500
MTW	\$11,500
PCAF	\$11,500
GEN	\$11,500
RH	\$11,500
<u>RUF</u>	<u>\$11,500</u>
Total	\$103,500

26. That the Annual Administration Fee paid by ministers be set at \$100 for 2025.
27. That the General Assembly set the request to Presbyteries for GA Host Committee assistance at \$500 for 2025.
28. That the Assembly approve the minutes of the Board of Directors for April 20, 2023, and October 5, 2023.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

29. That the Assembly approve the minutes of the Administrative Committee for April 20, 2023, June 5, 2023, June 13, 2023, and October 5, 2023.
30. That **Overture 33** from TE Benjamin Inman to Eastern Carolina Presbytery and rejected by the Presbytery at its stated meeting, to “Erect Ad Interim Committee on the Book *Jesus Calling*”, be answered in the negative.

Grounds:

The Administrative Committee recommends that the 51st General Assembly not approve this Overture on the grounds that it has no “plan for how sufficient, designated funds for the Ad Interim Committee will be raised,” as required by *RAO 9-3*.

*Note: This overture was received after the Spring meeting of the Administrative Committee and can only receive this informal recommendation from the Stated Clerk’s Office unless other Administrative Committee business requires a called meeting prior to the General Assembly.

Attachment 1

PCA Historical Center Annual Report to the Administrative Committee

Some, though not all, of you know of my wife Janet's passing this last September. We had celebrated our 47th wedding anniversary in May, and she was able to attend the 50th General Assembly with me in June, but began to decline in August. Suffering from kidney failure, she had been on dialysis for five years and that process is particularly hard on the heart, and it was a massive heart attack which caused her death on September 24, 2023.

Janet was truly an elect lady, an avid reader, and an ardent student of Scripture. So it was very fitting that after her death that there were donations to the PCA Historical Center in her memory, with one particular donation, a rather large one, given on condition that a collection be established in her name. In keeping with that request, we now have the Janet L. Sparkman Collection for Presbyterian Women [<https://pcahistory.org/mo/sparkmanj/index.html>]. The creation of this collection is turning out to be a convenient index point for materials which were already preserved here, while also serving as a gathering point for materials which are now being added to our resources using the funds provided by our thoughtful donor. The architecture of this Collection's home page is still rather rough, but it gives at least a glimpse of what the Collection will contain.

Other of the funds donated in Janet's memory will be used to advance our work of preserving the recordings of past PCA General Assemblies. We had previously arranged for the migration of reel-to-reel recordings from 1973-1978, and recently completed work underway on the 1979 and 1980 Assembly recordings, along with many of the cassette tapes holding oral history interviews with PCA founding fathers. The next step will be to post the content of these recordings in mp3 format to the Historical Center's web site where we pray they will prove to be of great use.

Collection Development

To mention some of the collections and materials received in 2023, these include:

An accrual to the James Perry Manuscript Collection

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Advent and Good Friday Chapels, Covenant Theological Seminary. Two large ring binders with photocopies of sheet music utilized in chapel services.

Cassette tape recordings of Francis A. Schaeffer and various L'Abri staff or related speakers.

An important accrual to the R. Laird Harris Manuscript Collection, received in two large boxes (1.0 cu. ft. each); 6 Hollinger boxes, 0.5 cu. ft. each; and three binders.

An accrual to the Joseph H. Hall Manuscript Collection, consisting of files compiled by Dr. Joseph Hall regarding the life and ministry of Samuel Doak.

PCA Administrative Committee records, thirteen boxes, including one with the time-keeping lights built by RE Walter Lastovica and used by him in his work as time keeper for a number of years at PCA General Assemblies.

Review of Presbytery Records, six cubic feet of materials.

I should also note that the PCA Historical Center is blessed to have fairly large manuscripts collections for each of the former Stated Clerks of the PCA: Dr. Morton H. Smith [1973-1988; 16 years of service; 24 cu. ft. of material in this collection]; Dr. Paul R. Gilchrist [1988-1998; 11 years of service; 44 cu. ft. in this collection]; and Dr. L. Roy Taylor [1998-2020; 22 years of service; 22 cu. ft. in this collection]. The work of arrangement and description for each of these collections has recently been completed and work is now underway to post to our web site the finding aids (or indexes) for each of these collections.

And most recently, Rev. Brian DeJong has donated materials from his research into the life and ministry of Rev. Arthur Perkins, which research led to the publication of his book, *Standing Against Tyranny: The Life and Legacy of Arthur Perkins* (2023). We are pleased to add this new collection, which has been received as a separate collection under Rev. DeJong's name, while noting that it provides additional materials in support of the Perkins collection [<https://www.pcahistory.org/mo/perkins/index.html>]

Research Library [<https://www.pcahistory.org/HCLibrary/index.html>]

Work continues to add many of our already existing volumes to the Historical Center's **online catalog** [<https://www.librarycat.org/lib/pcahc>] while keeping up with the entry of recently added titles. In all of 2023 there were 305 titles added to our library, with roughly equal coverage for contemporary publications and original editions of nineteenth-century works. A typical value-added feature for our online catalog is the inclusion of the table of contents for most books listed. Some entries still lack that feature but in time all or nearly all should have it.

Among the many notable additions to the Historical Center's research library, the standout is probably that of thirteen bound volumes of *The Christian Beacon* (1944-1958), along with unbound issues covering the date range 1936-1985. This collection was received as a de-accession from the Buswell Library at Covenant Theological Seminary and now provides us with one of the best collections of this title in the nation. The *Beacon*, along with *Christianity Today* [1936-1949], the *Presbyterian Guardian*, and *The Independent Board Bulletin*, were the conservative journals of record during the years of the modernist controversy, and the PCA Historical Center has complete or near-complete collections of each of these journals.

Web Site Development

Claire Wilkinson joined our team last summer as an assistant and initially as an unpaid intern. As a remote worker she was asked to learn the software coding behind our site and was equipped with a subscription to Adobe's Dreamweaver software, to aid in that effort. By summer's end and just before returning to school, she had a template ready for implementation throughout our web site. This process of implementation is now underway and we hope to complete full implementation by year's end. The web site already looks a lot better because of her work. Claire will graduate in May of 2024 with her master's degree in public history and her employment with us will end at that time.

In related matter, at my request Mr. John Dunahoo has set up a new email address for Historical Center use, one which should ease the eventual transition from my tenure to that of my successor, though I still hope to be here for many more years. The new email address, now in place, is archivist@pcanet.org and this address is also intended as a help if I were simply unavailable at any time, allowing an assistant to read and reply to patron requests.

Historical Center Staffing & Work Assignments

John Abraham Sullivan was hired early in the summer of 2023 to replace Jay Mallow, who was leaving for a full-time position in the library at Missouri Baptist University. John Abraham is in his final year of the M.Div. program at Covenant Seminary and has been working for us as a project archivist, with focus on arrangement and description of the PCA Stated Clerk collections. After graduation he will be taking up Ph.D. studies at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland.

Evan Kvale is an entering student at Covenant Seminary and it is my strong hope to keep him employed here at the Historical Center throughout his planned four years of working towards the M.Div. degree. The range of work and the skills involved here at the PCA Historical Center are diverse and it is important to have more than just one person who knows their way around all that is involved in our day to day operation. In that light, Evan's employment is crucial, and I am working to train him in as many different aspects of the work here as I can. Primarily he is working as a project archivist and has thus far completed arrangement and description of several manuscript collections (Lavern Rayburn, R. Laird Harris, and currently working with the Will Barker collection).

Claire Wilkinson – see above under Web Site Development to read of Claire and her job responsibilities at the PCA Historical Center.

Projects for the Coming Year

(1.) Tracking the development of the Southern Presbyterian *Book of Church Order*, as reported on the pages of *The Christian Observer*, 1865-1880. This project is a holdover from last year but still one which I think would make for a very useful compilation. It will involve scanning the many newspaper columns that reported on the debates and development of the PCUS *Book of Church Order*. With the text of many paragraphs in our PCA *BCO* still either unchanged or nearly so from what was found in the old PCUS *BCO*, that nineteenth-century coverage should be quite interesting and even useful.

(2.) Mr. Kvale is currently working to compile an author-title index for at least the first ten years of *The Independent Board Bulletin*, which was the official house organ of the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions (IBPFM), an agency formed under the efforts of J. Gresham Machen and for which effort he was later defrocked by the PCUSA. This project is part of a long-standing effort at the PCA Historical Center, whereby we have

sought to lift such publications out of obscurity and make their content more readily available through the compilation of author-title indexes. These indexes can be accessed at <https://www.pcahistory.org/HCLibrary/index.html> and Evan's work on the IBPFM *Bulletin* will be added to this list soon.

(3.) General Assembly exhibit : Taking advantage of the time-keeper's "clock" built by RE Walter Lastovica (see above under Collection Development), I'm working to prepare an exhibit that focuses on the less well known of our founding fathers, Walter having been one of those stalwarts who worked behind the scenes but who were invaluable in the role they played in the early days of the Presbyterian Church in America.

Historical Center Advisory Committee

Members of the Historical Center Advisory Committee include:

- Rev. Brannon Bowman, pastor of the Millbrook Presbyterian Church, Millbrook, AL.
- Rev. Caleb Cangelosi, senior pastor of the Pear Orchard Presbyterian Church, Madison, MS.
- Mr. David Cooper, Ruling elder at First Presbyterian Church, Chattanooga, TN, and former Wire Editor for the Chattanooga Times Free Press.
- Dr. Robert Davis Smart, Lead pastor at Christ Church, Normal, IL.
- Mrs. Laura Ledbetter Dowling, mother of seven homeschooled children and wife of RE Steve Dowling.
- Miss Lannae Graham, former archivist at the Presbyterian Historical Foundation, Montreat, NC.
- Dr. Sean Michael Lucas, senior pastor of the Independent Presbyterian Church, Memphis, TN.
- Dr. Ken McHeard, Associate Pastor of Christian Formation at First Presbyterian Church of Augusta, Georgia.
- Dr. Otis W. Pickett, University Historian at Clemson University.
- Dr. Barry Waugh, author and independent researcher, Greenville, SC.

Ex-officio members of the Advisory Committee include:

- Dr. Bryan Chapell, Stated Clerk of the Presbyterian Church in America.
- Dixie Zietlow, Business Manager for the Stated Clerk's Office & the Administrative Committee.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Respectfully submitted,

/s/RE Wayne Sparkman, Th.M., C.A., and Director of the PCA
Historical Center.

Attachment 2

PROPOSED BUDGETS PCA COMMITTEES AND AGENCIES

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE 2025 PROPOSED BUDGET

I. Economic Considerations and General Ministry Factors

Budget philosophy

The budget is built primarily on the job description of the Stated Clerk in the *RAO*, which determines the services that are to be provided by the Office of the Stated Clerk to churches, presbyteries, Committees and Agencies, and to the General Assembly. The General Assembly has also placed the Historical Center and *byFaith* Magazine under the general oversight and in the budget of the AC, as well as the Standing Committees and the SJC.

General Comments

Many of the activities and responsibilities of the Administrative Committee are directly affected by the activity and growth of the PCA, which in turn are reflected in annual budget increases for many line items. The economic inflation rate also affects many budget items.

The budgets are presented in a format to comply with the standards for not-for-profit organizations adopted by the Financial Accounting Standards (FASB). The FASB standards provide a definition of “supporting activities” which they call “management and general.” Therefore, compensation for the stated Clerk and his staff is allocated according to the estimated time spent by each person in “program,” administration, and fund-raising areas.

Economic Assumptions

As we approach the 2025 budget, we have the following considerations in mind:

A. Stated Clerk/Administration

- 1.0% PCA Growth Rate (2022-2023 reported PCA church growth rate)
- National Consumer Price Index (CPI) of 6.5% for 2022 and 3.4% for 2023. The February 2024 CPI was 3.2% (Source: Investopedia)
- U.S. unemployment rate of 3.7%, December 2023 (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)
- Projected median healthcare cost increase of 7% for 2024 (Int'l Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans (IFEBC) as reported by Society of Human Resources Management (SHRM))
- The full-time equivalent (FTE) employees budgeted for 2025 is 17.

B. PCA Office Building

- Current building occupancy cost is \$14/sq ft. Please see the 2023 AC minutes for recent actions on rent amounts (BF 04/23-22.1, BF 04/23-22.2, BF 10/23-7)

II. Major Changes in the Budget

The main changes in the budget are due to inflation management and the transition of *byFaith* magazine to digital-only delivery.

III. Income Streams and Development Plans

The PCA AC Development plans are increasing in man hours and in effectiveness as we advance the ministries of the whole PCA. Earned income and individual donor streams are expected to grow gradually, therefore the support of each PCA church is needed.

IV. Major Ministry Not Implemented in the Past Year

- There was no “Major Ministry” unimplemented in 2023.

V. Present & Future

- The Spanish *BCO* is nearing completion, and a first draft of the Portuguese *BCO* is nearing the halfway point. We are increasing the number of documents and communications we translate into Korean.

VI. Notes to Line Items

General Note: To begin catch-up on past inflationary effects, staff salary and benefits are increasing by 7%.

Line 6: The News Office is expected to incur lower operating expenses as the impact of digital-only delivery fully takes hold.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE						
PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET						
DESCRIPTION	TOTAL PROGRAMS	MANAGEMENT & GENERAL	FUND RAISING	CAPITAL ASSETS	TOTALS	% OF TOTALS
SUPPORT & REVENUE						
1 Contributions (I)	\$ 1,962,000	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 1,962,000	51.45%
2 Fees	1,701,750	0	0		1,701,750	44.62%
3 Interest	0	20,000	0		20,000	0.52%
4 Others	130,000	0	0	0	130,000	3.41%
5 TOTAL REVENUES	3,793,750	20,000	0	0	3,813,750	100.00%
OPERATING EXPENSES						
6a Coordinator Sal, Hsng & Benefits	261,000	14,500	14,500	0	290,000	7.60%
6b Staff Salary & Benefits	1,719,704	64,050	139,000	0	1,922,754	50.42%
6 Total Staff Salary & Benefits	1,980,704	78,550	153,500	0	2,212,754	58.02%
7 Travel	256,600	15,000	6,000	0	277,600	7.28%
8 Rent	54,100	15,000	2,000	0	71,100	1.86%
9 Janitor/Grounds	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
10 Mail/Ship	45,750	500	11,000	0	57,250	1.50%
11 Office Supplies	15,300	6,000	500	0	21,800	0.57%
12 Telephone	12,500	2,000	500	0	15,000	0.39%
13 Maintenance	0	1,000	0	0	1,000	0.03%
14 Leased Equipment	21,000	4,500	0	0	25,500	0.67%
15 Dues/Subscription	70,310	15,000	800	0	86,110	2.26%
16 Insurance	39,265	1,500	1,500	0	42,265	1.11%
17 Interest	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
18 Printing	206,350	500	13,000	0	219,850	5.76%
19 Staff Training/Develop.	5,000	0	0	0	5,000	0.13%
20 Promotion/Appeals	9,000	0	0	0	9,000	0.24%
21 Foundation	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
22 Planning	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
23 Professional Services	533,700	20,000	4,500	0	558,200	14.64%
24 Taxes	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
25 Utilities	5,000	0	0	0	5,000	0.13%
26 Contingencies	26,000	10,000	2,000	0	38,000	1.00%
28 Depreciation	19,090	38,000	0	0	57,090	1.50%
29 TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	3,299,669	207,550	195,300	0	3,702,519	95.59%
30 Operating Surplus/Deficit	494,081	(187,550)	(195,300)	0	111,231	2.92%
31 LESS Depreciation	19,090	38,000	0	0	57,090	1.50%
32 NET OPERATING EXP.	3,280,579	169,550	195,300	0	3,645,429	100.00%
OTHER CAPITAL ITEMS:						
33 Capital Expenditures	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
34 TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
36 TOTAL NET BUDGET	3,280,579	169,550	195,300	0	3,645,429	95.59%
36 SURPLUS/DEFICIT	513,171	(149,550)	(195,300)	0	168,321	4.41%
(I) Partnership Shares --- (contributions required from churches to fulfill responsibilities)						

APPENDIX A

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE								
BUDGETS COMPARISONS STATEMENT								
FOR PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET								
DESCRIPTION					PROPOSED BUDGET		2024 TO 2025	
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	% OF	CHANGE IN BUDGET	
	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	PROPOSED	TOTALS	\$	%
SUPPORT & REVENUE								
1 Contributions (1)	\$ 1,781,000	\$ 1,881,000	\$ 1,921,000	\$ 1,996,000	\$ 1,962,000	51.45%	\$ (34,000)	-1.70%
2 Fees	1,053,500	1,173,500	1,538,500	1,623,500	1,701,750	44.62%	78,250	4.82%
3 Investments	2,000	5,000	2,000	10,000	20,000	0.52%	10,000	100.00%
4 Others	300,664	321,962	130,000	120,000	130,000	3.41%	10,000	8.33%
TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE	3,137,164	3,381,462	3,591,500	3,749,500	3,813,750	100.00%	64,250	1.71%
OPERATING EXPENSES								
6 News Office	507,220	551,030	702,393	650,700	402,042	10.54%	(248,658)	-38.21%
7 Historical Center	157,560	163,740	178,273	177,400	190,177	4.99%	12,777	7.20%
8 Committees & Agencies	122,650	127,750	156,850	167,400	170,552	4.47%	3,152	1.88%
9 Churches & Presbyteries	590,100	643,800	704,300	722,700	778,217	20.41%	55,517	7.68%
10 Stats & Publications	240,620	264,530	284,650	305,150	310,360	8.14%	5,210	1.71%
11 Standing Comm.	377,050	405,300	396,500	424,600	454,456	11.92%	29,856	7.03%
12 Gen. Assembly	708,300	680,150	825,736	922,000	993,865	26.06%	71,865	7.79%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	2,703,500	2,836,300	3,248,702	3,369,950	3,299,669	86.52%	(70,281)	-2.09%
14 Management & General	122,940	126,400	152,639	169,060	207,550	5.44%	38,490	22.77%
15 Fund Raising	143,660	146,050	164,490	179,090	195,300	5.12%	16,210	9.05%
TOTAL MGMT. & FUND RAISING	266,600	272,450	317,129	348,150	402,850	10.56%	54,700	15.71%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	2,970,100	3,108,750	3,565,831	3,718,100	3,702,519	97.08%	(15,581)	-0.42%
18 OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	167,064	272,712	25,669	31,400	111,231	2.92%	79,831	254.24%
19 LESS Depreciation	23,000	23,800	32,981	29,250	57,090	1.50%	27,840	95.18%
NET OPERATING EXPENSES	2,947,100	3,084,950	3,532,850	3,688,850	3,645,429	95.59%	(43,421)	-1.18%
OTHER CAPITAL ITEMS:								
21 Capital Expenditures								
22 Principal Loan Pmts								
23 Building Loss/(Gain)								
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	
TOTAL EXPENSES	2,947,100	3,084,950	3,532,850	3,688,850	3,645,429	95.59%	(43,421)	-1.18%
26 NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) EXCLUDING DEPRECIATION	190,064	296,512	58,650	60,650	168,321	4.41%	107,671	2.89%
27 Equity Transfer Profit/(Loss)								
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	190,064	296,512	58,650	60,650	168,321	4.41%	107,671	2.89%
(1) Partnership Share ... (contributions required from churches to fulfill responsibilities)								

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE						
FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL HISTORY						
FOR PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET						
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
	DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL
SUPPORT & REVENUE						
1	Contributions -Designated & Undesignated Income (1)	\$ 1,595,390	\$ 1,992,737	\$ 1,503,522	\$ 1,575,771	\$ 1,826,392
2	Fees (Earned Income)	1,307,220	394,157	1,580,658	1,718,681	1,801,178
3	Investments	8,233	6,880	10,458	17,177	26,821
4	Others					
TOTAL SUPPORT &						
5	REVENUE	2,910,843	2,393,774	3,094,638	3,311,629	3,654,392
OPERATING EXPENSES						
7	News Office	467,533	483,052	560,824	591,131	551,741
8	Historical Center	141,535	144,968	143,884	151,432	162,297
9	Committees & Agencies	110,896	124,241	134,363	137,173	147,894
10	Churches & Presbyteries	532,240	516,911	545,281	608,697	672,971
11	Stats & Publications	252,365	243,360	237,201	307,408	301,726
12	Standing Comm.	311,597	346,984	300,229	387,776	375,770
13	Gen. Assembly	729,408	335,958	844,600	920,326	1,104,136
TOTAL						
14	PROGRAMS	2,545,574	2,195,474	2,766,382	3,103,942	3,316,535
15	Management & General	117,147	111,833	127,767	176,203	185,922
16	Fund Raising	120,550	104,883	116,196	114,897	144,877
TOTAL MGMT. &						
17	FUND RAISING	237,697	216,716	243,962	291,100	330,798
TOTAL OPERATING						
18	EXPENSES	2,783,270	2,412,190	3,010,344	3,395,043	3,647,333
19	OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	127,573	(18,416)	84,294	(83,413)	7,059
20	LESS Depreciation & Dispositions	20,844	25,099	32,750	32,981	30,824
21	NET OPERATING EXPENSES	2,804,114	2,437,289	3,043,094	3,428,023	3,678,157
OTHER CAPITAL						
ITEMS:						
22	Capital Expenditures	40,644	55,352	7,313	7,528	206,039
23	Principal Loan Pmts					
24	Other Items - Dishonored Pledges					
TOTAL CAPITAL						
25	EXPENDITURES	40,644	55,352	7,313	7,528	206,039
26	TOTAL EXPENSES W/O Depreciation	2,823,914	2,467,541	3,017,656	3,402,570	3,853,372
NET OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)						
27	EXCLUDING DEPRECIATION	127,573	(18,416)	84,294	(83,413)	7,059
28	Equity Transfer	28,209	21,615	25,804	(50,052)	50,360
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)						
29	EXCLUDING DEPRECIATION	155,782	3,198	110,097	(133,465)	57,419

APPENDIX A

PCA OFFICE BUILDING PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET						
DESCRIPTION	TOTAL PROGRAMS	MANAGEMENT & GENERAL	FUND RAISING	CAPITAL ASSETS	TOTALS	% OF TOTALS
SUPPORT & REVENUE						
1 Contributions	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
2 Investments	0	6,000	0	0	6,000	1.69%
3 Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
4 Rent	0	348,698	0	0	348,698	98.31%
5 TOTAL REVENUES	0	354,698	0	0	354,698	100.00%
OPERATING EXPENSES						
6 Staff Salary & Benefits	0	68,000	0	0	68,000	19.17%
7 Travel	0	1,000	0	0	1,000	0.28%
8 Rent	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
9 Janitor/Grounds	0	50,000	0	0	50,000	14.10%
10 Mail/Ship	0	150	0	0	150	0.04%
11 Office Supplies	0	1,000	0	0	1,000	0.28%
12 Telephone	0	1,000	0	0	1,000	0.28%
13 Maintenance	0	50,000	0	0	50,000	14.10%
14 Leased Equipment	0	100	0	0	100	0.03%
15 Dues/Subscription	0	2,100	0	0	2,100	0.59%
16 Insurance	0	40,000	0	0	40,000	11.28%
17 Interest	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
18 Printing	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
19 Staff Training/Develop.	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
20 Promotion/Appeals	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
21 Foundation	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
22 Planning	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
23 Professional Services	0	42,000	0	0	42,000	11.84%
24 Taxes	0	3,000	0	0	3,000	0.85%
25 Utilities	0	60,000	0	0	60,000	16.92%
26 Contingencies	0	16,000	0	0	16,000	4.51%
27 Depreciation	0	61,557	0	55,981	117,538	33.14%
28 TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	0	395,907	0	55,981	451,888	127.40%
29 Operating Surplus/Deficit	0	(41,209)	0	(55,981)	(97,190)	-27.40%
30 LESS Depreciation	0	61,557	0	55,981	117,538	33.14%
31 NET OPERATING EXPENSES	0	334,350	0	0	334,350	94.26%
OTHER CAPITAL ITEMS:						
32 Capital Expenditures	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
32a Loss (Gain) on Investments	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
33 Depreciation Reserve	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
34 TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
35 TOTAL NET BUDGET	0	334,350	0	0	334,350	94.26%
36 SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$0	\$20,348	\$0	\$0	\$20,348	5.74%

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PCA OFFICE BUILDING							
BUDGETS COMPARISON STATEMENT							
FOR PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET							
DESCRIPTION	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET	2024 BUDGET	2025 BUDGET	% OF TOTALS	2024 TO 2025 CHANGE IN BUDGET	
						\$	%
SUPPORT & REV							
1 Contributions	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%
2 Fees	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
3 Investments	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	1.69%	0	0.00%
4 Rent	298,884	298,884	398,512	348,698	98.31%	(49,814)	-16.67%
TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE	304,884	304,884	404,512	354,698	100.00%	(49,814)	-16.34%
OPERATING EXP							
6 Capital Fund	55,981	55,981	55,981	55,981	15.78%	0	0.00%
7 TOTAL PROG	55,981	55,981	55,981	55,981	15.78%	0	0.00%
8 Mgmt & Gen'l	341,568	349,494	347,269	395,907	111.62%	48,638	14.24%
9 Fund Raising	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
10 TOTAL MGMT& FUND RAISING	341,568	349,494	347,269	395,907	111.62%	48,638	14.24%
11 TOTAL OPER EXPENSES	397,549	405,475	403,250	451,888	127.40%	48,638	12.23%
12 Operating Surplus/(Def)	(92,665)	(100,591)	1,262	(97,190)	-27.40%	(98,452)	0.00%
13 Depreciation					0.00%	0	#DIV/0!
14 NET OPERATING EXPENSES	397,549	405,475	403,250	451,888	127.40%	48,638	12.23%
CAPITAL ASSETS							
15 Capital Additions							
16 TOTAL OPER& CAPITAL EXP	397,549	405,475	403,250	451,888	127.40%	48,638	12.23%
16 Loss (Gain) from Investments	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
17 SURPLUS/(DEF)	(92,665)	(100,591)	\$1,262	(97,190)	-27.40%	(98,452)	106.25%

APPENDIX A

PCA OFFICE BUILDING					
FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL HISTORY					
FOR PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET					
DESCRIPTION	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 ACTUAL	2022 ACTUAL	2023 ACTUAL
SUPPORT & REVENUE					
1 Contributions	\$100	\$237	\$100	\$100	\$100
2 Fees					
3 Investments	294,506	223,053	222,397	(267,911)	211,192
4 Rent	298,884	298,884	298,884	298,884	312,592
TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE	593,490	522,174	521,381	31,073	523,884
OPERATING EXPENSES					
6 Capital Fund	55,981	55,981	55,981	55,981	55,981
7 TOTAL PROGRAM	55,981	55,981	55,981	55,981	55,981
8 Management & General	341,068	315,674	285,709	323,640	335,814
9 Fund Raising					
10 TOTAL MGMT & FUND RAISING	341,068	315,674	285,709	323,640	335,814
11 TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	397,049	371,655	341,690	379,621	391,795
12 OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	196,441	150,519	179,690	(348,548)	132,089
13 Less Depreciation and Dispositions					
14 NET OPERATING EXPENSES	397,049	371,655	341,690	379,621	391,795
OTHER CAPITAL ITEMS					
15 Other Items	**	**	**	**	**
16 TOTAL OPERATING & CAPITAL EXPENSES	397,049	371,655	341,690	379,621	391,795
17 NET OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$196,441	\$150,519	\$179,690	(\$348,548)	\$132,089
**					
Equity Transfer	196,441	150,519	179,690	(348,548)	132,089
Investments Include:					
3 Realized Gain(Loss) on Investments	28,603	96,429	123,688	14,949	30,390
3 Unrealized Gain(Loss) on Investments	232,623	100,307	73,965	(309,211)	155,568
3 Investment Income	33,281	26,317	24,744	26,351	42,932

**COMMITTEE ON DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES
2025 PROPOSED BUDGET**

I. Economic Considerations and General Ministry Factors

The attached budget represents the anticipated financial activities associated with the ministry to connect and equip those in the PCA involved in discipleship ministry. The staff of CDM works to consult with and train practitioners in the local church, particularly through national, regional, local and virtual training events. Participants include ministers of discipleship, elders, Bible teachers, small group leaders, Sunday school teachers, and the staff and volunteers who work in ministries to children, youth, and adults. CDM also offers resources for those in the local church by providing helpful materials on the CDM website, publishing the work of PCA members, recommending resources available in the broader Church, and operating the PCA Bookstore.

The Book of Church Order states, “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.” (BCO 14-4) Currently, 28% of particular PCA churches contribute to CDM and the permanent committee and staff are grateful for the generosity shown by these churches. We pray more will join them in support of CDM’s essential ministry.

Underlying budget assumptions include:

- a tapering rate of inflation—nevertheless persistent higher costs due to recent years’ cumulative inflation.
- health insurance premiums are projected to increase 20% from the actual paid in 2024.
- moderate growth in giving from churches and greater need for gifts from individuals to supplement churches that do not give according to the Ministry Ask.
- CDM anticipates 13.3 FTE employees in 2025 which is an increase of .5 over 2024.
- CDM continues to provide mailroom and technology services to the committees and agencies in the building and is reimbursed accordingly.

II. Major Changes in Budget

The budget for 2025 presents an 8.2% net increase primarily due to higher operating costs. As noted, inflation is putting extreme upward pressure on all expenses, especially committee and team meetings, conference expenses, occupancy cost, and staff compensation. While inflation has persisted, church giving has not increased at a commensurate rate (1.2%), thus putting increasing pressure on CDM's general fund reserve.

III. Income Streams

CDM has four revenue streams: 1) church contributions, 2) individual contributions, 3) revenues from the sale of resources, and 4) registration fees for conferences and training. CDM's primary source of unrestricted income for the ministry is contributions from 28% of particular PCA churches. In light of the ministry responsibilities given to CDM by the General Assembly, the "Ministry Ask" is set at \$7 per communicant member. If every PCA congregation were to give at this level, CDM would be fully funded and able to accomplish what the Assembly has directed.

Since a majority of PCA congregations do not contribute to the ministry of CDM, and others are unable to give the \$7 "Ministry Ask," the staff of CDM works to solicit donations from individuals, local church women's groups, and the PCA Foundation. Additionally, the staff seeks to find creative ways to enhance revenue through sales of products, attendance at events, and receipt of fees for services provided to churches and the other committees and agencies.

CDM desires to be a wise steward of the funds God has provided and offer the very best service to PCA churches. As CDM engages with and receives feedback from leaders in churches, the staff is convinced a percentage request is more helpful to those who contribute to General Assembly committees. Consequently, CDM asks churches to give a minimum of .20% (.0020) of the congregation's total tithes and offerings, excluding capital budget items.

IV. Major Ministry Not Implemented in the Past Year

In an effort to bring the scope of the ministry of CDM in line with the giving from PCA churches, the staff and permanent committee have focused on the areas of ministry to women, children, and resource development. Due to financial constraints, these ministries are forced to operate below budget by forgoing ministry opportunities, using volunteers wherever possible and limiting staff compensation. CDM continues to seek funding from churches and individuals to grow and fully staff ministries to youth and men in the denomination.

V. Notes on Budget Line Items

- **Contributions and Support** (Budget Comp., line 1) represent all donated funds by churches, individuals, and organizations.
- **Other Revenue** (Budget Comp., line 2) consists of book and curriculum sales, conference and training fees, reimbursements for postage and other services, and the net change in CDM's investments held at the PCA Foundation. This line item is projected to increase, representing anticipated growth in book sales, greater participation in conferences and training opportunities.
- **Training and Certification** (Budget Comp., line 3) reflects a fifth year of the Children's Ministry Certification program and second full year of a NextGen Certification program.
- The **Women's Ministry** (Budget Comp., line 4) is budgeted to increase 21.7% due to greater participation in annual and regional conferences as well as growth in the WE and International Women's Ministries programs.
- CDM continues, in a limited way, to help local churches that request assistance in developing **Men's Ministries** (Budget Comp., line 5)
- **NextGen Ministry** (Budget Comp., line 6) represents the cost of the CDM coordinator working with a part-time consultant and ministry team and a national conference.

APPENDIX A

- **Children's Ministry** (Budget Comp., line 7) is projected to decrease as part of the staff compensation is temporarily shifted to **Children's Worship and Prayer** (Budget Comp, line 8) initiative. This line item presents CDM's second year of activity provided for by a five-year, \$1.25 million grant.
- **Seniors Ministry** (Budget Comp, line 9) indicates expenses associated with constituting a ministry team to begin addressing this important area of ministry.
- **Publications and Curriculum** (Budget Comp., line 10) includes the costs associated with developing and producing between eight and twelve studies and curricula.
- The increase of budgeted expenses for the **Bookstore** (Budget Comp., line 11) corresponds to the projected increase in sales revenue (line 2) and increased rent. Bookstore sales have increased since 2017, except for the year of the pandemic onset.
- **Reachout Adventures** (Budget Comp, line 12) is projected to increase to reflect the cost of the revision of the *Upward Bound* theme.
- **Management and General** (Budget Comp., line 13) In addition to staff costs, this line item includes the **Audit Fees** (Proposed, line 26), and CDM's share of **Liability Insurance** (Proposed, line 17) as well as fees that are mandated to CDM by the General Assembly such as Nominating Committee and Administrative Committee fees. See **General Assembly Shared Expenses** (Proposed, line 25)
- The line-item **Committee/Agency Services** (Budget Comp., line 14) represents mailroom and technology services provided to the other committees and agencies and are reimbursed 100% to CDM. This is expected to decline as mailroom and technology services are needed less since two committees operate remotely.
- **Fund Raising** (Budget Comp., line 17) represents the costs associated with contacting churches, presbyteries and individuals and informing them about the ministry of CDM and their potential role in supporting

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

the ministry. This item includes 20% of the CDM Coordinator and his associated expenses as well as two part-time staff assistants.

- The Coordinator, his part time assistant and related expenses are allocated to the various expense categories as follows: Training and Certification 10%, Fund Raising 20%, Administration 15%, Bookstore 5%, Women's Ministry 10%, Youth Ministry 10%, Children's Ministry 10%, and Publications and Curriculum 20%.

APPENDIX A

Committee on Discipleship Ministries
Proposed 2025 Budget

	<u>Total Programs</u>	<u>Management & General</u>	<u>Fund Raising</u>	<u>Capital Assets</u>	<u>Totals</u>	<u>% of Totals</u>
SUPPORT & REVENUE						
1 Contributions and Support	\$852,656	\$300,524	\$126,569	\$20,000	\$1,299,750	48.16%
2 Other Revenues	\$1,263,650	135,100.00	\$200	\$0	\$1,398,950	51.84%
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	\$2,116,306	\$435,624	\$126,769	\$20,000	\$2,698,700	100.00%
OPERATING EXPENSES						
3 Coordinator Salary and Housing	\$108,615	\$25,065	\$33,420	\$0	\$167,100	6.19%
4 Coordinator Benefits	\$22,230	\$5,130	\$6,840	\$0	\$34,200	1.27%
5 Staff Salary and Benefits	\$737,110	\$235,010	\$55,280	\$0	\$1,027,400	38.07%
6 Inventory Purchases	\$460,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$460,000	17.05%
7 Supplies	\$3,296	\$648	\$156	\$0	\$4,100	0.15%
8 Telephone & Internet	\$5,936	\$1,261	\$303	\$0	\$7,500	0.28%
9 Technology Resources	\$64,652	\$2,795	\$672	\$0	\$68,120	2.52%
10 Printing	\$15,050	\$0	\$7,500	\$0	\$22,550	0.84%
11 Postage & Shipping Materials	\$97,133	\$21,508	\$2,010	\$0	\$120,650	4.47%
12 Miscellaneous	\$4,948	\$9,123	\$780	\$0	\$14,850	0.55%
13 Subscriptions, Books, Materials	\$2,011	\$326	\$34	\$0	\$2,370	0.09%
14 Equipment Rental/Maint.	\$3,106	\$12,720	\$173	\$0	\$16,000	0.59%
15 Depreciation	\$11,649	\$2,702	\$650	\$0	\$15,000	0.56%
16 Occupancy Cost	\$68,090	\$25,419	\$1,441	\$0	\$94,950	3.52%
17 Liability Insurance	\$0	\$28,000	\$0	\$0	\$28,000	1.04%
18 Consultants, Prof. Services, Reps.	\$50,450	\$8,500	\$3,000	\$0	\$61,950	2.30%
19 Travel	\$94,235	\$1,625	\$3,000	\$0	\$98,860	3.66%
20 General Assembly Expense	\$16,625	\$1,575	\$2,500	\$0	\$20,700	0.77%
21 Staff Development / Book Allowance	\$1,995	\$345	\$60	\$0	\$2,400	0.09%
22 Graphics/Design	\$43,120	\$0	\$2,500	\$0	\$45,620	1.69%
23 Promotion and Advertising	\$26,000	\$0	\$7,000	\$0	\$33,000	1.22%
24 Video Acquisition and Production	\$36,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$36,000	1.33%
25 G.A. Shared Expenses	\$0	\$18,500	\$0	\$0	\$18,500	0.69%
26 Audit Fees	\$0	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$15,000	0.56%
27 Facilities, Events and Activities	\$146,325	\$75	\$100	\$0	\$146,500	5.43%
28 Committee and Team Meetings	\$34,500	\$23,000	\$0	\$0	\$57,500	2.13%
29 Honorariums and Royalties	\$74,880	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$74,880	2.77%
30 Vehicles	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$2,127,955	\$438,326	\$127,419	\$0	\$2,693,700	99.81%
Surplus/(Deficit) from operations	(\$11,649)	(\$2,702)	(\$650)	\$20,000	\$5,000	
LESS DEPRECIATION	(\$11,649)	(\$2,702)	(\$650)	\$0	(\$15,000)	-0.56%
TOTAL CASH OUTLAYS	\$2,116,306	\$435,624	\$126,769	\$0	\$2,678,700	99.26%
OTHER CAPITAL ITEMS						
31 Capital Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000	0.74%
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000	
TOTAL NET BUDGET	\$2,116,306	\$435,624	\$126,769	\$20,000	\$2,698,700	

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Committee on Discipleship Ministries
Budget Comparisons Statement
for Proposed 2025 Budget

	Unaudited 2023 <u>Actual</u>	Approved 2023 <u>Budget</u>	Approved 2024 <u>Budget</u>	Proposed 2025 <u>Budget</u>	Budget % <u>of Totals</u>	2025 - 2024 Change in Budget <u>in \$</u> <u>in %</u>	
SUPPORT & REVENUE							
1 Contributions and Support	\$678,780	\$840,000	\$1,258,440	\$1,299,750	48.2%	\$41,310	3.3%
2 Other Revenues	\$1,364,281	\$1,206,000	\$1,234,800	\$1,398,950	51.8%	\$164,150	13.3%
TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE	\$2,043,060	\$2,046,000	\$2,493,240	\$2,698,700	100.0%	\$205,460	8.2%
OPERATING EXPENSES							
TRAINING							
3 Training and Certification	\$38,565	\$71,418	\$95,019	\$88,966	3.3%	(\$6,053)	-6.4%
4 Women's Ministries	\$306,267	\$367,640	\$360,870	\$439,243	16.3%	\$78,374	21.7%
5 Men's Ministries	\$3,617	\$4,000	\$6,500	\$6,500	0.2%	\$0	0.0%
6 NextGen Ministries	\$39,077	\$32,789	\$74,512	\$99,389	3.7%	\$24,878	33.4%
7 Children's Ministries	\$180,521	\$209,854	\$200,686	\$173,288	6.4%	(\$27,398)	-13.7%
8 Children's Worship and Prayer	\$41,024	\$0	\$324,640	\$304,217	11.3%	(\$20,423)	-6.3%
9 Seniors Ministry	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,500	0.1%	\$3,500	n/a
RESOURCES							
10 Publications and Curriculum	\$100,982	\$101,979	\$107,934	\$124,980	4.6%	\$17,046	15.8%
11 PCA Bookstore	\$750,804	\$672,830	\$725,667	\$786,671	29.2%	\$61,004	8.4%
12 VBS Reachout Adventures	\$79,693	\$95,323	\$55,199	\$101,199	3.7%	\$46,001	83.3%
Total Programs	\$1,540,549	\$1,555,833	\$1,951,025	\$2,127,955	78.85%	\$395,192	20.3%
13 Management & General	\$228,685	\$227,340	\$253,698	\$275,701	10.2%	\$22,004	8.7%
14 Committee/Agency Services	\$144,706	\$105,846	\$133,939	\$124,625	4.6%	(\$9,314)	-7.0%
15 CDM Committee	\$19,342	\$19,000	\$23,000	\$23,000	0.9%	\$0	0.0%
16 Depreciation	\$18,166	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	0.6%	\$0	0.0%
17 Fund Raising	\$94,677	\$122,981	\$116,578	\$127,419	4.7%	\$10,841	9.3%
Total Management / Fund Raising	\$505,575	\$490,167	\$542,215	\$565,745	21.0%	\$52,048	9.6%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$2,046,124	\$2,046,000	\$2,493,240	\$2,693,700	99.8%	\$447,240	17.9%
Surplus/(Deficit) from Operations	(\$3,064)	\$0	\$0	\$5,000		\$0	
LESS DEPRECIATION	(\$18,166)	(\$15,000)	(\$15,000)	(\$15,000)	-0.6%	\$0	
TOTAL CASH OUTLAYS	\$2,027,959	\$2,031,000	\$2,478,240	\$2,678,700		\$447,240	
OTHER CAPITAL ITEMS							
18 Capital Expenditures	\$64,518	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$20,000	0.7%	\$5,000	33.3%
TOTAL CAPITAL ITEMS	\$64,518	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$20,000	0.2%	\$5,000	33.3%
TOTAL NET BUDGET	\$2,092,477	\$2,046,000	\$2,493,240	\$2,698,700	100.0%	\$205,460	8.2%

APPENDIX A

**Committee on Discipleship Ministries
Five Year Summary
for Proposed 2025 Budget**

	<u>2019</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2020</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2021</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2022</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Actual</u> (Unaudited)
SUPPORT & REVENUE					
1 Contributions and Support	\$694,146	\$669,010	\$604,680	\$598,294	\$678,780
2 Other Revenues	\$1,052,659	\$1,075,623	\$1,351,717	\$1,119,625	\$1,364,281
TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE	\$1,746,806	\$1,744,633	\$1,956,397	\$1,717,919	\$2,043,060
OPERATING EXPENSES					
TRAINING					
3 Training and Certification	\$56,047	\$48,427	\$43,330	\$49,461	\$38,565
4 Women's Ministries	\$240,969	\$241,520	\$191,307	\$262,167	\$306,267
5 Men's Ministries	\$0	\$1,854	\$2,844	\$4,098	\$3,617
6 Youth Ministries	\$23,696	\$22,740	\$23,443	\$27,558	\$39,077
7 Children's Ministries	\$166,110	\$144,503	\$169,309	\$218,109	\$180,521
8 Teach Us to Worship	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$41,024
9 Seniors Ministries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
RESOURCES					
10 Publications and Curriculum	\$72,805	\$69,981	\$114,672	\$84,544	\$100,982
11 PCA Bookstore	\$576,429	\$555,552	\$643,529	\$682,987	\$750,804
12 VBS Reachout Adventures	\$6,527	\$100,040	\$67,777	\$89,053	\$79,693
Total Programs	\$1,142,583	\$1,184,616	\$1,256,210	\$1,417,976	\$1,540,549
13 Management & General	\$216,927	\$186,877	\$193,864	\$213,268	\$228,685
14 Committee/Agency Services	\$158,275	\$140,270	\$143,020	\$137,606	\$144,706
15 CE Committee	\$15,361	\$10,118	\$6,721	\$22,287	\$19,342
16 Depreciation	\$11,209	\$15,842	\$13,998	\$5,884	\$18,166
17 Fund Raising	\$79,601	\$90,036	\$79,304	\$82,353	\$94,677
Total Management / Fund Raising	\$481,373	\$443,143	\$436,906	\$461,397	\$505,575
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$1,623,956	\$1,627,759	\$1,693,116	\$1,879,373	\$2,046,124
Surplus/(Deficit) from Operations	\$122,849	\$116,874	\$263,281	(\$161,454)	(\$3,064)
LESS DEPRECIATION	(\$11,209)	(\$15,842)	(\$13,998)	(\$5,884)	(\$18,166)
TOTAL CASH OUTLAYS	\$1,612,748	\$1,611,917	\$1,679,119	\$1,873,489	\$2,027,959
OTHER CAPITAL ITEMS					
18 Capital Expenditures	\$14,775	\$12,427	\$1,680	\$4,465	\$64,518
TOTAL CAPITAL ITEMS	\$14,775	\$12,427	\$1,680	\$4,465	\$64,518
TOTAL NET EXPENSES	\$1,627,523	\$1,624,345	\$1,680,799	\$1,877,954	\$2,092,477

**COVENANT COLLEGE
PROPOSED BUDGET
FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025**

I. Economic Considerations and General Ministry Factors

General Comments

- 1) Covenant College operates as an institution of higher education in an increasingly difficult and competitive market. Since the college is largely dependent on tuition and auxiliary fees for its revenues, attracting qualified students is essential to sustainable operations. In recent years, the cost of higher education has come under increased scrutiny and changing enrollment and demographic patterns have created challenges for many institutions, including Covenant College.
- 2) The college is working hard to grow enrollment and is seeing encouraging results in recruiting efforts. The economic impact of smaller incoming classes persists, however, as the cohort progresses through the four years. That being said, the college is projected to see an increase of 33 total students year over year.
- 3) For the past number of years, the college has worked diligently to mitigate the effects of inflation. Again this year, the college is only allowing for non-negotiable budget increases. The lone exception is a 2% raise for all employees making less than \$100,000, which is the vast majority of employees.

Economic Assumptions Used in Budgeting for the next fiscal year

- 280 new students entering in fall 2025
- Continued expense increases due to inflationary pressures
- A 2% increase in employee base wages and benefits for select employees
- A draw from the endowment of 5% of the weighted three-year average value

II. Major Changes in Budget

Covenant College is committed to sound financial planning and good stewardship of its resources. The attached budget proposes a 4% increase

in tuition and a 4% increase in room and board fees for the coming year. These increases, along with the budgetary adjustments, allow the college to maintain its low student-to-faculty ratio of 14:1 and to provide high quality residential programs.

The proposed budget does not provide for any significant changes in programs or program spending.

The budget that is presented to the General Assembly includes \$3.4 million in depreciation, which is a non-cash expense. While the college is committed to living within its means, in the coming fiscal year we are expecting to experience a deficit. This deficit will be funded from free cash flow resulting from our non-cash depreciation expense, and by drawing upon our line of credit. This line of credit is secured by board designated endowment funds which were generated from surpluses in previous fiscal years.

III. Income Streams

Tuition and fees charged to students, gifts from donors (individuals and churches), fees for services, and gains from investing the college and foundation endowments constitute the four primary streams of income for the college.

The majority of college costs are paid by the students and their families, who are the direct beneficiaries. The college works with each family in an attempt to find an affordable path to attendance. The attraction and retention of students is essential to the financial health of the college and our retention rates remain above industry norms.

Restricted and unrestricted gifts for scholarships and operations, received from churches and individuals, make up roughly \$3 million dollars of the operating budget. Churches historically have given about \$1 million of that amount each year. Churches that participate in the Church Scholarship Promise program are able to realize an additional scholarship benefit for their students.

The college provides other services for fees as well. Offering housing in its residential rental properties, operating the college bookstore, and

delivering conference services provide for a modest income stream that nets about \$300,000 each year before allocation of facilities costs.

Finally, the combined endowment of the college and the Covenant College Foundation provide resources directly to the annual operating budget of the college for general operations and student scholarships. Due to the growth of the endowment, we anticipate drawing almost \$2.4 million for operations and scholarships.

IV. Major Ministry Not Implemented in the Past Year

There were no major ministry items not implemented in the last year.

V. Notes to Budget “line items”

Accounting Format & Other Notes

The college uses the NACUBO (National Association of College and University Business Officers) definitions of revenue and expense categories. This ensures that the college will be able to directly compare various ratios with other colleges and assess our effectiveness in accordance with our assessment systems. While the categories do not exactly parallel the definitions used by the Accounting and Financial Reporting Guide for Christian Ministries, there is some similarity. NACUBO categories including Instructional, Academic Support, Library, Student Services, Public Service and Student Aid, and Auxiliary services (Room and Board) are considered "Program Services."

- Budget Comparison Note 1 - Net Tuition & Fees decreasing from the prior year budget due to a prior year budget miss. Fiscal year 2025 budget will actually see tuition growth from fiscal year 2024.
- Budget Comparison Note 2 – Room and Board income increasing due to projected increase in total students living in campus housing and to increase in fees.
- Budget Comparison Note 3 – Independent Operations increasing due to increased utilization of the campus for summer camps.
- Budget Comparison Note 4 – Unrestricted Gifts increasing to align with historical precedent.

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- Budget Comparison Note 5 – Restricted Gifts increasing to reflect \$1.4 million of new giving anticipated to fund admissions initiatives.
- Budget Comparison Note 6 – Endowment Support is anticipated to remain flat inclusive of foundations gifts. The variance is a function of the foundation endowment proceeds being disaggregated from the college endowment proceeds.
- Budget Comparison Note 7 – Salaries and wages increasing due primarily to an inflationary increase of 2% in base compensation for select employees as well as specific hires funded through restricted gifts.
- Budget Comparison Note 8 – Supplies increasing largely due to funded admissions and marketing initiatives.
- Budget Comparison Note 9 – Contracts and Leases are increasing due largely to increased food costs and an increased student population.
- Budget Comparison Note 10 – Year over year, we are projecting an improvement, on a cash basis approaching \$500,000.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

COVENANT COLLEGE
 PROPOSED BUDGET
 For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025

	Independent Management Advancement					% of Total	
	Programs	Operations	& General	/Development	Capital	Total	Revenue
Revenues							
Net Tuition & Fees	14,100,084					14,100,084	42.9%
Auxiliary Income	10,013,571					10,013,571	30.5%
Independent Operations		1,750,000				1,750,000	5.3%
Other Income	384,271					384,271	1.2%
Gifts & Support Income						-	
Unrestricted Gifts	2,500,000					2,500,000	7.6%
Restricted Gifts	2,400,000					2,400,000	7.3%
Endowment Support	1,700,000					1,700,000	5.2%
Total Gifts & Support Income	6,600,000					6,600,000	20.1%
Total Revenues	31,097,926	1,750,000				32,847,926	100.0%
Operating Expenses							
Salaries & Benefits							
Salaries	10,907,578	144,642	1,932,337	1,637,352		14,621,909	44.5%
Benefits	2,889,254	46,352	596,632	402,943		3,935,181	12.0%
Total Salaries & Benefits	13,796,832	190,994	2,528,969	2,040,295	-	18,557,090	56.5%
Travel & Professional Activities	1,107,431	2,425	107,655	265,451		1,482,962	4.5%
Insurance	44,517	2,000	98,649	-		145,166	0.4%
Supplies	808,706	670,520	1,115,644	271,021		2,865,891	8.7%
Contracts & Leases	4,797,568	7,000	576,034	15,244		5,395,846	16.4%
Acquisitions	47,177	-	-	-		47,177	0.1%
Other Expenses	488,536	320,346	305,388	-		1,114,270	3.4%
Allocation of Maintenance Costs	3,257,301	162,606	195,090	24,750		3,639,747	11.1%
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	3,426,699	3,426,699	10.4%
Total Operating Expenses	24,348,067	1,355,891	4,927,429	2,616,761	3,426,699	36,674,848	111.7%
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	6,749,859	394,109	(4,927,429)	(2,616,761)	(3,426,699)	(3,826,922)	-11.7%
Less: Depreciation	-	-	-	-	3,426,699	3,426,699	10.4%
Net Operating Surplus (Deficit)	6,749,859	394,109	(4,927,429)	(2,616,761)	-	(400,223)	-1.2%
Non-Operating Activities							
Capital Expenditures					1,600,000	1,600,000	4.9%
Change in Cash					1,600,000	(2,000,223)	-6.1%

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COVENANT COLLEGE
BUDGET COMPARISON
For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025

	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Budget	Proposed		FY 2024 to FY 2025 Change in Budget	
			FY 2025 Budget	% of Total Revenue	\$	%
Revenues						
Net Tuition & Fees	13,092,452	14,361,572	14,100,084	42.9%	(261,488) ¹	-1.8%
Auxiliary Income	7,622,301	8,671,292	10,013,571	30.5%	1,342,279 ²	15.5%
Independent Operations	1,750,982	1,490,809	1,750,000	5.3%	259,191 ³	17.4%
Other Income	417,971	242,634	384,271	1.2%	141,637	58.4%
Government Support	889,821					
Gifts & Support Income						
Unrestricted Gifts	2,532,802	2,000,000	2,500,000	7.6%	500,000 ⁴	25.0%
Restricted Gifts	2,231,652	1,020,000	2,400,000	7.3%	1,380,000 ⁵	135.3%
Endowment Support	2,482,411	2,339,000	1,700,000	5.2%	(639,000) ⁶	-27.3%
Total Gifts & Support Income	7,246,865	5,359,000	6,600,000	20.1%	1,241,000	23.2%
Total Revenues	31,020,392	30,125,307	32,847,926	100.0%	2,722,619	9.0%
Operating Expenses						
Salaries & Benefits						
Salaries	13,330,080.9	14,145,143	14,621,909	44.5%	476,766	3.4%
Benefits	3,783,386	3,861,291	3,935,181	12.0%	73,890	1.9%
Total Salaries & Benefits	17,113,467	18,006,434	18,557,090	56.5%	550,656 ⁷	3.1%
Travel & Professional Activities	1,538,404	1,388,414	1,482,962	4.5%	94,548	6.8%
Insurance	148,028	141,967	145,166	0.4%	3,199	2.3%
Supplies	2,364,709	2,338,781	2,865,891	8.7%	527,110 ⁸	22.5%
Contracts & Leases	5,075,138	4,805,290	5,395,846	16.4%	590,556 ⁹	12.3%
Acquisitions	36,161	55,478	47,177	0.1%	(8,301)	-15.0%
Other Expenses	1,048,644	923,355	1,114,270	3.4%	190,915	20.7%
Maintenance Costs	3,557,610	3,403,596	3,639,747	11.1%	236,151	6.9%
Depreciation	3,426,367	3,272,407	3,426,699	10.4%	154,292	4.7%
Total Operating Expenses	34,308,528	34,335,722	36,674,848	111.7%	2,339,126	6.8%
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	(3,288,136)	(4,210,415)	(3,826,922)	-11.7%	383,493	-9.1%
Less: Depreciation	3,426,367	3,272,407	3,426,699	10.4%	154,292	4.7%
Net Operating Surplus (Deficit)	138,231	(938,008)	(400,223)	-1.2%	537,785	-57.3%
Non-Operating Activities						
Capital Expenditures	1,520,862	1,600,000	1,600,000	4.9%	-	0.0%
Change in Cash	(1,382,631)	(2,538,008)	(2,000,223)	-6.1%	537,785 ¹⁰	-21.2%

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

COVENANT COLLEGE FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL HISTORY For the Proposed Budget for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025

	Audited Financial Statement Actual Performance				
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Revenues					
Net Tuition & Fees	13,092,452	13,528,319	13,219,181	14,102,280	14,984,956
Auxiliary Income	7,622,301	7,487,245	6,733,319	5,453,025	7,468,901
Independent Operations	1,750,982	1,643,720	481,672	794,173	1,484,220
Other Income	417,971	327,990	368,208	627,665	894,438
Income on Investments	647,277	437,245	302,595	293,341	277,438
Government & Grants	889,821	2,109,774	1,590,047	4,458,581	394,280
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	4,714,063	3,321,225	2,646,824	2,956,656	2,933,986
Unrestricted Gift Income	<u>1,885,525</u>	<u>2,061,399</u>	<u>1,828,282</u>	<u>2,744,465</u>	<u>3,813,566</u>
	31,020,392	30,916,917	27,170,128	31,430,186	32,251,785
Operating Expenses					
Instructional	9,199,831	9,246,311	8,330,733	8,994,817	9,391,177
Academic support	1,055,857	1,036,287	961,325	974,585	1,180,720
Student services	7,464,065	7,544,041	6,513,745	6,626,033	6,480,925
Library	875,288	869,090	804,473	835,353	855,433
Public service	188,141	182,095	174,169	172,038	181,845
Auxiliary enterprises	5,399,886	4,944,249	4,913,556	4,685,466	4,891,535
Independent operations	2,627,054	2,723,685	1,873,431	2,111,618	2,711,168
Institutional support	4,740,560	4,404,839	4,103,648	3,371,210	3,792,960
Advancement / Development	<u>2,757,846</u>	<u>2,374,021</u>	<u>2,081,830</u>	<u>1,877,217</u>	<u>2,104,962</u>
	<u>34,308,528</u>	<u>33,324,618</u>	<u>29,756,910</u>	<u>29,648,337</u>	<u>31,590,725</u>
Change in Net Assets from Operations	<u>(3,288,136)</u>	<u>(2,407,701)</u>	<u>(2,586,782)</u>	<u>1,781,849</u>	<u>661,060</u>
Less: Depreciation	<u>3,426,367</u>	<u>3,326,813</u>	<u>3,364,722</u>	<u>3,450,433</u>	<u>3,433,428</u>
Net Operating Surplus (Deficit)	<u><u>138,231</u></u>	<u><u>919,112</u></u>	<u><u>777,940</u></u>	<u><u>5,232,282</u></u>	<u><u>4,094,488</u></u>
NonOperating Activities					
Contributions received for Long-Term Purposes	2,538,348	3,146,887	5,732,185	2,972,840	1,928,827
Income from sale of Tax Credits	-	-	-	-	1,359,166
Income (loss) on Investments	194,379	(1,438,784)	2,202,614	(196,499)	118,737
Income (loss) on Endowment Investments	1,980,608	(9,346,366)	9,862,432	488,385	1,563,580
Capital Expenditures	<u>(1,520,862)</u>	<u>(1,918,950)</u>	<u>(1,066,250)</u>	<u>(1,268,850)</u>	<u>(1,607,231)</u>
Total NonOperating Activities	<u><u>3,192,473</u></u>	<u><u>(9,557,213)</u></u>	<u><u>16,730,981</u></u>	<u><u>1,995,876</u></u>	<u><u>3,363,079</u></u>

COVENANT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY 2024-2025 PROPOSED BUDGET

I. Economic Considerations and General Ministry Factors

A. Ministry Impact

Covenant Theological Seminary is a ministry of the Presbyterian Church in America training pastors, counselors, and others who seek to minister in Christ's church. Our purpose is to glorify the triune God by training his servants to walk in God's grace, minister God's Word, and equip God's people—all for God's mission. Our thousands of alumni serve throughout the United States and in dozens of other countries. People all over the world continue to download Covenant's free online materials.

B. Budget Summary

Covenant Seminary's budget is based on revenue projections for student enrollment, gifts and donations, endowment returns, and auxiliary services (primarily student housing). We make reasonable estimates based on past trends, changes in our industry and economic environment, and institutional indicators. The Seminary faces challenges similar to other small institutions of higher education. Data and anecdotes from peers in seminaries and other small schools demonstrate that there is a common challenge in recruiting and retaining students. While the environment is challenging, we believe in the need for biblical, Christ-centered, theological training; and we are adapting so that we can continue as a leading organization in this field. Our critical financial objective is to grow enrollment in degree programs focused on the preparation of pastors. Under the leadership of President Tom Gibbs, we continue energetic engagement with denominational leaders and partners to more effectively recruit future pastors and ministry leaders to serve the PCA and the broader evangelical world. Our efforts have begun to bear fruit (see "Net Tuition" section below). We are building toward a goal of 11,000 credit hours sold, and as we do so, we are using reserve funds to finance manageable operating losses (see also section V "Notes to Budget Line Items"). This controlled use of reserve funds allows the Seminary to maintain the spending levels needed for the larger student body we are pursuing. Our plan is to begin rebuilding reserve funds by FY28.

C. Net Tuition

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Seminary uses credit hours sold (CHS) as its primary financial measure of enrollment. After two years of declining enrollment (8,452 CHS in FY22 and 7,378 CHS in FY23), we are experiencing growth. The Seminary's forecast for FY24 is 7,700 CHS, and the FY25 CHS budget is 8,500. Unlike the enrollment growth of the pandemic years, FY20 and FY21, we believe that this growth is driven by our strategic efforts (see "Budget Summary" section above).

The net tuition budget uses our historical scholarship rate of approximately 39% of gross tuition. Of the \$1,919,785 budgeted scholarships, \$1,410,180 is funded, i.e., paid for by funds donated for this purpose.

D. Tuition Costs

Tuition rates in FY25 will increase to \$610 per credit hour for MDiv and MA students and to \$680 per credit hour for DMin and ThM students. The total costs for the MDiv program remain comparable to peer seminaries. The tuition charge for a full-time student (taking 30 hours) will be \$18,300 before financial aid.

E. Gifts and Donations

The unrestricted gifts and donations budget of \$2,500,000 is an increase of 9.4% over the FY24 budget of \$2,286,000. We expect to realize a substantial part of this increase in unrestricted giving through our continuing, quiet capital campaign called "Bridge the Gap," which is focused on key Seminary donors. The overall goal for this campaign has been increased to \$1,500,000 in unrestricted donations.

F. Endowment Draw

The endowment draw percentage continues to be 5% of the endowment's average fair market value. This fair market value measurement date is one year prior to the beginning of the budgeted fiscal year. Thus, the amount of \$2,010,377 for FY25 was set before the beginning of the budget process.

G. Auxiliary Services

The occupancy rate in student housing has improved with enrollment. Because of the age of the buildings and recent inflationary pressures, we anticipate that expenses for student housing will exceed revenue again in

FY25. This negative dynamic will improve in future years as occupancy continues to improve and cost increases moderate.

H. Expenses

All Seminary departments are asked to submit expense budgets to the business and finance office. The president’s cabinet evaluates these budgets in light of revenue assumptions and the strategic direction of the institution. Necessary changes are discussed with departments and approved by the president with the support of the president’s cabinet. The Seminary’s most significant cost is personnel.

II. Major Changes in Budget

This year there were no major changes in the budget.

III. Income Streams

The Seminary’s budgeted revenue sources in FY25 are as follows:

Tuition & Fees	36.98%
Unrestricted Giving	25.93%
Endowment*	20.86%
Temp. Restricted Gifts	9.83%
<u>Auxiliary Services</u>	<u>6.40%</u>
Total	100.0%

(*Note that the Endowment line reflects the draw for both general operating purposes and student scholarships.)

A. Tuition and Fees

The budget is based on historical trends combined with current retention and recruitment indicators. It is set before the CHS outcome for the year immediately preceding the budget year is known. Forecast adjustments are made, if necessary, after data on CHS outcomes becomes available.

B. Unrestricted Giving

The development team has consistently met annual fund goals for several years. The team’s direct knowledge of individual donor circumstances and broader giving trends supports an incremental percentage increase in FY25.

C. Endowment

The endowment draw calculation is based on a fair market value measurement made one year before the fiscal year begins. Thus, it is a known quantity. Professional management of the endowment, combined with fiduciary oversight by the board of trustees, minimizes volatility in our long-term endowment growth expectations.

D. Temporarily Restricted Gifts

Restricted gifts are counted as revenue when the gifts are spent for their restricted purposes. Our development team's interactions with peers and its direct experience informs us that donor interest in restricted giving remains strong. Overall use of restricted funds in FY25 is expected to be about the same as in FY24. The composition of these funds has changed somewhat as we have added proceeds from the Compelling Preaching Initiative, a generous grant awarded by the Lilly Endowment Inc. We have also decreased the budget for Founders scholarship awards to reflect actual results from recent years.

E. Auxiliary Services

Our FY25 budget anticipates a net loss in auxiliary operations. (See the "Auxiliary Services" subsection under section I, "Economic Considerations and General Ministry Factors" above.)

IV. Major Ministry Not Implemented in the Past Year

We did not have a major ministry that was not implemented in the past year.

V. Notes to Budget Line Items

The Seminary's unrestricted reserves at the end of FY25 are budgeted to be \$1,098,528.

COVENANT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Proposed FY25 Budget

	Instruction	Student Services	Auxiliary	Academic Support	Institutional Support -- Fundraising	Institutional Support -- General and Administrative	Total	% of Total
REVENUES								
Credit Hours Sold								
Gross Tuition	5,052,065	-	-	-	-	-	5,052,065	52.41%
Unfunded Scholarship	(509,605)	-	-	-	-	-	(509,605)	-5.29%
Funded Scholarship	(1,410,180)	-	-	-	-	-	(1,410,180)	-14.63%
Net Tuition Before Fees	3,132,280	-	-	-	-	-	3,132,280	32.49%
Fees	432,459	-	-	-	-	-	432,459	4.49%
Net Tuition & Fees	3,564,739	-	-	-	-	-	3,564,739	36.98%
Gifts and Donations	20,000	-	-	32,000	2,300,000	148,000	2,500,000	25.93%
Auxiliary Enterprises	-	-	616,746	-	-	-	616,746	6.40%
Released from Temporary Restriction	926,709	-	-	21,070	-	21,070	947,779	9.83%
Operational Endowment	-	-	105,062	-	-	1,166,135	1,271,197	13.19%
Endowed Student Aid	739,180	-	-	-	-	-	739,180	7.67%
TOTAL REVENUES	5,250,628	-	721,808	32,000	2,300,000	1,335,205	9,639,641	100.00%
EXPENSES								
Salaries & Wages	2,544,274	1,069,730	217,987	322,356	651,932	615,105	5,421,384	51.60%
Employee Benefits	668,151	346,839	75,323	91,922	206,257	224,178	1,612,669	15.35%
Advertising	6,633	52,998	1,331	-	6,390	-	67,352	0.64%
Contract Services	44,206	69,947	28,070	32,780	70,682	182,432	428,117	4.07%
Insurance, Compliance, Regulatory	78,906	27,952	57,703	1,380	6,993	36,977	209,911	2.00%
Occupancy, Utilities, & Maintenance	2,760	1,945	252,025	300	133	38	257,200	2.45%
Student Resources	-	-	-	69,800	-	-	69,800	0.66%
Technology	77,715	108,480	31,881	31,320	58,904	34,320	342,620	3.26%
Travel & Entertainment	885,533	94,868	1,115	1,530	142,240	74,808	403,083	3.84%
Other	153,240	107,908	14,683	5,590	41,073	72,577	395,071	3.76%
Facilities Allocation	655,003	283,955	78,548	85,942	105,661	90,051	1,299,160	12.37%
TOTAL EXPENSES	4,319,410	2,164,622	758,666	642,919	1,290,265	1,330,485	10,506,367	100.00%
NET INCOME before Depreciation	931,218	(2,164,622)	(36,858)	(610,919)	1,009,735	4,720	(866,726)	

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

COVENANT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY Budget Comparison FY23 - FY25

	22-23	23-24	24-25	FY25 Budget to FY23 Actual
	Actual	Budget	Budget	Favorable / (Unfavorable)
REVENUES				
Credit Hours Sold	7,378	7,700	8,500	1,122
Gross Tuition	\$4,275,376	\$4,606,490	\$5,052,065	\$776,689
Unfunded Scholarship	(486,333)	(377,221)	(509,605)	(23,272)
Funded Scholarship	(1,334,815)	(1,419,310)	(1,410,180)	(75,365)
Net Tuition Before Fees	2,454,228	2,809,959	3,132,280	678,052
Fees	426,578	401,689	432,459	5,881
Net Tuition & Fees	2,880,806	3,211,648	3,564,739	683,933
Missional Training Center	41,375	34,200		(41,375)
Gifts and Donations	3,218,038	2,286,000	2,500,000	(718,038)
Auxiliary Enterprises	529,474	433,788	616,746	87,272
Released from Temporary Restriction	1,169,824	937,910	947,779	(222,045)
Operational Endowment	1,235,352	1,257,406	1,271,197	35,845
Endowed Student Aid	349,717	508,150	739,180	389,463
TOTAL REVENUES	9,424,586	8,669,102	9,639,641	215,055
EXPENSES				
President's Cabinet				
President / Trustees	368,275	366,681	441,234	(72,959)
Strategic Operating Expenses	0		39,000	(39,000)
Operations	273,329	205,101	410,904	(137,575)
Total President's Cabinet	641,604	571,782	891,138	(249,534)
Academics				
Instruction	1,609,710	1,720,024	1,844,867	(235,157)
Compelling Preaching Initiative			255,709	
Disability Ministry	28,551	16,750	16,750	11,801
Field Education	38,257	26,291	31,693	6,564
Doctor of Ministry	104,566	91,335	88,553	16,213
Master of Theology (Th. M.)	3,000	3,060	3,182	(182)
Online Education	147,637	208,642	218,026	(70,389)
Counseling	648,704	733,964	810,788	(162,084)
World Missions	9,731	24,020	13,415	(3,684)
Francis Schaeffer Institute	129,514	132,841	136,962	(7,448)
Church Planting	98,887	121,999	132,285	(33,398)
Seattle Site	560			560
Nashville Site	1,787			1,787
Total Academics	2,820,904	3,078,926	3,552,030	(731,126)
General				
Library	413,700	413,776	445,314	(31,614)
Student Life	319,730	356,140	394,715	(74,985)
Registration & Academic Advising	213,611	243,990	261,189	(47,578)
Financial Aid Administration	125,530	123,549	120,613	4,917
Development	667,665	787,456	951,547	(283,882)
Communications	352,653	391,931	412,025	(59,372)
Admissions	331,108	343,475	478,067	(146,959)
Alumni Relations	128,433	130,046	137,974	(9,541)
Business Office	360,042	369,929	379,635	(19,593)
Information Technology Services	528,388	595,044	666,417	(138,029)
Facilities	1,053,668	1,053,211	1,163,558	(109,890)
General Sub-total	4,494,528	4,808,547	5,411,054	(916,526)
Total Educational and General	7,957,036	8,459,255	9,854,222	(1,897,186)
Auxiliary Enterprises Expenses	598,157	483,765	652,144	(53,987)
Transfers to Non-operating Funds	89,759			89,759
TOTAL EXPENSES	8,644,952	8,943,020	10,506,366	(1,861,414)
OPERATING NET INCOME	779,634	(273,918)	(866,725)	(1,646,359)

* In years with negative net income, operating reserves are used to fund the deficit.

APPENDIX A

COVENANT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY Budget Comparison FY21 - FY25

	20-21 Actual	21-22 Actual	22-23 Actual	23-24 Budget	24-25 Budget
REVENUES					
Credit Hours Sold	9,399	8,452	7,378	7,700	8,500
Gross Tuition	\$5,103,898	\$4,705,553	\$4,275,376	\$4,606,490	\$5,052,065
Unfunded Scholarship	(1,060,091)	(403,674)	(486,333)	(377,221)	(509,605)
Funded Scholarship	(891,908)	(1,497,739)	(1,334,815)	(1,419,310)	(1,410,180)
Net Tuition Before Fees	3,151,899	2,804,140	2,454,228	2,809,959	3,132,280
Fees	195,682	248,201	426,578	401,689	432,459
Net Tuition & Fees	3,347,581	3,052,341	2,880,806	3,211,648	3,564,739
Missional Training Center	33,600	37,800	41,375	34,200	
Gifts and Donations	2,008,245	2,126,348	3,218,038	2,286,000	2,500,000
Auxiliary Enterprises	536,339	544,196	529,474	433,788	616,746
Released from Temporary Restriction	1,085,444	1,442,788	1,169,824	937,910	947,779
Operational Endowment	1,267,342	1,129,404	1,235,422	1,257,406	1,271,197
Endowed Student Aid	316,141	324,021	349,717	508,150	739,180
TOTAL REVENUES	8,594,692	8,656,898	9,424,656	8,669,102	9,639,641
EXPENSES					
President's Cabinet					
President / Trustees	386,981	370,149	368,275	366,681	441,234
Chaplain	40,737	41,732			
Strategic Academic Projects	128,233	(222)			
Strategic Operating Expenses					39,000
Operations	201,084	292,303	273,329	205,101	410,904
Total President's Cabinet	757,035	703,962	641,604	571,782	891,138
Academics					
Instruction	1,560,386	1,646,469	1,609,710	1,720,024	1,844,867
Compelling Preaching Initiative					255,709
Disability Ministry	18,659	20,676	28,551	16,750	16,750
Field Education	120,849	120,322	38,257	26,291	31,693
Doctor of Ministry	35,083	67,886	104,566	91,335	88,353
Master of Theology (Th. M.)	2,500	3,000	3,000	3,060	3,182
Online Education	86,675	151,794	147,637	208,642	218,026
Counseling	654,748	769,885	648,704	733,964	810,788
World Missions	1,551	23,115	9,731	24,020	13,415
Francis Schaeffer Institute	206,225	223,260	129,514	132,841	136,962
Church Planting	88,013	87,498	98,887	121,999	132,285
Seattle Site			560		
Nashville Site	2,395	1,743	1,787		
Partnership Development		60			
Total Academics	2,777,084	3,115,708	2,820,904	3,078,926	3,552,030
General					
Library	426,080	462,726	413,700	413,776	445,314
Student Life	291,629	341,747	319,730	356,140	394,715
Registration & Academic Advising	203,950	225,923	213,611	243,990	261,189
Financial Aid Administration	118,033	116,740	125,530	123,549	120,613
Development	695,617	754,973	667,665	787,456	951,547
Communications	400,206	375,503	352,653	391,931	412,025
Admissions	168,131	218,931	331,108	343,475	478,067
Alumni Relations	127,219	125,115	128,433	130,046	137,974
Business Office	394,163	418,021	360,042	369,929	379,635
Information Technology Services	533,330	606,568	528,388	595,044	666,417
Facilities	1,007,595	1,059,990	1,053,668	1,053,211	1,163,558
General Sub-total	4,365,953	4,706,237	4,494,528	4,808,547	5,411,054
Total Educational and General	7,900,072	8,525,907	7,957,036	8,459,255	9,854,222
Auxiliary Enterprises Expenses	520,181	573,953	598,157	483,765	652,144
Transfers to Non-operating Funds	17,113	15,687	89,759		
Hope for the Future Campaign	82,921	18	0		
TOTAL EXPENSES	8,520,287	9,115,565	8,644,952	8,943,020	10,506,366
OPERATING NET INCOME	74,405	(458,667)	779,704	(273,918)	(866,725)
NON-OPERATING ACTIVITY					
Presidential Search/Transition Expense	55,039	188,999			

* In years with negative net income, operating reserves are used to fund the deficit.

**GENEVA BENEFITS GROUP, INC.
2025 PROPOSED BUDGET**

I. Economic Considerations and General Ministry Factors

Geneva Vision: We believe the church thrives and the gospel advances when men and women who serve PCA ministries grow spiritually and financially healthy.

Geneva Mission: We guide PCA pastors and ministry workers through the complexities of financial planning and employee benefits so they and their families are able to live generously in every season of ministry.

This budget reflects the costs incurred to administer the trust funds for Geneva Benefits Group. This budget does not reflect the financial activity in those trust funds. (Geneva's Annual Report provides complete financial activity in the trusts, including unaudited financial statements.)

II. Major Changes in Budget

The 2025 budget reflects a 7.6% increase from the prior year, or \$444,016. This change is funded by a 7.5% increase in trustee fees and a 9.2% increase in grant/other income sources. The increase in budgeted expenses results from a 10% increase in Operations Expenses, primarily payroll & benefit costs, to offset increasing costs, as well as two planned new hires. The total number of staff budgeted for 2025 is 32.5 FTE. This number includes the two planned new hires referenced above.

The Retirement portion of Support and Revenue increased 9.2%, or \$290,897, as higher expenses increase the overall Trustee Fees allocated to Retirement and Insurance. (See details above at II. A.; Budget Comparisons – Line 1).

The Insurance portion of Support and Revenue increased 9.2%, or \$145,449, as higher expenses increase the overall Trustee Fees allocated to Retirement and Insurance. (See details above at II. A.; Budget Comparisons – Line 2).

The Relief portion of Support and Revenue shows a 3.5% decrease, or (\$26,259). The reduction of fees is possible through the continued use of

APPENDIX A

grant revenue provided by the Lilly Foundation. (See details above at II. A.; Budget Comparisons – Line 3 and Line 6).

The Insurance TPA income portion of Support and Revenue reflects fee income assessed by Geneva for in-house administration of the Insurance plan. Historically, there was a preference to isolate this income stream. Starting in 2025, this income will be incorporated within the Insurance Trustee Fees. (Budget Comparisons – Line 4).

The Retirement Fee Income portion of Support and Revenue represents administrative fees from the self-directed investment accounts in the Retirement Plan (reclassification/phase-out of this income began in 2023 and will not be budgeted for in 2025) and correction fees related to retirement account services. (Budget Comparisons – Line 5).

The Other Income portion of Support and Revenue reflects estimated registration income for the annual Ministerial Relief Golf Tournament and investment income from invested cash reserves. (Budget Comparisons – Line 7)

The 2025 budget reflects \$65,000 for capital expenditures, primarily office improvements and computer equipment purchases. (Proposed Budget – Line 26)

Please note that 2023 actuals are unaudited as of the drafting of the Budget Package. The 2023 audit is expected to be completed in May of 2024. (Budget Comparisons and Five-Year Comparison).

III. Income Stream

Geneva's primary budgeted revenue sources are as follows:

- 1) Trustee fees charged to:
 - a. PCA Health and Welfare Benefit Trust,
 - b. Geneva Benefits Group Charitable Relief Trust
 - c. PCA 403(b)(9) Retirement Plan and Other Plans Trust
- 2) Grant Income.

Major Ministry Not Implemented in the Past Year

Geneva began but did not complete the planned move and renovation to a larger office suite in 2023. The project is expected to be completed in early 2024.

Notes to Budget Line Items

Occupancy expense for the shared facility is expected to remain at the same rate as 2024, which is \$14 per square foot. (Proposed Budget – Line 15).

All fundraising activities are related to the Ministerial Relief department through our development activities, annual Relief Offering, appeals through PCA Foundation, and advertising in denominational publications (Proposed Budget – Fundraising Column). The 2025 fundraising budget includes salary and benefits expenses for the Director of Philanthropy and Donor Relations Manager.

Our General Assembly line item includes Geneva's share of the Nominating Committee expense and any Ad Hoc Committee expense; the cost of convention services, such as booth space; transportation of materials and staff to and from General Assembly; seminars and other education/information activities presented at General Assembly. (Proposed Budget – Line 11)

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GENEVA BENEFITS GROUP, INC.						
PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET						
DESCRIPTION	PROGRAMS	MANAGEMENT & GENERAL	FUND RAISING	CAPITAL ASSETS	TOTALS	% OF TOTALS
Support & Revenue:						
1 Retirement		3,416,983		43,333	3,460,316	54.83%
2 Insurance		1,708,491		21,667	1,730,158	27.42%
3 Relief	157,544	373,541	187,218		718,303	11.38%
4 Investment Income		19,800			19,800	0.31%
5 Ministerial Relief Tournament Income		66,000			66,000	1.05%
6 Retirement Fee Income		5,500			5,500	0.09%
7 Grant Income	310,721				310,721	4.92%
Total Support & Revenue	468,265	5,590,315	187,218	65,000	6,310,798	100.00%
Operations Expenses:						
<i>Salaries & Benefits:</i>						
8 President's Salary & Housing	-	263,550	-		263,550	4.18%
9 President's Benefits	-	78,382	-		78,382	1.24%
10 Staff Salaries & Housing	274,085	2,605,026	72,189		2,951,300	46.77%
11 Staff Benefits	108,055	1,142,191	33,379		1,283,625	20.34%
<i>G & A:</i>						
12 Advertising, Promotions & Website	2,000	10,200	4,000		16,200	0.26%
13 Computer & Office Equipment	-	119,000	-		119,000	1.89%
14 Insurance	-	76,000	-		76,000	1.20%
15 Occupancy Cost/Rent	-	117,052	-		117,052	1.85%
16 Office	1,000	126,712	600		128,312	2.03%
17 Postage	1,200	17,900	16,000		35,100	0.56%
18 Printing	5,000	44,671	30,000		79,671	1.26%
19 Professional Services	5,000	379,120	18,000		402,120	6.37%
20 Telephone	-	14,700	-		14,700	0.23%
21 Training & Professional/Ministry Dues	3,100	96,945	100		100,145	1.59%
22 Travel	68,825	392,365	12,950		474,140	7.51%
23 General Assembly Expense	-	40,500	-		40,500	0.64%
24 Ministerial Relief Tournament Expense	-	66,000	-		66,000	1.05%
Total Operations Expenses:	468,265	5,590,315	187,218	-	6,245,798	98.97%
25 Surplus/(Deficit) from Operations:	-	-	-	65,000	65,000	
Capital Assets:						
26 Capital Expenditures				65,000	65,000	1.03%
27 Depreciation		91,000			91,000	
28 Less Depreciation		(91,000)			(91,000)	
Total Capital Assets:	-	-	-	65,000	65,000	1.03%
Total Operations & Capital:	468,265	5,590,315	187,218	65,000	6,310,798	100.00%

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

GENEVA BENEFITS GROUP, INC.					
FIVE-YEAR COMPARISON					
DESCRIPTION	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 ACTUAL	2022 ACTUAL	2023 ACTUAL
Support & Revenue:					
1 Retirement	1,907,140	1,687,730	2,017,516	2,248,986	2,647,047
2 Insurance	968,324	845,005	1,008,758	1,124,493	1,323,524
3 Relief	285,236	321,344	583,270	645,396	793,145
4 Insurance TPA Income	43,660	44,768	45,077	46,638	47,748
5 Retirement Fee Income	31,371	31,845	42,863	35,468	16,082
6 Grant Income	-	-	401,601	30,487	227,834
7 Other Income (Loss)	35,878	84,855	50,585	58,637	41,033
Total Support & Revenue	3,271,608	3,015,547	4,149,669	4,190,105	5,096,413
Operations Expenses:					
<i>Programs:</i>					
8 Ministerial Relief	319,223	253,578	184,008	117,756	102,736
Total Programs:	319,223	253,578	184,008	117,756	102,736
<i>Supporting Activities:</i>					
9 Administration	2,782,656	2,815,165	3,332,538	3,790,211	4,455,891
10 Fund Raising (Relief)	15,392	69,246	62,151	117,310	131,377
11 General Assembly Expense	49,939	857	22,501	31,286	23,355
Total Supporting Activities:	2,847,987	2,885,268	3,417,190	3,938,807	4,610,624
Total Operations Expenses:	3,167,210	3,138,846	3,601,198	4,056,563	4,713,360
12 Depreciation	20,946	40,356	43,458	48,554	77,431
13 Surplus(Deficit) after Depreciation	83,452	(163,655)	505,013	84,988	305,623
Capital Assets:					
14 Capital Additions	**	**	**	**	**
Total Operations & Capital:	3,188,156	3,179,202	3,644,657	4,105,117	4,790,790
Net Revenue over (under) Expense including depreciation	83,452	(163,655)	505,013	84,988	305,623

Administrative Costs reflected in this budget are incurred to administer the trust funds for Retirement, Insurance and Relief. This budget does not reflect the financial activity in those trust funds.

** Capital Additions	\$123,390 + 47,538	\$52,372 + 36,425	\$88,902 + 43,485	\$52,147 + (84,349)	\$701,751 + (31,038)
	Purchase of office equipment, computers, improvements, company car + equity transfer of building and furnishings	Purchase of office equipment, computers, improvements + equity transfer of building and furnishings	Purchase of office equipment, computers, improvements + equity transfer of building and furnishings	Purchase of office equipment, computers + equity transfer of building and furnishings	Purchase of office equipment, computers + equity transfer of building and furnishings ***

APPENDIX A

GENEVA BENEFITS GROUP, INC. BUDGET COMPARISONS STATEMENT FOR PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET							
DESCRIPTION	2023	2023	2024	PROPOSED BUDGET	% OF	2024 TO 2025	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	TOTALS	IN \$	IN %
Support & Revenue:							
1 Retirement	2,647,047	2,647,047	3,169,419	3,460,316	54.83%	290,897	9.2%
2 Insurance	1,323,524	1,323,524	1,584,709	1,730,158	27.42%	145,449	9.2%
3 Relief	793,145	793,145	744,562	718,303	11.38%	(26,259)	-3.5%
4 Insurance TPA Income	47,748	45,000	45,500	-	0.00%	(45,500)	-100.0%
5 Retirement Fee Income	16,082	38,000	36,500	5,500	0.09%	(31,000)	-84.9%
6 Grant Income	227,834	-	228,592	310,721	4.92%	82,129	35.9%
7 Other Income	41,033	48,000	57,500	85,800	1.36%	28,300	49.2%
Total Support & Revenue	5,096,413	4,894,716	5,866,782	6,310,798	100.00%	444,016	7.6%
Operations Expenses:							
<i>Programs:</i>							
8 Ministerial Relief	102,736	143,352	434,578	468,265	7.42%	33,687	7.8%
Total Programs:	102,736	143,352	434,578	468,265	7.42%	33,687	7.8%
<i>Supporting Activities:</i>							
9 Administration	4,455,891	4,458,204	5,025,032	5,549,815	87.94%	524,783	10.4%
10 Fund Raising	131,377	226,300	174,622	187,218	2.97%	12,596	7.2%
11 General Assembly Expense	23,355	26,860	42,550	40,500	0.64%	(2,050)	-4.8%
Total Supporting Activities	4,610,624	4,711,364	5,242,204	5,777,533	91.55%	535,329	10.2%
Total Operations Expenses:	4,713,360	4,854,716	5,676,782	6,245,798	98.97%	569,016	10.0%
12 Depreciation/Disposals	77,431						
13 Surplus(Deficit) after Depreciation	305,623						
Capital Assets:							
14 Capital Additions **	701,751	40,000	190,000	65,000	1.03%	(125,000)	
Total Operations & Capital:	5,492,541	4,894,716	5,866,782	6,310,798	100.00%	444,016	7.6%
Net Revenue over (under) Expense including depreciation and excluding equity transfer	(396,128)	-	-	-			
Additional Information:	2023	2023	2024	Proposed		Change in Budget	
	Actual	Budget	Budget	Budget		in \$	in %
President's Salary & Housing	220,904	201,460	232,591	263,550		30,959	13.3%
President's Benefits	65,472	60,940	70,495	78,382		7,887	11.2%

+ See Budget Note V.C.

* Administrative costs reflected in this budget are incurred to administer the trust funds for Retirement, Insurance and Relief.

This budget does not reflect the financial activity in those trust funds.

** Capital Additions for 2023 were \$701,751. Equity Transfer addition(loss) for the building is (\$31,038).

*** Pending Building Financials as of February 15, 2024.

2023 Actuals are unaudited as of the 2025 Budget submission deadline.

**MISSION TO NORTH AMERICA
2025 PROPOSED BUDGET**

I. Economic Considerations and General Ministry Factors

The Committee on Mission to North America (MNA) is a Permanent Committee of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), serving PCA churches and presbyteries under the nonprofit corporation of the PCA. Per Rules of Assembly Operations VI.6-2, “The affairs of the church involved in its extension in the United States and Canada are assigned to the Committee on Mission to North America”.

MNA accomplishes its mission to cultivate kingdom advancement through the PCA in North America through its various ministries. For over 50 years, MNA has served as the denominational committee tasked with church planting and resourcing.

MNA provides expertise with excellence to all PCA churches, presbyteries, and networks in North America by offering a suite of practical ministry resources – training, equipment, and assisting in missional purpose, serving communities to advance God’s kingdom.

MNA serves the PCA by focusing on Church Vitality and Church Planting. This focus means (is defined by) supporting PCA churches, presbyteries, and networks in all facets of planting new churches and strengthening existing churches.

As the denominational committee tasked with church planting and resourcing, MNA deploys a variety of ministries to resource particular areas of the Church, its members, and their respective areas of service within the broader kingdom.

MNA’s 10-year vision is to see the church increase within the PCA and through this effort, see the world gripped, changed, and set on fire by the gospel. The church, denomination, nation, and world will be blessed as the church grows and thrives.

By resourcing our churches for kingdom impact, by 2033, MNA will facilitate the multiplication of PCA churches in the U.S. and Canada from

1,932 to 3,000 congregations. By the grace of God, our church will prayerfully accomplish this by:

- Planting new churches
- Reducing church closures
- Expanding the diversity of the PCA
- Partnering with denominational committees and agencies
- Enfolding existing congregations into the PCA

II. Major Changes in Budget

MNA is committed to good stewardship of its resources. While being good stewards of resources, MNA also understands the realities of cost of launching a bold 10-year vision as explained above. Therefore, the proposed budget includes a healthy growth rate increase to facilitate the strategic plan associated with the vision.

III. Income Streams

MNA's main income streams come through constituent donations, partnership share giving, and investment income. MNA's fundraising team is currently being enhanced and equipped for increased development efforts as it relates to implementation of MNA's new vision.

IV. Major Ministry Not Implemented in the Past Year

All budgeted ministries were implemented in the past year.

V. Notes to Budget Line Items

MNA is submitting a 2025 proposed budget that is an increase of 15.71% from the 2024 budget. Due to an increase in church planter project accounts and growth in permanent staff ministry development in conjunction with MNA's overall vision, we believe this is a realistic Total Expense Budget for 2025.

Per Capita Calculation: The 2025 Proposed *Total Expense Budget* of \$30,237,191 is adjusted using the following formula:

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2025 Proposed Total Expense Budget	\$ 30,237,191
2025 Proposed Church Planters Expense	(17,500,000)
Subtotal	12,737,191
2025 Budgeted Investment Income	(462,928)
2025 Budgeted Conference and Other Revenue	(506,255)
Total Net Partnership Share Fund	\$ 11,768,008

The per capita calculation of the *Partnership Share Fund* will be \$11,768,008 divided by the number of PCA members. The MNA Ministry Ask figure is \$28 for 2025.

The overall layout of the budget has been slightly altered to better reflect implementation of MNA’s new strategic vision. Budget totals for 2023 and 2024 that were previously approved have not changed.

An overall net increase of approximately 10% in salaries and benefits is assumed. That is an aggregate of cost of living, merit increases and health insurance costs.

The cost being charged for office space in the PCA building located at 1700 N. Brown Road, Lawrenceville, GA increased during 2023. A rate of \$14 per square foot is assumed for the 2025 budget projection.

**Mission to North America
2025 Proposed Budget**

	Program Services	Supporting Activities			Total	% of Total
		General/ Administrative	Development			
Support and Revenue						
Contributions	\$ 25,758,193	\$ 2,906,315	\$ 603,500	\$ 29,268,008	96.8%	
Investment Income	-	462,928	-	462,928	1.5%	
Conference and Other Revenue	-	506,255	-	506,255	1.7%	
Total Support and Revenue	25,758,193	3,875,498	603,500	30,237,191	100%	
Expenses						
MNA Coordinator Salary and Housing	-	136,500	136,500	273,000	0.90%	
MNA Coordinator Benefits	-	30,763	30,762	61,525	0.20%	
MNA Staff Salary and Benefits	4,544,410	1,918,272	287,738	6,750,420	22.32%	
Church Planter Support	17,500,000	-	-	17,500,000	57.88%	
Direct Office Expenses and Equipment	256,572	465,601	10,000	732,173	2.42%	
Printing, Postage and Materials	157,521	13,650	-	171,171	0.57%	
Professional Fees	30,263	455,000	-	485,263	1.60%	
Projects/Grants	1,862,284	-	-	1,862,284	6.16%	
Relief Operations	420,000	-	-	420,000	1.39%	
Telephone, Website and Merchant Fees	63,695	207,795	5,000	276,490	0.91%	
Training	81,050	10,000	-	91,050	0.30%	
Travel and Conferences	617,398	415,417	133,500	1,166,315	3.86%	
General Assembly	-	155,000	-	155,000	0.51%	
MNA Permanent Committee Meetings	-	37,500	-	37,500	0.12%	
Depreciation	225,000	3,845,498	603,500	29,982,191	99.16%	
Total Expenses	25,758,193	3,875,498	603,500	30,237,191	100.00%	
Change in Net Assets	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Mission to North America
Budget Comparison Statement
For Proposed 2025 Budget

	2023 Actual	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	Proposed 2025 Budget	% of Total	Change in Budget \$	%
Support and Revenue							
Contributions	\$ 20,312,503	\$ 22,689,703	\$ 25,229,962	\$ 29,268,008	96.80%	\$ 4,028,046	15.96%
Investment Income	431,407	419,890	440,884	462,928	1.53%	22,044	5.00%
Conference and Other Revenue	543,733	428,575	450,004	506,255	1.67%	56,251	12.50%
Total Support and Revenue	21,287,643	23,538,168	26,130,850	30,237,191	100.00%	4,106,341	15.71%
Expenses							
Program Services							
Church Planting	16,303,900	16,030,557	18,079,500	20,178,250	66.73%	2,098,750	11.61%
Church Planting	4,887,244	4,500,811	4,956,050	5,354,943	17.71%	418,893	8.49%
Church Vitality	21,191,144	20,531,368	23,015,550	25,533,193	84.44%	2,517,643	10.94%
Supporting Activities							
General and Administrative	2,742,780	2,054,300	2,156,800	3,652,998	12.09%	1,496,198	69.37%
Development	381,796	602,500	603,500	603,500	2.00%	-	0.00%
General Assembly	148,596	75,000	75,000	155,000	0.51%	80,000	106.67%
MNA Permanent Committee Meetings	28,330	20,000	25,000	37,500	0.12%	12,500	50.00%
	3,301,502	2,751,800	2,860,300	4,448,998	14.72%	1,588,698	55.54%
Depreciation	275,233	255,000	255,000	255,000	0.84%	-	0.00%
Total Expenses	24,767,879	23,538,168	26,130,850	30,237,191	100.00%	4,106,341	15.71%
Change in Net Assets	\$ (3,480,236)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
Additional Information:							
	2023 Actual	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	Proposed 2025 Budget			
MNA Coordinator Salary and Housing	\$ 251,110	\$ 215,652	\$ 260,000	\$ 273,000			
MNA Coordinator Benefits	59,757	54,596	53,500	61,525			

MISSION TO NORTH AMERICA
Five Year Financial History (Actual)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Support and Revenue					
Contributions	\$ 18,759,517	\$ 20,422,964	\$ 20,956,923	\$ 21,958,888	\$ 20,312,503
Investment Income	281,432	273,743	(215,733)	(828,811)	431,407
Conference and Other Revenue	290,547	558,860	340,975	273,495	543,733
Total Support and Revenue	19,331,496	21,255,567	21,082,165	21,403,572	21,287,643
Expenses					
Program Services					
Church Planting	13,694,580	13,345,517	13,948,519	16,962,043	16,303,900
Church Viability	3,230,253	3,404,944	4,153,739	4,157,321	4,887,244
	16,924,833	16,750,461	18,102,258	21,119,364	21,191,144
Supporting Activities					
General and Administrative	1,878,663	2,013,063	1,674,963	2,131,439	2,742,780
Development	594,588	533,129	333,849	372,892	381,796
General Assembly	96,863	5,726	47,409	60,162	148,596
MNA Permanent Committee Meetings	21,303	9,830	8,400	24,585	28,330
	2,591,387	2,561,748	2,064,621	2,589,078	3,301,502
Depreciation	190,204	231,675	271,210	262,491	275,233
Total Expenses	19,706,424	19,543,884	20,438,089	23,970,933	24,767,879
Change in Net Assets	\$(374,928)	\$ 1,711,683	\$ 644,076	\$(2,567,361)	\$(3,480,236)

NOTE regarding negative final outcomes: The deficit in any year is created by spending down the project and designated support accounts which had accumulated positive balances in previous years. Therefore, they indicate disbursement of actual cash rather than deficit spending.

**MISSION TO THE WORLD
2025 PROPOSED CONSOLIDATED BUDGET**

I. Economic Considerations and General Ministry Focus

The proposed 2025 budget is based on an analysis of key factors that influence the income and expenses of Mission to the World (MTW) as it operates in a global context with a rapidly changing global economy. We start by reviewing the results of 2023 and extend these indicators into 2024 and 2025.

The year 2023 marked a comeback when it came to both stock and bond market performance after a brutal 2022. Bolstered by the combination of a solid economy, better-than-expected corporate earnings, and an apparent end to the Federal Reserve's interest rate hikes, stocks rallied 25% in 2023. Investors went into 2023 worried about inflation and expecting a recession by the second half of the year. Instead, inflation trended downward, and the economy remained solid despite the first-quarter regional banking crisis. While the Federal Reserve raised interest rates four times over the year, at their December meeting, officials signaled that no additional increases are expected, and they will likely lower rates in the coming year.

Due to the solid performance of the market, MTW's investments experienced a positive return in 2023. It is believed that it will be difficult for the U.S. to avoid a soft recession in 2024 and stock volatility is expected due to the presidential election. Therefore, we are budgeting accordingly with decreases in endowment and investments income. Also, compensation for home office staff and missionaries were adjusted for inflation in 2023 and increases are budgeted for the following two years.

Remembering that the entire program of MTW is by the grace of God, we want to give God praise for a positive year. In 2023, giving from our churches increased and MTW saw a 3% increase in giving to our missionaries. We rejoice that we were able to see our ministries fully funded and the faithful support of our donors.

II. Major Changes in Budget:

Changes in budget reflect current economic conditions and a desire to be a good steward of the resources God gives us through His people. We

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carefully worked with each department to reach a balanced budget in the home office. Several minor adjustments helped reach the proposed budget. The outcome should allow us to continue to give full support to our missionaries while helping them to advance ministry.

In 2024, we plan to continually increase our engagement with national partners at a strategic level and emphasize partnerships with PCA churches and other agencies to advance church planting around the world. We will seek to open new ministries with an emphasis on church planting and other support ministries tied closely to the churches with which we work.

In 2023, we experienced a decrease of 27 long-term missionaries which was mainly attributed to the retirement of our aging missionaries. Due to the modification of the missionary selection process, all new 2023 candidates began as initial term missionaries. At the end of their initial term and if approved, the missionaries will transition to long-term missionaries. The category of short-term missionaries will then phase out in the following years which explains the decrease of 15 short-term missionaries over 2022. Praise God, we welcomed 35 new initial term missionaries in 2023.

We also experienced an increase of 17 interns and a decrease in 208 one-to-three-week trip volunteers. In 2024, we plan to increase short-term trips, so our 2024 budget reflects an increase in interns and volunteers.

Ministry Personnel Plans	2021	2022	2023	2024 Plan	2025 Plan
Long-Term Missionaries	588	570	543	530	525
Short-Term Missionaries	59	66	51	40	30
Initial Term Missionaries	-	-	35	55	65
Intern Missionaries	48	75	92	100	120
Volunteers	290	1026	818	900	950

Efforts of the Partner Relations Department will continue to focus on raising endowment funds and increasing planned giving that will help mitigate the administrative fee for long-term missionaries and provide funding for the Partner Relations Department’s strategic initiatives.

Our U.S. Operations team (U.S. Ops) continues to strengthen MTW’s relationships with local churches, presbyteries, and seminaries/universities

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by providing helpful resources and promoting mission opportunities. In 2023, U.S. Ops restructured the regional mobilization centers (hubs) to be more efficient and effective in the mobilizing of missionaries and partnering with churches in their respective regions.

The Information Technology Department (IT)

- 1) IT has selected a new donor portal with improved functionality requested by MTW donors and is currently working on the plan to transition MTW donors to it. The rollout is slated for March 2024.
- 2) Additionally, IT, along with the Finance Department, are planning the migration to a new merchant processor. This processor will support MTW donations with less expensive processing fees and a robust infrastructure that MTW should be able to operate on for many years to come.

III. Income Streams:

Projections have been made regarding the number of missionaries, office personnel, annual income, and annual expenses. In making these projections, the following assumptions have been used:

- We anticipate that continued efforts to recruit missionaries in 2024 will show additional results during 2024, amplified by the efforts of the hubs. Beginning 2024, we are already welcoming 7 new missionaries. MTW continues to focus on its goal of mobilizing churches to send out at least 1% of their adult members for world missions.
- We plan to hold home office staff hiring in 2024 and 2025 to support the strategic initiative to control the growth of administrative fees. Any additions will be directly related to new ministry that will generate needed income.
- With 2024 projections of a mild recession, inflation to continue and other global economic factors to be unstable, we anticipate an increase in ministry costs. Therefore, it will be necessary to take specific steps to keep income and expenses in balance.

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- Income projections have assumed a gradual increase in donor giving. We have projected the support requirements of missionaries, adjusted the numbers for inflation, and balanced this with future income and growth projections. For expense projections, we analyzed the historic and economic trends and adjusted operating expenses accordingly.
- Missionary support accounts with deficit balances decreased in 2023 and our Resource Team continues to collaborate closely with each missionary account in deficit or trending toward deficit to address their ongoing support needs.
- Partnership share giving for the home office indicated an increase in 2023 and is projected to hold steady in the coming years.
- Project and team income are calculated by reviewing active and planned special projects. There was a significant decrease in project and team income in 2023 mainly due to the \$8.1 million raised for the Ukraine crisis in the previous year. We plan gradual income increases in the following two years. Our Ambassadors program continues to provide major funding for new fields, church planting, training nationals, and mercy ministry.
- Investment income projections assume a light recession toward the end of 2024 and some volatility in the stock market. We are also planning for less endowment earnings to be available for use in the general fund. The fixed monthly administrative assessment charge per missionary remains the same from 2023. With controlled or specially funded costs in the home office, we expect to keep the general fund in balance.
- The 2021 trend of increasing medical claims continued through 2023 with many of the medical claims occurring during the first half of the year. Increases in medical and pharmaceutical costs also impacted the Medical Fund which has led to a significant decrease in the fund, bringing the reserve down to \$2.1 million. As a result, the monthly health insurance premium for missionaries and office staff were increased in 2024 by 10%. Another step to reducing plan costs is to update the plan

discounting format from a preferred provider organization (PPO) to reference based pricing (RBP). We are making this move in April 2024.

Major Ministry Not Implemented in the Past Year

All major ministry items were implemented.

Notes to Budget

The following three tables show the consolidated income and expense budget proposed for 2025. The first table shows the 2025 budget broken down into major components. The second table presents a historical perspective showing 2023 unaudited actual information and budget approved at General Assembly, 2024 modified budget, 2025 proposed budget and the changes in budget from 2024 to 2025. The third table shows a five-year history of income and expenses.

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MISSION TO THE WORLD PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET							
Consolidated Budget Functional Analysis	Ministry Program	Administration	Fundraising	Designated Programs	Capital Assets	Total	% of Total
Income							
Missionary Contributions	51,808,115	-	-	-	-	51,808,115	63.9%
Project/Team Contributions	10,820,140	-	-	-	-	10,820,140	13.3%
Unrestricted Contributions	-	1,910,435	-	-	-	1,910,435	2.4%
Medical Fund Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Endowment Income	-	-	-	5,231,080	-	5,231,080	6.5%
Investment Income	-	-	-	9,160,900	-	9,160,900	11.3%
Other Income	2,125,220	24,980	-	-	-	2,150,200	2.7%
Total Income	64,753,475	1,935,415	-	14,391,980	-	81,080,870	100.0%
Transfers	(7,165,130)	7,015,630	-	(35,500)	185,000	-	
Total Income & Transfers	57,588,345	8,951,045	-	14,356,480	185,000	81,080,870	
Expenses							
Staff Personnel Costs	-	5,187,072	1,296,768	-	-	6,483,840	8.5%
Facilities & Vehicles	-	150,400	37,600	-	-	188,000	0.2%
Marketing	-	147,416	36,854	-	-	184,270	0.2%
Fees & Permits	-	40,144	10,036	-	-	50,180	0.1%
Insurance	-	144,448	36,112	-	-	180,560	0.2%
Professional Services	-	556,396	139,099	-	-	695,495	0.9%
Information Technology	-	732,192	183,048	-	-	915,240	1.2%
Distributions	-	29,696	7,424	-	-	37,120	0.0%
Ministry Expenses	-	6,848	1,712	-	-	8,560	0.0%
Office Expenses	-	12,024	3,006	-	-	15,030	0.0%
Hospitality Meals	-	77,192	19,298	-	-	96,490	0.1%
Gifts & Awards	-	46,440	11,610	-	-	58,050	0.1%
Postage & Delivery	-	92,560	23,140	-	-	115,700	0.2%
Conferences	-	70,552	17,638	-	-	88,190	0.1%
Travel Expenses	-	514,264	128,566	-	-	642,830	0.8%
Project & Team Expenses	13,609,835	-	-	-	-	13,609,835	17.9%
Missionary Personnel Costs	37,652,770	-	-	-	-	37,652,770	49.5%
Missionary Operating Expenses	5,875,400	-	-	-	-	5,875,400	7.7%
Endowment Expenses	-	-	-	27,500	-	27,500	0.0%
Investment Expenses	-	-	-	2,616,900	-	2,616,900	3.4%
Medical Claims & Expenses	-	-	-	5,495,250	-	5,495,250	7.2%
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	995,100	995,100	1.3%
Total Expenses	57,138,005	7,807,644	1,951,911	8,139,650	995,100	76,032,310	100.0%
Consolidated Excess or Deficit	450,340	1,143,401	(1,951,911)	6,216,830	(810,100)	5,048,560	

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**MISSION TO THE WORLD
PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET COMPARISON**

Consolidated Budget Comparison	2023	2023 GA	2024 GA	2025 GA	Budget	2024 to 2025	
	Unaudited	Approved	Modified	Proposed	% of	Change in Budget	
	Actual	Budget	Budget	Budget	Total	\$	%
Income							
Missionary Contributions	48,928,610	50,091,000	50,397,000	51,808,115	63.9%	1,411,115	2.80%
Project/Team Contributions	10,490,233	11,233,800	10,604,100	10,820,140	13.3%	216,040	2.04%
Unrestricted Contributions	1,752,379	2,171,520	1,891,520	1,910,435	2.4%	18,915	1.00%
Medical Fund Income	0	5,000	0	0	0.0%	0	0.00%
Endowment Income	7,330,094	(2,464,344)	4,561,340	5,231,080	6.5%	669,740	14.68%
Investment Income	11,201,128	(245,060)	8,331,850	9,160,900	11.3%	829,050	9.95%
Other Income	2,139,238	1,885,740	2,116,355	2,150,200	2.7%	33,845	1.60%
Total Income	81,841,682	62,677,656	77,902,165	81,080,870	100.0%	3,178,705	4.08%
Expenses							
Staff Personnel Costs	6,217,897	6,450,273	6,258,532	6,483,840	8.5%	225,308	3.60%
Facilities & Vehicles	155,008	181,532	187,968	188,000	0.2%	32	0.02%
Marketing	136,430	173,091	182,800	184,270	0.2%	1,470	0.80%
Fees & Permits	44,245	80,902	49,732	50,180	0.1%	448	0.90%
Insurance	174,814	154,095	178,911	180,560	0.2%	1,649	0.92%
Professional Services	672,757	633,895	692,338	695,495	0.9%	3,157	0.46%
Information Technology	804,140	859,654	904,198	915,240	1.2%	11,042	1.22%
Distributions	20,267	18,350	36,500	37,120	0.0%	620	1.70%
Ministry Expenses	6,503	12,085	7,605	8,560	0.0%	955	12.56%
Office Expenses	7,859	21,466	14,739	15,030	0.0%	291	1.97%
Hospitality Meals	91,578	109,249	95,533	96,490	0.1%	957	1.00%
Gifts & Awards	37,672	41,209	56,146	58,050	0.1%	1,904	3.39%
Postage & Delivery	117,543	100,474	107,981	115,700	0.2%	7,719	7.15%
Conferences	57,021	165,808	83,675	88,190	0.1%	4,515	5.40%
Travel Expenses	504,584	1,000,137	632,993	642,830	0.8%	9,837	1.55%
Project & Team Expenses	13,474,092	13,850,716	13,451,801	13,609,835	17.9%	158,034	1.17%
Missionary Personnel Costs	35,288,079	35,396,299	36,308,150	37,652,770	49.5%	1,344,620	3.70%
Missionary Operating Expenses	5,711,925	5,302,450	5,721,165	5,875,400	7.7%	154,235	2.70%
Endowment Expenses	25,280	15,600	26,400	27,500	0.0%	1,100	4.17%
Investment Expenses	2,589,948	3,004,000	2,600,000	2,616,900	3.4%	16,900	0.65%
Medical Claims & Expenses	5,439,145	6,052,100	5,456,300	5,495,250	7.2%	38,950	0.71%
Depreciation	990,535	962,106	994,098	995,100	1.3%	1,002	0.10%
Total Expenses	72,567,322	74,585,491	74,047,565	76,032,310	100.0%	1,984,745	2.68%
Consolidated Excess or Deficit	9,274,360	(11,907,835)	3,854,600	5,048,560			

Note 1: Coordinator's 2024 Salary is \$164,729, housing is \$42,000, SECA is \$15,508 and benefits at \$36,700.

Note 2: Coordinator's 2025 Salary is projected to be \$172,965, housing is \$42,000, SECA is \$16,122 and benefits at \$38,900.

Note 3: 2023 actuals are pre-audit figures as the external audit is not complete.

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MISSION TO THE WORLD					
PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET - FIVE YEAR ACTUAL HISTORICAL DATA					
	Audited 2019	Audited 2020	Audited 2021	Audited 2022	Unaudited 2023
<u>Income</u>					
Missionary Contributions	43,009,991	42,955,517	44,911,710	47,477,887	48,928,610
Project/Field Contributions	7,148,399	7,997,728	10,883,814	17,446,253	10,490,233
Unrestricted Contributions	2,511,011	2,249,801	1,797,778	1,771,353	1,752,379
Medical Fund Income	40,036	39,336	4,683	5,228	0
Endowment Income	8,881,091	4,742,514	8,351,238	(7,264,237)	7,330,094
Investment Income	11,878,658	9,365,405	11,508,855	(4,666,848)	11,201,128
Other Income	2,411,123	1,641,163	1,948,448	2,014,620	2,139,238
Total Income	75,880,309	68,991,464	79,406,526	56,784,256	81,841,682
<u>Expenses</u>					
Staff Personnel Costs	6,066,289	6,168,542	6,238,437	6,192,860	6,217,897
Facilities & Vehicles	228,342	154,395	175,436	153,263	155,008
Marketing	169,992	155,208	129,001	126,600	136,430
Fees & Permits	97,173	109,668	122,388	68,931	44,245
Insurance	115,856	109,268	138,725	183,116	174,814
Professional Services	884,606	597,404	555,037	627,428	672,757
Financial Expenses	13,730	0	0	0	0
Information Technology	730,889	594,959	727,437	796,543	804,140
Distributions	36,750	17,566	23,087	26,916	20,267
Ministry Expenses	19,283	15,074	5,672	8,711	6,503
Office Expenses	24,666	14,854	18,408	14,644	7,859
Hospitality Meals	103,355	40,433	60,165	96,404	91,578
Gifts & Awards	51,797	32,946	36,693	40,323	37,672
Postage & Delivery	74,647	97,809	100,575	83,420	117,543
Conferences	190,758	37,132	72,302	146,356	57,021
Travel Expenses	524,929	230,688	266,934	885,331	504,584
Project & Team Expenses	10,991,066	9,741,128	10,760,855	13,729,433	13,474,092
Missionary Personnel Costs	27,505,515	27,534,494	29,365,951	33,113,486	35,288,079
Missionary Operating Expenses	5,588,453	3,215,821	3,717,000	5,277,423	5,711,925
Endowment Expenses	76,500	1,018	18,803	16,575	25,280
Investment Expenses	2,191,620	2,245,651	2,662,894	2,942,936	2,589,948
Medical Claims & Expenses	5,071,759	5,032,685	5,453,917	6,020,195	5,439,145
Depreciation	766,926	897,331	932,654	979,226	990,535
Total Expenses	61,524,901	57,044,074	61,582,371	71,530,120	72,567,322
Consolidated Excess or Deficit	14,355,408	11,947,390	17,824,155	(14,745,864)	9,274,360
<p>Note 1: The 2022 actuals include a \$21.8 million unrealized loss in investments.</p> <p>Note 2: The 2023 actuals are pre-audit figures as the external audit is not complete.</p>					

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA FOUNDATION, INC.
2025 PROPOSED BUDGET**

I. Economic Considerations and General Ministry Factors

The PCA Foundation (PCAF) is organized for the “purposes . . . of the Church of Jesus Christ, including the carrying out of the Great Commission, the support of churches, presbyteries, and other committees and agencies of the Presbyterian Church in America, and distributions to or for the use of organizations . . . that minister to man’s spiritual, physical, emotional, and intellectual powers.” (Article IV, PCAF Articles of Incorporation)

The purpose of the PCAF is accomplished primarily by making grants of funds contributed by individuals and families. The PCAF encourages contributions by providing information and education about, and facilitating, generous, tax-efficient contributions, and makes effective grants by enabling donors to recommend grants and providing information to donors about charitable endeavors worthy of support.

The PCAF offers the following charitable giving-granting programs: donor-advised funds, including Advise and Consult Funds, Increase Funds, and Single Charity Funds, Charitable Remainder Trusts, Charitable Lead Trusts, Endowments, Designated Funds for churches and other PCA entities, gifts of appreciated non-cash property, bequests, and presentation of information about strategic giving and granting to individuals, and churches, presbyteries, and other groups.

The PCAF has experienced significant growth in recent years, which has provided increased funds for grants and support and education activities. As of December 31, 2023, its assets totaled \$256.8 million. Compared to the 2018 year-end total assets of \$86.4 million, it has increased \$170.4 million over the last five years. In addition to substantially increased giving, improving financial markets over that period, with 2022 being an exception, and increased awareness of the PCAF’s charitable services have been significant contributors to the PCAF’s growth.

The PCA Foundation's proposed Operating and Capital Budget for 2025 of \$2,402,945 represents a \$261,022 or 12.19% increase from the General Assembly approved budget for 2024 of \$2,141,923.

II. Major Changes in Budget

The major changes in budgeted revenue included in the proposed 2025 Budget compared to 2024 Budget are increased balanced-based revenue from Increase Funds and similar funds and trusts, and a higher payout from the Advise & Consult Fund earnings. The PCAF anticipates \$46,250 in increased balanced-based charges, and \$180,000 in increased payout from earnings.

The major changes in budgeted expenses included in the proposed 2025 Budget compared to 2024 Budget are increased wages and benefits due to a new staff position added in 2024, and very high cost-of-living increases to remaining staff wages. The PCAF anticipates costs of \$288,894 for increases in existing staff wages and benefits.

III. Income Streams

The PCAF is self-supported. It does not participate in the PCA's Partnership Shares Program, nor does it rely on the financial support of churches to help underwrite its operating expenses.

Approximately 74% of the PCAF's total 2024 budgeted operating revenue is interest/earnings generated on its Advise and Consult Funds®, the PCAF Endowment (consistent with prior years) and several other invested assets. Trustee fees and administrative-cost charges imposed on Increase Funds, Charitable Trusts, Endowments and other charged accounts are expected to be 23% of 2025 budgeted operating revenue. Direct charitable contributions for operational support (primarily from a small number of individuals and Board members) account for the remaining 3%. Income streams budgeted for 2025 are higher than those budgeted for in the prior year due to an increase in the projected increased assets from complex gifts.

The sources described above are attainable and sufficient to provide the 2025 budgeted operating revenues.

IV. Major Ministry Not Implemented in the Past Year

There were no new major ministry plans of the PCA Foundation scheduled for implementation during 2023.

V. Notes to Budget Line Items

General Comments

The 2025 Operating and Capital Budget of \$2,402,945 represents a \$261,022 or 12.19% increase compared to the 2024 Budget of \$2,141,923.

Support & Revenue

1. The 2025 Budget for Support and Revenue is \$2,420,500, the amount needed to fund the 2025 Operating and Capital Budget.
2. Undesignated Earnings (line 1) – These payouts are from funds held by the PCA Foundation, mainly from Advise & Consult Funds and the PCAF Endowment, which help underwrite the Foundation’s operating expenses. The payout percentages are set annually by the PCA Foundation’s Board, and generally are somewhat correlated to the expected investment returns of the accounts. However, during times when the expected investment returns may be lower than the payout amounts needed to fund operations, reserves in these accounts are significantly more than adequate to compensate for the difference. The 2025 Budget of \$1,800,000 represents a change of \$180,000 or 11.1% from the 2024 Budget amount of \$1,620,000.
3. Account Charges (line 2) – 2025 account charges are fees and balanced-based charges on funds held for long term administration such as Increase Funds, Charitable Remainder Trusts, Charitable Lead Trusts, Endowments, and Designated Funds. The 2025 Budget amount of \$539,500 compares to the 2024 Budget amount of \$493,250, an increase of \$46,250 or 9.38%. Balanced-based charges are projected to be \$500,000, per-grant charges are projected to be \$19,500, and per-gift transaction charges for complex gifts are projected to be \$20,000.
4. Contributions (line 3) – Gifts primarily from a small number of individuals and Board members help underwrite the Foundation’s

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Operating Budget. Contributions budgeted for 2025 are \$57,500, compared to \$50,000 in the 2024 Budget.

Operations Expenses

1. The 2025 amount budgeted for operating expenses is \$2,419,270, compared to \$2,150,423 budgeted for 2024, an increase of \$268,847 or 12.50%.
2. Staff Wages & Benefits (lines 5, 6 and 7) – 2025 is budgeted at \$1,707,652, representing an increase of 20.36% or \$288,894 from the 2024 Budget amount of \$1,418,758. The increase results from adding a new executive assistant in 2023, a new gift planner in 2024, and higher than anticipated budgeted salary increases due to continuing high inflation.
3. The 2025 Budget for Staff Wages and Benefits of \$1,707,652 represents an increase of \$432,737 or 33.94% over the 2023 Actual expenditure of \$1,274,915. However, of this increase, \$187,525 is due to hiring a new gift planner in 2024 and \$117,713 is due to hiring an executive assistant in late 2023. The remaining increase of \$127,499 is due primarily to timing of actual hire dates compared to forecasted hire dates in previous budgets, and inflation-required increases in wage, payroll tax and retirement plan contribution expenses.
4. All Other Operating Expenses (lines 8-23) – All other operating expenses for the 2025 Budget are \$711,618, compared to \$731,665 in the 2024 Budget, a decrease of \$20,047 or 2.74%.

Capital Expenditures

Capital Expenditures (line 24) – The 2025 Budget of \$16,200 consists primarily of computer hardware, software enhancements, and office furnishings for operations and donor relations.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA FOUNDATION, INC.
PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET

	2023 ACTUAL	2023 BUDGET	2024 BUDGET	GENERAL & ADMIN.	FUND RAISING	CAPITAL ASSETS	2025 TOTALS	% OF TOTAL
SUPPORT & REVENUE								
1. UNDESIGNATED EARNINGS	1,560,000	1,200,000	1,620,000	1,800,000	-	-	1,800,000	74.36
2. ACCOUNT CHARGES	506,183	761,000	493,250	539,500	-	-	539,500	22.29
3. CONTRIBUTIONS	39,779	50,000	50,000	-	57,500	-	57,500	2.38
4. INTEREST INCOME	27,229	15,750	16,500	23,500	-	-	23,500	0.97
TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE	2,133,191	2,026,750	2,179,750	2,363,000	57,500	-	2,420,500	100.00
OPERATIONS EXPENSES								
5. PRESIDENT'S SALARY	246,560	263,528	255,000	92,307	171,428	-	263,735	10.90
6. PRESIDENT'S BENEFITS	62,940	64,374	75,294	26,707	49,599	-	76,306	3.15
7. STAFF WAGES & BENEFITS	965,415	931,978	1,088,464	827,017	540,594	-	1,367,611	56.50
8. TRAVEL EXPENSE	30,042	29,435	49,610	8,260	71,775	-	80,035	3.31
9. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	152,192	233,610	246,760	136,835	-	-	136,835	5.65
10. PROMOTION	117,318	115,500	127,780	-	159,040	-	159,040	6.57
11. OFFICE EXPENSE	108,378	117,175	94,375	66,648	27,728	-	94,375	3.90
12. POSTAGE/UPS/FED EX	7,651	12,500	12,500	2,188	6,563	-	8,750	0.36
13. TAXES & LICENSES	90	300	300	300	-	-	300	0.01
14. RENT	46,978	36,000	36,000	59,808	-	-	59,808	2.47
15. TELEPHONE	8,578	8,500	8,500	2,125	6,375	-	8,500	0.35
16. DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	13,119	7,235	13,105	4,888	9,077	-	13,965	0.58
17. TRAINING	1,417	19,000	19,000	5,600	18,400	-	24,000	0.99
18. BOARD EXPENSE	15,153	19,500	22,500	17,750	-	-	17,750	0.73
19. OFFICE INSURANCE	34,646	36,735	36,735	36,735	-	-	36,735	1.52
20. GA EXPENSE	11,861	22,000	20,000	20,000	-	-	20,000	0.83
21. ADMIN/GA NOM. CMTES.	16,186	15,000	15,000	16,250	-	-	16,250	0.67
22. MISCELLANEOUS	618	2,550	2,750	2,750	-	-	2,750	0.11
23. DEPRECIATION	29,595	24,897	26,750	22,768	9,758	-	32,525	1.34
TOTAL OPERATIONS EXPENSES	1,868,736	1,959,817	2,150,423	1,348,934	1,070,336	-	2,419,270	99.95
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FROM OPERATIONS	264,454	66,933	29,327	1,014,066	(1,012,836)	-	1,230	0.05
CAPITAL ASSETS								
24. CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	393,283	18,250	18,250	-	-	16,200	16,200	0.67
25. LESS DEPRECIATION	(29,595)	(24,897)	(26,750)	-	-	(32,525)	(32,525)	(1.34)
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	363,688	(6,647)	(8,500)	-	-	(16,325)	(16,325)	(0.67)
TOTAL OPERATIONS & CAPITAL	2,232,424	1,953,170	2,141,923	1,348,934	1,070,336	(16,325)	2,402,945	99.27
TOTAL SURPLUS/DEFICIT	(99,234)	73,580	37,827	1,014,066	(1,012,836)	16,325	17,555	0.73

PCAF THREE YEAR COMPARISON OF INCOME, EXPENSE, SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)				
	2021	2022	2023	AVERAGE 2021-2023
BUDGET	1,507,359	1,511,564	1,953,170	1,657,364
INCOME - ACTUAL	1,388,980	1,690,415	2,133,191	1,737,529
EXPENSE - ACTUAL	1,329,884	1,647,261	1,868,736	1,615,294
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) - ACTUAL	59,096	43,154	264,454	122,235

APPENDIX A

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA FOUNDATION, INC.
 BUDGETS COMPARISON STATEMENT
 FOR PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET

DESCRIPTION	2023 ACTUAL	2023 BUDGET	2024 BUDGET	PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET	BUDGET % OF TOTAL	CHANGE IN BUDGET	
						IN \$	IN %
SUPPORT & REVENUE							
1. UNDESIGNATED EARNINGS	1,560,000	1,200,000	1,620,000	1,800,000	74.36	180,000	11.11
2. ACCOUNT CHARGES	506,183	761,000	493,250	539,500	22.29	46,250	9.38
3. CONTRIBUTIONS	39,779	50,000	50,000	57,500	2.38	7,500	15.00
4. INTEREST INCOME	27,229	15,750	16,500	23,500	0.97	7,000	42.42
TOTAL SUPPORT/REVENUE	2,133,191	2,026,750	2,179,750	2,420,500	100.00	240,750	11.04
OPERATIONS EXPENSES							
PROGRAMS							
5. NONE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL PROGRAMS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SUPPORT SERVICES							
6. GENERAL & ADMIN.	1,151,421	1,211,966	1,329,513	1,348,934	55.73	19,421	1.46
7. FUND RAISING	717,316	747,851	820,910	1,070,336	44.22	249,427	30.38
TOTAL SUPPORT SERVICES	1,868,736	1,959,817	2,150,423	2,419,270	99.95	268,847	12.50
TOTAL OPERATIONS EXPENSES:	1,868,736	1,959,817	2,150,423	2,419,270	99.95	268,847	12.50
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) OPERATION	264,454	66,933	29,327	1,230	0.05	(28,097)	-
CAPITAL ASSETS:							
8. CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	393,283	18,250	18,250	16,200	0.67	(2,050)	(11.23)
9. (LESS DEPRECIATION)	(29,595)	(24,897)	(26,750)	(32,525)	(1.34)	(5,775)	21.59
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES:	363,688	(6,647)	(8,500)	(16,325)	(0.67)	(7,825)	-
TOTAL OPERATIONS & CAPITAL:	2,232,424	1,953,170	2,141,923	2,402,945	99.27	261,022	12.19
TOTAL SURPLUS/(DEFICIT):	(99,234)	73,580	37,827	17,555	0.73	(20,272)	-

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA FOUNDATION, INC.
FIVE YEAR ACTUAL REVENUE AND EXPENSE TRENDS

2019-2023

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 ACTUAL	2022 ACTUAL	2023 ACTUAL
SUPPORT & REVENUE					
1. UNDESIGNATED EARNINGS	1,040,000	546,000	710,000	1,170,000	1,560,000
2. ACCOUNT CHARGES	285,174	333,395	503,271	450,033	506,183
3. CONTRIBUTIONS	29,731	294,370	163,414	76,584	39,779
4. INTEREST INCOME	19,076	6,415	12,295	(6,202)	27,229
TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE	1,373,981	1,180,180	1,388,980	1,690,415	2,133,191
OPERATIONS EXPENSES					
5. PRESIDENT'S SALARY	222,400	227,200	240,424	254,536	246,560
6. PRESIDENT'S BENEFITS	42,900	48,800	55,919	62,940	62,940
7. STAFF WAGES & BENEFITS	554,882	533,597	598,304	723,805	965,415
8. TRAVEL EXPENSE	7,555	3,421	37,021	23,212	30,042
9. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	54,890	68,673	56,407	196,356	152,192
10. PROMOTION	88,911	84,572	92,264	132,729	117,318
11. OFFICE EXPENSE	52,195	47,057	98,697	105,857	108,378
12. POSTAGE/UPS/FED EX	15,013	11,367	12,396	11,246	7,651
13. TAXES & LICENSES	192	260	187	141	90
14. RENT	29,016	29,016	29,016	29,016	46,978
15. TELEPHONE	7,900	8,307	7,747	7,970	8,578
16. DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	5,270	1,405	1,639	2,937	13,119
17. TRAINING	2,976	348	21,000	2,536	1,417
18. BOARD EXPENSE	17,617	8,224	10,944	19,067	15,153
19. OFFICE INSURANCE	17,643	20,108	26,019	27,275	34,646
20. GA EXPENSE	19,438	2,000	13,396	6,125	11,861
21. ADMIN./GA NOM. CMTES.	14,419	11,549	12,660	21,739	16,186
22. MISCELLANEOUS	166,166	1,656	68	1,752	618
23. DEPRECIATION	25,151	15,339	15,775	18,023	29,595
TOTAL OPERATIONS EXPENSES	1,344,534	1,122,899	1,329,884	1,647,261	1,868,736
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FROM OPERATIONS	29,447	57,281	59,096	43,154	264,454
CAPITAL ASSETS					
24. CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	40,178	6,260	5,307	41,781	393,283
25. LESS DEPRECIATION	(25,151)	(15,339)	(15,775)	(18,023)	(29,595)
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	15,027	(9,079)	(10,468)	23,758	363,688
TOTAL OPERATIONS & CAPITAL	1,359,561	1,113,820	1,319,416	1,671,019	2,232,424
TOTAL SURPLUS/DEFICIT	14,420	66,360	69,564	19,396	(99,234)

**RIDGE HAVEN
BREVARD, NC – CONO, IA
2025 PROPOSED GENERAL ASSEMBLY BUDGET**

I. Economic Considerations and General Ministry Factors

It is a joy and honor to see such growing interest in the ministry of Ridge Haven. As we seek to faithfully steward the ministry God has placed before us, our hope is that we can continue to increase and improve opportunities for people to come and grow in the gospel through time spent here. This means pursuing avenues for continued measured growth as we expand within our means and develop leaders not only for lives in camp ministry, but also for callings in other avenues of ministry.

The Lord saw fit to bring 13,761 people through Ridge Haven in 2023, spread out over 50 weeks. Our desire to become a truly year-round ministry has been realized and with this comes exciting options for ministry growth as we add a new Event Office / Coffee Shop and additional staff houses onto our Brevard property and activity pool to our Cono campus. Additionally, we are tackling numerous upkeep and infrastructure projects now that we have settled in from our recent campaign and are preparing for faithful steps forward to come.

Our primary need remains additional experienced staff, not only as we fill out multiple positions in Brevard, but key leadership roles at Cono as well. And, as always, we strive to develop leaders that might continue to carry the ministry of Ridge Haven to the entire PCA in North America. Therefore, we are launching the Explorers Project to provide hands on training and development for leaders interested in exploring their gifts for ministry.

II. Major Changes in Budget

We anticipate continued growth in ministry along with needed infrastructure and capital to support, which also includes increased payroll to support the Explorers Project. Also, the addition of a Development Officer and a Coffee Shop led to increased expenditure on those items.

III. Income Stream

Ridge Haven receives support/revenue from the following sources:

- Camp, conference, and retreat fees (includes food service and camp store/ bookstore revenue).
- Facility, house rentals, and Cono School and farmland rental.
- Contributions (includes partnership shares and direct contributions).
- Minor sources of revenue, which include resident fees (water/sewer fees, road assessments, etc.), and interest-bearing bank accounts.

Major Ministry Not Implemented in the Past Year

We were hoping to start work on our new Cono swimming pool and outdoor sand volleyball court last fall but had to delay until this spring to secure all the funding. Thus, we were not able to use them to help benefit our recruitment. We finally broke ground on both March 11, 2024, anticipating that they will be finished in time for our full eight weeks of summer camp at Cono. Likewise, we postponed construction of our Event Office / Coffee Shop until 2024.

2025 Budget Line Items Notes (Notes refer to all three inserts below.)

Line 2, Property – This line item includes revenue from lot maintenance fees, water hookups, water usage fees, and road maintenance fees from 18 lots which are contiguous to our main campus. The amount budgeted each year reflects the predictable aspects of this revenue, i.e. the principal and interest being paid on lot leases being bought over time, the annually collected lot lease maintenance fees, water usage fees, and a portion of the road maintenance fees. This line item also includes our farmland rental and rental houses at Cono.

Line 3 & 4, Contributions – related to expected upcoming projects.

Line 6, Miscellaneous – Includes refund of state sales tax, amortization of lot leases, Right-of-Way land sales, staff rentals, and interest revenue. In 2021, this also included our Payroll Tax Refund.

APPENDIX A

Line 7, Payroll and Benefits – Includes payroll and benefits for 27 year-round employees including the Executive Director, part-time staff, plus over 100 seasonal staff both for Ridge Haven Brevard, and Ridge Haven Cono. Speakers, and musicians' honorariums are included in this category, as well as payroll taxes and workers' compensation insurance. The Executive Director's Salary is projected at \$69,000.00 along with on campus housing, and benefits (\$17,889.12).

Line 9, Office and Administrative – Includes major expense items, including commercial insurance, telephone fees, office and housekeeping supplies, loan interest and bank fees, and audit and legal fees.

Line 11, Facilities & Maintenance – Includes all maintenance, upkeep, repairs, deferred maintenance, real estate taxes, and refuse expenses. Also includes vehicle parts and service, fuel costs, and equipment leases. Increased due to added capital buildings along with need to outsource more ongoing projects.

Line 13, Ministry – Includes ministry supplies, registration software fees, and travel and other expenses associated with our camp for inner-city kids, which we underwrite 100%.

Line 14, Recruitment & Development – Includes all printing costs, promotional ads and media productions, recruitment initiatives, trips, and development officers and recruiters salaries.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Ridge Haven 2025 Budget		
DESCRIPTION	BUDGET	% totals
Support/Revenue		
1. Ministry Income	2,700,000	63%
2. Property	160,000	4%
3. Contributions - Brevard	1,000,000	23%
4. Contributions - Cono	250,000	6%
5. Bookstore & Vending	185,000	4%
6. Miscellaneous	25,000	1%
Total Income	\$ 4,320,000	100%
Operating Expense		
7. Payroll & Benefits	2,500,000	59%
8. Bookstore/Vending	100,000	2%
9. Office & Admin. Expense	210,000	5%
10. Food Service Department	285,000	7%
11. Facilities & Maintenance	600,000	14%
12. Utilities	245,000	6%
13. Ministry	180,000	4%
14. Recruitment & Development	100,000	2%
15. Water & Sewer Systems		
16. Depreciation	*	
17. Capital Campaign		
Total Expenses	4,220,000	100%
* Depreciation is on the Balance Sheet.		

APPENDIX A

Redeem House 2025 Budget Comparison									
DESCRIPTION	2023 BUDGET	2023 ACTUAL	2024 BUDGET	2025 BUDGET	2025 Budget %	CHANGE 2023 actual-2025 Budget \$	CHANGE 2023 actual- 2025 Budget %		
Support Revenue									
1. Monthly Income	2,400,000	2,360,861	2,600,000	2,700,000	62%	339,139	14%		
2. Property Income	1,300,000	132,868	160,000	160,000	4%	27,132	2%		
3. Contributions - Board	8,500,000	1,094,124	900,000	1,000,000	23%	104,124	1%		
4. Contributions - Core	300,000	742,803	350,000	250,000	6%	(402,803)	-6%		
5. Bookstore & Vending	1,500,000	175,207	175,000	185,000	4%	9,793	6%		
6. Miscellaneous	1,500,000	53,680	20,000	25,000	1%	(28,680)	-5%		
Total Income	\$ 4,000,000	\$ 4,596,633	\$ 4,205,000	\$ 4,250,000	100%	(291,633)	-5%		
Operating Expense									
1. Payroll & Benefits	1,600,000	1,414,881	2,100,000	2,500,000	99%	1,085,119	7%		
8. Bookstore/Vending	12,500	63,630	140,000	100,000	2%	36,370	5%		
9. Office & Admin Expense	800,000	212,069	240,000	210,000	3%	(2,069)	-1%		
10. Food Service/Department	250,000	229,010	275,000	265,000	7%	61,990	2%		
11. Facilities & Maintenance	380,000	494,056	550,000	600,000	14%	105,944	21%		
12. Utilities	200,000	206,776	240,000	245,000	6%	38,224	18%		
13. Medical	950,000	81,963	175,000	180,000	4%	(98,037)	12%		
14. Recruitment & Development	650,000	20,880	100,000	100,000	2%	79,120	37%		
15. Water & Sewer Systems									
16. Depreciation									
17. Capital Expenditure	1,100,000	-							
Total Expenses	\$ 3,995,000	\$ 2,717,265	\$ 3,250,000	\$ 4,250,000	100%	1,502,735	55%		

† Figures shown in red have errors

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Ridge Haven Five Year Comparison					
Description	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Income					
1. Ministry Income	1,403,802	747,660	1,602,285	2,165,844	2,360,861
2. Property	112,248	110,044	149,948	147,473	132,868
3. Contributions - Brevard	767,604	861,731	912,837	1,861,002	1,094,124
4. Contributions - Cono	209,491	484,297	313,062	197,630	742,893
5. Bookstore & Vending	83,157	58,647	96,290	140,778	175,207
6. Miscellaneous	78,996	15,688	246,672	17,198	53,680
Total Income	\$ 2,655,298	\$ 2,278,067	3,321,093	\$ 4,529,925	\$ 4,559,633
PPP Forgiveness			471,300		
			3,792,393		
Expense					
7. Payroll & Benefits	986,213	959,504	1,121,745	1,384,145	1,414,881
8. Bookstore/Vending	60,903	27,371	52,191	116,758	63,630
9. Office & Admin. Expense	161,740	141,593	174,714	172,362	212,069
10. Food Service Department	172,805	101,218	191,547	230,731	223,010
11. Facilities & Maintenance	250,086	253,796	373,647	352,801	494,056
12. Utilities	110,175	147,852	137,254	165,280	206,776
13. Ministry	63,816	43,844	47,991	93,805	81,963
14. Recruitment & Development	18,195	3,561	6,685	618	20,880
15. Water & Sewer Systems	25,661	38,172			
16. Depreciation	144,000	*	*	*	*
17. Capital Campaign	7,500	0.00	653,771	1,849,363	
18. Cono Expense	302,737	**	**	**	**
Total Expense	\$ 2,303,831	\$ 1,716,911	3,510,069	\$ 4,365,863	\$ 2,717,265
Net Ordinary Income (loss)	\$ 351,467	\$ 561,156	282,325	\$ 164,062	\$ 1,842,368
* Depreciation is on the Balance Sheet.					
** Cono and Brevard are combine da above.					

REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP 2025 PROPOSED BUDGET

The RUF Mission:

The mission of Reformed University Fellowship is to build the church now and for the future by reaching students for Christ and equipping students to serve both in the United States and globally.

I. Economic Considerations and General Ministry Factors

- This budget reflects our continuing growth as we develop new RUF works on campuses worldwide. For 2025, we project to have over 200 campus ministries worldwide.
- The proposed 2025 budget for the entire ministry is \$59,495,241.
- There is a net increase in ministry expenses of 13% from the 2024 approved budget and a 7.5% increase over 2023 actuals.
- There is an overall net increase of 11% in salaries and related adjustments to benefits of 11% for all existing staff positions from the approved 2024 budget and a net increase of 7.5% from 2023 actuals.
- In general, we are predicting a 7.5% increase from 2023 actuals.

II. Major Changes in Budget

The only significant change to the budget in 2025 is the impact of the execution of the 50-year Capital Campaign.

III. Income Streams

Income for the 2025 budget is projected to come from contributions (87%), medical fund (7%), conference revenues (4%) and other revenue (0.4%).

IV. Major Ministry Items Not Implemented

The only major ministry item planned for 2025 is a continuing capital campaign.

V. Notes to Budget Line Items

All other categories are projected at a moderate 7.5%.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP
 FIVE YEAR COMPARISON STATEMENT
 FOR PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET

	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	Inc/Dec
Income						
Contributions	42,304,277	43,489,957	44,875,780	44,340,677	46,980,864	2,640,187
Interest Income	2,059,320	1,416,633	821,211	(1,949,803)	873,183	2,822,985
Gain/Loss on Disposal of Assets	(2,426)	(1,293)	(51,676)	(4,627)	(39,541)	(34,914)
Medical Fund Income	3,522,355	3,718,287	3,950,201	3,797,369	3,959,128	161,759
Conferences	1,285,399	280,955	174,283	1,323,223	2,041,257	718,034
Other Revenue	101,295	89,243	5,400,293	183,864	224,109	40,245
Total Income	49,270,219	48,993,783	55,170,091	47,690,704	54,039,001	6,348,297
Expenses						
Personnel	30,375,447	32,133,387	33,543,646	34,764,191	37,324,711	2,560,520
Audit/Bank and Payroll Fees	511,379	544,879	562,963	620,879	694,022	73,142
Denominational Costs	140,419	55,651	155,084	141,615	153,688	12,073
Committee Expense	1,219,166	102,623	98,482	911,216	1,216,645	305,429
Conferences	1,239,204	468,740	685,054	1,445,690	2,129,811	684,121
Depreciation	71,987	58,479	90,042	110,515	92,719	(17,796)
Fundraising	637,214	486,931	486,182	481,679	530,720	49,040
Honorarium	78,669	16,163	(6,587)	40,989	22,467	(18,522)
Insurance-Liability	82,958	86,449	96,478	116,565	91,768	(24,797)
Marketing	34,646	22,674	10,024	65,234	61,033	(4,202)
Ministry Relations	871,755	602,312	1,082,680	1,086,283	994,441	(91,842)
Misc	159,737	119,257	96,422	117,117	146,746	29,629
Ministry Support	236,183	296,353	241,299	167,096	39,543	(127,553)
Professional/Personal	255,857	312,075	489,753	566,100	597,788	31,689
Programming	1,368,303	1,626,749	4,458,089	4,087,838	2,997,638	(1,090,200)
Facilities	1,106,179	1,127,939	1,212,298	1,082,257	896,582	(185,675)
Service Contracts	416,411	113,166	228,219	307,986	566,597	258,611
Travel	729,790	365,420	465,683	915,012	1,027,501	112,489
Recruitment/Assessment/Training	1,164,502	388,683	1,498,594	1,833,127	1,759,991	(73,136)
Medical Claims & Expenses	3,485,733	2,815,231	3,779,866	3,570,421	4,677,697	1,107,276
Total Expenses	44,185,539	41,743,162	49,274,272	52,431,809	56,022,107	3,590,298

APPENDIX A

FOR PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET					
Consolidated Budget Comparison	2023 Audited Actual	2023 Approved Budget	2024 Approved Budget	2025 GA Proposed Budget	Budget % of Total
Income					
Contributions	46,980,864	52,423,000	46,996,844	52,020,241	87%
Interest Income	873,183	650,000	370,000	850,000	1%
Gain/Loss on Disposal of Assets	(39,541)	(3,000)	(4,700)	(25,000)	0.0%
Medical Fund Income	3,959,128	4,148,550	3,800,000	4,300,000	7%
Conferences	2,041,257	1,300,000	1,400,000	2,100,000	4%
Other Revenue	224,109	100,000	100,000	250,000	0.4%
Total Income	54,039,001	58,618,550	52,662,144	59,495,241	100%
Expenses					
Personnel	37,324,711	36,295,000	36,283,587	40,124,064	67%
Audit/Bank and Payroll Fees	694,022	620,650	644,151	746,073	1%
Denominational Costs	153,688	176,400	150,516	165,214	0.3%
Committee Expense	1,216,645	131,250	979,557	1,307,894	2%
Conferences	2,129,811	1,300,000	1,554,117	2,289,547	4%
Depreciation	92,719	90,000	118,803	99,672	0.2%
Fundraising	530,720	536,025	517,805	570,524	1%
Honorarium	22,467	105,000	44,063	24,152	0.0%
Insurance-Liability	91,768	122,063	125,308	98,651	0.2%
Marketing	61,033	75,600	70,127	65,610	0.1%
Ministry Relations	994,441	1,155,000	1,120,659	1,069,024	2%
Misc	146,746	105,000	125,901	157,752	0.3%
Ministry Support	39,543	262,500	93,919	42,509	0.1%
Professional/Personal Development	597,788	540,750	608,557	642,623	1%
Programming	2,997,638	1,945,000	1,983,721	3,222,461	5%
Facilities	896,582	1,645,000	1,163,426	963,826	2%
Service Contracts	566,597	315,000	331,085	609,092	1%
Travel	1,027,501	577,500	983,638	1,104,564	2%
Recruitment/Assessment/Training	1,759,991	1,680,000	1,970,612	1,891,990	3%
Medical Claims & Expenses	4,677,697	4,148,550	3,838,203	4,300,000	7%
Total Expenses	56,022,107	51,826,288	52,707,755	59,495,241	100%
Consolidated Surplus or Deficit	(1,983,106)	6,792,262	(45,611)	0	

Coordinator's 2024 Salary is \$222,789 and benefits are \$78,792.

Coordinator's 2025 Salary is projected to be \$222,789 and benefits are \$82,432 (5% increase for benefits).

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP						
PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET						
	Ministry Program	Administration	Fundraising	Designated	Total	% of Total
Income						
Ministry Contributions	44,499,715	0	0	0	44,499,715	78%
Unrestricted Contributions	0	0	2,300,000	3,000,000	5,300,000	9%
Interest Income	0	0	0	850,000	850,000	1%
Gain/Loss on Disposal of Assets	0	(25,000)	0	0	(25,000)	0.0%
Medical Fund Income	0	0	0	4,300,000	4,300,000	8%
Conferences	2,100,000	0	0	0	2,100,000	4%
Other Revenue	75,000	175,000	0	0	250,000	0.4%
Total Income	46,674,715	150,000	2,300,000	8,150,000	57,274,715	100%
Expenses						
Personnel	32,574,064	6,250,000	1,300,000	0	40,124,064	67%
Audit/Bank and Payroll Fees	596,073	150,000	0	0	746,073	1%
Denominational Costs	135,214	30,000	0	0	165,214	0.3%
Committee Expense	1,257,894	50,000	0	0	1,307,894	2%
Conferences	2,284,547	5,000	0	0	2,289,547	4%
Depreciation	0	99,672	0	0	99,672	0.0%
Fundraising	350,524	0	220,000	0	570,524	1%
Honorarium	24,152	0	0	0	24,152	0.0%
Insurance-Liability	0	98,651	0	0	98,651	0.2%
Marketing	35,610	0	30,000	0	65,610	0.1%
Ministry Relations	932,024	137,000	0	0	1,069,024	2%
Misc	157,752	0	0	0	157,752	0.3%
Ministry Support	42,509	0	0	0	42,509	0%
Professional/Personal Development	627,623	15,000	0	0	642,623	1%
Programming	3,222,461	0	0	0	3,222,461	5%
Facilities	938,826	25,000	0	0	963,826	2%
Service Contracts	499,092	110,000	0	0	609,092	1%
Travel	354,564	750,000	0	0	1,104,564	2%
Recruitment/Assessment/Training	1,151,990	740,000	0	0	1,891,990	3%
Medical Claims & Expenses	0	0	0	0	4,300,000	7%
Total Expenses	45,184,919	8,460,323	1,550,000	0	59,495,241	100%
Consolidated Surplus or Deficit	1,489,796	(8,310,323)	750,000	8,150,000	(2,220,526)	

Coordinator's 2023 Salary is \$222,789 and benefits are \$77,907.

Coordinator's 2024 Salary is projected to be \$222,789 and benefits are \$81,802 (5% increase for benefits).

PREFACE TO THE 2025 PARTNERSHIP SHARES STATEMENT FOR THE PCA GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINISTRIES

The working definition under which the 2025 Partnership Share Budgets have been calculated is as follows.

As a general statement, “Partnership Shares” describes the amount of money needed to cover the anticipated total expenses of a ministry minus earned income and minus funds designated to specific individuals who are missionaries, church planters, campus ministers, and staff (unless the ministry also guarantees the full compensation of the employee), as well as specific capital funds or similar designated monies. This portion of the approved expense budget is dependent on contributions from the PCA churches and individuals. In every case the “Partnership Share” is permitted to be at least the General Administrative and Overhead portion of the particular ministry’s total budget.

Two important numbers for each participating ministry are provided by the Partnership Share and Ministry Ask calculations. First, the numbers located in the column labeled “Per Capita Calculation” are obtained by a per capita giving formula, which divides the Partnership Share Fund amount for each General Assembly Ministry by the total number of communicant members last reported to and accumulated by the Office of the Stated Clerk.

A second set of numbers under the column labeled “Ministry Ask” is provided for churches. The “Ministry Ask” is the amount of money each Committee or Agency is asking the churches of the PCA to give if the church would like to give to PCA Ministries on a “per member” basis. The amount listed in this column is generally an estimate of what each Committee and Agency needs to receive from each *donor* church per member in order for the Committee or Agency to raise their full budget approved by the PCA General Assembly.

These two numbers provide churches and individuals with important factors as they seek to decide how to give to the PCA General Assembly Committees and Agencies. All PCA Ministries struggle to raise Partnership Share funds, and none of the PCA ministries would be sustained without generous donors who give far beyond the Partnership Share. Please assist as generously as you are able.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

In short, the Partnership Shares calculation is based on the inaccurate assumption that all churches have the same giving capacity per member and that all churches will give to all committees and agencies. The Ministry Ask is a more realistic figure.

**2025 Budgeted Partnership Shares and Ministry Asks
of PCA Ministry Partners
by the Participating General Assembly Ministries**

2025 Partnership Share Fund					Ministry Asks
Participating Ministries of the PCA	2025 Total Expense Budget	P.S. Fund	% of Total	Per Capita Calculation*	\$ Per Member
AC ¹	\$3,702,519	\$1,962,000	4.84%	\$6.43	\$8
CDM	\$2,693,700	\$1,299,750	3.21%	\$4.26	\$7
CC ²	\$36,674,848	\$2,500,000	6.17%	\$8.20	\$10
CTS	\$10,506,366	\$2,000,000	4.93%	\$6.56	\$10
MNA	\$30,237,191	\$11,768,008	29.02%	\$38.58	\$28
MTW	\$76,032,310	\$9,759,555	24.07%	\$31.99	\$30
RUF	\$59,495,241	\$10,010,323	24.69%	\$32.82	\$18
RH	\$4,220,000	\$1,250,000	3.08%	\$4.10	\$4
TOTALS	\$223,562,175	\$40,549,636	100%	\$132.93	\$115

* Based on the total number of "Communicant Members" of 305,045 as of December 31, 2023, according to the PCA Administrative Committee.

GENERAL NOTE

Gifts designated "spread per Partnership Shares" (or some equivalent) and the totally undesignated gifts (which amount to less than \$3,000 a year) will be spread according to the "Ministry Ask" column (by percentages of the total).

SPECIFIC COMMITTEE AND AGENCY NOTES

1. The PCA Administrative Committee requests that you contribute on the basis of 0.35% of total tithes and offerings (excepting contribution to capital campaigns for such efforts as new buildings). In the same manner, CDM would like to be supported on the basis of 0.20% of total tithes and offerings. Please support us in this way if you are able to do so.
2. By giving \$10 per member to Covenant College, churches qualify for the Church Scholarship Promise program at Covenant College.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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APPENDIX B

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Presbyterian Church in America Minutes, April 20, 2023

The Board of Directors of the Presbyterian Church in America (a corporation) held a scheduled regular meeting on April 20, 2023, at the MTW building in Lawrenceville, Georgia. President Bob Brunson called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

The following men were in attendance:

TE Blake Altman, Hills and Plains, MNA	RE Pat Hodge, Calvary
TE Jon Anderson, Blue Ridge, Alternate	TE Steve Jeantet, Suncoast Florida
TE Bob Brunson, Metro Atlanta	RE Danny McDaniel, Houston Metro
TE Roger Collins, Mississippi Valley	TE Jim Richter, Tennessee Valley, MTW
RE David Nok Daniel, Southern New England	TE Jerry Schriver, Metro Atlanta
TE Kevin DeYoung, Central Carolina;	TE Richard Smith, RH
TE Michael Dixon, Fellowship;	TE Jason Sterling, Evangel, RUF
RE Richard Dolan, Georgia Foothills;	TE Martin Wagner, Evangel PCAF
TE Brian Habig, Calvary; CTS	RE Alan Walters, Mississippi Valley, Alternate
TE Tom Harr, New Jersey, CDM	RE James Wert Jr., Metro Atlanta, GEN

Members absent:

RE Frank Cohee, Providence, RE Martin Moore, Georgia Foothills, **CC**

Staff present:

TE Bryan Chapell, Stated Clerk
TE John W. Robertson, Business Administrator
RE Richard Doster, *byFaith* Editor
TE Larry Hoop, *byFaith* News Editor
Ms. Heidi Harrison, Operations Manager

Guests present:

TE Cameron Anderson, Ridge Haven Executive Director; TE Cartee Bales, MTW Senior Director of Field Operations; TE Ed Dunnington, Geneva President; TE Stephen Estock, CDM Coordinator; RE Derek Halvorson, CC President; TE Tom Gibbs, CTS President; RE Will Huss, RUF Coordinator; TE Irwyn Ince, MNA Coordinator; RE Tim Townsend, PCA Foundation President

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

A quorum was declared. TE Blake Altman opened in prayer.

Several items were presented for information and were discussed as such. The following items were presented for action:

BD-04/23-1 to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2022 meeting.
MSP

BD-04/23-5 That the following groups be approved to use PCA titling so long as their communications prominently display such disclaimer language as approved by the PCA’s attorney:

The statements and opinions appearing on this website [chat room, social media site, publication, etc. as applicable to where material is hosted] are those of their respective authors. The PCA has neither reviewed nor approved them, and the authors are not speaking on behalf of the PCA. While the authors might be members of a PCA congregation, there is no affiliation with or sponsorship by the PCA of this website [chat room, social media site, publication, etc. as applicable to where material is hosted].

- “Pastors & Elders (Presbyterian Church in America) – Unofficial” – Facebook Group (Zack Carden)
- “TEs and REs in the PCA (Unofficial)” – Facebook Group (Rich Leino)
- Relational Wisdom 360 – GA Seminar (Ken Sande)

MSP

The meeting adjourned with prayer by TE Richard Smith at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/signature on file/

TE Robert Brunson, President

/signature on file/

TE Bryan Chapell, Secretary/Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Presbyterian Church in America
Minutes, October 5, 2023

The Board of Directors of the Presbyterian Church in America (a corporation) held a regular meeting on October 5, 2023, at the MTW building in Lawrenceville, Georgia. President Bob Brunson called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m.

The following men were in attendance:

TE Hugh Barlett, Missouri, **CTS**
TE Bob Brunson, Central Georgia
RE Dave Cias, Houston Metro
RE Frank Cohee, Providence
TE Roger Collins, Mississippi Valley
TE Michael Dixon, Fellowship
TE Tom Harr, New Jersey **CDM**
TE Jason Helopoulos, Great Lakes
RE Pat Hodge, Calvary
TE Hansoo Jin, Korean Capital, **MNA**

TE Josh Martin, Calvary, **RUF**
RE Danny McDaniel, Houston Metro
RE Martin Moore, Georgia Foothills, **CC**
RE EJ Nusbaum, Rocky Mountain, Alternate
TE Richard Phillips, Calvary, Alternate
TE Jim Richter, Tennessee Valley, **MTW**
TE Jerry Schriver, Metro Atlanta, Advisor
TE David Hall, Fellowship **RH**
TE Martin Wagner, Evangel **PCAF**
RE Alan Walters, Tennessee Valley

Members absent:

RE Richard Dolan, Georgia Foothills; TE Andrew Field, Metropolitan New York; **GEN**, TE Steve Jeantet, Suncoast Florida

Staff present:

TE Bryan Chapell, Stated Clerk
TE John W. Robertson, Retiring Business Administrator
RE Richard Doster, *byFaith* Editor
Ms. Heidi Harrison, Operations Manager
Dr. Dixie Zietlow, Business Administrator Pro Tem

Guests present:

TE Ed Dunnington, Geneva President; TE Stephen Estock, CDM Coordinator; TE Tom Gibbs, CTS President; RE Will Huss, RUF Coordinator; TE Irwyn Ince, MNA Coordinator; Ms. Diana Mercado, MTW Finance Director, RE Tim Townsend, PCA Foundation President

A quorum was declared. TE Michael Dixon opened in prayer.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Several items were presented for information and were discussed as such. The following items were presented for action:

BD-10/23-1 to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2023 meeting.

MSP

BD-10/23-3 Grant to the PCA Business Administrator permission to open additional bank accounts and to close any current accounts as seems best for the operations of the Administrative Committee and the PCA Office Building. Before any action is taken the Officers Committee will be consulted and fully informed.

MSP

BD-10/23-4 That the following men be approved to serve as the MNA Disaster Response Board of Directors:

Class of 2023

TE Don Ward

Class of 2024

RE Bob Howell

Class of 2025

DE Dick Forrester

TE Jeff Elliott

Class of 2026

DE Michael Denton

MSP

TE Bryan Chapell gave a report on the legal issues facing the denomination, as well as trademark issues which have now all been resolved.

The meeting adjourned with prayer by TE Tom Harr at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/signature on file/

TE Robert Brunson, President

/signature on file/

TE Bryan Chapell, Secretary/Treasurer

APPENDIX C

REPORT OF DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

In giving his followers the command to make disciples, Jesus promised to be with them until the end of the age (Matt. 28:19-20). We can grow weary in our calling as we face an increasingly secular world where covenant children become “nones” and rudeness characterizes so much personal interaction. Yet, Jesus is with us. He will complete what God declared through the prophet:

“For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.” (Habakkuk 2:14 ESV)

Jesus accomplishes that work as His people make disciples, teaching them all He commanded.

The mission of the Committee on Discipleship Ministries (CDM) is to help leaders in the PCA make disciples in the local church by connecting them to people and resources. CDM's motto is "making disciples by connecting people to people and people to resources." Below is a brief report on the ways CDM staff members and ministry partners have been stewards of the opportunities God has provided over the last year.

Connecting People to People – National Training Conferences

To serve the PCA, CDM provides opportunities for leaders in discipleship ministry to come together for training and encouragement. In August 2023, CDM offered a virtual training platform for those in children's ministry (CM). Over 60 churches from 19 states, Asia, and Africa participated. Some of them used the videos as part of their annual volunteer training. In October, a small group of student ministry (SM) workers gathered in the Detroit area for CDM's inaugural Nextgen Conference. Attendees provide great feedback to help the team plan for the 2024 event at Chapelgate PC in the Baltimore area.

CDM hosted the largest group ever for the February 2024 Women's Ministry Leadership Training. Over 525 women from around the world gathered to

consider how covenant theology shapes ministry to women (WM). The staff is also preparing for the largest group ever registered for the children's ministry LEAD retreat in April 2024.

Connecting People to People – Leadership Development

In addition to the large group gatherings, CDM also provides opportunities for leaders to develop in smaller groups with more focused training. Feedback on the CM Certification program continues to reveal the need for, and benefit of, this video-based training. The permanent committee certified 23 students in the 2023 class for a total of more than 170 people who have completed the program. The 2024 class began in January with 36 students from across the PCA. The initial group of SM certification students began in September 2023 and will complete their course later this year.

CDM continued offering continuing education in the "Certification Plus" program for those who have received the certification. These seminary-level courses are offered in partnership with Covenant Theological Seminary and Reformed Theological Seminary (Jackson campus).

For WM leaders, CDM partnered with Downtown PC in Greenville, SC, to host over 70 part-time and full-time staff members in the W4 (Women Working with Women) gathering. based on feedback from participants, this meeting provides great opportunities for sharing ideas, encouragement, and networking. The group represents PCA churches of all sizes and from all regions. It is a great expression of variety brought together by a common theology.

In 2023, Ms. Karen Hodge, CDM WM Coordinator, launched a cohort-based mentoring program for younger leaders (ages 30-40) in which she identified 24 women to consider the history and philosophy of WM in the PCA. In January 2024, that group of 24 identified another group of even younger leaders (ages 20-30) to receive similar training. This is not only a great picture of CDM's commitment of multi-generational ministry but also an opportunity to hear from rising leaders how timeless biblical principles are applied today.

CDM has been very encouraged by the response to recent ministry initiatives. After the 2023 Assembly seminars, the Wives of Elders (WE) Ministry has seen incredible growth. Approximately 2,000 women are connected with WE. Ministry liaison Ms. Meaghan May has organized 396 cohorts of 5 women

each for encouragement, advice, and support. CDM trainer Ms. Connie Miller has worked to expand the CDM WM International (WMI). WMI is working to partner with MTW, Christ Covenant Church (Matthews, NC), and Briarwood PC (Birmingham, AL) to provide training to women in Africa, Asia, Europe, and South America.

Connecting People to People – Regional Conferences "Made for More"

In September 2023 CDM will launch a series of 8 regional gatherings designed for women from age 9 to 99+. These conferences are a partnership between CDM WM and CM, a local PCA church, Harvest USA, and Created for a Purpose. The Friday-Saturday format will provide an opportunity for multi-generational connection around the topics of creational design and gospel identity. In 2024 there will be conferences in Birmingham, AL (September 13-14), San Diego, CA (September 27-28), Colorado Springs, CO (October 18-19), Naples, FL (November 8-9), and Annapolis, MD (November 15-16). In 2025, gatherings will be in Charlotte, NC (January 31-February 1), Dallas, TX (April 4-5), and Naperville, IL (May 2-3). Registration for all of the locations is open. Go to women.pcacdm.org/made-for-more for more information.

Connecting People to People – Local Church Training and Consultation

CDM staff members daily connect with PCA leaders through emails, phone calls, and video meetings. Often these connections consist of helping the leader think through an issue by sharing with them the experiences and/or resources from another PCA congregation. In this work, CDM uses denominational connections to function as a broker of relationships and resources. Periodically, PCA congregations will ask members of the CDM staff or ministry teams to conduct training for ministry staff and volunteers (e.g., WM training, CM training, parenting, officer training).

Connecting People to Resources – Blogs and Podcasts

The CDM websites provide an avenue to the experience of ministry team members and ministry partners. Blog posts for CM, SM, and WM provide practical help and ministry encouragement. The WM enCourage blog has almost 38,000 visitors per month with a pool of 25 regular authors of all ages and experience.

CDM offers podcasts for SM and WM. The PCA Nextgen podcast is available on iTunes and Spotify. The episodes feature the experiences and advice of student ministry leaders on a variety of topics. The WM enCourage podcast has grown to over 2,000 listeners per week, including people in South America, the United Kingdom, Ireland, South Africa, Malaysia, and Australia.

Connecting People to Resources – Teach Us to Worship

In October 2023, CDM launched the Teach Us to Worship (TUTW) ministry initiative funded by a competitive grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc. This initiative will develop resources and training to help PCA incorporate children into the worship and prayer life of the congregation. Work has begun to update and expand CDM's "Teach Me to Worship" curriculum. In April TUTW will lead a pre-conference seminar on children and worship as part of the annual CM leadership retreat (LEAD Retreat).

Connecting People to Resources – ESL Curriculum

CDM was privileged and excited to partner with MNA to produce a new ESL curriculum that agrees with the PCA's biblical convictions. Over recent years, the curriculum MNA-ESL staff recommended had changed to reflect LGBTQ+ affirming content. *Neighbor to Neighbor—Uniting through English* is written by MNA-ESL ministry partners and published/distributed by CDM. There are 5 levels planned. The student and teacher books for the Introductory level were available to churches in March 2024. Student and teacher books for Levels 1 and 2 are scheduled to be available by the end of Summer 2024. Levels 3 and 4 are scheduled for 2025.

Connecting People to Resources – PCA Bookstore and Reachout Adventures

The PCA Bookstore (pcabookstore.com) provides a wide variety of resources. CDM staff members or trusted partners review items included in the PCA Bookstore and consider how the resource(s) might be used by people serving in the PCA. Some customers have expressed gratitude for a place where they can focus their search for resources and escape the somewhat overwhelming results from queries on the Internet. Additionally, through the PCA Bookstore, CDM passes along the discounts we receive in order to provide churches with greater discounts, especially for group orders (5 or more books).

APPENDIX C

Recent CDM Resources and Publications		
<i>The Song of Advent</i>	Caleb Click	Advent devotional
<i>The Advent Investigator</i>	Jamye Doerfler	Advent devotional for youth
<i>Alongside Care</i>	Christina Fox, ed.	primer on engaging the gifts of women leaders in congregational care
<i>What Is Presbyterian?</i>	Kevin Hale	primer on PCA theology and polity
<i>Hebrews</i>	Sarah Ivill	study on the Book of Hebrews
<i>Road Talk</i> (Vols 1 & 2)	John Kwasny	family devotional guides for the car
<i>Meal Talk</i>	John Kwasny	family devotional guides for mealtimes
<i>No Empty Word</i>	Paula Miles	study on the Book of Hosea
<i>Neighbor to Neighbor</i>	MNA ESL	ESL curriculum for PCA churches
<i>Beneath the Cross</i> (series)	Lisa Wallover	scripts for Tenebrae services

This year CDM continued to update the Reachout Adventures curriculum, used primarily for VBS programs (reachoutadventures.com). The 4 rotating themes provide a unique and engaging way to study Joshua, Luke, Genesis, and Jonah. The 2024 theme “Olympion” was redesigned according to feedback from actual and potential users. The curriculum is provided in more of an *a la carte* format. The resources are primarily digital, more flexible, and easier to use. CDM is working with children’s ministry leaders to revise and adapt the other themes to better serve the current programs of local churches.

In the CDM budget, the PCA Bookstore and Reachout Adventures are treated as separate cost centers designed to operate on at least a “break-even” basis (i.e., the cost of inventory, staff salaries, floor space, storage, postage, etc., is covered by sales revenue). Sales of the 2023 Reachout Adventures theme improved so that it essentially broke-even after the costs of updating the curriculum. Bookstore sales continue to be strong. In 2023, the PCA Bookstore covered expenses and contributed over \$45,000 to the overall CDM ministry.

Financial Review

The ministry of CDM is funded through a combination of revenue sources:

1. giving from churches (*BCO* 14-1.4),
2. giving from individuals,
3. revenue from the sale of resources,
4. revenue from conference fees, and

5. various reimbursements for ministry expenses.

CDM's finances had a positive but unusual finish in 2023. The grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc., along with the transfer of floor space to Geneva Benefits, resulted in an exceptional influx of cash. This cash resulted in a large increase in investments, but the funds are already committed to pay expenses for the TUTW ministry and the increased rental rate approved by the Administrative Committee. Outside of those restricted funds, CDM ended the year with an operating loss of \$3,000. Unrestricted contributions from churches increased by \$5,049 (1.2%) and from individuals by \$3,060 (4.5%). Other areas of revenue also increased but were not able to keep up fully with the increase in expenses, resulting in a small operating loss (0.1% of total expenses). The members of the permanent committee rejoice at God's provision for 2023 and in earlier years.

Since the beginning of the denomination, CDM's primary source of unrestricted income has been support from PCA congregations (BCO 14-1). However, only **28%** of PCA particular churches contribute financially to the ministry of CDM. The staff and committee members are grateful for those churches who partner with CDM, but the large number of PCA churches who choose not to financially support the ministry is discouraging. Because of the limited support from PCA congregations, CDM has been hindered in providing a full range of resources for churches, especially in ministry to youth, men, and older adults.

Conclusion to the CDM Report

The Committee on Discipleship Ministries strengthens the church by connecting you to the people and resources you need for discipleship ministry. We are thankful for the opportunity to help PCA churches develop discipleship ministries that are Word-based and relationally driven in order to see the world filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD.

Recommendations

1. That the General Assembly approve the minutes of the meetings of the Permanent Committee for the Committee on Discipleship Ministries on September 7-8, 2023, and March 7-8, 2024.

2. That the General Assembly receive the 2023 audit performed by Robins, Eskew, Smith, and Jordan, and approve the same firm for the 2024 audit.
3. That the General Assembly encourage churches and individuals to contribute generously to the “**Love Gift Legacy**” (pcacdm.org/wm-love-gift). For 2023, the funds were used by CDM to publish *Neighbor to Neighbor*, a new ESL curriculum designed by MNA. For 2024, CDM will use the funds to develop and promote resources and training for CDM’s Women’s Ministry International (WMI), which includes partnerships with MTW and ministries such as the UK Partnership and City to City Latin America.
4. That the General Assembly encourage individuals, local churches, and presbyteries to utilize the many free resources available on the CDM websites (pcacdm.org [especially resources for leaders]; children.pcacdm.org [children]; women.pcacdm.org [women]; pcanextgen.org [youth]; pcabookstore.com). These resources are developed by PCA leaders for PCA leaders.
5. That the General Assembly encourage local churches to consider and use **Reachout Adventures** from CDM for Summer programming (reachoutadventures.com). This reformed and covenantal curriculum was written by PCA members. The 2024 theme is *Olympion*, which corresponds well with the Paris Olympic Games in July. *Olympion* considers the redemption story in the Book of Joshua as it challenges children to run the race of faith. The 2025 theme will be *Upward Bound*, which focuses on the Gospel of Luke.
6. That the General Assembly encourage individuals and local churches to consider and utilize the excellent print and digital curricula from Great Commission Publications (GCP), e.g., *Show Me Jesus* and *Kids’ Quest Catechism Club* for children, *G2R Genesis to Revelation* Bible studies for preteens to teens—including *G2R God’s Promises*—and *So What?* Bible studies for youth. *Digging Deeper: Exploring Shorter Catechism* is a 2-volume, 2-year study of the *Westminster Shorter Catechism*, designed for youth and adults desiring to go deeper in the Christian faith. GCP also provides excellent training resources for ministry staff and volunteers.
7. That the General Assembly give thanks to RE Denny Crowe, TE Charles Johnson, TE David Lindberg, and Mrs. Melanie Cogdill for their faithful service as members of and adviser to the Permanent Committee.
8. That the General Assembly re-elect TE Stephen Estock to serve as the Coordinator for the Committee on Discipleship Ministries (CDM).

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

9. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 7** from Ascension Presbytery "Amend *RAO 11-5* to Clarify Process for *RAO* Amendments" with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee.

Grounds

CDM believes the overture will be a helpful amendment to the *RAO*. The proposed change will clarify the process for how the Assembly authorizes an *RAO* amendment while protecting the right of the General Assembly's Committees and Agencies to speak to any proposed changes affecting them. Since the overture was referred to all the Committees and Agencies, it is wise to present a single response to the General Assembly through the Administrative Committee.

10. That the General Assembly approve the 2025 CDM budget as presented by the Administrative Committee.
11. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 31** from New River Presbytery "Amend *BCO 14-1* Regarding Changes in Permanent Committee and Agency Policy" with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee.

Grounds

CDM sees value in the recommended change but would like more time to consult with the leaders of the other Committees and Agencies and consider potential consequences of such a change on the daily operations of CDM's ministry. Since the overture was referred to all the Committees and Agencies, it is also wise to present a single response to the General Assembly through the Administrative Committee.

12. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 32** from Eastern Pennsylvania Presbytery "Amend *BCO 23* to Address Dissolution of Call for Those Employed by a Committee or Agency" with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee.

Grounds

CDM would like more time to consult with the leaders of the other Committees and Agencies and consider potential consequences of such a change on daily operations of CDM's ministry. Since the overture was referred to all the Committees and Agencies, it is also wise to present a single response to the General Assembly through the Administrative Committee.

ATTACHMENT 1

**RECIPIENTS OF THE CDM
CERTIFICATION FOR CHILDREN’S MINISTRY**

The 2023 Class

The 2023 certification class completed their course work in January 2024. After receiving the final projects and the recommendations of mentors and/or elders, the CDM permanent committee in March 2024 authorized the CDM staff to present certificates to the 23 students listed below. This certification acknowledges the recipient has demonstrated competency in the knowledge, skills, and character necessary for children’s ministry leaders in the PCA.

Name	Church	City
Kathleen Anders	Willow Creek Church	Winter Springs, FL
Christina Baumgartner	Harbor City Church	San Diego, CA
Ellen Chandlee	Christ Community Church	Helena, AL
Anna Disharoon	Grace PC of Chesapeake	Chesapeake, VA
Nicole Dorton	Tates Creek Presbyterian Church	Lexington, KY
Jennifer Downs	Restoration Presbyterian Church	Dacula, GA
Lucy Freeman	Trinity Presbyterian Church	Montgomery, AL
Erin Ferguson	Alexandria Presbyterian Church	Alexandria, VA
Rachel Kennedy	Ambassador Presbyterian Church (ARP)	Apex, NC
Julie Lamb	Midtown Church	Indianapolis, IN
Beth Anne Lesshafft	New Life PCA, Drescher	Drescher, PA
Katie Lown	Southpointe Community	Nolensville, TN
Catie Lumpkin	Altadena Valley Presbyterian	Birmingham, AL
Katherine Malanoski	City Church of Richmond	Richmond, VA
Whitney McCarley	Northeast Presbyterian Church	Columbia, SC
Carol McCullough	Redeemer Presbyterian Church	Anna, TX
Megan Outhaus	Calvary Reformed Presbyterian	Hampton, VA
Laura Park	Living Faith Presbyterian	La Mirada, CA
Laura Potts	Hope Presbyterian Church	Ochelata, OK
Zadie Randle	Raymond Presbyterian Church	Raymond, MS
Korina Slabach	Christ Presbyterian Church	Georgetown, TX
Becky Toney	City Reformed Church	Pittsburgh, PA
Heather Williams	Grace PC of Chesapeake	Chesapeake, VA

ATTACHMENT 2

REPORT FROM THE PUBLISHING MINISTRY OF GREAT COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS (GCP)

Great Commission Publications (GCP) is the official publishing ministry of the PCA and the Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC). This joint publishing ministry was established by their respective General Assemblies in 1975. GCP publishes high-quality Reformed and covenantal curriculum for all ages. This full-orbed system of curriculum is based solely upon the **Bible** as the **Word of God** and conforms to the **Westminster Standards**.

GCP is governed by a twelve-member board of trustees comprised of teaching and ruling elders. Six are elected by the PCA CDM and six by the OPC Committee on Christian Education (CCE). Additionally, the PCA CDM Coordinator and the OPC CCE General Secretary serve as ex-officio, non-voting trustees. The president of the board of trustees for 2023 was OPC teaching elder Dr. Alan Strange, and the president for 2024 is PCA teaching elder David Stewart. (This position alternates annually between the PCA and OPC.)

In December of 2023, PCA teaching elder Mark Lowrey, GCP's Executive Director, was called home to glory. TE Lowrey faithfully served and directed the publishing ministry since 1996. He oversaw either the revision or creation of almost all of the resources described below. Under TE Lowrey's leadership, GCP offered both new materials and music, as well as improved design and teacher-friendly applications. He was also instrumental in guiding GCP through a recovery from the severe financial crisis precipitated by the pandemic.

In October 2023, the GCP Board continued its commitment to the unique partnership between the OPC and PCA by appointing CDM's Business Administrator, RE John Dunahoo, to serve as the Interim Executive Director. John continues to serve on the CDM staff but is "on loan" to GCP for 10-15 hours per week. The GCP trustees hope this unique arrangement will enhance the cooperation between GCP and its parent denominations and allow for the exploration of new opportunities for greater collaboration and stewardship.

Through these transitions, GCP remains committed to Christ’s Great Commission to “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.” (Matthew 28:19–20). To that end, GCP offers the following resources:

Show Me Jesus (flexible for toddlers through 4th grade) is GCP’s foundational curriculum. This Bible-based curriculum teaches God’s story of redemption, showing how Jesus is the fulfillment of his covenant promises. This is taught in an age-appropriate manner through four departments: Toddler (2- to 3-year-olds), Preschool (4- to 5-year-olds), Younger Elementary (1st and 2nd grades), and Middle Elementary (3rd and 4th grades). Free lesson samples, the scope and sequence, and free training videos for all GCP curriculum are at www.gcp.org.

G2R (Genesis to Revelation) Bible Survey for preteens is an exciting journey through every book of the Bible, helping students integrate its stories through a historical-redemptive study of Scripture. *G2R God’s Promises* (grades 7–9) examines God’s unfolding covenant promises. Both *G2R* series are modular and flexible to meet the needs of middle schoolers/teens. Free lesson samples are available at www.gcp.org.

So What? youth curriculum offers a 10-study series focusing on books of the Bible (John, Romans, Philippians) and topics such as a biblical worldview (*Identity & Purpose, The Christian Mind*), the character of God (*Knowing the God Who Is*), the Bible (*Treasuring God’s Word*), the church (*Growing in Christ’s Church*), and worship (*Worshipping God*). Visit www.sowhatstudies.org for free lesson samples, video previews, and more.

Kids’ Quest Beginning and *Elementary* curricula teach *First Catechism*—basic Bible truths in a Q/A format. A free Summer Download Kit with planning guides, social media, t-shirt logos, and more is available. *First Catechism* is also available in two parallel language editions: English-Korean and English-Spanish—excellent for our churches in bilingual contexts and outreach.

The newest curriculum, *Digging Deeper*, teaches the Shorter Catechism. The accessible format is designed for youth and adults who are new to the Christian faith and/or Reformed doctrine. This two-volume series presents what Scripture and the Catechisms teach: what man is to believe concerning God

and what duty God requires of man (WSC 3). It provides a lifelong framework for living as citizens of Christ's kingdom. Free sample lessons are available at **www.gcp.org**.

Pilgrim's Progress teaches the gospel to children using Bunyan's classic adventure story. The curriculum includes a fully illustrated chapter hardback book, audiobook with character voices and sound effects, music, teacher manual, and student activities for elementary ages. For sample lessons, visit **www.childrenspilgrimsprogress.org**.

GCP also publishes the *Trinity Hymnal*, the treasured hymnal that enriches worship with its collection of over 700 hymns and psalms. It includes the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Shorter Catechism, as well as the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds. Orchestrations are available for all of the hymns. New digital editions are now available in both a read-only PDF format, as well as a printable church edition with individual hymns that can be inserted into bulletins.

Further, GCP is the exclusive distributor of the *Trinity Psalter Hymnal*, a joint publication of the OPC and the United Reformed Churches of North America (URCNA). GCP is also the exclusive distributor of Liturgical Forms and Prayers and Creeds and Confessions for the URCNA. These relationships have been positive for all parties involved.

For samples of any materials or to place an order, visit **www.gcp.org**. You also may call 800-695-3387 to speak to a curriculum specialist.

APPENDIX D

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL BUSINESS TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

I. Introduction

The Committee on Constitutional Business (CCB) met prior to the 51st General Assembly at the PCA Administrative Offices in Lawrenceville, GA on April 29, 2024.

Attendance at the meeting was as follows:

Teaching Elders

Scott Phillips – Present
Jason Piland (Secretary) – Present
Joel St. Clair – Present
Stephen Tipton – Present
Per Almquist (Alternate) – Present

Ruling Elders

Matthew Fender – Present
Fredric Marcinak (Chairman) – Present
Chris Shoemaker – Present
Bryce Sullivan – Present
John Ward Weiss (Alternate) – Present

The Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, Rev. Dr. Bryan Chapell, was also present.

II. Advice on Proposed Changes to the Constitution

The Stated Clerk referred the following overtures to the Committee:

A. Overture 1 from Piedmont Triad Presbytery: “Amend *BCO* 35-1 and 35-8 Regarding Witness Eligibility”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 1 is **constitutionally vague** in that it provides the mechanism of objecting to witnesses for incompetency, even though the amended language does not use the word incompetency, without providing courts any apparent rule to guide their ruling on the objection.

Adopted 8-0-0

B. Overture 2 from Northern California Presbytery: “Amend *BCO* 13-6 for Clarity in Transfers of Ordination”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 2 is **not in conflict** with the Constitution.

CCB also notes that should this Overture and Overture 6, 16, 23, or 24 be adopted, there should be clarity regarding how the proposed amendments interact to amend *BCO* 13-6.

Adopted 8-0-0

C. Overture 3 from Pee Dee Presbytery: “Grant Constitutional Status to *BCO* 53 re Preaching”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 3 is **not in conflict** with the Constitution.

CCB also notes that in order for this proposal to gain constitutional status, it must be submitted to the constitutional amendment process as outlined in *BCO* 26-2.

Adopted 8-0-0

D. Overture 4 from Central Indiana Presbytery: “Establish Study Committee for Judicial Rules Changes”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 4 is **in conflict** with *RAO* 9-3 in that members of ad interim committees may not bear the primary burden of expenses for ad interim committees.

Adopted 8-0-0

E. Overture 6 from the Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley: “Amend *BCO* Sections to Require Background Checks for Church Office”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 6, particularly the language “shall obtain and review,” is **in conflict** with (1) WCF 23.3 because, insofar as it adds a requirement for Presbytery to obtain something that the civil magistrate might withhold or abolish, it cedes to the civil magistrate an effective authority he may not assume, namely, the right to deny admittance to the body of Christ and (2) *BCO* Preliminary Principle II in that it deprives members of the church of the right to determine who shall be admitted to its communion.

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CCB also notes that should this Overture and Overture 2 be adopted, there should be clarity regarding how the proposed amendments interact to amend *BCO* 13-6.

Adopted 6-1-1

F. Overture 7 from Ascension Presbytery: “Amend *RAO* 11-5 to Clarify Process for *RAO* Amendments”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 7 is **not in conflict** with the Constitution.

Adopted 6-1-1

G. Overture 9 from Metro Atlanta Presbytery: “Add Great Commission Requirement to *BCO* 12-5”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 9 is **not in conflict** with the Constitution.

Adopted 8-0-0

H. Overture 10 from Metro Atlanta Presbytery: “Add Presbytery TE Care to *BCO* 13-9”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 10 is **not in conflict** with the Constitution.

Adopted 8-0-0

I. Overture 14 from the Presbytery of Northwest Georgia: “Amend *RAO* 4-21.d to Require Enrollment Data From Higher Ed Institutions”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 14 is **not in conflict** with the Constitution.

Adopted 8-0-0

J. Overture 15 from the Session of West End Presbyterian Church, Hopewell, Virginia: “Amend *BCO* 7-2 to Specify Ordination for Biological Males Only”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 15 is **not in conflict** with the Constitution.

Adopted 8-0-0

K. Overture 16 from Warrior Presbytery: “Amend *BCO* 13-6, 21-4, 24-1 to Require Background Checks”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 16 is **not in conflict** with the Constitution.

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CCB also notes that should this Overture and Overture 2 be adopted, there should be clarity regarding how the proposed amendments interact to amend *BCO* 13-6.

Adopted 8-0-0

L. Overture 17 from The Ohio Presbytery: “Amend *BCO* 13-6, 21-4, and 24-1 to Require Background Checks for Church Office”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 17 is **not in conflict** with the Constitution.

Adopted 8-0-0

M. Overture 18 from The Ohio Presbytery: “Amend *BCO* 35-1 and 35-8 Regarding Witness Eligibility”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 18 is **not in conflict** with the Constitution.

Adopted 5-1-2

N. Overture 19 from the Session of Fountain Square Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, Indiana: “Amend *BCO* 41 to allow Venue Change in Judicial Cases”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 19 is **in conflict** with other parts of the constitution, including:

- *BCO* 39-1, which describes a reference as one kind of constitutional mechanism where “acts and decisions of a lower court are brought under the supervision of a higher court.” A Presbytery may properly receive a reference from a member session because it exercises supervision of churches under its care (e.g., *BCO* 11-4; 13-1; 13-9), but another Presbytery does not have any authority to receive a reference from other Presbyteries and supervise those Presbyteries;
- *BCO* Preliminary Principle VI in that it seeks to invest a court of a church to which a member does not belong with authority over that member; and
- *BCO* 31-2 which requires a court completing an investigation and finding “a strong presumption of guilt” to institute process.

Adopted 8-0-0

O. Overture 20 from the Session of Fountain Square Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, Indiana: “Proposed Systematic Changes to *BCO* 31, 32, and 35”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 20 is **in grave conflict** with the Constitution. By way of example, we note only a few conflicts:

- The Overture is **in conflict** with *BCO* 13-1, -2; 43 in that the amended *BCO* 31-4 limits the rights of a member of Presbytery;
- The Overture is **in conflict** with 1 Timothy 5:19 in that the proposed *BCO* 35-4 permits conviction of a charge without two witnesses;
- The Overture is **in conflict** with *BCO* Preliminary Principle 8 in that the proposed *BCO* 31-2 requires mandatory reporting of a mere allegation of an offense to “any associated entity” of the accused person, in violation of the Preliminary Principle’s requirement of justice because the accused person is effectively rendered guilty before any due process and the court or its clerk in the mandatory reporting may be guilty of libel or slander; and
- The Overture is **in conflict** with *BCO* 8-10, 13-1 in that the limitations on representatives in proposed *BCO* 32-7 remove the right of full participation from some members of the Court.

Adopted 8-0-0

P. Overture 21 from Central Indiana Presbytery: “Change the Prohibition Against ‘Interlocutory Appeal’ by Complaint in *BCO* 43-1”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 21 is **internally inconsistent** insofar as it prohibits a complaint after process has commenced while simultaneously describing a procedure for adjudication of a complaint after process has commenced. Further, Overture 21 is **in conflict** with the existing language of *BCO* 43-2 insofar as it creates conflicting requirements regarding the timeliness for consideration of the complaint.

Adopted 8-0-0

Q. Overture 22 from the South Florida Presbytery: “Amend *BCO* 13-2 to clarify Teaching Elder Presbytery Membership”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 22 is **not in conflict** with the Constitution.

Adopted 8-0-0

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R. Overture 23 from Missouri Presbytery: “Amend *BCO* 13-6, 21-4, and 24-1 to Require Background Checks for Church Office”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 23 is **in conflict** with (1) WCF 23.3 because, insofar as it adds a requirement for Presbytery to “cause . . . to be performed” something that the civil magistrate might withhold or abolish, it cedes to the civil magistrate an effective authority he may not assume, namely, the right to deny admittance to the body of Christ and (2) *BCO* Preliminary Principle II in that it deprives members of the church of the right to determine who shall be admitted to its communion.

CCB also notes that should this Overture and Overture 2 be adopted, there should be clarity regarding how the proposed amendments interact to amend *BCO* 13-6.

Adopted 8-0-0

S. Overture 24 from the Presbytery of South Texas: “Amend *BCO* 13-6, 21-4, and 24-1 to Require Background Checks for Church Office”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 24 is **not in conflict** with the Constitution.

CCB also notes that should this Overture and Overture 2 be adopted, there should be clarity regarding how the proposed amendments interact to amend *BCO* 13-6.

Adopted 8-0-0

T. Overture 25 from Tennessee Valley Presbytery: “Amend *BCO* 31-2 to Expand Who May Assist in an Investigations [*sic*]”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 25 is **not in conflict** with the Constitution.

Adopted 7-1-0

U. Overture 26 from Tennessee Valley Presbytery: “Amend *BCO* 32-19 To Expand Representation of Accused Persons Before Church Courts”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 26 is **not in conflict** with the Constitution.

Adopted 8-0-0

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V. Overture 27 from Potomac Presbytery: “Amend *BCO* 13-6 to Add Personal Character and Family Management to the Examination of Transferring Ministers”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 27 is **not in conflict** with the Constitution.
Adopted 8-0-0

W. Overture 28 from New Jersey Presbytery: “Amend *RAO* 16-6.c.1. to Eliminate Conflict with *BCO* 40-5”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 28 is **not in conflict** with the Constitution.
Adopted 8-0-0

X. Overture 29 from the Session of Bryce Avenue Presbyterian Church, White Rock, New Mexico: “Amend *BCO* 53 by Addition To Ensure Only Men Preach”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 29 is **in conflict** with the Constitution because it establishes a rule that applies to jurisdictions beyond the bounds of the PCA.

Adopted 3-2-3

Y. Overture 30 from Lowcountry Presbytery: “Amend *BCO* 23-1 To Require that the Presbytery of Jurisdiction Conduct an Exit Interview Prior to Dissolution of Call”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 30 is **not in conflict** with the Constitution.
Adopted 8-0-0

Z. Overture 31 from New River Presbytery: “Amend *BCO* 14-1 Regarding Changes in Permanent Committee and Agency Policy”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 31 is **not in conflict** with the Constitution.
Adopted 8-0-0

AA. Overture 32 from the Presbytery of Eastern Pennsylvania: “Amend *BCO* 23 to Address Dissolution of Call for those employed by a Committee or Agency”

In the opinion of the CCB, Overture 32 is **in conflict** with *BCO* 11-4 because the proposed amendment requires a presbytery to cite a committee or agency of a higher court.

Adopted 8-0-0

III. Advice to Stated Clerk

The CCB received no requests for advice from the Stated Clerk.

IV. Non-Judicial References

The CCB received no non-judicial references.

V. Advice to the Overtures Committee

The CCB received no requests for advice from the Overtures Committee.

VI. Minutes of the Standing Judicial Commission

The CCB examined the minutes of the Standing Judicial Commission meetings on June 13, 2023; January 12, 2024; and March 7–8, 2024. The minutes were found to be in order without exception.

Adopted 8-0-0

The CCB examined the minutes of the Standing Judicial Commission meeting on October 19–20, 2023. The minutes were found to be in order with one exception: page 2, lines 23–24, case 2023-13, regarding the action of the SJC to strike material from the GA Representative’s brief because there is no record that the strike was performed according to *OMSJC* 8.3 for including material outside of the ROC or for any other permissible reason.

Adopted 8-0-0

VII. Election of Officers for 2024–2025

The following were elected as officers of the Committee for 2024–2025:

Chairman – RE Matthew Fender

Secretary – TE Jason Piland

Submitted by:

RE Fredric Marcinak, Chairman

TE Jason Piland, Secretary

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL BUSINESS TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

I. Introduction

The Committee on Constitutional Business (CCB) met prior to the 51st General Assembly at the Greater Richmond Convention Center in Richmond, Virginia on June 11, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

Attendance at the meeting was as follows:

Teaching Elders

Scott Phillips – Present
Jason Piland (Secretary) – Present
Joel St. Clair – Present
Stephen Tipton – Present
Per Almquist (Alternate) – Present

Ruling Elders

Matthew Fender – Present
Fredric Marcinak (Chairman) – Present
Chris Shoemaker – Present
Bryce Sullivan – Present
John Ward Weiss (Alternate) – Present

II. Advice to the Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk requested advice from CCB concerning the effect of proposed amendments to the *Rules of Assembly Operations* proposed by the Committee on Review of Presbytery Records.

In the opinion of the CCB, the proposed changes to *RAO* 16-3.e. are **not in conflict** with other portions of the constitution or *RAO*. *Adopted 8-0-0*

In the opinion of the CCB, the proposed change to *RAO* 16-6.c.1) is **not in conflict** with other portions of the constitution or *RAO*.

CCB notes that this amendment would not be necessary if the first amendment is not adopted by the General Assembly as this amendment is correcting a cross-reference. *Adopted 8-0-0*

Submitted by:

RE Fredric Marcinak, Chairman

TE Jason Piland, Secretary

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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APPENDIX E

REPORT OF THE COOPERATIVE MINISTRIES COMMITTEE TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

The Cooperative Ministries Committee (CMC) is designed to unite the leaders of our various agencies and institutions with the elected leaders of the General Assembly in coordinated ministry to advance the mission of the PCA as a whole. The simple goal is to have all the horses in the harness pulling in the same direction. That goal is achieved by relational camaraderie as well as by ministry strategizing, denominational assessment, and shared insights regarding best practices and resources for advancing Christ's mission in our challenging times.

The Cooperative Ministries Committee met on January 17, 2024.

The committee rejoices to report that many examples of interagency cooperation, communication, and collaboration were shared (*RAO* 7-3).

The committee discussed Overture 7 to the 51st General Assembly, which has implications for all Committees and Agencies and their Committees of Commissioners when a proposed *RAO* amendment impacting them is considered by the General Assembly.

The Stated Clerk's office is continuing to work on creating a *DASA* manual to help churches apply the recommendations of the Ad Interim Committee on *DASA* and deal with abuse cases, including an effort to compile a list of trusted third-party investigators, consultants, and attorneys to accompany the manual. The Clerk's office welcomes more suggestions and contact information for such individuals.

The CMC last year suggested to the RPR Committee through the Stated Clerk that RPR confidentially report to the Stated Clerk's office all final judicial decisions taken by a presbytery against a teaching elder so that the Stated Clerk would have a list of such available when churches/ presbyteries contact him

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for a reference. Upon receiving the request, RPR responded saying that they didn't know if they had the authority to do what was suggested. Since then, we've learned that the Stated Clerk's office does receive this information from presbytery clerks, though it hasn't ever been compiled. The Stated Clerk will ensure that we compile and communicate information upon request only on the judicial actions without attempting to establish or characterize cause (which will be the responsibility of churches considering such information in their candidating processes). The Stated Clerk will let churches know at General Assembly that we have such a list.

Members of the CMC are the chairmen and chief administrative officers of the General Assembly permanent Committees and Agencies. The current Moderator and the immediate past five moderators of the General Assembly are advisory members, having six-year terms.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ TE Fred Greco, Moderator 50th General Assembly

/s/ TE Bryan Chapell, Stated Clerk of PCA, Secretary of CMC

APPENDIX F

REPORT OF COVENANT COLLEGE TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ,

I offer this annual report on the 2022–2023 academic year on behalf of the Board of Trustees and the Covenant College community. This was a year in which a planned presidential transition was announced. In January 2023, Dr. Derek Halvorson accepted the opportunity to become the founding director of Covenant’s new Brock-Barnes Center for Leadership. In April 2023, Dr. Brad Voyles was named the interim president. Despite the uncertainty associated with a presidential transition, the 2022–2023 academic year was nevertheless one in which we experienced God’s blessings in rich ways.

Trustee Candidate Recommendations

One of the ways God continues to bless Covenant College is with gifted trustee candidates who meet particular needs on the board, who are committed to Reformed liberal arts education, and who have demonstrated a desire to support the work of the college. This year is no exception in that regard. The following elders have been screened and recruited by the Covenant College Board of Trustees and have been recommended unanimously as candidates for election to the Class of 2027 of the Covenant College Board of Trustees. They have all been nominated by their presbyteries. We are deeply grateful for these men, for their willingness to serve, and for how their gifts and skill sets meet the present needs of the board. Full biographies are available in the Rainbow Book.

Richard Bowser – RE, Eastern Carolina (2nd term)

Dick is a professor of law at Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law, Campbell University. He is a graduate of Campbell Law School, Westminster Theological Seminary, and Grove City College. Dick and his wife Marta attend Grace Presbyterian Church in Fuquay Varina, North Carolina. Dick has been involved in the PCA since 1983 and has been a ruling elder since 1998. He and Marta have two children, Michael and Kathryn, who are both graduates

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of Covenant. Dick has previously served as the Chair of the Covenant College Board of Trustees, currently serves as the Chair of the Covenant College Foundation, and most recently chaired the Presidential Search Committee.

Matthew Fray – TE, North Texas (2nd term)

Matt serves as the Assistant Pastor of Christian Formation at Park Cities Presbyterian Church in Dallas, Texas. He and his wife, Erin, are both graduates of Covenant College. Matt earned his B.A. in philosophy and then went on to earn his M.Div. from Westminster Seminary California. Matt has chaired the College's Committee of Commissioners at General Assembly (2015), has served one term on the Board of Trustees (2019-2024), and has been a vocal advocate for Covenant College in Dallas.

Gregory Moore – RE, Susquehanna Valley (1st term)

Dr. Gregory Moore is a recently retired senior technology executive who served as Corporate Vice President at Microsoft and previously as Vice President at Google, leading global healthcare and life sciences business, research and development, AI, product and engineering operations. Prior to his executive leadership roles he was a practicing physician and professor at Penn State University School of Medicine and Wayne State University School of Medicine. Greg earned his B.S. from North Park College, his S.M. and Ph.D. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and his M.D. from Wayne State University School of Medicine. Greg and his wife, Lauri, attend Hershey Presbyterian Church in Hershey, Pennsylvania. They have five adult children, including two Covenant College graduates, and three grandchildren.

Paul Moore – RE, Calvary (1st term)

Dr. Paul Moore currently serves as an attending physician in the Department of Emergency Medicine, Prisma Health, Greenville, South Carolina and is a Clinical Instructor with the University of South Carolina School of Medicine, Greenville. He also serves as Medical Director of Good Shepherd Free Medical Clinic in Laurens, South Carolina. Paul received a B.S. in biology from Furman University and an M.D. from the Medical University of South Carolina. He and his wife, Sandy, attend Westminster Presbyterian Church in Clinton, South Carolina. He has been involved in the PCA for over twenty years. All five of their children are graduates of Covenant College. Paul and Sandy also served on Covenant's Parents Council from 2019 through 2023, representing the College to prospective students and their families.

William Ryan – RE, South Florida (2nd term)

William “Wills” is a general contractor who currently serves as the CEO of several family-run business entities that work in the construction industry. These businesses specialize in quarries (mining), golf course construction, public works projects, and site work for residential, commercial and industrial developments. In the past, Wills served as the Chairman for the Florida Chapter of Young Presidents Organization and chaired the Board of Coral Springs Christian Academy. He earned a B.S. from Boston College and an MBA from the University of Miami. Wills and his wife, Judy, attend First Presbyterian Church of Coral Springs, Florida, and have four adult children, three of which attended Covenant College.

Stephen Sligh – RE, Southwest Florida (2nd term)

Steve is a chiropractic physician serving in Lakeland, Florida. He graduated from Covenant College with a B.S. in biology and later graduated from The National College of Chiropractic where he earned a Doctor of Chiropractic degree. Steve has been in private chiropractic practice for over 50 years. He and his wife, Annette, attend Covenant Presbyterian Church in Lakeland Florida. They have two adult children who both attended Covenant. Steve has served on Covenant’s Board of Trustees as either an Alumni Advisor or Trustee since 2012.

Academic Affairs Report

New Faculty Members in the 2022-2023 Academic Year:

- Dr. Heather Hess, Assistant Professor of English, with an MA in Literary Studies from the University of Tennessee of Chattanooga, and a PhD in Literature, Criticism and Textual Studies from the University of Tennessee
- Dr. Luke Irwin, Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies, with an MDiv from Covenant Theological Seminary, an MA in Theology and Religion from Durham University, and a PhD in Theology and Religion from Durham University
- Dr. Lynell Martinez, Assistant Professor of Biology with a PhD in Physiology and Biophysics from the University of Miami
- Dr. H. Collin Messer, Vice President for Academic Affairs, with an MA in English Literature from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a PhD in English Literature from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

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- Dr. H. Clifton Ward, Associate Professor of Biblical Studies, with an MDiv in NT and Christian Origins from Southern Seminary, a ThM in Church History from Southern Seminary, and a PhD in Historical Theology from Durham University
- Dr. Rodney Wilson, Associate Professor of Psychology, with an MA in Clinical Psychology from the Fuller Graduate School of Psychology, an MA in Theology from Fuller Theological Seminary, and a PhD in Clinical Psychology from the Fuller Graduate School of Psychology

Selected faculty publications from the 2022-2023 academic year:

Dr. Robert Erle Barham, Associate Professor of English

- Barham, R. E. (2022). Homeplace. *Complete Sentence*.
- Barham, R. E. (2022, August 22). Leave-taking. *Current*. Retrieved from <https://currentpub.com/2022/08/22/leave-taking/>
- Barham, R. E. (2022, August 1). The house next door. *Current*. Retrieved from <https://currentpub.com/2022/08/01/the-house-next-door/>
- Barham, R. E. (2022, July 6). We fought. *Current*. Retrieved from <https://currentpub.com/2022/07/06/we-fought/>
- Barham, R. E. (2022, June 2). Pyrotechnics. *Current*. Retrieved from <https://currentpub.com/2022/06/02/pyrotechnics/>
- Barham, R. E. (2022, May 2). The pandemic and the mystery novel. *Current*. Retrieved from <https://currentpub.com/2022/05/02/the-pandemic-and-the-mystery-novel/>
- Barham, R. E. (2022, April 11). The fawn. *River Teeth: A Journal of Nonfiction Narrative*. Retrieved from <https://www.riverteethjournal.com/blog/2022/04/11/the-fawn>
- Barham, R. E. (2022, April 4). Look not to the dead and dying. *Current*. Retrieved from <https://currentpub.com/2022/04/04/look-not-to-the-dead-and-dying/>
- Barham, R. E. (2022, March 7). Neighborhood watch. *Current*. Retrieved from <https://currentpub.com/2022/03/07/neighborhood-watch/>
- Barham, R. E. (2022, February 2). Legible bodies. *Current*. Retrieved from <https://currentpub.com/2022/02/02/legible-bodies/>
- Barham, R. E. (2022, January 4). Saturated phenomena. *Current*. Retrieved from <https://currentpub.com/2022/01/04/saturated-phenomena/>

Dr. Phillip R. Broussard, Professor of Physics

- Luke, B. J., & Broussard, P. R. (2022). A pedagogical extension of the one-dimensional Schrödinger's equation to symmetric proximity effect system film sandwiches. *AIP Advances*, 12(015015). Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1063/5.0074837>

Dr. Brian T. Fikkert, Professor of Economics & Community Development and Executive Director of the Chalmers Center

- Broadnax, B., Fikkert, B. T., Carminati E. (2022). Candy machine charity. In F. Inslee & A. Burns, *Re-imagining short-term mission*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock Publishers.

Dr. Richard R. Follett, Professor of History

- Follett, R. R. (2022). Thomas Fowell Buxton: Quaker brewer. In Fannon, B. (Ed.), *Invincible determination: The legacy of Thomas Fowell Buxton* (pp. 9-18). Weymouth, Dorset, United Kingdom: The Thomas Fowell Buxton Society.

Dr. Deborah Forteza, Associate Professor of Spanish

- Forteza, D. R. (2022). [Review of the book *Iberian chivalric romance: Translations and cultural transmission in early modern England* by L. Álvarez-Recio]. *Sixteenth Century Society Journal*.
- Forteza, D. R. (2022). *The English reformation in the Spanish imagination: Rewriting Nero, Jezebel, and the Dragon*. Toronto, Canada: University of Toronto Press.

Dr. Luke Irwin, Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies

- Irwin, L. (2022). Divine visibility in the gospel of John. *Harvard Theological Review*.

Dr. Alicia K. Jackson, Associate Professor of History

- Jackson, A. K. (2023). Foreword. In N. Koestler, *We will be free: The life and faith of Sojourner Truth*. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.

Dr. Scott C. Jones, Professor of Biblical Studies

- Jones, S. C. (2022). Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Who am I? (translation of original poem, *Wer bin ich?*). In K. M. Kopic (Ed.), *You're only human: How your limits reflect God's design and why that's good news*. Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press.
- Jones, S. C. (2022, June 16). A proverb in a collection is dead? *The Washington Institute for Faith, Vocation & Culture*. Retrieved from <https://washingtoninst.org/a-proverb-in-a-collection-is-dead/>

Dr. Kelly M. Kopic, Professor of Theological Studies

- Kopic, K. M. (2023). Suffering. In *St. Andrews Encyclopaedia of*

Theology.

- Kopic, K. M., Hall, M.E.L., & McMartin, J. (2023). A theology of human flourishing for positive psychology pedagogy. *Journal of Psychology and Christianity: Special issue.*
- Kopic, K. M., et al. (2023). *Lament: A Christian meaning-making strategy.*
- Kopic, K. M. (2023). A Theology of the Christian Life. In M. Allen, & S. Swain (Eds.), *New studies in dogmatics.* Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.
- Kopic, K. M. (2022, December). The beautiful paradox. *Christianity Today*, Advent Booklet.
- Kopic, K. M. (2022, December). Jesus is our peace. *Christianity Today*, Advent Booklet.
- Shannonhouse, L., Lopez, J., Hall, M. E. L., Park, C., Aten, J., Kopic, K. M., et al (2023). A mixed methods study of emic Catholic coping practices from individuals with cancer experiences.
- Shannonhouse, L, McMartin, J., Sacco, S. J., Hall, M. E. L., Park C. L., Kim, D., Silverman, E., Kopic, K. M., et al (2023). Spiritual surrender: Measurement of an emic Christian religious coping strategy.
- Hall, M. E. L., Kopic, K. M., Park C. L., Sacco, S. J., et al (2023). Lament and well-being: Measuring a Christian meaning-making practice.
- Park, C. L., Kopic, K. M., Sacco, S. J., et al (2023). A religious tradition-specific perspective on wellbeing: The construct and measurement of Christian flourishing.
- Silverman, E. J., Hall, M. E. L., Park, C., McMartin, J., Kopic, K. M., et al (2023). The value of a meaningful life as a response to the problem of evil. *Faith and Philosophy.*
- Hall, M. & McMartin, Jason & Park, Crystal & Sacco, Shane & Kim, Dahee & Kopic, Kelly & Silverman, Eric & Shannonhouse, Laura & Aten, Jamie & Snow, Lindsay & Lopez, Luis. (2022). Suffering with Christ: Emic Christian coping and relation to well-being.
- Hall, M. E. L., Silverman, E., Sacco, S. J., Park, C., McMartin, J., Kopic, K. M., et al (2022). Intimacy with God: Development of an

emic Christian measure and relationship to well-being. *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*, 41(10), 36-53.

- Hall, M. E. L., McMartin, J., Park, C., Sacco, S. J., Kim, D., Kopic, K. M., et al (2022). Suffering with Christ: Emic Christian coping and relation to well-being. *SSM - Mental Health*. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssmmh.2022.100158>
- Kopic, K. M. (2022, Spring). Love your church within its limits: Why accepting a congregation's shortcomings is key to developing its strengths.: *CT Pastors Special*, 10- 15. Retrieved from <https://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/2022/spring/love-church-within-limits-bonhoeffer-kelly-kopic.html>
- McMartin, J., Kopic, K. M, Davis, D. E. et al. (2022). Reflections on the prospects and perils of interdisciplinary collaboration in emic research. *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*, 41, 69-83. Retrieved from https://www.researchgate.net/publication/362826872_Reflections_on_the_Prospects_and_Perils_of_Interdisciplinary_Collaboration_in_Emic_Research
- Kopic, K. M (2022). *You're only human: How your limits reflect God's design and why that's good news*. Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press.

Dr. Hans L. Madueme, Associate Professor of Theological Studies

- Madueme, H. L. (2023). *The evolution of sin? Sin, theistic evolution, and the biological question—a theological account*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.
- Madueme, H. L., & Wood, T. C. (2023). *Bridging ideological divides: Why Christians still disagree about evolution and what we should do about it*.
- Madueme, H. L., Wingard, J. C. (2022, April 25). Responding to homosexuality: Culture of care versus culture of cure. *The Gospel Coalition*. Retrieved from <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/reviews/still-time-care/>.
- Madueme, H. (2022, January 6). Literalism, incredulity, and hermeneutical schizophrenia. *Sapientia: A Periodical of the Henry Center*. Retrieved from <https://henrycenter.tiu.edu/2022/01/literalism-incredulity-and-hermeneutical-schizophrenia/>

Dr. H. Collin Messer, Vice President for Academic Affairs

- Messer, H. C. (2022, December). Curing death in life: Suicide, baptism, and Augustinian realism in “The last gentleman.” *South*

Atlantic Review.

- Messer, H. C. (2022). Introduction to Frederick Douglass, from “Narrative of the life of Frederick Douglas, an American slave.” In J. H. Wilson, & J. Stratman (Eds.), *Learning the good life: Wisdom from the great hearts and minds that came before*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

Dr. Scott A. Quatro, Professor of Management

- Quatro, S.A. (2022, April). The common grace agency of capitalistic corporate strategy in God’s world. *Unio Cum Christo*, 8(1). Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.35285/ucc8.1.2022.art4>

Dr. William C. Tate, Dean of Arts and Letters and Professor of English

- Tate, W. C. (2022). Bell speech in John Donne, Richard Wilbur, and Connie Willis’s “Doomsday book.” In T. S. Carissa, (Eds.), *Connie Willis's science fiction: Doomsday every day*. London, England: Routledge.
- Tate, W. C. (2022). Richard Wilbur's right listening: A review essay. *Pro Rege*, 50(3), 23-32. Retrieved from https://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=3193&context=pro_rege
- Tate, W. C. (2022, Spring). A rite of finitude: Richard Wilbur’s hermeneutic ontology. *Texas Studies in Literature and Language*, 64(1), 89-113.
- Tate, W. C. (2022, Winter). Converting the gaze: From gazing to seeing in Richard Wilbur’s ‘The Eye.’ *Christian Scholar’s Review*, 51(2), 153-170.

Dr. Matthew S. Vos, Professor of Sociology

- Vos, M. S. (2022). *Strangers and scapegoats: Extending God’s welcome to those on the margins*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.
- Vos, M. S (2022, April). One square inch we won’t concede: Super Bowl Christians and the God outside the stadium. *Journal of Sociology and Christianity*, 12(1), 85-94. Retrieved from <https://sociologyandchristianity.org/index.php/jsc/article/view/231>

Dr. H. Clifton Ward, III, Associate Professor of Church History and Theological Studies

- Ward, H. C. (2023). The emergence of Christian Scripture. In L. Ayres (Ed.), *Cambridge history of early Christian theology*. Cambridge, England, United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press.
- Ward, H. C. (2023). Morality, virtue, and the earliest Christian

spiritualities. In M. A. G. Haykin (Ed.), *Early Christian doctrine*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.

- Ward, H. C. (2023). Review [*Clement of Alexandria and the shaping of Christian literary practice: Miscellany and the transformation of Greco-Roman writing* by J. M. F. Heath]. *Journal of Theological Studies*.
- Ward, H. C. (2022). A new book according to the syllables: Organizing Scripture in Clement of Alexandria. *Vigiliae Christianae*. Retrieved from doi: <https://doi.org/10.1163/15700720-bja10046>.
- Ward, H. C. (2022). *Clement and scriptural exegesis: The making of a commentarial theologian*. Oxford, England, United Kingdom: Oxford University Press.

Dr. David A. Washburn, Professor of Psychology

- Washburn, D. A. (2023). Improved learning through gamification: Motivation, evocation, or concentration? *STP Teaching Tips Volume 7* [e-book]. Society for the Teaching of Psychology.
- Washburn, D. A. & Walters, S. (2022). A history of primates studying primates. In B. Schwartz, & M. J. Beran (Eds.), *Primate cognitive studies*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Washburn, D. A. (2022). Robert Allen Gardner (1930-2021). *Psychonomic Society Member Obituaries*. Retrieved from <https://www.psychonomic.org/page/obituaries>

Dr. Elissa Y. Weichbrodt, Associate Professor of Art

- Weichbrodt, E. Y. (2023, June). A Loving Regard: Contemporary art and expanding the archive, In R. Smith, and R. Bernier (Eds.), *Religion and contemporary art: A curious regard*. London, England: Routledge.
- Weichbrodt, E. Y. (2023). *Redeeming vision: A Christian guide to looking at and learning from art*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.
- Weichbrodt, E. Y. (2022, July). Seeing Bathsheba: There's more art history than you realize in your old children's Bible. *Current*. Retrieved from <https://currentpub.com/2022/07/25/seeing-bathsheba/>
- Weichbrodt, E. Y. (2022, June). The massacre of the innocents: Can art of the past help us better grieve the present? *Current*. Retrieved from <https://currentpub.com/2022/06/13/the-massacre-of-the-innocents/>
- Weichbrodt, E. Y. (2022, February). Celebrating the humanity of Edmonia Lewis. *Current*. Retrieved from

<https://currentpub.com/2022/02/21/celebrating-the-humanity-of-edmonia-lewis>

Dr. Rodney Trent Wilson, Associate Professor of Psychology

- Wilson, R. T. (2022) Psychotherapy as ritual process and sacred space. *Journal of Liberal Arts and Humanities*.

Dr. John C. Wingard, Jr., Dean of Humanities and Professor of Philosophy

- Madueme, H. L., Wingard, J. C. (2022, April 25). Responding to homosexuality: Culture of care versus culture of cure. *The Gospel Coalition*. Retrieved from <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/reviews/still-time-care/>

Dr. Carole L. Yue, Associate Professor of Psychology

- Rudiman, G. G. C., & Yue, C. L. (2023). The Indonesian public's and professional clinicians' perceptions of and attitudes toward depression.
- Yue, C. L. (2020). Improving learner metacognition and self-regulation. In T. Ober, E. Che, J. Brodsky, C. Raffaele, & P. Brooks (Eds.), *How we teach now: GSTA guide to transformative teaching*. American Psychological Association, Washington, DC.

Admissions

In the fall of 2022, we welcomed 276 new students to Covenant's campus. Though this enrollment number was lower than we had hoped, the quality and character of the new student class was overwhelming, and retention during the year was higher than in previous years. Over the 2022-23 academic year, we welcomed 1345 prospective student visitors from 39 states and 7 countries; 183 of these visitors were on campus interviewing for competitive scholarships during Scholarship Weekend. Visitors could stay overnight on campus and be fully immersed in the Covenant community. We continually thank the Lord for each student He brings to the college.

Campus & Facilities

In 2022-2023, Facilities Management accomplished numerous renovations and upgrades, spanning rental apartments, Belz residence hall's envelope, septic field lines, Kirk office spaces, Probasco and student apartment roofs, and addressing lingering chapel roof issues. Mechanical and electrical equipment replacements were carried out in the Library, Maclellan, Highlands, Andreas, and Founders. Elevator modernization took place in Sanderson, with equipment updates in Ashe. Student Impact initiatives included converting the

Carter pool into a more permanent deck area with new furniture, fences, and fixtures, alongside updates to the finishes and equipment in the Barnes weight room. Routine maintenance, such as parking lot repairs/resealing and the refresh of Carter Hall's 2nd north resident rooms, were also completed.

Additionally, prompt response and repairs followed the Carter Hall lobby fire. Campus planning projects encompassed the replacement of the campus fire pump, Founders chiller, and Library roof, along with future Chapel roof repairs and tennis court resurfacing needs. A new CapEx planning committee was established to identify, prioritize, and coordinate strategic resource utilization among departments with capital expenditure budgets. Its goal is to foster trust, reach a consensus on expenses for upcoming fiscal years, and align with priorities set by Interim President Brad Voyles.

Development & Finances

Donors gave over \$6.5 million to Covenant during the 2022-2023 fiscal year, including gifts to endowment, student scholarships, and the annual fund. We were blessed to receive gifts from 443 churches, with 166 of those partnering with us in our Church Scholarship Promise program. The total amount given by churches in 22/23 was \$882k.

The fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, saw a similar trajectory from the prior year. Consolidated with the foundation, the college saw global net asset growth driven by endowment gifts and strong market returns. From an operating perspective, the college ended the fiscal year with minimal cash reserves but zero debt.

Student Life

During the 2022-23 academic year, Nesha Evans, Associate Dean of Students for Student Life, hired Todd Bridges as the new Coordinator of Intercultural Engagement and changed the name of the Multicultural Program to the Intercultural Program to better fit the college's mission. Additionally, a student life office was updated, transforming it into the Intercultural Program Center to create a better space for students in a cultural and ethnic minority. Moreover, Robert Rowe of SeeJesus Ministries served as the Planted Student Leadership Program (CCLead) Conference speaker, presenting a model of compassionate observational leadership for our student leaders. Jon Wylie, Associate Dean of Students for Residence Life, had the resident directors and student resident assistants continue to cultivate discipleship, learning, and relationships in their hall communities.

The Covenant College Athletic Department experienced tremendous success in its first year competing in the Collegiate Conference of the South. Our mission is to explore and express the preeminence of Christ in intercollegiate athletics by cultivating disciples and pursuing excellence. Academically, we achieved a fall average GPA of 3.35 and a 3.33 spring average GPA for all student-athletes. Athletically, Volleyball, Men's Soccer, and Men's Tennis won the conference championship. Additionally, three other sports finished in the top four of the conference.

The Chapel Department at Covenant College has the privilege of walking alongside and shepherding our students in their love of Jesus Christ and his gospel. We have chapel three times a week, where we encounter Jesus together in the community, and we oversee numerous group and individual discipleship opportunities at the college. Our Fall and Spring Days of Prayer, the weekly Public Reading of Scripture, small group Bible studies in dormitories, prayer hikes, and weekly prayer and praises on resident halls are just some of the means of spiritual formation we oversee. Please pray for wisdom and faithfulness as we seek to serve our students and glorify our Father in heaven.

Conclusion

We are grateful for the oversight of the PCA as we seek to remain faithful to our mission to explore and express the preeminence of Jesus Christ in all things. Thank you for your continued partnership in God's work through Covenant College.

Yours in Christ,
Dr. Brad Voyles
President

Recommendations

1. That the General Assembly thank and praise God for the excellent work and faithfulness of the Board of Trustees, faculty, and staff of Covenant College in serving the Presbyterian Church in America by shaping students for lives of service in the Kingdom of God.
2. That the General Assembly encourage congregations of the PCA to support the ministry of Covenant College through encouraging prospective students to attend, through contributing the Partnership Shares approved by the General Assembly, and through prayer.

APPENDIX F

3. That the General Assembly approve the budget for 2024-2025, as submitted through the Administrative Committee.
4. That the General Assembly adopt “The Covenant College and Supporting Foundation Consolidated Financial Statements” dated June 30, 2023, as prepared by Capin Crouse LLP.
5. That the General Assembly approves the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Trustees for October 12-13, 2023, and March 14-15, 2024, with notations.
6. That the General Assembly receive as information the foregoing Annual Report, recognizing God’s gracious and abundant blessing and commending the College in its desire to continue pursuing excellence in higher education for the glory of God.
7. That the General Assembly designate Sunday, October 20, 2024, as a Lord’s Day on which churches of the denomination are encouraged to highlight Covenant College’s ministry and pray specifically for the College in its mission and ministry.
8. The **Overture 14** from the Northwest Georgia Presbytery entitled “Amend *RAO* 4-21.d to Require Enrollment Data from Higher Ed Institutions” be answered in the affirmative, noting that the enrollment information requested to be reported in the minutes of the Board of Trustees is, and has been, publicly available.
9. That **Overture 31** from New River Presbytery entitled “Amend *BCO* 14-1 Regarding Changes in Permanent Committee and Agency Policy” and **Overture 32** from Eastern Pennsylvania Presbytery entitled “Amend *BCO* 23 to Address Dissolution of Call for those employed by a Committee or Agency” be referred to the 52nd General Assembly to allow Covenant College sufficient time to fully consider.
10. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 7** from Ascension Presbytery “Amend *RAO* 11-5 to Clarify Process for *RAO* Amendments” with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee.

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APPENDIX G

REPORT OF COVENANT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

JUNE 2024

Centered on Christ's Mission to Train the Next Generation

We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

– Psalm 78:4

You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.

– 2 Timothy 2:2

Now in its seventh decade of ministry, Covenant Theological Seminary remains centered on Christ's mission and joyfully committed to training the next generation of pastors, counselors, and ministry leaders. We are thankful to God for the stewardship vested in us by the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) and exult in God's grace, which has sustained our more than 4,800 graduates who serve in all 50 states and in more than 100 countries.

Last year we presented an overview of some challenges and opportunities facing Covenant Seminary in this current season of our history, as well as some key areas of emphasis for us as we moved ahead with a time of institutional self-assessment and strategic planning. Now we present an update on progress made in those key areas.

We are grateful for God's continued provision for the Seminary over the year. By his grace, he has enabled us to increase enrollments in core degree

programs, further strengthen our faculty and staff through key hires and internal promotions, continue to grow our donor base and strengthen financial health, and build stronger relationships with our sister denominational agencies and committees, and with other important influencers in the PCA and beyond. We are especially thankful for the support of our Board of Trustees and for their adoption in January 2024 of our new Strategic Plan.

The passages quoted above from Psalm 78:4 and 2 Timothy 2:1–2 capture well our commitment to the future. While the psalmist describes the importance of passing on to God’s covenant people the essence of a lived faith, the apostle Paul shows us that the task of raising up the next generation of ministry leaders that first entrusted to Timothy and others like him is now a holy and cooperative stewardship of the whole church. Pastor and teacher R. Kent Hughes describes this as a “living chain of truth.”

As the denominational seminary of the Presbyterian Church in America, this is our work and continues to be the primary purpose for which we were founded. Moreover, even as we recalibrate our institutional priorities, our mission and values continue to serve a guiding role.

Our mission statement says: *The purpose of Covenant Theological Seminary is to glorify the Triune God by training his servants to walk in God’s grace, minister God’s Word, and equip God’s people—all for God’s mission.*

Our institutional values focus on: (1) *Christ-Centered Ministry*, (2) *Biblical Authority*, (3) *Grace Foundation*, (4) *Relational Emphasis*, (5) *Pastoral Training*, (6) *Church Leadership*, and (7) *Kingdom Perspective*.

A New Strategic Plan for Greater Future Effectiveness

As widely acknowledged, our current cultural moment is characterized by both significant and rapid change affecting theological institutions like Covenant Seminary. The political landscape, the COVID-19 pandemic, technological innovation, the rise of the religiously unaffiliated, so-called “nones,” and social media have made the traditional residential delivery of theological education more difficult. Among the most important impacts arising from these historic headwinds are rising educational costs, declining enrollments and student load, and increased demand for fully online and hybrid degree programs. The landscape of theological education is changing in dramatic

ways. These headwinds have been well-documented, and Covenant has not been immune.

Consequently, if we are to continue building on our strong legacy of training pastors, counselors, and ministry leaders for a bright future of leadership in the PCA and beyond, we must face the challenges before us with fresh and innovative responses. The last few years have seen significant growth in online and hybrid learning options, as well as the development of several other degrees that allow for greater educational opportunities for men and women not headed into pastoral ministry but who desire more training to serve in the church or in other vocations in a more biblically informed way. We have also re-examined our institutional priorities to assess where we have been and where we need to go to be more effective at our mission.

All this culminated in the development of a new Strategic Plan that was adopted by our Board in January 2024. Informed by our institutional identity and the current challenges before us, and in consultation with many of our alumni, ministry partners, and key denominational figures, the planning process identified six strategic priorities essential to institutional health, alignment with our vision, and overall impact on our students and the wider church. These six priorities serve as the guiding pillars of the Strategic Plan:

1. Prioritize Pastor-Minded Students
2. Strengthen Theological Preparedness
3. Renew Focus on Spiritual Formation.
4. Strengthen Local, Intercultural, and Global Mission
5. Steward Relationship with the PCA
6. Foster Financial Sustainability

Over the last year, we have already begun making strides in each of these strategic areas.

Prioritizing the Recruitment of Pastor-Minded Students

Increased Enrollment in Pastor-Focused Degrees

Senior Director of Enrollment John Chung and his Admissions team have been working hard all year to recruit and enroll pastor-minded students, most especially for the MDiv program. Though a lot of work remains to reach our targeted goal of 11,000 credit hours sold, this was still possibly the most

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strategic year for CTS admissions in a decade. The Admissions team did a wonderful job reaching out to prospective students, being present at colleges, universities, and various conferences and other events where potential students may be found, and in walking with inquirers and applicants to help them discern a call to ministry and to Covenant in particular. Thanks to this hard work the incoming fall class of 2023 was 150 students, an increase of 43%. The breakdown for our various degree programs is as follows:

- Residential MDiv = up 138%
- Hybrid MDiv = up 62%
- Pastor-minded students = up 28% (includes all MDiv-ordination track and select students in the MDiv-non-ordination track and the MABTS)
- MDiv-non-ordination track = up 750% (almost all of these are women)
- MAC = up 27%
- MABTS = up 67%

Of those incoming 150 students:

- 51% are under 30
- 57% are from the PCA
- 28% are students of color
- 6% are international students

This work is ongoing, however, as the enrollment cycle requires continuous monitoring and engagement by our staff throughout the year, with the results measured in a tight 6-week window each fall. Looking ahead to the fall of 2024, our optimism continues. We are already on target for reaching our total head count goal of 185 new students across our programs for the fall, which includes a target of 65 enrolled in the MDiv program.

Please join us in giving thanks to God for his abundant provision and his blessing upon the hard work of our Enrollment team!

Working Toward Better Retention Practices

As part of this process our staff is also evaluating current retention and persistence practices to identify and address any areas of weakness. And our Alumni and Career Services staff continues to be a major resource for alumni

in the field, offering consistent post-graduation engagement, assistance with career transitions and pastoral searches for churches, and in general helping our graduates to serve as ambassadors and influencers for the Seminary in their various ministry settings. We covet your prayers that the Lord will continue to bless our recruitment and retention efforts.

A Lilly Grant for Equipping Future Preachers . . .

In keeping with our goal of recruiting and preparing pastor-minded students, we were pleased and excited to receive a **\$1.19 million grant from Lilly Endowment** toward equipping future preachers. This grant will further develop an emphasis on preaching as a primary means of pastoral ministry for the Seminary's Master of Divinity students.

Covenant has long held a focus on training preachers as a central means of pastoral ministry, beginning with its founder, Dr. Robert Rayburn, and continuing through many of its faculty, including President Emeritus Dr. Bryan Chapell, whose book *Christ Centered Preaching* remains a standard homiletics textbook at seminaries around the world to this day.

The Lilly grant will equip preachers by enabling three primary activities: (1) preaching cohort groups, (2) preaching conferences and workshops, and (3) developing preaching resources. The goal of these programs will be to encourage and revitalize seasoned preachers, better equip and support young preachers and those aspiring to preach, and give opportunity for preachers of all experience levels, ages, backgrounds, and ethnicities to learn from each other. This will also provide opportunities for bi-vocational pastors who may not have been able to previously access seminary-level education due to lack of accessibility and/or affordability. Covenant Seminary is one of 81 organizations receiving grants from Lilly Endowment through a competitive round of its national Compelling Preaching Initiative.

Of the Lilly grant, Dr. Thomas C. Gibbs, President of Covenant Seminary, noted:

We are very thankful to God for this grant. It will serve as a blessing to the church by equipping men to faithfully preach the Word of God. As a pastor myself, I know that preaching the Bible is one of the most vital means of Christian ministry. I am so thankful that Covenant

Seminary will get to go deeper in preparing future church leaders for this great task.

... and to Support a Full-Time Director of Homiletics

One special blessing resulting from the Lilly grant is that it enabled us to **bring Dr. Thurman Williams, who had been serving in a part-time adjunct capacity as our Director of Homiletics, into a full-time position** in this role starting in spring 2024. Dr. Williams will also serve as the project lead in further developing the preaching program to benefit those aspiring to pastoral ministry. Dr. Williams serves as Pastor of New City Fellowship—West End, a church plant of New City Fellowship, St. Louis, and was previously Associate Pastor at Grace & Peace Fellowship (PCA) in St. Louis and Pastor of New Song Community Church (PCA) in inner-city Baltimore. He was Minister of Outreach and Youth for five years at Faith Christian Fellowship Church (PCA), also in Baltimore, and served four years on staff with the ministry of Young Life. Thurman holds a Master of Divinity (MDiv) from Chesapeake Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Ministry (DMin) from Covenant Theological Seminary. He was Adjunct Professor of Homiletics at Covenant since 2014. Thurman has also served as Chairman of the PCA’s Mission to North America Committee.

Of this new appointment, Dr. Thomas C. Gibbs said:

I am very thankful that Thurman will serve in this new role. The work of preaching is central to pastoral ministry, and I can think of few better men than Thurman Williams to lead this task at Covenant Seminary. His love for the gospel and for his calling, in addition to his skill as a preacher, make him uniquely suited for this task.

Covenant Seminary Preaching Lectures Featured Dr. Thurman Williams

To further emphasize the importance of preaching and his enhanced role in teaching future preachers, Dr. Thurman Williams was also the featured speaker at the October 2023 edition of the Covenant Seminary Preaching Lectures. Focusing on the topic “Worshipful Preaching: Preaching Before the Lord as Lead-Worshipper,” Dr. Williams noted that preaching is both an act of worship by the preacher and an invitation to the congregation to enter into worship for the purpose of transformation. He led attendees through an exploration of the questions: What can preachers learn from worship leaders about leading the

people not only to learn about God but also to meet with God in worship? What can preachers learn from educators about how people learn in ways that transform their lives outside of the worship service? What can preachers of every race, background and denomination learn from the African American preaching tradition that can more powerfully and deeply impact the lives of all our people?

Strengthening Theological Preparedness

This strategic pillar is meant to strengthen the efficacy of our theological training for students in general and for pastors in particular by focusing and aligning our efforts in theological formation across the institution. Our desire here is to address some of the areas of concern that had surfaced last year in our targeted discussions with alumni and other key denominational figures regarding a perceived decline in the theological preparedness of our graduates. Though some of these concerns seemed to be based more on misperceptions or misinformation than reality, nevertheless we found others of them to be well-founded and have been working to address both the misperceptions and legitimate areas of needed improvement.

As part of this process, in last year's report we noted that we had changed the name of what was then called the Missional Theology Division to the Division of Theological Studies—which encompasses (and always has) Systematic Theology, Historical Theology, Apologetics, Christian Ethics, and World Mission—and the appointment of Dr. Robbie Griggs as Chair of the Systematic Theology Department within that division, as well as the hiring of Dr. Andrew “Drew” Martin as Associate Professor of Systematic Theology. This year we have more good news to report.

We have taken or soon will take further steps to strengthen our students' theological preparedness. These include:

- **Gearing introductory Systematic Theology (ST) courses to mastery of foundational content**, with an orientation to sources, modes, and norms for scriptural and confessional theological reasoning.
- **Gearing upper-level ST, Biblical Studies, Counseling, and Applied Theology courses to intermediate practice of theological reasoning**, prioritizing its integration across courses and application

to ministry situations.

- **Working toward administering a theology exam for pastor-minded students in the MDiv and MABTS programs** which is sequenced with students' progression through the program.
- **Designing assessments for MDiv and MABTS students taking the Preparation for Licensure and Ordination class** and require this class to be taken at least one semester prior to their graduating semester.
- **Creating a cross-departmental team**, chaired by the ST department, to (1) identify, implement, and oversee course content and assessments in support of new strategies, with review and report every three years; (2) survey and evaluate self-assessment of graduating students annually; and (3) identify how we might involve PCA churches and agencies to help mentor our students in theological preparedness.
- **Gathering best-practices regarding ST/Church History (CH) curriculum design** from peer institutions.
- **Promoting partnerships with PCA and other churches and agencies** to provide mentoring in theological preparation for MDiv and MABTS students.
- **Promoting a culture of theological reasoning and revive the annual David C. Jones Systematic Theology Lectures**, which had been dormant for several years (see below for more on the Jones Lectures).
- **Continuing the Systematic Theology Reading Group**, which is open to residential and extension students as a Covenant group in the fall and spring terms and focuses on reading and discussing important historical and contemporary works on theology.
- **Requiring and promote at least one ST faculty member to speak at General Assembly** annually, with the content of the talk discussed internally with students.
- **Hosting an annual alumni and church enrichment conference** on a theme of theological substance and practical need in local PCA churches.
- **Integrating promotion of theological and biblical events and the scholarship of our faculty** across all internal and external marketing

channels of the Seminary.

These steps are designed not simply to help our students do well on Presbytery licensure and ordination exams (though we certainly want them to do well) but also to help them think more theologically in general and to apply that theological thinking directly in their lives and ministries for the sake of God’s people.

The Return of the David C. Jones Theology Lectures

We were pleased to host the return of the David C. Jones Theology Lectures in February–March 2024. The lectures are **named in honor of the late Dr. David C. Jones**, long-time Professor of Systematic Theology and Ethics at Covenant, to celebrate his legacy and that of the Seminary’s Reformed theological heritage by providing an important service to our students, faculty, and community. The Jones Lectures each year focus on a particular area of theological study featuring presentations by a contemporary academic authority in that area.

The 2024 edition featured **Dr. Steven J. Duby**, Associate Professor of Theology at Phoenix Seminary and author of several books, including the recent *Jesus and the God of Classical Theism* (Baker Academic, 2022). Dr. Duby’s two lectures reflected on the relationship between Christ’s person and work and some of the recent Christological debates over the hypostatic union. Lecture 1 covered **“Hypostatic Unity and the Saving Work of Christ,”** and considered the connection between Christ’s person and work broadly through three key theological points and in light of recent debates about Chalcedonian Christology and its bearing on our understanding of the one hypostasis or person of Christ. Lecture 2 focused on **“Life-Giving Flesh: Deity, Humanity, and the Efficacy of the Atonement,”** and zoomed in more closely to examine the ways in which the life-giving power of Christ’s flesh and the efficacy of his atoning death are grounded in his deity and how the empowerment, support, and infinite worth of his redemptive death are articulated in dialogue with patristic, medieval, and early modern theologians.

Reflecting on the necessity for such a series of academic theology lectures, **Dr. Robbie Griggs**, Associate Professor of Systematic Theology and Chair of the Systematic Theology Department, noted:

Though lecturing itself is an ancient practice, theological lectures have been at the heart of ministerial training since the emergence of medieval universities. Historically, theological lectures aim to propagate and extend systematic reflection on the God of Holy Scripture and all things in relation to him. As ministerial students observe master theologians providing sustained argumentation on a topic of perennial interest, they learn how to “rightly divide the word of truth” (2 Tim. 2:15). And when such lectures are published and made available more broadly, the church itself is invited to ponder further “the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God” (Rom. 11:33).

The David C. Jones Lectures in Systematic Theology provide a venue for world-class Reformed theologians to present cutting-edge theological scholarship for the edification of ministerial leaders and the church—all in a manner that honors the memory and legacy of Dr. Jones. He was a man who brought forth the riches of Reformed theology in conversation with contemporary scholarship and debate. He did this to glorify God and serve the church in her mission of worship, proclamation, and love. Through these lectures, we hope not only to keep the memory of David Jones alive at Covenant Seminary but also to further the sort of theological study and reflection he did so well.

President Dr. Thomas C. Gibbs remarked:

Dr. David Jones’s life and work are academic and historic pillars of this institution. David’s legacy continues to inform the areas of systematic theology and Christian ethics, and we are thankful for Sue Jones’s enthusiasm and support for the return of this important annual event that bears her late husband’s name. Please join me in giving thanks to God for this unique opportunity at Covenant Seminary.

A Festschrift Honoring Dr. Michael D. Williams

The rich theological heritage and lasting influence of our faculty is evident in many ways, not the least of which is how many of them are beloved by alumni who have been shaped and transformed by their teaching, mentoring, and friendship. **Dr. Michael D. Williams, who retired in 2022 after 26 years of teaching systematic theology at Covenant** (first as Associate Professor from

1996 to 2004, then as Professor from 2004 to 2022), is one of those who continues to have an impact on many. To honor his legacy at Covenant and the tenor of his entire academic and pastoral life, the Seminary devoted the bulk of the fall 2023 issue of our academic journal, *Presbyterion: Covenant Seminary Review*, to a *Festschrift* for Dr. Williams, with contributions from a wide array of his students, former students, colleagues, and friends each offering theological essays or personal reflections that get at the heart of Mike’s interests, life, and ministry. We are grateful for him and happy to be able to honor him in this way.

Guest-edited by Dr. Mark Ryan and with a Foreword by him, the issue’s featured articles and writers include:

- “*Ordo/Historia Salutis? Do We Have to Choose?*” by C. John Collins
- “Reading Scripture as a Community of Witnesses to Christ’s Reign,” by Gregory R. Perry
- “A New Course for Theology: Harvie Conn’s Contribution,” by Michael Goheen
- “Addressing the Gaps in the Theology of Christ’s Resurrection,” by David W. Chapman
- “Learning to Participate in God’s Mission: Communities of Practice,” by Jessie Swigart
- “Holy Envy: Religious Appreciation and Critique in Kuyper’s Travels and Ours,” by William E. Boyce
- “Childbearing in Salvation History: Redemptive-Historical Themes in the Child-bearing Narratives of the Ancestresses of Christ in Genesis,” by Mary Schieferstein
- “By the Word of the Lord: A Tale of Two Prophets (1 Kings 13),” by W. Brian Aucker
- “Asaph’s Characterization in the Book of Chronicles: Action and Deixis in Chronicles’ Storyworld,” by Victoria Tatko
- “Questioning Faith: A Missional Reading of Ecclesiastes,” by Christopher J. H. Wright
- “Suffering, Vindication, and Mission: The Use of Psalm 22 in Matthew 27–28,” by Aaron Goldstein

- “With,” by Daniel W. Zink
- “A Michael D. Williams Bibliography,” by Mark Ryan
- A review of Michael Allen’s *The Fear of God* and *The Knowledge of God*, by K. J. Drake
- Commentary recommendations for Galatians, Ephesians, and Philippians, by James C. Pakala

Presbyterion is available by subscription (2 issues per year) at various cost levels through the Seminary’s online store at www.covenantseminary.edu/store/publications. Individual issues are also available for purchase in hard copy or as PDF downloads.

The 13th Annual Theological Fellowship Conference

This year’s edition of our annual student-led theology conference took place in January 2024 and featured plenary speaker **Dr. Scott Manetsch**, Professor of Church History, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, IL. Hosted by **The Theological Fellowship at Covenant Seminary**, a student group devoted to theological discussion, the conferences also featured presentations of papers from Covenant students on a variety of theological topics, with an award given for the best paper as judged by the group. Theological Fellowship also brings in other speakers during the year for the benefit of the student body. **Dr. Mark Noll**, Research Professor in Church History at Regent College, spoke in September 2023. Faculty mentors for Theological Fellowship include **Dr. Robert W. Yarbrough, Dr. Robbie Griggs, and Dr. Brian Aucker.**

Renewing Our Focus on Spiritual Formation

Last year we reported on our efforts to renew a focus on spiritual formation for our students. Covenant has long recognized that “spirituality” encompasses all matters within the scope of concern and activity of the Holy Spirit through whom we are conformed more and more to the image of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Within that broad area, the Seminary prioritizes the elements of spiritual formation essential to all believers as they grow in their love for Jesus and especially those fundamental for individuals called to lead others in ministry. Thus, our goal is for students not only to know the Bible better but to be transformed through a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ—and **the deepest transformation occurs within gospel-centered community.** Many of our alumni point to their time in community at Covenant as one of the

greatest and most formative times of their lives. Our Student Life team seeks to cultivate this transformative personal and spiritual formation in a variety of important ways.

Renewed Emphasis on Weekly Chapel Services

One of the primary ways the Lord shapes our students (and the rest of us!) for ministry is through worship. Here at Covenant that comes through our weekly Wednesday Chapel services (moved from Fridays last fall to enable more of the campus community to attend). This year we have enjoyed a renewed emphasis on this weekly time of gathering as a community to hear the Word of God preached by a faculty member or guest preacher. Under the **leadership of Drs. Robert Kim and Robbie Griggs**, our chapel services are more focused and have been better attended by students, staff, and faculty. Growing out of Covenant’s statement of purpose, our chapel speakers the last two years have been **reflecting on and unpacking the meaning of some of the themes and phrases that are at the core of the Seminary’s ethos**. The fall 2023 theme, for example, was “Equipping God’s People,” and for spring 2024 it has been “All for God’s Mission.” Please join us in giving thanks for this renewed interest in the worship of our triune God and in praying that Chapel services may flourish even more.

Whole-Person Formation

In addition to worship, relationships are at the heart of the Christian life and the basis of effective gospel ministry. **The Student Life team continues to pursue each student individually**—whether male, female, residential student or online student—through personal contacts and ongoing check-ins and follow-ups throughout their time at Covenant. Faculty also set aside specific hours each week to meet with and mentor students in ways that go beyond classroom teaching. The Seminary also provides access to a limited number of free counseling sessions for those who may be dealing with issues that require deeper biblical insight.

Cohort and Covenant Groups

First-year students in several degree programs are required to participate in **Cohort Groups**. These groups of eight to ten students facilitated by a faculty or staff member meet regularly throughout the semester and are **designed to promote sustainability for a lifetime of ministry by helping students grow in emotional and spiritual health, relational skills, and wise conflict**

resolution. By reflection on each person's own story within the group context, students learn how they fit into the community of faith and into the larger biblical story that God invites them to be part of. The groups are aimed at helping students become more like Christ—a crucial element for leading Christ's church well.

The Seminary also offers a variety of non-required **Covenant Groups** that students are encouraged to participate in as they are able. These groups are usually focused on a particular theme or interest and **aim at deepening relationships and skills that help to foster personal growth in grace.**

The Return of the *Lifetime of Ministry* Conference Addresses Timely Pastoral Issues

Last year we announced the return of our **annual *Lifetime of Ministry Conference***, which is designed to help pastors and church leaders understand and address some of the challenging issues of our day from a biblical perspective. The first installment of the revived conference took place on campus in November 2023. Titled **The Changing Self and the Challenge of Ministry**, the two-day event featured renowned historian **Dr. Carl Trueman**, author of *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self* and *Strange New World*, and our own **Dr. Robbie Griggs**, Associate Professor of Systematic Theology. Drs. Trueman and Griggs addressed the current cultural turbulence surrounding the issue of sexuality and offered some historical and pastoral insight to help church leaders seeking to shepherd others through this challenging topic in our cultural moment.

The 2024 edition of the *Lifetime of Ministry* Conference will take place in October and will be focused on the theme **Deepening Ministry Resilience**. Speakers and more details will be announced soon.

Austin Harrington Counseling Lectures—*Practicing for Heaven: Counseling, Neuroscience, and the Wisdom of the Kingdom of God.*

To assist counselor, pastors, and ministry leaders in growing in their work, and to help them help others grow in their lives and faith, our Counseling Department annually offers the Austin Harrington Counseling Lectures. The May 2024 edition of the lectures was titled *Practicing for Heaven: Counseling, Neuroscience, and the Wisdom of the Kingdom of God* and featured renowned

counselors, authors, and speakers **Curt Thompson, MD**, and **Richard Winter, MD**. The lectures explored:

- The opportunities and challenges facing Christian counselors in the twenty-first century.
- Biblical perspectives on advances in neuroscience and emerging treatments.
- How they have personally and practically integrated faith and evidence-based resources in their private practices.

Dr. Thompson is a board-certified psychiatrist and the founder of Being Known, an organization that develops resources for hope and healing at the intersection of neuroscience and Christian spiritual formation. He is board certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and his main focus of clinical and research interest has been the integration of psychiatry, its associated disciplines, and Christian spiritual formation. He is also the author of *The Soul of Shame*, *The Soul of Desire*, *Anatomy of the Soul*, and his newest book, *The Deepest Place*.

Dr. Richard Winter trained in medicine at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and then in psychiatry in Bristol. He is a past-member for The Royal College of Psychiatrists in the UK and was a counselor, teacher, and leader at the English L'Abri before moving to St. Louis in 1992 to lead the counseling program at Covenant Seminary. Now Professor Emeritus in Counseling, Dr. Winter lives near family in England where he continues counseling and teaching. He is the author of *When Life Goes Dark: Finding Hope in the Midst of Depression* and *Perfecting Ourselves to Death: The Pursuit of Excellence and the Perils of Perfectionism*.

Other Aspects of Our Gospel-Centered Community

Campus life is geared toward nurturing growth in gospel-centered community through many avenues that bring students, faculty, staff, and families together in creative, challenging, and life-changing ways.

- **Ministry Lunches** – Multiple times throughout each semester representatives from many different church, ministry organizations, and PCA agencies and committees host lunch-time gatherings to inform students about internship and ministry opportunities, provide

helpful insights on ministry life, share experiences, and offer encouragement.

- **Seminary Picnics** – Each fall and spring Student Life organizes seminary-wide picnics as times when the entire Covenant community can gather to share good food, enjoy fun games, and just hang out together and get to know one another better.
- **Parents’ Morning/Night Out** – Our Family Nurture program offers childcare during select Seminary events and also provides specific times during each semester when parents may drop their kids off for fun and games at the Log Cabin on our campus while Mom and Dad enjoy some much-needed time off.
- **Day of Prayer** – Each semester we host a Day of Prayer during which all classes are cancelled so everyone can participate in a morning of intensive gathered prayer and worship, followed by a lunch prepared by our International Student Fellowship.

A Servant-Leader Mindset

At new student orientation, our incoming students are told, **“You are not the end of your own education.”** The fact is a deepening relationship with Christ is not for oneself alone but for the benefit of those whom we will be called upon to lead and serve in every area of life and ministry. Every aspect of community life at Covenant is geared toward fostering this mindset of servant-leadership and nurturing a heart of grace in men and women who will one day be the leaders and influencers in Christ’s church and kingdom.

Cultivating Spiritual Formation for the Future

To help keep our formational practices sharp and effective, we plan to survey CTS alumni and faculty for their assessment of our spiritual formation practices and consult peer seminaries to identify their best spiritual formation practices. Additional efforts in this regard include:

- **Creating a focus group of students in their final year** to assess our spiritual formation practices.
- Recognizing the importance of worship, Bible instruction, and prayer, we are **cultivating strategies that further reinvigorate Chapel attendance**, a love for gathered worship, participation in the local church, and the regular engagement of the means of grace.

- Recognizing how self-understanding and gospel dynamics contribute to Christian maturity we are **working to ensure that Cohort Group leaders are well resourced** and student experiences in Cohort Groups align with CTS mission and values.
- **Identifying and reinforcing existing Covenant Groups** that are effective in promoting the spiritual formation of students.
- Consulting current literature and best practices from peer seminaries, and seeking input from faculty, staff, alumni, and students, so that we can **identify new practices and structures that improve our spiritual formation efforts**, thereby helping our students mature in their likeness to Jesus as they navigate our increasingly secular and post-Christian society.
- **Recruiting, resourcing, and deploying faculty, staff, and local Christian leaders to serve as models of Christian maturity** in strategic ways, like leading Cohort Groups, Covenant Groups, Chapel speakers, lunch fellowships, and co-curricular groups, etc.

Strengthening Our Emphasis on Christ's Mission: Locally, Interculturally, and Globally

An emphasis on missions has been part of Covenant Seminary's DNA from the beginning. We have **trained many hundreds of missionaries** who now serve in many countries around the world, **as well as hundreds of church planters** who are busy working to build new local churches in cities all across the U.S. Covenant faculty, such as Professor Emeritus of Applied Theology and Church Planting **Dr. Phil Douglass** and others, have been key players in identifying and mentoring promising missionaries and church planters, assisting in the development of missionary and church planting strategies for the denomination, and creating the Mission to North America's Church Planting Assessment Center in Atlanta. More recently, under the guidance of **Dr. Robert Kim**, Associate Professor of Applied Theology and Church Planting (and the Philip and Rebecca Douglass Chair of Church Planting and Christian Formation), we continue to make missions and church planting a high priority.

Last year we noted strides made in this area, such as the establishment of The Paul D. Kooistra Chair of World Missions, the expansion of our Church Planting Track to the Master of Arts in Biblical and Theological Studies (MABTS) degree and Graduate Certificate program in addition to the MDiv,

a Church Planting Summit held in conjunction with our sister agency Mission to North America, and our **hosting again in the summer of the full MNA Church Planter Assessment Center on our campus**—which will occur again in the summer of 2024 as well. We also continue a close partnership with RUF, holding potential-student recruitment events for RUF interns and staff each year and **hosting RUF ministry assessment opportunities for students interested in campus ministry**.

Another way in which we seek to foster a mission-oriented mindset in our students is by exposing them to the stories and experiences of missionaries who serve all over the world, many of them in “closed countries” or other places where their ministries face severe opposition or even persecution. These missionaries often speak in our Chapel services or at Ministry Lunches hosted on campus where students can interact with them directly. And Seminary President Dr. Tom Gibb often travels nationally and internationally to teach and preach in conjunction with some of our missionary partners. This year, for example, he has visited with churches and ministries in Brazil; in Bogota, Colombia; and the Presbyterian Theological Seminary in India.

Additionally, in this key area of emphasis we are seeking to:

- **Partner with the PCA’s Mission to North America (MNA) and Missouri Presbytery MNA Committees to identify and place students in strategic internships** in local church plants and other local missions endeavors.
- **Strengthen partnerships with local churches** that align with CTS’s mission and values for Field Education internships.
- **Strengthen the Field Education program and Applied Theology courses** with clear program and course objectives relating to local mission, such as local cultural understanding, ethnography, and engaging a pluralistic, post-Church society.
- **Encourage campus engagement in local missions** through co-curricular activities and organic involvement by faculty and students in local ministries.
- **Prioritize dialogue and partnerships with Black, Asian-American, Latino, and other churches that model intercultural community in the broader St. Louis area**, in support of our denomination’s recommendation to increase partnerships and dialogue with local

intercultural ministries (Report of the Ad Interim Committee on Racial Reconciliation to the 46th General Assembly of the PCA), and considering the unique history, opportunities, and needs in the city of St. Louis.

- **Continue to make a seminary education available anywhere in the world** through flexible residential, hybrid, online, and other learning platforms and increasingly accessible, especially for those coming from non-majority and global contexts.
- **Provide distinct attention to recruiting and training ministry leaders arising out of non-majority and global contexts** by providing more scholarships and intentional support structures while at CTS that address the unique challenges that these students face.
- **Seek to identify and financially support potential candidates for staff and faculty positions from culturally diverse groups** within the student population and the broader PCA community.
- Add language to faculty and staff job postings that **encourages applicants from non-majority and global contexts** fitting our mission and values.
- **Incorporate a regular program of intercultural training** to better equip Seminary leadership, faculty, staff, and students to grow in our intentional welcoming and mutual learning from one another.
- **Recruit and call a gifted and qualified candidate to serve in the Paul D. Kooistra Chair of World Missions.**
- **Continue to engage with global missions partners (e.g., MTW, PMI, Serge, etc.)** to (1) host ministry lunches and related events, (2) increase awareness about global missions, and (3) facilitate opportunities for faculty and students to serve in a global context.
- **Partner with global theological educators** to design learning experiences that are responsive to the contexts and cultures of students around the world.
- **Require at least one reading from a global Christian context** in each course whenever possible as determined by each academic department.
- **Strive to make CTS the PCA's primary sender** of church planters, missionaries, campus ministers, pastors, counselors, and ministry leaders serving in a global context.

- **Engage and seek to partner with CTS alumni and other mission partners** serving in the global mission fields.
- Continue to **highlight and support faculty and student involvement** in global missions.

Changing Relationship with Missional Training Center–Phoenix

Related to this area of missions is our relationship with the Missional Training Center–Phoenix. For some time now, we have been in conversation with MTC about the nature of our partnership and its viability going forward. Ongoing conversations at Covenant regarding its vision, mission, and denominational interests have intersected with similar conversations at MTC. Those conversations have led MTC to determine that it would be strategic for them to align with a new institutional partner that would allow them to pursue their vision more effectively. A formal and amicable separation from Covenant took place earlier this year. We continue to have a deep appreciation for the wonderful work occurring at MTC and through its leaders. We rejoice in our many years of rich partnership and shared commitment to living out the missional priorities of the gospel in the world.

Stewarding Our Relationship with the PCA

We are continually grateful to be the denominational seminary for the PCA and **value the partnerships we have in ministry with our sister PCA agencies and churches**. It is a blessing to serve our denomination with them. We look forward to further exploring these partnership opportunities and planning together for the future as we seek to foster greater denominational unity for the good of the church and the expansion of the gospel.

As we noted in last year’s report, the Seminary has sought feedback from various alumni and others with strong connections to Covenant as we went through our strategic planning process. These conversations have been immensely helpful to us. We are grateful for the honest and sometimes challenging input as we seek with humility to continue improving in how we carry out our pastoral training mission.

Building Bridges Across Denominational Divides

President Dr. Tom Gibbs has made it a **priority to build bridges of brotherly connection** not only with our sister agencies and supporting churches and

donors, but also with some of those who have been our critics. He considers it a sincere privilege to hear the voices of all who serve with the PCA. He continues to travel widely to promote the Seminary and to strengthen relationships across the denomination. These efforts have met with much positive response.

A Newly Rebranded Ad Campaign and Redesigned *Covenant* Magazine

Related to our recruitment efforts and our desire to raise awareness of the Seminary and position ourselves as the school students think of first when considering pastoral training, we partnered with the firm Metaleap Creative to initiate a new campaign of print and electronic media ads, as well as a redesign of our flagship publication, *Covenant* magazine. The first issue of the new magazine arrived last fall and was enthusiastically received by our constituents. Our goal is to produce two issues of the magazine per year, instead of the one we had been doing for the last several years. We desire the new look and content of the magazine to be both a resource beneficial to the church and a vital connecting link with our alumni and supporters. Subscriptions to *Covenant* are free and available through the Resources section of our website.

Preparations for ATS Site Visit in Fall 2024

An important aspect of the Seminary's stewardship to the PCA is the maintenance of its accreditation credentials. Even as we have been going through our own assessment and re-evaluation of priorities for strategic planning purposes, we are deeply involved in preparing for a visit later this fall from representatives from the Association of Theological Schools (ATS), one of our accrediting agencies. This is part of the ongoing process of reviewing and renewing our official accreditation as an institution of higher learning based on specific standards as outlined by the accreditors. We will be reporting on the various aspects of our academic and communal life and meeting with peer reviewers who will help assess and identify areas of strength and any areas that may need improvement. Please be in prayer for this process.

Other ways we are working to better steward our PCA relationships include:

- Coordinating with PCA agencies and committees, but especially RUF, MTW, CDM, MNA, and Covenant College, **to cultivate their**

readiness to send us students and our willingness to send them graduates to serve.

- Strategically leveraging our time at General Assembly to **connect with alumni, tell our story, teach seminars, communicate directly through the President’s report, and recruit future students.**
- Strategically deploying the Lifetime of Ministry Conference, FSI conferences, and other events to **highlight CTS as a thought leader on topics relevant to PCA constituencies.**
- Continuing to **host the President-led Theology Summit**, inviting key alumni back to campus to discuss theological themes of relevance for PCA constituents.
- Offering to **host PCA events and leaders in St. Louis** to serve the PCA as a key hub for ministry collaboration.
- Initiating an **annual training opportunity for new staff and faculty**, to be called “Onboard Covenant,” to instill a healthy understanding of Covenant’s history, vision, mission, values, and organizational structures, and how these intersect with our denominational context.
- Securing an outside firm to **audit our overall marketing efforts and rebrand Covenant’s marketing strategy.** (See above in regard to *Covenant* magazine and ad campaign.)
- **Evaluating the effectiveness of all current communication strategies**, marketing channels, and frequency of engagement.
- Optimizing deployment of personnel, marketing channels, and communication strategies to **clearly convey Covenant’s story and mission to constituents.**
- **Ensuring that the voices of the President and our professors are heard** across the PCA through Seminary platforms, denominational conferences, agencies, and committees, Church and Presbytery conferences, General Assembly, *byFaith* Magazine, and in PCA-adjacent organizations.

Our sincere desire is to glorify the Lord together as we all seek to bless Christ’s people, grow Christ’s church, and expand Christ’s kingdom—all for Christ’s glory.

Fostering Financial and Organizational Sustainability

As noted above, Covenant's increased enrollment over the last year is encouraging and has helped put us on a better path financially. Revenue streams continue to be strong, and the combined impact of excellent performance in Annual Fund giving with funds from our **Bridge the Gap (BTG) capital campaign** continue to provide us the necessary bandwidth to maintain our turn-around efforts. Through the generosity of our committed donors, the BTG campaign is stabilizing our financial position.

Additionally, due to careful budget management by the Seminary's staff and faculty over the past year, we were able to reduce our projected level of operating expenses and simultaneously generate an extraordinary level of undesignated gifts and donations. **We experienced record unrestricted giving for 2022–2023 and look to be on target to surpass this for 2024.** And our Endowment, which had been bolstered considerably through our Hope for the Future capital campaign a few years ago, remains quite strong. We give thanks to God for his provision and for how he is using the excellent work of our Advancement and the Business Office teams.

For our FY25 budget, we are projecting 8,500 credit hours sold, or 10% growth from FY24. Given our recent recruitment success, we believe these expectations are reasonable and will advance us toward our long-term goal of 11,000 credit hours sold. As in FY24, strong reserves will help us offset our deficit spending in FY25. Nevertheless, as the Bridge the Gap funds are exhausted, continued enrollment growth will be essential to responsible fiscal management in FY26 and succeeding years.

Stewarding our resources wisely even as we make progress on enrollment challenges is a top priority. Calibrating our finances with clear financial goals will promote prudent fiscal discipline. To that end we are working to:

- Create an **11,000 credit hours sold (CHS) budget model**.
- Include a \$250,000 surplus to **build reserves for capital purchases**.
- **Align expenses** around implementation of new missional priorities and strategies.
- Ensure staffing levels and compensation rates across the institution **promote employee retention** and reflect marketplace realities.

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- **Establish systems for tracking income and expenses by academic program** or by strategic groupings of programs to boost each program's efficiencies.
- **Identify targets for average class size** and for the proportion of credits taught by full-time to part-time instructors.
- **Set goals for the number of full-time, residential students needed** in an 11,000 CHS model.
- **Determine what financial incentives are necessary** to recruit residential students, and optimize scholarship rates and deploy strategic incentives accordingly.
- **Determine a sustainable model of funding development** and maintenance of physical plant and campus housing, including deferred maintenance priorities.
- **Sell the Seminary's non-main campus properties**, including and west of 12311 N. Forty Drive, and use the sale proceeds to provide additional unrestricted funds for operations.
- **Collect data to estimate an average minimum necessary rate per program** and control the overall scholarship rate accordingly.
- **Reduce the rate of unfunded scholarships** to below 5%.
- **Raise additional scholarship funds** necessary to fund more of our anticipated scholarship needs while aligning award criteria and enrollment strategies.
- With the guidance of the institutional leadership and the board, **assess what institutional priorities and needs are best solved through a capital campaign strategy.**
- **Execute a feasibility study** prior to proceeding to ensure that donor interest and Seminary goals are aligned.
- **Establish the leadership, timeline, and communication plan** for any future campaign.

Please be in prayer with us that God would bless these efforts to bring greater financial and organizational stability to Covenant Seminary.

A New Vice President of Advancement

A key factor in our ongoing fundraising efforts was the hiring in January 2024 of **our new Vice President of Advancement, Rev. James Dickson**. In this role, Rev. Dickson oversees and provides strategic leadership for all aspects of the Seminary's development, donor relations, and fundraising efforts, and will also focus on exploring new avenues for communicating and advancing the mission of the institution. He brings to this position a wealth of experience as a pastor and church planter. He is also a highly skilled business leader with expertise in finance, sales, banking, and real estate development.

Rev. Dickson comes to Covenant after serving as Senior Pastor at Christ Church (PCA) in Trussville, Alabama, since 2014, prior to which he was a church planter and organizer for that congregation starting in 2011. His business experience includes several years as a process engineer and supervisor at Shaw Industries in Dalton, Georgia; as a capital markets associate and investment banking relationship manager with Wachovia Securities in Atlanta, Georgia; and as a partner and Vice President with Pierce Homes of Carolina in Greensboro. He is a graduate of Auburn University (BS in Textile Management), Emory University (MBA), and Reformed Theological Seminary–Charlotte (MDiv), and is currently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry (DMin) degree at Covenant Seminary. James and his wife, Anna, have three children. When he is not serving the church or spending time with his family, he loves to exercise, talk football, and fish. He is the author of the recently published book *A Thousand Little Moments: Grace-Shaped Parenting* (Brookstone, 2023).

Rejoicing in the Blessings of Our People: Faculty, Staff, and Board Updates

The Lord's greatest gift to Covenant Seminary is the people who serve here as faculty, staff, or trustees. We have been particularly blessed in this regard. Notable staffing updates or changes for the past year are listed below.

Faculty/Staff Updates

- **Rev. James Dickson** joined our staff in January 2024 as **Vice President of Advancement** to provide strategic leadership for the Seminary's development, donor relations, and fundraising efforts. He will also explore new avenues for communicating and advancing the

mission of the institution. *See more on Rev. Dickson elsewhere in this report.*

- **Dr. Dan Doriani**, Professor of Biblical and Systematic Theology, was selected in December 2023 to serve as **Interim Senior Pastor for Briarwood Presbyterian Church** in Birmingham, Alabama. The choice was the result of a months-long search by a team appointed by the church's session following the unexpected passing of Briarwood's long-time Senior Pastor, Dr. Harry Reeder, in May 2023. Dr. Doriani will serve part time in the Interim Senior Pastor role during the spring of 2024 while continuing with a full slate of teaching commitments at Covenant Seminary for that semester. Following that, he will assume a full year of interim pastoral responsibilities at Briarwood with a reduced teaching load at the Seminary. His interim duties will continue through May 2025 or until a new Senior Pastor for Briarwood is named. He plans to return to full-time teaching duties at Covenant when the interim role concludes. Rev. Dr. Tom Gibbs, President of Covenant Seminary, commented, "We are excited about and grateful for this opportunity for Dan Doriani to help lead and shepherd the people of Briarwood as they continue to mourn the passing of Dr. Reeder and seek a new Senior Pastor. Dr Reeder is sorely missed and left some big shoes to fill, but we are confident that Dan's experience and expertise will serve this flagship congregation of the PCA well for the time he is there. We pray for a successful pastoral search and for God's blessing on the church and our denomination."
- **Mr. Stephen Griffin** joined our staff in May 2024 as **Director of Communications**. He steps into the role previously filled by Mr. Kent Needler, who took another position last fall (see below). Mr. Griffin comes to us from Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi, where he has served as Communications Manager since 2022, having previously been Social Media Manager (2020–2022) and Communications Assistant (2017–2020) for RTS. Mr. Griffin holds a BS in mathematics, with minors in communications and history, from Mississippi College, and is experienced with print and electronic publications, social media, and digital marketing. In his new role he will oversee all aspects of the Seminary's internal and external communications and marketing efforts and work with all departments of the institution to ensure that their communications needs are met and that branding and messaging are consistent throughout the

organization. Mr. Griffin, a lifelong resident of Jackson, is recently married to Avery, and they are looking forward to exploring and getting to know St. Louis and the Covenant Seminary family.

- **Mrs. Megan Jung** joined our Student Life staff in April 2023 as **Associate Dean of Women**. In this position, she focuses on working with and nurturing female students and student wives, both on campus and online. She has a love for people and desire to see Christ formed in them more deeply. A 2011 graduate of Covenant’s MAC program, Mrs. Jung has been practicing therapy for the past 13 years. Before coming to Covenant as a student, she served as an intern with Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. With her previous knowledge of the Seminary and her extensive professional experience, she brings a wealth of relational expertise to her role in caring for Covenant’s students. Of her appointment, she said, “Covenant Seminary has solidly taken up real estate in my heart, mind, and story over the past 15 years. At Covenant, I began to taste freedom in the gospel—living through brokenness and restoration while learning about my own sin and experiencing gracious care. It was there that I learned the value of being curious for the sake of God’s kingdom. Time at Covenant primed me to do work that I deeply love: working with people to help them heal and grow.” Megan is married to Jason, who serves as a ruling elder at South City Church (PCA) in St. Louis. They have three children.
- **Dr. Paul Loosemore**, Associate Professor of Counseling, stepped into the additional role of **Director of the Counseling Department and the Counseling Center** in January 2024. He succeeds **Dr. Mark Pfuetze** and **Dr. Jeremy Ruckstaetter**, who have co-led the department very well since 2020. Dr. Pfuetze indicated his desire to rotate out of the co-Director role to focus more on teaching, while Dr. Ruckstaetter will continue his excellent oversight of CACREP Accreditation by transitioning from co-Director of the department to become Director of CACREP Accreditation within the department. Dr. Loosemore previously taught counseling courses as an adjunct professor of counseling at various institutions. He is active in the broader academic discussion surrounding counseling and has published articles in the *Journal of Psychology & Theology*, the *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*, and the *EMCAPP Journal*. His PhD research focused on

the impact of a relationship with God and how it relates to character growth and well-being. As a counselor, he has experience working with individuals, couples, and groups, with special focus on marriage concerns, trauma and abuse, relational distress, and grief and loss. He completed a PhD in counselor education and supervision from Regent University, is a graduate of Covenant Seminary's Master of Arts in Counseling program (MAC '15), and holds a Bachelor of Advertising from Gloucestershire University and an MA in Interior Design from Portsmouth University—both in England. Dr. Loosemore has worked as a professional counselor since graduating from Covenant's program, including co-founding the St. Louis Counseling Center.

- **Mr. Kent Needler**, who had served as **Senior Director of Communications and Media for Covenant**, stepped down from **this role in the fall of 2023** to pursue a new professional opportunity. Prior to this, Mr. Needler served the Seminary in a variety of roles. As Associate Director of Admissions from 2006 to 2013, he oversaw the campus visit process for prospective students and helped those potential students discern their call to ministry. As Communications Director (2013–2019) and then Senior Director of Communications and Media (2019–2023), he oversaw all aspects of the Seminary's communications and marketing processes, including print and electronic media publications, social media, advertising, and website development (including the most recent upgrade to the Seminary's main site, resources site, and online store), and assisting all departments of the institution with information and communication needs. His knowledge and expertise helped the institution make wise and appropriate use of new developments in the media and communications fields to more effectively serve the mission of the Seminary and tell the stories of its students, alumni, faculty, and staff for the glory of God and the advancement of his church. Mr. Needler, a 2006 MATS graduate of Covenant, serves as a ruling elder at Kirk of the Hills Presbyterian Church (PCA) in St. Louis, MO.
- **Dr. Thurman Williams**, who had been serving in a part-time role as Adjunct Professor of Homiletics since 2014 and as Director of Homiletics since 2021, **joined our faculty full-time** in spring 2024. His appointment is the result of the Seminary's receipt of a **\$1.19 million grant from Lilly Endowment** toward equipping future

preachers. *See more on Dr. Williams and the Lilly Grant elsewhere in this report.*

Board/Advisory Board Updates

- **Board of Trustees Additions for 2023–2024**
 - **Rev. Dr. Jimmy Agan**, Senior Pastor, Intown Community Church, Atlanta, GA. Elected to first term for class of 2027 after serving a term on Advisory Board.
 - **Mr. Mark Ensio**, President of Ballast Technologies, Inc., Tucson, AZ. Elected to first term for class of 2027 after serving a term on Advisory Board
 - **Rev. Dr. Bob Flayhart**, Senior Pastor, Oak Mountain Presbyterian Church, Birmingham, AL. Elected to first term for class of 2027 after serving a term on Advisory Board.
 - **Mr. Dwight Jones**, President, Ocmulgee Fields, Inc., Macon GA. Elected to first term for class of 2027 after serving a term on Advisory Board.
- **Advisory Board Additions for 2023–2024**
 - **Rev. Brian Habig**, Senior Pastor, Downtown Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC. Serving first term on Advisory Board after completing term on Board of Trustees.
 - **Mr. Brewster Harrington**, Principal, Consulting Nonprofits, LLC, Colorado Springs, CO (retired). Serving first term on Advisory Board after completing term on Board of Trustees.
 - **Mr. Robert Hayward Jr.**, President and CEO of the Quarryville Presbyterian Retirement Community, Quarryville, PA. Serving first term on Advisory Board after completing term on Board of Trustees.
 - **Dr. John Plating**, Director of the Center for Calling & Career, Covenant College, Lookout Mountain, GA. Serving first term on Advisory Board after completing term on Board of Trustees.
- **Retiring Advisory Board Members**
 - **Mr. Jack Kramer Sr.**, Retired CEO of Cenergy Services,

Chesterfield, MO.

- **Rev. Wy Plummer**, Mission to North America
 - **Rev. Christopher Harper**, Senior Pastor, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Rochester, MN.
- **Future Trustees (Class of 2028) – Endorsed by the Board of Trustees and recommended to the Nominating Committee of the General Assembly**

The Board of Trustees of Covenant Theological Seminary is pleased once again to present to the Nominating Committee of the PCA our recommendations for the next class of Seminary Board members. We remain thankful for the General Assembly's ruling nearly two decades ago which allows the Seminary to communicate directly with the Nominating Committee to endorse specific candidates for our Board, as long as their names have first been submitted by their respective presbyteries. These men provide key strengths and experience we believe the Seminary needs for the years ahead.

Covenant Seminary hereby endorses the following ruling elders as candidates for its Board of Trustees for the Class of 2028:

- **Mr. David Duren**, Chairman, CEO & Founder, Circon Energy, LLC. A native of Houston, TX, David holds degrees in both Mechanical Engineering and Computer Science from Texas A&M University. David founded Circon as a pioneer in energy transition; he is also Founder and CEO of Kinected Energy Solutions, LLC, and Chairman of ReCO2, LLC. As an innovator in carbon neutrality for sustainable business applications, David co-founded the carbon and environmental trading entity Net Zero, LLC and serves as the Chairman of the eAI institute, a not-for-profit research institute optimizing ESG with machine learning systems for environmental stewardship outcomes. David previously served as Chief Executive Officer of Relevant Solutions, LLC. David also regularly serves as a guest lecturer in the College of Engineering for Texas A&M University on topics of leadership, sustainability, and character development. David and his wife, Gretchen, have five children and two sons-in-

law. They both serve on national boards and in leadership roles at the community level, including Past-Chair and Independent Director of Reformed Youth Ministries (RYM), the Leadership Council of Texas A&M's Association of Former Students and the National Charity League. David and Gretchen attend Christ the King Presbyterian Church in Houston where he serves as a ruling elder. He joined the Advisory Board in 2023.

- **Mr. Bruce Harrington**, Principal, Consulting Nonprofits, LLC, Colorado Springs, CO [retired]. Bruce holds a BA in economics from Vanderbilt University, an MDiv from Covenant Theological Seminary, and an MBA from Washington University in St. Louis. He was Vice President for Advancement at Covenant from 1984 to 1990. In recent years, Bruce trained nonprofit CEOs in board financial communication. He has also served as CFO at WaterStone, a \$250 million Christian community foundation based in Colorado Springs. Bruce has served as a ruling and teaching elder for the past 35 years. He is currently a ruling elder at Forestgate Presbyterian Church, a borrowed elder for a daughter church, and is former Chair of Rocky Mountain Presbytery's Shepherding Committee. He and Connie have three married children and twelve grandchildren. Bruce has been active with Covenant Seminary's Advisory Board since 2010 and joined the Board of Trustees in 2014.
- **Mr. Paul Stoll**, President of Armin Tool and Manufacturing Company, Elgin, IL. Paul graduated from LeTourneau College in 1981 with a BS in Welding Engineering. He has been employed by Armin Tool and Manufacturing Company since 1973 and became president of the company in 1987. Paul has led the company into a variety of manufacturing applications used in the injection molding industry. Many everyday products that we now take for granted are manufactured by Armin. Paul and his wife, Katy, have two adult sons and are members of Westminster Presbyterian Church of Elgin, Illinois, where he is a ruling elder. Paul was first elected to Covenant's Board in 2006.
- **Mr. Gif Thornton**, Managing Partner, Adams and Reese,

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Nashville, TN. Gif is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and Vanderbilt Law School. He has served as Managing Partner of his firm since 2015. Prior to that time, he served as legislative counsel to a number of businesses, trade associations, and governmental entities with interests before Tennessee state and local government. Additionally, Gif has served his community as a member of the Board of Trust of Vanderbilt University as well as Brentwood Academy. He is a ruling elder at Christ Presbyterian Church in Nashville and has served on its Administrative Commission for many years. He was the first Chair of the Committee on Judicial Business for Nashville Presbytery. Gif's wife, Anna, served on the Advisory Board of the Francis A. Schaeffer Institute of Covenant Theological Seminary. The Thorntons have four children. Gif was first elected to the Seminary Board in June 2010.

Covenant Seminary hereby endorses the following teaching elders as candidates for its Board of Trustees for the Class of 2028:

- **Rev. Brian Habig**, Senior Pastor, Downtown Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC. Brian grew up in Mississippi and graduated from Mississippi State University. He then continued his education at Covenant Seminary, earning an MDiv in 1995. After seminary, he served as a campus minister with Reformed University Fellowship at Mississippi State University and then at Vanderbilt University before moving with his family to Greenville, South Carolina in 2005. Brian has served Downtown Presbyterian Church since 2005. Brian has also served on the Permanent Committee of RUF and has provided multiple book reviews for Presbyterion. Brian and his wife, Dana, have three children. He joined the Covenant Seminary Board in 2014.
- **Rev. Murray Lee**, Executive Coordinator, Mission to North America. Murray is a graduate of Samford University and completed his seminary training at Covenant Theological Seminary in 2005. He received his PhD in organizational communication from the University of Alabama in 2017. Following seminary, Murray planted Cahaba Park Church where he served as Senior Pastor from 2007-2022. He

currently serves as the Executive Coordinator with Mission to North America. He and his wife, Kim, have three children. He joined the Advisory Board in 2010.

The Board of Trustees of Covenant Theological Seminary humbly submits the above endorsements with gratitude that the General Assembly encourages us to voice our particular needs and concerns in this way.

Faculty Publications and Kingdom Service

Our faculty's influence reaches far beyond the classroom: professors mentor and disciple students, participate in the life of local congregations, share their teaching and preaching abilities with the larger church in the U.S. and around the world, and engage with our culture and the pressing issues of our day from a biblically sound and gospel-centered perspective. Here is a sampling of their publications and other kingdom service since our last report.

- **Dr. Brian Aucker**, Professor of Old Testament
 - Review of *The Oxford Handbook of the Historical Books of the Hebrew Bible*, ed. B. E. Kelly and B. A. Strawn (Oxford, 2020), in *Bulletin of Biblical Research* 32, no. 4 (2022): 443–46.
 - Faculty Advisor for the student-led Theological Fellowship at Covenant Seminary (along with Dr. Bob Yarbrough and Dr. Robbie Griggs).
- **Prof. Suzanne Bates**, Assistant Professor of Counseling
 - Served on the Seminary's Title IX Committee and Diversity Committee.
 - Served as member of the board of Restore St. Louis.
 - Facilitated Beautiful Community Covenant Group primarily for CTS students of color, and Women of Wisdom group for student women over the age of 40.
- **Dr. David W. Chapman**, Professor of New Testament and Archaeology
 - Published the entries “Anaphora Pilati,” “Paradosis Pilati,” “Pilate Cycle,” and “Vindicta Salvatoris” in *Brill Encyclopedia of Early Christianity*, ed. P. van Geest, B. J. L. Peerbolte, and D. Hunter (Leiden: Brill, forthcoming).

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- Continued to serve as Curator/Director of the W. Harold Mare Institute for Biblical and Archaeological Studies on CTS's campus.
- Taught "World of the New Testament" class at Elias Riggs Academy in Sofia, Bulgaria (a denominational Bible school associated with the MTW team in Sofia) in June–July 2023.
- Taught "Hermeneutics" for Covenant Bible School in Singapore (overseen by CTS graduate Joseph Tee) via Zoom during July–September 2023.
- Served on the board and as President of Presbyterian Mission International, which sends trained international students back to their home countries as missionaries.
- **Dr. Tasha Chapman**, Professor of Educational Ministries
 - Contracted through IVP for a Hungarian edition of *Resilient Ministry* (orig. pub. 2013; coauthored with B. Burns and D. Guthrie) to be published by Reformatus Kalvin Kiado.
 - Published chapter titled "Pastors Empowering Women to Flourish," in *Not So with You: Pastors and Pulpits, Power and Authority*, ed. M. Stirling and M. Meynell (Wipf & Stock, 2023).
 - Published articles in Hungarian in collaboration with CTS graduate Bori Mikola, including "Resilient Ministry: What We Learned from Pastors in 7 Years of Research," in *Sárospataki Füzetek* (journal of the Hungarian Reformed Church seminaries), and "Pastors Are God's Sheep First, Shepherds Second," in Reformed Church of Hungary's denominational newsletter.
 - Worked with Committee on Discipleship Ministries to facilitate training cohorts of non-seminary trained church ministry staff, and consulted with CDM for Lilly Grant application for updates to children's curriculum "Teach Me to Worship."
 - Consulted with Geneva Benefits regarding research on wellness of women ministry leaders.
 - Led conferences, workshops, and ministry leader retreats over five weeks in Hungary and Bulgaria, hosted by CTS graduates; and spoke by Zoom for on resilient ministry and other topics for Thirdmill and Redeemer University (Ontario).
 - Provided curriculum design and edit suggestions to authors and endorsements for publishers for several students and alumni in helping them get their work published.
- **Dr. C. John "Jack" Collins**, Professor of Old Testament

- Published “*Ordo/Historia Salutis: Do We Have to Choose?*” in *Presbyterion* (Fall 2003), as part of a *Festschrift* for Dr. Michael D. Williams.
- Published “2 Kings 19:35–37 (et par.): Can We Say What ‘Really Happened?’” for a *Festschrift* in honor of V. Phillips Long and Ian Provan on their retirements from Regent University.
- Presented paper “Biblical Authority and Human Origins: Reading the Hebrew Bible,” at ETS conference in 2023; also submitted to *Presbyterion* for publication.
- Spoke and taught in various church, retreat, or conference settings.
- **Dr. Dan Doriani**, Professor of Biblical and Systematic Theology
 - Served as Interim Pastor at Greentree Community Church (EPC) in St. Louis, MO, for part of the year.
 - Was named Interim Senior Pastor of Briarwood Presbyterian Church (PCA) in Birmingham, AL; to serve full-time with the church while continuing to teach part-time at CTS until a new Senior Pastor is found, then to return to full-time teaching.
 - Spoke at The Gospel Coalition conference and various other conferences, and at churches locally and nationally, especially on the topic of work.
 - Working on two books in progress, one on the topic of virtue and the other on 1 Corinthians.
 - Published article “Above Reproach: Moral Failure and Godly Character in Pastoral Leadership,” in *Westminster Theological Journal* (spring 2023).
 - Was on sabbatical for fall 2023 so not as involved in campus life as usual.
- **Dr. Thomas C. Gibbs**, President and Associate Professor of Applied Theology
 - Published “Why I Am Thankful for Tim Keller,” “2023 President’s Report to the General Assembly of the PCA,” “Our Returning King,” on CTS blog *Orthodoxy and Orthopraxy*.
 - Published or republished “Your Own Personal Jesus,” “Three Things to Help Your Church Plant Survive,” and “Bridge Building, the PCA, and the Next 50 Years” on *byFaith online*.
 - Published articles “Preparing Pastors and Ministry Leaders to

- Reach the Next Generation” (*Covenant* magazine, 2023) and “Grace for Leaders” (*Covenant*, Spring 2024).
- Published “On the Relevance of Creeds and Confessions” in *Presbyterion* (Spring 2023) and “The Crushing Burden of Choice” in *Presbyterion* (Fall 2023; special issue Festschrift for Dr. Michael D. Williams).
 - Traveled extensively to meet with donors, supporters, alumni, and key PCA leaders on behalf of the Seminary.
 - Taught Doctor of Ministry courses on Ministry Leadership.
 - Preached, taught, and visited with churches and ministry partners around the country and internationally, including Brazil; Bogota, Colombia; and the Presbyterian Theological Seminary in India.
- **Dr. Aaron Goldstein**, Assistant Professor of Old Testament and Director of Online Learning
 - Served as guest preacher and teacher for various local churches.
 - Taught “Reflections on the Psalms” course for Covenant Bible School in Singapore.
 - **Dr. Robbie Griggs**, Associate Professor of Systematic Theology
 - Transferred credentials from EPC to PCA in 2023 as part of desire to be more effective mentor and role model for students in our denomination.
 - Serving as Chair of the Department of Theological Studies and Director of the Master of Theology (ThM) program.
 - Faculty Advisor for the student-led Theological Fellowship at Covenant Seminary (along with Dr. Bob Yarbrough and Dr. Brian Aucker).
 - **Dr. Robert Kim**, Associate Professor of Applied Theology and Church Planting, Philip and Rebecca Douglass Chair of Church Planting and Christian Formation
 - Serving on boards of Serge and The Gospel Coalition, on Missouri Presbytery’s Mission to North America Committee, and is in regular dialogue with MNA at the national level as well as with MNA Assessment Center activities at Covenant.
 - Served as Pulpit Supply for various churches and consulted with various church planting networks and churches.
 - Spoke at a variety of mission-related and church planting-related

conferences.

- **Dr. Paul Loosemore**, Director of Counseling Department and the Counseling Center, Associate Professor of Counseling
 - Submitted book proposal to IVP for *Curiosity and Flourishing in Research: A Christian Integrative Approach*, to be co-authored with a colleague; another article is in the midst of the peer-review process.
 - Published “The Mediating Role of Character Virtues Humility, Gratitude and Compassion between Relationship with God and Well-Being” in *Christian Psychology Around the World*.
 - Published several posts on CTS blog *Orthodoxy and Orthopraxy*, including “Grace and Conviction for the Next Few,” “Pastors and Counselors in Tandem,” “Is It Really Depression?”
 - Participated in Lifetime of Learning discussion panel.
- **Dr. Drew Martin**, Associate Professor of Systematic Theology
 - Served as Director of Field Education for Covenant Seminary.
 - Published *The Covenant with Moses and the Kingdom of God: Thomas Hobbes and the Theology of the Old Covenant in Early Modern England* (Brill, 2023).
 - Awaiting publication of *Grimke on the Christian Life: Christian Vitality for the Church and the World* (Crossway, forthcoming).
 - Published review of K. J. Drake, *The Flesh of the Word* (Oxford U. Press) in *Journal of Ecclesiastical History* (2023).
 - Preaching and teaching at home church on occasion.
 - Serving on GA Theological Examining Committee.
- **Dr. Brad Matthews**, Associate Professor of New Testament and Dean of Faculty
 - Served as Interim Pastor at South City Church in St. Louis City.
- **Dr. Mark Pfuetze**, Associate Professor of Counseling
 - Served as board member for FirstLight St. Louis.
 - Served as counseling consultant/director for Global Counseling Network and as a counseling consultant to pastors, churches, and ministries.
- **Dr. Jeremy Ruckstaetter**, Associate Professor of Counseling and Director of CACREP Accreditation

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- Oversaw process of the MAC program becoming fully accredited by CACREP in 2023.
- Served on the board of Presbyterian Mission International (PMI).
- Served as Support Group Coordinator for Chesterfield Presbyterian Church.
- **Dr. Jay Sklar**, Vice President of Academics and Professor of Old Testament
 - Published *Numbers* in the Story of God Bible Commentary series (Zondervan, 2023) and *Additional Notes on Numbers* (Gleanings Press, 2023).
 - Published *Leviticus: A Discourse Analysis of the Hebrew Bible* in Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the OT (Zondervan, 2023) and *Additional Notes on Leviticus* (Gleanings Press, 2023).
 - Published *Exodus* and *Jonah* in the online Gospel Coalition Commentary (2023).
- **Prof. Jessie Swigart**, Assistant Professor of Educational Ministries and Dean of Academic Administration
 - Published “Learning to Participate in God’s Mission: Communities of Practice,” in *Presbyterion* (Fall 2023), part of *Festschrift* for Dr. Michael D. Williams.
 - Served on discussion panels in 2023 during campus Preview Day activities for prospective students.
- **Dr. Robert W. Yarbrough**, Professor of New Testament
 - Published “Machen on the Bible: An Explanation and Application of Christianity and Liberalism,” in *Southern Baptist Journal of Theology* (2023).
 - Presented paper titled “The Pros and Cons of Presentism” at the inaugural conference of the Institute for Reformation in South Africa, a coalition of South African Reformed scholars and church leaders seeking to challenge the prevailing postmodern liberalism of the Dutch Reformed Churches (DRC) in South Africa; the article will appear in an upcoming book containing all the papers given at the conference.
 - Published chapter “The Centrality of the Gospel in Romans: The Importance of Getting It . . . and Getting It Right,” in *Paul’s Letter to the Romans: Theological Essays* (Hendrickson Academic

- 2023).
- Served as Editor for *Presbyterion*, the Seminary’s academic journal; on the editorial board for *Themelios*, published by The Gospel Coalition.
 - Faculty Advisor for the student-led Theological Fellowship at Covenant Seminary (along with Dr. Robbie Griggs and Dr. Brian Aucker).
 - Gave the Sizemore Lectures at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, MO, in February 2023.
 - Guest taught adult Sunday school and/or preached at Greentree Community Church (EPC) multiple times throughout the year and led a session on “Liberalism and Conservatism: A Tale of Two Religions” for a community conference.
 - Preached and/or taught several times at other churches, including St. Mark Lutheran Church in Lindhurst, IL; Peace Tabernacle Fellowship in inner city St. Louis; and Redemption Phoenix.
 - Taught at multiple pastors’ conferences, family conferences, and Timothy Training International conferences both in the US and in South Africa.
- **Dr. Dan Zink**, Professor of Counseling
 - Published “With,” in *Presbyterion* (Fall 2023) as part of Festschrift for Dr. Michael D. Williams.
 - Published “Jackson Browne, Suffering, and Awareness,” and “Listening Is” on CTS blog *Orthodoxy and Orthopraxy*.

Continuing in Faithful Service—by God’s Grace and for His Glory

We conclude this report as we do each year with humble gratitude to our denomination for continuing to support and encourage us, and to the Lord for allowing us to be part of his gracious work in bringing the good news of Jesus Christ to people everywhere as we train pastors, counselors, and other ministry leaders for the PCA and beyond. May God’s hand of blessing be on us, and on our sister PCA organizations, as we work together to bring honor and glory to Jesus’s name. May he guide us and keep us all steadfast in our devotion to him, so that we may stay the course that he has set for us and hear at last, when we reach our final destination, those beautiful and blessed words, “Well done, good and faithful servants.”

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Dr. Thomas C. Gibbs
President

Recommendations

1. That the General Assembly give thanks to God for the ministry of Covenant Theological Seminary; for its faithfulness to the Scriptures, the Reformed faith, and the Great Commission; for its students, graduates, faculty, staff, and trustees; and for those who support the Seminary through their prayers and gifts.
2. That the General Assembly encourage the congregations of the Presbyterian Church in America to support the ministry of Covenant Theological Seminary by contributing the Partnership Shares approved by the Assembly, and by recommending Covenant Seminary to prospective students.
3. That the General Assembly ask the Lord's blessing on Covenant Seminary's President, Rev. Dr. Thomas C. Gibbs, and grant him and the Seminary's leadership team, faculty, and Board of Trustees great wisdom, biblical faithfulness, and clear vision as they lead the institution forward in training fruitful pastors and other ministry leaders.
4. That the General Assembly ask God to guide Covenant Seminary's ongoing efforts at recruiting new students, evaluating and strengthening our programs, and seeking to make the Seminary a greater resource for the church both locally and globally.
5. That the General Assembly ask God's blessing on the Seminary's planning and fundraising efforts, and on its attempts to recruit a new generation of dedicated pastor-scholars to train new generations of leaders for Christ's church and kingdom.
6. That the General Assembly praise God for his provision of faithful donors and supporters who continue to give generously toward our mission, and for the many ways that he has enabled Covenant Seminary's students, faculty, and staff to continue building effectively on the solid foundation laid by our forebears in the faith. Praise him for the gift of resilient and creative people who enable the institution to function so well during challenging times.
7. That the General Assembly pray for unity among the brethren of the PCA and ask the Lord to work in all our hearts to foster a deeper desire

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to engage with one another and the world in compassionate and gospel-centered ways, and that we might bear strong witness to the truth and power of God’s redeeming grace.

8. That the General Assembly approve the minutes of the stated and called meetings of the Seminary’s Board of Trustees and Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees for 2023–2024 as follows:
 - *Stated Board Meetings*: April 28, 2023; September 22, 2023; January 26, 2024
 - *Called Board Meetings*: None
 - *Stated Executive Committee Meetings*: April 27, 2023; September 21, 2023; January 25, 2024
 - *Called Executive Committee Meetings*: April 18, 2023; September 13, 2023; December 5, 2023, January 19, 2024
9. That the financial audit for Covenant Theological Seminary for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, by Capin Crouse LLC, be received.
10. That the proposed budget for 2024–25 for Covenant Theological Seminary be approved.
11. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 7** from Ascension Presbytery “Amend *RAO* 11-5 to Clarify Process for *RAO* Amendments” in the affirmative.
12. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 14** from the Presbytery of Northwest Georgia “Amend *RAO* 4-21.d to Require Enrollment Data from Higher Ed Institutions” in the affirmative.
13. That the General Assembly refer **Overture 31** from New River Presbytery “Amend *BCO* 14-1 Regarding Changes in Permanent Committee and Agency Policy” to the 52nd General Assembly in 2025.

Rationale: This overture was not received by the Administrative Committee in time for any Permanent Committees or Agencies, except for Covenant Seminary, to consider prior to the 51st General Assembly in 2024. Given its late date (April 3rd), neither Covenant Seminary nor the Administrative Committee could prepare an informed recommendation to their respective committees and boards.
14. That the General Assembly refer **Overture 32** from Eastern Pennsylvania Presbytery “Amend *BCO* 23 to Address Dissolution of Call for those employed by a Committee or Agency” to the 52nd General Assembly in 2025.

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Rationale: This overture was not received by the Administrative Committee in time for any Permanent Committee or Agency Board (or their legal counselors) to consider prior to the 51st General Assembly in 2024.

APPENDIX H

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF GENEVA BENEFITS GROUP TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

We are pleased to present our Report to the General Assembly on behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of Geneva Benefits Group.

President's Report

In the Old Testament, the book of Nehemiah stands as a testimony to how God works to accomplish his redemptive purposes through his covenant people. While teaching through this book recently, I was reminded of why I love Nehemiah and the book given his name. Nehemiah's mission to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the wall was more than a physical rebuilding. The destroyed wall was a picture of the nature of God's covenant people while in exile. Spiritual renewal began with the physical rebuilding of the wall, but the deeper message of the book is God's faithfulness to rebuild his church. The wall is just a picture of that truth.

Here at Geneva, we are engaging in a multi-layered building project as well. This year, our offices have undergone a building program to meet the space needs of our growing staff. We are also committed to helping build and rebuild healthy churches and elders through our products and services. We do the quiet, behind-the-scenes work so that church leaders can rebuild and renew the people of God. These include mundane things like life and disability insurance, as well as long-range things like retirement saving and financial planning. We also offer services aimed at improving the wellbeing of ministry workers, such as counseling for pastors' wives, sabbatical coaching and matching funds, call package guidelines, and, in 2024, peer cohorts for pastors.

New Staff

In 2023 Geneva continued to expand our team. We added Michael Yoon to our Philanthropic Giving team. We hired Reilly Cummings to our Benefit Services team. We hired Dana Walker and Ioli Airy to our Operations team.

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As part of the Lilly Endowment's Economic Challenges Facing Pastoral Leaders grant, we hired TE Paul Joiner to serve as our new Director of Ministerial Wellbeing. After over two decades of pastoral ministry, Paul joins our staff with a wealth of knowledge and understands the challenges that pastors and sessions in our denomination face. We expect this to be a growing area for Geneva as we seek to come alongside churches and pastors by providing resources to help them build and rebuild healthy churches rooted in the gospel. After searching for nearly 18 months, we finished the year by hiring TE Will Chang as our first full-time Investment Specialist. We are thrilled that Will joined our staff on January 2, 2024. Prior to his pastoral ministry, Will worked in the financial industry for nearly 10 years. His unique combination of pastoral experience and financial expertise make him an ideal person to serve in this new role.

New and Improved Tools

While we spent a lot of time this year adding to our team of workers, we also sharpened several of our tools. 2023 saw the most comprehensive update to our call package guidelines since they were introduced in 2012. We now offer three versions: one for pastors, another for churches, and a third for presbyteries. This resource has not only served the PCA for over a decade but has been utilized by other denominations within the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council of Churches (NAPARC). In addition, several larger denominations have used the guidelines to help them construct their own version. We spent much of 2023 upgrading processes and procedures in an effort to make them easier and more secure for our churches and ministry workers. We also continued to improve our financial planning assistance for ministry workers by adding the use of MoneyGuide Pro to help plan for things beyond just retirement. We are committed to seeing pastors and ministry workers grow spiritually and financially healthy. Financial health is so much more than having enough to live on in the final season of one's earthly ministry. To that end, we continue to pursue ways to help ministry workers grow financially healthy.

In addition to sharpening old tools, we have also added several new ones. I mentioned that 2023 saw the launch of our sabbatical matching program. In 2023, we awarded \$40,000 to help 4 churches provide their pastors with a sabbatical. We also began a new partnership with Mission to North America

(MNA) geared towards promoting overall church health throughout the denomination.

Challenges

As many of you know, we had to discontinue our counseling benefit at the end of 2023. We had hoped our partnership with Full Strength Network (FSN) would benefit everyone in our denomination. We were disappointed we had to shut the program down. While we are not prepared to roll out a new counseling benefit at this time, we are working on a new and improved benefit. Another challenge has been finding a health insurance solution that is financially sustainable. We know that the single biggest benefit needed by our pastors and ministry workers is health insurance, so we are working hard to find a solution that would serve all our churches, whether they have a staff of 1 or 30.

You will read later in this report about the record-breaking year of giving to the Relief Fund as well as the record-breaking Relief awards given in 2023. We finished the year with over \$8.5 million in the Relief Trust. There is still much work to do for us to raise the \$25 million necessary by 2035. We remain confident and hopeful that when the whole church works together, we can accomplish this task. It is our privilege to serve our church in this way.

Market Update

As dismal as 2022 was for investors, 2023 was much more positive. The year began with conversations about runaway inflation, rising interest rates, recession, and soft landing. By mid-year, it appeared that inflation was beginning to moderate, and the Federal Reserve (FED) was slowing, or at least pausing, its rate increases. In addition, the highly anticipated China reopening didn't seem to provide the economic boost many were expecting. In March, the collapse of Silicon Valley Bank, First Republic (absorbed by JP Morgan), and Signature Bank of New York seemed to be evidence that FED's monetary policy broke something in the economy. Despite the failing of those banks and the collapse of Credit Suisse (acquired by UBS) no major market catastrophe happened. Increasing optimism led to a mid-year peak ahead of a third quarter drawdown. After four 0.25% rate increases earlier in 2023, the FED paused rates in September. As markets pulled back from August to October many were surprised at how little impact the October Hamas attack on Israel had on stocks and specifically on oil prices.

A market rally began in the fourth quarter and ran through the end of the year. Even fixed income bond funds rallied in the fourth quarter, posting a strong return for the year. The S&P 500 finished the year up 24.23%, while the Dow gained 13.8%, and the Nasdaq finished up 43.42% amid interest in Artificial Intelligence (AI). The year's gains were largely on the backs of the "Magnificent 7." These seven stocks, Alphabet, Amazon, Apple, Meta Platforms, Microsoft, Nvidia, and Tesla, made up 65% of the S&P 500's return for all of 2023.

In November, Warren Buffet's long time business partner and friend, Charlie Munger died at 99. He once said, "It is remarkable how much long-term advantage people like us have gotten by trying to be consistently not stupid, instead of trying to be very intelligent." At the end of 2023 there was a lot written about how poorly the economic forecasters and prognosticators did. Virtually no one projected the S&P would finish the year above 4700. This reinforces Geneva's commitment to think long-term. While Warren Buffet may be the most iconic investor in the past 40 years, his genius has more to do with his longevity (he will turn 94 this year) than trying to time the market. So, whether you are 35 or 65, our target date funds are designed with your age-appropriate risk tolerance in mind. The greatest thing you can do to improve your retirement picture is to contribute between 10 to 15% of your annual income to your retirement account. We exist to help you do that. We want to help you with the complexities of retirement planning so the Spirit's work of making you more generous in every season of ministry can become a reality. This is the ministry God has called us to. Don't hesitate to reach out. We are here to serve you.

Summary of 2023 Operations

In 2023, our total 403(b) retirement plan assets under management increased by 16% from \$803,533,486 to \$931,047,593. This increase can be attributed to comparative market performance over the prior year, as well as plan contributions surpassing plan distributions. The retirement plan continues to be Geneva's most popular employee benefit plan, with almost 10,000 retirement accounts at year-end 2023.

Participation also increased for the combined group insurance benefit plans, approaching 4900 insured employee lives.

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With over 4000 participants, life insurance plans experienced no plan design changes in 2023. Offered through MetLife, the life insurance plans include such features as will preparation, portability, estate services, and accelerated benefit offerings, all with limited (or no) medical underwriting for new employees.

Disability insurance, including long-term and short-term disability, has almost 4000 participants. Offered through Unum, the long-term disability plan provides elements of top-tier group disability benefits, such as retirement income protection, cost of living adjustments, and claims payment until Social Security full retirement age. Geneva's short-term plan covers the loss in income for the period between the loss and when long-term coverage begins.

There were no changes to the dental plan or the vision plan. Both plans promote tax-efficient employee benefit offerings and boast large national networks.

While Geneva's counseling and wellbeing benefit was a very popular and well-utilized product that grew to 500 participants, the funding model for the partner firm was unable to sustain the program. Geneva ended the relationship with Full Strength Network in December of 2023. Counseling and wellbeing are critical services that need to be addressed. A replacement solution is under investigation.

Geneva has recommended a property, casualty, and liability insurance carrier for organizations since 2000. Since 2017, we have recommended Brotherhood Mutual to churches, schools, and ministries. Brotherhood Mutual specializes in providing insurance to Christian organizations and seeks to provide PCA organizations with special group-affiliated pricing. Brotherhood Mutual and related companies also provide commercial auto, worker's compensation, mission travel insurance, legal assistance, and payroll processing.

Since 1973, the Geneva Relief Fund has provided pastors and their widows with critical financial assistance and support. We give thanks to God for his provision that met the increased needs of our pastors, widows, and ministry workers. In 2023, we provided almost \$650,000 of financial assistance to PCA church servants through 423 financial assistance awards. Through our Cherish program, wives of PCA teaching elders were able to meet with a qualified

Christian counselor. We invested \$46,550 in this much-needed program to provide pastors' wives with access to 583 counseling sessions.

We are grateful to report that as needs increased, so did generosity. In 2023, generous individuals, churches, and private foundations gave almost \$1.6 million to the Relief Fund. We thank every church that supports this ministry, whether through gifts or participating in our special Look After offering. We invite all churches to prayerfully consider sharing about the Relief Fund with your congregations and inviting them to participate in a special offering in support of our retired pastors, widows, and ministry workers in need. We will provide you with everything you need.

Relevant Legislative and Regulatory Updates

Proposed Legislation

The following items were proposed, and several have been passed by House or Senate committees, but approval is still under consideration. Geneva watches and participates with several church organizations to inform or encourage legislators on your behalf.

- A proposal to expand the ability of individuals to contribute to Health Savings Accounts and the services that can be paid for by them
- Several provisions to make hospital pricing more transparent and understandable for patients
- A bill to expand the availability of telehealth services
- Several bills to lower prescription drug costs
- A proposal (the Clergy Act) to allow clergy who previously opted out of Social Security to opt back in

Relevant Regulatory Limits for 2024

Relevant cost-of-living and required statutory limit adjustments applicable to benefit plans for 2024 are as follows:

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Contribution limit for retirement plan	\$69,000 (\$3000 increase)
Elective deferral limit	\$23,000 (\$500 increase)
Retirement plan catch-up contribution limit (over 50)	\$7,500 (\$0 increase)
Annual HSA contribution limit	\$4,150 – individual (\$300 increase) \$8,300 – family (\$550 increase)
HSA Catch-up contribution limit (over 55)	\$1,000 (no change)
Annual contribution limit for FSA	\$3,200 (\$150 increase)
Maximum cafeteria plan carryover	\$640 (\$30 increase)
Annual contribution limit for dependent care FSA	\$5,000 (no change)

Staff

The Geneva staff is thankful to the Lord for His faithfulness and everlasting love to his Church this past year and eagerly awaits the opportunities and challenges in store for our future. We believe that God will continue to bless our ministry to others as we remain faithful to Him. We welcome the prayers and partnership of participants and churches this year and into the future. It is our privilege to serve those who minister in the Presbyterian Church in America.

Ms. Ioli Airy, Assistant to the President
 Rev. Donald S. Aldin, CRPC, Director of Retirement Readiness and Data/Technology
 Rev. David L. Anderegg Jr., CFP, Senior Financial Planning Advisor
 Mr. Andrew E. Beiriger, CPA, Staff Accountant
 Mrs. Heather S. Chambliss, Director of Business Operations
 Rev. Will Chang, Investment Specialist
 Rev. Paul S. Chi, CRPC, Financial Planning Advisor
 Miss Reilly Cummings, Benefits Advisor
 Rev. Edward W. Dunnington, CFP, President
 Mrs. Peggy N. Henry, Retirement Planning Administrator
 Rev. Paul Joiner, Director of Ministerial Wellbeing
 Mrs. Grace L. Kang, Benefits Advisor

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Ms. Ingrid Krein, CRPC, Retirement Planning Specialist
Mr. Chester R. Lilly III, CIA, Vice President of Operations
Rev. Stephen M. Maginas, CRPC, Financial Planning Advisor
Rev. Jonathan B. Medlock, JD, Vice President of People and Culture
Mr. Mark S. Melendez, CRPC, Director of Benefit Services
Mrs. Bonita K. Nowak, Benefits Project Manager
Ms. Anna Poland, Operations Administrator
Ms. Teresa Reese, CPA, Director of Finance
Mrs. Sophia M. Rivera, Marketing Coordinator
Mrs. Sandra N. Robertson, Benefits Advisor
Mrs. Katelyn Rogers, Operations Administrator
Miss Stephanie S. Simpson, CPA, Staff Accountant
Mrs. Dana Walker, Receptionist / Administrative Assistant
Miss Emily E. White, Benefits Advisor
Mr. Michael J. Yoon, Donor Relations Manager
Miss Christine M. Zurbach, CFRE, MBA, Director of Philanthropy and Marketing

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the General Assembly approve the minutes of the Board of Directors meetings dated September 22, 2023, November 17, 2023, and March 8, 2024.
2. That the General Assembly receive the 2023 Audited Financials as reviewed by Capin Crouse LLP.
3. That the General Assembly approve the 2025 Operating Budget with the understanding that it is a spending plan and will be adjusted as necessary by the Board of Directors to accommodate changing conditions during that fiscal year.
4. That the General Assembly approve the 2025 Trustee Fee Agreements for the Retirement Plan Trust, the Health and Welfare Benefit Trust, and the Charitable Relief Trust.
5. That the General Assembly approve the Amended and Restated Trust Agreement for the Presbyterian Church in America 403(b)(9) Retirement Plan and Other Retirement Plans Trust.
6. That the General Assembly approve the Amended and Restated Trust Agreement for the Presbyterian Church in America Health and Welfare Benefit Trust.

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7. That the General Assembly approve the Declaration of Trust Amending the Geneva Benefits Group Charitable Relief Trust.
8. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 7** from Ascension Presbytery “Amend *RAO 11-5* to Clarify Process for *RAO* Amendments” with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee.
9. That the General Assembly exhort PCA Presbyteries, churches, and related ministries to review and utilize the PCA Call Package Guidelines in creating compensation packages for Teaching Elders.
10. That the General Assembly urge member churches to participate in an annual offering to Geneva Relief or to budget regular benevolence giving to support relief activities through the Geneva Relief Fund.
11. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 31** from New River Presbytery “Amend *BCO 14-1* Regarding Changes in Permanent Committee and Agency Policy” with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee.
12. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 32** from Eastern Pennsylvania Presbytery “Amend *BCO 23* to Address Dissolution of Call for Those Employed by a Committee or Agency” with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee.

It is our privilege to serve those who minister in the Presbyterian Church in America.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew Field
Chairman, Board of Directors

Rev. Ed Dunnington, CFP®
President

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APPENDIX I

REPORT OF THE INTERCHURCH RELATIONS COMMITTEE TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Membership

- RE Billy Ball (Class of 2025)
- TE Bryan Chapell – PCA Stated Clerk (*ex officio* member, RAO 3-2 j.)
- TE David Gilleran (Class of 2026)
- RE Brad Isbell (Class of 2024)
- TE Roy Taylor (Chairman – Class of 2024)
- TE Wallace Tinsley (Class of 2025)
- RE Dennis Watts (Class of 2026)
- TE Nathan Chambers (Alternate)
- RE Aaron Reeves (Alternate)

Other

- TE Cartee Bales, Missouri (MTW advisory member)
- TE Billy Park, Korean Southeastern (Korean liaison advisory member)
- Ms. Heidi Harrison (Recording Secretary)

Meetings

The committee met twice via Zoom calls.

- September 13, 2023
- March 26, 2024

Items Discussed

- Invitations to send fraternal delegates to the OPC, NAPARC, EPC, CAN; and other Assemblies or Synods with volunteers approved by Chairman and Stated Clerk if additional invitations received.
- MNA/Brazilian Network received information regarding IPB delegates to General Assembly connecting with MNA representatives to help Brazilian pastors transition into PCA churches
- Fraternal Delegate presentations for both GA luncheon and plenary presentation be considered by the Administrative Committee

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- The committee elected officers for the Assembly year of 2024-2025
 - Chairman – RE Dennis Watts
 - Vice-chairman – RE Billy Ball
 - Secretary – TE David Gilleran
- Response to **Overture 2** (2023) from Covenant Presbytery that the PCA apply for admission to the International Conference of Reformed Churches

Recommendations

1. That all Fraternal Delegates be granted access to the General Assembly Commissioner Handbook.
2. That **Overture 2** (2023) from Covenant Presbytery about the PCA joining the International Conference of Reformed Churches (ICRC) which was subsequently referred back to this year's IRC be answered as follows: The IRC recommends that the 51st General Assembly follow the recommendation the IRC made to the 50th General Assembly, namely that the IRC follow the specific guidelines of the ICRC's membership procedures by having members of the PCA's IRC attend the next meeting of the ICRC (which is ordinarily required before membership application can be made) in 2026 to investigate and determine first-hand if formal membership is appropriate for the PCA, and return with a recommendation for the General Assembly to join or not.
3. That the minutes of September 13, 2023 be approved without exception.
4. That the minutes of March 26, 2024 be approved without exception.
5. That visiting ministers be introduced to the General Assembly, *BCO* 13-13.

APPENDIX J

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO NORTH AMERICA TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. John 17:22-23

MNA Purpose

Cultivating Kingdom Advancement through the PCA in North America

MNA Mission

MNA provides expertise with excellence to all PCA churches, presbyteries, and networks in North America by offering a suite of practical ministry resources—training, equipping and assisting in missional purpose, serving communities to advance God’s kingdom.

MNA Vision

The glory of the knowledge of the Lord will fill the earth as the waters cover the sea. Jesus is on mission in our secular age to advance his kingdom. Mission to North America serves the PCA for the expansion of churches that are faithful to the Scriptures, true to the Reformed faith and obedient to the Great Commission. By resourcing our churches for kingdom impact MNA will facilitate the multiplication of PCA churches in the US and Canada from 1,932 to 3,000 congregations by 2033. By the grace of God our church will prayerfully accomplish this by planting new churches, reducing church closures, expanding the diversity of the PCA, partnering with denominational committees and agencies, and enfolding existing congregations into the PCA.

The Church in North America in the 21st Century

At the turn of the century, church membership in North America began to plummet. It is south of 50 percent of the population and continuing to decline. In the United States approximately two dozen churches are shutting their doors every day. We praise the Lord that the PCA is growing in church numbers.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Even so, we are not keeping pace with population growth and demographic changes.

While some respond to our massive religious shift with alarm, at MNA we believe that we are in the middle of a great opportunity for gospel impact in North America! Coincident with the religious shift is a demographic shift resulting in North American communities becoming much more culturally and ethnically diverse. Our church has the opportunity to proclaim the gospel to the nations and impact the world from right here on this continent.

Our vision for the PCA to meet the moment with even more obedience to the Great Commission is being pursued through the following five commitments:

1. Church Planting. To increase church planting across the denomination, MNA is focused on recruiting church planters, assessing church planters, and equipping church planters.
 - a. In January 2024 MNA held our second Church Planting Summit in collaboration with Reformed Theological Seminary – Charlotte. 150 church planting leaders, MNA Presbytery Committee Chairmen, and MNA staff gathered for the collective work of growing church planting in the PCA. 49 presbyteries were represented at the Summit. MNA will continue to galvanize our leaders by bringing them together for envisioning faithful ways for the PCA to meet the gospel opportunity before us.
 - b. In March 2024 MNA held our inaugural Church Planter Preparation Training at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Lakeland, FL for church planters and aspiring church planters. Participants were able to select one of six tracks for training, (1) discerning the call to church planting, (2) preparing to plant a church, (3) establishing a presence to gathering a launch team, (4) gathering a team to launching a plant, (5) launching a plant to particularization, and (6) growing from particularization to reproduction. As with the Summit, MNA will continue to raise church planters and catalyze church planting through these trainings.
 - c. MNA's Church Planter Assessment Center held five church planter assessments throughout the US in 2023. Our church planting team is exploring the steps and resources required to develop assessment centers in different languages (Korean

- language assessments already exist). It is important to be able to assess people in their heart language, especially if they are going to be planting among people for whom that is their primary language. It is also important for us to assess people to plant in different demographic contexts and the skills required for those contexts.
2. Church Vitality. To equip the church to thrive, MNA is seeking to expand the presence of our ministries within every presbytery to ensure that churches have access to ministry resources that will support and build each congregation. This effort to serve our churches for their health is intended to help to reduce the number of church closures the PCA experiences each year and to enable existing churches to grow in missional health as they proclaim the Gospel to their neighbors.
 - a. Similarly to the Church Planting Summit as a means of collaborative and collective work, MNA is developing a Church Vitality Summit to engage our ministries and leaders for increase missional health in the PCA.
 3. Growing the Diversity of the PCA. As North America grows in diversity, we are focused on equipping our churches for neighbor love in Jesus' name across lines of deep difference.
 - a. MNA's ethnic minority ministries are continuing to enable our churches to reach ethnic minorities who share the love of the Reformed faith and the PCA such that these brothers and sisters thrive in the faith even as they maintain and celebrate their ethnic identities.
 - b. MNA is preparing to develop a Chinese ministry focused on church planting among Mandarin and Cantonese speakers.
 - c. MNA is also preparing to develop a Rural Church Planting ministry focused on catalyzing increased church planting in rural communities throughout the U.S. and Canada.
 - d. The PCA Unity Fund continues to provide scholarships for theological training for ethnic minorities committed to ministry in the PCA and scholarships for ethnic minority Teaching and Ruling Elders to attend General Assembly.
 4. Increased collaboration in the PCA. The vision to facilitate the growth of the PCA by 50% cannot be accomplished by MNA alone. It requires intentional and increased collaboration among our committees and agencies.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- a. CDM partnered with MNA's ESL Ministry for the development and publication of training materials for churches who want to develop an ESL program to serve their non-English speaking neighbors.
 - b. MTW invited MNA to partner with them for the November 2024 Missions Conference. This will include church planter training for domestic and international church planters.
5. Enfolding Churches Into the PCA. MNA is committed to developing a strategy for our presbyteries and churches to actively pursue churches in their communities who align with our doctrine and Standards and are in need of a denominational home.

MNA Executive Staff and Senior Leadership Growth:

In 2023 MNA's executive leadership team continued to develop with the appointment of Ruling Elder Mark Casson as the new MNA Ministry Engagement Director on September 1, 2023. Mark, renowned for his transformative leadership, served as the MNA Metanoia Prison Ministries Director from 2010 to 2023. In his new role Mark will lead our efforts to amplify the vision of increasing the number of PCA churches, furthering our missional efforts to help our churches reach their communities with the gospel.

On January 1, 2024, Teaching Elder Lowell Ivey began serving as MNA's Metanoia Prison Ministries Director. Lowell Ivey served over 15 years in prison, where he was set free by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. After his release in 2009, he was warmly welcomed into the fellowship of a small Presbyterian church in Longview, Texas. There he met his wife, Mae, whom he married in 2011. He attended Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary with the dream of serving in full-time prison ministry as an ordained minister. After graduating from seminary in 2015, he served a yearlong internship and felt the Lord was calling him into pastoral ministry. He served as pastor of Reformation Presbyterian Church in Virginia Beach, Virginia prior to joining MNA. Lowell and Mae have been blessed with five children.

MNA Resources for Church Planting & Vitality:

MNA continues to be committed to pursuing a heart for gospel impact through the PCA in every region, community, and people group of North America. We long for the Spirit to continue the good work of MNA and are excited to press forward in that direction. For the detail of MNA Ministries, services and resources available for church planting and vitality visit: www.pcamna.org.

For the list of PCA church planters placed on the field in 2023, see attachment 1.

How Can You Be a Part of This Vision?

1. **Pray.** We invite every church, presbytery, committee, and agency to join us in concerted prayer that the Lord grant us the unity, collaboration, love, sacrifice, and perseverance that's required to pursue this vision.
2. **Give.** The programs, staff, and projects required to grow to 3,000 churches will take the generosity of God's people, united in pursuit of this vision. To hear more of the vision in detail reach out to me at iince@pcanet.org, or Executive Coordinator Murray Lee at mwlee@pcanet.org. We would love to talk to you! Our budget for this vision is \$4.6M. We are inviting you to give to this good work. Please consider giving to the MNA General Fund, our ministries, and the PCA Unity Fund. To give online, go to www.pcamna.org and select the "Give" button. You may also mail donations to: MNA, PO Box 890233, Charlotte, NC 28289-0233.
3. **Engage.** Reach out to us. Let us serve you for church vitality and planting by making use of the resources we have available for that purpose. MNA's various ministries are wonderful resources for established PCA churches and church plants. We help equip and train churches and congregants for faithful kingdom mission. We invite you to engage with MNA ministries, enabling us to come alongside you as you seek to faithfully love neighbors in Jesus' name. Visit our website home page www.pcamna.org and select the Ministries.

We are One Church. We have One Mission. And it will take all of us. May Christ be glorified through our efforts! And may he bless us to be unified as we bear witness to his might and love in this world!

TE Irwyn L. Ince, Jr.
MNA Coordinator

A. MNA Stewardship and Finances: 2023 Progress Ministry Ask/Askings Giving:

MNA was supported in 2023 by 940 churches giving \$4,561,405 and 1,809 individual donors giving \$2,593,430. MNA was supported in

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2022 by 961 churches giving \$4,381,390 and 1,823 individual donors giving \$2,219,440. MNA requests that churches give the Ministry Ask of \$28 per member, if giving on a per capita basis. If all churches gave \$28 per member, all projects would be funded without individual fundraising by project leaders.

MNA requests that churches give to all PCA Committees and Agencies at the Ministry Ask level. Because many churches do not contribute at the Ministry Ask level, MNA senior staff members seek designated support for their personal support and programs. Churches have responded generously to these additional requests for support, providing significantly greater resources for ministry. Contact MNA Executive Coordinator TE Murray Lee <mwlee@pcanet.org or 678-825-1250> or MNA Church Relations Director RE Stephen Lutz <slutz@pcanet.org or 828-242-1440> for further information on financial support for MNA.

B. Funding for Church Planting and Other Projects:

- All church planters are supported by gifts designated for their particular church planting projects.
- Church planters who do not have a strong personal PCA network require a special priority for project support as we trust God for much greater ministry among the many people groups of North America. MNA strongly encourages churches to give a high priority to church planters who do not have a background in the PCA.
- Five Million Fund for Church Buildings: providing interest-free loans of up to \$100,000, this fund continues to be a helpful source for churches as they put together funding packages for their initial building programs. This is a revolving fund, supported by loan repayments, as well as by donations.

C. Thanksgiving Offering: MNA is grateful to the Lord for more than \$18,245.00 given to the 2024 Thanksgiving Offering, and commends to PCA churches the opportunity to support, through the annual MNA Thanksgiving Offering, the training of men and women for leadership in ministry among the ethnic groups of our communities.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That having reviewed the work of the MNA Coordinator during 2023 according to the General Assembly guidelines, **the MNA Committee**

- commends TE Irwyn Ince for his excellent leadership, with thanks to the Lord for the good results in MNA Ministry during 2023 and recommends his re-election as MNA Coordinator for another year.** Attachment 2 provides a complete list of MNA staff; see Attachment 3 for the list of MNA Permanent Committee members.
2. That the **Permanent Committee on Mission to North America 2024 budget, as presented through the Administrative Committee,** be approved by the General Assembly and commended to the churches for their support. (See p. 434)
 3. That the General Assembly adopts the 2023 MNA Audit.
 4. That **TE CH (COL) Keith N. Goode, USA** and **TE CH (LTC) James R. McCay, USA, Ret.,** and **RE Captain Rick Owens, USN, (Ret.)** be appointed to serve as a PCA members of the Presbyterian and Reformed Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel (PRCC) for the Class of 2028. **Major General Brook J. Leonard, USAF,** and **TE Capt. Paul Riley Wrigley, CHC, Ret.** be appointed to serve as PCA members of the Presbyterian and Reformed Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel (PRCC) for the Class of 2027.
 5. That the MNA Committee recommends to the General Assembly that **Overture 5 from the Piedmont Triad Presbytery, “Adjust Piedmont Triad and Catawba Valley Presbytery Boundaries,** to restructure the boundary between Piedmont Triad Presbytery (PTP) and Catawba Valley Presbytery (CVP) such that will extend north to Hwy 64 in Davidson County and PTP will extend south to Hwy 64 in Davidson County, effective July 1, 2024, be answered in the affirmative. See attachment 4.
 6. That the MNA Committee recommends to the General Assembly that **Overture 12 from Catawba Presbytery, Concur with Piedmont Triad Presbytery, to “Adjust Catawba Valley and Piedmont Triad Presbytery Boundaries”,** and to likewise transfer all existing PCA churches and church plants of the aforementioned territory will come into Catawba Valley Presbytery, and that all teaching elders and churches be received after a successful theological views examination effective July 1, 2024, be answered in the affirmative. See attachment 5.
 7. That the MNA Committee recommends to the General Assembly that **Overture 8 from Covenant Presbytery, “Change Boundaries of Covenant and Mississippi Valley Presbytery,** to restructure the

boundary between The Presbytery of Mississippi Valley and Covenant Presbytery, transfer Choctaw 29 County, Mississippi, from the geographic bounds of Covenant Presbytery to the 30 geographic bounds of the Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley, effective July 1, 2024, be answered in the affirmative. See attachment 6.

8. That the MNA Committee recommends to the General Assembly that **Overture 11 from Mississippi Valley Presbytery, "Change Boundaries of Mississippi Valley and Covenant Presbytery**, to restructure the boundary between The Presbytery of Mississippi Valley and Covenant Presbytery, transfer Choctaw County, Mississippi, from the geographic bounds of Covenant Presbytery to the geographic bounds of the Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley, effective July 1, 2024, be answered in the affirmative. See attachment 7.
9. That the MNA Committee **Recommends the General Assembly answer Overture 7 from Ascension Presbytery "Amend RAO 11-5 to Clarify Process for RAO Amendments"** with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee. Attachment 8.

ATTACHMENT 1

2023 CHURCH PLANTERS PLACED ON THE FIELD

This church planter list is compiled by MNA staff through contact with the presbyteries and attempts to identify every church planter placed on the field to begin a new work during 2023. In listing these mission churches, MNA does not intend to imply that MNA had direct involvement with each and every mission church. The majority of the listed mission churches utilized MNA services; others were established solely by presbyteries or sponsoring churches. Teaching Elders assigned to a new site of a multi-congregation church are included in this list as church planters placed on the field. Some church planters listed here may have been placed in previous years but not reported at the time.

Presbytery	Last Name	First Name	Location
Central Florida	Matulia	Matt	Mt Dora FL
Hill and Plains	Ray	Dustin	Springfield MO
Mississippi Valley	Ruth	Danny	Florence MS
Ohio Valley	Shrimpton	Eric	Cincinnati OH
Pacific Northwest	Proctor	Paul	Spokane Valley WA
Providence	White	Nathan	Madison AL
Southwest Florida	St. Germain	Dony	Haines City FL
Wisconsin	Lima	James	Stephens Point WI
Wisconsin	Leatherberry	Ben	Eau Claire WI
Wisconsin	Cline	Matt	Eau Claire WI

2023 Church Planting Apprentices

Presbytery	Last Name	First Name	Location
Central Florida	Garriott	Aaron	Orange Port FL
Central Florida	Gilman	Josh	Ocala FL

2023 MNA/Covenant/RTS Church Planter Interns

Interns	Mentor	Church	Location
Jason Huang	Daniel Song	Restoration Community	St Louis MO
Lucas Mooibroek	Steve Stanton	Waypoint Church	Colorado Springs CO

ATTACHMENT 2
MNA STAFF MEMBERS

MNA Executive Leadership

TE Irwyn Ince	MNA Coordinator
RE Mark Casson	MNA Ministry Engagement Director
Michelle Foster	Finance and Human Resources Director
Tracy Lane-Hall	Strategic Operations Director
TE Murray Lee	MNA Executive Coordinator
TE Chris Vogel	MNA Church Planting and Vitality Coordinator

MNA AAM Ministries

TE Charles McKnight	African American Ministries Coordinator
TE Howard Brown	African American Ministries Associate Coordinator
Kellie Brown	African American Ministries Operations Director

MNA Bent Tree Fellowship

TE David Wilson	Bent Tree Fellowship Director
TE Clif Wilcox	Bent Tree Fellowship Associate Director

MNA Chaplain Ministries

TE Jim Carter	Chaplain Ministries Director
TE Charlie Dey	Chaplain Ministries Administrative Manager
TE Mack Griffith	Chaplain Ministries Associate Director/ PRCC Chief of Staff
Bekah Lawing	Chaplain Ministries Administrative Assistant
TE Don Sampson	Chaplain Ministries Associate Director, Military Chaplaincy
TE Michael Stewart	Chaplain Ministries Associate Director, Civilian Chaplaincy

MNA Church Planter Assessment Center

Jenny Dorsey	Church Planter Assessment Center Administrator
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Church Planting and Vitality

TE Drew Bennett	Regional Church Planter Development
Stefanie Dunnington	Church Planting Administrative Assistant
TE Alan Foster	Church Planter Recruiting Director
TE Jim Hatch	Church Planter Development Director
TE Wy Plummer	Cross-Cultural Director

APPENDIX J

TE Vincent Tauriello Coaching Specialist

MNA Development

RE Stephen Lutz Church Relations Director
Charlotte McKnight Development Assistant

MNA English as a Second Language (ESL) Ministries

Nancy Booher English as a Second Language (ESL) Ministries Director
Don Baret English as a Second Language (ESL) Assistant Director
Kathy Barnett ESL Teacher Trainer

MNA Haitian American Ministries

TE Dony St. Germain Haitian American Ministries Coordinator

MNA Hispanic Ministries

TE Hernando Sáenz Hispanic Ministries Coordinator

MNA Cultural Intelligence

TE Wy Plummer Cultural Intelligence Director
Ann Powers Cultural Intelligence Administrator

MNA Korean American Leadership Initiative (KALI)

TE Owen Lee Korean American Leadership Initiative (KALI) Coordinator
RE Alex Jun Korean American Leadership Initiative (KALI)
Operations Director
TE Moses Lee Korean American Leadership Initiative (KALI)
Communications Director

MNA Leadership and Ministry Preparation (LAMP) Ministry

TE Brian Kelso Leadership and Ministry Preparation (LAMP) Director

Metanoia Prison Ministries

TE Lowell Ivey Metanoia Prison Ministries Director
RE Mark Andrews Metanoia Prison Ministries Regional Director, NC
Steven Howell Metanoia Prison Ministries Mentor Ministry Facilitator
TE Tim McCracken Metanoia Prison Ministries Regional Director,
Central CA
TE Paul Mille Metanoia Prison Ministries Regional Director, North TX
Shelly Marshall MNA Metanoia Prison Ministries

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TE Anthony Rogers Correspondence Course Facilitator
RE Barry Smith Metanoia Prison Ministries Regional Director, SC
Metanoia Prison Ministries Regional Director, TN
MINTS Seminary in Prison, National Coordinator

MNA Ministry to State

TE Chuck Garriott Ministry to State Director
TE Stephen Bostrom Ministry to State, State Capitol Minister, Montana
TE Jonathan Craig Ministry to State, State Capitol Minister, Florida
Carlos Dimas Ministry to State Ministry Associate for
Latin American Embassies
Cory Dimas Ministry to State Women's Ministry Associate for
Latin American Embassies
TE David Durant Ministry to State Operations Director
TE Del Farris Ministry to State State Capitol Minister, Colorado
TE John Hanna Ministry to State State Capitol Minister, New Jersey
TE Nathan Newman Ministry to State Ministry to Members of Congress
Adam Smith Ministry to State Intern
William Stockdale Ministry to State Ministry Associate
TE Darin Stone Ministry to State, State Capitol Minister, North Carolina
TE Ron Zeigler Ministry to State, State Capitol Minister, Pennsylvania

MNA Disaster Response

RE Arklie Hooten Disaster Response Director
Lauren Ammons Disaster Response Administrative Assistant,
Volunteer Scheduling
RE Mark Becker Disaster Response Specialist, South Central Region
DE Andy Eisenbraun Disaster Response Specialist, Midwest
Lisa Hellier Disaster Response Administrative Assistant
DE Marty Huddleston, Disaster Response Specialist, Logistics
TE Steve Jessen Disaster Response Specialist, The Carolinas
RE Mike Kenamer Disaster Response Specialist,
TAG and Warehouse Manager
Sherry Lanier Disaster Response Facilitator
DE Rick Lenz, Disaster Response Associate Specialist, South Central
DE Keith Perry Disaster Response Specialist, Florida
RE Evan Scroggs Disaster Response Specialist, Gulf Coast Region
DE Mark Willett Disaster Response Specialist, Mid-Atlantic Region

MNA Korean Ministries

TE Bill Sim Korean Ministries Coordinator

MNA Media

Don Baret Media Producer

MNA Mercy Ministries

Robert Blevins Mercy Ministries Ministry Director

MNA Midwest Alliance

TE Ted Powers, Coordinator

MNA SecondCareer

RE Arklie Hooten SecondCareer Acting Director
 Sherry Lanier SecondCareer Acting Facilitator
 RE Patrick Maddox SecondCareer Regional Specialist, Mid-Atlantic
 RE Gregg Noll SecondCareer RV Specialist

MNA ShortTerm Missions

RE Arklie Hooten ShortTerm Missions Director
 Sherry Lanier ShortTerm Missions Facilitator
 TE Curt Moore ShortTerm Missions Specialist

MNA Support Staff

Piper Carmichael Donor Services Specialist
 Heather Dussack Database Facilitator
 Stephanie Glander Accounting Services Manager
 Dee Ann Hickman Accounting Operations Senior Manager
 Martina Kendall Donor Services Specialist
 Summer Rojas Event Planner
 Themerace Tyson Donor Services Manager

MNA Network of Portuguese Speaking Churches

TE Renato Bernardes Network of Portuguese Speaking Churches Coordinator
 TE Darcy Caires Network of Portuguese Speaking Churches Associate Coordinator

MNA Native American and First Nations Ministry

RE Jeb Bland Native American/First Nations Ministries Coordinator
 TE Josh Charette Rocky Mountain Native American Ministries Director

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

TE Chris Granberry Northwest Native American Ministries Advisor

MNA Refugee and Immigrant Ministry

Pat Hatch Refugee and Immigrant Ministry Director

Osman Jama Refugee and Immigrant Ministry,
Church Engagement Specialist

Leslie Johnson Refugee and Immigrant Ministry, Cross-Cultural Specialist

Sarah Kalichman Refugee and Immigrant Ministry, Refugee Children's
Ministry Specialist

The PCA Unity Fund Committee

TE Scott Bridges The PCA Unity Fund Committee

Development Coordinator

Zakiya Ince The PCA Unity Fund Assistant

**ATTACHMENT 3
MNA COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

TE Hansoo Jin, Chairman
RE Tim Threadgill Vice-Chairman
RE Jason Kang, Secretary

RE Brent Andersen
TE Roland Barnes
TE Hunter Brewer
RE Julian Battle
TE Jeremy Byrd
TE Lyle Caswell
RE Brett Doster
TE Dean Faulkner
RE Keith Goben
RE Lance Kinzer
TE Bob Penny
RE Ernie Shipman
RE Jim Suttles
TE Bob Willetts

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ATTACHMENT 4

- 1 OVERTURE 5 from Piedmont Triad Presbytery (to MNA)
2 "Adjust Piedmont Triad and Catawba Valley Presbytery Boundaries"
3
- 4 Whereas, a presbytery composed of Churches with similar geographic and ministry
5 contexts can lead to more efficient oversight, cooperation, and connection between
6 particular congregations in the presbytery; and
7
- 8 Whereas, fostering a sense of connectionalism and cooperation of churches, teaching elders,
9 and ruling elders beyond the local congregation is a hallmark of historic
10 Presbyterianism; and
11
- 12 Whereas, *the Guidelines for Dividing Presbyteries*, as adopted by the 26th General
13 Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America, include "regional cohesiveness,"
14 "member churches hav[ing] a potential for shared ministries," and "member
15 churches hav[ing] a common commitment to the region," and
16
- 17 Whereas, the ministry context of Meadowview is in a rural small-town setting which is
18 made up of multi-generational families since the founding of the Church.
19
- 20 Whereas, Piedmont Triad Presbytery is primarily made up of Churches along the I-40
21 Corridor between the cities of Winston-Salem and Greensboro and their surrounding
22 suburbs, making MRPC the only Church in PTP that is in a rural and small town
23 setting.
24
- 25 Whereas, Meadowview in Lexington, NC has demographic, historic, cultural, and economic
26 affinity with many of the Churches in Catawba Valley Presbytery.
27
- 28 Whereas, MRPC sits on the southwest corner and edge of Piedmont Triad Presbytery and
29 the next town over is in Catawba Valley Presbytery.
30



31

APPENDIX J

1 Whereas, MRPC has interest in planting churches south of them including in Salisbury, NC,
2 which is in Catawba Valley Presbytery
3

4 Whereas, the current Membership in each Presbytery is as follows:

- 5 Piedmont Triad Presbytery Churches & Ministries - CURRENT
- 6 1. Christ Church Greensboro, 414 N. Church St, Greensboro, NC 27401
 - 7 2. Covenant Grace Church, 4747 Lake Brandt Rd, Greensboro, NC 27455
 - 8 3. Friendly Hills Church, 1450 Guilford College Road, Jamestown, NC 27282
 - 9 4. Grace Presbyterian Church Kernersville, 360 Hopkins Rd, Kernersville, NC 27282
 - 10 5. Great Commission Church, 1450 Guilford College Road, Jamestown, NC 27282
 - 11 6. Hope Presbyterian Church, 2050 N Peace Haven Rd, Winston-Salem, NC 27106
 - 12 7. Immanuel (mission church), 155 W. Westwood Ave, High Point, NC 27262
 - 13 8. New Hope Presbyterian Church, 3540 Clemmons Rd, Clemmons, NC 27012
 - 14 9. Northside Presbyterian Church, 1805 Vaughn Rd, Burlington, NC 27217
 - 15 10. Redeemer Presbyterian Church, 1046 Miller St, Winston-Salem, NC 27103
 - 16 11. Salem Presbyterian Church, 600 Holly Ave, Winston-Salem, NC 27101
 - 17 12. Soma Valley, 819 Williams Rd, Lewisville, NC 27023
 - 18 13. Summer Oaks Church, 2315 Scalesville Rd., Summerfield, NC 27358
 - 19 14. Trinity Church, 4555 Shattalon Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27106
 - 20 15. RUF Winston-Salem State University, Winston-Salem, NC
 - 21 16. RUF Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC
 - 22 17. *Meadowview Reformed Presbyterian Church, 1 Graceway Dr., Lexington, NC
23 27295

24
25 *Meadowview PCA would be the only church to move to Catawba Valley
26 Presbytery with this boundary change.

- 27
28 Catawba Valley Presbytery Churches & Ministries - CURRENT
- 29 1. Back Creek Presbyterian Church, 2145 Back Creek Church Road,
30 Mount Ulla, NC 28125
 - 31 2. Christ Church at Rivers Edge, 901 East Catawba Avenue,
32 Belmont, NC 28012-0821
 - 33 3. First Presbyterian Church, 512 Old Mt. Holly Road, Stanley, NC 28164
 - 34 4. Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, 3710 North Center Street,
35 Hickory, NC 28601
 - 36 5. Goshen Presbyterian Church, 380 Woodlawn Avenue, Belmont, NC 28012-2138
 - 37 6. Grace Church, 2007 Stallings Road, Harrisburg, NC 28075
 - 38 7. Lakeshore Church PCA, 8083 Hope Drive, Denver, NC 28037
 - 39 8. Harbor Church PCA, P.O. Box 4025, Mooresville, NC 28117
 - 40 9. Harvest Church, 710 Lithia Inn Road, Lincolnton, NC 28092-8786
 - 41 10. Prosperity Presbyterian Church, 5533 Prosperity Church Road,
42 Charlotte, NC 28269
 - 43 11. New Hope Presbyterian Church, 602 Stevens Street, China Grove, NC 28023
 - 44 12. NorthCross Church, 11020 – H Bailey Road, PO Box 2275,
45 Cornelius, NC 28031

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- 1 13. Providence Presbyterian Church, 246 Branchview Drive NC,
- 2 Concord, NC 28025
- 3 14. Shearer Presbyterian Church, 684 Presbyterian Road, Mooresville, NC 28115
- 4 15. SouthLake Church PCA, 13820 Hagers Ferry Road, Huntersville, NC 28078
- 5 16. StoneBridge Church Community, 3700 Prosperity Church Road,
- 6 Charlotte, NC 28269
- 7 17. RUF – Davidson College, Davidson, NC

8
9 **Whereas**, PTP will still meet the numeric “Guidelines for Dividing Presbyteries” in that
10 upon MRPC joining with CVP there will be in PTP:
11 -over 10 Churches and Mission Churches (14 Total = 13 churches and 1 mission
12 church)
13 -a total communicate membership of over 1000 (1810)
14 -at least 3 churches with membership over 125 (4 Churches > 125, 2 Churches 100-
15 125)

16
17 **Whereas**, Catawba Valley Presbytery expressed support for Meadowview to pursue this
18 boundary move at their September 23rd Stated meeting as reflected in their minutes
19 as follows:
20 *“It was moved and seconded that by unanimous voice vote, CVP encouraged the*
21 *Session of Meadowview to pursue this overture.”*
22 (Minutes of the Catawba Valley Presbytery Stated Meeting, 9/23/23)

23
24 **Whereas**, if the southern boundary in Davidson County were moved to Hwy 64, only
25 Meadowview Presbyterian Church would be affected.
26
27



APPENDIX J

1 Whereas, the current and future maps of the Presbyteries in North Carolina will be:

2

3

Current NC Presbytery Boundaries

4



5

6

7

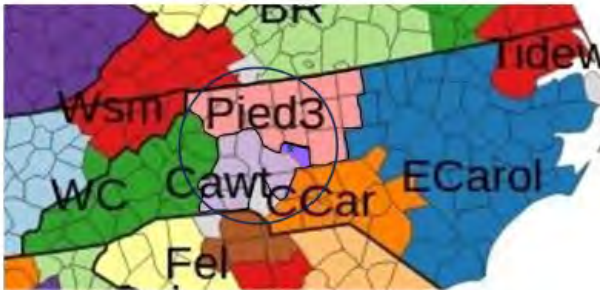
8

9

New NC Presbytery Boundaries

10

11



12

13

14 Now therefore be it resolved, that the Presbytery of Piedmont Triad Presbytery Overture
15 the 51st General Assembly to restructure the boundary between Piedmont Triad
16 Presbytery (PTP) and Catawba Valley Presbytery (CVP) such that CVP will extend
17 North to Hwy 64 in Davidson County and PTP will extend South to Hwy 64 in
18 Davidson County, effective July 1, 2024.

19

20 *Adopted by Piedmont Triad Presbytery at its stated meeting, November 11, 2023*

21

Attested by /s/ TE Ethan Smith, stated clerk

ATTACHMENT 5

- 1 **OVERTURE 12** from Catawba Valley Presbytery (to MNA)
2 "Adjust Catawba Valley and Piedmont Triad Presbytery Boundaries"
3
- 4 **Whereas**, a presbytery composed of Churches with similar geographic and ministry contexts
5 can lead to more efficient oversight, cooperation, and connection between particular
6 congregations in the presbytery; and
7
- 8 **Whereas**, fostering a sense of connectionalism and cooperation of churches, teaching elders,
9 and ruling elders beyond the local congregation is a hallmark of historic
10 Presbyterianism; and
11
- 12 **Whereas**, *the Guidelines for Dividing Presbyteries*, as adopted by the 26th General Assembly
13 of the Presbyterian Church in America, include "regional cohesiveness," "member
14 churches hav[ing] a potential for shared ministries," and "member churches hav[ing]
15 a common commitment to the region;" and
16
- 17 **Whereas**, Meadowview Reformed Presbyterian Church in Lexington, NC, has demographic,
18 historic, cultural, and economic affinity with many of the Churches in Catawba Valley
19 Presbytery; and
20
- 21 **Whereas**, Meadowview Reformed Presbyterian Church sits on the southwest corner and edge
22 of Piedmont Triad Presbytery and the next town over is in Catawba Valley Presbytery;
23 and
24
- 25 **Whereas**, Meadowview Reformed Presbyterian Church has interest in planting churches
26 south of them including in Salisbury, NC, which is in Catawba Valley Presbytery; and
27
- 28 **Whereas**, Piedmont Triad Presbytery passed an Overture at their November 11, 2023 Stated
29 Meeting to move the boundary between Piedmont Triad Presbytery and Catawba
30 Valley Presbytery, thereby moving Meadowview into the bounds of Catawba Valley
31 Presbytery; and
32
- 33 **Whereas**, Piedmont Triad Presbytery's Overture to the 2024 General Assembly outlines the
34 Churches in both presbyteries, the maps reflecting this change; and
35
- 36 **Whereas**, Piedmont Triad Presbytery's Overture to the 2024 General Assembly highlights that
37 Piedmont Triad Presbytery will still meet the numeric "Guidelines for Dividing
38 Presbyteries" adopted by the 26th General Assembly
39
- 40 **Now therefore be it resolved**, that Catawba Valley Presbytery Overtures the 51st General
41 Assembly to restructure the boundary between Piedmont Triad Presbytery and
42 Catawba Valley Presbytery such that Catawba Valley Presbytery will extend North to
43 Hwy 64 in Davidson County, NC, and Piedmont Triad Presbytery will extend South
44 to Hwy 64 in Davidson County, NC, effective July 1, 2024; and that all existing PCA
45 churches and church plants of the aforementioned territory will come into the Catawba

APPENDIX J

1 Valley Presbytery, and that all teaching elders and churches be received following a
2 successful theological views examination, effective July 1, 2024.

3

4 *Adopted by Catawba Valley Presbytery at its stated meeting January 27, 2024*

5 *Attested by /s/ TE Scott Deneen, stated clerk*

ATTACHMENT 6

1 **OVERTURE 8** from Covenant Presbytery (to MNA)
2 "Change Boundaries of Covenant and Mississippi Valley Presbyteries"
3

4 **Whereas**, the geographic center of Covenant Presbytery has shifted significantly north and
5 west in recent years as evidenced by the frequency of stated meetings in the
6 Memphis area and parts of Arkansas; and
7

8 **Whereas**, Choctaw, the county in Mississippi where Old Lebanon (the only PCA church in
9 the county) is located, is on the southernmost border of Covenant Presbytery and
10 borders The Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley on its southern and its western
11 border; and
12

13 **Whereas**, the Session of Old Lebanon wants to have a more regular participation in the stated
14 meetings of Presbytery; and
15

16 **Whereas**, the Session of Old Lebanon finds this participation difficult due to the locations
17 where many of the stated meetings of Covenant Presbytery are held; and
18

19 **Whereas**, the locations of the stated meetings of The Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley are
20 usually closer to Ackerman, MS, and often significantly so, than the locations of
21 the stated meetings of Covenant Presbytery; and
22

23 **Whereas**, Covenant Presbytery has in the past acted in similar situations to allow the transfer
24 of churches in Winona, MS; Columbia, TN; Fayetteville, AR; Charleston, AR; and
25 Stamps, AR, to presbyteries adjacent to Covenant Presbytery, and to receive a PCA
26 mission in Joplin, MO, into Covenant Presbytery from an adjacent presbytery;
27

28 **Therefore be it resolved**, that Covenant Presbytery, with the agreement of the Session of Old
29 Lebanon Presbyterian Church, Ackerman, MS, overtures the 2024 General
30 Assembly to transfer Choctaw County in Mississippi from the geographic bounds
31 of Covenant Presbytery to the geographic bounds of The Presbytery of the
32 Mississippi Valley.
33

34 *Adopted by Covenant Presbytery at its 159th Stated Meeting, October 3, 2023.*
35

36 *Attested by /s/ TE Robert Browning, Stated Clerk of Covenant Presbytery*

ATTACHMENT 7

1 **OVERTURE 11** from Mississippi Valley Presbytery (to MNA)
2 "Change Boundaries of Mississippi Valley and Covenant Presbyteries"
3

4 **Whereas** the geographic center of Covenant Presbytery has shifted significantly north
5 and west in recent years as evidenced by the frequency of stated meetings in the
6 Memphis area and parts of Arkansas; and
7

8 **Whereas** Choctaw, the county in Mississippi where Old Lebanon (the only PCA church
9 in the county) is located, is on the southernmost border of Covenant Presbytery
10 and borders The Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley on its southern and its
11 western border; and
12

13 **Whereas** the Session of Old Lebanon wants to have a more regular participation in the
14 stated meetings of Presbytery; and
15

16 **Whereas** the Session of Old Lebanon finds this participation difficult due to the locations
17 where many of the stated meetings of Covenant Presbytery are held; and
18

19 **Whereas** the locations of the stated meetings of The Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley
20 are usually closer to Ackerman, MS, and often significantly so, than the locations
21 of the stated meetings of Covenant Presbytery; and
22

23 **Whereas** The Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley has in the past acted in similar
24 situations to receive churches in Winona, MS; Delhi, LA; and Ruston, LA,
25 from adjacent presbyteries;
26

27 **Therefore, be it resolved,** The Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley joins with Covenant
28 Presbytery (and with the agreement of the Session of Old Lebanon Presbyterian
29 Church, Ackerman, MS) to overture the 2024 General Assembly to transfer Choctaw
30 County, Mississippi, from the geographic bounds of Covenant Presbytery to the
31 geographic bounds of the Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley.
32

33
34 *Adopted by Mississippi Valley Presbytery at its stated meeting, Nov 7, 2023*
35

36 *Attested by TE Chris Wright, stated clerk*

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ATTACHMENT 8

Overture 7, from Ascension Presbytery

1 OVERTURE 7 from Ascension Presbytery (to CCB, OC, AC, CC, CDM,
2 "Amend RAO 11-5 to Clarify Process CTS, GEN, MNA, MTW,
3 for RAO Amendments" PCAF, RH, RUF)

4
5 **Whereas**, as *RAO* 11-5 is difficult to follow; and

6
7 **Whereas**, it appears to some that *RAO* 11-5 is internally inconsistent. The first sentence
8 requires all overtures proposing amendment of the *Book of Church Order* or the
9 *Rules of Assembly Operations* be referred to the Committee on Constitutional
10 Business for its advice to the Overtures Committee. This indicates that all overtures
11 proposing changes to the *RAO* fall within the jurisdiction of the Overtures
12 Committee. The third sentence of 11-5, however, says that any overture "having to
13 do with the nature or responsibilities of a permanent Committee or Agency" shall be
14 referred to the appropriate permanent Committee or Agency, unless the overture
15 proposes an amendment to the Constitution (which does not include the *RAO*); and

16
17 **Whereas**, *RAO* 12-1 and 15-1 state that the Overtures Committee is to consider and make
18 recommendations on all overtures proposing amendment to the Constitution and all
19 other overtures referred by the Stated Clerk; and

20
21 **Whereas**, at the 50th General Assembly, there was debate regarding whether an overture
22 proposing an *RAO* change that would impact permanent Committees and Agencies
23 should be referred by the Stated Clerk to the Overtures Committee or to the relevant
24 permanent Committees and Agencies; and,

25
26 **Whereas**, the permanent Committees and Agencies, and from them, the relevant
27 Committees of Commissioners, have the expertise necessary to speak to the impact
28 of a proposed change to the *RAO* that touches on the nature or responsibilities of the
29 permanent Committee(s) or Agency(ies); and

30
31 **Whereas**, the Overtures Committee has the authority to perfect proposed amendments in
32 ways that are not available to Committees of Commissioners; and

33
34 **Whereas**, any minority of the Overtures Committee (*RAO* 15-6.s) has the right to bring a
35 minority report, encompassing a different answer to the overture, to the Assembly,
36 which minority report can allow for floor debate on the substance of a proposal in a
37 way that is not available for a recommendation coming from a Committee of
38 Commissioners; and

39
40 **Whereas**, the members of the Overtures Committee should hear from affected committees
41 or agencies before finalizing recommendations on *RAO* changes that impact those
42 committees or agencies; and

43
44 **Whereas**, the members of the permanent Committees and Agencies, the Committees of
45 Commissioners, and the staff of the permanent Committees and Agencies may speak

1 on the floor of General Assembly, and thus can express agreement or disagreement
 2 with any recommendation from the Overtures Committee, including presenting
 3 argumentation that the recommendation of the Overtures Committee not be adopted
 4 (*RAO* 15-8.e); and
 5

6 **Whereas**, having recommendations from multiple committees may lead to incompatible
 7 recommendations, as well as debate as to which Committee's recommendation is to
 8 take precedence, as was seen at the 50th General Assembly.
 9

10 **Therefore**, be it resolved that the Presbytery of the Ascension hereby overtures the 51st
 11 General Assembly to amend *RAO* 11-5 by deleting the entirety of the current *RAO*
 12 11-5 and replacing it with the following:
 13

- 14 **11-5.** All overtures shall be published in the *Commissioner Handbook* with reference for
 15 consideration indicated. The Stated Clerk shall refer overtures as follows. The Stated
 16 Clerk's referral shall be final unless redirected by a vote of the General Assembly.
 17 **a.** All overtures requesting amendment of the *Book of Church Order* or the *Rules of*
 18 *Assembly Operations* shall be referred to the Committee on Constitutional
 19 Business for its advice to the relevant Committee(s) as listed below.
 20 **b.** All overtures proposing amendment to the Constitution shall be referred to the
 21 Overtures Committee. The Stated Clerk may also refer such overtures to
 22 other Committees of Commissioners, other permanent Committees or
 23 Agencies, or other ad interim or special committees for advice only to the
 24 Overtures Committee.
 25 **c.** All overtures proposing amendment to the *Rules of Assembly Operations* having to
 26 do with the nature or responsibilities of a permanent Committee or Agency
 27 shall be referred to the Overtures Committee and to the permanent
 28 Committee(s) or Agency(ies) that would be impacted by the proposed
 29 change. In such cases the permanent Committee(s) or Agency(ies) and the
 30 relevant Committee(s) of Commissioners shall be given the opportunity to
 31 meet with the Overtures Committee to share their proposed response(s).
 32 Such opportunity shall occur at a mutually convenient time or at the
 33 beginning of the Overtures Committee's Tuesday afternoon session. The
 34 General Assembly shall act on the overture on the basis of the
 35 recommendation of the Overtures Committee, recognizing that the members
 36 of the permanent Committee(s) or Agency(ies) and the relevant Committee(s)
 37 of Commissioners will be able to enter into floor debate on that
 38 recommendation.
 39 **d.** Any other overture having to do with the nature or responsibilities of a permanent
 40 Committee or Agency shall be referred by the Stated Clerk to the appropriate
 41 permanent Committee or Agency, ad interim committee, or special
 42 committee.
 43 **e.** All overtures concerning presbytery boundaries or the formation of a new
 44 presbytery shall be referred by the Stated Clerk to the permanent Committee
 45 on Mission to North America.

**SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
ON MISSION TO NORTH AMERICA
TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

The Committee on Mission to North America submits the following Recommendations 10-13 as a Supplemental Report to the 51st General Assembly:

RECOMMENDATIONS

10. That the Permanent MNA Committee recommend to the Overtures Committee that the 51st General Assembly refer **Overture 31** from New River Presbytery, "Amend BCO 14-1 Regarding Changes in Permanent Committee and Agency Policy," to the 52nd General Assembly in order to give all the Committees and Agencies time to consider it. (**Attachment 1**)
11. That the Permanent MNA Committee recommend to the Overtures Committee that the 51st General Assembly refer **Overture 32** from Eastern Pennsylvania Presbytery, "Amend BCO 23 to Address Dissolution of Call for those employed by a Committee or Agency," to the 52nd General Assembly in order to give all the Committees and Agencies time to consider it. (**Attachment 2**)
12. That the MNA Permanent Committee recommends to the General Assembly that **Overture 34** from Columbus Metro Presbytery, "Merge Columbus Metro Presbytery and Ohio Valley Presbytery, be answered in the affirmative with concurrence of Ohio Valley Presbytery, with an effective date of July 1, 2024. (**Attachment 3**)
13. That the MNA Permanent Committee recommends to the General Assembly that **Overture 35** from Ohio Valley Presbytery, "Merge Ohio Valley and Columbus Metro Presbyteries" Concur with Overture 34, be answered in the affirmative, with an effective date of July 1, 2024. (**Attachment 4**)

APPENDIX K

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE WORLD TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Vision: *The gospel of the kingdom advancing throughout the world*
We want the gospel to spread throughout the world, the Church to grow, Satan's kingdom destroyed, and Christ's reign extended to the ends of the earth.

Mission: *Making disciples among all nations*
We are called to be obedient to the Great Commission by teaching people to follow Jesus as Lord and Savior, to be baptized, and to obey all that Jesus commands.

Values:

- *Church*
The establishment, growth, and maturity of the Church in all our ministry efforts.
- *Grace-based*
Community life and ministry shaped by God's grace for us in His Son, Jesus Christ.
- *Reformed and Covenantal*
A ministry that is guided, inspired, and shaped by our theology.
- *Mercy, Justice, and the Love of God*
A love for God that is demonstrated through acts of mercy and justice.

This past year can be described as a year of rebuilding. While things are not quite like they were before COVID-19, we have been able to establish new norms and rhythms. We are grateful for the Lord's kindness and faithfulness to us as we seek to be faithful to His Great Commission.

One crucial aspect to rebuilding is ensuring we have faithful leaders. To that end in November 2023, we held the Praxis Leadership Conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, with all our field leaders across the globe. Bryan Brown, our guest speaker, introduced us to the Lead, Develop, Care model of

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leadership. This was well received. For 11 months, our leaders (missionary and staff) will be mentored and trained in the Lead, Develop, Care model. We believe investing in our leaders' growth and development is the most effective way to ensure healthy reproducing teams. Please pray for these training meetings and for the growth and development of our leaders.

Preceding our Praxis Leadership Conference in November, we held our first MTW Missiology Consultation in Kuala Lumpur. We asked our missionaries to submit papers on various missiological topics. The papers and seminars were well done and stimulated healthy, helpful discussions over many topics. We are grateful for all who participated. Please pray that we will continue to sharpen one another in our Great Commission calling.

As we continue to look toward our 2030 goals of 63 new countries engaged, 192 new cities engaged, 486 church plants, 29 new campus ministries, 38 new unreached people groups, and 212 new church planting support ministries, we realize that we need more leaders, particularly elders. Please pray for God to raise up more laborers for His harvest fields, specifically elders to help lead our church planting teams.

This past year, I was able to take a three-month sabbatical. I am so grateful for all who put in the extra work to allow me time to reflect, be refreshed, and renewed. I would like to thank the Committee on Mission to the World for valuing longevity in ministry and granting this sabbatical.

One of the key things I learned from this sabbatical was that I am a different person when I am well rested. When I am nearing burnout, I tend to withdraw from people, am more sensitive to criticism, and often feel depressed. When I am well rested, I change from being introverted to being extroverted. I seek out opportunities to connect with people, seek to share the gospel with others, and I find myself laughing and smiling a lot more. Coming back to work, I realize that I need to build in times of rest and pay attention to the tell-tale signs of burnout.

Did this sabbatical accomplish what was intended? I believe it did. I am now more committed and excited about what God can do through MTW for His kingdom. Please pray that all of our MTW staff and missionaries find rest, refreshment, and renewal in the Lord.

Lloyd Kim, Coordinator

2023 GLOBAL MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

ASIA-PACIFIC

Interns — “Ma-kun? Is that you?” International Director and former intern, Jonathan I.*, said to a newcomer after church on Sunday. “Long time no see, Jonathan!” When Jonathan graduated from high school in 1997, he came back to Japan on a gap year to work with MTW’s college ministry on the campus of Chiba University. Ma-kun was one of the regulars at Impact House, the intern house located close to campus where the team would host events and outreaches. Jonathan had not seen him in nearly 30 years, but was thrilled to learn that he had been visiting the church off and on for all those years, still seeking answers to his questions. Internships remain a vital part of church planting ministry in many places throughout Asia-Pacific as they are not only the top of the funnel for training future missionaries and Christian workers, but they help cast a net wide for evangelism and outreach.

2023 has been a year of recovering from the previous two, almost three years of very little short-term activity in Asia-Pacific. With many Asian countries restricting access, limiting visas, and locking down their borders in recent years, 2023 opened a floodgate of visitors to the region. MTW Asia-Pacific started receiving vision trips, summer interns, and 11-month interns once again. We had 19 summer interns serving on six different teams around the region. We have partnered with Reformed University Fellowship in a few locations to offer new opportunities for American college students to be mentored by MTW missionaries as they do outreach with national college students. Most of our teams are eager to build their internship opportunities in 2024 and consider these to be vital for the ministry. Please pray for our PCA churches to send many more interns in 2024. Also, pray that the Lord uses their service to advance the cause of Christ in the nations, encourage our long-term missionaries, and commit to a lifetime of missionary service.

Leaders — “In 30 years of serving with MTW, this was the best training I’ve ever received,” said one veteran MTW missionary after November’s Leadership Praxis Conference. That was a very common assessment of the new leader training model which MTW has begun to use to help our missionaries grow as leaders. In Asia-Pacific we recognize that if we want a

flourishing missionary force, we really need a thriving leadership community and so we are investing more and more into training, assessing, and coaching our leaders and equipping them to be more effective and healthy leaders. In 2023 we approved two new team leaders for Asia-Pacific and we are hoping to assess two more in 2024. For MTW Asia-Pacific, our teams are the key strategic component to advance our ministries, and the team leader is a critical role for helping teams accomplish their mission. Please pray for the Lord to use our continued investment in our leaders to grow us all as humble, dependent, and grace-filled leaders who can be used by God in this great endeavor. Please pray that the Lord would raise up more leaders in Asia-Pacific who will help us plant more churches, train more national leaders, and reach more of the unreached with the good news of the gospel of Jesus.

EUROPE

Europe-Specific Church Planting Training Program — For several years our field personnel have asked for additional training in church planting methodology, informed by our Reformed theological perspective and applicable to our European context. In October we were able to launch the first church planting training cohort. Participants met for three days in Athens, Greece, for times of instruction in the morning and interviews with Greek national church planters in the afternoons. Each month the group now meets via Zoom to discuss topics such as “Tackling Social Justice Issues,” “Evangelistic Worship,” “Theology of Faith and Work,” “Difficult Conversations,” “Cultural Apologetics and Evangelism,” and “Developing Leaders.” A second three-day intensive will be held in March in Edinburgh, Scotland, for more in-person training and experiencing church planting principles in practice in the Scottish context.

This initiative, spearheaded by International Director David Stoddard and national partner Sashko Nezamutdinov, has generated much excitement, with over 20 people committed to this round of training. The hope is to repeat this training annually, allowing opportunity for all our Europe personnel to participate at some point in their career with MTW. Please pray that this initiative will become a useful tool that will result in the gospel of the kingdom advancing throughout Europe.

New Church Plants — This year we rejoiced at the launching of three new church plants in Europe:

- MTW personnel launched Hope International Church in Brussels, Belgium, at the beginning of March. Attendees have included core group members, new arrivals to the city, non-believers who responded to invitations, and some who are excited to hear of a Presbyterian church in Brussels.
- Andrew and Laura Kate Lupton along with Jonas and Pattie Stava launched Grace International Church in Oslo, Norway, at the end of March. By the end of August the church had grown to 50 regular attenders, and the fledgling congregation was able to move from meeting in a home to meeting in a large space owned by the former state Lutheran church. The congregation represents over 17 nationalities, and 20% of the group are unchurched seekers.
- John and Ellen Buerger deployed to Lisbon, Portugal, in January 2023. By October they had a group meeting in their home for worship, and by December they reported an average attendance of 25 people, with services alternating between meeting for worship in their apartment and a church space they rent twice per month.

We rejoice with our fellow co-laborers and pray that the LORD will grow their fledgling congregations!

Update on the War in Ukraine — The Russian invasion of Ukraine is in its third year—much longer than anyone anticipated. MTW Europe is greatly encouraged by the partnership and support received from churches and individuals, which have allowed us to come alongside the Ukrainian Church and supply aid, security, and most of all encouragement in the gospel. Because of the generous gifts and prayers, the Church in Ukraine does not feel alone in the war. The following statistics provide a glimpse of how aid has been used:

Ukraine by the numbers (as of December 20, 2023):

- Zero requests denied because of lack of funding.
- Five nights of uninterrupted missile-free sleep in Kyiv over the past month.
- 45 pastors gathered at a meeting in Kyiv in the fall of 2023 despite the war.
- 664 days since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine.
- Approximately 3,275 crates of humanitarian aid packed and sent by the American church since summer 2022.

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- \$4,000,000 dollar value of aid sent and distributed by the Ukrainian Church since summer 2022.
- *All* the churches in Ukraine are still open and worshipping despite the war.

While the war rages on, the needs of our brothers and sisters in Christ continue to grow. Your support allows us the ability to help.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

International Director — The year brought many travel opportunities for International Director Victor Nakah, including trips to the U.S. for the spring CMTW meeting, General Assembly, speaking at the East Coast Missions Conference, and meeting with churches to share about the ongoing work in sub-Saharan Africa. He helped plan and lead the Missiology Consultation in November. Several leaders from the region were able to attend it as well as the Leadership Praxis Conference. They will continue learning how to implement the Lead, Develop, Care model as they participate in cohorts that were formed after the conference.

The goal remains to be a region that plants healthy churches who then establish healthy presbyteries across sub-Saharan Africa. Strategic support ministries that help fuel church planting, including campus and mercy ministries, have been successful in the three regions. It has been encouraging to see more missionaries join the region in 2023, with more anticipated in 2024.

Member Care — Dan and Janet McBride, member care coordinators for sub-Saharan Africa, along with their team assisted with member care concerns across the three regions of West Africa, East Africa, and Southern Africa. They also attend monthly member care meetings with the global Member Care team around the world and traveled to meet with individual missionaries. In July, at the Refresh Conference, they met in their member care role with workers from Africa and Asia. When Dan was at the Praxis Leadership Conference in Malaysia, he conducted member care check-in meetings with workers from West Africa and Ethiopia. Dan completed the Peace Pursuit Coaching/Mediator training in 2023 qualifying him to help MTW workers with conflict resolution.

West Africa — Jim W.*, continued his second year as regional director for West Africa, spending nine months in the U.S. on HMA visiting PCA

churches, recruiting missionaries for the region, and raising funds for the Timothy House training programs and the Teranga Village Girl's Home project. Timothy House pastoral training programs continued to develop in Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, and a fourth sensitive location. The program in the sensitive location moved into a new facility and became residential in 2023. Along with this, an offshoot training program for fleeing refugee pastors was started in another local language, and agricultural training through Equipping Farmers International provided food relief and improved church witness.

Donnie and Kara W.*, together with their partnering church planter, celebrated the one-year anniversary of their church plant in an unreached Wolof community. Donnie passed leadership assessment for team leader in Senegal and will transition into that role in 2024. Collin and Zury J.* continue their work with RUF Global on Senegal's largest university campus and have begun working with the church in the Gambia toward a 2024 start-up of a second RUF Global ministry in the region.

The first two new ruling elders in 20 years were ordained in the Presbyterian Church of Sierra Leone (since civil war and Ebola), and the presbytery became fully functioning, and pastoral training efforts have continued.

Keith and Debbie K.* have returned to the U.S. (for medical reasons) where they continue to provide curriculum translation and MINTS program support for the region.

East Africa — Frank Sindler, East Africa regional director, made several trips to the region this year to continue to establish relationships with teams on the ground. The region formed PREACH (Presbyterian Reformed East Africa Council with the Horn) to help resource ministry in these areas. The board was formed and has selected officers. Their first meeting was held in Addis Ababa in August. The second meeting will be in Colorado Springs at Village Seven Presbyterian Church in May. Five projects were adopted by PREACH to assist in their funding, with one completed by end of the year through the assistance of PREACH.

New missionaries have begun to look at joining work in the region. John and Rachel Clifford are hoping to move to Kigali, Rwanda, in 2024 to oversee the sub-Saharan Africa internship program and facilitate church planting. Clement

Tendo completed Readiness Evaluation and Orientation. The region is working on his placement. Two other couples have also decided to join work in the region. The first RUF Global ministry in East Africa was launched at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda. Its first meeting had over 120 students registering for the event. Other campus startups are being considered. Edgewood Ministries has been engaged to help mentor campus ministers and assist in their startups.

The agricultural program launched under MTW grew to work in over 36 countries during the year with expansion into many African countries as well as South America and Asia. A decision was made that due to the size of the program a new organization needed to be formed to adequately manage it. Equipping Farmers International (EFI) was set up as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, formed its board of directors, and hired an international staff of 18 people. The work continues to grow with a projected scope of working in 48 countries by the end of 2024. EFI now has an applied technical water program and agribusiness team in addition to the conservation agriculture programs. U.S. staff who move to overseas fields with EFI will continue to be mobilized and employed through MTW. We expect to also field many more people in collaboration with other organizations. The program is having a significant impact in creating local income for churches and ministries in the global south to allow them local financial sustainability.

Frank Sindler will become full time director for EFI in 2024. We hope to have a new regional director for East Africa soon.

Southern Africa — MTW's support for church planting and presbytery development grew in 2023. The region sponsored the Southern Africa Reformed Presbyterian Leadership Conference in April. The goal is to help young presbyteries to gain a deeper understanding of and commitment to presbyterian ecclesiology and polity that will ultimately lead to stronger and healthier churches. Attendees included about 50 teaching elders, ruling elders, interns, and a few key women leaders from our network of Reformed Presbyterian churches in South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Malawi. In Malawi, under the leadership of Confex Makhallira, his church planting internship program received four new interns. Three existing interns continued their development, and one returned from seminary studies in the U.S. and is studying for ordination and preparing to plant a church in Blantyre. Two other interns will return from the U.S. in 2024 and will pursue a similar path.

In Zimbabwe we helped facilitate a three-day preaching workshop for church leaders and Coby McGinty was instrumental in spearheading efforts to establish an RUF ministry in Bulawayo under the leadership of a national partner, commencing in 2025. With fundraising assistance from Southern Africa Reformed Mission, the South Africa presbytery was enabled to train two church planting interns who will each plant churches in 2024. The equipping of the church in Southern Africa to care for its members was enhanced through the expansion of Biblical Counseling Africa with strong leadership assistance from Pamela McGinty. A growing number of students enrolled, preparing to be lay counselors through their local churches. Hunter and Laura Quinn joined the South Africa team in August to assist the South Africa presbytery with university ministry. After about 18 fruitful years with MTW, Bryan McReynolds accepted a pastoral staff position at Trinity Presbyterian Church (PCA) in Charlottesville, Virginia. His wife, Rebe, is serving as an elementary teacher at a classical Christian school. We are very grateful for their faithful service over these many years.

AMERICAS

Central America, El Salvador/Costa Rica — Rodney and Jana Davila are excited to see the culmination of much prayer and financial support as they launch a new ministry in El Salvador. Beginning a new ministry from the ground up is both challenging and intimidating, but they are encouraged as God has already brought several men into their circle who seem interested in the distinctions of the Reformed faith.

The Davilas also remain involved in ministry on their former field of Costa Rica, where they are encouraged to see national partners Edgar and Miguel advance to the point of planning for their installation as pastors. Two other young men, Alan and David, are beginning theological studies with a seminary in Costa Rica that has a new Reformed track. This has, in turn, opened the opportunity for MTW to provide professors in the seminary's Reformed program.

Panama — The past few months have seen wonderful spiritual growth in the church family of Comunidad de Cristo Presbyterian Church in Panama City. Although members are few, the church has had a vision to reach the native people in the Darien jungle and has hired a native pastor, Luciano, to invest

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

directly in a community as a missionary extension of the church. Additionally, missionaries Ross and Angela Floyd have begun inviting intermediate-level English speakers to their apartment as part of an English Conversation group that will, Lord willing, develop into an ESL outreach that invites beginners to participate. The church is also looking to start a small group for young adults in the community as it is located between various university campuses.

Comunidad de Cristo, alongside a Brazilian-planted Presbyterian church, is working to ensure the city has a firm church foundation in the Reformed tradition. Along that line, they have begun meeting as church leaders to develop a vision to establish a General Assembly for the first Presbyterian denomination in Panama.

GLOBAL MUSLIM MINISTRY

This year has seen an almost unprecedented focus on the Middle East with the war between Israel and Hamas and the escalating conflict in Yemen, not to mention the exchange of attacks in Iran, Pakistan, and Iraq. Though many of these conflicts have been smoldering for years and have decades of history behind them, there are other ongoing conflicts in Syria and northern Iraq. Unfortunately, not all press is good press. There continues to be a fear of this demographic because of the news coverage and the impression it gives to those in the pews. Despite this, our field workers are persevering through these challenges and seeing wonderful opportunities for sharing the hope they have. The love of Jesus and the hope offered in the gospel is very good news to those who are suffering amid these hard circumstances. There is a great need for laborers who can share this hope and love to those trapped in the false promises of Islam.

GMM began praying in 2020 that the Lord of the Harvest would raise up 16 new workers per year through 2030. In 2023 the Lord added 10 new workers to GMM fields, and there are another seven in process in the first quarter of 2024. We are grateful for the Lord's provision, but the need is greater still. Continue to join us in praying specifically for 16 new workers per year!

As reported last year, we continue to particularly need new workers to pioneer works in North Africa, the Middle East, Central Asia, and throughout the Asian Crescent. We do not currently have teams in several of the countries in those locations, but there is growing interest from national partners and PCA

APPENDIX K

churches to mobilize efforts to see the gospel of the kingdom advance in these Muslim majority areas.

One approach that we are pursuing for launching these new works is to build upon current PCA church partnerships and to create new ones. Many churches are not able to contribute long-term on their own and have found it beneficial to link arms with other PCA fellowships with a shared vision to engage in a particular part of the Muslim world. Currently, there are PCA partnerships growing and forming to help support ministries in the Middle East, Asia Minor, the Holy Land, Central Asia, North Africa, and the Asian Crescent. If your church is interested in such a partnership, reach out to us and we can help get you connected.

**Last names withheld for security reasons.*

MTW MISSIONARY STATISTICS

As of December 31, 2023, the MTW missionary family consisted of the following:

1. CHURCH PLANTING		391
MTW-Direct	384	
Campus Ministries	5	
Cooperative Ministries	2	
2. THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION		49
MTW-Direct	48	
Cooperative Ministries	1	
3. OTHER		97
MTW-Direct	56	
Administration	5	
Education	6	
Medical	18	
Nurture/Counseling	1	
Mercy Ministry	13	
Next Generation Ministry	13	
Cooperative Ministries		19
Administration	8	
Education	2	
Medical	2	
Nurture/Counseling	0	
Translation/Support	7	
Project Missionaries		22
4. LEAVE OF ABSENCE		6
TOTAL LONG-TERM MISSIONARIES		543
COUNTRIES		100
SHORT-TERM MISSIONARIES		
Two-Year & Initial Term		86

Intern: 2–11 Months
Two-Week

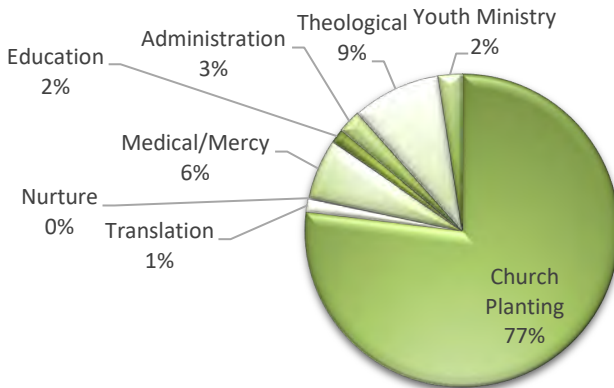
92
818

NATIONAL PARTNERS

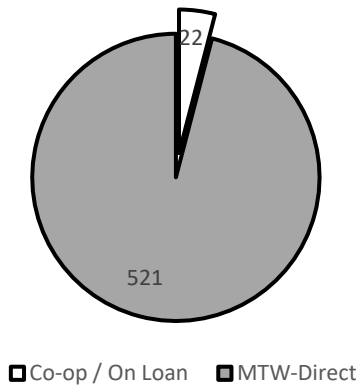
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Indigenous church planting partners

Long-Term Missionaries - Ministry Type

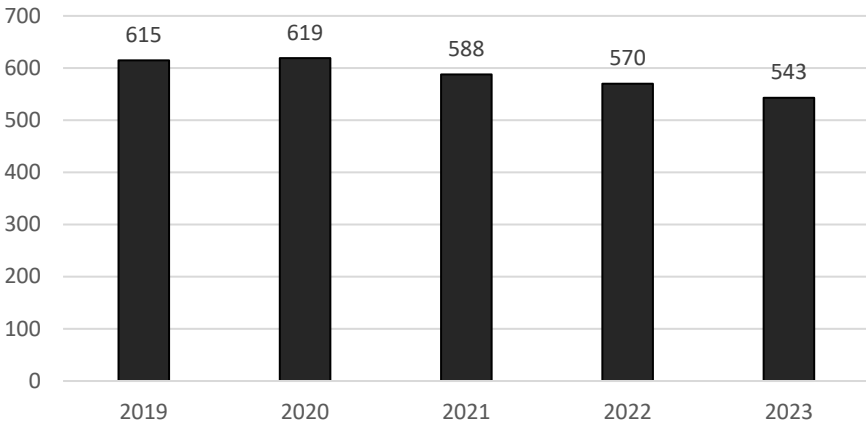


MTW-Direct vs. Co-op/On-Loan Missionaries

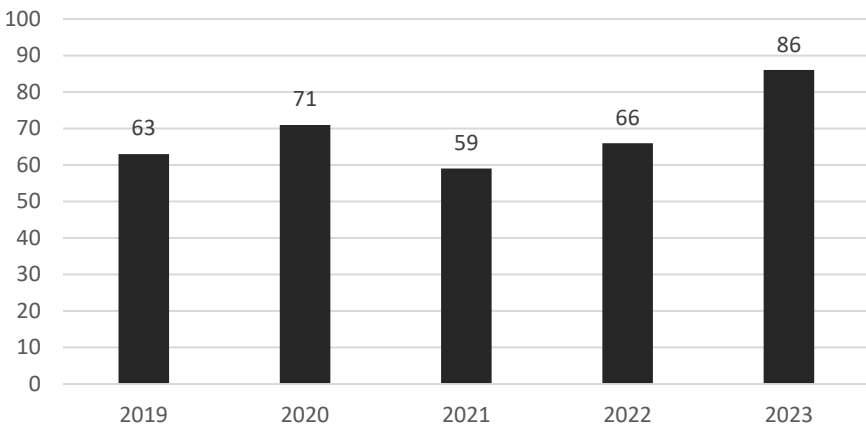


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Long-Term Missionaries

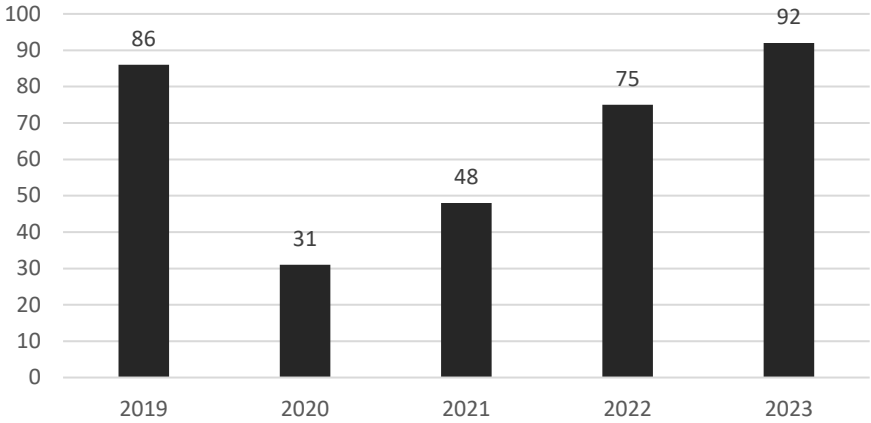


Two-Year & Initial Term Missionaries

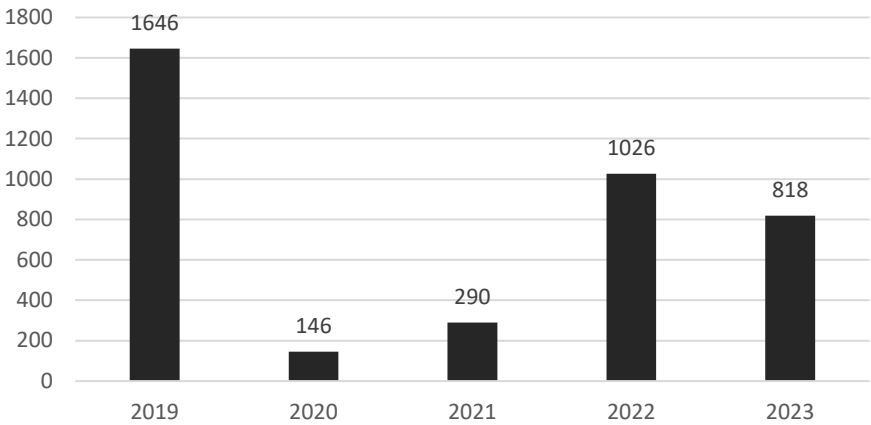


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Interns (2-11 months)

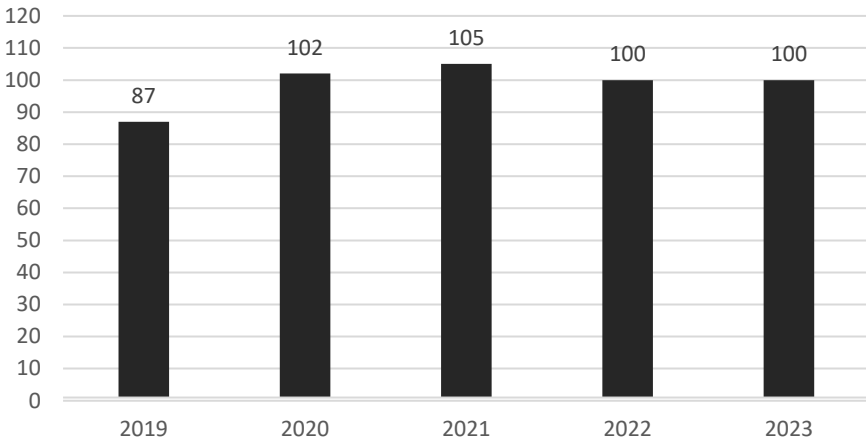


1-3 Week Trip Participants

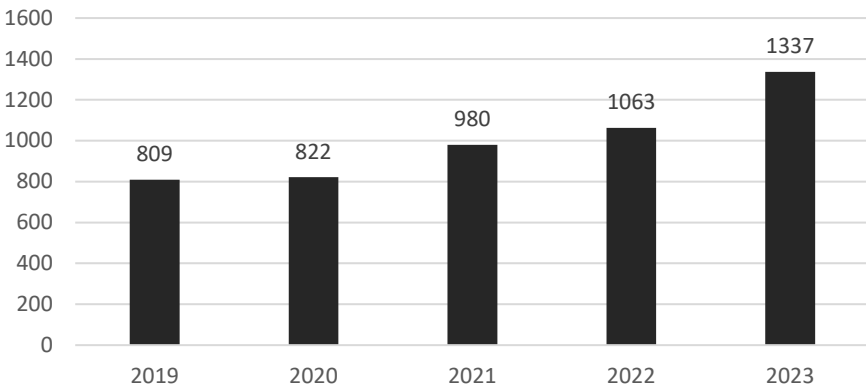


MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Countries



National Partners



RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee on Mission to the World (CMTW) makes the following recommendations to the Fifty-First General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America:

1. That the General Assembly urge churches to set aside the month of November 2024, as a month of prayer for global missions, asking God to send many more laborers into His harvest field. (MTW will offer a 30 Days of Prayer Calendar, which your church can download from mtw.org/30dop in the fall as well as other prayer resources).
2. That the General Assembly urge churches to set aside a portion of their giving for the suffering peoples of the world; to that end, be it recommended that a special offering for relief and mercy (MTW Compassion offering) be taken during 2024 and distributed by MTW (MTW offers bulletin inserts by mail, as well as a digital version that can be downloaded at mtw.org/compassion).
3. That the General Assembly urge churches to set aside Sunday, November 3, 2024, as a day of prayer for the persecuted church worldwide.
4. Having performed his annual evaluation and with gratitude to God, CMTW commends Dr. Lloyd Kim for the excellent leadership he has provided to MTW and recommends that Dr. Kim be re-elected as Coordinator of MTW.
5. That the proposed budget for MTW, as presented through the Administrative Committee, be approved.
6. That the minutes of the meeting of CMTW of March 8–9, 2023, be accepted; and
7. That the minutes of the meeting of CMTW of September 27–28, 2023, be accepted.
8. Regarding MTW's 2022 Financial Audit: the Committee of Commissioners reviewed the financial audit for calendar year ending December 31, 2022. They also noted per CMTW's minutes that CMTW had accepted the audit.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

9. That **Overture 7** from Ascension Presbytery “Amend *RAO* 11-5 to Clarify Process for *RAO* Amendments” be answered with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
TE Owen Lee, Chairman
Committee on Mission to the World

Attachment 1

LONG-TERM MISSIONARIES

(as of December 31, 2023)

Adams, Rev./Mrs. Trey (Kiki)	Chapin, Mr./Mrs. Craig (Yumiko)
Aeschliman, Rev./Mrs. Richard (Betsy)	Chase, Mr./Mrs. Matt (Carly)
Alms, Ms. Bethany	Chia, Rev./Mrs. Dean (Eileen)
Ambrose, Dr./Mrs. Mark (Laura)	Choi, Mr./Mrs. David (Julie)
Andino, Mr. Chris	Chung, Ms. Grace
Aschmann, Rev./Mrs. Rick (Betty)	Church, Rev./Mrs. Ben (Kim)
Bailey, Rev./Mrs. Richard (Teresa)	Clow, Mr./Mrs. John (Kathy)
Bakelaar, Mr./Mrs. Peter (Diane)	Cobb, Rev./Mrs. Donald (Claire-Lise)
Bales, Rev./Mrs. Cartee (Colleen)	Coluccia, Rev./Mrs. Vincenzo (Judith)
Barnett, Ms. Ellen	Congdon, Rev./Mrs. Joe (Felicity)
Bauserman, Ms. Rachel	Conroy, Mr./Mrs. Dennis (Rhonda)
Baxley, Rev./Mrs. Andrew (Kelly)	Cordell, Mr./Mrs. Bradley (Sara)
Beaver, Mr./Mrs. Franklin (Beth)	Coulbourne, Rev./Mrs. Craig (Ree)
Bersach, Rev./Mrs. Manny (Terri)	Craig, Mr./Mrs. Scott (Kathy)
Bocanegra, Mr./Mrs. Mark (Megumi)	Crane, Rev./Mrs. Richard (Robyn)
Boling, Mr./Mrs. Peter (Jenny)	Crocker, Ms. Cheryl
Bonham, Rev./Mrs. Nathaniel (Nikki)	Crusey, Rev./Mrs. Todd (Liz)
Bolton, Ms. Rosemary	Culmer, Dr. Dave
Brink, Mr./Mrs. Daniel (Katy)	Davidson, Dr./Mrs. Charles (Bonita)
Brinkerhoff, Ms. Jane	Davila, Mr./Mrs. Rodney (Jana)
Brock, Rev./Mrs. Chris (Donnette)	Davis, Mr. David
Brook, Rev./Mrs. Elijah (Jessie)	Davison, Mr./Mrs. Jonas (Christina)
Brooks, Mr./Mrs. David (Gwen)	DeWitt, Mr. Jim
Brown, Ms. Roberta	Diaso, Dr./Mrs. David (Dawn)
Buerger, Rev./Mrs. John (Ellen)	Dillon, Mr./Mrs. Scott (Meghan)
Burkemper, Mr./Mrs. Jamie (Jennifer)	Dishman, Rev./Mrs. Peter (Lauren)
Burnham, Mr./Mrs. Bob (Andrea)	Dix, Mr./Mrs. Taylor (Katherine)
Burrack, Ms. Pamyla	Dortzbach, Rev./Mrs. Karl (Debbie)
Cain, Mr./Mrs. Adam (Michelle)	Dougherty, Mr./Mrs. Derek (Laura)
Cain, Rev./Mrs. Brooks (Riva)	Ebbers, Mr./Mrs. Derek (Shannon)
Call, Rev./Mrs. Ray (Michele)	Eide, Rev./Mrs. Jonathan (Tracy)
Canales, Rev./Mrs. John (Mary Jo)	Etienne, Rev./Mrs. Esaie (Natacha)
Carr, Rev./Mrs. Bill (Susan)	Fitzpatrick, Rev./Mrs. Joe (Bev)
Carter, Ms. Brenda	Fleeman, Rev./Mrs. Lenden (Gemma)
Carter, Rev./Mrs. Michael (Cathalain)	Floyd, Mr./Mrs. Ross (Angela)
Cary, Ms. Elisabeth	Gahagen, Mr./Mrs. Craig (Heather)
Chambers, Mr./Mrs. Garry (Anita)	Galage, Mr./Mrs. Tim (Therese)

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Garofalo, Rev./Mrs. Santo (Mary Ellen)	Kooi, Mr. Brent
Gildard, Mr./Mrs. James (Jacki)	Kovak, Ms. Lubica
Gim, Mr./Mrs. John (Carol)	Kreider, Mr./Mrs. Derek (Catalina)
Goeglein, Ms. Lydia	Lamos, Mr./Mrs. Jud (Jan)
Goodrich, Rev./Mrs. Richey (Keli)	Larsen, Dr./Mrs. Eric (Rebecca)
Goodwin, Rev./Mrs. Sam (Elizabeth)	Lee, Rev./Mrs. James (Shine)
Graber, Rev./Mrs. Ben (Anna)	Lee, Mr. John
Grady, Ms. Miriam	Lee, Mr./Mrs. Jonathan (Joy)
Graham, Mr./Mrs. Eric (Anna)	Lee, Mr./Mrs. Chris (Janna)
Gregoire, Mr./Mrs. Dan (Rebecca)	Lee, Rev./Mrs. Paul (Susan)
Grotton, Mr./Mrs. David (Danielle)	Lennox, Mr./Mrs. Patrick (Regina)
Grubb, Mr./Mrs. Glenn (Sharlene)	Letchworth, Rev./Mrs. Bill (Mae Lee)
Gullett, Mr./Mrs. Foster (Laura)	Lim, Rev./Mrs. Tim (Moon Sook)
Hacquebord, Rev./Mrs. Heero (Anya)	Love, Dr./Mrs. Tim (Laura)
Halbert, Rev./Mrs. Aaron (Rachel)	Lowther, Mr./Mrs. Roger (Abi)
Halbert, Mr./Mrs. Alex (Maggie)	Lundgaard, Mr./Mrs. Kris (Paula)
Hale, Mr./Mrs. Robert (Deborah)	Lupton, Rev./Mrs. Andrew (Laura-Kate)
Han, Mr./Mrs. Beyongseob (Kyungsoon)	Luther, Rev./Mrs. Phillip (Kay)
Harrell, Mr. Frank	Mahaffey, Mr./Mrs. Philip (Karina)
Hart, Mr./Mrs. Tim (Beverly)	Mailloux, Rev./Mrs. Marc (Aline)
Henry, Rev./Mrs. DH (Emily)	Makhalira, Mr./Mrs. Confex (Mwai)
Henry, Mr./Mrs. Paul (Crystal)	Marshall, Rev./Mrs. Verne (Alina)
Henson, Dr./Mrs. Nathan (Kristen)	Martin, Mr./Mrs. David (Jill)
Hill, Rev./Mrs. Scott (Ruth)	Matthias, Ms. Elizabeth
Holliday, Mr./Mrs. Tim (Kristy)	May, Dr./Mrs. Andrew (Krista)
Hoot, Rev./Mrs. Trevin (Ruthie)	McAlpin, Mr./Mrs. Brett (Valerie)
Hurrie, Rev./Mrs. Shaun (Becky)	McCafferty, Rev./Mrs. Brennan (Becca)
Ilderton, Rev./Mrs. Rob (Jenny)	McCall, Mr./Mrs. John (Lorena)
Iverson, Rev./Mrs. Dan (Carol)	McGinty, Mr./Mrs. Coby (Pamela)
Iverson, Rev./Mrs. Jonathan (Maggie)	McMahan, Mr./Mrs. Mike (Robin)
Jacobs, Mr. Joshua	McNeill, Mr./Mrs. Don (Fran)
Jensen, Rev./Mrs. Ben (Julie)	Mills, Mr./Mrs. Tim (Rhiana)
Jesch, Mr./Mrs. Matt (Esta)	Mirabella, Rev./Mrs. Tom (Karen)
Johnson, Ms. Darlene	Mitchell, Rev./Mrs. Pete (Ruth)
Johnson, Ms. Melanie	Moore, Rev./Mrs. Brian (Megan)
Jones, Mr./Mrs. Clay (Hannah)	Mugari, Rev./Mrs. Jorum (Evah)
Jung, Rev./Mrs. Jim (Claudia)	Nairn, Mr./Mrs. Andrew (Megan)
Karner, Ms. Linda	Nakah, Dr./Mrs. Victor (Nosizo)
Kazen, Ms. Kersten	Nam, Rev./Mrs. David (Susanna)
Kelly, Mr./Mrs. Eric (Megan)	Nantz, Dr./Mrs. Quentin (Karen)
Kim, Dr./Dr. Lloyd (Eda)	Newkirk, Dr./Mrs. Matt (Caroline)
Kim, Mr./Mrs. Mark (Rachel)	Newkirk, Ms. Susan
King, Ms. Julia	Newsome, Rev./Mrs. Wayne (Amy)
Kirkland, Rev./Mrs. Philip (Joy)	Norris, Mr./Mrs. Kirk (Anna)
Knowlton, Mr./Mrs. Keith (Rachel)	Norton, Mr./Mrs. Clarke (Khrystyia)

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Oh, Dr./Mrs. Michael (Pearl)	Sproull, Mr. /Mrs. Todd (Cindy)
Olivares, Rev./Mrs. Oscar (Nancy)	Stannard, Mr./Mrs. Luke (Michelle)
Parker, Ms. Laura	Stanton, Rev./Mrs. Dal (Beth)
Pervis, Mr./Mrs. David (Erin)	Stava, Rev./Mrs. Jonas (Pattie)
Pfeil, Mr./Mrs. Jon (Sarah)	Stephens, Rev./Mrs. Noah (Karleigh)
Phillips, Ms. Carolyn	Stevens, Ms. Carla
Pike, Rev./Mrs. Mel (Martha)	Stewart, Mr./Mrs. Robert (Lisa)
Pohl, Rev./Mrs. Craig (Stacy)	Stoddard, Rev./Mrs. David (Eowyn)
Polk, Rev./Mrs. Jason (Liz)	Stodghill, Mr./Mrs. John (Karen)
Powell, Mr./Mrs. Jon (Olya)	Stogner, Rev./Mrs. Phil (Wendy)
Powlison, Rev./Mrs. Keith (Ruth)	Swanson, Mr./Mrs. Joel (Stephanie)
Price, Ms. Robin	Sweet, Mr./Mrs. Robbie (Lydia)
Quinn, Mr./Mrs. Hunter (Laura)	Tafferner, Mr./Mrs. Mario (Elsbeth)
Rabe, Ms. Rachel	Taylor, Rev./Mrs. Nate (Erin)
Rarig, Dr. Steve	Thomae, Rev./Mrs. David (Jan)
Rayl, Rev./Mrs. Brett (Taylor)	Traub, Rev./Mrs. Will (Judi)
Reiter, Mr./Mrs. Ryan (Joy)	Vos, Ms. Nelly
Rice, Ms. Carrie	Wadhams, Mr./Mrs. Michael (Lindie)
Richards, Ms. Debbie	Warren, Mr./Mrs. Andy (Bevely)
Robertson, Rev./Mrs. Steve (Amy)	Watanabe, Rev./Mrs. Gary (Lois)
Roby, Mr./Mrs. Brian (Sheryl)	Webb, Mr./Mrs. Jacob (Suzanne)
Rockwell, Mr./Mrs. Larry (Sandra)	Wessel, Rev./Mrs. Hugh (Martine)
Romer, Mr./Mrs. Mikael (Zuzanna)	White, Ms. Rebecca
Rudd, Mr./Mrs. Marcus (Heather)	Wilkes, Rev./Mrs. Larry (Mandy)
Rug, Rev./Mrs. John (Cathy)	Williams, Mr./Mrs. Bert (Nancy)
Russell, Dr./Mrs. Julian (Christiana)	Williams, Mr./Mrs. Steve (Rita)
Sabin, Mr./Mrs. Mike (Eli)	Wilson, Mr./Mrs. Tom (Teresa)
Sale, Mr./Mrs. Zach (Joy)	Wood, Mr./Mrs. Kenton (Adriana)
Saunders, Mr./Mrs. Jeff (Katie)	Wright, Dr./Mrs. Tom (Lucy)
Schafer, Mr./Mrs. Jason (Mandy)	Young, Rev./Mrs. Dan (Becky)
Shadburne, Mr./Mrs. Andy (Missy)	Young, Rev. Steve
Shepherd, Rev./Mrs. Doug (Masha)	
Sinclair, Rev./Mrs. Bruce (Pam)	
Sindler, Rev./Mrs. Frank (Cindy)	
Smith, Rev./Mrs. Luke (Sokha)	
Smith, Mr./Mrs. Robert (Jeanne)	

In addition to this list there are 63 long-term missionary units serving in restricted access countries.

Attachment 2

INITIAL & TWO-YEAR MISSIONARIES

(as of December 31, 2023)

Bacon, Dr./Mrs. Julian (Rachel)	Markwalter, Mrs. Amy
Bean, Rev./Mrs. Dawson (Shanna)	McFarland, Mr. Peter
Beasley, Mr./Mrs. Stan (Connie)	McWhorter, Mr./Mrs. Carter (Caroline)
Claburn, Mr. Chris	Murray, Ms. Elizabeth
Clifford, Mr./Mrs. John (Rachel)	Nash, Mr./Mrs. John (Ginna)
Conroy, Ms. Abigail	Rutherford, Ms. Ginny
Crews, Ms. Virginia	Scanio, Ms. Libby
Cromley, Mr./Mrs. Sam (Madison)	Sheppard, Mr. Andrew
Curl, Mr. Joshua	Smith, Rev./Mrs. Tom (Mylicah)
DeBoer, Ms. Shannon	South, Ms. Sarah
De Bruin, Ms. Molly	Sprague, Mr./Mrs. William (Jessica)
Evans, Ms. Adair	Stugart, Ms. Rachel
Guo, Mr./Mrs. Graham (Emily)	Tendo, Mr. Clement
Hart, Ms. Rachel	Thomas, Mr./Mrs. Jake (Courtney)
Hegler, Mr./Mrs. Matt (Emma)	Underwood, Mr./Mrs. Josh (Ashley)
Jacobson, Ms. Katie	Urban, Mr. James
Jeong, Mr./Mrs. Mark (Esther)	Van der Swaagh, Rev./Mrs. Kirk (Barbara)
Johnson, Rev./Mrs. Joshua (Elizabeth)	Velez, Mr./Mrs. Angel (Wally)
Jordan, Mr./Mrs. Alex (Heather May)	Winenger, Mr./Mrs. Matt (Kathryn)
Kim, Mr. David	Willis, Mr./Mrs. Justin (Savannah)
Koh, Ms. Rachel	Wong, Mr. Thomas
Lother, Mr./Mrs. Jesse (Reba)	Ziehr, Mr./Mrs. Matt (Jaime)

In addition to this list there are 13 short-term missionary units serving in restricted access countries.

Attachment 3

RETIRING MISSIONARIES

The following missionaries have given many years of their lives in service of world evangelization with Mission to the World. We honor these deeply committed colleagues as they enter a new phase of ministry during their retirement years.

Greete, Rev. Rich/Mrs. Chrissy - International
effective December 31, 2023

Lee, Rev. Michael/Mrs. Tricia - Panama
effective March 31, 2023

Marlowe, Dr. Jeffrey/Mrs. Mischa - International
effective May 31, 2023

Patterson, Mr. Jim/Mrs. Mary Alice – International
effective May 31, 2023

Ramsay, Rev. Richard/Mrs. Angelica – Latin America
effective December 31, 2023

Sexton, Mr. John/Mrs. Elizabeth - International
effective January 31, 2023

White, Mr. David/Mrs. Robin - International
effective December 31, 2023

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APPENDIX L

MINUTES OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA March 23, 2024

The Nominating Committee of the General Assembly convened in Atlanta, GA on Saturday, March 23, 2024. Chairman TE Jared Nelson called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. and RE Frank Cohee opened with prayer. The chairman then led the Committee in a devotional from Mark 14:38.

Attendance was taken and a quorum was declared. The Chairman welcomed the Committee and recognized four (4) guests, including three (3) guests from the PCA Administrative Committee Office, TE Bryan Chapell, Stated Clerk, Ms. Angela Nantz, Meeting Manager, and Ms. Heidi Harrison, Operations Manager, as well as RE Howie Donahoe. Seventy-eight (78) committee members were in attendance as follows, and five (5) additional members submitted preliminary ballots.

Members attending:

<u>Presbytery</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Class</u>
Arizona	TE Kelley Hand	2026
Ascension	TE Jared Nelson - Chairman	2025
Blue Ridge	TE Stuart Pratt	2025
Calvary	RE Melton Ledford Duncan	2025
Catawba Valley	TE William Thraillkill	2024
Central Carolina	TE Derek Wells	2024
Central Florida	TE Joseph L. Creech	2025
Central Indiana	TE Charles Anderson	2026
Chesapeake	RE Mike Khandjian	2026
Chicago Metro	RE Don Kooy	2024
Columbus Metro	TE Dave Schutter	2026
Eastern Canada	TE Frank Garcia	2024
Eastern Carolina	TE Chris Garrett	2024
Eastern Pennsylvania	TE Taylor Anthony Bradley	2024
Evangel	TE Michael Brock	2026
Fellowship	TE W. Gregory Marshall	2025

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Georgia Foothills	TE Don Aldin	2025
Grace	TE John Franklin	2024
Great Lakes	RE Jerome Gorgon	2024
Gulf Coast	TE Dennis W. Shackelford	2025
Gulfstream	TE Matt Wilson	2026
Heartland	TE Rick E. Franks	2024
Heritage	RE Tyler Hogan	2025
Highlands	TE Skip Gillikin	2024
Hills and Plains	RE Jeff Chewning	2024
Houston Metro	RE Dave Cias - Secretary	2024
Illiana	TE Alex Eppstein	2026
Iowa	TE Brian Janssen	2026
James River	TE J. Andrew Conrad	2025
Korean Capital	TE Steve Sun Kyo Yoon	2024
Korean Central	TE Paul Chi	2026
Korean Eastern	TE Andrew Kim	2026
Korean Northeastern	TE Hoochan Paul Lee	2024
Korean Southeastern	TE Anthony Lee	2026
Lowcountry	TE Nick Batzig	2025
Metro Atlanta	TE Bruce Terrell	2026
Metropolitan New York	TE E. Bruce O'Neil	2024
Mississippi Valley	RE James Elkin	2024
Missouri	RE John Ranheim	2024
Nashville	RE John Bryant	2025
New Jersey	TE Stephen O'Neil	2026
New River	TE Michael VanDerLinden	2026
New York State	TE Tim LeCroy	2026
North Florida	TE Dennis Griffith	2026
North Texas	RE David Westerfield	2026
Northern California	TE Bryce Hales	2026
Northern Illinois	TE Justin Coverstone	2026
Northern New England	TE Per Almquist	2025
Northwest Georgia	TE Clif Daniell	2025
Ohio	TE Jacob Piland	2025
Ohio Valley	TE Larry C. Hoop	2025
Pacific	TE Kyle Wells	2024
Pacific Northwest	RE Micah Meeuwssen	2024
Palmetto	TE Andrew Davis	2025
Pee Dee	TE Matthew Dallas Adams	2025
Philadelphia	RE Scott Dirksen	2026

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Philadelphia Metro West	RE Nathan Carlson	2024
Piedmont Triad	RE Richard Jones	2025
Pittsburgh	TE Jon Price	2026
Platte Valley	TE Michael Gordon	2026
Potomac	TE Porter Harlow	2026
Providence	RE Frank Cohee	2024
Rio Grande	TE Jeffery Douglas White	2024
Savannah River	TE Mike Hearon	2024
Siouxlands	TE Nathan Lee	2025
South Coast	TE Adam Feichtmann	2024
South Florida	TE David Barry	2026
Southeast Alabama	TE Parker Johnson	2024
Southern Louisiana	RE Aaron Collier	2026
Southern New England	TE Robert Steven Hill	2024
Southwest Florida	TE Jonathan Winfree	2025
Suncoast Florida	TE Geoffrey C. Henderson	2026
Susquehanna Valley	TE Vince Wood	2025
Tennessee Valley	RE John Wood	2025
Tidewater	TE Benjamin Cameron Lyon	2026
Warrior	TE Richard Martin Vise Jr.	2025
Westminster	TE Robert E. Dykes	2024
Wisconsin	TE Michael Vogel	2024

MSP to adopt the following addition to Article III.B.1 of the Nominating Committee Manual of Operations as recommended by the subcommittee created by the 2022-2023 Nominating Committee:

The aggregated preliminary vote forms received from the members of the Nominating Committee shall constitute the initial list of recommendations of the Nominating Committee as the main motion. The Nominating Committee will evaluate the candidate qualifications as a committee to form the final list of candidates. Nominating Committee members may move to substitute another candidate for any on the main motion. No more than one substitution at a time may be offered. Each substitution shall thereafter be voted on individually.

Preliminary vote tallies were discussed by the Committee. The Committee approved a slate of nominees for each of the Standing Committees, Agencies,

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

and Commission (each as more fully set forth hereinbelow) to be presented to the General Assembly.

MSP to empower the Chairman to form a committee to examine the tabulation method of preliminary voting, including but not limited to weighted, ranked-choice, or raw tally, and to make recommendations to the Nominating Committee as soon as possible but not later than two weeks prior to its March 2025 meeting.

Nominations were entertained for Chairman and Secretary of the 2024-2025 Nominating Committee. The Committee elected TE Matthew Dallas Adams, Pee Dee Presbytery, to serve as Chairman and RE Michael VanDerLinden, New River Presbytery, as Secretary.

The Chairman announced that the next meeting of the Nominating Committee will be at General Assembly in Richmond, Virginia, on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at the close of business. The 2025 meeting will be held in Atlanta, GA, on Saturday, March 22, 2025.

MSP The Committee adjourned at 1:15 with prayer by TE Paul Lee.

Respectfully Submitted,
TE Jared Nelson, Chairman

RE Dave Cias, Secretary

1) ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

A. Present Personnel

Teaching Elders:

Ruling Elders:

Class of 2027

TE Jason Helopoulos, Great Lakes

RE Dave Cias, Houston Metro

RE Alan Walters, Mississippi Valley

Class of 2026

TE Michael Dixon, Fellowship

RE Danny McDaniel, Houston Metro

APPENDIX L

Class of 2025

TE Roger G. Collins, Tennessee Valley RE Richard Dolan, Georgia Foothills
TE Steve Jeantet, Suncoast Florida

Class of 2024

TE Robert F. Brunson, Metro Atlanta RE Frank Cohee, Providence
RE Pat Hodge, Calvary

Alternates

TE Richard Phillips, Calvary RE EJ Nusbaum, Rocky Mountain

B. To be Elected:

Class of 2028

2 TEs and 1 REs

Alternates

1 TE and 1 RE

C. Nominations

Class of 2028

TE Richard Phillips, Calvary RE EJ Nusbaum, Rocky Mountain
TE Scott Edburg, Illiana

Alternates

TE Michael Hearon, Savannah River RE Richard Leino, James River

D. Biographical Sketches:

TE Richard Phillips: *Calvary*. BA, Economics, University of Michigan, 1982. M.B.A., Strategic Management, UPenn - Wharton School, 1992. M.Div, Westminster Theological Seminary, 1998. D.D., Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, 2012. Past - Assistant Professor of Behavioral Studies and Leadership, West Point Academy, 1992-1995. Senior Pastor, Second Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC. Present - council member for the Alliance for Confessing Evangelicals and the Gospel Coalition; Board of Directors at Westminster Seminary (Philadelphia). Past - Board of Knox Theological Seminary. Present -

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

conference chairman for the Philadelphia Conference on Reformed Theology and a co-editor for the Reformed Expository Series (P&R Publishing).

TE Scott Edburg: *Illiana*. B.A., Pastoral Ministry, Moody Bible Institute. M.Div., Reformed Theological Seminary (Jackson). Currently serves as the Senior Minister at Providence Presbyterian Church in Troy, IL. Served as a Recording Clerk in Providence Presbytery. Previously served on the CDM CoC for the 48th GA, served as the secretary of the AC CoC for the 49th GA, and served on the AC CoC for the 50th GA. Currently serves on the Review of Sessional Records Committee in Illiana Presbytery. Follows and publicly presents data concerning the passage of yearly Book of Church Order amendments on online platforms.

TE Michael Hearon: *Savannah River*. BA, Management Information Systems, University of N. Alabama, 1983. MA, Birmingham Theological Seminary, 1999. D.Min., Fuller Theological Seminary, 2022. Senior Minister at First Presbyterian Church in Augusta, GA. Served at Briarwood Presbyterian Church, 1983-1991. Founding staff member of Campus Outreach and served as the Director of Campus Outreach Global Network from 2003-2015. Currently serves on the PCA GA Nominating Committee and has served on the MTW CoC in 2019 and 2022. Chaired the 2022 PCA GA MTW CoC.

RE E.J. Nusbaum: *Rocky Mountain*. State Farm Insurance Agent since 1985. 2007, retired as a Naval Captain. Moderator of the 35th GA. Previously, served on GA Committee for Constitutional Business, 2002-2007, 2008-2012 and the Standing Judicial Commission, 2013-2022. Served as CoC for Administration, Ridge Haven, and on Overtures for nine years, and as the Chairman of the Overtures Committee at the 29th GA. Member at Village Seven Presbyterian Church and has served as an RE since 1988, serves as Clerk of Session. Has served on several committees for the Session, including finance, building, and personnel. Moderator of the 35th GA. Active-duty infantry officer 1979-1985 (retired).

RE Richard Leino: *James River*. BS, Nuclear Engineering, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, 1990. MS, Electrical Engineering, Naval Postgraduate School, 1996. MA, Military Studies, Marine Corps University, 2004. MA, Christian Ministries, New Geneva Seminary, 2018.

APPENDIX L

Retired LtCol (USMC), as Communications and Data officer. Present - IT Executive for SMX providing mission and digital solutions to commercial and government sectors, successfully solutioned over \$5B in new business. Past - GA Nominating Committee, Review of Presbytery Records, Theological Examining Committee (chair, three years). Present - 2024 General Assembly Planning Committee (co-chair). He has also served on the Overtures Committee several years and multiple CoCs.

2) COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL BUSINESS

A. Present Personnel

Teaching Elders:

Ruling Elders:

Class of 2027

TE Stephen Tipton, Gulf Coast

RE Chris Shoemaker, S. New England

Class of 2026

TE Jason Piland, Ohio

RE Bryce Sullivan, Nashville

Class of 2025

TE J. Scott Phillips, Providence

RE Matt Fender, James River

Class of 2024

TE Joel Craig St. Clair II, Potomac

RE Fredric Marcinak, Calvary

Alternates

TE Per Almquist, Northern New England

RE John Ward Weiss, SE Alabama

B. To be Elected:

Class of 2028

1 TE and 1 RE

Alternates

1 TE and 1 RE

C. Nominations

Class of 2028

TE Per Almquist, Northern New England RE John Ward Weiss, SE Alabama

Alternates

TE David Gordon, Ascension RE Joshua Torrey, South Texas

D. Biographical Sketches

TE Per Almquist: *Northern New England.* D. Min “Presbyterian Polity in Action: A Commentary on the Book of Church Order of the PCA.” Pastor-church planter, Free Grace Presbyterian, Lewiston, ME. Served multiple years as CCB chair, multiple years as RPR chair and vice-chair. Represented PCA at Synod for the Eglise Reformee du Quebec. Served on various Assembly CoCs. Stated Clerk, Ministerial Relations Committee chair, and Recording Clerk of Northern New England Presbytery. Previously served as Associate Pastor and Clerk of Session of Christ the Redeemer, Portland, ME and as Associate Librarian for Covenant Theological Seminary.

TE T. David Gordon: *Ascension.* B.L.A. from Roanoke College, M.A.R. and Th.M. from Westminster Theological Seminary, and Ph.D. from Union Theological Seminary. Retired Professor of Biblical Studies, Grove City College (1999–2021). Currently Moderator of Presbytery of the Ascension. Previously served two terms on the Committee of Constitutional Business, once chaired the Overtures Committee and twice served as its secretary. Previously served five years as presbytery Moderator. Chaired presbytery Administration Committee for six years. Previously served as Professor at Gordon Conwell (1984–1998) where Dr. Gordon taught Presbyterian denominational standards, presbyterian history, polity, and liturgy.

RE John Ward Weiss: *Southeast Alabama.* B.A. History, Presbyterian College. J.D. University of Alabama School of Law. LL.M. Taxation, New York University School of Law. Practices private law in tax and health care regulatory matters. Served two previous terms on CCB as well as terms on the Nominating and Overtures Committees. Has served as

Moderator of Southeast Alabama presbytery and on several special commissions. Ordained as deacon at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Montgomery in 1989. Ordained as RE at Trinity in 1998. Chairman of the board of World News Group, which produces *World Magazine* and *The World and Everything in It*.

RE Joshua Torrey: *South Texas*. B.S. In Electrical Engineering, University of Texas, San Antonio. Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) ten years as computer chip engineer and five years at Apple. Has served on RPR and as an alternate for the Theological Examining Committee. Served on various Assembly CoCs: CDM, AC, and OC. Chairs presbytery Nominating Committee and has served three years on credentials. Joshua has been married to Alaina for 17 years, has five children ranging from 12–5 years old, and has served as Ruling Elder at Redeemer PCA for the past four years.

3) BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COVENANT COLLEGE

A. Present Personnel

Teaching Elders:

Ruling Elders:

Class of 2027

Vacancy

TE Thurman Williams, Missouri

RE Michael Kramer, Tennessee Valley

RE Ken Smith, North Texas

RE John Truschel, Eastern Carolina

RE Robert Wilkinson, Missouri

RE R. Craig Wood, Blue Ridge

Class of 2026

TE Thomas Groelsema, Central Carolina

TE Lance Lewis, Northern California

TE Sean McGowan, Gulf Coast

TE Omari Hill, Central Carolina

RE Don Mellott, Pacific Northwest

RE Towner Scheffler, Piedmont Triad

RE Gordon Sluis, Mississippi Valley

Class of 2025

TE Bradley J. Barnes, S. New England

TE Alexander Brown, Savannah River

RE David Caines, Tennessee Valley

RE Mark Griggs, Tennessee Valley

RE Bradley M. Harris, Covenant

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

RE Drew Jelgerhuis, Great Lakes
RE Sam Smartt, Tennessee Valley

Class of 2024

TE Matthew David Fray, North Texas RE Richard T. Bowser, E. Carolina
TE Duncan Highmark, Missouri RE Robert Curtis, Southwest Florida
RE Martin A. Moore, Georgia Foothills
RE William H. Ryan, South Florida
RE Stephen E. Sligh, Southwest Florida

B. To be Elected:

Class of 2028

7 members total (TE or RE)

Class of 2027

1 member total (TE or RE)

One may be from another NAPARC denomination

C. Nominations

2028

TE Timothy Brindle, Phil Metro West RE Richard Bowser, Eastern Carolina
TE Matthew Fray, North Texas RE Paul D. Moore, Calvary
RE William H. Ryan, South Florida
RE Stephen E. Sligh, Southwest Florida
RE Gregory J. Moore, Susq. Valley

2027

RE John C. Kwasny, MS Valley

D. Biographical Sketches:

RE Richard Bowser: *Eastern Carolina.* Graduated Grove City College, Master's degree Westminster Theological Seminary (Philadelphia), Graduated Law school. Currently on faculty of Campbell University of Law in Raleigh, NC. Taught Jr High students at a Christian school in western PA. Previously served on Covenant Board of Trustees. Chaired Board of Covenant Trustees from 2014-2018. Served on the executive committee and chaired the Presidential search committee in 2023. RE

since 1998. He and his wife have two children, both graduates of Covenant College. He is convinced Christian education must be grounded and shaped in the rich theology of the reformed tradition.

TE Timothy Brindle: *Philadelphia Metro West*. Bachelor of Education Temple University, Master of Divinity and Master of Theology from Westminster Theological Seminary. Associate Pastor of Olive Street Presbyterian church in Coatesville, PA, Senior Stewardship Officer and Lecturer in Old Testament Westminster Theological Seminary. Public school teacher in the school district of Philadelphia 2003-2008. Social worker in Child Protective Services 2009-2014. Released several reformed hip-hop albums since 2003. Author of *The Unfolding Book*, and co-author of *The Acrostic Theology for Kids* series. He and his wife have 9 children, two in college and one in heaven.

TE Matthew Fray: *North Texas*. B.A. Covenant College 2005. M.Div., Westminster Seminary CA, 2009. Assistant Pastor of Christian Formation, Park Cities Presbyterian Church since 2015. Candidates and Credentials Committee Savannah River Presbytery 2010-2014. Chairman, Committee of Commissioners Covenant College 2016. Chairman, Candidates Committee North Texas Presbytery 2016-2022. Administrative Committee North Texas Presbytery 2016-2022. Committee of Commissioners Covenant College 2017. General Assembly Overtures Committee 2018. General Assembly Host Committee 2019. Covenant College Board of Trustees 2019-present. Candidate desires to promote Covenant College's desire to make Christ pre-eminent in every aspect of life and expand the College's reach into the Dallas area.

RE Gregory Moore: *Susquehanna Valley*. B.S. Physics and Biology North Park College, Chicago IL. MA degrees SM Nuclear Engineering and PhD Radiological Sciences, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA. MD degree Wayne State University School of Medicine, Detroit, MI. Graduate studies in Systematic Theology, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Wenham, MA, no degree. Diagnostic Residency and Neuroradiology Fellowship, Penn State Hershey Medical Center. Recently retired Senior Technology VP for Microsoft after serving as VP for Google. Former professor Wayne State University of Medicine and Penn State University School of Medicine. Currently working part-time as a physician and independent board director for several private companies.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

RE Paul Moore: *Calvary*. B.S. Biology Degree, Furman University. Doctor of Medicine, Medical University of South Carolina. Work: Prisma Health Department of Emergency Medicine. Good Shepherd Free Medical Clinic – Medical Director. Member of Session Westminster Presbyterian Church, Clinton, SC. Head of Assistant Pastor Search Committee. Adult Sunday School teaching team, substitute musician, small group ministry participant and past leader. Served on Covenant College Parents Board, assisting the College with recruitment. Seeing our five children thrive at Covenant College, as they were nurtured in faith and life, has instilled in me a deep desire to serve the School.

RE William Ryan: *South Florida*. MBA, University of Miami; B.S. Boston College. Built several construction companies in Florida and Illinois. Works as a professional contractor. Served on Campus Crusade staff at MIT. Served as board chair for Coral Springs Christian Academy. Served as elder at First Presbyterian Church in Coral Springs, FL since 1990.

RE Stephen Sligh: *Southwest Florida*. Graduate of Covenant College and the National College of Chiropractic. Private practice chiropractic for over 40 years. Elder at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Lakeland, FL for over 40 years. Served on the board of Lakeland Christian School for 40 years. He and his wife Annette have two adult daughters who attended Covenant and are walking with the Lord, and seven grandchildren.

RE John Kwasny: *Mississippi Valley*. Ph.D. Christian Education, Trinity Theological Seminary; M.A. Counseling, Regent University; B.A. Psychology, Oral Roberts University. Executive Ministry Director at Pear Orchard Presbyterian Church. Previous experience directing children's, discipleship, and educational ministries. Presently director of One Story Ministries (second largest provider of Sunday School curricula in the PCA), authoring Biblical discipleship curriculum for the church, home, and Christian school. Served on CDM permanent committee in past, as well as CDM children's ministry team. Served on Christian education and credentials committee of presbytery.

4) COMMITTEE ON DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES

A. Present Personnel

Teaching Elders:

Ruling Elders:

Class of 2028

TE Richard Burguet, Central Florida RE David Hinkley, Great Lakes
TE Robert Cathcart, Calvary

Class of 2027

TE Christopher Lee Hutchings., Ohio RE Randy Stair, Metro Atlanta
RE Taylor Clement, Missouri

Class of 2026

TE W. Scott Barber, Providence RE Dan Barber, Central Indiana
TE Dean Williams, Mississippi Valley

Class of 2025

TE Thomas Michael Harr Jr., New Jersey RE Jacob Lightsey Wallace, James Riv.
RE Jeremy Whitley, South Texas

Class of 2024

TE Charles Johnson, Evangel RE Dennis Crowe, SE Alabama
TE Dave Lindberg, North Texas

Alternates

TE Dave Vosseller, Savannah River RE Larkin Chapman, MS Valley

B. To be Elected:

Class of 2029

1 TEs and 2 REs

Alternates

1 TE and 1 RE

C. Nominations

Class of 2028

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

TE Danny Kwon, Korean Eastern RE James D. Murphy, Blue Ridge
RE Jack North, Pee Dee

Alternates

TE Jonathan Medlock, Northern CA RE Larkin Chapman, MS Valley

D. Biographical Sketches

TE Danny Kwon: *Korean Eastern*. Ph.D. Organizational Leadership, Eastern University; Th.M. Biblical and Pastoral Theology, Covenant Seminary; M.Div. Pastoral Ministry, Westminster Seminary; B.S. Human Resource Management, American University. Served on CDM permanent committee 2018-2023. Great Commission Publications Trustee 2019-present. Presently Senior Director of Youth Ministry Content and Cross Cultural Initiatives at Rooted Ministries. Pastor of Families and Youth Ministry 1994-2023. Has taught at Eastern University, Covenant Seminary, and Biblical/Missio Seminary in areas of youth and educational ministries. Has written three books on youth ministry and short term mission trips.

TE Jonathan Medlock: *Northern California Presbytery*. PhD candidate in Education at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School where he has had a great deal of exposure to educational and discipleship training, Vice President of People & Culture for Geneva Benefits. Served as chair of various presbytery committees. Served on RBI 2009-2019, chair 2014-2019. Served as a pastor in charge of Christian education at two churches prior to being employed with Geneva.

RE James Murphy: *Blue Ridge Presbytery*. Works as an independent consultant, served in the marine corps, served as a ruling elder in Potomac Presbytery as well as Blue Ridge, served on the CDM permanent committee as both an alternate (2015-2016) and member (2016-2022), served on the credentials committee of Potomac Presbytery (2016-2022), vast experience in local churches at leading small group and discipleship ministry, been part of established and church plant opportunities in the PCA.

RE Jack North: *PeeDee Presbytery*. Educator (retired), spent career as a teacher and later administrator, ordained as RE in 1988 and served on

sessions of several PCA churches, served on Administration, Shepherding, and Credentials committees for PeeDee Presbytery, served on committees of commissioners at GA for CDM, MNA, CTS, and served on overtures committee.

RE William Larkin Chapman, Jr.: *Mississippi Valley Presbytery.* BS Mathematics, MBA in Finance, works as an insurance agent, served as a deacon and treasurer in his church before being called to the office of elder, has served in various roles of teaching and leading his church and also participates in interdenominational service opportunities.

5) BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COVENANT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

A. Present Personnel

Teaching Elders:

Ruling Elders:

Class of 2027

TE Jimmy Agan, Metro Atlanta

RE Mark Ensio, Arizona

TE Robert Flayhart, Evangel

RE John Fitch, South Texas

TE Fredric Ryan Laughlin, Potomac

RE Dwight Jones, Central Georgia

Class of 2026

TE Russell St. John, Missouri

RE James Albritton, Evangel

TE David Sinclair, Calvary

RE Doug Hickel, Missouri

RE Ron McNalley, North Texas

RE Walter Turner, Pittsburgh

Class of 2025

TE Brian Cosby, Tennessee Valley

RE Samuel N. Graham, Covenant

RE Miles E. Gresham, Evangel

RE Donald Guthrie, Chicago Metro

RE Otis Pickett, Mississippi Valley

RE Curtis S. Shidemantle, Ascension

Class of 2024

TE Hugh M. Barlett, Missouri

RE William Bennett, Evangel

RE Jonathan P. Seda, Heritage

RE Paul R. Stoll, Chicago Metro
RE Gif Thornton, Nashville
RE Frank Wicks Jr., Missouri

B. To be Elected:

Class of 2028

6 members total (TE or RE)

One may be from another NAPARC denomination

C. Nominations

Class of 2028

TE Brian Habig, Calvary
TE Murray Lee, Evangel

RE David L. Duren, Houston Metro
RE Bruce Harrington, Rocky Mountain
RE Paul Stoll, Chicago Metro
RE Gif Thornton, Nashville

D. Biographical Sketches

RE David Duren: *Houston Metro*. Texas A&M: Mechanical Engineering; Computer Science. Founder, Chairman, CEO of Circon Energy, LLC; Founder, CEO of Kinected Energy LLC; Co-founder Net Zero, LLC (carbon and environmental trading); Chairman, The eAi Institute (not-for-profit research institute). Guest Lecturer, Texas A&M on leadership, sustainability, character development. Married to Gretchen; 5 children. Past Chair, Reformed Youth Ministries, Leadership Council of Texas A&M Association of Former Students; RE Christ the King PCA (Houston); joined CTS Advisory Board in 2023.

TE Brian Habig: *Calvary*. Mississippi State University. MDiv, Covenant Theological Seminary. RUF Campus Minister, Mississippi State University and Vanderbilt University. Founding Pastor and current Senior Pastor, Downtown Presbyterian Church (Greenville, SC). Married to Dana; 3 children. Presbytery Moderator; 2008. Contributor to *Presbyterion*. Preached at PCA General Assembly in 2013. Delivered Miller Preaching Lectures at RTS-Jackson. RUF Permanent Committee; joined CTS Board in 2014.

RE Bruce Harrington: *Rocky Mountain*. BA, Economics, Vanderbilt. MDiv, Covenant Theological Seminary. MBA, Washington University. Inaugural

APPENDIX L

Vice President for Advancement, CTS, 1984-1990. CFO at WaterStone, a \$250MM+ Christian community foundation in Colorado Springs. 35 years' experience as TE or RE. Currently, RE at Forestgate Presbyterian Church. Married to Connie; 3 children. Presbytery Shepherding Committee. CTS Advisory Board since 2010, joined CTS Board of Trustees in 2014. Author, *Grace-Centered Economics*.

TE Murray Lee: *Evangel*. Samford University. Covenant Theological Seminary. PhD (organizational communication), University of Alabama. Founding Pastor and Senior Pastor, Cahaba Park Church, 2007-2022. Currently, Executive Director with Mission to North America. Married to Kim; 3 children. Joined CTS Advisory Board in 2010 with service on the Advancement Committee.

RE Paul Stoll: *Chicago Metro*. BS, LeTourneau College. President of Armin Tool and Manufacturing (Elgin, IL). Married to Katy; 2 children. RE, Westminster Presbyterian Church (Elgin) for six terms. Also served as Deacon at Westminster Elgin. Elected to CTS Board in 2006.

RE Gif Thornton: *Nashville*. Graduate of Vanderbilt University and Vanderbilt Law. Managing Partner at Adams and Reese LLP. He is a Ruling Elder at Christ Presbyterian in Nashville and has served on its Administrative Commission and Personnel Committee. He serves on the Committee on Judicial Business at Nashville Presbytery. Gif's wife, Anna, served on the Advisory Board of the Francis A. Schaeffer Institute of Covenant Theological Seminary. The Thorntons have four children. Gif was first elected to the Seminary Board in 2010. Present - Chairman of the Trustee Development and Nominating Committee, serves on Executive Committee of Covenant Seminary Board.

6) COMMITTEE ON INTERCHURCH RELATIONS

A. Present Personnel

Teaching Elders:

Ruling Elders:

Class of 2026

TE David Gilleran, Blue Ridge

RE Dennis Watts, Mississippi Valley

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Class of 2025

TE Wallace Tinsley, Fellowship RE Billy Ball, Evangel

Class of 2024

TE L. Roy Taylor, Calvary RE James Isbell, Tennessee Valley

Alternate

TE Nathan Chambers, Pacific Northwest RE Aaron Reeves, Hills and Plains

B. To be Elected:

Class of 2027

1 TE and 1 RE

Alternates

1 TE and 1 RE

C. Nominations

Class of 2027

TE Nathan Chambers, Pacific Northwest RE Aaron Reeves, Hills and Plains

Alternates

TE Kenneth McHeard, Savannah River Floor Nomination

D. Biographical Sketches

TE Nathan Chambers: *Pacific Northwest*. MCS Old Testament at Regent College, PhD Biblical Studies at Durham University. Senior Pastor of Wiser Lake Chapel, Lynden, WA, called in 2019. Stated Clerk, Pasific Northwest Presbytery. Visiting Lecturer at Yellowstone Theological Institute. He is the author of *Reconsidering Creation Ex Nihilo in Genesis 1* (Eisenbrauns, 2020).

TE Kenneth McHeard: *Savannah River*. BA, Business Management, State University of NY (2001). MDiv Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary (2006). Doctor of Religious Studies, Trinity Theological Seminary (2020). Asst Pastor of Discipleship at First Presbyterian Church, Augusta, GA. Stated Clerk NY State Presbytery 2019-2021. Gospel Priorities Conference Speaker 2016, 2018, 2020, 2021. PCA GA

APPENDIX L

Recording Clerk 2016-present. PCA Historical Center Oversight Committee 2020-present. Interchurch Relations Committee Chair 2022.

RE Aaron Reeves: *Hills and Plains*. Oklahoma State University. Deacon, then Ruling Elder, Grace Church in Stillwater, OK. Married to wife Teri, and three children. Management of family business since 1997 along with work in the commercial and residential property management space. Serves on the board of Stillwater Life Services. Spiritual Formation Committee for Hills and Plains.

7) COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO NORTH AMERICA

A. Present Personnel

Teaching Elders:

Ruling Elders:

Class of 2028

TE Jeremy Byrd, Great Lakes

RE Brett Doster, Gulf Coast

RE Lance Kinzer, Heartland

Class of 2027

TE Dean Faulkner, Central Carolina

RE Timothy Threadgill, MS Valley

TE Hansoo Jin, Korean Capital

Class of 2026

TE Roland Barnes, Savannah River

RE Brent Andersen, Central Carolina

RE Jason Kang, Metro Atlanta

Class of 2025

TE R. Lyle Caswell Jr., SW Florida

RE Ernie Shipman, N. New England

TE Robert A. Willetts, Tidewater

Class of 2024

TE Robert Penny, Mississippi Valley

RE Keith W. Goben, Pacific Northwest

RE Julian Battle, Savannah River

Alternates

TE Hunter Brewer, Covenant

RE Samuel K. Suttle, MS Valley

B. To be Elected:

Class of 2029
2 TEs and 1 RE

Alternates
1 TE and 1 RE

C. Nominations

Class of 2029

TE Hunter Brewer, Covenant RE Samuel K. Suttle, MS Valley
TE Nate Keisel, Pittsburgh

Alternates

TE Zachary Groff, Calvary RE Mitch Young, South Texas

D. Biographical Sketches

TE Dr. Hunter Brewer: *Covenant.* Graduate of Samford University and Reformed Theological Seminary. Planting Trinity Church PCA in Collierville, TN. Founder of the Mid-South PCA Church Planting Network. Served previously on MNA Permanent Committee. Planted Madison Heights Church PCA in Madison, MS. Assistant Pastor at Pear Orchard Presbyterian Church in Ridgeland, MS and Lakeland Presbyterian Church in Flowood, MS. Served on staff at Orangewood Presbyterian Church in Maitland, FL and Rainbow Presbyterian Church in Rainbow City, AL. Co-host of the 5 Points Church Planting podcast. Adjunct Professor at Birmingham Theological Seminary. In addition, he serves as a Church Planting Coach.

TE Nate Keisel: *Pittsburgh.* M.Div. from Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary in 2014. No undergraduate degree. Church Planter at Mosaic Community Church in Jennette, PA. Served on the Credentials Committee for his first 6 years in the Pittsburgh Presbytery. Currently serving on the MTW Presbytery Committee. Filled the pulpit for various churches in the Presbytery and helped guide through mercy ministry or addiction situations. Has attended numerous Church Planter trainings including MNA Assessment, CP Training Tracks 1 and 2, Spanish River Bootcamp, Perimeter Journey Group Training, and MNA Mercy Ministry Training.

Formed a non-profit, Mosaic Community Church Development Center-youth leadership.

TE Zachary Groff: *Calvary*. B.A. Political Science, Temple University; M.Div., Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Ph.D. in progress, Highland Theological College. Pastor/Church Planter-Antioch Presbyterian Church, Woodruff, SC. Serves as Treasurer of the Calvary MNA Committee; Chairman, Sub-Committee on Strategic Planning for Church Planting, Calvary Presbytery MNA Committee. Member of the Steering Committee for the PCA Carolinas Church-Planting Network in NC and SC. Editor-in-Chief, *Presbyterian Polity*; Managing Editor, *The Confessional Presbyterian*; regular contributor, *Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals*, *Gospel Reformation Network*; and Song writer. Previously on full-time staff with the Coalition for Christian Outreach college ministry and GPTS (Director of Advancement and Admissions).

RE Samuel Suttle: *Mississippi Valley*. 1963 BS, Belhaven University; 1978 Doctor of Medicine, University of Mississippi Medical School; 1978-1981 Medical Residency in Family Practice, University of Alabama Medical School in Montgomery, AL. Current Alternate on the MNA Permanent Committee. Holds certifications from the American Academy of Family Physicians, Senior Medical Aviation Examiner (FAA); Certificate of Added Qualifications in Hospice and Palliative Care and in Geriatrics, and Medical Director in Long Term Care. Holds private pilot's license. Founding member of the Christian Medical and Dental Society. Ruling Elder at First Presbyterian Church in Louisville, MS. Married to Lisa for 41 years.

RE Mitch Young: *South Texas*. RE at CrossPointe Church in Austin, TX since early 2000s. Served on Presbytery MNA Committee for 9 years, including 3-years as Clerk of the Committee. Became interested in the Presbytery when his church went through a pastor retirement and seeking wisdom from the Presbytery on how to move forward. Served as Chair of the Search Committee and coordinated pulpit supply for the interim period. Currently is a Consulting Environmental Engineer. Undergraduate degree in Chemical Engineering from University of Texas and graduate degree from University of Washington in Environmental Engineering. Married for 32 years with 2 adult daughters.

8) COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE WORLD

A. Present Personnel

Teaching Elders:

Ruling Elders:

Class of 2028

TE Joshua Rieger, Houston Metro
RE Scott Wulff, Ohio

RE Bryan Wintersteen, Evangel

Class of 2027

TE Maranatha Chung, Philadelphia
TE Owen Lee, Korean Capital

RE Theo Hagg, Westminster

Class of 2026

TE Shaun M. Nolan, Pittsburgh
TE Oscar R. Aylor, Eastern Carolina

RE John E. Bateman, North Texas

Class of 2025

TE Tom Patton, Evangel
TE William E. Dempsey, Mississippi Valley

RE Byron Johnson, Metro Atlanta

Class of 2024

TE James E. Richter, Tennessee Valley

RE Daryl Brister, Houston Metro
RE David Kliewer, Rocky Mountain

Alternates

Vacancy

RE Alexander Jun, Korean SW OC

B. To be Elected:

Class of 2029

2 TEs and 1 RE

Alternates

1TE and 1 RE

C. Nominations

Class of 2029

TE Kevin Smith, Tennessee Valley RE John Kunkel, North Florida
 TE Patrick Womack, Suncoast Florida

Alternates

TE Larry Trotter, South Florida RE David Moore, Central Florida

D. Biographical Sketches

TE Larry Trotter: *South Florida.* B.S. Mathematics and Economics, Duke, 1983; M.Div., Westminster Theological Seminary, 1986; PhD in Communication, Regent University, 2007. Founding Pastor of Florida Coast Church, 2017-present. Served with MTW in Mexico for 27 years (1989-2016); MTW Church Planter Mexico City, Team Leader and Church Planter, Guadalajara, and Country Director of MTW Mexico 2012-2016. Served as Chairman of Missions and Church Planting Committee, Judicial Commission, and Moderator (2019) of South Florida Presbytery. Currently also serves as Adjunct Professor of Practical Theology, Knox Seminary, Ft. Lauderdale and Adjunct Professor of Practical Theology, Spanish Program at Westminster Seminary, Philadelphia.

TE Kevin Smith: *Tennessee Valley Presbytery.* Temple University; MTS from Westminster Theological Seminary and Chesapeake Theological Seminary, 1998. Senior Pastor of New City Fellowship, Chattanooga since 2012. Pastoral Intern (3 years) at Tenth Presbyterian, Philadelphia. Cross cultural church planter in Potomac Presbytery 1998-2005. Senior Pastor at Pinelands Presbyterian Church, Miami 2005-2012. Chair of RUF Committee in South Florida Presbytery. MNA church planter assessor for 10+ years. Preached at PCA General Assembly. Chaired GA Study Committee on Racial Reconciliation for 2 years. Served 2 terms on Covenant College Board of Trustees. MTW Regional Retreat speaker overseas since 2018.

RE John Kunkel: *North Florida.* BA Business Administration, Texas A&M. Ruling Elder, Pointe Vedra Presbyterian, church member 22 years. KPMG Supervising Senior Auditor 1986-1989, Houston. (1986-2001) VP of Finance and several other senior level positions with Pulte Home Corporation in Texas and Florida. (2001-2018) served as CFO, COO and CEO for Arendale Holding Corporation, a residential land development

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

company that serves subdivisions and country club developments; responsibilities included managing financial aspects of the projects, strategic planning, and contract negotiations. From 2018-2022 he served as CFO for Metro Diner & ConSul Partners, a restaurant company with 59 locations in 11 states.

TE Patrick Womack: *Suncoast Florida.* Western Carolina (BA '89), M.Div. RTS Jackson ('92). Senior Pastor at Bay PCA, Bonita Springs FL since 2022. Pastor of Westview PCA (1992-1996), Carolina PCA (1996-2010), Hazelwood PCA (2010-2020). Presbytery committee service with MTW, MNA, RUF, Shepherding, Credentials and Administration; Moderator of 3 Presbyteries. Since 2006 he served 2 full terms with CMTW and 1 partial term, as well as CMTW Chairman. CMTW chaired several subcommittees; member of CMTW Coordinator Search Subcommittee. Served PCA CoC Administration. Current Board of Christ's College, Taiwan. Led missions teams across the US and to over 5 countries.

RE David Moore: *Central Florida.* (BS Electrical Engineering, Auburn). 30-year career with PFM Financial Advisors, led the Southern US region with PFM in Strategic Planning Committee, Board of Directors and Executive Committee. Twenty years as RE at Orangewood PCA, serving as Treasurer, School Board member and now Executive Director of Orangewood Church and School Ministries with multimillion dollar budget. Brings executive business leadership and wide missions experience. Elected as Alternate on CMTW in 2021/2022. Lifelong and multi-generational commitment to missions. Has led missions trips with MTW for 25 years and active supporter of MTW missionaries.

**9) BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA FOUNDATION, INC.**

A. Present Personnel

Teaching Elders:

Ruling Elders:

Class of 2027

TE Solomon Kim, S. New England

RE William O. Stone Jr., MS Valley

Class of 2026

RE Owen H. Malcolm, GA Foothills
RE W. Russell Trapp, Providence
DE Andrew Schmidt, Central Carolina

Class of 2025

TE Martin Wagner, Evangel RE Willis L. Frazer, Covenant

Class of 2024

TE Patrick W. Curles, Nashville RE John Alexander, Metro Atlanta
RE Rob W. Morton, Central Georgia

B. To be Elected:

Class of 2028

2 members (TE, RE or DE)

C. Nominations

Class of 2028

TE Patrick Curles, Nashville RE John Alexander, Metro Atlanta
RE Robbin W. Morton, Central GA

D. Biographical Sketches

RE John Alexander: *Metro Atlanta*. B.S. Economics, Duke University. Chartered Financial Analyst (2012). UBS—pension fund, foundation, endowment manager; Nasdaq institutional data division—sales; DYO Investments—partner and general manager. PCA Foundation board member since 2019. Investment Committee at Covenant College (2013-2022). Ruling elder at ChristChurch Presbyterian (2010-present).

TE Patrick Curles: *Nashville*. B.A. History, Philosophy, German, Auburn University. M.Div., Westminster Theological Seminary. Th.M. Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Executive Pastor, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tennessee (2022-present). Trinity Presbyterian Church, Montgomery, Alabama, Executive Minister (2003-2021), Asst. Minister of Discipleship (2001-2002). Associate Pastor, Faith Presbyterian Church, Birmingham, Alabama (1994-2001). PCA Foundation board

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

member since 2019. Administrative Committee of Commissioners (1999). Bills and Overtures Committee of Commissioners (2002, 2007, 2008, 2012, 2014, and 2015). Evangel Presbytery Candidates, Licentiates, and Interns Committee, Chairman (three years), Member (two years). Southeast Alabama Presbytery Examinations Committee, Chairman and Member (nine years). *Book of Common Worship*, Compiled and Edited (2015).

RE Robbin Morton: *Central Georgia.* B.A. Industrial Psychology, Economics, University of Tulsa. Secure Health Plans of Georgia—President/CEO (15 years, retired 2015). Human resource management (30 years, including as corporate vice president). PCA Foundation board member (nine years). PCA Administrative Committee (past PCA Foundation representative). Central Georgia Presbytery, Stated Clerk (2013-2023). North Macon Presbyterian Church, Stated Clerk of Session (2015-present). Covenant Presbyterian Church, Milledgeville, Georgia, Stated Clerk of Session (20 years). Strong Tower Fellowship mission church, Clerk of Temporary Session (six years). Board of Directors, Goodwill Industries International (past). Ruling Elder at North Macon Presbyterian Church.

**10) BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
GENEVA BENEFITS**

A. Present Personnel

Teaching Elders:

Ruling Elders:

Class of 2027

RE L. Robert Clark, Tennessee Valley

RE David C. Allegood, Pittsburgh

RE Huey Townsend, MS Valley

Class of 2026

TE William Chang, Korean SW OC

RE Ken Downer, Highlands

RE Chris Rogers, Covenant

Class of 2025

TE Roderick Miles, Northern California RE Gary D. Campbell, Metro Atlanta
RE Scott P. Magnuson, Pittsburgh

Class of 2024

TE Andrew E. Field, Metropolitan NY RE Cody Dick, Houston Metro
DE Theodore J. Dankovich, Calvary

B. To be Elected:

Class of 2028

3 Members (TE, RE, or DE)

C. Nominations

Class of 2028

TE Andrew E. Field, Metropolitan NY RE James S. Clark, Mississippi Valley
DE Theodore J. Dankovich, Calvary

D. Biographical Sketches

RE James Clark: *Mississippi Valley*. B.A. Business Administration, University of Mississippi. Master of Business Administration, Millsaps College. Chartered Financial Analyst. Certified Financial Planner. Certified Financial Analyst Society of Mississippi—Member. BankPlus Wealth Management Group—Senior Vice President and Wealth Strategies Manager. Ruling Elder at Pear Orchard Presbyterian Church, Jackson, Mississippi. Geneva Board Recommendation.

DE Theodore J. Dankovich: *Calvary*. B.S. Business Accounting, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. Director-Finance and Operations Co.: Mitchell Road Presbyterian Church, Greenville SC. Member, Deacon (1994-1996, 1999-2001), Finance Chairman (1995-1996, 2000-2001), and Capital Campaign & Building Committee (2012-2015, 2018-2019), Mitchell Road PC, Greenville. Previously served Geneva Benefits Group Board, Class of 2019, Class of 2023 (became 2024). Chapter president: NACBA (2007-2013). Board member: Miracle Hill Enterprises (2018-2023).

TE Andrew E. Field: *Metropolitan New York*. B.S Commerce, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA; M-Div, Westminster Theological Seminary,

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Glenside, PA. Executive Pastor, Redeemer West Side, New York City, NY. Advisor, Finance and Ops, Co: Genormera (2010-2014); Associate Co.: Allen & Co. (1990-1992); Analyst Co.: Bear Stearns (1988-1990) Service to Presbytery: Stated Clerk, Candidates Committee, Presbytery Treasurer, Session Records, MNA Committee, Overtures. Treasurer and President, BLS Homeowners Association.

11) BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF RIDGE HAVEN

A. Present Personnel

Teaching Elders:

Ruling Elders:

Class of 2028

TE Travis Hutchinson, S. New England RE Tuan La, South Texas

Class of 2027

TE David Sasser Hall, Fellowship
TE Richard Smith, Susquehanna Valley

Class of 2026

RE Art Fox, North Florida
RE Ellison Smith, Pee Dee

Class of 2025

TE Larry Doughan, Iowa RE John Randall Berger, E. Carolina

Class of 2024

TE David Hart Sanders, Pee Dee RE Pete Austin IV, Tennessee Valley

B. To be Elected:

Class of 2029

2 Members (either TE or RE)

C. Nominations

RE Thomas A. Cook, Gulfstream TE Andy White, Westminster

D. Biographical Sketches

RE Thomas A. Cook, Jr.: *Gulfstream*. B.A., Presbyterian College, Clinton, SC. Attended the University of South Carolina School of Law. U.S. Army Reserves (1966-1973). Insurance Broker, Retired. National and statewide advisory councils for the Insurance Co. of North America (now CIGNA), Crum & Forster, and State Auto Mutual Insurance Co. Past president of the South Palm Beach County Insurance Agents Association. President and Director of the Oak Laurel Property Owners Association, Brevard, NC, next door to Ridge Haven, Brevard. Trustee, Deacon, RE (1994-2013), Seacrest Blvd. Presbyterian Church, Delray Beach, FL. Served on Presbytery Credentials Committee; delegate to several GAs.

TE Andy White: *Westminster*. BA, King College; M-Div, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, IL; D-Min, Covenant Theological Seminary, St. Louis, MO. Honorably Retired (2012). Previous pastorates Bristol, TN; North Miami, FL; Burlington, NC; Johnson City, TN. Served in Mission to the World, Partner Relations Department (1995-2006). Served two full terms (2012-2023) on Ridge Haven Board, including Vice-President and President. Considers Ridge Haven to play a vital role in recruitment of the next generation of church leaders, pastors, and missionaries.

12) COMMITTEE ON REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP

A. Present Personnel

Teaching Elders:

Ruling Elders:

Class of 2028

TE Kenneth Foster, Heritage

RE Stephen Berry, S. New England
RE Tobe Hester, Lowcountry

Class of 2027

TE Martin Biggs, Hills and Plains
TE Eric Zellner, Southeast Alabama

RE Justen Ellis, Northwest Georgia

Class of 2026

TE Iron D. Kim, Northern California

RE Jeremy Kath, Nashville
RE Rob Grabenkort, Georgia Foothills

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Class of 2025

TE Joshua A. Martin, Calvary RE Charles Powell Jr., Evangel
TE David Osborne, Eastern Carolina

Class of 2024

TE Jackson Howell, Tidewater RE Charles Duggan III, Central GA
RE Niles McNeel, Mississippi Valley

Alternates

TE David Felker, Mississippi Valley Vacancy

B. To be Elected:

Class of 2029

2 TEs and 1 RE

Alternates

1 TE and 1 RE

C. Nominations

Class of 2029

TE David Felker, Mississippi Valley RE Stephen Gordon, Ohio Valley
TE Brian Frey, Pacific Northwest

Alternates

TE Billy Crain, South Texas RE John Miller, Eastern Carolina

D. Biographical Sketches

TE David Felker: *Mississippi Valley*. M. Div. Reformed Theological Seminary, 2012. Executive Minister, First Presbyterian Church, Jackson, MS. Previously served at First Presbyterian Church, Jackson, as College Coordinator, 2008-2012; Discipleship Minister and Young Adults Minister, 2012-2021. Served on Administrative Committee and Mission to the World Committee in Mississippi Valley Presbytery. Currently alternate for the RUF Permanent Committee.

TE Brian Frey: *Pacific Northwest*. B.S. Atmospheric Sciences, University of Georgia, 2004; M. Div. Westminster Theological Seminary, 2011. Pastor, Boise Presbyterian Church. Church planter, Boise Presbyterian Church, 2019-2023; RUF Campus Minister, Boise State University, 2011-2019. RUF Intern, University of Missouri, 2005-2007; Harvest USA Intern, 2009-2010. Served as RUF Committee Chairman, Pacific NW Presbytery, 2020-present; General Assembly Committees of Commissioners, MTW 2015 and RUF 2022. He is a son of the PCA; he and his wife of 19 years have 3 children.

TE Billy Crain: *South Texas*. BA History, University of Texas at Austin, 1996; M. Div. Reformed Theological Seminary, 2003. Head Pastor, Christ Church Presbyterian, Kerrville, TX. RUF Intern, Auburn, 1997-1999; College Coordinator, First Presbyterian Church, Jackson, MS, 1999-2003; Account Coordinator, KMA Direct Communications, Dallas, 2003-2004; Teacher and Coach, Providence Christian School of Texas, Dallas, 2003-2007; RUF Campus Minister, Rice University, 2007-2014; Assistant Church Planter/Assistant Pastor Christ Community Church, Fayetteville, AR, 2014-2019. Served various presbytery committees: Candidates and Credentials, Houston Metro; MTW Committee, Covenant; Administrative Committee and Chairman, Hills and Plains; RUF Committee, South Texas (current).

RE Stephen Gordon: *Ohio Valley*. B.A. Economics, Virginia Tech; M.A. Economics, George Mason University; PhD. Economics, University of Kentucky, 2017. Data Scientist, Cash App (Block, Inc.); part-time counselor. Member of Tates Creek Presbyterian Church, Lexington, KY; RUF Committee, Ohio Valley Presbytery. Involved with RUF at Virginia Tech as an undergrad; served in local church international student ministry while living in Belgium; has supported RUF prayerfully and financially, also helping to mentor RUF ministers and students.

RE John Miller: *Eastern Carolina*. Undergraduate North Carolina State University. Works in Commercial Real Estate. Previously Commercial Construction. Church member at Christ the King in Raleigh, NC. Involved with RUF during undergrad. Lived in and then purchased a house for RUF students at NC State, which continues to be a ministry resource for the RUF students there.

13) STANDING JUDICIAL COMMISSION

A. Present Personnel

Teaching Elders:

Ruling Elders:

Class of 2028

TE Rhett Dodson, Ohio	RE Daniel A. Carrell, James River
TE Brad Evans, S. New England	RE John Maynard, Central Florida
TE David Garner, Phil. Metro West	RE John B. White Jr., Metro Atlanta

Class of 2026

TE Art Sartorius, Siouxlans	RE James Eggert, Southwest Florida
TE Fred Greco, Houston Metro	RE John Bise, Providence
TE Guy Prentiss Waters, MS Valley	RE John Pickering, Evangel

Class of 2025

TE Paul L. Bankson, Central Georgia	RE Steve Dowling, Southeast Alabama
TE David F. Coffin Jr., Potomac	RE Frederick Neikirk, Ascension
TE Paul D. Kooistra, Warrior	RE R. Jackson Wilson, GA Foothills

Class of 2024

TE Hoochan Paul Lee, Korean NE	RE Howie Donahoe, Pacific NW
TE Sean M. Lucas, Covenant	RE Melton Ledford Duncan, Calvary
TE Michael F. Ross, Columbus Metro	RE Samuel J. Duncan, Grace

B. To be Elected:

Class of 2028

3 TEs and 3 REs

C. Nominations

Class of 2028

TE Jay Bruce, Hills and Plains	RE Howie Donahoe, Pacific NW
TE Eric Landry, South Texas	RE Frederic Marcinak, Calvary
TE Hoochan Paul Lee, Korean NE	RE Caleb Stegall, Heartland

D. Biographical Sketches

TE Jay Bruce: *Hills and Plains*. A.B. in Engineering Sciences and English Dartmouth College. B.A. and M.A. in Theology University of Oxford. M.A. and Ph.D. in Philosophy Baylor University. Philosophy Professor at John Brown University (2020-present) and previously Associate Professor (2014-2020). Associate Pastor Covenant Presbyterian Church, Fayetteville (2019-present), previously Assistant Pastor (2018-19). Hills and Plains Presbytery: Administrative Committee (Chairman 2023), Candidates and Credentials Committee (2022-present). General Assembly: Overtures 2022. Author of *Rights in the Law: The Importance of God's Free Choices in the Thought of Francis Turretin*, and over one hundred additional publications.

TE Eric Landry: *South Texas*. B.A. Northern Arizona University (1998). M.Div. Westminster Seminary California (2003). Pastor at Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Austin, TX. South Coast Presbytery: Planted Christ Presbyterian Church in Murrieta, CA (2005), Recording Clerk, Chair of Candidates and Credentials Committee. South Texas Presbytery: Mission to North America Committee (current), moderator (current), Judicial Commission (2020). General Assembly: Secretary for Committee of Commissioners for Interchurch Relations (2019) Overtures Committee (2021). Executive Editor of *Modern Reformation* magazine (2007-10; 2015-20). Chief Content Officer for Sola Media (2021-present). Married to Sarah and father to Andrew and Allison.

TE Hoochan Paul Lee: *Korean Northeastern*. Pastor at River End Reformed Church in River Edge, NJ. In Korean Northeastern Presbytery: Candidate Examining Committee chair (2013-present), Presbytery Stated Clerk (2013-present). In the General Assembly: Recording Clerk (2015-18; 21-23), Computing Clerk (2019), Theological Exam Committee (alternate 2009-2010), Interchurch Relations (2016-18), Nominating Committee (2011, 2014-2023), Overtures Committee (2011, 2014-2023), Review of Presbytery Records (2010, 2014-2023; secretary in 2016-17; vice chair in 2019, 2020-21; chair 2022-23), and Standing Judicial Commission (2019-2024).

RE Howie Donahoe: *Pacific Northwest*. BS, Political Science, US Air Force Academy. MS, Aeronautical Technology, Arizona State University. Retired Airline Pilot. PCA Member for 41 years and RE for 37 years across eight churches, five states, and four presbyteries. Commissioner to

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

29 of the last 32 GAs. Moderator of the 47th GA in Dallas. Elected six times for terms on the SJC, having now served for 25 years. Current SJC secretary. Five children with his wife Debbie, all married and members of their local churches. Eight grandchildren and two on the way.

RE Frederic Marcinak: *Calvary*. BA, History, The Citadel. JD, University of South Carolina School of Law. LLM, University of Sussex. Practicing attorney and partner in a law firm he founded in 2019. Served as moderator of Calvary presbytery in 2016. Current chairman of presbytery Administration Committee. Current clerk of session of Woodruff Road Presbyterian Church, and past chairman of Committee on Administration. Experience serving as chairman and clerk for judicial cases at session and presbytery levels. Current chairman of GA’s Committee on Constitutional Business. He and his wife Tara are parents of three children.

RE Caleb Stegall: *Heartland*. BA, English Literature, Geneva College. JD, University of Kansas School of Law. Practicing attorney and judge for 25 years. Currently serving as Associate Justice of the Kansas Supreme Court. Member of Grace Presbyterian Church in Lawrence, Kansas, for almost 30 years. Served as ruling elder for over 20 years, including leading the church as Moderator Pro Tem through a transition from the EPC into the PCA. He and his wife Ann have five adult sons, two daughters-in-law, and three grandchildren, all faithfully following Jesus.

14) THEOLOGICAL EXAMINING COMMITTEE

A. Present Personnel

Teaching Elders:

Ruling Elders:

Class of 2026

TE Jonathan Master, Calvary

RE James Elkin, Mississippi Valley

Class of 2025

TE Guy Richard, Metro Atlanta

RE KJ Drake, Central Indiana

Class of 2024

TE Bruce Baugus, Great Lakes

RE Edward Currie, Mississippi Valley

Alternates

TE Drew Martin, Central Carolina

RE Jim Wert, Metro Atlanta

B. To be Elected:

Class of 2027

1 TE and 1 RE

Alternates

1 TE and 1 RE

C. Nominations

Class of 2027

TE Drew Martin, Central Carolina

RE Jim Wert, Metro Atlanta

Alternates

TE Christopher Bechtel, Pacific NW

RE Josh Spears, Hills and Plains

D. Biographical Sketches

TE Drew Martin: *Central Carolina.* BA Political Science and Psychology, University of North Carolina; MDiv and MA in Theology, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary; PhD, Vanderbilt University. Associate Professor of Systematic Theology, Covenant Theological Seminary. Previously taught theology and Church History at Gordon-Conwell Seminary. Has served on Presbytery theological examination committees for ten years and chaired the Exams Committee in Central Carolina Presbytery for five years. He has served on numerous Committees of Commissioners at the General Assembly and also on the Overtures Committee.

TE Christopher Bechtel: *Pacific Northwest.* BA Philosophy, Covenant College 2004; MDiv, Covenant Theological Seminary, 2008; PhD in Hebrew Bible, University of Edinburgh, 2012. Senior Pastor, Evergreen Church, Salem OR. Former research associate with Scottish Council on Human Bioethics. Visiting professor of Old Testament, Covenant

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Theological Seminary. Adjunct Professor of Bible at Reach Training Institute, Salem OR. Serving sixth term as chair of the Candidates and Credentials Committee for Pacific Northwest Presbytery. Board member Northwest Church Planting Network. Married to Jackie for 19 years. Five children ages 3-14.

RE Jim Wert: *Metro Atlanta*. Political Science and German degrees, University of North Carolina; MBA Harvard Business School and Baker Scholar at Harvard. Member of the Presbytery Credentials Committee from 2000-2022 initially with North Georgia Presbytery and later as part of Atlanta Metro Presbytery. Retiring chairman of the Geneva Benefits Board of Directors; Served on the GA Overtures Committee numerous times and as 43rd Moderator of the General Assembly in 2015. Married to Emily for 43 years and they have four adult children.

RE Josh Spears: *Hills and Plains*. MA in Philosophy and a BA in Theology. Served for a few years on the Candidates and Credentials Committee for Hills and Plains Presbytery. Served on the Session of City Presbyterian Church for almost seven years. Has taught theology, Bible and philosophy courses for over 25 years in private Christian schools as well as public universities in Oklahoma City.

**SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF THE
NOMINATING COMMITTEE
TO THE FIFTIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

The Nominating Committee of the General Assembly convened in Richmond, Virginia at the Greater Richmond Convention Center, on Wednesday, June 12, 2024. Chairman TE Jared Nelson called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m. with prayer.

Members attending:

<u>Presbytery</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Class</u>
Ascension	TE Jared Nelson - Chairman	2025
Blue Ridge	TE Stuart Pratt	2025
Catawba Valley	TE William Thraillkill	2024
Central Florida	TE Joseph L. Creech	2025
Cenrtral Georgia	TE John Mitchell	2024
Central Indiana	TE Charles Anderson	2026
Eastern Canada	TE Frank Garcia	2024
Eastern Pennsylvania	TE Taylor Anthony Bradley	2024
Evangel	TE Michael Brock	2026
Grace	TE John Franklin	2024
Great Lakes	RE Jerome Gorgon	2024
Gulfstream	TE Matt Wilson	2026
Heartland	TE Rick E. Franks	2024
Heritage	RE Tyler Hogan	2025
Hills and Plains	RE Jeff Chewing	2024
Houston Metro	RE Dave Cias - Secretary	2024
Illiana	TE Alex Eppstein	2026
Iowa	TE Brian Janssen	2026
James River	TE J. Andrew Conrad	2025
Korean Eastern	TE Andrew Kim	2026
Korean Northeastern	TE Hoochan Paul Lee	2024
Korean Southeastern	TE Anthony Lee	2026
Metro Atlanta	TE Bruce Terrell	2026
Missouri	RE John Ranheim	2024
Nashville	RE John Bryant	2025
New Jersey	TE Stephen O'Neil	2026

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

New River	TE Michael VanDerLinden	2026
New York State	TE Tim LeCroy	2026
North Florida	TE Dennis Griffith	2026
Northern Illinois	TE Justin Coverstone	2026
Northern New England	TE Per Almquist	2025
Northwest Georgia	TE Clif Daniell	2025
Ohio	TE Jacob Piland	2025
Ohio Valley	TE Larry C. Hoop	2025
Pacific Northwest	RE Micah Meeuwesen	2024
Palmetto	TE Andrew Davis	2025
Pee Dee	TE Matthew Dallas Adams	2025
Philadelphia Metro West	RE Nathan Carlson	2024
Piedmont Triad	RE Richard Jones	2025
Pittsburgh	TE Jon Price	2026
Platte Valley	TE Michael Gordon	2026
Potomac	TE Porter Harlow	2026
Rocky Mountain	TE Matt Giesman	2025
Savannah River	TE Mike Hearon	2024
Siouxlands	TE Nathan Lee	2025
South Florida	TE David Barry	2026
Southeast Alabama	TE Parker Johnson	2024
Southern New England	TE Robert Steven Hill	2024
Southwest Florida	TE Jonathan Winfree	2025
Tidewater	TE Benjamin Cameron Lyon	2026
Warrior	TE Richard Martin Vise Jr.	2025
Westminster	TE Robert E. Dykes	2024
Wisconsin	TE Michael Vogel	2024

Seven floor nominations were reviewed for eligibility, of which none were found to be ineligible.

The Chairman requested volunteers to compile and format the biographical data accompanying the Floor Nominations.

MSP that the Committee adjourn.

Chairman Nelson adjourned the meeting at 4:52 p.m. and TE Brian Janssen closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

TE Jared Nelson, Chairman

RE Dave Cias, Secretary

COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL BUSINESS

Class of 2028

Nominating Committee Nominee

Floor Nominee

TE Per Almquist, N. New England

TE David Strain, Mississippi Valley

TE Per Almquist: *Northern New England.* D. Min “Presbyterian Polity in Action: A Commentary on the Book of Church Order of the PCA.” Pastor-church planter, Free Grace Presbyterian, Lewiston, ME. Served multiple years as CCB chair, multiple years as RPR chair and vice-chair. Represented PCA at Synod for L' Église réformée du Québec. Served on various Assembly CoCs. Stated Clerk, Ministerial Relations Committee chair, and Recording Clerk of Northern New England Presbytery. Previously served as Associate Pastor and Clerk at Session of Christ the Redeemer, Portland, ME, and as Associate Librarian for Covenant Theological Seminary.

TE David Strain: *Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley.* Senior Minister of the First Presbyterian Church of Jackson, MS, having previously served churches in Columbus, MS, and London, England. He holds degrees from Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art in Dundee, the University of Glasgow, and Edinburgh Theological Seminary, and holds a Doctor of Ministry Degree from Reformed Theological Seminary. He has served as the chairman of the Candidates and Credentials Committee, and as the Moderator of the Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley, and he has often served the General Assembly as a member of the Overtures Committee. He is the Convener of the Twin Lakes Fellowship.

COMMITTEE ON INTERCHURCH RELATIONS

Alternates

Nominating Committee Nominee

Floor Nominee

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Vacant

RE James B. Isbell, Tennessee Valley
RE Trevor Laurence, Piedmont Triad

RE James B. Isbell: *Tennessee Valley*, Owner, Windrock Insurance Agency, RE Covenant Presbyterian Church, Oak Ridge, TN, (2009-present), Class of 2024 member of IRC. Served on Theological Examining Committee and a Judicial Commission for Tennessee Valley Presbytery. Attended General Assembly seven times, Served on Committee of Commissioners for Administrative Committee (2018), and Committee of Commissioners Overtures Commission (2019). Has attended the ARP General Synod and visited a Free Church of Scotland Congregation in the UK, served as fraternal delegate to the OPC in 2023, and NAPARC delegate.

RE Trevor Laurence: *Piedmont Triad*, BA, Religion, University of Florida (2009); MA, Christian Thought, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (2013); PhD, Theological Ethics, University of Exeter (2020). Executive Director, Catechesia Institute; Theologian-in-Residence, Trinity Church. Planting pastor of non-PCA Trinity Church (2012–16), led church into PCA in 2016, RE at Trinity thereafter. Moderator, Piedmont Triad Presbytery, 2023. Commissioner to last seven GAs, Overtures Committee (2019, 2021–24). Author, *Cursing with God: The Imprecatory Psalms and the Ethics of Christian Prayer* (Baylor, 2022).

COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO NORTH AMERICA

Class of 2029

Nominating Committee Nominee

Floor Nominee

TE Nate Keisel, Pittsburgh

TE Nate Shurden, Nashville

TE Nate Keisel. *Pittsburgh*. M.Div. from Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary in 2014. No undergraduate degree. Church Planter at Mosaic Community Church in Jennette, PA. Served on the Credentials Committee for his first 6 years in the Pittsburgh Presbytery. Currently serving on the MTW Presbytery Committee. Filled the pulpit for various churches in the Presbytery and helped guide through mercy ministry or addiction situations. Has attended numerous Church Planter trainings including MNA Assessment, CP Training Tracks 1 and 2, Spanish River Bootcamp, Perimeter Journey Group Training, and MNA Mercy Ministry Training.

Formed a non-profit, Mosaic Community Church Development Center-youth leadership.

TE Nate Shurden. *Nashville.* B.A. Bannockburn College, M.Div. Reformed Theological Seminary (Jackson), DMin Candidate Reformed Theological Seminary (Charlotte). Church Planter and Senior Minister of Cornerstone Presbyterian Church in Franklin, TN. Served on the Mission to North America Committee and Campus Ministry Committee of the Nashville Presbytery. Served on General Assembly Committee of Commissioners for MNA, Covenant College, MTW, and Overtures. Adjunct Theology Professor at New College Franklin (Franklin, TN). Board member of Grace Christian Academy (Franklin, TN). Publications in *Tabletalk*, The Gospel Coalition, He Reads Truth, and interviewed recently by Stephanie Hubach for an article in *ByFaith*.

COMMITTEE ON MISSION TO THE WORLD

Class of 2029

Nominating Committee Nominee

TE Kevin Smith, Tennessee Valley

Floor Nominee

TE Jamie Peipon, Mississippi Valley

TE Kevin Smith: *Tennessee Valley.* Temple University; MTS from Westminster Theological Seminary and Chesapeake Theological Seminary, 1998. Senior Pastor of New City Fellowship, Chattanooga, since 2012. Pastoral Intern (3 years) at Tenth Presbyterian, Philadelphia. Cross cultural church planter in Potomac Presbytery 1998-2005. Senior Pastor at Pinelands Presbyterian Church, Miami, 2005-2012. Chair of RUF Committee in South Florida Presbytery. MNA church planter assessor for 10+ years. Preached at PCA General Assembly. Chaired GA Study Committee on Racial Reconciliation for 2 years. Served 2 terms on Covenant College Board of Trustees. MTW Regional Retreat speaker overseas since 2018.

TE Jamie Peipon: *Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley.* Minister of Missions at First Pres-Jackson, (M.Div, RTS-Jackson). Responsible for \$650,000 global mission budget (60 missionaries) and \$300,000 American church planting (15 plants) and RUF support budget. Tchaikovsky Academy of Music-Ukraine (Bachelor's & Master's). Presbytery service: MTW committee, commission to plant local multi-ethnic church. Overseas

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

experience: Lived in Kyiv, Ukraine, for eight years later serving the church there (married to a Ukrainian). Fluent in Ukrainian and Russian. Upon 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine, spent six weeks in Ukraine and Poland working alongside MTW team. Recently led mission trips/visits to Moldova, Honduras, South Africa, Malawi, Poland, Ukraine.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COVENANT COLLEGE

Class of 2027

Nominating Committee Nominee Floor Nominee

RE John C. Kwasny, Mississippi Valley TE Nathan Newman, Potomac

RE John Kwasny: *Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley*. Ph.D. Christian Education, Trinity Theological Seminary; M.A. Counseling, Regent University; B.A. Psychology, Oral Roberts University. Executive Ministry Director at Pear Orchard Presbyterian Church. Previous experience directing children's, discipleship, and educational ministries. Presently director of One Story Ministries (second largest provider of Sunday School curricula in the PCA), authoring Biblical discipleship curriculum for the church, home, and Christian school. Served on CDM permanent committee in past, as well as CDM children's ministry team. Served on Christian education and credentials committee of presbytery.

TE Nathan Newman: *Potomac Presbytery*. B.A from Covenant College, 2011. M.Div. from RTS-DC, 2017. Currently serves as Minister to Members of Congress with MNA's Ministry to State and as an Air Force Reserve Chaplain. Prior pastoral experience includes work at McLean PC. Presbytery work includes service on the committee overseeing interns and candidates and the shepherding committee. At the Assembly level, served as Chairman for the Commission writing the petition regarding the practice of medical and surgical gender reassignment. He has been recognized for his years of recruiting and fundraising efforts on behalf of Covenant College.

STANDING JUDICIAL COMMISSION

Class of 2028

Nominating Committee Nominee

TE Jay Bruce, Hills and Plains

Floor Nominee

TE Ray Cannata, Southern Louisiana

TE Jay Bruce: *Hills and Plains*. A.B. in Engineering Sciences and English Dartmouth College. B.A. and M.A. in Theology University of Oxford. M.A. and Ph.D. in Philosophy Baylor University. Philosophy Professor at John Brown University (2020-present) and previously Associate Professor (2014-2020). Associate Pastor Covenant Presbyterian Church, Fayetteville (2019-present), previously Assistant Pastor (2018-19). Hills and Plains Presbytery: Administrative Committee (Chairman 2023), Candidates and Credentials Committee (2022-present). General Assembly: Overtures 2022. Author of *Rights in the Law: The Importance of God's Free Choices in the Thought of Francis Turretin*, and over one hundred additional publications.

RE Ray Cannata: *Southern Louisiana*. B.A., Wake Forest; M.Div. & Th.M. Princeton Seminary; D.Min. Westminster Seminary; Sr. Pastor, Redeemer Presbyterian, New Orleans (19 years). PCA member 34 years and PCA pastor 26 years. Commissioner to each of the last 25 GAs. Moderator of two Presbyteries. Served 8 years on the Standing Judicial Commission. Married to Kathy 33 years. Two children; professing believers: Andrew Calvin & Rachel Grace.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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APPENDIX M

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA FOUNDATION, INC. REPORT TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The PCA Foundation is pleased to report that, by God’s grace, the PCA Foundation engaged in 2023 in significant work of the Church as set forth in the Great Commission. We are pleased to see how the Lord continued even through a difficult year to enable the PCA Foundation to advance and manifest His Kingdom.

Total gifts to the PCA Foundation during 2023 were \$47.6 million. These gifts include a number of gifts of appreciated non-cash property or proceeds of its sale (real estate, S corporation stock, cryptocurrency).

We are pleased to report that the PCA Foundation distributed, or granted to ministry, \$32.9 million during 2023. Distributions to PCA churches were \$15.9 million, distributions to PCA Committees and Agencies were \$7.3 million, and distributions to other Christian ministries were \$9.7 million.

We continue to look for opportunities to work with PCA churches and their members, and other individuals and families, to increase giving to advance and reveal the Kingdom. Among other initiatives, we intend to continue and enhance the free Smart Giving Workshops for, and offer smart giving resources to, PCA churches in 2024.

The 2023 distributions and grants to ministry by the PCA Foundation were as follows:

	<u>12/31/2023</u>
Mission to the World	\$ 616,000
Mission to North America	333,000
Committee on Discipleship Ministries	19,000
Administrative Committee	1,643,000
RBI-Ministerial Relief	62,000
Reformed University Fellowship	4,210,000

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Covenant College	129,000
Covenant Theological Seminary	188,000
PCA Foundation	38,000
Ridge Haven	118,000
<i>Total Committees & Agencies</i>	<u>\$ 7,356,000</u>
PCA Churches	15,909,000
Other Christian Ministries	<u>9,661,000</u>
<i>Total</i>	<u><u>\$ 32,926,000</u></u>

The PCA Foundation’s total assets were \$256.8 million as of December 31, 2023, an increase of \$56.5 million over the December 31, 2022 total assets of \$200.3 million. The primary reasons that total assets increased \$56.5 million during 2023 were that gifts to the PCA Foundation to fund accounts exceeded grant distributions by \$14.7 million and asset valuation increased \$41.8 million due to financial market gains, including the increase in value of a non-cash asset from a 2021 complex gift donation. Much of the funds contributed to the Foundation go out as grants within a relatively short period of time — often within the same or the following year. Therefore, the PCA Foundation may realize significant amounts as both contributions and grants in a given year, meaning that total assets may stay about the same from year to year; however, in some years the Foundation may experience substantial increases or decreases.

The PCA Foundation has and continues to make significant progress in serving with members and friends of the PCA. Over the last 20 years, total assets have grown from \$31.6 million to \$256.8 million. These total assets provide a sound base for future financial support of PCA Churches, PCA Committees and Agencies, and other Christian ministries.

Coincident with the growth of its assets over the last 20 years, the PCA Foundation has received \$568.4 million in gifts, and made distributions to ministries totaling \$250.0 million.

During 2023, the PCA Foundation continued its increased intentional outreach to individuals and families, churches, presbyteries and ministries.

While focused primarily in 2023 on technology projects to achieve cost savings and greater service to donors, and creation of full Smart Giving Workshop materials and a suite of complex-gift calculating illustrations, the president of the Foundation continued outreach to donors and prospects, and presented the Foundation's work and services to churches and individual prospects and donors in San Diego, Orange, and Los Angeles counties in California, and Greenville County in South Carolina. In 2024, the Foundation will continue presenting Smart Giving Workshops, both live and via Zoom, sponsored by individual PCA churches.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, the Foundation introduced an online giving program for PCA churches. For each church that chose to participate, the PCA Foundation provided the church with a link to a secure online giving page to which it could direct its members and donors via the church's website or email or other notification methods. The PCA Foundation imposes a very small charge to defray part of the costs of the service, but no charge to churches that also maintain a church designated fund. Since the program's inception, the PCA Foundation has processed over \$30.1 million in grants to PCA churches resulting from over 87,000 donations.

The PCA Foundation does not participate in the PCA's Partnership Shares or Ministry Ask Programs, nor does it rely on the financial support of churches to help underwrite its operating budget. Rather, its operations are funded primarily by account charges, earnings on investment accounts, and by charitable contributions from individuals, including current and former PCA Foundation Board Members.

Because the main focus of the PCA Foundation is not on raising funds for its own operations, or for any other particular ministry, it has a unique opportunity and niche within the PCA. We assist Christians to carry out their charitable desires, working with them to provide for and make substantial, effective grants that support the propagation of the Gospel and reveal the work of the Gospel in the hearts of believers. By suggesting and facilitating tax-efficient giving strategies such as appreciated non-cash giving and accelerated giving, we enable donors to convert significantly more income tax into Kingdom funding. Our most popular giving-granting tools are the Advise & Consult Fund® and Increase Fund, both of which are donor-advised funds. We also create, manage, and receive endowments, charitable trusts, bequests, and church, presbytery, and PCA-ministry designated funds.

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In 2023, the PCA Foundation continued to refine the structure of a trust it created in 2022, under which it receives and holds most contributions and makes most grants. The trust arrangement facilitates conversion of the maximum amount of income tax into Kingdom funding in gifts of S corporation stock (the most common form of business wealth for giving).

The PCA Foundation is “donor driven,” which means that it engages donors to identify and recommend the grants it makes. This is grass-roots, democratized grant-making. But the Foundation also works increasingly to make those donors better grant advisors by informing them of charitable endeavors worthy of support, and to provide opportunities for donors to give for the support of foreign missions work and of poor and distressed individuals. We provide information to individuals without pressuring them to give to the PCA Foundation for its own operations, or to any other particular ministry.

The PCA Foundation will continue to strive to effectively serve with its present and future donors and the churches, presbyteries, committees, and agencies of the PCA to carry on the work of the PCA as set forth in the Great Commission. By God’s grace, the PCA Foundation will be able to do so.

Please continue to pray that I will be faithful as the Foundation president and will experience and live out the love of Christ in this calling. Also, please pray for the board and staff of the Foundation as they seek to continue leading the PCA Foundation successfully into the future. The PCA Foundation is financially sound, although suffering the effects of the market downturn and volatility in 2022 that rebounded slightly in 2023, and the attendant employment shortage, and is postured well for continued growth.

The PCA Foundation’s Recommendations are:

1. That the financial audit for the PCA Foundation, Inc. for the calendar year ended December 31, 2023, by Capin Crouse, LLP be received and acknowledged.
2. That the General Assembly approve the proposed 2025 Budget of the PCA Foundation, Inc. with the understanding that it is a spending plan and will be modified as necessary by the PCA Foundation’s Board of Directors to accommodate changing circumstances during the year.

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3. That the Minutes of Board meetings of August 4, 2023, and April 5, 2024, be approved.
4. That the Gift Acceptance and Management Policy (Attachment I) adopted by the PCA Foundation's Board of Directors be approved.
5. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 7** from Ascension Presbytery "Amend *RAO 11-5* to Clarify Process for RAO Amendments" with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee.
6. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 31** from the New River Presbytery "Amend *BCO 14-1* Regarding Changes in Permanent Committee and Agency Policy" with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee.
7. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 32** from the Presbytery of Eastern Pennsylvania "Amend *BCO 23* to Address Dissolution of Call for those employed by a Committee or Agency" with reference to the answer provided by the Administrative Committee.

Respectfully Submitted,
Timothy W. Townsend

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy W. Townsend". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

President

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**Attachment 1
PCA FOUNDATION
PLANNED GIVING REPORT**

January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023

New Gifts "IN"		\$47,589,000
Total Distributions Made		\$32,926,000
Distributions Made:	12/31/2023	<u>%</u>
Total C&A	\$ 7,356,000	22%
PCA Churches	<u>15,909,000</u>	<u>49%</u>
TOTAL PCA	23,265,000	71%
Other Christian	<u>9,661,000</u>	<u>29%</u>
TOTAL	<u><u>\$32,926,000</u></u>	<u>100%</u>

1980 through December 2023

Total Gifts "IN"		\$653,085,000
Total Distributions Made		\$304,738,000
Distributions Made:	<u>Amount</u>	<u>%</u>
Total C&A	\$ 64,326,000	21%
PCA Churches	<u>134,631,000</u>	<u>44%</u>
TOTAL PCA	198,957,000	65%
Other Christian	<u>105,781,000</u>	<u>35%</u>
TOTAL 1980 – December 2023	<u><u>\$304,738,000</u></u>	<u>100%</u>

Attachment 2

**Gift Acceptance and Management Policy
for
Charitable Trusts
of
Presbyterian Church in America Foundation, Inc.**

Approved by the Board of Directors on April 5, 2024

Most Recently Amended by the Finance Committee on _____

Prefatory Notes:

The ecclesiastical Constitution of the Church (Presbyterian Church in America) is defined in the Book of Church Order, Preface III. The provisions of the Constitution shall control over any provisions of this policy that may be in conflict therewith.

This policy constitutes an addendum to the Presbyterian Church in America Foundation, Inc. Estate and Gift Design Policy Guidelines, and the provisions of this policy govern to the extent of any conflict with provisions of those Guidelines.

Mission and Structure

Mission and Required Stewardship

The mission of Presbyterian Church in America Foundation, Inc. ("PCAF") is to make grants to PCA churches and other charities to support and manifest the advance of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. In pursuit of this mission PCAF must not only assist members of PCA churches and other Christians to give more than they could without PCAF's assistance, but also effectively steward the cash and other assets those givers contribute while those assets await granting. Components of that stewardship include not only efficient operations and wise investment of those assets, but also careful consideration of whether, how, and under what terms to propose and accept other gifts, whether, how, and under what terms to liquidate other non-cash assets gifted, and in some cases whether and when to grant out such gifts and the proceeds of and investment earnings on them.

Structure and Liability Risk

PCAF in the pursuit of its mission uses primarily donor-advised funds, each of which PCAF owns in its capacity as trustee of the PCA Foundation Trust ("Trust"), but investment of and grants from which the giver or his designees advise. A giver to such a fund fairly expects that he will be able to advise grants of each dollar given to or earned while in the fund (except to the extent the fund suffers investment losses despite prudent management or as a result of management by third-party managers the giver recommends or specific management choices the giver recommends). Likewise, givers to non-donor-advised charitable-purpose funds of PCAF fairly expect that PCAF will preserve such funds for expenditure for the purposes PCAF stated for them when the givers gave to them. However, as required for giver deduction of contributions to it, PCAF holds each donor-advised fund and charitable-purpose fund as unrestricted and as wholly expendable on a current basis. Because PCAF owns each donor-advised or charitable-purpose fund of the Trust, each fund is subject to the claims of any creditor of PCAF acting in its capacity as trustee of the Trust, including claims of liability arising from PCAF's receipt, ownership, management, or liquidation of assets of a different fund. (Except as otherwise expressly noted, each reference to "PCAF" is a reference to PCAF in its capacity as trustee of the Trust, and each reference to the assets of PCAF is a reference to the assets it holds in such capacity.)

- execute such other duties as are prescribed or delegated in this Policy, or as the Board otherwise may prescribe or delegate.

President and Gifts and Grants Managers

The Board elects the President of PCAF.

The President appoints the Gifts Manager and the Grants Manager. At any time no person has been appointed and is serving as Gifts Manager or Grants Manager, the President serves *ex officio* as the Gifts Manager or the Grants Manager, as the case may be. In the event that the office of President is vacant, and no person has been appointed and is serving as Gifts Manager or Grants Manager, the Board will appoint the Gifts Manager or the Grants Manager.

Direct Management Responsibility. The Board hereby delegates to the President the proposal of gifts and gift strategies to potential givers, delegates to the Gifts Manager the consideration, receipt, management, and liquidation of gifts to PCAF in any capacity, and delegates to the Grants Manager the consideration of grant recommendations and the making of grants of gifted assets and proceeds of and earnings on such assets. The Board authorizes and directs the President, Gifts Manager, and Grants Manager to do the following in the proposal of gifts and gift strategies, the consideration, receipt, management, and liquidation of non-cash gifts, and the consideration of grant recommendations and the making of grants:

- select and engage such qualified legal, tax, business, and other professional advisors, administrators, custodians, brokers, inspectors, accountants, and other service providers as may be required for the proper performance of the foregoing functions;
- execute contracts with, authorize compensation to, and require and receive reports from service providers;
- utilize such gift and custodial strategies, forms, structures, and entities as he or she deems useful and appropriate for the proper performance of the functions assigned to him;
- monitor and evaluate the performance of each advisor and other service provider engaged, and the effectiveness of each strategy, form, structure, and entity employed;

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- propose to the Gift Approval Group Complex Gifts (hereinafter defined) and agreements for or related to the receipt of Complex Gifts or the sale or other disposition of assets received in Complex Gifts, in accordance with this [Policy](#);
- sell, exchange, convert, liquidate, approve redemptions of, approve additions or modifications to, improve, purchase and otherwise deal in gifted assets in accordance with this Policy, and, as applicable, in accordance with decisions and instructions of the Gift Approval [Group](#);
- review assets received in Complex Gifts and advise the Gift Approval Group to take action to achieve or maintain the value, schedule of income or gain, liquidity, and risk characteristics of each gifted asset in accordance with the purpose of PCAF and in accordance with this [Policy](#);
- otherwise advise and execute decisions and actions of the Gift Approval Group; and
- establish and implement procedures for the foregoing functions that are consistent with procedures established in this Policy.

Responsibility to Delegate. The Board further delegates to the President, Gifts Manager, and Grants Manager authority and responsibility to delegate to employees of PCAF and external [agents](#) authority and responsibility to perform various tasks in the proposal of gifts and gift strategies, consideration, receipt, management, and liquidation of non-cash gifts, and consideration of grant recommendations and making of grants; and authorizes and directs them to do the following in the performance of this delegation function:

- select employees and external [agents](#);
- establish the scope and terms of the delegation consistent with the purposes of PCAF; and
- review the employee's or external agent's actions no less frequently than monthly in order to monitor his or her performance and compliance with the scope and terms of the delegation.

The delegator may agree to fees for services of an external agent that are commercially reasonable.

The delegator may not pay or agree to pay fees for services to an employee or external agent who

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which PCAF serves as trustee and every gift to such a trust other than gifts of cash or marketable securities, and every gift to PCAF made in exchange, in whole or in part, for a charitable gift annuity; the consideration and disclaimer or acceptance of every bequest or trust distribution to PCAF other than bequests or trust distributions of cash or marketable securities (each such gift or trust identified in this Policy as a “Complex Gift”); and the consideration and approval of every sale or other disposition of an asset received in a Complex Gift; and authorizes and directs the Gift Approval Group to do the following in the performance of such functions:

- assess the value of each Complex Gift for the advance of the mission of PCAF, and the risk of Loss (hereinafter defined) to PCAF in any capacity arising from the receipt, ownership, management, or liquidation of any asset received in a Complex Gift;
- review and assess the commercial reasonableness of and the risk of Loss to which PCAF is exposed by the terms and conditions of any agreement or certification, representation, warranty, deed, assignment, or other instrument for or related to the receipt of a Complex Gift or the sale or other disposition of an asset received in a Complex Gift;
- approve or disapprove Complex Gifts and agreements and certifications, representations, warranties, deeds, assignments, and other instruments for or related to the receipt of a Complex Gift or the sale or other disposition of an asset received in a Complex Gift, in accordance with this Policy;
- receive, review, and propose and approve responses to reports from the Gifts Manager of Loss or threatened Loss arising from the receipt, ownership, management, or liquidation of assets received in a Complex Gift;
- consider and propose to the Finance Committee exceptions to and amendments of this Policy;
- make a reasonable effort to verify facts relevant to each proposed Complex Gift and each response to Loss or threatened Loss; and
- consult with and advise the Gifts Manager in the performance of his or her functions with regard to Complex Gifts.

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assets in connection with which, or the proposal for which, the liabilities and obligations arise hold advisory privileges.

To clarify, for purposes of this Policy, "Loss" does not include a decline in value of gifted assets or invested proceeds of gifted assets. "Loss" does not include a financial obligation or liability that is covered by cash or other liquid assets that are gifted assets or proceeds, or earnings of gifted assets or proceeds, held by PCAF, and cash or liquid assets of a PCAF donor-advised fund, that are fairly chargeable with the obligation or liability.

PCAF will accept gifts under risk that they may be worthless or turn out not to advance PCAF's mission significantly; however, it will decline to accept any gift or to engage in any activity related to gifts or gifted assets that more likely than not will not advance its mission.

Specific Rules

Environmental Clean-Up Liability (CERCLA and related): PCAF will not accept any gift of commercial real estate on which it knows or believes hazardous substances have been released or are threatened to be released, or for which it has not received a Phase I Environmental Survey report sufficient to establish the "innocent landowner" defense under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).

Restricted Use and Designated Grants: PCAF will accept a gift only on condition of its own full discretion and control as to use to be made of the gifted asset, its proceeds, and its earnings. PCAF will expressly reserve such discretion and control on receipts provided for contributions to PCAF donor-advised funds, and will not agree to any limitation on such discretion and control. PCAF may grant to any giver the privilege of advising investment of or grants from the giver's gift and proceeds of and earnings on the gifted asset, and of designating others to exercise such privileges, but will not agree as a condition of a gift or otherwise that the giver or any other person may require or direct PCAF to make investments or grants. PCAF may state its intention to use a gift, earnings, and proceeds for a particular purpose or to make grants to one or more specified charities, but must along with any such statement expressly maintain ultimate discretion to change such use upon its own assessment of change in need, purposes or operations of the specified charity, other circumstances, or PCAF's charitable goals or priorities. PCAF may bind itself to use a gift, earnings, and proceeds for a particular purpose, to make grants to one or more specified charities, or to make expenditures or grants on a particular schedule or in certain increments, but must as

- covenants, representations, and warranties the liability for which is expressly limited to the value of cash and marketable-security proceeds of sale or disposition and any additional cash and marketable securities maintained in funds fairly chargeable with such liability.

Excess Business Holdings: PCAF will not accept any gift of an equity interest in a business when it knows or suspects that receiving or holding such interest will subject it or any of its officers or employees to a surtax under Section 4943 of the Internal Revenue Code. To this end, PCAF will decline to accept any gift of an equity interest in a business unless the giver first represents to PCAF the disqualified persons (as defined in Section 4943) in relation to the donor-advised fund to which the interest is proposed to be given, and their interests in the business.

Professional Malpractice: PCAF and its employees and other agents will not offer legal, tax, business, or other professional advice to any person. When proposing or suggesting any gift or gift strategy to any person, a PCAF employee or other agent must expressly (i) disclaim that he may provide or is providing legal, tax, business, or other professional advice or representation, or is providing any advice or information for the person's reliance, (ii) state that he merely is providing general information and suggestions of gift strategies, tax or other concepts, or other ideas for the person's consideration in consultation with the person's own professional counsel, and (iii) urge the person to seek and receive professional counsel before making any charitable gift.

Negligent or Willful Misrepresentation, and Tax Fraud: PCAF may suggest to any person only gift strategies, tax concepts, and conclusions, and engage in activities in the receipt, holding, management, and liquidation of gifts and gifted assets, that have been approved by qualified legal counsel to PCAF as reasonable, likely beneficial and effective, and not productive of economic damage or loss, and in accordance and compliance with reasonable interpretation of applicable law.

Fraudulent Conveyance: PCAF will not accept a gift from a person who is, or will be after the gift, insolvent (i.e., unable to pay financial obligations as they come due), and will make no grant of proceeds of gifts from any giver who PCAF discovers was insolvent at the time of the gift. To this end, PCAF will make reasonable inquiries about and conduct reasonable investigation of any person who proposes to deliver or has delivered a gift exceeding in estimated value \$500,000.

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Form Complex Gift Agreement: PCAF will accept a Complex Gift only under the terms of a separate gift agreement produced or approved in all parts by qualified legal counsel to PCAF that provides at a minimum that:

- limits the remedy for any breach of representation or warranty to rescission of the gift;
- the giver represents and warrants what are the only documents, declarations, and agreements that establish or govern the asset or impose obligations on its owners;
- the giver represents and warrants the ownership interests in the asset (if a business);
- the giver will indemnify PCAF for any liability PCAF incurs in or as a result of the receipt, ownership, management, or liquidation of the asset, to the extent cash and other liquid assets in any fund advised by the giver are insufficient to cover the liability;
- the giver acknowledges that PCAF has not provided any legal or other professional advice for the giver's reliance.

Minority Ownership Interest: PCAF will decline to accept a gift of a majority voting interest in any business entity.

Indirect Ownership: PCAF may accept gifts of interests in limited liability companies or similar entities created for the purpose of owning underlying assets the givers desire to give to PCAF, in order to further mitigate the risk of Loss, but such "wrapping" does not relieve PCAF of any rule otherwise stated in this Policy.

Proposal, Receipt, Management, and Liquidation Procedures

Gifts of Cash and Marketable Securities

The Gifts Manager daily reviews and processes all gifts of cash and marketable securities delivered or proposed to be delivered to PCAF. Except as agreed by PCAF in accordance with its investment policies, the Gifts Manager will sell gifted marketable securities as soon as reasonably practicable.

The Gifts Manager makes reasonable inquiries about and conducts reasonable investigation of any person who proposes to deliver or has delivered a gift of cash or marketable securities exceeding a value of \$500,000 in order to determine whether the giver may be insolvent and his gift should be rejected and returned.

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Offer to Giver: If the gift is approved by the Gift Approval Group, the Gifts Manager submits the gift agreement and transfer documentation to the giver, requesting the giver to review and consider in consultation with his own legal and other professional counsel. When the giver returns the agreement and transfer documentation to the Gifts Manager, he obtains necessary execution by PCAF personnel, returns copies to the giver and files copies, and provides the original transfer documentation to legal counsel for filing in state records as appropriate. The Gifts Manager delivers an estimated value of the gifted asset to the PCAF accounting manager, along with a rationale and supporting information, including any appraisal obtained by the giver and delivered to the Gifts Manager. The Gifts Manager attempts to secure from the giver a copy of the appraisal the giver obtains, and upon receipt delivers it to the PCAF accounting manager.

Marketing and Sale: Except as PCAF agrees with the donor after approval by the Gift Approval Group, PCAF will sell the gifted asset as soon as reasonably practicable. The Gifts Manager engages the giver and giver-recommended professionals to market the gifted asset, as necessary, and negotiates and executes any listing agreement. The Gifts Manager develops the agreement for the sale or other disposition of the gifted asset, or any asset that is proceeds of the gifted asset or of earnings of the gifted asset or proceeds, with the assistance of PCAF legal counsel, or reviews and negotiates an agreement and transfer documentation developed by buyer's or giver's legal counsel. The Gifts Manager delivers agreement and transfer documentation to authorized personnel of PCAF for execution, attends or attends to closing, obtains and files executed agreement and transfer and other closing documentation, and directs proceeds into the appropriate donor-advised, single-charity, charitable-purpose, or designated fund. If the giver or a person associated with the giver is the buyer, the Gifts Manager obtains before agreement appraisals of the value of the asset and of the negotiated gift price and terms that show the latter value at least equals the former.

Management. For the time between gift and liquidation, the Gifts Manager manages the gifted asset, and any asset that is proceeds of the gifted asset or of earnings of the gifted asset or proceeds, engaging and paying or assuring that the giver pays necessary-service providers, and paying or assuring that the giver pays required assessments and taxes.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Approval

I hereby certify, as Secretary of Presbyterian Church in America Foundation, Inc., that the Board of Directors of Presbyterian Church in America Foundation, Inc. approved the original gift receipt and management policy of which the policy set forth in this document is a revision at a duly-called meeting of the Board duly held on April 5, 2024.



Quincy Mark Bailey

Date: 04/05/2024

I further certify that the Finance Committee adopted the policy set forth in this document as a revision of the gift receipt and management policy of the Presbyterian Church in America Foundation, Inc. at a duly-called meeting of the Committee duly held on _____
_____.

Quincy Mark Bailey

Date: _____

APPENDIX N

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

INTRODUCTION

Ministry to colleges represents an essential part of the mission of the Presbyterian Church in America. The college years have increasingly become a time for questioning authority, scrutinizing absolutes, throwing out old premises, and reinventing the self. Reformed University Fellowship delivers the good news of Jesus Christ in the face of these unfolding campus narratives to reach students for Christ and equip them to serve. The passion and vigor of college students have proved, over the last 200 years, to affect the Church globally, significantly engaging the world with mission and purpose. The story of redemption playing out is more significant than any story we can imagine.

Reformed University Fellowship goes to the campus with a fixed theology and a flexible methodology that allows us to carry the timeless truths of Christianity to students across all demographics. We are not limited in how and where we preach the Gospel, and we know that a large percentage of people come to faith in Jesus between the age of 18 and 25.

To engage the current academic culture, Reformed University Fellowship sends ordained PCA ministers to serve on the college campus, preach the Gospel of Christ, build Christ's Church, and ultimately prepare students to live all of life under the Lordship of Christ. This is a concrete expression of our commitment to our covenant children and our obedience to the Great Commission to reach students for Christ and equip them to serve.

The Permanent Committee for Reformed University Fellowship wishes to thank all our churches, presbyteries, and the General Assembly for their oversight, financial support, prayers, and encouragement for our campus ministers, staff, and interns, who have served on 188 campuses worldwide.

REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP

Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) offers the truth of God's Word to covenant children, students who are searching as well as equipping believers. By working within the context of the Church, we follow Christ's leadership as He builds His Kingdom. Students are instructed in Evangelism and Missions, Growth in Grace, Fellowship and Service, and a Biblical World-and-Life View. An ordained PCA minister leads each RUF, actively working to accomplish goals in these four major areas. RUF strengthens the Church by reaching students who may not know Christ, as well as equipping those who know Him to serve, and to love Jesus for a lifetime.

REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL

- 1) Campus Growth: We are currently on 23 campuses, including two in California.
- 2) Future Growth: We are hoping to start our 24th and 25th RUF-I Campus Ministry by June 2024:
 - a. NC State University (June 1, 2024 Start)
 - b. Washington University (June 1, 2024 Start)
- 3) Future Growth/Interest
 - a. University of Washington
 - b. University of Alabama
- 4) Team Growth: In June 2023, we hired Joe Slater as an Area Coordinator for RUF-I and RUF-G. Joe will oversee 10 RUF-I and 2 RUF-G campuses (Mexico City & Bogota).
- 5) Evangelism Focus & Growth: We continue to want to grow in our effectiveness in pre-evangelism and evangelism ("Explore") with our RUF- I field staff.

REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP GLOBAL

- 1) Growth: In January of 2023, we added RUF-Global in Kampala, Uganda. In November of 2023, we added RUF-Global in Sydney, Australia with MTW. That brings our current group of RUF-Gs to 7.
- 2) "Missionary Model" (also known as (Traditional Model")). These are PCA TE's serving with MTW.
 - L'viv
 - Ukraine
 - Bogota
 - Colombia

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- Dakar
 - Senegal
 - Tokyo, Japan
- 3) “National Model”
- Mexico City, Mexico
 - Kampala, Uganda
 - Sydney Australia
 - * The model in Dakar, Senegal, both serving with RUF-G.
- 4) Future Growth: There are 6 potential RUF-G Ministries could begin by the end of 2024.
- Banjul, The Gambia
 - Bulawayo, Zimbabwe
 - Toronto, Canada
 - United Kingdom (several opportunities)
 - Cape Town, South Africa
 - Taiwan (RUF-G with Graham Guo, who is a current RUF-I CM)
- 5) Affiliate (New name “Partners”) Training Program
- In 2022 we started a pilot program where we trained MTW and Serge missionaries who are currently doing campus ministry
 - We are moving forward with our 2nd group or cohort for the fall of 2024
 - We have 11 missionaries who are being trained in the RUF Philosophy of Ministry.

MINISTRY DISTINCTIVES

Weekly large groups, small groups, and one-on-one staff-student meetings provide the structure for campus ministry. Each type of meeting is essential in ministering to college students. In large group meetings, students gather to sing, pray, and hear the good news of Jesus taught from the scriptures. Small groups focus on study, prayer, and fellowship, and many are led by junior and senior students under the direction of the campus minister, campus staff, and interns. One-to-one meetings between students and staff members offer in-depth discipleship, evangelistic encounters, accountability in trust- confidence relationships, and counseling. RUF emphasizes the development of a biblical world-and-life view. As students learn to think biblically, they will make a lasting difference in the Church and the world. A key distinctive of RUF is its connection to the Church. Through exhortation by their campus minister,

attendance with friends at local churches, involvement in the campus community, and exposition of Biblical truth, college students learn to love the Church and develop a lifelong commitment to involvement with God's people. RUF provides a bridge for maintaining (or establishing) a connection to the Church as students transition from home to college to work and family life. RUF does not exist to perpetuate a campus ministry but to grow the Church.

CAMPUS INTERNS, STAFF & MINISTRY FELLOWS

Launched in 1980, the Intern Program has trained over 900 interns. In the last 30 years, the program has grown at a rate of 13% per year. Emily Nixon, Assistant Vice President of Internships, continues to help lead the department, and this year, we have 138 full-time and four part-time young men and women (all recent college graduates) who currently work directly with a campus minister and receive on-the-job training in evangelism, small group leadership, and one-on-one ministry. While interns minister to college students, they also participate in a study program on biblical and theological training. After their internship with Reformed University Fellowship, interns move into vocational ministry and the broader marketplace with a deepened understanding of God's Word and experience in His service. The campus intern and campus staff are equipped to be "an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work" (II Timothy 2:21).

The Campus Staff department within RUF exists to provide a long-term vocational ministry position for women who desire to work on the college campus. While most of our Campus Staff come directly from serving two years as an RUF intern, we have begun expanding outside of that channel to bring in qualified candidates to meet the growing demand on campus. The RUF Campus Staff department held its annual assessment in January of 2024.

Eighteen candidates were assessed, and the department hopes to hire 16 for the campus staff position starting in June 2023. Casey Cockrum, Assistant Vice President of Campus Staff, led the three-day assessment and had seven other staff join her to help determine the candidate's fit for the department. We are so encouraged by these women joining the campus staff ranks. Their addition will bring the anticipated campus staff number to 64 across the ministry. The Lord continues to bring us amazing women to serve in the campus staff role, and we're grateful for the continued growth.

The RUF Fellows Program is designed to provide financial support to current and former RUF Campus Interns pursuing a seminary degree for future

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vocational ministry. The program is intended to reward interns who have demonstrated a passion for and have exhibited an ability to excel in ministry. Like the RUF internship program, The Fellows Program encourages participants to learn about ministry more so than to accomplish it. The Program is open to all interns regardless of their current or prospective employment relationship with RUF. Started in June of 2022, the RUF Fellows Program currently has 29 participants.

SUMMER CONFERENCE

Summer Conference May 2024:

We are so excited to be back at Laguna Beach Christian Resort for SuCo2024! We will be welcoming RUF students from all over the country for four weeks this summer, with Harvard University Campus Minister Michael Whitham serving as the Summer Conference Director.

WEEK 1 – April 29-May 4

WEEK 2 – May 6-11

WEEK 3 – May 13-18

WEEK 4 – May 19-24

WIVES RETREAT

We are incredibly grateful for the role wives play in RUF's ministry to college students, and Wives Weekend plays a vital role in encouraging them in their marriages and ministry. We were glad to be together in Austin, January 12-14, 2024 for all Wives Weekend and Palm Spring February 9-11, 2024 for West Wives Weekend.

STAFF TRAINING

December training in Denver for Campus Ministers and Campus staff had 223 people in attendance. RUF training attends to the development of the entire person to create healthy ministers and ministries. The stated purpose of training is “to train pastors/staff, so they learn to understand and do ministry faithfully and fruitfully.” To that end, David Strain, (Senior Minister of First Pres Jackson, Mississippi) spent a day teaching on Sanctification by grace. We

also had sessions on Cross Cultural Shepherding, Development and the market, your retirement and your ministry. RUF-I staff training took place the first week of January in Denver, Rich Mendola taught the staff and focused on Ministry and Evangelism.

RUF ASSESSMENT

On Feb 13-15th, RUF held a winter assessment in St. Louis, Mo on Covenant Seminary's campus, with 10 campus minister candidates. RUF continues to collaborate with area coordinators and national staff to enhance the necessary hard skills and emotional and cultural intelligence elements of assessment. Pre-screening protocol has helped to say "no" in the application stage and reduced unnecessary assessments' costs and labor. We will hold our second regional assessment July 9-11 in Atlanta, GA and anticipate several candidates. We are building an assessor list of current and former campus ministers and wives to help with the increased staffing needs of regional assessments.

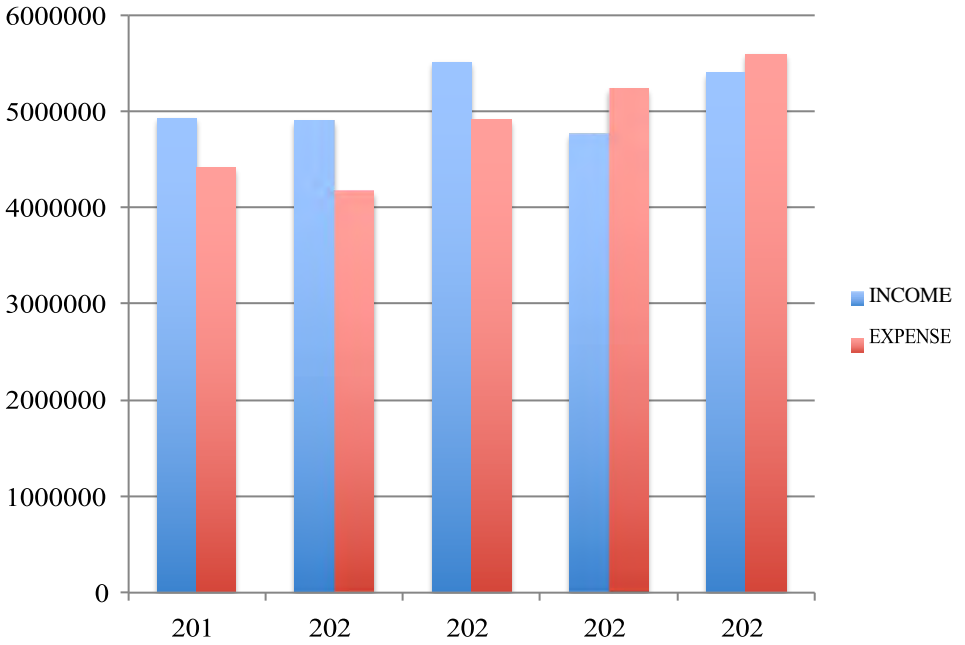
RUF CROSS-CULTURAL ADVANCEMENT

In line with the goals that we set for this year, we have successfully initiated collaboration with some of our campus ministers of color and have scheduled campus visits to explore recruitment possibilities with graduating students. The Permanent Committee has been asked to pray that these collaborative efforts would bear fruit in our recruiting and retention efforts over time; this is a marathon, not a sprint. In our latest installment, we trained our staff on cross-cultural shepherding and received helpful feedback as to the usefulness and applicability of the material to on-the-ground ministry. We are hearing more and more stories of how our staff are integrating these cross-cultural equipping times and this vision into their ministries. A first-year campus minister recently reported gathering a large group of 50 students during his first semester, 40% of whom are students of color. This is encouraging because it shows us the larger potential of RUF's reach if we continue on this trajectory by faith. We have assessed our senior staff and our Area coordinators through IDI (Intercultural Development Inventory), but we have more due diligence to accomplish and more questions to answer before we know if there is any further use for this tool for RUF organizationally. We hope to gain greater clarity on this in 2024. The Lord has continued to be gracious to RUF in our pursuit of cross-cultural development. The harvest is plentiful!

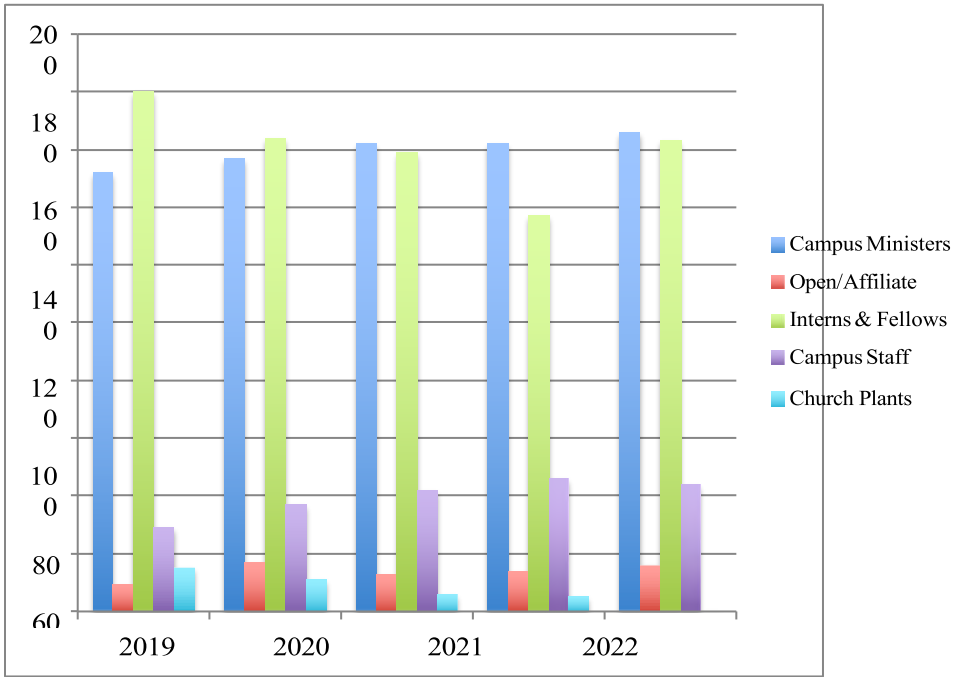
GROWTH

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INCOME GROWTH - OVERALL MINISTRY



HEADCOUNT GROWTH - OVERALL MINISTRY



RUF’S VISION FOR THE CHURCH

University Church Planting initiative concluded at the end of 2022, yet RUF continues to be a pipeline for leadership in the PCA. Over 195 former RUF Campus Ministers serve our Church as church planters, pastors, associate pastors, assistant pastors, and denominational staff. Thousands of RUF Alumni are serving in the Church, enforcing that RUF is not just about perpetuating campus ministry but about enriching the Church. We are working with MNA to provide similar opportunities for campuses and campus ministers who feel called to plant churches.

CONCLUSION

God is at work through the ministry of RUF. RUF strives to engage the culture and carry out the kingdom’s priorities of the Church. God brings together students and ministers from many different walks of life to accomplish His purposes. We hope that each person influenced by Reformed University

Fellowship will, in turn, affect many other people in the course of his or her life. The Church is strengthened as students learn to love and seek out the Church and are trained to serve as future church leaders.

Recommendations for the 2024 General Assembly via the RUF Committee of Commissioners:

1. That the General Assembly approve the minutes of the Permanent Committee on Reformed University Fellowship meetings on August 22, 2023, October 4, 2023, and March 20, 2024.
2. That the General Assembly approve the minutes of the executive session meetings of the Committee on Reformed University Fellowship on October 4, 2023.
3. That the General Assembly receive the Financial Audit for Reformed University Fellowship for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023 by Carr, Riggs, & Ingram, LLP.
4. That the action on the 2025 budget for Reformed University Fellowship be deferred until the Report of the Committee of Commissioners on Administration.
5. That the General Assembly answer **Overture 7** from Ascension Presbytery “Amend *RAO* 11-5 to Clarify Process for *RAO* Amendments” in the Affirmative.

Grounds

The RUF Permanent Committee believes the overture will be a helpful amendment to the *RAO*. The proposed change will clarify the process for how the Assembly authorizes an *RAO* amendment while protecting the right of the General Assembly’s Committees and Agencies to speak to any proposed changes affecting them. Since the overture was referred to all the Committees and Agencies, it is wise to present a single response to the General Assembly through the RUF Permanent Committee.

6. That the General Assembly re-elect RE Will W. Huss, Jr. as Coordinator of Reformed University Fellowship for the 2024/2025 term.
7. That the 51st General Assembly accept the following RUF Permanent Committee responses to citations to their minutes of exceptions of substance from the 50th General Assembly
 - A) Item #1 - October 5th, 2022 Minutes - from the 50th GA RUF Committee of Commissioners Report III.1a.a - Contra *RAO* - 4-21.d.3, no minutes from the executive session were provided.

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Response - The RUF Permanent Committee did keep executive session minutes from the meeting on 10.5.22, but inadvertently failed to submit those minutes. We have presented the executive session minutes from our meeting on 10.5.22 to the 51st GA's Committee of Commissioners for RUF for review.

- B) Item #2 - October 5th, 2022 Minutes - from the 50th GA RUF Committee of Commissioners Report III.1a.b - although the minutes refer to recommendations regarding compensation, no record of any action taken is recorded.

Response - The RUF Permanent Committee failed to record compensation changes approved during the executive session in our meeting minutes. The minutes have been corrected and we will endeavor to avoid this mistake in the future.

- C) Item #3 - October 5th, 2022 Minutes - from the 50th GA RUF Committee of Commissioners Report - III.1a.c - The permanent committee established and executed a substantial new policy not approved by the general assembly, contrary to BCO 14-1.7.

Response - RUF serves at the pleasure of the General Assembly and willingly submits to its direction. RUF submits the attached Affiliation Agreement for approval. See Recommendation 9.

8. That the General Assembly, in consideration of his recent passing, formally acknowledge and praise God for His manifold grace through the life and labors of Mark L. Lowery in the founding and development of the ministry of Reformed University Fellowship and posthumously commend his strategic and fruitful work for the glory of God, the edification of His church and the advancement of His Kingdom
9. That the General Assembly approve the updated Affiliation Agreement version 22 (attachment 1) to preserve ongoing partnerships with presbyteries, strengthen collaboration, and provide legal clarity.

Attachment 1

REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP'S RESPONSE TO THE 2023 GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND COMMENTARY ON RUF'S AFFILIATION AGREEMENT

Version 22, Recommended by RUF's Permanent Committee to the PCA's 51st General Assembly

Response to 2024 General Assembly

RUF serves at the pleasure of the General Assembly and willingly submits to its direction. As the Assembly determined, an exception of substance occurred when the “permanent committee established and executed a substantial new policy not approved by the general assembly.” The RUF Permanent Committee will submit and request the 2024 RUF Committee of Commissioners recommend to the 51st General Assembly the attached updated Affiliation Agreement¹ to preserve ongoing partnerships with presbyteries, strengthen collaboration, and provide legal clarity.

Introduction

In addition to the revised Affiliation Agreement (AA), this document includes:

- SECTION 1 - The AA's History
- SECTION 2 - Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) followed the previous path in updating the AA and the rationale for that path.
- SECTION 3 - Comments on the content of the revised AA and input requested from presbyteries
- SECTION 4 - RUF PC approved Affiliation Agreement

SECTION 1 - The Affiliation Agreement's History

Origins of RUF and the Need for an Affiliation Agreement:

The earliest beginnings of RUF trace back to the Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley and its involvement in campus ministry. The fruitfulness of these early efforts to reach and equip college students led the 5th General Assembly of the PCA in 1977 to create a "practical manual of campus ministry." This call

¹ We have spent much of the past year reaching out and listening to those with publicly expressed concerns and suggestions for improving the previous 2023 agreement. We have sought to address those in the 2024 agreement.

reflected a recognition within the PCA that there was a need for a more structured approach to campus ministry.

Two years later, in 1979, during the 7th General Assembly of the PCA, a significant development took place with the approval of "A Manual for Campus Ministry." This manual established a Sub-Committee on Campus Ministry under the Mission to the United States Committee (MUS). Among its responsibilities was "to determine job descriptions for and employ campus staff members. (XI.A.6)" While giving the responsibility to employ staff to the Sub-Committee on Campus Ministry, the 1979 "Manual" offers that the calling or sending body "is either a local church, a presbytery, or the MNA Committee." It did so without discussing an AA to guide the relationship(s) between these different courts and committees. Thus, in the early years of RUF, these relationships were largely informal, based on trust, collaboration, and shared values.

Transition to Formal Affiliation Agreements:

The early 1980s marked a transition period for RUF as the ministry grew outside Mississippi. By 1982-83, RUM (as it was known then)² was granted a Federal Employment Identification Number (FEIN). It was considered an integrated auxiliary of the PCA as part of MNA and a stand-alone 501c3. Campuses in Alabama and South Carolina and subsequent new works were provided administrative support for payroll by MNA. In contrast, campuses in Mississippi were provided payroll by the Mississippi Joint Committee for Campus Work.

During this time, RUF began entering into AAs with churches and presbyteries. These agreements were intended to clarify expectations and responsibilities for both RUF and the local Presbyteries as ecclesiastical bodies.

Unfortunately, detailed and accurate records of these early agreements were not consistently maintained, making it challenging to trace their specific terms and conditions. However, these agreements were considered internal "memoranda of understanding" to foster healthy collaboration. The

² The 44th General Assembly, in 2016, formally changed the committee's name from Reformed University Ministries to Reformed University Fellowship.

agreements were not approved by or presented to the General Assembly or the MNA Permanent Committee.³

RUF's Growth into a Program Committee:

In the early 2000s, as RUF continued to grow and expand its reach, the General Assembly decided to establish RUF as a program committee of the General Assembly. This transition involved a three-year process, including a study committee and approval from the Assembly and presbyteries.

Throughout this process and afterward, RUF continued to enter into AAs with presbyteries for each new campus. These agreements were periodically updated as geographic and numeric growth required standardized procedures, benefits, employment practices, and legal compliance. These updates were not presented to the General Assembly or the RUF Permanent Committee but only to local presbyteries.

While updated AAs were entered into for new works, they were only updated for existing works occasionally. In many instances, RUF and presbyteries failed to enter into updated agreements when church growth led to the creation of new presbyteries within whose bounds an RUF work remained.

The Need for Clarity and Legal Liability:

Multiple versions and missing AA agreements were sufficient reasons to update the agreement, but more pressing needs motivated RUF's recent efforts. Unfortunately, RUF's growing structure and legal realities have not always been accurately reflected in our AAs. Older versions of the RUF AA contained significant ambiguities and legal inaccuracies that created potential liabilities for the PCA, presbyteries, RUF, and campus ministers. These primarily exist because of the evolving nature of RUF's history and the genuine desire to preserve collaborative relationships between the program committee and local presbyteries. As mentioned above, in the early days of RUF, there were multiple models of ministry. In some places, presbyteries were the legal employers of campus ministers. They received donations, provided receipts, issued payroll, and provided benefits. In other places, there were church affiliations. The campus minister was a legal employee of a local church but conducted ministry under the RUF banner. In other areas, the campus minister was an employee of the program committee of the GA (first MNA, then RUF). Eventually, the church affiliation model was phased out, and all presbyteries

³ The earliest reference to an RUF affiliation agreement in the record of General Assembly actions does not occur until 1993. It is not reported as being approved but simply recognized as existing in reference to a budget issue before the Assembly.

transferred employment responsibilities to the RUF program committee. From a legal perspective, RUF has been the employer of all campus ministers (except those serving under the ARP Affiliation agreement and those working with MTW) since RUF became a Program Committee of the PCA. These legal realities were not reflected in different versions of the affiliation agreement. Instead, both Presbyteries and RUF were described as having employment responsibilities. What had once been a legal reality had become a legal inaccuracy that created legal liability. Addressing this liability in a way that preserves and promotes ongoing collaboration between RUF and local presbyteries was the aim of updating the AA.

SECTION 2 - The Path and Rationale

What was the best way to pursue updating an agreement with no constitutional requirement for its existence and no spelled-out process? With no previous agreement approved by the PCA General Assembly or the RUF Permanent Committee, we wanted to make changes with collaboration. That collaboration process began internally with RUF senior staff, area coordinators, and a focus group of campus personnel (a group of whom became significant authors). It included legal counsel of REs, collaboration with REs and TEs outside of RUF but inside the PCA, and discussion and adoption by the RUF Permanent Committee. With RUF's Permanent Committee adoption, RUF began to present the AA to presbyteries where RUF works existed. We aimed to explain the agreement and the process that led to its update and work through any questions raised for individual Presbyteries. This path was chosen with much thought and counsel from various Elders across the church. While the advice and counseling were not uniform, a significant majority directed us toward our adopted path. Given the history of the AA and our historical practice of working directly with and through presbyteries, we addressed presbyteries individually. In our minutes, we indicated our actions and intentions for the RUF Committee of Commissioners to review.

At the instruction of the 2023 PCA General Assembly, the RUF Permanent Committee is recommending that the updated and attached AA be approved. This AA aims to preserve and promote ongoing collaboration between RUF and local presbyteries.

This version differs slightly from the 2023 version. We have spent much of the past year conversing with individuals, committees, and some presbyteries who have expressed concerns and offered suggestions for improvements to the previous agreement. In these conversations, section R-Q was the most

discussed portion of the AA. Below is updated and clarifying language for R-Q and some commentary on the issues behind its existence.

SECTION 3 - AA Commentary - R-Q

Issues of legal employment, ecclesiastical authority, and subsequent responsibilities

- Having issued payroll, W-2s, required tax documents, and provided benefits, all of which are responsibilities of legal employers, RUF is no doubt viewed in the eyes of the law as the legal employer of campus ministers, which the new AA clarifies. There are other employment laws that RUF is required to adhere to because of the number of staff members we provide and administer payroll and benefits for⁴.
- For a presbytery to assume the role of legal employer of RUF campus ministers, they would need to assume all of the responsibilities for payroll, donor accounting and receipting, and benefits administration, in addition to complying with a myriad of state and federal laws governing employers. Practically, presbyteries would need enormous resources to comply with those responsibilities even if such a legal relationship were desirable.
- Until the recent clarifications of the AA, RUF, and presbyteries acted in good faith under a kind of "legal fiction" by stating that the presbytery hired and fired campus ministers; however, that was not true practically. The practice reflected the genuine "buy-in" and support of loop presbyteries for RUF ministries and ministers within their bounds and followed the mutually agreed upon (although legally untrue) understanding of the AA as it existed in older forms.

⁴ An employer's size, or number of employees, is a key factor in determining which federal labor laws the employer must comply with. Some federal labor laws, such as the Equal Pay Act, the Immigration Reform and Control Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, apply to all employers, regardless of size. Laws that apply to employers with 15 or more employees include the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Pregnancy Discrimination Act (PDA), and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act (which prohibits employers from discriminating in the workplace based on race, color, sex or national origin). The Age Discrimination in Employment Act and the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA – which requires employer-sponsored group health plans to offer continuation coverage to eligible employees and their dependents following termination of employment, among other losses of coverage, which may or may not apply to RUF as some "church" based plans are exempt from benefit plan and COBRA guidelines) apply to employers with 20 or more employees. Employers with 100 or more employees must submit an annual EEO-1 report with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Because RUF operates in multiple states, it may be subject to certain state requirements as well (e.g., NY state law requires that employers of one or more employees must conduct sexual harassment prevention training for all employees each year). Some aspects of these laws may have a different application to RUF as a Christian-based and denominational organization (e.g., requiring campus ministers to be ordained and follow PCA polity; hiring staff that subscribes to denominational guidelines), but for the most part many laws protecting or applying to the employment relationship will apply to RUF.

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- The practice of providing job offer letters from RUF has been added in the last ten years to the original creation and prosecution of call letters at the presbytery. The process of interviewing and agreeing upon a candidate for a job is distinct from the action of legally employing them, which is also separate from presbytery credentialing and ordaining/installing a TE. RUF also ordinarily provides qualified, assessed individuals as potential candidates to presbyteries for RUF campus minister positions. (These candidates can come from RUF recruiting efforts or presbytery identifying someone they want to consider.) RUF intends to continue collaborating with presbyteries on interview processes and candidate selection criteria.
- While RUF is the legal employer of campus ministers, an ordained campus minister cannot be placed at an RUF without the formal approval of the Presbytery within whose bounds the work exists.
- The termination of an employee has always had the relational interaction between RUF and the presbytery (ordinarily through the presbytery's RUF committee), and the new clarification seeks to preserve and protect prompt collaboration and trust. Suppose RUF and a presbytery cannot agree on a candidate (which has yet to happen to RUF's knowledge). In that case, either party can step away from the process and not continue employing the person (RUF) or credentialing the person (the presbytery). This has always been the nature of the affiliation agreement, formally signed or simply relationally constituted.
- The need for RUF to terminate employment (as defined by the state as legal employers) protects the individual from wrongful termination (even though RUF is generally considered an at-will employer and has been throughout its history as a standing committee), but this status also protects RUF as a legal employer from liability of false claims against it. The proper legal termination by RUF also protects presbyteries from potential liabilities and claims by campus ministers or other RUF staff that they were wrongfully terminated or that there are other legal compliance violations. In clarifying the AA, RUF seeks to be responsible as an employer to all its employees and the larger organization, to protect against false claims, to limit liability legally, and to uphold the laws of the land. This status has the secondary benefit of reducing legal exposure to presbyteries from employment-related claims.
- The original PCA manual on Campus ministry (1979) says that presbyteries have the right to do campus ministries in several ways, including RUF. The refusal to enter into or the decision of either party

to exit an affiliation agreement (if this should happen) does not undo the right of presbyteries to pursue campus ministry within their bounds in a manner of their choosing. If RUF and a presbytery cannot agree on a candidate to hire or fire, it must pursue another form of campus ministry within its bounds.

- Suppose a presbytery concludes that RUF has acted contrary to the constitution of the PCA in some matter. In that case, they have always been able to object and follow due process to review and involve the proper courts to address concerns.
- RUF, as a program committee, would not have grounds to operate in a presbytery that decides not to continue in such an agreement so that in both the cases of hiring and firing disagreements, the presbytery can refuse to approve or terminate a call. The presbytery could continue to employ a minister (not under the name of RUF) but could assume the responsibilities of a legal employer if they so desired. As we have in the past, issues that rise to the level of the need for termination for legal purposes will be collaborated with the presbytery.
- In the event of misdoings that lead to termination by RUF, the presbytery still maintains the authority and responsibility to pursue pastoral care, shepherding, and appropriate discipline and determine the state of credentials for any TE whose employment has been terminated by RUF.

Historical practices of collaboration between RUF and presbyteries in matters of review:

- Where, historically, there have been matters of performance and character issues that create the basis for the termination of an employee, the RUF area coordinator has worked extensively with the RUF committee chairman, RUF committees, and shepherding committees (or another appropriate committee), and the presbytery as the court that holds a CM's credentials. No terminations have happened that have not extensively included input from all parties, and the intent is that such a relationship and collaboration continue relatively seamlessly.
 - Area coordinators and committees provide input to performance reviews, while the area coordinator understands ministry dynamics on campus. RUF and the presbytery committee have agreed that a campus minister should be removed from the job based on performance issues and have agreed upon an end-of-

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service timeline. The presbytery has then taken up the dissolution of the call through prescribed committee proceedings.

- Presbytery has the responsibility for credentialing matters, and RUF has always submitted matters of moral failure/concern when it becomes aware of a breach of vows to the presbytery committees if it came to that knowledge before the committee/presbytery through the regular responsibilities of the area coordinator. There are plenty of examples of RUF collaborating and supporting presbytery investigations. Other examples exist of RUF and presbyteries conducting independent and/or parallel (or subsequent) investigations. In these instances, presbyteries have executed their ecclesiastical responsibilities and RUF their employment responsibilities.

<SECTION 4 - Affiliation Agreement to Follow>

RUF Affiliation Agreement (v 22.0 / 2024)
**Campus Ministry Affiliation of Presbyteries with
Reformed University Fellowship of the Presbyterian Church in
America**

Presbytery Name – University/College Name

***PRESBYTERY NAME**, acknowledging that the church is the primary means by which Jesus will draw men and women unto Himself, is committing to this work at **UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE NAME**. RUF seeks to faithfully shepherd believing students during their college years and proclaim the Gospel to students worldwide. The Presbytery is committing to going to the campus to engage in this work, partly by sending an ordained TE and other potential staff members to this campus. Therefore, the Presbytery is entering into this partnership with Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) to reach students for Christ and equip them to serve.*

Below are the stated responsibilities of Reformed University Fellowship (“RUF”) and the presbytery(ies) to define the roles of parties for the PCA’s denominational ministry at the campus or campuses within the presbytery(ies)’s geographical boundaries.

As a court of the Church of Jesus Christ and the PCA, the Presbytery is solely responsible for ordaining and installing Teaching Elders and the primary responsibility for theological and pastoral oversight of the Campus Ministry, including Campus Ministers, Campus Staff, and Interns. As a Program Committee and ministry of the PCA, RUF is a deputized 501(c)3 non-profit ministry with employment, legal, and operational oversight responsibilities over the ministry’s finances and personnel.

NOTE: Defined Terms are included at the end of this document.

I. General Assembly

The responsibilities of the General Assembly (“GA”) of the Presbyterian Church in America shall include, but are not limited to, the following according to the *Rules of Assembly Operations* (“RAO”): GA = General Assembly

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

GA - A. The GA shall oversee RUF, pray for, and otherwise support the Program Committee of the denomination (Reformed University Fellowship) for college ministry work.

GA - B. The GA shall establish and maintain a Permanent Committee (PC) for RUF. The PC is responsible to the GA for overseeing the ministry, providing leadership and encouragement, and considering and making recommendations to the GA. The

PC's responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following as they relate to a unified campus ministry:

- i. The PC shall exercise financial oversight and fiduciary responsibility as described in the *RAO*. This includes presenting an annual budget to the GA for approval, accepting and presenting an audited financial statement, as required, and advising on RUF's financial health.
- ii. The PC shall provide prescribed annual oversight of the Coordinator, present documentation of the Coordinator's performance to the RUF Committee of Commissioners ("COC") and to the GA and recommend electing (or not) the Coordinator with the appropriate compensation.
- iii. The PC shall review practices and procedures for RUF operation following the *RAO*, including what is required in the *BCO* and sent down from the General Assembly. The PC shall recommend policies to the General Assembly through RUF's COC, as described in the *RAO*.
- iv. The PC and RUF staff shall provide the required annual information and presentation to the RUF Committee of Commissioners at each GA, as described in the *RAO*.

GA - C. The GA shall provide RUF with a prorated portion of the partnership share of Presbytery and local church giving to the GA.

II. Presbytery

The responsibilities of *PRESBYTERY NAME* ("*Presbytery*") for the RUF ministry at *UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE NAME*

(“RUF Ministry or Chapter”) shall include, but are not limited to, the following: *P = Presbytery*

General Responsibilities

P - A. The Presbytery shall provide oversight, encouragement, accountability, and financial and prayer support for the RUF Ministry.

P - B. The Presbytery will help guide and oversee the RUF Ministry/Chapter according to the principles and procedures outlined in the *“Manual for Campus Fellowship, Presbyterian Church in America”* (adopted at the 1979 General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America). It shall hold RUF and the ordained Campus Personnel accountable for conducting ministry following the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in America.

P - C. The Presbytery shall establish and maintain a committee or subcommittee for campus ministry, including Reformed University Fellowship (the “Presbytery Committee”). Presbyteries may choose to have a joint committee of more than one Presbytery. The Presbytery Committee shall provide encouragement and oversight concerning the campus ministry in the Presbytery’s geographic area in partnership with RUF. Local and National RUF personnel shall be available to present reports at Presbytery meetings at the discretion of the Presbytery Committee and on behalf of RUF.

P - D. The Presbytery Committee shall commit to supporting the Campus Ministry/Chapter and Campus Personnel of RUF, both financially and prayerfully. Campus accounts will be managed following RUF’s Account Health Policy, and the Presbytery shall work together with RUF to remedy any account deficits.

P - E. The Presbytery should encourage her member churches to pray for the RUF Ministry, refer contacts to Campus Personnel, and make students and covenant children aware of the RUF Ministry/Chapter.

P - F. The Presbytery Committee shall invite the designated Area Coordinator from RUF to be a non-voting advisor and guest of the Presbytery Committee.

Campus Personnel

P - G. The Presbytery Committee should review the budgets for ministry chapters within the Presbytery's boundaries.

P - H. All Campus Personnel will be legal employees of RUF, supervised by an RUF Area Coordinator, paid by and through RUF, and subject to RUF employment-related practices and procedures. Ordained RUF personnel will be assessed, trained, and employed by RUF but will be members of and ordained by the local Presbytery (*BCO* 13-1, 13-2). The presbytery shall provide support, shepherding, and care for ordained RUF personnel as members of the Presbytery. Ecclesiastical authority, which is "ministerial and declarative" (*BCO* 11-2), lies with the Presbytery so that "questions of doctrine and discipline" may be resolved (*BCO* 11-4).

P - I. In consultation with RUF's Area Coordinator, the Presbytery Committee shall interview and prayerfully consider suitable candidates for a fit at the local RUF Ministry/Chapter, the Presbytery, local church(es), and the region. Acceptable candidates will be presented to the Presbytery for ordaining and approval of RUF employment. The Presbytery shall help encourage ordained RUF personnel to participate fully in Presbytery activities as a PCA Teaching Elder and a Presbytery member (excluding serving on the Presbytery Committee that oversees the RUF Ministry/Chapter).

P - J. The Presbytery Committee shall present the RUF call package for all ordained Campus Personnel to the Presbytery for approval. RUF shall develop the call package in consultation with the Area Coordinator and the Presbytery Committee, using the PCA's Geneva Benefits Group recommendations and other pertinent factors to determine the salary and compensation package. Other benefits, perquisites, and terms and conditions of employment are determined by RUF and are standardized for all RUF personnel. RUF will make subsequent adjustments to salary and benefits after consulting with the Presbytery Committee (subject, in the case of housing allowances, to annual review by the Presbytery).

P - K. The Presbytery should encourage and help hold all ordained Campus Personnel accountable for participating in RUF's training.

P - L. Where appropriate and subject to Presbytery approval, the Presbytery shall receive Campus Ministry Assistants (men pursuing a seminary degree and ordination while serving under a campus minister) under the care of the Presbytery through a local PCA church session.

P - M. When necessary, the Presbytery shall support and encourage Campus Ministry Associates ("Band-Aids" in RUF) at an RUF Ministry/Chapter when a previously called and credentialed campus minister is transitioning to another call.

III. Reformed University Fellowship

The responsibilities of *Reformed University Fellowship (RUF)* for the RUF ministry/chapter at *UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE NAME* shall include, but are not limited to, the following: *R = RUF*

General Responsibilities

R - A. RUF shall partner with the Presbytery to support the Presbytery in its responsibility to reach the college campuses within its geographic area (see Part 1, "Philosophy of the Church's Ministry to Colleges and Universities" in the 1979 *Manual for Campus Ministries*).

R - B. RUF shall provide operational procedures, including advancement/development and guidelines for Campus Ministers, Campus Staff, Campus Ministry Associates, Campus Ministry Assistants, Interns, and RUF National.

R - C. RUF shall be all RUF personnel's legal, direct, and responsible employer, while the Presbytery ordains, installs, and holds ecclesiastical authority over ordained Campus Personnel. RUF shall issue a call to a Campus Minister as a "needful work" (*BCO* 8-4) so that the Campus Minister may labor as a teaching elder within the Presbytery.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

R - D. RUF shall provide ordained Campus Personnel with an employment arrangement and terms of employment with RUF contingent on Presbytery approval of the call to the RUF Ministry and remaining ordained and in good standing within the Presbytery. RUF shall determine the terms of the call, and Presbytery shall determine whether the call is proper and approved (*BCO 20-1*).

R - E. RUF shall supervise and oversee all campus ministry accounting functions, including keeping receipts, acknowledging financial donations, paying all Campus Personnel, reimbursing programming expenses, and producing financial, budget, and donor reports.

R - F. RUF shall be accountable for the RUF ministry-at-large, including coordinating and implementing agreed-upon programs, projects, trips, conferences, and fellowships. This includes the Intern program, Campus Staff, public relations, pastoral care, benefits, oversight, and all other items needed for the ministry.

R - G. RUF shall provide direct oversight for each Campus Ministry/Chapter through an assigned Area Coordinator hired by RUF National, who reports to RUF's Senior Leadership. Area Coordinators will be credentialed as teaching elders in the PCA. They shall work closely with each Presbytery Committee to advance RUF on the local campuses for which the Area Coordinator is responsible within the Presbytery's bounds, including coordinating with the Presbytery Committee, local pastors, and other interested parties to identify potential new works. RUF shall provide ongoing training for the Area Coordinators related to campus ministry as they shepherd and coach Campus Personnel and participate in the local presbytery where they are credentialed.

R - H. RUF shall work with the Area Coordinator and Campus Minister to set a yearly budget for the RUF Ministry, which shall be presented to the Presbytery Committee for review, comment, and approval by RUF National.

R - I. RUF shall work to have each RUF Ministry/Chapter reach the school's demographics where the RUF Ministry chapter is

located. This effort will include RUF's recruiting, training, assessment, and orientation.

Campus Personnel

R - J. RUF shall be responsible for recruitment, assessment, placement, and ongoing training for Campus Personnel and interns. RUF shall coordinate placement decisions with the Presbytery Committee and make qualified candidates (ordained or ordainable Campus Ministers) available for interviews as needed. RUF shall assess and approve all candidates for ordained Campus positions before presenting the candidate to the Presbytery.

R - K. RUF shall establish ordained Campus Personnel's (Campus Minister's) salaries and benefits, subject to the approval of Presbytery (*BCO* 13-2).

R - L. RUF shall provide orientation for all new Campus Personnel for all ministry, financial, and operational procedures.

R - M. RUF shall provide ongoing campus ministry training on the Philosophy of Ministry ("POM") of RUF for all Campus Personnel.

R - N. RUF shall support the Presbytery in holding ordained Campus Personnel accountable for their vows and views as acceptable locally and in the Presbyterian Church in America. RUF shall encourage (and, if necessary, hold accountable) ordained Campus Personnel to promptly disclose any change in views to the Presbytery concerning the Constitution of the PCA. RUF shall immediately report to the Presbytery Committee any disciplinary matters affecting the character of any ordained Campus Personnel that could give rise to process under the *BCO*.

R - O. RUF shall help ensure the appropriate submission of all Campus Personnel to the court or church where they hold their membership.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

R - P. RUF shall expect the attendance and involvement of all ordained RUF personnel in their local Presbytery and in a local PCA church, where available.

R - Q. RUF shall first consult and collaborate with the Presbytery, ordinarily through the Presbytery Committee, on matters related to the employment (i.e., the hiring and termination) of Campus Ministers before any actions are formalized. RUF understands the Presbytery will retain the authority and responsibility to shepherd and pastor and retains all jurisdiction for any ecclesiastical discipline concerning all members of its court.

R - R. If there is an issue related to the employment of a Campus Minister, RUF may, at its discretion, immediately place the Campus Minister on administrative leave with pay while determining whether employment action needs to be taken. In such cases, RUF shall report the cause of the administrative leave to the Presbytery (ordinarily through the Presbytery Committee). RUF may also ask the Presbytery to begin a *BCO* 31-2 investigation regarding the Campus Minister. If RUF determines that the employment of a Campus Minister should be terminated, it shall report this to the Presbytery in accordance with the procedures outlined in *BCO* 23-1, including bringing a report to the Presbytery as to why such action should be taken. If the Presbytery institutes process against the Campus Minister, RUF shall delay any final action on employment status until the case's conclusion and within the limitations and parameters of RUF Account Health Practices. RUF reserves the right to “staff” the work as needed (including with a Campus Associate) so that the ministry continues during this process. Final decisions regarding the transfer, removal, termination, and/or dissolution of the call of a Campus Minister shall be made by the Presbytery in coordination with RUF. RUF will have the discretion to make decisions according to RUF employment practices regarding the transfer, removal, and/or termination of all non-ordained Campus Personnel and shall communicate the same to the Presbytery Committee.

The undersigned presbytery(ies) and Reformed University Fellowship now agree to an affiliation to reach students for Christ and equip them for service within their geographical bounds and North America.

APPENDIX N

Through this agreement, the local/area ministry is officially affiliated with Reformed University Fellowship and thereby authorized to use the said name and that of Reformed University Fellowship for local campus fellowship within its geographical bounds and in North America.

<Signature Page to Follow>

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Date of Action

Presbytery

Presbytery Moderator

Presbytery RUF or Campus Ministry Committee Chairman

Area Coordinator for Reformed University Fellowship

Coordinator of Reformed University Fellowship

DEFINED TERMS

Permanent Committee: The Permanent Committee for Reformed University Fellowship

GA: The General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in America

RUF: Reformed University Fellowship, a Program Committee and ministry of The Presbyterian Church in America

RUF Ministry: The local RUF ministry at NAME University is directly overseen by an ordained Campus Minister (or, for a short term, by a Campus Associate)

Presbytery: The NAME Presbytery

Presbytery Committee: The committee of the Presbytery overseeing an RUF Ministry.

RAO: Rules of Assembly Operations

BCO: Book of Church Order

Coordinator: The National Coordinator of Reformed University Fellowship

Area Coordinator: Regional supervisor for RUF and liaison to the Presbytery Committee

Campus Minister: Ordained RUF employee who oversees a local RUF Ministry and any other Campus Personnel at that ministry

Campus Staff: Female RUF employee who works at a local RUF ministry under the supervision of an ordained RUF minister

Associate Campus Minister: Ordained RUF employee who works under a Campus Minister

Campus Associate (“Band-Aid”): Non-ordained male RUF employee who directs a campus in the absence of a Campus Minister

Campus Assistant: Non-ordained male RUF employee who works under a Campus Minister

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Campus Personnel: All RUF personnel at a local RUF ministry, not including Interns (ordained Campus Ministers and unordained Campus Staff).

Intern: RUF intern who works under the oversight of a Campus Minister and the RUF Intern Department

Attachment 2

REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP CAMPUS MINISTRIES (For the Year Ending December 31, 2023)

PRESBYTERIES

CAMPUS AND STAFF

**Alabama Joint Committee on Campus Work
(Evangel, Southeast Alabama, Warrior, Providence
and Gulf Coast*)**

Evangel Presbytery

Jacksonville State University
TE Daniel Hightower
Samford University
TE Benjamin Griffith
University of Alabama-Birmingham
TE Brad Owens
Stephen Merwin
Birmingham Southern College
TE Gary Purdy

Southeast Alabama Presbytery

Auburn University & RUF1 Affiliate
TE Tanner Crum
TE Michael Alsup (RUF1)

Warrior Presbytery

University of Alabama
TE Stewart Swain
Daniel Tortorici

Providence Presbytery

Alabama A&M University
Marcus Nobles
University of Alabama – Huntsville
TE Vinnie Athey

Arizona Presbytery

University of Arizona
TE Matt Esswein

Calvary Presbytery

Anderson University
TE John Boyte
Clemson University & RUF1 Affiliate
TE Brian Howard (RUF1)
Erskine College
Open
Furman University
TE Tom Hart
Wofford College
TE Oliver Pierce

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Catawba Valley Presbytery	Davidson College TE Andrew Goyzueta
Central Carolina Presbytery	Johnson & Wales University Nicholas DeVusser Queens College (ARP Affiliate) TE Josh Grimm University of North Carolina-Charlotte TE John Baber
Central Georgia – Savannah River Joint Committee	
Central Georgia Presbytery	Mercer University TE Marlin Harris Valdosta State TE John Gordy Wesleyan College Open Columbus State University TE Tim Grider
Savannah River Presbytery	Georgia Southern University TE Nathanael Miller Savannah College of Art & Design TE Martin Antoon
Central Indiana Presbytery	Indiana University Open Purdue University Nate Osner
Chesapeake Presbytery	Johns Hopkins TE Jacob Jasin (RUF-I) University of Maryland – Baltimore County TE Trip Beans
Chicago Metro Presbytery	Northwestern University TE Andrew Barber TE Ian Hammond (RUF-I) Mike Hernberg (RUF-I) (CMA)
Eastern Carolina Presbytery	Duke University TE Matt Mahla East Carolina University TE Skylar Adams North Carolina Central University TE Kris Cooper North Carolina State University TE Chuck Askew University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill TE Simon Stokes University of North Carolina – Wilmington TE Sam Kennedy

APPENDIX N

Eastern Pennsylvania Presbytery	Lehigh University TE Michael Goodlin
Fellowship Presbytery	Winthrop University TE Mark Ashbaugh
Florida Joint Committee on Campus Work (Central Florida, Gulf Coast, North Florida, Southern Florida, Sun Coast and Southwest Florida)	
Central Florida Presbytery	University of Central Florida TE Hardy Reynolds Austin Slater (RUF1)
Gulf Coast Presbytery	Florida State University TE Kelly Jackson University of South Alabama Open
Gulfstream Presbytery	Florida Atlantic University TE Jeff Lee
North Florida Presbytery	University of Florida TE Steve Lammers TE Jon Bonker (RUF1) University of North Florida TE Tommy Park
Suncoast Presbytery	Florida Gulf Coast University TE Lucas Tanner
Southwest Florida Presbytery	University of South Florida TE Aldo Mondin
Great Lakes Presbytery	University of Michigan TE Robert Knuth
Heartland Presbytery	Kansas State University TE Jonathan Dunning University of Kansas John "Quinn" Sloan
Heritage Presbytery	Delaware State (HBCU) TE Daryl Wattley University of Delaware & RUF1 Affiliate Open
Highlands Presbytery	Appalachian State University TE Alec Cotton Western Carolina University TE Andrew Shank

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Hills and Plains Presbytery

Oklahoma State University
John “JR” Biggs
University of Arkansas
TE Austin Royal
University of Oklahoma
James Post
University of Tulsa
TE Caleb Harlan

Houston Metro Presbytery

Rice University
Open
University of Houston
TE Brooks Harwood

Low Country Presbytery

College of Charleston
TE Jacob Lee
South Carolina State
Joel Brown

Metropolitan New York Presbytery

Columbia University and RUF1 Affiliate
TE Eric Lipscomb
Micah Bragg (RUF1)
NYC City Campus
TE Matthew Terrell
**Gotham Student Movement – Hunter
College & Fordham University-Lincoln
Center**
TE Wei Ho
Lehman College
Carlton “CJ” Francis
Queens College – NYC
TE Jeffrey Jou
New York University
TE Graham Girard (RUF-1)

**Mid-South Joint Committee (Covenant, Grace, and
Mississippi Valley)**

Covenant Presbytery

Arkansas State University
Open
Delta State University
TE Ro Taylor
Rhodes College
TE John Craft
Mississippi State
TE Joe Johnson
University of Memphis
TE John Crosby
University of Mississippi
TE Austin Braasch

Grace Presbytery

University of Southern Mississippi
TE Davis Morgan

Mississippi Valley Presbytery

Belhaven University
TE Bentley Crawford

APPENDIX N

	Jackson State University TE Anthony Forrest Mississippi College TE Jeff Jordan
Missouri Presbytery	University of Missouri TE David Barnes Washington University at St. Louis TE Tim Price
Nashville Presbytery	Austin Peay State University TE Will Cote Belmont University TE Kevin Twit Middle Tennessee State University TE Weston Duke Tennessee Tech University Ryan Angel Vanderbilt University TE Chase Daws TE Andrew Terrell (RUF-I) Western Kentucky University TE James Jardin
New Jersey Presbytery	Rowan University Will Bausch
New River Presbytery	West Virginia University TE Peter Green
North Georgia Joint Committee (Georgia Foothills, Metro Atlanta, NW Georgia)	
Georgia Foothills Presbytery	University of Georgia TE Ben Coppedge TE Jeff Thompson (RUF-I)
Metro Atlanta Presbytery	Emory University TE George Hamm Georgia Tech & RUF-I Affiliate Chad Jowers TE Tracey West (RUF-I)
Northwest Georgia Presbytery	Kennesaw State University TE Chris Blackman
North Texas Presbytery	Baylor University TE Way Rutherford Southern Methodist University TE Conrad Quiros TE Fee Kennedy (RUF-I) Texas Christian University TE Bradford Green Texas Tech University TE Davis Sweatt University of North Texas TE Justin Smith

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

University of Texas-Tyler/Tyler Junior College

RUFU University of Texas – Dallas
Indeok Kim (Campus Assistant)
University of Texas – Arlington
Shaynor Newsome (PT Campus Associate)

Northern California Presbytery

San Jose State
Kyle Grow
Stanford University
TE Crawford Stevener
University of California – Berkeley
TE John Kong
TE Paul Schuler (RUFU)
University of Hawaii
Andrew Kawata

Northern New England Presbytery

University of Vermont
TE John Meinen

Ohio Presbytery

Kent State University
TE Nate Bower

Ohio Valley Presbytery

University of Kentucky
TE Nick Bratcher
University of Louisville
Ellis Walker

Pacific Presbytery

University of California – Los Angeles
TE Matthew Trexler
University of California – Santa Barbara
TE Johnathan Keenan
University of Southern California
Tyler “Ty” Gregory

Pacific Northwest Presbytery

Boise State
TE Drew Burdette
University of Washington
TE David Birnie
Western Washington University
Tommy Hannah
Oregon State University
Open

Palmetto Presbytery

University of South Carolina & RUFU Affiliate
TE Sammy Rhodes
TE Scott Andes (RUFU)

Piedmont Triad Presbytery

Wake Forest University
TE Chris Horne
Winston Salem State
TE Jonah Hooper
Travon Williams (Campus Assistant)

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Pittsburgh Presbytery	University of Pittsburgh TE Gavin Breeden Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Platte Valley Presbytery	University of Nebraska TE Thomas Kuhn
Potomac Presbytery	George Mason University RUFIAffiliate TE Matthew Delong (RUFIAffiliate) Howard University TE Cyril Chavis Chris Reed (CMA) University of Maryland Ryan Bratt
Rio Grande Presbytery	New Mexico State University TE Daniel Davalos University of Texas El Paso Ed Ovalle University of New Mexico Charlie Fiorillo
Rocky Mountain Presbytery	Colorado State University TE Wes Calton US Air Force Academy TE Jeff Kreisel University of Colorado, Colorado Springs TE Jonathan Clark Montana State University TE Cody Janicek
Siouxlands Presbytery	University of Minnesota TE Brandon Haan North Dakota State University Open
South Coast Presbytery	University of California – Irvine TE Derek Rishmawy University of California – San Diego TE David Billingslea (RUFIAffiliate)
South Texas Presbytery	Texas A&M University & RUFIAffiliate Austin McCann TE Titus Bagby (RUFIAffiliate) Texas A&M University Corpus Christi Open Trinity University Holt West University of Texas – Austin & RUFIAffiliate University of Texas-San Antonio TE Lee Wright

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Southern Louisiana Presbytery

Louisiana State University
TE Ande Johnson
Tulane University
TE Matt Roelofs
University of Louisiana – LaFayette
Alec Moyer

Southern New England Presbytery

Boston University
TE Nathan Dicks
Brown University/RISD
TE Travis Hutchinson
Harvard University
TE Michael Whitham
MIT
TE Solomon Kim
University of Connecticut
David Augustine

Susquehanna Valley Presbytery

Millersville University
TE Chris Peter
Pennsylvania State University & RUFIAffiliate
TE Cameron Smith
TE Richard Smith (RUFIAffiliate)

Tennessee Valley

Carson Newman University
TE Chandler Rowlen
University of Tennessee – Chattanooga
Davis Mooney
University of Tennessee Knoxville & RUFIAffiliate
TE Mac Holt
TE Lee Leadbetter (RUFIAffiliate)

Virginia Joint Committee (Blue Ridge, Tidewater, and James River

Blue Ridge Presbytery

James Madison University
University of Virginia
TE Josiah Carey
Virginia Tech
TE Heath McLaughen
Liberty University – Lynchburg
TE Ben Spivey
Washington and Lee University
TE Willis Weatherford

Tidewater Presbytery

Christopher Newport University
TE Peter Lyon
College of William and Mary
TE Ben Robertson
Old Dominion University
Grant Taylor

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James River Presbytery	Virginia Commonwealth University Open
West Hudson Presbytery	Rutgers University TE Joe Fischer
Westminster Presbytery	East Tennessee State University TE Will Barbour
Wisconsin Presbytery	University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee TE Nick Bratcher University of Wisconsin – Madison TE Cameron Brown
MTW Affiliations	National Autonomous University of Mexico Barush Sanchez Bogota, Columbia TE Peter Dishman Will Schaufelberger (CMA) L’VIV, Ukraine TE Jon Powell Malaysia West Africa TE Collin Jennings Tokyo, Japan Jeff Saunders
Serge	Granada, Spain Aaron Gray

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Reformed University Fellowship Current Interns and Staff

1st Year Interns:

Miguel Acuña Bogota Colombia
Abby Agan University of California-Berkeley
Billy Anighoro University of North Texas
Emily Arnold William and Mary
Sebastian Avalos University of Texas - El Paso
Sophia Barkhouse Appalachian State University
Charlotte (Spencer) Bennett Florida Atlantic University
Canaan Bennett Florida Atlantic University
Mathew Berry Georgia Southern University
Lucy Brennan Auburn University
Hunter Brooks University of Alabama
Joy Chamberlain Samford University
Lucy Chapman Harvard University
Stephen Christenbury University of Texas-Austin
Audrey Clarke Belmont University
Zachariah Cleveland University of Texas - San Antonio
McKenna Courtney Middle Tennessee State University
Cam Coffee Virginia Tech
Aidan Creel University of Mississippi
Lauren Danforth Baylor University
Sarah Douglass New Mexico State University
EllaCait Downs College of Charleston
Emily Elliott University of Florida
Hyland Fitro University of Alabama-Huntsville
Janie Fortner Western Kentucky University
Elizabeth Fortune Jacksonville State University
Sarah Fritzsche Boston University
Thomas Gathright University of Oklahoma
Colton Gonzales University of Texas - San Antonio
Danny Harry University of Tennessee-Knoxville
Claire Hatfield Mississippi State University
Jacob Hatfield Mississippi State University
Ayden Henson Liberty University
David Hodges Clemson University
Matt Holdsworth University of Virginia
Kathleen Hoover University of Vermont
Felicity (Courtright) Holton University of Georgia
Jacob Huneycutt University of South Florida
Mercy Jackson University of Arkansas
Paige Jackson University of Arizona
Natalia Jaramillo Bogota Colombia
Eliot Jones University of Georgia
Ticia King Washington University in St. Louis

Kaitlyn (Said) Kuntz Rice University
Ashley Lanier United States Air Force Academy
Jackie Lee University of California - Irvine
Mark Manuel University of California - Los Angeles
Andrew Mauney Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Gracie (DeLoache) Mauney Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Garrett McLain Middle Tennessee State University
Matt McMillan Queens University of Charlotte
Cole Metzger University of Nebraska - Lincoln
Jack Myers Tulsa University
Grace Nelson North Carolina State University
Caroline Newsom University of Washington
Gloria Newton University of Tennessee - Knoxville
Corinne Parsons Tennessee Tech University
Cordy Phillips Kent State University
Veronica Pierre East Tennessee State University
David Prather University of North Carolina - Wilmington
Robert Randall University of South Carolina
Hannah (Weippert) Sandridge University of Illinois
Anthony Short Washington University in St. Louis
Lorena Silva Brown University & Rhode Island School of Design
Caleb Sklena Davidson College
Naomi Slater University of South Carolina
Johnathan Smith Belhaven University
Raegan Watkins Texas Tech University
Lauren Webb University of Hawaii
Anna Claire White Duke University
Eli Whitten University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

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2nd Year Interns:

Josh Anderson - Mississippi State
Anna Ayers - RUF-I Clemson
Skye Green - UAB
Olivia Bedenbaugh - Belhaven
Jessie Benton Clapp- Vermont
Hannah Blankenship - RUF-I Texas A&M
Justin Blizard - Baylor
Annie Brawner - Virginia
Noel Coppedge - RUF-I South Carolina
Bailey Cowen - UNC Wilmington
Matthew Dernberger - Western Carolina
Chris Duncan - Auburn
Anna Russell Earrey - Georgia Southern
Diana Florian - RUF-G Colombia
Ben Floyd - Washington
Lily Gerrell - Mississippi State
Abby Green - University of Texas
Mallory Green - Mercer
Justin Helms - Memphis
Myles Hendrick - Arkansas
Walt Horton - TCU
Emily Jacob - Queens University
Ian Jameson - Christopher Newport
Andrew Jerome - Florida State
Joshua Joo - Emory
Larissa Kanz - Millersville
Georgia Kibler - East Carolina
Mary Neill Lucas - Davidson
Caroline Marshall - Vanderbilt
Mary Ellen McCrary - Carson Newman
Christina McWhite - Winston-Salem State
Breanne Moench - Central Florida
Cassia Mugge - Missouri
Hannah Murphy - Tulsa
Rachel Nguyen - Oklahoma State

Henry Oakley - NC State
Ben Pate - Columbia
Emma Pearson - Texas A&M
Thaddeus Perkins - Boise State
Nic Recasens - Indiana
Becca Romano - South Florida
Gabrielle Ross - UNC Charlotte
Tim Sandridge - Illinois
Madison Schipper - Winthrop
Katie Schlenker - Virginia Tech
Slaton Schneider - Wake Forest
Betsy Scott - Georgia Tech
Jessica Shaver - Penn State
Mary Claire Sides - Alabama
Anne Morgan Trapnell - Tennessee
Joshua Valdez - Houston
Caleb Warner - Michigan

3rd Year Interns:

Grace Bailey – UGA
Stephen Berry – UT Chattanooga
Caroline Dean – Ole Miss
Carey (Horne) Helms – Univ of Memphis
Johnathan Hillerman – Belmont
Summer Huelle – Rhodes
Lydia Johnson – Clemson
Enjeh Liu – Harvard
Kate Nobels – Furman
Anna Plybon – Washington & Lee
Susannah Porier – Univ of Southern MS
Natalie Rhea – Valdosta
Spencer Sipe – Vanderbilt
Danny Waller – App State
Emily Williams – Univ of CA Los Angeles

Rachel Wilson – Florida State

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

RUF Campus Staff:

Maggie Aldin - Samford
Latasha Allston – Howard
Katherine Ashbaugh - Winthrop
Caysie Ashton - UGA
Cayla Ball – James Madison
Annie Kate Barr - Virginia
Joy Beans – UMBC
Joy Benton - Belmont
Alex Bosgraf – Boise State
Caroline Capper - USC
Anne Michal Carter - Mississippi College
Emily Cartledge - James Madison
Kathleen Chitty – Stanford
Catherine Cook – Harvard
Cindy Cook - GA Tech RUF-I
Emily Crutcher - UTK
Lauren Dishman - Bogota
Kate Donnell - WCU
Madeleine Dorst – Univ of Southern CA
Kaylee Epps - Ole Miss
Etta Farlow- RUF I Vanderbilt
Molly Farrell - Texas RUF I
Juanita Marie Fennema – WA Univ St. Louis
Angelina Francis- Lehman College
Janelle Grove – George Mason RUF I
Hanna Hammond - Northwestern RUF I
Heidi Hill - SMU RUF I
Sara Jane Horne – Wake Forest
Grace Hoyme - UCSB
Amy Hudson – UAB
Camerone Hughes – Univ of CA Berkeley
Hannah Humphreys - SMU
Amanda Jakana - Maryland
Leslie Janikowsky – Rhodes College
Zurielly Jennings - Senegal
April Johnson - Mississippi State
Serena Jones - Boston U
Chelsea Kelly – William & Mary
Morgan Kendrick - UC Berkeley
Shaunna Kennedy – UNCW
Sarah Kettel – Univ of Michigan
Jiwon Kim - Stanford
Jenn Kriesel - Air Force
Ava Ligh – Columbia
Alyson McClain – RUF I NYU
Callie Miller – Pittsburgh
Kimmy Mota - Houston
Kelley Murphree - UAH
Abby Plott - Texas Tyler
Ann Beverly Prideaux - Furman
Kelly Sanford - UCLA
Monse Santiago – Univ of Michigan
Sarah Schmidt -SCAD
Elle Shuford – Alabama
Katelyn Spallinger – Indiana Univ
Laura Straka – Emory
Hailey Tarbell - UT Dallas RUF I
Megan Terrell - City Campus
Wendy Twit - Belmont
Victoria Wallenstein - FSU
Amy Wood - TCU

RUF National Staff:

National Coordinator, Will Huss
Associate Coordinator, John Pearson
Coordinator Emeritus, Rod Mays
Chief Financial Officer, Kathy Leedy
Chief Operating Officer, Dennis Shackelford
Chief Advancement Officer, Kevin Teasley
Chief Organizational Development Officer, Keith Berger
Assistant Coordinator RUF-N, Michael Gordon
Assistant Coordinator RUF-I & G, Chad Brewer
Assistant Coordinator of Interns & Campus Staff, Mitch Gindlesperger
Assistant Coordinator of Cross Cultural Advancement, Russ Whitfield

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Area Coordinator, JR Foster
Area Coordinator, Pat Roach
Area Coordinator, Derek Bates
Area Coordinator, Jason Little
Area Coordinator, Britton Wood
Area Coordinator, SJ Lim
Area Coordinator, Chris Morrison
Area Coordinator, Curtis McDaniel
Area Coordinator, Mike Wenzler
Area Coordinator, Colin Peters
Area Coordinator, Richie Sessions
Area Coordinator, Joe Slater
Assistant VP of Events & Communications, Emily Miller
Assistant VP of Internships, Emily Nixon
Assistant VP of Campus Staff, Casey Cockrum
Assistant VP of Accounting, Cheryl Lundy
Director of Annual Giving, George Crook
Assistant VP of Donor Services, Michelle Stone
Director of Marketing, Elisabeth Givens
Director of HR & Benefits, Courtney Gregg
Director of Media & Events, Jake Wynn
Director of Accounting, Davia Lester
Assistant Director of Accounting, Alana Lowe
Assistant Director of Donor Services, Amy Work
Assistant Director of Marketing, Kelly Berkompas
Assistant Director of Advancement Communications, Anna Grider
Accounting Associate, Sharine Buchanan
Donor Services Associate, Deanna Paschal
Donor Services Associate, Ashley Walden
Regional Events Associate, Cathy Wilkins
RUF-I & RUF-G Mobilizer, William Stabler
Donor Service Assistant, Sojin Chi
HR & Benefits Assistant, Katie Silcox
Executive Assistant, Anna Brown
Intern and CS Assistant, Elizabeth Williams
Intern Recruiting Assistant, Calais Eledui
Internal Events Assistant, Caroline Clayton
Accounting Assistant, Mary Jo Scheufler
Administration Assistant to the Chief Organizational Development Officer, Ellie Stackhouse
Accounting Assistant, Sally Cargo
Assistant Director of Campus Staff, Amanda DeYoung
Major Gifts Officer – Michael Kuhn
Assistant Director of Communications & Events, Olivia Shields
Tech Services Assistant, Collin Smith
Kristen Thompson, Campus Staff Assistant

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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APPENDIX O

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON REVIEW OF PRESBYTERY RECORDS TO THE FIFTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA June 2024

- I. A list of Presbytery Minutes received by the Committee (See VI below)
- II. A list of Presbyteries that have not submitted all approved responses to exceptions of previous General Assemblies:
 - Arizona
 - Columbus Metro
 - Illiana
 - Korean Southwest
 - Korean Southwest Orange County
 - Lowcountry
 - South Coast
- III. A list of Presbyteries that have submitted Minutes after the March 15 deadline required by *RAO 16-4.d*:
 - Central Indiana - (Printed)
 - Chicago Metro - (Printed)
 - Columbus Metro - (Printed)
 - Gulf Coast - (Responses received late)
 - Gulfstream - (Print)
 - Houston Metro - (Printed)
 - Illiana - (Printed)
 - Iowa - (Printed)
 - James River - (Printed)
 - Korean Capital - (Printed)
 - Korean Northwest - (Print)
 - Korean Southern - (Print)
 - Korean Southwest - (Digital and Print)
 - Korean Southwest Orange County - (Printed)

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Lowcountry - (Print)
Mississippi Valley - (Printed)
Northern Illinois - (Printed)
Northwest Georgia - (Printed Minutes, Standing Rules and Directory not Submitted)
Pacific Northwest - (Printed)
Palmetto - (Print)
Philadelphia - (Printed)
Rio Grande - (Printed)
Savannah River - (Print Directory)
South Coast - (Printed)
South Texas - (Printed)
Suncoast Florida - (Printed)

IV. Citations

1. Cite the Columbus Metro Presbytery (*cf.* VI.13.g.b) to appear, per *BCO* 40-5, before the PCA's Standing Judicial Commission which the 51st GA constitutes its commission to adjudicate this matter, by representative or in writing, at the SJC's fall stated meeting, to "show what the lower court has done or failed to do in the case in question," following the *Operating Manual for the SJC*, particularly chapter 15
2. Cite the Metropolitan New York Presbytery (*cf.* VI.44.f.2.b) to appear, per *RAO* 16-10.c. and *BCO* 40-5, before the PCA's Standing Judicial Commission pursuant to the *Operating Manual for the SJC*, particularly chapter 15, at a time and date appointed by the SJC
3. Cite Korean Southwest Presbytery (*cf.* VI.40.5) to appear before the Committee on Review of Presbytery Records at its 2025 meeting (date to be determined by the Administrative Committee) with responses to the 51st General Assembly and improved responses to previous General Assemblies.
4. Cite South Coast Presbytery (*cf.* VI.74.e) to appear, per *RAO* 16-4.e and 16-10.c, and *BCO* 40-5, before the PCA's Standing Judicial Commission which the 51st GA constitutes its commission to adjudicate this matter, by representative or in writing, at the SJC's fall stated meeting, to "show what

the lower court has done or failed to do in the matters in question,” following the *Operating Manual for the SJC*, particularly chapter 15.

Note: RE Jay Neikirk, member of the Standing Judicial Commission abstained from discussion and all votes with regard to Columbus Metro, North Florida, and Northwest Georgia. All members of the Standing Judicial Commission who are serving on CRPR abstained from discussion and all votes with regard to Metropolitan New York.

V. General Recommendations

1. Thank Dr. Bryan Chapell, Margie Mallow, Ashley Davis, Karen Frey, Angela Nantz, Karen Cook, Heidi Harrison, TE Billy Park, and the rest of the AC staff who covered their responsibilities in addition to their attentive support, friendly welcome, and support to the officers. 57-0-0
2. Thank the staff of Mission to the World who allowed the Committee to use their building, and who endured disruption in their workplace during the meeting of the Committee. 57-0-0
3. Commend the 2024 Committee on Review of Presbytery Records officers: TE Jon Anderson, TE Eddie Lim, TE Jacob Gerber, and TE Thomas Rickard for their work 57-0-0
4. Commend RE Patrick Sewell and TE Thomas Rickard for their tremendous labors in developing a system to automate the submission of read team reports and to develop the draft report of the Committee. 57-0-0
5. Request the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly send a letter to the presbyteries through the stated clerks of the presbyteries to include the following points: 57-0-0
 - a. Commend clerks for their hard work to create, keep, and submit their records, and every presbytery who sent delegates to serve on the Committee on Review of Presbytery Records.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- b. Urge those presbyteries who failed to send delegates to do so in the future, noting the great learning opportunities that exist through participation in the review process. Note that 74 of 88 presbyteries had representatives appointed to the committee this year, with 66 attending the meeting (including 43 TEs and 23 REs).
- c. Encourage presbyteries and clerks to review carefully the “Guidelines for Keeping Presbytery Minutes” from *RAO* 16-3 and the “Guidelines for Responding to General Assembly” from *RAO* 16-10, and to be sure that the requirements included in those sections are reflected in their minutes.
- d. Note the following list of the 10 most common exceptions of substance found during the 2024 review process (which matters accounted for over 25% of all exceptions of substance) and urge clerks and presbyteries to be particularly attentive to addressing these issues in their minutes, including, if necessary, correction of minutes from meetings in 2024 that occurred prior to the reception of this letter.
 - 1. Minutes of commissions not entered in presbytery minutes and/or executive session minutes not provided for review. (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4, 7)
 - 2. Stated differences not included in the examinee’s own words and/or not judged with the prescribed categories. (*BCO* 13-6; 19-2.e, f; 21-4.e, f; and *RAO* 16-3.e.5)
 - 3. Incomplete record of ordination exam. (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5)
 - 4. No record of review of the records of church sessions. (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1)
 - 5. All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded. (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5)
 - 6. No record of six-month church membership for man coming under care. (*BCO* 18-2, 3)

APPENDIX O

7. No record of call to a definite work for TE being ordained or received by transfer. (*BCO* 13-5; 20-1)
 8. Purpose of called meeting not recorded verbatim in the minutes and/or 10 day notice not demonstrated. (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1)
 9. No record of sessional endorsement for man coming under care. (*BCO* 18-2)
 10. No record of annual reports of candidates, TEs serving out of bounds, and TEs without call, and no record of reports on interns at each stated meeting. (*BCO* 8-7; 13-2; 18-6; 19-12)
- e. Encourage presbytery stated clerks to attend the annual Presbytery Clerks' Meeting in December. *57-0-0*
6. Amend *RAO* 16-3.e.5 *57-0-0*
5. Minutes of presbytery relating to examinations must list all specific requirements and trials for licensure, ~~and/or ordination, and/or transfer~~ which have been accomplished. This does not mean that a separate vote on each item must be recorded.
 6. Minutes of presbytery shall record that each candidate being examined for licensure, ordination, or transfer from another denomination was required to "state the specific instances in which he may differ with the Confession of Faith and Catechisms in any of their statements and/or propositions" (*BCO* 13-6; 19-2; 21-4). ~~This does not mean that a separate vote on each item must be recorded.~~ Presbytery minutes shall record ministers' and ministerial candidates' stated differences with our Standards in their own words. Each presbytery shall also record whether:
 - a. the candidate stated that he had no differences; or
 - b. the court judged the stated difference(s) to be merely semantic; or
 - c. the court judged the stated difference(s) to be more than semantic, but "not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine" (*BCO* 19-2; 21-4); or

- d. the court judged the stated difference(s) to be “out of accord,” that is, “hostile to the system” or “striking at the vitals of religion” (*BCO* 19-2; 21-4).

Renumber 16-3.e

7. Amend *RAO* 16-6.c.1 57-0-0

1. Exceptions of substance: Apparent violations of the Scripture or serious irregularities from the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in America, actions out of accord with the deliverances of the General Assembly, and matters of impropriety and important delinquencies, and any noncompliance with *RAO* 16-3.e.56 should be reported under this category.

VI. Report Concerning the Minutes of Each Presbytery:

1. That the Minutes of **Arizona** Presbytery: 65-0-1

- a. Be approved without exception: **Apr 27, 2023; May 29, 2023; Aug 24, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **Jan 19, 2023**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
2024-1: General 2023 (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) — Notice for called meeting not in order (call not recorded in minutes)
2024-2: Mar 30, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4.c; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2021-1: Aug 20, 2020 (*BCO* 38-1) — Full *BCO* 38-1 statement not recorded in minutes.

Response: We were negligent to not record the statement in the minutes. We will be more watchful in the future.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not yet submitted the full *BCO* 38-1 statement.

Response: My error. Statement included in 24 August minutes and prior minutes corrected at Presbytery then to include statement.

2022-1: Jan 21, 2021 (*BCO* 19-2.b.3) — Candidate licensed after *BCO* exam expressly not sustained.

Response: We were negligent to not record the candidate's eventual passage of all aspects of his exam, including on the *BCO*, in the minutes. We will be more watchful in the future. As a note, the then-candidate is no longer part of the Presbytery.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).

Response: My error. Statement included in 24 August minutes and prior minutes corrected at Presbytery then to include statement.

2022-2: Jun 15, 2021 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not recorded in the minister's own words.

Response: We were negligent to not record his own words in the minutes. We will be more watchful in the future.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the candidate's stated differences in his own words for review.

Response: Record corrected at 24 August Presbytery where minister's own words of differences recorded and submitted for record.

2022-3: Nov 11, 2021 (Standing Rules I.C.1; *BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) — Meeting improperly classified as stated instead of called; purpose of called meeting not recorded verbatim in the minutes.

Response: We were negligent to improperly classify this meeting. We will be more watchful in the future and explicit in our purposes for called meetings.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not recorded the purpose verbatim and ratified the work of the meeting.

Response: Record corrected at 24 August meeting and adopted to reflect was called meeting and for the purpose of: acting upon changes to Standing Rules concerning TE attendance and participation in Presbytery matters and selection of leads; to change appointment of Team members from Moderator to Chairs; to approve a commission to particularize [church name omitted]; to thank and dismiss commission to respond to GA exceptions; to propose internship funding; and to remove TE [name omitted] from rolls. Work as stated above ratified at 24 August meeting.

2022-4: Jun 15, 2021 (*BCO* 13-6) — Incomplete record of examination of TE transferring into Presbytery.

Response: We failed to observe the requirements of *BCO* 13-6 for transfers and will correct going forward. Many apologies.

Rationale: No indication that Presbytery corrected its record or its actions (*BCO* 13-6; *RAO* 16-10.b.1).

Response: Record corrected at 24 August meeting to reflect examination done on item and completion of examination according to *BCO* 13-6.

2023-1: Jan 28, 2022; Apr 29, 2022; May 26, 2022; Jun 16, 2022; Aug 26, 2022 (*BCO* 8-7) — No record of annual report(s) of TE(s) laboring out of bounds.

Response: Our apologies for our negligence. We have remedied in requiring reports annually to be submitted for our August stated meetings. Reports attached in 24 August minutes.

2023-2: Apr 29, 2022; Jun 16, 2022; Aug 26, 2022 (*BCO* 20-1) — No record of call to a definite work.

Response: Calls of TEs [names omitted], respectively adopted and ratified at 24 August Presbytery. Calls attached in 24 August minutes.

2023-3: Apr 29, 2022 (*BCO* 20-1) — No record of the reasons why Presbytery considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.

Response: Written submission from school submitted at 24 August stated meeting, statement by TE [name omitted] , and formal determination made on 24 August his work is a valid work

2023-4: Apr 29, 2022 (*BCO* 8-7) — No record that the Presbytery is assured that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church.

Response: Written submission from school submitted at 24 August stated meeting, statement by TE [name omitted] , and formal determination made on 24 August his work is a valid work.

2023-5: Apr 29, 2022 (*BCO* 8-7) — No record that out-of-bounds TE is engaged in preaching and teaching the Word.

Response: Written submission from school submitted at 24 August stated meeting, statement by TE [name omitted] , and formal determination made on 24 August his work is a valid work.

2023-6: Apr 29, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam. (Greek/Hebrew/PCA history)

Response: Candidate was examined in committee on all areas, including the items above and subject to examination at April 29 Presbytery. Minutes corrected at 24 August 2023 meeting to reflect this. In the future, our minutes will properly reflect examinations in all areas in detail required by the *BCO*.

2023-7: Apr 29, 2022 (*BCO* 13-6) — Incomplete record of examination of TE transferring into Presbytery. (Sacraments)

Response: Transfer candidate was examined in Ordination Team committee on all four areas of *BCO* 13-6 and subject to open examination at called Presbytery on all areas. In the future, our minutes will properly reflect examinations in all areas in the detail required by the *BCO*. Our apologies for this omission. Minutes corrected at 24 August meeting.

2023-11: May 26, 2022; Jun 16, 2022 (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) — Purpose of called meeting not recorded verbatim in the minutes.

Response: Corrected at 24 August meeting, amending minutes

2023-12: May 26, 2022 (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4) — Incomplete record of exam for minister seeking admission from another denomination.

Response: Candidate was examined in committee on all areas, including the items above and subject to examination at May 26 Presbytery. Minutes corrected at 24 August 2023 meeting to reflect this. In the future, our minutes will properly reflect examinations in all areas in detail required by the *BCO*.

2023-13: Jun 16, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4) — Incomplete exam of TE from another denomination - Greek, Hebrew, Etc.

Response: TE was a transfer from the PCA. He was examined in Ordination Team committee on all four areas of *BCO* 13-6 and subject to open examination on all areas at Presbytery. In the future, our minutes will properly reflect examinations in the detail required by the *BCO*. Minutes corrected at 24 August meeting

2023-14: Aug 26, 2022 (*BCO* 15-2) — Commission appointed to respond to CRPR report does not meet the minimum requirement for a commission.

Response: Error noted at 24 August 2023 meeting and any actions taken ratified at meeting. Commission was thanked and concluded at said meeting.

2023-15: Aug 26, 2022 (RAO 16-10.a) — No record in minutes of exceptions taken by GA.

Response: Error noted and record corrected at 24 August 2023 meeting to include exceptions for previous calendar year

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2023-8: Apr 29, 2022; Aug 26, 2022 (BCO 15-2) — Presbytery’s “Administrative Commission” does not meet the minimum requirement for a commission.

Response: Error noted and corrected at 24 August meeting with adoption of change to Standing Rules and addition of required RE to the AC.

Rationale: Change to standing rules does not result in a constitutional quorum.

2023-9: Apr 29, 2022; Aug 26, 2022 (RONR (12th ed.) 8:1-10; 9:31-36; Standing Rules) — Presbytery’s “Administrative Commission” conducted business and effectively approved a summary of multiple electronic videoconference sessions over a several month span, but without adhering to the rules of an official meeting.

Response: Actions taken outside the confines of deliberative meetings on those dates ratified at 24 August Presbytery.

Rationale: The corrective action (pg 75, Item 7) did not ratify specific actions, but sought to legitimize the meetings. Response did not address how the presbytery will remedy this going forward.

2023-10: Apr 29, 2022; Aug 26, 2022 (BCO 15-1) — No record of quorum for commission meetings.

Response: Actions taken outside the confines of deliberative meetings on those dates ratified at 24 August Presbytery.

Rationale: The corrective action (pg 75, Item 7) did not ratify specific actions, but sought to legitimize the meetings. Response did not address how the presbytery will remedy this going forward.

- f. **That responses shall be submitted to the following GA as no responses were received in 2024:**

2023-16: Aug 26, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.

2. That the Minutes of **Ascension** Presbytery: *61-0-1*
- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Jan 28, 2023; Apr 29, 2023; Jul 29, 2023; Nov 04, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
 - c. Be approved with exception of substance: **None**
 - d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory: 2023-1: Apr 23, 2022** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets its failure to include the minutes of the commission. The minutes of the meeting of April 23, 2022, are hereby amended at 22-22 to show that the commission minutes were omitted and are appended to the minutes of the November 2023 stated meeting. Reviewers for the 51st General Assembly will be able to review the commission minutes at that point **2023-2: Nov 05, 2022** (*BCO* 38-3.a.) — Presbytery may not permit TE to withdraw if he is not in good standing; furthermore, it may not “withdraw from him all authority to exercise his office” if the Presbytery does not judge the branch the TE has affiliated with “as failing to maintain the Word and Sacraments in their fundamental integrity” (*BCO* 38-3.b.).

Response: Presbytery respectfully disagrees with this exception.

The minutes of our July meeting make clear that Presbytery was unwilling to accept the TE’s statement that he was “leaving you.” Presbytery reminded him of his ordination vows, and of Presbytery’s desire to see the man repent and be restored to office. Presbytery’s communication to the TE also stated “...we continue to hold and vouch for your credentials as a minister of the Gospel, albeit under Indefinite Suspension from Office. As a Presbytery we will continue to pray for you and your restoration and will periodically communicate with you through the Minister and Church Care Committee, but we cannot simply remove you from the rolls of Presbytery.” (See 22-60.1)

By the November meeting, however, the situation had changed. The minutes of that meeting show that the Stated Clerk had received a communication from the Pastor of an independent Baptist Church

saying the TE had been received as a member there. Further, it was Presbytery's understanding that the leadership of that Church was aware of the circumstances of the TE's indefinite suspension by Presbytery. Presbytery was now confronted with the question of how to deal with a TE who has joined what is, so far as we can tell, another branch of the true Church while under the censure of indefinite suspension from office.

BCO 38-3.a discusses how a Presbytery should deal with a situation where a TE who is in good standing chooses to affiliate with another church that maintains the Word and Sacraments in their fundamental integrity, but does so without being transferred. It also tells us how to handle the situation where a TE joins a branch of the true Church when there is an investigation in progress or when there are charges pending. That paragraph, however, does not tell courts how to deal with the situation where a TE who has already been convicted and censured with indefinite suspension from office (as was the case here) then joins another communion. Indeed, we can find nothing in the *BCO* that tells a Presbytery how to deal with a TE who is not in good standing and who joins another branch of the true church. Thus, we had to use wisdom and the inferences from other sections of the *BCO* in determining how to handle this situation.

We do agree that we should not have cited *BCO* 38-3.b in our action, and we understand that may be the point that caused confusion. If that is the only point of the exception we happily agree. We hereby strike "(cf., *BCO* 38-3.b)" from our minutes at 22-71.4. It does not, however, appear to us, that the exception is limited to the passage we cited in support for our action. It is our understanding that the heart of the exception is that a Presbytery cannot act on a TE who is under the censure of indefinite suspension and who joins another branch of the true Church by "withdrawing from him all authority to exercise his office as derived from this Church" (which is the full quote of Presbytery's action omitting the citation we voted to strike). At that point we disagree.

The authority to exercise one's office is conveyed to the individual by a particular communion. In ordinary circumstances, that authority is accepted by another branch of the true Church when it receives the TE by transfer. *BCO* 38-3 discusses the **membership status** of a TE

who affiliates with another communion. But, it does not and cannot mandate that the communion the TE joins must accept that TE's authority to minister the Word and Sacraments. If the communion receives the TE by means other than transfer, then it is the other communion that must determine whether the man is properly serving in the office of teaching elder. This is consistent with Preliminary Principle 2: "...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...." Thus, if the independent congregation the TE joined wishes to consider him as having a valid ordination, that is their business. In our judgment, however, what the man cannot do, is say "I am now a member of Church X but I continue to exercise my ministerial authority as derived from the PCA (rather than Church X)." When the TE joins another communion without benefit of transfer he (and the other communion) are, in essence, saying that the man has renounced his ministerial authority as derived from the PCA. That conclusion must have even more force when one considers that the man in this situation was already indefinitely suspended from the exercise of office. If this should have been recorded in some other way, we are happy to be instructed. But if, as we understand it, the exception means that a Presbytery cannot say to a TE who joins another true Church without being transferred and who is under indefinite suspension "you can no longer administer the Word and Sacraments based on your PCA credentials," then we dissent.

Further, we note there is no remedy for this situation. Robert's Rules of Order lists among the actions that cannot be rescinded "c) when a resignation has been acted upon, or a person has been elected to or expelled from membership or office, and the person was present or has been officially notified of the action." [RRONR, 12th ed., 35:6] Robert's goes on to say that the only way to reverse an expulsion is to follow the principles prescribed for admission. Surely that is not tenable in this case. That conclusion is reinforced by the fact that the minutes are clear that Presbytery did not take its action by way of additional censure against the TE. The action was taken explicitly in response to the fact that the TE had been received into the membership of another Church (as is its right under Preliminary Principle 2,

particularly when the man had not been suspended from the Sacraments by Presbytery). Presbytery was simply seeking to make the man aware of the implications of that action.

We are also persuaded that the one alternative apparently offered in the exception (“Presbytery may inflict the censure of deposition before transferring the TE to another branch (*cf. BCO 46-8*)”) simply does not fit in this situation. This is not a matter of a transfer. Further, *BCO 46-8* must envision the assignment of the deposed TE to a PCA church as we have no authority to assign someone to a church in another communion, but the TE in question had already joined a non-PCA church. Also, before Presbytery could censure the TE with deposition, we would have to restore him to the roll of Presbytery, and, as was shown above, this is not possible. Most importantly, we do not believe it would be good for the man’s soul (or the Congregation he previously pastored) to somehow try to force him back into a relationship with the Presbytery of the Ascension.

Finally, we want to assure the 51st General Assembly that if it does not accept this response we will comply in any future analogous situation with the Constitutional interpretation suggested by the exception, but we disagree with that interpretation and we believe there is nothing more that can be done in this case.

3. That the Minutes of **Blue Ridge** Presbytery: 64-0-0
- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Nov 08, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **Jan 27, 2023; Aug 12, 2023; Nov 04, 2023**
 - c. Be approved with exception of substance:
2024-1: Apr 28, 2023 (*BCO 18-2*) — No record of six-month membership for candidate.
2024-2: Apr 29, 2023 (*BCO 12-1*) — Presbytery improperly cited the session of [church name omitted] for “failure to vote to allow TE [name omitted] Assistant Pastor, to attend Session meetings.” The report of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Review of Sessional Records appended to the minutes states as follows: “TE [name omitted] was not approved to sit on Session meetings. As an assistant pastor he is not a member of the Session”.

2024-3: Apr 29, 2023 (BCO 18-2) — No record of six-month membership for candidate

- d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory: 2023-1: Jan 29, 2022; Apr 22-23, 2022** (BCO 23-1) — No record that congregation concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

Response: Presbytery agrees with these exceptions and will be careful in the future. Presbytery has received these documents and will amend their minutes under to amend a previous action at the Stated Meeting January 26-27, 2024.

2023-2: Apr 22-23, 2022 (BCO 18-2) — No record of endorsement by candidates' Session.

Response: Presbytery agrees with these exceptions and will be careful in the future. Presbytery has received these documents and will amend their minutes under to amend a previous action at the Stated Meeting January 26-27, 2024.

2023-3: Apr 22-23, 2022 (BCO 18-2) — No record of six-months membership for candidates.

Response: Presbytery agrees with these exceptions and will be careful in the future. Presbytery has received these documents and will amend their minutes under to amend a previous action at the Stated Meeting January 26-27, 2024.

4. That the Minutes of **Calvary** Presbytery: 63-0-1

- a. Be approved without exception: **Jan 28, 2023; Apr 27, 2023; Jul 22, 2023; Oct 26, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2023**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance: **None**
- d. **No response to previous assemblies required.**

5. That the Minutes of **Canada West** Presbytery: 61-4-0

- a. Be approved without exception: **None**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
2024-1: Mar 04, 2023 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.
2024-2: Mar 04, 2023 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.

2024-3: Oct 13, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.

2024-4: Mar 04, 2023 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation concurred with dissolution of pastoral relation.

2024-5: General 2023 (*BCO* 13-9.b; *BCO* 40-3) — Results of review of records of church Sessions not stated.

2024-6: Mar 04, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4.g; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Presbytery did not require the candidate to state the specific instances in which he may differ with the Confession of Faith and Catechisms in any of their statements and/or propositions.

2024-7: Mar 04, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4.g; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Presbytery did not require the candidate to state the specific instances in which he may differ with the Confession of Faith and Catechisms in any of their statements and/or propositions.

2024-8: Oct 13, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4.g; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Presbytery did not require the candidate to state the specific instances in which he may differ with the Confession of Faith and Catechisms in any of their statements and/or propositions.

2024-9: Oct 13, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4) — No record of requiring statement of differences with our Standards.

2024-10: Oct 13, 2023 (*BCO* 19-16; *BCO* 21-2) — 3/4 vote for waiving internship requirement not recorded.

2024-11: General 2023 (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.

2024-12: Oct 13, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4.g; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Presbytery did not require the candidate to state the specific instances in which he may differ with the Confession of Faith and Catechisms in any of their statements and/or propositions.

2024-13: Oct 13, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4.g) — Presbytery granted a doctrinal exception that appears to be out of accord with the fundamentals of our doctrinal standards. Candidates stated difference, "WLC 177 – worthy participation of the Lord's Supper I am more than willing to submit in teaching and practice to the confessional position of requiring a public profession of faith from covenant children before admitting them to the Lord's Table. I am strongly against Federal Vision and I am intentionally distancing myself from such distinctive

teachings in the CREC (to which I never agreed). However, it seems to me that, within the context of faithful family nurture and given the place of covenant children in both the old and new covenants, we should expect that our children already possess the prerequisite faith from the earliest age, and that they will gradually, organically, display this faith in an age-appropriate manner. While we do not know whether our children are elect or not, and we cannot peer infallibly into their hearts, I think we should treat them with the judgment of charity expressed, for instance, in Canons of Dordt 1.17 and Luke 18:15ff, teaching them to pray "Our Father in heaven" and to sing "Jesus loves me" in the full sense of the words. Nevertheless, as I said, I am very happy to abide by the confessional requirements of a public profession of faith (*WLC* 177; *DFW* 56- 4.j) and have already spoken with my own children about doing so. To administer the Supper and fence the table in this way would pose no harm to my conscience whatsoever."

2024-14: Mar 04, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4.b) — Minutes show the Presbytery examined the candidates in biblical counseling. While this may be prudent, it is not an area of examination for ordination according to the *BCO*, nor does Presbytery include it in its Standing Rules.

2024-15: Oct 13, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4.b) — Minutes show the Presbytery examined the candidates in biblical counseling. While this may be prudent, it is not an area of examination for ordination according to the *BCO*, nor does Presbytery include it in its Standing Rules.

- d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2023-1: Mar 03, 2022 (*BCO* 19-2.d, f) — Incomplete record of licensure exam.

Response: Both candidates were examined for licensure in the previous Presbytery meeting of March 4, 2022 in which these requirements were examined and evaluated and found to be satisfactory. Those minutes also recorded what stated differences either candidate had and Presbytery's response to it. Their relative positions were reconfirmed at the time of ordination but not reflected in the minutes. The Clerk apologizes for the oversight

2023-2: Mar 3, 2022; Sep 30, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4.c (2) and (3) — Incomplete record of ordination exam. [name omitted]: no record of exegetical and theological papers, or their approval for ordinands;

[name omitted]: no record of a sermon preached or 3/4 majority vote, no record of stated differences, no theological papers; [name omitted]: no record of a sermon preached or 3/4 majority vote, no record of stated differences, no theological papers; [name omitted]: no record of stated differences; [name omitted]: no record of stated differences.]

Response: TE [name omitted] has been a candidate and licentiate for over five (5) years in the Presbytery up to this point. A summary of his credential process is outlined in the “Executive Session” minutes of March 4, 2022. The recording of his credentials goes back many years. The issues surrounding [names omitted] above were recorded in the March 4, 2022 Stated Meeting minutes. [name omitted] had no stated differences for the Presbytery to consider. This was reported but inadvertently left out of the minutes. The Clerk apologizes for the error and has corrected it. The minutes included in the package sent to RPR for the Autumn Stated Meetings are almost always in “draft” form as the Presbytery does not meet the following year in time to approve the minutes and get them to RPR on time. Therefore, required corrections can generally be made to the minutes in time to approve them after exceptions are received. [name omitted] had stated differences as per below which were examined at the time. The Presbytery judged them to be more than semantic, but “not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine” (BCO 21-4) (RAO 16-3.e.5). The minutes have been corrected to reflect this.

TE [name omitted] stated exceptions: WLC 109 – images
WLC 109 forbids "the making any representation of God, of all or of any of the three persons, either inwardly in our mind, or outwardly in any kind of image or likeness of any creature whatsoever." While I certainly agree that no image can fully capture the being or attributes of God, and that, due to the idolatrous propensity of the human heart, it is unwise to have such images in places of public worship (so Tyndale and Luther), it seems to me that God himself has revealed aspects of his being and character using visible forms such as the burning bush and the descending dove. These sights surely imprinted themselves on the minds of the eyewitnesses and their description has been recorded for us in Holy Scripture, thereby giving us a warrant (I think) to use them respectfully and carefully for didactic purposes (e.g.

children's books). In particular, the incarnation of Christ resulted in a true, visible body, mysteriously united to and yet distinct from his divine nature, which body was seen, touched, and surely remembered by the apostles, both before and after his resurrection (*cf.* 1 Jn 1). While I would be perfectly happy never to see another pictorial representation of Christ (I am not zealous about this by any means!), I would have a hard time requiring my congregation to get rid of their otherwise sound storybook Bibles on the basis of the second commandment.

WCF 21.8 - Sabbath

I understand and know well the arguments for the enduring nature of the sabbath (especially being a GPTS grad!), and I certainly see the benefit and wisdom of ceasing from all labour and worldly recreations on the Lord's Day. As for me and my house, we endeavour keep the sabbath, I would readily encourage this for the *bene esse* of the church. However, the explicit statements of the NT that seem to abrogate the sabbath (e.g. Col 2; Rom 14) give me enough pause as to be somewhat reluctant to discipline a sincere believer who is, for instance, attending public worship faithfully every Lord's Day and engaging in the life and fellowship of the church, but then going off to work or spending some Sunday afternoons watching or playing organized sports. I would certainly urge such a person toward what would be best for him (devoting that time to spiritual commerce on “the market day of the soul”), but at this point I'm not sure that I could say he was positively sinning until he did so. This is something I am still thinking through.

WLC 177 – worthy participation of the Lord's Supper

I am more than willing to submit in teaching and practice to the confessional position of requiring a public profession of faith from covenant children before admitting them to the Lord's Table. I am strongly against Federal Vision and I am intentionally distancing myself from such distinctive teachings in the CREC (to which I never agreed). However, it seems to me that, within the context of faithful family nurture and given the place of covenant children in both the old and new covenants, we should expect that our children already possess the prerequisite faith from the earliest age, and that they will gradually, organically, display this faith in an age-appropriate manner. While we do not know whether our children are elect or not, and we cannot peer

infallibly into their hearts, I think we should treat them with the judgment of charity expressed, for instance, in Canons of Dordt 1.17 and Luke 18:15ff, teaching them to pray "Our Father in heaven" and to sing "Jesus loves me" in the full sense of the words. Nevertheless, as I said, I am very happy to abide by the confessional requirements of a public profession of faith (*WLC* 177; *DFW* 56-4.j) and have already spoken with my own children about doing so. To administer the Supper and fence the table in this way would pose no harm to my conscience whatsoever.

2023-3: Sep 30, 2022 (*RAO* 16-10.a) — Responses to CRPR by the presbytery not included in the minutes.

Response: The documented exception responses were not recorded in the minutes by the Clerk. This was an oversight and has been corrected by the Clerk. They have been added to the official minutes. The Clerk apologizes for the error

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2022-1: Mar 5-6, 2021 (*BCO* 21-4.f; 40-2) — Presbytery granted a doctrinal exception that may be hostile to our system of doctrine (*WCF* 1.1-10). More information or clarity is needed on the exception.

Response: The Candidates expressed view is that, the gifts of tongues and prophecy, though no longer normative, still occur in a manner that can be defined by such terms. There have been individuals who have reportedly received, in a miraculous manner, the gift of knowing (speaking and/or reading) a language they have had no previous experience or training in. He believes these gifts can be given as a means of grace from God and would categorize this in the realm of the "gift of tongues". Also, individuals may at times be blessed with extraordinary insight on a certain issue for which they may have not previously demonstrated any particular knowledge, expertise or have no training in. The Candidate defines such situations as being in the realm of the "gift of prophecy", using its wider definition. "Prophecy" being looked at as per 1 Corinthians 14:3-4 as speaking to people for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation... (to) build up the church." It would be defined as: "the gift of communicating and enforcing revealed truth". Though such situations could also come

under the definition of being gifts of “wisdom”, “knowledge”, and/or “discernment”, the definition of “prophecy” as an over-arching term for such is also acceptable for such circumstances. The Candidate agrees that “prophecy” defined as new revelation from God to a person that is “extra-Biblical” or outside of God’s revealed and complete Word, does not exist.

Rationale: Presbytery does not acknowledge any biblical support for the continuation of such gifts, nor does it provide any rationale as to how a person can meaningfully differentiate between modern day “prophecy” and Scripture.

Response: The candidate affirmed that the supreme judge by which all controversies of religion are to be determined, and all decrees of councils, opinions of ancient writers, doctrines of men, and private spirits, are to be examined, and in whose sentence we are to rest, can be no other but the Holy Spirit speaking in the Scripture (Mat 22:29; Mat 22:31; Eph 2:20; Act 28:25).

Rationale: Presbytery did not address the issue the Assembly took with its previous response. Presbytery provides no “biblical support for the continuation of such gifts, nor does it provide any rationale as to how a person can meaningfully differentiate between modern day “prophecy” and Scripture,” in its response. Further, its response is merely a citation of *WCF* 1.10, and so provides the Assembly with no new information, as the candidate stated no difference with that portion of the Standards.

6. That the Minutes of **Catawba Valley** Presbytery: *60-0-0*
- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Jan 28, 2023; Sep 23, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
 - c. Be approved with exception of substance:
2024-1: May 20, 2023 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that congregation concurred with the dissolution of pastoral relations.
2024-2: Nov 11, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not judged with the prescribed categories.
 - d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2023-2: May 24, 2022 (*BCO* 46-8) — No record that divested minister was assigned to a particular church.

Response: CVP demitted a TE [name omitted] at his request, following a second vote on the matter, according to *BCO* 46-8. At that time, it was entered in the minutes under the Shepherding Committee report, “The Committee was asked to inquire where his church membership is to be remanded, and report this back to presbytery.” CVP Presbytery acknowledges that this inquiry was not completed by the next meeting of presbytery, but CVP has corrected this omission at our Fall meeting, Sept 2023 and approved a recommendation to commend Mr. [name omitted] to the [church name omitted] in West Asheville NC at his request, as that is where he has been attending. CVP recognizes that since the Anglican Communion is outside the jurisdiction of the PCA, we are unable to “assign” him to that congregation, as *BCO* 46-8 requires (“When a Presbytery shall divest a minister of his office without censure, or depose him without excommunication, it shall assign him, to membership in some particular church, subject to the approval of the Session of that church.”), but CVP has received verbal confirmation from Mr. [name omitted] that he is under the care of [church name omitted] in Asheville, NC

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2023-1: Jan 22, 2022 (*BCO* 43-8) — Four timely and orderly complaints dismissed without a hearing.

Response: CVP responds by noting that these four complaints were in fact adjudicated by a Commission but the Commission was unable to proceed after reviewing the complaints, finding all four complaints to be “out of order administratively,” in that they were not filed against an action of a court (*BCO* 43-1). CVP was also notified by the Complainant’s civil attorney that the Complainant desired to withdraw his complaints and to receive no further interaction with CVP concerning these matters.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not rescinded the unconstitutional denial of the complaints. The complaints were, in fact, against actions of a court (*BCO* 43-1), and it was improper to dismiss the complaints as “out of order administratively” on the stated grounds without affording the

Complainant the right of a hearing. A purported subsequent withdrawal of a complaint could dispose of a complaint only after an unconstitutional action is rescinded.

7. That the Minutes of **Central Carolina** Presbytery: 62-0-1
- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; May 23, 2023; Nov 14, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **Feb 25, 2023; Aug 26, 2023**
 - c. Be approved with exception of substance: **None**
 - d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory: 2023-1: May 24, 2022 (BCO 21-4) — 3/4 vote for ordination candidate sermon given to committee not recorded.**
Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and has corrected its minutes to reflect that both ordination sermons preached before the Committee were unanimously accepted by Presbytery. Presbytery regrets its error and promises to be more careful in the future.
8. That the Minutes of **Central Florida** Presbytery: 66-0-0
- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Aug 22, 2023; Nov 14, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
 - c. Be approved with exception of substance:
2024-1: Jan 17, 2023 (BCO 20-8) — No record commissioners appointed by the church presented and prosecuted the call of a TE before Presbytery.
2024-2: Apr 18, 2023 (BCO 20-8) — No record commissioners appointed by the church presented and prosecuted the calls of TEs before the Presbytery.
 - d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory: 2023-1: General 2022 (BCO 8-7) — No record that the Presbytery is assured that out-of-bounds TEs will be engaged in preaching and teaching the Word and will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church.**
Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception. The terms of call for TEs laboring out of bounds are reviewed and approved when they come before presbytery, though presbytery has failed to explicitly record in its minutes its assurance that the TEs will be engaged in

preaching and teaching the Word and will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church, in keeping with *BCO* 8-7. Presbytery commits to be more careful to record this assurance in the future. By action of the 189th Stated Meeting the following was inserted into the respective Minutes for 183rd meeting - [names omitted] 184th meeting – [names omitted], 185th meeting – [name omitted] will be engaged in preaching and teaching the Word and will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church, in keeping with *BCO* 8-7 [added by 189th 8/22/23]

2023-2: General 2022 (*BCO* 8-7) — No record of annual report from some TEs laboring out of bounds.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception. While most of the TEs who serve out of bounds in the presbytery submitted annual reports, not all of them did. Presbytery commits to be more diligent in obtaining these reports in the future.

2023-3: Jan 25, 2022; Apr 26, 2022; Aug 23, 2022; Nov 15, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of endorsement by candidate’s Session or six-months membership for candidate.

Response: Presbytery respectfully disagrees with the exception. In each of these cases, presbytery’s Candidates Committee reported the session’s endorsement and six months’ membership. These records can be found in the appendices of the respective minutes. However, Presbytery will make specific mention of these facts in the Minutes.

2023-4: Jan 25, 2022; Apr 26, 2022; Aug 23, 2022; Nov 15, 2022 (*BCO* 19-9) — No record that Presbytery received statement of inward call to the ministry of the Word from internship applicants.

Response: Presbytery respectfully disagrees with the exception. The actions cited are for persons who were taken under care as Candidates and at the same meeting became Interns. In each case, the person gave testimony of his call to gospel ministry. It is true that the words “inward call” are not in the Minutes, but the words “call to ministry” are in the Minutes. Our Minutes state in each case: M/S/C to hear the personal testimony and call to ministry of...M/S/C that Presbytery, having heard the testimony and call to gospel ministry of Mr. ____, and finding his examination and testimonial to be satisfactory according to *BCO* 18-3

2023-6: Jan 25, 2022; Apr 26, 2022 (*BCO* 15-3) — Presbytery did not vote to approve judgments of judicial commissions.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and commits to be more careful in the future. By action of the 189th Presbytery the following notation was inserted in the Minutes of January 25 and April 26, 2022. Presbytery approved of the judgment of the Commission [Amended 8 -22-23]

2023-7: Apr 26, 2022 (*BCO* 39-2; 45-1) — Protest admitted by a member who did not have a right to vote in a case.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception. This was an oversight on the part of presbytery. The following notation was inserted in the Minutes of April 26, 2022: The action to allow the Protest was determined to be out of accord with *BCO* 45-1 – Noted 8/22/23 (189th Stated Meeting).

2023-8: Apr 26, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4) — 3/4 vote for extraordinary clause for ordination candidate not recorded.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception. A 3/4 vote was taken, but it was not recorded. Presbytery promises to be more careful in the future. The April 26th record has been so noted

2023-9: Apr 26, 2022 ES (*BCO* 31-8) — Presbytery policy that accusations from a specific communing member be “automatically denied” on the basis of *BCO* 31-8 exceeds the scope “great caution” permitted.

Response: Presbytery respectfully disagrees with the exception. This action was taken after a three-year period of numerous complaints and charges that, in the judgment of presbytery, rose to the level of exhibiting “a malignant spirit” and a “litigious, rash or highly imprudent” character (*BCO* 31-8). The action was not all-encompassing but was specifically limited to complaints “that are in any way connected to [the complainant’s] ongoing vendetta against [church name omitted] and/or their Teaching Elders.” Later unrelated complaints from this individual were admitted. Further, the issue is now moot as the individual has been excommunicated from the Church.

2023-10: Aug 23, 2022 (*BCO* 5-2; 13-1; 13-9) — Presbytery assigned oversight of mission churches within its bounds to a different Presbytery.

Response: Presbytery respectfully disagrees with the exception. *BCO 5-2* states that mission churches “ordinarily” are established within the boundaries of a presbytery, a qualifier that allows for non-ordinary circumstance. The non-ordinary circumstance was explained in the motion: “Whereas the transfer of Pasco County from CFP to SWP has been delayed due to an administrative error on the part of our Presbytery and not because the 49th General Assembly rejected it; and whereas it is strongly anticipated that the 50th General Assembly will approve the transfer of Pasco County from CFP to SWP next year; and whereas any new church plants in Pasco County between now and then will eventually be overseen by and included within SWP; be it resolved that any new church plants in Pasco County from this point forward will be evaluated, approved, and overseen by SWP, as if those church plants were within the geographical bounds of SWP. This motion is dependent on the approval of SWP before it will take effect.” This arrangement was discussed with the PCA Stated Clerk at the 49th General Assembly when the administrative error was discovered and was judged to be a reasonable solution. Further, there were no Central Florida Presbytery churches in Pasco County at the time of this temporary arrangement. Finally, the issue is now moot, since the 50th General Assembly has acted to transfer Pasco County to the Southwest Florida Presbytery.

2023-11: Aug 23, 2022 (*BCO 5-9*) — All specific requirements of particularization of church not recorded.

Response: Presbytery respectfully disagrees with the exception. *BCO 5-9* lists the following steps for organizing a particular church: receive a petition (*BCO 5-9.g*), appoint an organizing commission (*BCO 5-9.h*), and set a date and time of the organizing service (*BCO 5-9.h*). The Minutes include the petition as Appendix E. The Minutes show that a commission was appointed and a date and time set. The organization service was held on September 18, 2021, and the report of the organizing commission is included in the November 15, 2021 Minutes detailing all the particulars.

2023-12: Nov 15, 2022 (*BCO 25-11*; Preliminary Principle 6) — Presbytery approved the withdrawal of a church from the PCA, when withdrawal is not conditional on Presbytery approval.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception. While presbytery's approval is not required for a church to withdraw from the PCA, *BCO* 25-11 notes that a congregation should be given "at least thirty-days' notice of any meeting where the congregation is to vote on a proposed withdrawal." Presbytery was striving to honor its responsibility to see that this requirement be observed and did not intend to imply that its approval was necessary for the congregation to withdraw. Presbytery promises to be clearer in the future.

9. That the Minutes of **Central Georgia** Presbytery: *66-0-0*
- a. Be approved without exception: **Aug 07, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
 - c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: Jan 28, 2023** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam
 - 2024-2: Jan 28, 2023** (*BCO* 13-5) — TE included on roll of Presbytery without explanation.
 - 2024-3: Jan 28, 2023** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.
 - 2024-4: May 09, 2023** (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-month membership for candidate.
 - 2024-5: Jan 28, 2023** (PP 6) — No record that members of the provisional Session were called by the congregation.
 - 2024-6: Jan 28, 2023** (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that congregation concurred with dissolution of pastoral relation.
 - 2024-7: Jan 28, 2023** (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relation.
 - 2024-8: General 2023** (*BCO* 40-3; *BCO* 13-9.b) — Results of review of records of church sessions not stated.
 - 2024-9: May 09, 2023** (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that congregation concurred with dissolution of pastoral relation.
 - 2024-10: Sep 12, 2023** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.
 - d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**

2023-1: General 2022 (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) — No record of review of records of church sessions.

Response: Central Georgia Presbytery acknowledges this significant oversight in our minutes and states that we did in fact examine Sessional records in 2022. We are correcting this for current and future minutes of Presbytery.

2023-2: May 10, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4) — No record of requiring statement of differences with our Standards.

Response: Central Georgia Presbytery agrees with the RPR committee and will correct the minutes to include the fact that Teaching Elder [name omitted] took no exceptions to the Westminster Standards at the time of his ordination examination on the floor of Presbytery.

10. That the Minutes of **Central Indiana** Presbytery: 63-0-0

- a. **Not be approved** because it is unclear that all the minutes were approved. Further, that all minutes and responses to exceptions submitted in 2023 be submitted next year.

11. That the Minutes of **Chesapeake** Presbytery: 63-0-1

- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Jan 21, 2023; May 09, 2023; Sep 12, 2023; Nov 11, 2023**

- b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**

- c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Mar 14, 2023 (*BCO* 19-2.f; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Presbytery approved a candidate for licensure whom they judged held a view that was hostile to the system or striking at the vitals.

- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2023-1: Sep 13, 2022 (*BCO* 19-2.d; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of licensure exam.

Response: The Stated Clerk apologizes for this unintended oversight and has corrected the meeting minutes to include the following statement: “MSA that the written and orally delivered sermon presented to the LDC on Matthew 5:1-5 entitled ‘Blessed are the Meek’ be approved.”

12. That the Minutes of **Chicago Metro** Presbytery: 60-1-2

- a. Be approved without exception: **Mar 30, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: General 2023** (*BCO* 18-6) — Annual reports of candidates not included.
 - 2024-2: General 2023** (*BCO* 19-12) — Annual report of interns not included.
 - 2024-3: General 2023** (*BCO* 19-12) — Reports on every intern by the committee charged with the oversight of interns at each stated meeting not included.
 - 2024-4: General 2023** (*BCO* 8-7) — No record of annual report of TEs laboring out of bounds.
 - 2024-5: General 2023** (*BCO* 13-2) — No record of annual report of TEs without call.
 - 2024-6: Feb 15, 2023** (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded.
 - 2024-7: May 17, 2023** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.
 - 2024-8: May 17, 2023** (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.
 - 2024-9: Aug 16, 2023** (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded.
 - 2024-10: Aug 16, 2023** (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded.
 - 2024-11: Aug 16, 2023** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.
 - 2024-12: Nov 11, 2023** (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded.
 - 2024-13: Nov 11, 2023** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5; *BCO* 21-2) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.
 - 2024-14: Nov 11, 2023** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5; *BCO* 21-2) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.
 - 2024-15: Nov 11, 2023** (*BCO* 46-6; *BCO* 13-7) — No record regarding the reception of a certificate of dismissal from transferring presbytery.

2024-16: Nov 11, 2023 (BCO 23-1) — No record that Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

2024-17: Nov 11, 2023 (BCO 21-9) — For a TE whose call changed from Assistant to Associate, there is no record of appointing a commission to install.

- d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2022-1: Aug 18, 2021 (BCO 19-2.e; 19-2.f) — Licensure candidate's stated difference makes a separation between the Old Testament Sabbath and the Lord's Day that seems to be hostile to our system of doctrine.

Response: The Presbytery respectfully disagrees. While we agree that the candidate's position is indeed a difference with our standards, we interpret the candidate's position to be consistent with the Continental or Calvinistic view of the Sabbath (as expressed in the Heidelberg Catechism Q&A.103, which the candidate affirms) and do not believe this view is hostile to the system or strikes at the vitals of religion.

Rationale: Presbytery stated how they believed that this view was consistent with other confessional traditions but not how it was consistent with our doctrinal standards. Candidate's stated difference appears to make a separation between the Old Testament Sabbath and the Lord's Day that seems to be out of accord with our system of doctrine. Further clarification is needed. (BCO 19-2.e; 19-2.f)

Response: Following Charles Hodge, the Chicago Metro Presbytery contends that the "fundamentals of our system" are those doctrines which belong "to the integrity of the Augustinian, or Reformed System" (Hodge, *Discussions in Church Polity*, 1878, p. 336). The candidate's stated affirmation of HC Q&A 103, a central doctrinal statement of our Continental Reformed brethren, demonstrates that, though he differs with the teaching of the Westminster Standards on this matter, his difference is not hostile to the integrity of the "Reformed System." More specifically, while the candidate states that he does not believe that "the Sabbath day...has now become the Lord's Day," the candidate nevertheless agrees with the Westminster position that the moral law expressed in the 10 Commandments is the "perfect rule of righteousness" and "doth forever bind all," himself declaring that we must "keep the moral

command to fulfill the Sabbath by resting in Christ and from all our strivings.” The candidate also follows Westminster’s recognition of the first day of the week in affirming that “the Lord’s Day is a day to be observed through public worship and private rest.” Given these considerations, we determined that “the candidate’s declared difference is not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine because the difference is neither hostile to the system nor strikes at the vitals of religion.” Finally, CMP notes that *RAO* requires RPR, when citing an exception of substance, to “include citation of any relevant scriptural and/or constitutional references, and provide the committee’s rationale for finding the exception of substance” (16-7.c.3). CMP respectfully suggests that replying is difficult when RPR omits citations or theological reasoning for its assertion that a candidate’s position “seems to be hostile to our system.”

2023-1: Jan 19, 2022; Sept 29, 2022 (*BCO* 13-12) — Notice for called meeting not in order (no record of 10-day notice, no verbatim meeting call).

Response: The notice for both called meetings were in order, but Presbytery erred in not recording it in the minutes. This was the verbatim meeting call for the January 19, 2022 meeting, which was made on January 4, 2022.

2023-2: Feb 16, 2022 (*BCO* 19-2) — Use of extraordinary clause for licensure candidate not explained.

Response: The candidate had not been a member of his church for six months but had received an endorsement from his church’s session. He had also previously been under the care of Missouri Presbytery, where he completed his internship requirements. Presbytery erred in stating that he had been a member of his church for at least six months, and we will be careful in the future to record such information accurately.

2023-3: Feb 16, 2022 ES (*BCO* 18-2) — Use of extraordinary clause for licensure candidate not explained.

Response: As stated in the minutes, the candidate had been under care of the Southern New England Presbytery seeking to be dismissed to Chicago Metro Presbytery. He had moved to the area for doctoral studies and received an endorsement from the Session of his new church. Presbytery was following the process of *BCO* 18-7, but we

will be careful to note the details of the candidate's situation more carefully in the future.

2023-4: May 18, 2022 (*BCO* 19-2.e; 19-2.f) — Ordination candidate's stated difference appears to make a separation between the Old Testament Sabbath and the Lord's Day that seems to be out of accord with our system of doctrine. Further clarification is needed.

Response: Presbytery's response to this citation is in reference to the citation of the August 18, 2021 licensure exam.

2023-5: May 18, 2022 (*BCO* 20-1) — No record of the reasons why Presbytery considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.

Response: Presbytery considered the church to be a valid out-of-bounds work because the TE will be allowed to preach the Word and administer the Sacraments with full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our church (*BCO* 8-7). Two other TEs had already been approved for out-of-bounds calls to the same church in prior years and continue to serve there with such freedom, but we erred in failing to include such a note in the approval of this particular call. In the future Presbytery will be more careful to note why it considers out-of-bounds works as valid Christian ministry.

2023-6: May 18, 2022 (*BCO* 38-3.b) — Presbytery erred when they invoked 38-3.a to divest without censure a TE pursuing membership at Holy Cross Antiochian Church of Grand Rapids, MI.

Response: Presbytery agrees that it erred in how *BCO* 38.3a-b was invoked and that we erred in not reconsidering the earlier vote to handle the matter properly. We will be more careful in the future to handle these matters in good order.

2023-7: Aug 17, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of endorsement by the candidate's Session.

Response: Both candidates had been endorsed by their Sessions, and those endorsements were reviewed by the Candidates and Credentials Committee. Presbytery's historical practice, for which we have hitherto never been cited, has been to note Session endorsements without including the text of those endorsements in the minutes.

2023-8: Aug 17, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2) — Use of extraordinary clause for individual taken under care not explained.

Response: Presbytery acknowledges that “pastoral residency” is not a *BCO* category. It is often used in churches to describe a higher level training program for those who have completed or nearly completed their graduate education. It is not used as a constitutional statement nor do any of the parties understand it to be so used. The extraordinary clause was invoked for the specific reasons cited in the minutes; namely, that whereas the candidate had not been a member of the church for six months, the Session was eager not to delay establishing a formal relationship with Presbytery as he began his training program at the church.

2023-9: Aug 17, 2022 (BCO 13-10) — No record of transfer or dismissal of members upon dissolving a church.

Response: The commission to handle the transfer and dismissal of members did not have its first meeting until 2023 so record of their work is included in our 2023 minutes.

2023-10: Aug 17, 2022 (BCO 19-2.e; 19-2.f) — Presbytery granted an exception for a stated difference on the grounds that the stated difference was more than semantic but not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine. Candidate’s stated difference with *WLC* 109 claims that it “can be spiritually helpful for our children in particular, to allow God the Son to be represented for the purpose of illustration.” Presbytery needs to provide further clarification as to how the quoted material is not hostile to our system of doctrine.

Response: At the time of his examination Presbytery considered these stated differences to be consistent with similar exceptions which were judged as not hostile to our system of religion. We have not sought additional clarification on the candidate’s views because he transferred to Pee Dee Presbytery in August 2022.

2023-11: Aug 17, 2022; Nov 16, 2022 (BCO 23-1) — No record that Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

Response: The Sessions of both pastors concurred in the dissolution of their respective pastoral relations, but Presbytery erred in not recording those concurrences. We will be more mindful in the future to record such matters.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2022-2: Aug 18, 2021 (*BCO* 21-4.f; 40-2) — Presbytery granted a doctrinal exception that may be hostile to our system of doctrine. More information or clarity is needed on the exception, wherein the candidate expresses his belief that images of Christ may be suitable “for purposes of instruction and (with great care) **public worship**” (emphasis added).

Response: [2023] The candidate was referring to depictions of Jesus in such instances as instructional material and Christmas pageants; not to iconography, crucifixes, or other images that are venerated in other religious traditions. Hence, we judged his view to be not hostile to our system of doctrine.

Rationale: The response does not explain how use of images of Christ might be appropriately used in public worship.

13. That the Minutes of **Columbus Metro** Presbytery: 64-0-2
- a. Be approved without exception: **May 16, 2023; Jun 21, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **Feb 09, 2023; General 2023; Sep 19, 2023**
 - c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: Jan 17, 2023** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.
 - 2024-2: Mar 21, 2023** (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of endorsement by candidate’s Session.
 - 2024-3: Nov 21, 2023** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam. No record of candidate being examined thoroughly in Bible, Theology, and Church Government. No record of examination in languages. No record of exegetical and theology papers.
 - d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
 - 2022-1: Apr 20, 2021** (*BCO* 13-12) — Requirements for called meeting not shown to have been met.

Response: We agree with this exception. We reviewed minutes and electronic correspondence. We identified that the call for the meeting was issued at the March 16, 2021 meeting, with the concurrence of the 3 TEs and 3 REs from four churches. This action was one month prior to the actual called meeting. We will improve our record keeping.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not provided proof of correction of minutes clarifying that requirements were met.

Response: NB: Minutes amended to reflect unanimous vote for April 20, 2021 Called Meeting. We agree with this exception. We reviewed minutes and electronic correspondence. We identified that the call for the meeting was issued at the March 16, 2021 meeting, with the concurrence of the 3 TEs and 3 REs from four churches. This action was one month prior to the actual called meeting. We will improve our record keeping. See Addendum RPR-2021-03

2022-2: Apr 20, 2021; Jun 8, 2021 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record of congregational vote to dissolve pastoral relationship.

Response: We agree with this exception. With respect to the April 20, 2021, meeting, no action to dissolve a pastoral relationship was taken at this meeting. With respect to the June 8, 2021, meeting, please see below: “Session representatives from [church name omitted] verbally present... We will improve our record keeping in the future.”

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not provided proof of corrected minutes.

Response: Amend Presbytery Minutes to reflect that a review of [church name omitted]) Session Minutes record a congregational meeting occurring on June 6, 2021. [church name omitted] minutes reflect the unanimous vote to dissolve the pastoral relationship between TE [name omitted] and [church name omitted]. We agree with this exception. With respect to the April 20, 2021, meeting, no action to dissolve a pastoral relationship was taken at this meeting. With respect to the June 8, 2021, meeting, please see below: “Session representatives from [church name omitted] verbally present... We will improve our record keeping in the future.” See Addendum RPR-2021-06

2022-3: Jun 08, 2021 (*BCO* 13-12) — Notice for called meeting not in order; 10-day notice, verbatim meeting call, etc., not indicated/recorded.

Response: We agree with this exception. We reviewed electronic communications. We note that a request for a called meeting from the stated clerk was emailed on May 28, 2021, and that the request was supported by three teaching and ruling elders from three churches. The

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notice of the call issued by the Moderator follows: “On behalf of [church name omitted] Church, I request a Called Meeting of the Columbus Metro Presbytery on June 8 for the following business: 1) Motion to dissolve TE [name omitted] ’s relationship with [church name omitted]; 2) Motion to approve TE [name omitted] ’s request to labor out of bounds; 3) Motion to approve TE [name omitted] ’s call and terms of call by 3/4 vote contingent upon [church name omitted]’s 4/5 affirmation; 4) Motion to form a CMP Commission for TE [name omitted] ’s Installation as Pastor of [church name omitted] on TBD contingent upon [church name omitted]’s affirming vote.” Session representatives from [church name omitted] verbally presented the results of the congregational meeting to dissolve TE [name omitted] ’s pastoral relationship. The vote was unanimous to dissolve the relationship. We regret that the minutes of the June 8, 2021, meeting do not reflect that. The call for the meeting included matters relative to TE [name omitted] , but these matters were not discussed at the June 8, 2021, meeting. We will improve our record keeping in the future.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not provided proof of concurrence of call for meeting from 3 TEs and 3 REs from at least three different churches (*BCO* 13-12).

Response: The call for the CMP meeting was issued on May 28, 2021. [names omitted] concurred with the call for this meeting., We agree with this exception. We reviewed electronic communications. We note that a request for a called meeting from the stated clerk was emailed on May 28, 2021, and that the request was supported by three teaching and ruling elders from three churches. The notice of the call issued by the Moderator follows: “On behalf of [church name omitted] Church, I request a Called Meeting of the Columbus Metro Presbytery on June 8 for the following business: See Addendum RPR-2021-06

2022-5: General (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) — No record of review of records of church Sessions.

Response: We will do better moving forward. Session Records reviewed in 2023.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2022-4: Sep 04, 2021 (*BCO* 20-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.6) — Specific arrangements of call not shown to be approved.

Response: We reviewed this exception. No actions to dissolve a pastoral relationship were taken at the April 20, 2021 meeting. Did not take action at that meeting, took action at May 2021 Meeting. See Addendum RPR-2021-04 :Amended May 2021 Minutes to reflect vote

f. That responses shall be submitted to the following GA as no responses were received in 2024:

2023-1: Directory (*RAO* 16-4.c.1) — No Directory provided.

2023-2: Standing Rules (*RAO* 16-4.c.2) — No Standing Rules provided.

2023-3: General 2022 (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) — No record of review of records of church Sessions.

2023-4: May 17, 2022; Aug 18, 2022 (*BCO* 13-11; *RAO* 16-3.e.7) — Minutes of executive session not included.

2023-5: Aug 18, 2022 (*BCO* 13-11) — Minutes of called meeting not included.

2023-6: Nov 15, 2022 (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.

g. That the General Assembly cite Columbus Metro Presbytery to appear before the Standing Judicial Commission according to the provisions of BCO 40-5 for “a credible report” of “an important delinquency or grossly unconstitutional proceedings”:

1. Find that the October 6th, 2023 letter from [name omitted] et al. is a “credible report” of “an important delinquency or grossly unconstitutional proceedings” (*BCO* 40-5): specifically, there is evidence that (1) Presbytery dissolved a congregation without following correct process (*BCO* 13-10), and (2) the Presbytery acted improperly by acquiring the property and assets of a congregation removing one of the few rights a congregation holds in the PCA (*BCO* 25-6, 7, 9);

2. Cite the Columbus Metro Presbytery to appear, per *BCO* 40-5, before the PCA’s Standing Judicial Commission which the 51st GA constitutes its commission to adjudicate this matter, by representative or in writing, at the SJC’s fall stated meeting, to “show what the lower court has done or failed to do in the case in

question,” following the Operating Manual for the SJC, particularly chapter 15; and

3. Direct the CRPR Officers to appoint one or more representatives of the GA and Report (*OMSJC* 15.2) to present this case to the SJC.
4. Further, that the nonspecific allegations in the final paragraph of [name omitted]’s letter against a Teaching Elder do not constitute a credible report of a “important delinquency or grossly unconstitutional proceeding.”

Rationale: Congregations within the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) maintain limited but crucial rights under its governing documents. These rights include the election of leaders (PP 6), the ability to affiliate with the denomination (*BCO* 25-11), and ownership of property (*BCO* 25-9). However, on June 21, 2023, the Columbus Metro Presbytery, in an executive session, took action that deprived the congregation and her members of these fundamental rights.

While it is true that the Presbytery possesses the authority to dissolve a church under certain circumstances (*BCO* 13-9.f or *BCO* 5-2.c), this authority is circumscribed by the boundaries set forth in the PCA's constitution (*BCO* 13-10). The immediate dissolution of a church and the acquisition of its assets, as executed by the Presbytery, exceeds the parameters of its granted authority. As articulated by FP Ramsay, "As the churches have no other sort of welfare, this is equivalent to saying welfare. Here, again, the Presbytery is not by this clause given any power beyond limitations or contrary to regulations elsewhere laid down." Ramsay's elucidation underscores the Presbytery's obligations, namely "to devise measures for the enlargement of the Church within its bounds" and to attend to matters pertaining to the spiritual welfare of the churches under its care. However, the actions taken by the Presbytery precluded the congregation from exercising their rights, such as the election of new elders, seeking dismissal to a new denomination, or their right of ownership of their property. The presbytery acted outside of their constitutional authority which in the view of the Assembly is an important delinquency, and grossly unconstitutional proceedings.

Given the importance of the situation, recourse must be sought through the Standing Judicial Commission (SJC), which possesses the authority to address and rectify the Presbytery's alleged misconduct.

RE Jay Neikirk abstained from discussion and all votes with regard to Columbus Metro.

14. That the Minutes of **Covenant** Presbytery: 63-0-1
- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
 - c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Feb 07, 2023 (BCO 38-3) — No record that upon an attempt of a PCA TE to transfer to the PC(USA) that Presbytery judged whether or not the PC(USA) is failing to maintain the Word and Sacraments in their fundamental integrity.

2024-2: May 16, 2023 (BCO 43-8) — A complaint may not be dismissed, and the Presbytery “shall hear the complaint,” unless there is evidence that the complainant currently does not have standing or has withdrawn or abandoned his complaint.

2024-3: Oct 03, 2023 (BCO 34-10) — No record of 2/3 vote to divest TE.
 - d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**

2023-1: Feb 1, 2022; May 17, 2022 (BCO 23-1) — No record that Congregation/Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

Response: Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the exception of substance noted in the RPR report regarding the minutes of Feb 1, 2022 and May 17, 2022: the failure to comply with BCO 23-1. The minutes have been corrected with the notation after 154-17.4 as follows: [Note – These minutes failed to properly report the request of TE [name omitted] to have the pastoral relationship dissolved and the concurrence of the congregation of [church name omitted] TN, per their action at a duly called congregational meeting November 14, 2021.] and after 154-17.6 [Note – These minutes failed to properly report the request of TE [name omitted] to have the pastoral relationship dissolved and the concurrence of the congregation of [church name omitted] TN, per their action at a duly called congregational meeting January 23, 2022.] The minutes have been corrected with the notation after 155-13.3 [Note - These minutes failed to properly report the request of TE [name omitted] to have the pastoral relationship dissolved and the concurrence of the

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congregation of [church name omitted] MS, per their action at a duly called congregational meeting May 8, 2022.] In the future we will strive to be more careful to record in our minutes that the requirements of *BCO* 23-1 have been met.

2023-2: Feb 01, 2022 (*BCO* 15-1) — Commission must consist of at least two TEs and two REs.

Response: Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the exception of substance noted in the RPR report regarding the minutes of February 1, 2022. This commission was acting as a temporary Session. We wrongfully applied *BCO* 12-1 instead of *BCO* 15-1. Ruling elders having been duly elected, the temporary Session having been disbanded, and with no complaints having been issued regarding any action taken by the temporary session, and there being no corrective action needed (RRNR § 35:6.b), Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the mistake and promises to endeavor to be more careful in the future. In addition, the following note will be added to the minutes of the 154th Stated Meeting as follows: following 154-17.3 [Note – Covenant Presbytery erred in not having at least two teaching elders and two ruling elders to this commission, in violation of *BCO* 15-1.]

2023-3: May 17, 2022 (*BCO* 8-7) — No record that the Presbytery is assured that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church.

Response: Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the exception of substance noted in the RPR report regarding the minutes of May 17, 2022. Presbytery did receive that the minister operating outside the bounds had the full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our church from the floor, but it was not accurately recorded in the minutes. Upon approval of this response, the minutes will be changed to read “155-13.5 The motion was seconded and approved to allow TE [name omitted] to labor out of jurisdictional bounds as Senior Minister at [church name omitted]. Presbytery notes the irregularity of TE [name omitted]’s acceptance of this call having asked to be designated as honorably retired at the previous meeting of Covenant Presbytery. The commissioners questioned TE [name omitted] about the circumstances surrounding the call and the beginning of this new church. Upon hearing the explanation, and having been given assurance that TE [name omitted] will have full freedom to maintain

and teach the doctrine of our Church: after debate, permission was granted. TE [name omitted] prayed for TE [name omitted] informed Presbytery that the committee took up the power of a commission to approve TE [name omitted] as stated supply at [church name omitted] per their request for the remainder of the 2022 year. [Note – This action should have been ratified at the 157th Stated Meeting but the matter was not considered. The stated supply relationship having ended, no further action is needed.]

2021-1: Oct 01, 2019 (*BCO* 13-11; *RAO* 16-3.e.7) — Complaint sent to Presbytery not recorded in minutes (“full and accurate record”).

Response: [2022]: Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the two exceptions of substance noted in the RPR report regarding the minutes for October 1, 2019 and will endeavor to comply with *BCO* requirements.

Rationale: [2022]: Presbytery has not corrected their minutes to address the exception and submitted for review (*RAO* 16-10.b).

Response: [2023]: Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the exception of substance noted in the RPR report regarding the minutes of October 1, 2019: the failure to note a complaint being sent to Presbytery. The complaint was sent to the judicial commission hearing the complaint on behalf of presbytery on October 10, 2019, posted to the members only page of Presbytery’s website prior to the meeting on October 1, 2019, and available to any.

Rationale: [2023]: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the complaint for review (*BCO* 13-11).

Response: [2024]: Covenant Presbytery acknowledges the exception of substance noted in the RPR report regarding the minutes of October 1, 2019: the failure to note a complaint being sent to Presbytery. The complaint was sent to the judicial commission hearing the complaint on behalf of presbytery on October 10, 2019, posted to the members only page of Presbytery’s website prior to the meeting on October 1, 2019, and available to any member upon request. The minutes of October 1, 2019, will be amended by adding the following “[Note – The appendix to the minutes failed to attach the complaint received by Covenant Presbytery and assigned to a *BCO* 15-3 judicial commission which had been made available to the members on the

website and upon request]. In the future we will strive to be more careful to record in our minutes that the requirements of *BCO* 23-1 have been met. Also, the complaint is attached to this response for review in accordance with *BCO* 13-11 and the complaint added to the appendix of the 147th Stated Meeting. *NOTE – The complainant filed two complaints within a matter of weeks surrounding the same issue. The complaints were adjoined and heard as one complaint. There was no objection.

15. That the Minutes of **Eastern Canada** Presbytery: *62-1-1*

- a. Be approved without exception: **Oct 27, 2023; Dec 01, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2023**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: Feb 24, 2023** (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of endorsement by candidate’s Session.
 - 2024-2: Feb 24, 2023** (*BCO* 15-1) — No record of quorum for meeting of a commission.
 - 2024-3: Apr 28, 2023** (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of endorsement by candidate’s Session.
 - 2024-4: Feb 24, 2023** (*BCO* 18-2) — Extraordinary clause “invoked” to waive six-month membership of a candidate without a vote by presbytery.
 - 2024-5: Feb 24, 2023** (*BCO* 18-2) — Extraordinary clause “invoked” to waive six-month membership of a candidate without a vote by presbytery.
 - 2024-6: Jun 02, 2023** (*BCO* 21-4.c) — Extraordinary clause “invoked” to waive theological and exegetical papers without a vote by presbytery.
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
 - 2022-1: Jun 04, 2021** (*BCO* 19-1) — Presbytery permits a church’s pulpit to be regularly filled by an unlicensed minister from another denomination.

Response: We agree; we failed to uphold this particular mandate. We will assign a pastoral committee to investigate the nature of the relationship between [church name omitted] Church, [name omitted] , and the Presbytery.

Rationale: Presbytery has not yet demonstrated that it has remedied this situation.

Response: We agree with the exception. In regards to [church name omitted] the minister in question was licensed at the stated meeting of the Presbytery on October 27, 2023. In regards to [church name omitted], the interim Session called a congregational meeting on January 13, 2024, and the congregation voted to withdraw from the PCA (*BCO* 25-11).

2023-1: Apr 22, 2022 (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) — Purpose of called meeting not recorded verbatim in the minutes.

Response: We disagree with the exception. Under the title on p1012, the minutes state “The meeting was called for the Presbytery to decide upon the recommendations of the *BCO* 31-2 investigation into allegations made against TE [name omitted], in light of the findings of the third party investigation initiated by [church name omitted].”

2023-2: Apr 22, 2022 (*RAO* 16-3.e.1) — Reasons for a chair’s ruling on a point of order not given.

Response: We agree with the exception: we ought to have recorded the reason for the chair’s ruling. Moderator [name omitted] ruled the motion out of order because, in his opinion, it fell outside the stated purpose for calling the special meeting. We will correct the minutes as follows: “The motion was ruled out of order because, in the opinion of the Moderator, it fell outside the stated purpose for the special meeting.”

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2023-3: Jun 03, 2022 (*BCO* 18) — Potential candidate not a member of PCA church; presbytery voted to “waive” requirement, but *BCO* 18 makes no such provision for waiving this requirement.

Response: We agree with the exception. Our intention was to invoke the extraordinary circumstance permitted in *BCO* 18-2: an applicant for care shall be a member of the congregation for at least six months ... “except in those cases deemed extraordinary by the Presbytery.” The Presbytery judged this to be an extraordinary case for the following reasons: 1) Mr. [name omitted] is pastoring his own

church full time, making it difficult to attend or become a member of a PCA church, 2) Mr. [name omitted] had been undergoing supervision and training by the pastors of [church name omitted], and 3) Mr. [name omitted] desires to bring his church into the PCA. We will correct the minutes as follows: “MSC to waive the 6 month membership requirement by invoking the extraordinary clause of *BCO* 18-2 for the following reasons: 1) Mr. [name omitted] is pastoring his own church full time, making it difficult to attend or become a member of a PCA church, 2) Mr. [name omitted] had been undergoing supervision and training by the pastors of [church name omitted], and 3) Mr. [name omitted] desires to bring his church into the PCA.”

Rationale: The situation presented still does not resolve the issue that there is no provision in *BCO* 18 for approving a candidate that is not a member of the PCA (i.e., “the Church” in *BCO* 18-1). The “extraordinary clause” is not applicable to cases of membership in the Church in full communion.

2023-4: Jun 03, 2022 (*BCO* 8-7; 20-1) — No record that the Presbytery is assured that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church; presbytery approved a call not from a church, Presbytery, or General Assembly without making “a record of the reasons why it considers the work to be a valid Christian ministry.

Response: We agree with the exception. The Presbytery judged that a professorship of ministry at Redeemer University is a valid call to gospel ministry, considering that he will be equipping and teaching students for ministry in the church. We will correct the minutes as follows: “MSC that the Presbytery accept the terms of call for TE [name omitted] to serve as Assistant Professor of Ministry at Redeemer University because a professorship of ministry at Redeemer University is a valid call to gospel ministry, considering that he will be equipping and teaching students for ministry in the church (*BCO* 8-7, 20-1).”

Rationale: Presbytery's response fulfills the requirements of *BCO* 20-1, as Presbytery judged this to be a valid call. However, Presbytery's response fails to fulfill the requirements of *BCO* 8-7, as the response does not indicate that it received assurance that an out-

of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church.

16. That the Minutes of **Eastern Carolina** Presbytery: 62-0-0
- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Jan 28, 2023; Apr 15, 2023; Jul 15, 2023; Oct 21, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
 - c. Be approved with exception of substance: **None**
 - d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory: 2023-1: Apr 23, 2022** (*WCF* 29-4; *BCO* 58-3, 4) — Error to conclude that celebration of Lord’s Supper by the Session of [church name omitted] Church without congregation present was not an exception of substance.
Response: We are pleased to concede and agree with the Committee on Review of Presbytery Records of the 50th General Assembly in their judgment that the session of [church name omitted] erred in its celebrating the Lord’s Supper non-publicly at a joint meeting of their session and diaconate, without the congregation present. Furthermore, we will inform the session of [church name omitted] of our new judgment—that we now regard this event as an exception of substance—and require their response.
17. That the Minutes of **Eastern Pennsylvania** Presbytery: 64-0-0
- a. Be approved without exception: **Feb 11, 2023; Nov 14, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
 - c. Be approved with exception of substance:
2024-1: Sep 09, 2023 (*BCO* 38-3) — No record that presbytery made determinations required by *BCO* 38-3.
2024-2: Sep 09, 2023 (*BCO* 38-3) — No record that presbytery made determination required by *BCO* 38-3
2024-3: General 2023 (*RAO* 16-10.a) — No record in minutes of approval of response to GA for 2022 citation.
 - d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory: 2022-1: Sep 11, 2021; Nov 16, 2021** (*RONR* 9:34) — Motion approved at assembly lacking opportunity for simultaneous aural communication (minimum requirement for a deliberative meeting, not met by email).

Response: We agree that business requiring deliberation should not be conducted via email. There are however noncontroversial matters that arise which require no discussion. When such matters arise and require timely action by the Presbytery, it has been our practice to attempt a vote by email. Presbyters are informed that a single “no” vote or a request for discussion will nullify the process and demand a face to face meeting. Since there is no provision for this practice in *RONR*, we will amend our Standing Rules to formally adopt this practice for our presbytery.

Rationale: Every motion by its nature requires a deliberative meeting, which an email vote does not permit. The Presbytery continued the practice of e-mail voting in 2022 and made changes to their Standing Rules to permit email voting. This cannot correct the error of not allowing a deliberative meeting.

Response: This is a new response, given that our previous response to the 50th GA was found unsatisfactory. Having reconsidered this matter, the presbytery concurs with the ruling of RPR, and will now end its longstanding practice of email voting on timely non-controversial matters.

2023-1: General 2022 (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) — No record of review of records of church sessions.

Response: We regret the delay regarding this matter. A mechanism for the review of records of church sessions has been reestablished, and the process has begun again. We expect to report this year that the backlog of unreviewed minutes is diminishing.

2023-3: Feb 12, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.

Response: We regret the oversight in reporting here. As is our regular practice, TE [name omitted] was in fact examined on the floor in Bible, theology, and church government. We will take greater care to note this in the future. In addition, the minutes of Feb. 12, 2022 will be amended to reflect the full examination.

2023-4: Sep 10, 2022 (*RONR* 9-34) — Presbytery conducted business via email, which does not constitute a deliberative body.

Response: Having reconsidered this matter, the presbytery concurs with the ruling of RPR, and will now end its longstanding practice of email voting on timely non-controversial matters. In

deference to the position of RPR, several email votes that took place in the spring of 2023 were subsequently ratified unanimously at our September 9 stated meeting of Presbytery.

2023-5: Nov 15, 2022 (RONR 9-34) — Presbytery approved a change in standing rules to allow for “non-controversial” business to be done via email, which does not constitute a deliberative body.

Response: To comply with the ruling of RPR and with Robert’s Rules of Order, we have ended our practice of email voting, and have voted to amend our Standing Rules to remove the newly added section allowing for non-controversial business to be done via email.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2023-2: Feb 12, 2022 (BCO 19-1) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded.

Response: We regret the failure to report the fulfillment of this requirement. Mr. [name omitted] did indeed preach a sermon approved by the elders at [church name omitted] in fulfillment of the requirements for his licensure. We will be more diligent about recording these things in the future. In addition, the minutes of Feb. 12, 2022 will be amended to reflect that a sermon had been preached

Rationale: Licentiate sermons must be preached before presbytery or before a committee of presbytery (BCO 19-2.d) and approved by presbytery action, not session action.

18. That the Minutes of **Evangel** Presbytery: *63-0-1*

- a. Be approved without exception: **Sep 14, 2021; Feb 14, 2023; Aug 08, 2023; Dec 11, 2023**

- b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory**

- c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: General 2023 (BCO 23-1) — No record that Congregation or Session concurred with dissolutions of pastoral relations.

2024-2: May 09, 2023 (BCO 15-1; RAO 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.

2024-3: Nov 14, 2023 (BCO 21-4.b) — No record of requiring licentiate to indicate whether he has changed his previous views.

d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:

2022-1: Sep 14, 2021 (*BCO* 13-12) — Minutes of called meeting not submitted (see Nov 9, 2021 [2.1.c.ii]).

Response: The presbytery agrees with this exception. We approved the minutes of the Sept 14, 2021 called meeting at our November 2021 stated meeting but neglected to submit those minutes to RPR.

Rationale: Minutes were not submitted and need to be submitted for review (Sep 14, 2021).

Response: Presbytery agrees with this exception. Our Sep 14, 2021 minutes will be submitted to RPR along with our 2023 minutes.

2023-1: General 2022 (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) — No record of review of records of church Session [Mentioned in 2/8/22, but nothing noted that it was completed.]

Response: Presbytery agrees with this exception. Feb 8, 2022 minutes, page 18, provides a “Reminder to submit session minutes by Aug 31.”. Nov 15, 2022 minutes ... While our Administrative Committee did review session records (as indicated in the appendix, page 18, we failed to record such in the minutes. The minutes should have reflected “The Administrative Committee fulfilled its duty to review session minutes (*BCO* 13-9b; 40-1).” At the 180th Stated Meeting (Feb 13, 2024), presbytery voted to amend the minutes of the Feb 2022 minutes to correct the error.

2023-2: Feb 08, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4.a.1; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.

Response: Presbytery agrees with this exception. The ruling of the court on the differences TE [name omitted] had with the *WCF* should have indicated, “The committee recommends this be ruled as more than semantic but not striking at the vitals of religion out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine.” At the 180th Stated Meeting (Feb 13, 2024), the presbytery voted to amend the minutes of the Feb 2022 minutes to correct the error

2023-3: Mar 31, 2022 (*BCO* 13-12) — Notice for called meeting not in order (10-day notice)

Response: Presbytery agrees with this exception. While notice of this meeting was sent at least 10 days in advance (sent March 20, 2022), this was not reported in the called meeting minutes. At the

180th Stated Meeting (Feb 13, 2024), the presbytery voted to amend the minutes of the March 2022 minutes to correct the error

2023-4: Mar 31, 2022 (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) — Purpose of called meeting not recorded verbatim in the minutes.

Response: Presbytery agrees with this exception. While the minutes note that the moderator explained the purpose of the meeting, the purpose (as stated in the notice) was not included in the minutes. At the 180th Stated Meeting (Feb 13, 2024), the presbytery voted to amend the minutes of the March 2022 minutes to correct the error.

2023-5: Aug 09, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4) — No record of requiring statement of differences with our Standards.

Response: Presbytery agrees with this exception. The ruling of the court on the differences TE [name omitted] had with the *WCF* should have indicated “The committee recommends this be ruled as more than semantic but not striking at the vitals of religion out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine.” At the 180th Stated Meeting (Feb 13, 2024), the presbytery voted to amend the minutes of the Feb 2022 minutes to correct the error.

19. That the Minutes of **Fellowship** Presbytery: *64-0-0*

a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Apr 22, 2023; Sep 28, 2023**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **Jul 18, 2023**

c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Jan 28, 2023 (*BCO* 13-11; *RAO* 16-3.e.7) — Executive session not included and these must be presented for review next year.

2024-2: Jan 28, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not judged with the prescribed categories.

d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2023-1: Sep 22, 2022 (*BCO* 15-1, 15-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — No record that congregation/session concurred with the dissolution of the pastoral relationship.

Response: Fellowship Presbytery acknowledges that, in its 84th Stated Meeting on September 22, 2022, it erred when it failed to record a congregation’s concurrence with the dissolution of a pastoral relationship. The congregation had in fact concurred. Presbytery

regrets its error, and has amended its Minutes of September 22, 2022, to reflect the concurrence.

20. That the Minutes of **Georgia Foothills** Presbytery: 64-0-0

- a. Be approved without exception: **Jan 21, 2023; Apr 18, 2023; Jun 30, 2023; Sep 19, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **Mar 13, 2023; Apr 13, 2023**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: General 2023 (BCO 8-4)** — No record of receipt of report from teaching elder laboring out of bounds.
 - 2024-2: General 2023 (BCO 18-6)** — Annual reports of candidates not included.
 - 2024-3: General 2023 (BCO 19-12)** — Reports on every intern by the committee charged with the oversight of interns at each stated meeting not included.
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
 - 2021-1: Jun 11, 2019; Sep 17, 2019 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5)** — Stated differences not judged with prescribed categories.

Response: The clerk sent the Response to Exceptions to the 48th General Assembly as an email to the Stated Clerk's office but failed to include the Response to Exceptions in the complete minutes sent to RPR. Here was the *The clerk acknowledges his mistake and will record the Presbytery's evaluation of the difference using the exact language of RAO 16-3.*

Rationale: Still no record of presbytery's evaluation being made, or being recorded in minutes.

Response: The Stated Clerk acknowledges he misunderstood what was being asked and the appropriate way to respond. The Stated Clerk reviewed the stated differences from Jun 11, 2019 and Sep 17, 2019 with Presbytery and the court affirmed the following regarding those stated differences: the court judged the stated differences(s) to be more than semantic, but "not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine" (BCO 21-4).

Here are the stated differences from Jun 11, 2019 –

My only difference is with Westminster Confession of Faith, 21:8 where it says "... about their worldly employments and recreations, but

also taken up, the whole time, in the public and private exercises of his worship, in the duties of necessity and mercy."

I agree that one day and seven should be set aside to rest from our work (Genesis 2) and that on that one day, we should not do any of our work that we do the other six days (Exodus 20) with the exception of deeds of necessity and mercy. However, in my view, the Confession crosses the line from setting apart the Sabbath day to make it holy into binding the conscience with the prohibition of recreation and the proscription of spending the entire day in private and public exercise of worship. Jesus gave more liberty as to what can be done when setting a part one day from the other seven, when he said, "The sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath" (Mark, 2), as he approved of his disciples walking through the grain fields, plucking heads of grain.

Here are the stated differences from Sep 17, 2019 –

1. WCF 21.5: *"...singing of psalms with grace in the heart..."* While I support the singing of Psalms in worship, I am not a proponent of exclusive psalmody. I believe Eph. 5:19 and Col. 3:16 (Eph. 5:19, "addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart." Col. 3:16, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.") allow for singing any number of theologically-accurate songs in worship.

2. WCF 21.8; WLC #117, #119; WSC #60, #61; WCF 21.8: *"This Sabbath is then kept holy unto the Lord, when men, after a due preparing of their hearts, and ordering of their common affairs beforehand, do not only observe an holy rest, all the day, from their own works, words, and thoughts about their worldly employments and recreations, but also are taken up, the whole time, in the public and private exercises of his worship, and in the duties of necessity and mercy."*

My wife and I treat Sunday as a day of rest but in good conscience we engage in various forms of recreation: hosting friends for meals after church, trips to the beach, playing sports together, etc. These are all activities that I believe is in keeping with the principle of rest.

2023-1: General 2022 (*BCO* 8-7) — No record of annual reports of TEs laboring out of bounds.

Response: Presbytery acknowledges that we have not been diligent in receiving annual reports of TEs laboring out of bounds. Presbytery has directed the Stated Clerk to send a communication to all TEs laboring out of bounds to submit an annual report.

2023-2: Jan 22, 2022 (*BCO* 21) — No record of appointment of commission to install (which later reported).

Response: Presbytery reviewed the matter and acknowledges their failure to approve and record the commissioners who served at these installations. The call of these associate pastors installed as senior pastors and the installation reports of both TEs were reviewed and the Presbytery determined that the interests of presbytery were carried out even though the men were not formally approved to serve as commissioners

2023-3: Jan 22, 2022; Apr 19, 2022 (*BCO* 5-2.c; 13-10) — No record of transferal or dismissal of members upon dissolving a church.

Response: Presbytery acknowledges the failure to record the transfer or dismissal of members upon dissolving a church. Those that helped this church move through the dissolution process affirmed to Presbytery that attention was given to make sure that all members were cared for during the dissolution process.

2023-4: Jun 10, 2022 (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) — Purpose of called meeting not recorded verbatim in the minutes, nor a record of 10-day notice.

Response: It was recorded in the minutes (see below the “Roll Call”) that the Moderator stated verbatim the purpose of the meeting. Regrettably, the Stated Clerk failed to record the 10-day notice. However, Presbytery confirmed that the Stated Clerk’s records indicate that a 10-day notice was given.

2023-5: Jun 10, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not judged according to prescribed categories [Some language is present; some is missing].

Response: The Presbytery reviewed its minutes from Jun 10, 2022 and affirms that it did in fact use the prescribed categories. Here is the text from the minutes: “TE [name omitted]’s stated differences with the standards were judged to be more than semantic, but “not out

of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine” (*BCO* 21-4). His stated differences are as follows: ...”

2023-6: Sep 20, 2022 (PP 6) — No record that members of provisional session were approved by the congregation.

Response: Presbytery acknowledges their mistake. The provisional session described in those minutes has since been disbanded. A new provisional session has been appointed to serve this church and Presbytery has instructed the church to hold a congregational meeting to approve this session and send those meeting minutes to the Stated Clerk.

21. That the Minutes of **Grace** Presbytery: *63-0-0*
- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **Mar 30, 2023**
 - c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Jan 10, 2023 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record Presbytery cited the church to appear by its commissioners to show cause why the resignation of a TE should be accepted.

2024-2: May 09, 2023 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record Presbytery cited the church to appear by its commissioners to show cause why the resignation of a TE should be accepted.

2024-3: Sep 12, 2023 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record Presbytery cited the church to appear by its commissioners to show cause why the resignation of a TE should be accepted.

2024-4: Sep 12, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not judged with the prescribed categories.

2024-5: Jan 10, 2023 (*BCO* 13-2; *BCO* 34-10) — Process of *BCO* 13-2 and 34-10 not followed in cases of TEs without call for three or more years

2024-6: May 09, 2023 (*BCO* 24-1; *BCO* 12-1) — Presbytery approved REs to “augment” church sessions apart from constitutional election.
 - d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**

2023-1: Jan 11, 2023 (*BCO* 21-6) — In ordination/installation of assistant pastor, vows propounded to congregation instead of to session.

Response: Presbytery regrets the error of having congregational vows in the installation of Assistant Pastors in the Orders of Worship and points out that the Charges were given to the Session in both instances. Future Presbytery Commissions will be reminded of this distinction when installing Assistant Pastors.

2023-2: Sep 13, 2022 (BCO 21-1) — No record that congregation concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

Response: Presbytery regrets the error of not recording the congregation's concurrence in the dissolution of the pastoral relationship. The Minutes of the Congregational Meeting were provided after the publication of the White Book and were inadvertently omitted from the Minutes. The Minutes of the Congregational Meeting follow.

22. That the Minutes of **Great Lakes** Presbytery: 63-0-1

a. Be approved without exception: **Jul 07, 2023; Sep 15, 2023**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2023**

c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Jan 14, 2023 (BCO 18-7) — Candidate under care removed from rolls without explanation.

2024-2: May 06, 2023 (BCO 13-6) — Incomplete record of transfer examination for TEs.

d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2023-1: Apr 30, 2022; Sep 15-16, 2022 (BCO 13-6; 21-4) — Incomplete record of transfer exam for minister from another denomination.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception, corrects its records, and will strive to more carefully document these exams in the future. Note: the candidate did receive the full transfer examination which was sustained in its entirety.

23. That the Minutes of **Gulf Coast** Presbytery: 63-0-0

a. Be approved without exception: **Feb 13, 2023; Jun 06, 2023; Oct 10, 2024**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2023**

c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Oct 10, 2023 (RAO 16-3.e.5) — No record of candidate's six month membership requirement or endorsement from candidate's session. (all three stated meetings)

2024-2: May 09, 2023 (RAO 16-4.b) — No minutes included for May 23 called meeting.

2024-3: May 09, 2023 (BCO 5-9.g.8) — Record of particularization incomplete. Commission report missing.

2024-4: Oct 10, 2023 (BCO 8-7) — Reports from TEs working out of bounds not received.

- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2023-1: General 2022 (BCO 15-1) — No reports of commissions, including commissions to install.

Response: Gulf Coast Presbytery regrets failing to attach a copy of the reports from the following commissions. We have approved amending the appropriate 2022 minutes with the following reports; 1) Feb 7: report from installation commission of [name omitted] March 27, 2022, at [church name omitted] (ATTACHMENT: PDF title, "ADD to Feb 7 - Install [name omitted] "); 2) May 10: report from installation commission of [name omitted] May 22, 2022, at [church name omitted] (ATTACHMENT: PDF titled, "ADD to May 10 – [name omitted] Installation"); 3) May 10: report from installation commission of [name omitted] May 29, 2022, at [church name omitted] (ATTACHMENT: PDF titled, "ADD to May 10 – [name omitted] Installation"); 4) Oct 11: report from installation commission of [name omitted] Oct 10, 2022, at – [church name omitted] (ATTACHMENT: PDF titled, "ADD to Oct 11 - Commission report re TE [name omitted]) Please see the pdfs in document.

2023-2: Feb. 7, 2022; May 10, 2022 (BCO 18-7; 46-6) — TEs and a candidate are received from other PCA presbyteries but no evidence of action of other Presbytery.

Response: Regarding the incoming transfers of TEs [names omitted] we could have more clearly stated (as is our custom) in the "Communications" from the Stated Clerk that the Stated Clerk had received necessary confirmation of approval from the other presbyteries. Gulf Coast Presbytery will make a point to keep record in the Stated Clerk's report of "communications" confirmation of appropriate action by other presbyteries in future minutes.

2023-3: Feb. 7, 2022 (BCO 18-2) — No record of endorsement by candidate's Session nor of six-months membership for candidate.

Response: Gulf Coast Presbytery acknowledges neglecting to record and attach confirmation of the Session's endorsement of Mr. [name omitted].

2023-4: Feb. 7, 2022; March 1, 2022; March 15, 2022 (BCO 32-3, 4, 5) — No evidence of an indictment, no copy of a citation to the man being charged, and no verification that the indictment and citation were delivered to the individual.

Response: Gulf Coast Presbytery regrets not attaching appropriate documentation to the minutes in question regarding the discipline of TE [name omitted] Proof Delivery 1" & PDF titled "ADD to Mar 15 – [name omitted] Proof Delivery 2" & PDF titled "ADD to THREE - [name omitted] Citation 1-2 and Suspension").

2023-5: May 10, 2022 (BCO 8-7; 13-2; 13-5; 20-1; 21-1) — Presbytery accedes to a request from another PCA Presbytery that a TE member of the other Presbytery be allowed to labor in the bounds of Gulf Coast Presbytery in a non-PCA work. There is nothing in the minutes about why this arrangement is necessary. No record that the Presbytery is assured that the TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church. No record of the reasons why Presbytery considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.

Response: Because TE [name omitted] was to be serving with a Christian school that is related to one of the congregations of Gulf Coast Presbytery, it was readily known that he would be able to maintain and teach the doctrine of the Church freely.

2023-6: May 10, 2022; Oct. 11, 2022 (BCO 23-1; 46-6) — The minutes record that a man has been transferred to another Presbytery. No record that congregation concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations, that Presbytery dissolved the pastoral relation, nor that Presbytery voted to release the TE to a different Presbytery.

Response: Gulf Coast Presbytery acknowledges a failure to take appropriate actions at the meeting in question regarding TE [name omitted].

2023-7: Oct. 11, 2022 (BCO 23-1) — The minutes report that a pastoral relationship is dissolved. There is no evidence that either a

commission or the Presbytery voted on this, nor that Presbytery heard from the Session the man was serving.

Response: The body of Gulf Coast Presbytery acknowledges the lack of recording full details. The Stated Clerk had received email communication from the Session of [church name omitted] that it was their desire for the relationship with TE [name omitted] to be dissolved as they supported his accepting the call to ministry at another congregation in our presbytery (actions taken in the same meeting). Representatives from both congregations and TE [name omitted] were present at this meeting. The body was aware of the consent and propriety of all actions. We will endeavor to more fully and accurately record details required by the *BCO*.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2023-8: Oct. 11, 2022 (*BCO* 13-2) — No evidence of annual reports for TEs without call.

Response: The Chairman of Gulf Coast Presbytery's "Ministers & Candidates" committee diligently solicits and reminds TEs without call of their duty to submit annual reports. It was not the will of the body to take further action for men without submitted reports at the October 11, 2022, meeting.

Rationale: No record that presbytery has corrected its records (*RAO* 16.10.b.1)

24. That the Minutes of **Gulfstream** Presbytery: 63-0-2

a. Be approved without exception: **Apr 18, 2023; Oct 17, 2023**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **Jan 17, 2023**

c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: General 2023 (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-3) — Results of review of records of church Sessions not stated. In addition, given the duty of the Presbytery to review Session records at least once a year and approve, disapprove or correct them, and given a previous exception of substance for incomplete review of records, reviews and results of reviews should address previous year(s) records.

2024-2: General 2023 (*BCO* 13-2) — No record of reports received from TEs without call.

2024-3: General 2023 (*BCO* 8-4) — No record of reports from TEs in work needful to the church.

- d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2021-1: Jan 21, 2020 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements for ordination exam not recorded; seminary degree, thesis paper/examination on knowledge of Greek and Hebrew; did not preach a sermon.

Response: [2022]: Gulfstream regrets the inadequacy of its minutes. In preparing its minutes, Gulfstream has always relied upon Form 039- Checklist for Ordination, as found in the Clerks Handbook. The specific omissions named in this exception have always been examined as part of the preliminary checklist, and may not have been included in the minutes. Nor have some other elements of the preliminary checklist. Gulfstream will endeavor to include these details in future minutes.

Rationale: [2022]: Presbytery needs to correct the inadequacy in their minutes and submit for review.

Response: [2023] Gulfstream has amended its minutes accordingly.

Rationale: [2023] Minutes of presbytery relating to examinations must list all specific requirements and trials for licensure and/or ordination which have been accomplished, including that each candidate being examined for ordination was required to “state the specific instances in which he may differ with the Confession of Faith and Catechisms in any of their statements and/or propositions” (*BCO* 21-4).

Response: The specific requirements of the candidates ordination were fulfilled, and the minutes have been amended to reflect this.

2021-2: Oct 20, 2020 (*BCO* 19-2.d) — Licensure exam with no mention of written sermon.

Response: [2022]: Gulfstream regrets the inadequacy of its minutes. Gulfstream will endeavor to include this detail in future minutes.

Rationale: [2022]: Presbytery needs to correct the inadequacy in their minutes and submit for review.

Response: [2023] Gulfstream has amended its minutes accordingly.

Rationale: [2023] Minutes of presbytery relating to examinations must list all specific requirements and trials for licensure and/or ordination which have been accomplished, including that each candidate being examined for ordination was required to “state the specific instances in which he may differ with the Confession of Faith and Catechisms in any of their statements and/or propositions” (*BCO* 21-4).

Response: The specific requirements of the candidates ordination were fulfilled, and the minutes have been amended to reflect this.

2021-3: Oct 15, 2019 (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4.c.2-3) — Incomplete record of transfer exam for minister from another denomination. No record of thesis, no record of exegetical paper.

Response: [2022]: Gulfstream regrets the inadequacy of its minutes. In preparing its minutes, Gulfstream has always relied upon Form 041- Checklist for Reception of Minister From Another Denomination, as found in the Clerks Handbook. The two specific omissions have not previously been itemized on the checklist form. Gulfstream will endeavor to include these details in future minutes.

Rationale: [2022]: Presbytery needs to correct the inadequacy in their minutes and submit for review.

Response: [2023] Gulfstream has amended its minutes accordingly.

Rationale: [2023] Minutes of presbytery relating to examinations must list all specific requirements and trials for licensure and/or ordination which have been accomplished, including that each candidate being examined for ordination was required to “state the specific instances in which he may differ with the Confession of Faith and Catechisms in any of their statements and/or propositions” (*BCO* 21-4).

Response: *BCO* 13-6 states that if applicants come from other denominations, the presbytery shall examine them thoroughly in knowledge and views as required by *BCO* 21-4. We have taken that to mean the examinations outlined in *BCO* 24-1, since it specifically begins with the phrase "a careful examination as to:"

We have understood that the thesis and exegetical paper are part of the "trial for ordination" that new candidates must undergo, not those transferring from another denomination.

2022-1: Jan 19, 2021 (*BCO* 34-10, 38-2) — No record of 2/3 vote and requires two stated meetings.

Response: [name omitted] was notified and given a written letter according to *BCO* 34-10 and this was noted in previous minutes.

Rationale: No mention of whether a 2/3 vote was recorded at the previous meeting. Review of the October 20, 2020 meeting minutes (previous stated meeting) does in fact record there was a motion passed, however there is no record there of a 2/3 vote.

Response: Minutes have been amended to show that there was indeed a 2/3 vote prior to the letter being sent.

2022-2: Jan 19, 2021 (*BCO* 34-10, 38-1, 38-3.b) — The court did not make full record of the matter and did not notify the offender of its action.

Response: TE [name omitted] was given an opportunity to “be heard in his own defense,” but chose not to do so and even made an effort to note to the court that he does not object in any way.

Rationale: Presbytery should have treated this as a case without process (*BCO* 38-1, 38-3.b) and does not indicate whether the church the TE transferred to maintains Word and Sacrament in fundamental unity.

Response: The court treated this as a case under *BCO* 34-10. Since the court did not treat this is a *BCO* 38-1 matter, we did not take the corresponding actions.

2022-3: Jan 19, 2021 (*BCO* 19-2.d, 21-4.c.(4)) — Candidate is required to preach a sermon before the Presbytery or committee thereof, upon 3/4 vote.

Response: This motion does not negate the *BCO* requirement of a candidate to preach a sermon before the presbytery or a committee of the presbytery. This motion ensures the presbytery hears and reads a sermon prior to the meeting.

Rationale: Distributing recordings of a candidate’s sermon prior to the meeting of presbytery in order to evaluate it contradicts the *BCO* requirement to preach a sermon in the presence of the presbytery or a committee thereof. [The motion, as worded “to evaluate the sermon of candidates before the presbytery” implies the sermons will only be evaluated based on the recordings. If it were worded along the lines of “Motion to help evaluate the sermon of candidates before being

presented before the presbytery...” that would seem to not contradict the *BCO* requirement. *BCO* 19-2.d “Provide his written sermon on an assigned passage of Scripture embodying both explanation and application, and present orally his sermon or exhortation before Presbytery or before a committee of Presbytery.” *BCO* 21-4.c.4 “He shall further be required to preach a sermon before the Presbytery or committee thereof, upon three-fourths (3/4) vote.” *BCO* 21-4.c “No Presbytery shall omit any of these parts of trial for ordination except in extraordinary cases, and then only with three-fourths (3/4) approval of Presbytery.” Minutes text was: “Motion to evaluate the sermon of candidates before the presbytery by distributing a written manuscript along with an audio and/or video recording of the whole sermon to the presbytery (*BCO* 19-2-d; 21-4-c-(4)). APPROVED”]

Response: The court now recognizes that this motion goes against the *BCO* requirement and has since amended the motion and required candidates to preach in person before the presbytery.

2022-4: Oct 19, 2021 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Unclear record of ordination exam.

Response: Gulfstream Presbytery regrets this omission from its records. The candidate did complete a written exam, which was disseminated to the presbytery for review, as well as an oral examination of all areas noted in *BCO* 21-4. The minutes have been amended accordingly.

Rationale: Minutes of presbytery relating to examinations must list all specific requirements and trials for licensure and/or ordination which have been accomplished, including that each candidate being examined for ordination was required to “state the specific instances in which he may differ with the Confession of Faith and Catechisms in any of their statements and/or propositions” (*BCO* 21-4).

Response: The specific requirements of the candidates ordination were fulfilled, and the minutes have been amended to reflect this.

2022-5: Oct 19, 2021 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of ordination exam not recorded.

Response: Gulfstream Presbytery regrets this omission from its records. The candidate did complete an ordination exam that covered all areas noted in *BCO* 21-4. The minutes have been amended accordingly.

Rationale: Minutes of presbytery relating to examinations must list all specific requirements and trials for licensure and/or ordination which have been accomplished, including that each candidate being examined for ordination was required to “state the specific instances in which he may differ with the Confession of Faith and Catechisms in any of their statements and/or propositions” (*BCO* 21-4).

Response: The specific requirements of the candidates ordination were fulfilled, and the minutes have been amended to reflect this.

2022-6: Oct 19, 2021 (*BCO* 21-4) — Use of extraordinary clause for ordination candidate not explained.

Response: Gulfstream Presbytery regrets this omission from its records. Presbytery noted this irregularity and discussed the reason for it, but it was not noted in the minutes. The minutes have been amended accordingly.

Rationale: Minutes of presbytery relating to examinations must list all specific requirements and trials for licensure and/or ordination which have been accomplished, including that each candidate being examined for ordination was required to “state the specific instances in which he may differ with the Confession of Faith and Catechisms in any of their statements and/or propositions” (*BCO* 21-4).

Response: The specific requirements of the candidates ordination were fulfilled, and the minutes have been amended to reflect this.

2023-1: General 2022 (*BCO* 8-4) — No record of annual reports received from TEs doing work needful to the Church.

Response: Gulfstream regrets this omission from its records and will endeavor to include these reports in future minutes.

2023-2: General 2022 (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) — Incomplete record of review of records of church Sessions.

Response: Gulfstream has attempted to retrieve minutes from several churches within its bounds to no avail. We have since implemented a system for better retrieving and reviewing records of church sessions, so this should not be a problem in the future.

2023-3: General 2022 (*BCO* 13-2) — No record of annual reports received from TEs without call.

Response: Gulfstream regrets this omission from its records and will endeavor to include these reports in future minutes.

2023-5: Jan 18, 2022 (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded.

Response: In looking at the minutes, it seems that all the requirements of the licensure exam are recorded almost verbatim, according to what is listed in *BCO* 19-2. If there is some specific requirement missing, please advise.

2023-6: Jan 18, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-months membership for candidate.

Response: The minutes of January 18, 2022 list that an endorsement was received for both [names omitted] from their respective sessions. *BCO* 18-2 states that this endorsement should include 1) testimonials of his Christian character, 2) promise of usefulness in the ministry, 3) the activities of ministry the applicant has participated in with brief evaluation, 4) and that he shall be a member for at least 6 months. Should all these requirements be listed in the minutes, or does a statement that endorsement was received suffice?

2023-7: Jan 18, 2022 (*BCO* 22-4) — No record of request from congregation to a change of call from assistant pastor to associate pastor.

Response: Gulfstream regrets this omission from its minutes. The congregation did vote and approve this change prior to the presbytery meeting, as was shown in the minutes of the congregational meeting, but it was not stated in the minutes. The minutes have been amended accordingly.

2023-8: Oct 18, 2022 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation/Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

Response: Gulfstream regrets this omission from its minutes. The congregation did vote and approve this dissolution prior to the presbytery meeting, as was shown in the minutes of the congregational meeting, but it was not stated in the minutes. The minutes have been amended accordingly.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2023-4: General 2022 (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.

Response: Gulfstream regrets this omission from its records and will endeavor to include these reports in future minutes.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the minutes for review [or summarized the actions taken during session and recorded them in its minutes]. The actions of a commission are the actions of Presbytery, thus subject to the general review and control of General Assembly “for the preservation both of truth and duty” (*BCO* 40; *PP* II.3).

25. That the Minutes of **Heartland** Presbytery: 59-0-1

a. Be approved without exception: **Jul 18, 2023**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**

c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Feb 04, 2023 (*BCO* 6-2; *BCO* 57) — Presbytery accepts a response from a session that had “received members while imposing conditions on their membership.” While session admitted their error and promised not to repeat it in the future, there is no evidence that they removed the “conditions” from the members in question.

2024-2: Apr 28-29, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4.g) — Presbytery granted a doctrinal exception that appears to be out of accord with the fundamentals of our doctrinal standards. The examinee’s stated different was: “2. *WLC* Q. 109. What are the sins forbidden in the second commandment? A. The sins forbidden in the second commandment are, all devising, counselling, commanding, using, and anywise approving, any religious worship not instituted by God himself; tolerating a false religion; the making any representation of God, of all or of any of the three persons, either inwardly in our mind, or outwardly in any kind of image or likeness of any creature whatsoever... My exception here is in regards to the phrase “of any of the three persons...” With reference to Jesus Christ, no image should be made depicting His divinity. However He has appeared in the flesh, presenting to us His image. To image the humanity of Christ I do not believe is forbidden in the second commandment. Thus by application, I have no problem with the making of films depicting the life of Christ. God has imaged Himself in the Son. Secondly, the phrase “or outwardly any kind of image or likeness of any creature whatsoever...” I take to be specifically prohibited for the purpose of worship. To

disconnect it from that qualifier makes the commandment itself reduce to absurdity because it would prohibit all paintings, art, photography or anything else that represents any creature of God’s creation.”

As it stands, this statement seems to say we can make “images” that picture the incarnate second person of the Trinity as opposed to merely representing his humanity. If that is the position it would seem to strike at the vitals of religion.

2024-3: Apr 28-29, 2023 (*BCO* 20-1) — No record of why Presbytery considered a call from a non-PCA source to be a valid Christian ministry.

2024-4: Aug 26, 2023 (*BCO* 20-1; *BCO* 21-1) — A man is examined for ordination without Presbytery having the call in its hands.

2024-5: Aug 26, 2023 (*BCO* 18-2; *BCO* 18-7) — No record of a man being a candidate in this or any other presbytery prior to his being examined for “transfer of license and ordination.”

2024-6: Sep 29-30, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4.c(4)) — Presbytery establishes a 6 member committee to hear licensure and ordination sermons for the next 3 years. For ordination this would require a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote.

2024-7: Oct 28, 2023 (*BCO* 18-7) — No record of a certificate of dismissal for a candidate coming from another PCA presbytery.

2024-8: General 2023 (*BCO* 18-6; *BCO* 19-12) — No record of annual reports of candidates nor of reports on interns at each stated meeting.

2024-9: General 2023 (*BCO* 8-7; *BCO* 13-2) — No record of annual reports for one of the men serving out of bounds or for two of the three men without call.

d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:

2023-1: Apr 22-23, 2022; Nov 4-5, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-months membership for candidates.

Response: The Heartland Presbytery agrees with this Exception of Substance. It was a clerical error in that we failed to record that each candidate mentioned had fulfilled the six-month membership requirement. This requirement was affirmed within each endorsement from the respective Session. We will be more diligent in the future to record both the Session endorsement and fulfillment of the six-month membership requirement separately in our minutes.

2023-2: Nov 4-5, 2022 (BCO 18-7) — Insufficient reason given for removing candidate from the roll.

Response: The Heartland Presbytery agrees with this Exception of Substance. It was a clerical error in that we failed to record the reasons for removing the candidate from the roll. The candidate, [name omitted] , moved to South Carolina to study at Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary and has become a candidate under the care of Calvary Presbytery. We will be more diligent in the future to fully record the reasons for removing candidates from the roll.

26. That the Minutes of **Heritage** Presbytery: 62-0-0

- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Mar 14, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: Jan 28, 2023** (BCO 21-4c.(1)(a)) — Incomplete record of Ordination Exam, specifically examination as to “his acquaintance with experiential religion, especially his personal character and family management...”
 - 2024-2: May 09, 2023** (BCO 21-4 c.(1)(a)) — Incomplete record of Ordination Exam, specifically examination as to “his acquaintance with experiential religion, especially his personal character and family management...”
 - 2024-3: Sep 09, 2023** (BCO 19-2.d) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded
 - 2024-4: Nov 18, 2023** (BCO 18-2) — No record of six month membership for candidate or Session endorsement
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
 - 2023-1: Feb 04, 2022** (BCO 13-12) — Notice for called meeting not in order.

Response: The Stated Meeting scheduled for January 29, 2022 was cancelled due to snow. We called a meeting for February 4, 2022 to take care of approvals that needed to meet deadlines, prior to our next Stated meeting in May 2022. At that time, we did not realize the 10-day notice was necessary. We apologize and thank you for this notification. We have made this correction and will continue to do moving forward. Note: Since then, we have had the need for another

Called meeting. Having been reminded of the 10-day advanced notice, we did so and will in the future.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2022-1: May 11, 2021 (*BCO* 38-3) — No determination of a judgment by presbytery as to the withdrawal of a minister from the PCA to another body.

Response: The Heritage Presbytery moved/seconded and approved the motion [p.1] to accept the resignation of then TE [name omitted] , at the May 11, 2021 124th Stated Meeting). This action was predicated on the email we received from the TE documented on page 18 of the approved Minutes from the May 11, 2021, 124th Stated Meeting, resigning from the Heritage Presbytery and the PCA. This report was approved at the 131st Heritage Presbytery Meeting on January 28, 2023.

Rationale: Presbytery needs to judge the matter under *BCO* 38-2 or the appropriate section of *BCO* 38-3.

Response: [2023] [Name omitted] was divested under 38-2, removed as irregularity under provision of 38-3 (a) because he affiliated with another branch of the visible church the presbytery recognized as maintaining the word and sacraments in their fundamental integrity.

Rationale: Presbytery needs to judge the matter under *BCO* 38-2 or the appropriate section of *BCO* 38-3. The Presbytery still needs to judge the matter in either provision. If he is divested, he no longer falls under *BCO* 38-3.

27. That the Minutes of **Highlands** Presbytery: 59-0-1

- a. Be approved without exception: **Aug 05, 2023; Nov 14, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: May 02, 2023 (*RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated difference offered not judged with prescribed categories.

2024-2: Feb 25, 2023 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation or Session respectively concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

2024-3: General 2023 (BCO 18-6) — Annual reports of candidates not included.

- d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2023-1: Feb 26, 2022 (BCO 21-4) — No record of requiring a statement of differences with our Standards.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets not recording that we followed this requirement. At its November 14, 2023, Stated Meeting, the Highlands Presbytery took the following action: MSC: Amend the minutes of the Feb 26, 2022, meeting to include the following clause: “TE [name omitted] indicated he takes no stated differences with the Standards.”

2023-2: Feb 26, 2022 (BCO 20-1) — No record of the reasons why Presbytery considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets not recording the reasons why Presbytery considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry. At its November 14, 2023, Stated Meeting, the Highlands Presbytery took the following action: MSC: Amend the minutes of the Feb 26, 2022, meeting to include the following clause: “Presbytery considers this work to be a valid Christian ministry because it involves the following pastoral services at the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association: 1) Pastor-in-residence (PIR), 2) Seminar Emcee, 3) Guided Personal Spiritual Retreat instructor/counselor/facilitator. The candidate described these services as follows: “As PIR my duties are to counsel, pray with and serve seminar participants spiritual needs during agreed upon seminars. As Seminar Emcee my duties are to serve our Bible teacher, facilitate the flow of the seminar’s program, pray and point participants to the spiritual opportunities and resources offered during their stay at The Cove. As Guided Personal Spiritual Retreat Leader (GPSR) my role is lead four 3-day & 4-Day spiritual retreats as pastor/host providing Biblical instruction, personal counseling/coaching and setting the stage for people to connect with God.””

2023-3: May 03, 2022 (BCO 23-10) — No record that the Congregation/Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets not recording that the Congregation concurred with the dissolution of the

pastoral relations. At its November 14, 2023, Stated Meeting, the Highlands Presbytery took the following action: MSC: Amend the minutes of the May 3, 2022, meeting to include the following clause from the Shepherding Committee report at the same meeting: “At a properly called meeting on February 27, 2022, the congregation voted unanimously to accept the resignation.”

2023-4: May 3, 2022; Nov 1, 2022 (RAO 16-3.e.1) — Reasons for chair’s ruling on a point of order not given.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets not recording the reasons for chair’s ruling on a point of order. Due to the passage of time, we are unable to reconstruct the record to include the rationale. Presbytery will aim in the future to record the reasons given by the chair for his rulings on points of order.

28. That the Minutes of **Hills and Plains** Presbytery: 66-0-0

a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Jan 19, 2023; Dec 08, 2023**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **Oct 10, 2023**

c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Feb 11, 2023 (Standing Rules, 6-2.b; *RONR* [12th ed.] 23:6.(e); 25-10) — Rule protecting fundamental rights of absentees suspended (requirement of notice for amendment to standing rules).

2024-2: Feb 11, 2023 (*BCO* 13-2) — No action of Presbytery to receive ordinand candidate into membership.

2024-3: Apr 17, 2023 (RAO 16-3c.6; *BCO* 13-4) — No record of the delegates in attendance at the meeting.

2024-4: May 02, 2023 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of endorsement by the Session nor of six month membership for the candidate.

2024-5: Jun 30, 2023 (RAO 16-3c.6; *BCO* 13-4) — No record of the delegates in attendance at the meeting.

d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2022-1: Feb 13, 2021 (*BCO* 15-1; 21-5) — No record of appointment of an ordination commission.

Response: In a severe oversight, no commission was ever established and Rev. [name omitted] never had an installation service. He has been in the service of the presbytery as chaplain and TE since 2020. He has recently been hired as a part-time assistant within the

presbytery (in addition to his current duties) and we will administer all the formalities at that installation service. Those records will be included in the 2022 minutes.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).

Response: Because of a significant oversight, this wasn't done until 2022. It has now been rectified. The establishment of the commission was recorded in the minutes of October 11, 2022

2023-1: General 2022 (*BCO* 12-7; 40-1) — No evidence of review of Session records in 2022 or from outstanding sessional records from 2017 to present.

Response: This continues to be true for 2022, but is now rectified as of this response (see minutes of October 2023 for details). HPP formed a review of session record committee at the October 2022 presbytery meeting which completed a special mandate to complete the review 2017 through 2022 by the end of the 2023 calendar year. The 2023 minutes show that all outstanding review of session records have been performed.

2023-2: Feb 25, 2022; May 10, 2022 (*BCO* 19-9) — All specific requirements of internship not recorded (inward call to the ministry of the Word).

Response: Feb 25, 2022: Mr. [name omitted] gave a statement of his inward call to the ministry of the Word. (*BCO* 19-9) May 10, 2022: Mr. [name omitted] gave a statement of his inward call to the ministry of the Word. (*BCO* 19-9).

2023-3: Mar 5, 2022; Dec 10, 2022 (*BCO* 13-12) — Notice for called meeting not in order (10-day notice not recorded).

Response: March 5, 2022: Notice of the special meeting was sent, February 24, 2022, ten days in advance to each teaching elder and to the Clerk of Session of every church. (*BCO* 13-12) Dec 10, 2022: Notice of the special meeting was sent, November 17, 2022, more than ten days in advance to each teaching elder and to the Clerk of Session of every church. (*BCO* 13-12)

2023-4: Mar 5, 2022; May 10, 2022; Oct 11, 2022 (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commissions not entered in Presbytery minutes.

Response: Mar 5, 2022 re: [name omitted] : HPP Respectfully disagrees. These minutes were submitted to RPR for 2021 and were approved by RPR without exception. May 10, 2022 re: Judicial Commission: These minutes will be included as part of the 2023 submission. Oct 11, 2022 re: [name omitted]: These minutes will be included as part of the 2023 submission.

2023-5: May 10, 2022 (Standing Rules, 6-2.b; *RONR* [12th ed.] 23:6.(e); 25:10) — Rule protecting fundamental rights of absentees suspended (requirement of notice for amendment to standing rules).

Response: HPP sincerely apologizes. HPP was unaware that we could not suspend standing rule 6-2.b per 6-2.a in order to expedite changing standing rules. We will not continue this practice in the future.

2023-6: May 10, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2; 18-3) — All specific requirements of coming under care not recorded (six-months membership; experiential religion and motives for seeking the ministry).

Response: Mr. [name omitted], having been a member of a PCA church in excess of 6 months, as recorded in his application, was examined by the Presbytery on experiential religion and on his motives for seeking the ministry. (*BCO* 18-3) Mr. [name omitted], having been a member of a PCA church in excess of 6 months, as recorded in his application, was examined by the Presbytery on experiential religion and on his motives for seeking the ministry. (*BCO* 18-3)

2023-7: May 10, 2022 (*BCO* 13-6) — Incomplete record of examinations of TEs transferring into Presbytery (views in theology, the Sacraments, and church government).

Response: TE [name omitted] was examined on Christian experience, and also touching his views in theology, the Sacraments, and church government. His examinations were approved. TE [name omitted] was examined on Christian experience, and also touching his views in theology, the Sacraments, and church government. His examinations were approved. (*BCO* 13-6).

2023-8: May 10, 2022 (*BCO* 21-1) — Unclear whether call had been finalized (“pending changes”) when approved by Presbytery.

Response: HPP respectfully disagrees. Pending changes for finalization of call and approval of call is clearly recorded under item

V. on [pg. 91 (pg. 2)] in the report of commission of ordination and installation, which was in accordance with the scope of the commission assigned for the ordination and installation.

2023-9: Oct 11, 2022 (*BCO* 15-2) — Membership and scope of authority for commission not recorded.

Response: The Moderator appointed a commission of TEs [names omitted], and REs [names omitted] to proceed with the installation of TE [name omitted] as assistant pastor of [church name omitted] on November 27, 2022, (*BCO* 15-2) with special instructions to also perform the ordination vows and laying on of hands that, in great error, has previously been neglected

2023-10: Oct 11, 2022 (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded (inward call to preach the gospel).

Response: As part of his licensure examination, RE [name omitted] gave a statement of his Christian experience and inward call to preach the Gospel. (*BCO* 19-2).

2023-11: Dec 10, 2022 (*BCO* 13-12) — Business conducted that exceeded the scope of notice (appointment of temporary Session commission).

Response: RPR is correct. Furthermore, this action never should have been taken. See response to “Dec 10, 2022 [p. 157 (p. 2)] (Preliminary Principle 6)

2023-12: Dec 10, 2022 (PP 6) — Temporary Session appointed over a congregation without record of consent of congregation.

Response: RPR is correct that the presbytery erred. Special note is taken that this is out of order so that we never do so again. No actions were ever taken by the temporary session and the congregation has since properly elected and the presbytery has installed a pastor there such that the church once again has a properly established session.

29. That the Minutes of **Houston Metro** Presbytery: *59-0-1*
- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **Jan 20, 2023; Mar 27, 2023; Aug 18, 2023; Nov 13, 2023**
 - c. Be approved with exception of substance: **None**
 - d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**

2022-1: General (*BCO* 13-9.b) — No record of review of records of Session completed and approved by action of Presbytery.

Response: Our Review of Sessional Records Committee has reviewed records of Sessions, but has not brought a report in some time. We will include such a report in our next set of minutes and endeavor to be more diligent about reporting in the future

Rationale: No record that Presbytery has corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1) and provided a report. The Presbytery has been cited again this year for not reporting the status of its reviews.

Response: HMP reviewed records of Sessions at its April 11, 2022, meeting through its Review of Session Records Committee report. This is reflected in our April 11, 2022, minutes. HMP apologizes for this oversight and will work diligently to make sure all reports are clearly and completely documented in the future

2023-1: General 2022 (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) — No record of review of records of church Sessions.

Response: HMP acknowledges this error in our minutes for 2022. While reports of the Review of Sessional Records Committee were not listed, the Committee's reports were approved by Presbytery at the April and November 2022 Stated Meetings but were not part of the Minutes for these respective meetings. HMP will amend our minutes to reflect this fact. HMP apologizes for this oversight and will work diligently to make sure all reports are clearly and completely documented in the future.

2023-2: General 2022 (*BCO* 8-7) — No record of annual reports of TEs laboring out of bounds.

Response: HMP apologizes for this oversight and will work diligently to make sure all reports are clearly and completely documented in the future. HMP will include a report of TEs who labored out of bounds in 2023 in our 2024 minutes.

2023-4: Jan 21, 2022; Aug 19, 2022 (*BCO* 21-1) — No record that Congregation/Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

Response: HMP apologizes for this oversight and will work diligently to make sure all reports are clearly and completely documented in the future. The January 21, 2022, minutes do indicate that a congregational meeting of [church name omitted] PCA was held on November 28, 2021, and those minutes were submitted to

presbytery. With respect to the minutes from August 19, 2022, the Session did concur with the dissolution of the pastoral relations and submitted its minutes to presbytery. We will amend our minutes to reflect that fact.

2023-5: Jan 21, 2022; April 11, 2022 (BCO 15-1, RAO 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.

Response: HMP apologizes for this oversight and will work diligently to make sure all reports are clearly and completely documented in the future. Attached you will find the missing minutes.

2023-6: Apr 11, 2022 (BCO 5-9.a.i) — Incomplete record of particularization service.

Response: HMP apologizes for this oversight and will work diligently to make sure all reports are clearly and completely documented in the future

2023-7: Apr 11, 2022 (BCO 18-2) — No record of six-months membership for candidate or record of endorsement by candidate's session.

Response: A testimonial from the session of six-months membership was submitted to HMP. HMP apologizes for not including this in its minutes and will work diligently to make sure all reports are clearly and completely documented in the future.

- e. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2023-3: Jan 21, 2022 (BCO 13-11; RAO 16-3.e.7) — Minutes of executive session not included.

Response: HMP apologizes for this oversight and will work diligently to make sure all reports are clearly and completely documented in the future. Attached you will find the missing minutes.

Rationale: Purported executive minutes were not attached.

30. That the Minutes of Illiana Presbytery: 60-0-0
- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Jan 21, 2023; Apr 01, 2023; Oct 21, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory**
 - c. Be approved with exception of substance: **None**
 - d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**

2021-1: Oct 17, 2020 (*BCO* 21-4) — Use of extraordinary clause for ordination candidate not explained, and 3/4 vote not recorded.

Response: Vote to approve extraordinary clause was unanimous.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). The 3/4 vote was explained by an unrecorded unanimous vote, but not the reason for using the extraordinary clause (*BCO* 21-4.d).

Response: [name omitted] came to us being ordained in another denomination and he, upon examination by our C&C Committee and Illiana Presbytery proved to have extraordinary gifts and experience in the ministry, thus Presbytery ordained him under the extraordinary clause (*BCO* 13-6 & 21-4h)

2021-2: Oct 17, 2020 (*BCO* 22-5; Preliminary Principle 6) — No record of Sessions' approval of men serving as Stated Supply.

Response: Clerk does not understand this exception. If the man is approved by Presbytery to serve as Stated Supply it is assumed the Session requests his ministry, what is additionally required to indicate their approval?

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). It cannot be assumed that the Session approves of the Stated Supply solely on the basis of the Presbytery's approval.

Response: Included are [church name omitted] Session minutes where it was discussed to finalize plans to approve TE [name omitted] as Stated Supply. This would have been voted on at the October Presbytery meeting. The clerk of session, brought a motion to the floor of Presbytery through Candidates & Credentials to appoint TE [name omitted] as Stated Supply of [church name omitted] at which time it was approved.

2021-3: Jan 18, 2020 (*BCO* 13-9.c; 23-1) — No record of congregational meeting to consider pastoral resignation.

Response: The resignation and dissolution of the pastoral relationship came from the [church name omitted] Session to Presbytery. Congregational meeting details were not provided by C&C.

Rationale: Presbytery should ensure that the congregation's voice was heard in the dissolution of pastoral relationship (*BCO* 23-1).

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Response: Attached are [church name omitted] Congregational meeting minutes from 2/20/20 and Session minutes from 3/28/20 show dissolution of pastoral relationship with TE [name omitted] resigned as a RE at [church name omitted] and withdrew his membership, so his request to suspend his Internship was denied since he was no longer a member of the PCA. I believe this business was finalized at our October 2021 meeting. Minutes from 10/13/21 where it was discussed that intern [name omitted] left the PCA and wanted to end his internship. Minutes from 1/6/22 indicate internship was formally ended.

2022-2: General (RAO 16-4.c.2) — Standing Rules not included.

Response: Clerk had intended and believed that Standing Rules were included with the Submission. They are part of the 2023 minutes.

2022-3: General (RAO 16-10.a) — No record in minutes of exceptions taken by GA, and no responses to the Assembly concerning disposition of an exception of substance.

Response: Responses to exceptions were accomplished by a Commission established by Illiana Presbytery to create, authorize, and submit said responses. Clerk will enter into minutes of the Spring Stated Meeting 2024 the report of RPR in order to accomplish these dispositions.

- e. **That responses shall be submitted to the following GA as no responses were received in 2024:**

2023-1: General 2022 (BCO 13-9.b; 40-1) — No record of review of records of church Sessions.

2023-2: General 2022 (BCO 8-7) — No record of annual report(s) of TE(s) laboring out of bounds.

31. That the Minutes of **Iowa** Presbytery: 56-4-3

- a. Be approved without exception: **Mar 18, 2023; Aug 24, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **Jul 08, 2023; General 2023**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Oct 09, 2023 (BCO 8-7) — No record that TE working out of bounds will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our church.

2024-2: Nov 11, 2023 (*BCO* 13-9.b; *BCO* 40-3) — Results of review of church session minutes not stated or recorded.

- d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2022-1: Jul 10, 2021 (*BCO* 42-1.e; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not judged with prescribed categories.

Response: Brothers, as noted in the minutes cited, while the clerk was not present at the meeting, he did contact the man who had been examined to have from him a written recording of his own words regarding any exceptions he might have. The clerk sought to make clear to the presbytery (and to RPR) that we do recognize the importance of listing such differences and that the exception was included verbatim in the minutes. However, since the clerk could not be certain of the exact language shared at the presbytery meeting, it did not seem either truthful nor wise to put words into the mouth of the presbytery such as “merely semantic” or “more than semantic, but “not out of accord”. If you were to read minutes of previous years you would know that that has been and remains our normal recording of this part of examinations. Yet, not wanting to record an unusual event as if it were “normal” the minutes were recorded as they were. We cannot change what was recorded and remind RPR that we will seek to return to our “normal” method of recording such things just as we have sought faithfully to do since the beginning of this presbytery.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not reconsidered the stated differences in order to judge with prescribed categories.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and corrects its record to reflect the proper wording regarding our judgment. We will seek to be more careful in the future.

2023-1: Feb 15, 2022 (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) — Purpose of called meeting not recorded verbatim in the minutes.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and has corrected the record to state that the called purpose was for the transfer of TE [name omitted] into the Iowa Presbytery from the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery of the PCA.

2023-2: Feb 15, 2022 (*BCO* 13-4) — No record of three TEs and three REs calling meeting.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and while unable to correct the record, we promise to be more careful in the future.

2023-3: Feb 15, 2022; Mar 12, 2022; Jul 9, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not judged with the prescribed categories.

Response: February 15, 2022 – The TE did not have a change in his views upon transferring into Iowa Presbytery from the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery. As such the stated differences posted in the minutes were not the subject of the examination and were likely added for sake of thoroughness, which added unintended confusion. Moving forward, we will not post stated differences when, during a transfer exam, no changes in previous views are recorded.

March 12, 2022 – The previous clerk noted “as per checklist” as a way of implying that the exam was completed as required by *BCO* 21-4 & *RAO* 16-3.e.5. We recognize that this is insufficient and presbytery agrees with the exception. We apologize and will work to be clearer in the future. For the record, the candidate was examined in all areas and his stated differences were deemed as exceptions neither striking at the vitals of our religion nor hostile to our system of doctrine.

July 9, 2022 – The candidate’s stated exceptions were examined at the previous meeting (*cf.* March 12, 2022). We regret including his stated differences a second time, thus creating the confusion.

2023-4: Jul 09, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4) — No record of exam in PCA History.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and has corrected the record. The candidate, when examined in Church History, was also examined in PCA Church History. We regret the conflation of our records to make it appear as though this did not happen. We will strive to be more careful going forward.

2023-5: Jul 09, 2022 (*BCO* 19-16) — 3/4 vote for waiving internship requirement not recorded.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and has corrected the record. We regret forgetting to note this in our minutes. The candidate had over 20 years of ministry experience and the vote to waive the internship requirement was unanimous. We will seek be more careful going forward.

2023-6: Jul 09, 2022 (*BCO* 19-1) — No record of licensure exam in body of the minutes.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and has corrected the record. Regrettably, we did not clearly note the examination of candidate [name omitted] for licensure. Lines 37 & 38 of page 2 which read, “MSC to agree with committees’ recommendation that exceptions do not strike at core of reformed faith or our system of doctrine. (See Appendix E and F),” refers to our actions respecting candidate [name omitted]’s stated differences. We apologize for the oversight and will seek to avoid anything like this moving forward.

32. That the Minutes of **James River** Presbytery: 63-0-0

a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Jul 20, 2023; Oct 14, 2023**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory**

c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Jan 21, 2023 (*RAO* 16-3.c.6) — No record of the names of ruling elders in attendance.

2024-2: Apr 15, 2023 (*BCO* 20-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.6) — Specific arrangements of call not shown to be approved.

2024-3: Apr 15, 2023 (*BCO* 13-6, 21-4) — No record of requiring statement of differences with our Standards for reception from another denomination.

2024-4: Apr 15, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4.d) — Incomplete record of the trial parts omitted for reception from another denomination.

2024-5: Apr 15, 2023 (*BCO* 13-6; *BCO* 21-4.i) — Incomplete record of extraordinary circumstances of the church or proven extraordinary gifts of the man when invoking the extraordinary provisions of *BCO* 21-4 for reception from another denomination.

d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**

2023-1: Jan 15, 2022 (*BCO* 19-7; 19-16) — Internship less than one year, with no record of 3/4 affirmative vote.

Response: The JRP acknowledges and agrees with the Assembly's taken exception of substance, and expresses its commitment to comply with all of the *BCO*'s requirements for recording the steps in particularization of new churches in the future. While we followed what is written in *BCO* 19-7 and 19-16 by approving the internship

with more than a 3/4 vote, we acknowledge that we failed to record that in our minutes

2023-2: Jan 15, 2022; April 9, 2022; July 21, 2022; October 8, 2022 (*BCO* 13-4) — Quorum declared but attendance sheet records no REs present.

Response: The JRP disagrees with this exception of substance. While names of attending ruling elders were not included in the minutes, the record shows on the listed pages that churches were either considered present or absent (noted by the "P" and the "U" next to the names of each church) by the presence of commissioned ruling elders. *BCO* 13-1 makes it clear that a Presbytery is comprised of TEs and her churches, not the specific ruling elders. We consider our record sufficient to satisfy *BCO* 13-4. With that said, we will endeavor to include our scanned attendance forms in future years' minutes.

2023-3: Jul 21, 2022 (PP 6; *BCO* 16-2) — No record that members of temporary Session were approved by congregation.

Response: The JRP acknowledges and agrees with the Assembly's taken exception of substance, and expresses its commitment to comply with Preliminary Principle 6 and *BCO* 16-2. We created an oversight commission on a church in an emergency without explicit prior approval from the congregation. After the commission was made, the congregation gave verbal acquiescence to the temporary session. But this was a failure on our part and we will endeavor to more properly follow the *BCO* if this were to arise again.

33. That the Minutes of **Korean Capital** Presbytery: *63-0-1*

a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**

c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Apr 03, 2023 (*BCO* 13-10; Preliminary Principle 3) — No record of transfer or dismissal of members upon dissolving a church

2024-3: Apr 03, 2023 (*BCO* 13-9.b; *BCO* 40-1) — Incomplete record of review of records of church Sessions.

2024-4: Jun 04, 2023 (*BCO* 13-12) — Notice for called meeting not in order (10-day notice and verbatim meeting call not recored in minutes).

2024-5: Jul 20, 2023 (*BCO* 13-12) — Notice for called meeting not in order (10-day notice and verbatim meeting call not recored in minutes).

2024-6: Jul 20, 2023 (*BCO* 31-2; *BCO* 32-2; 32-3) — No record of a *BCO* 31-2 investigation that raised a “strong presumption of guilt” or a written charge made out against the accused TE before the Presbytery appointed a prosecutor to prepare the indictment and designated a commission to conduct the trial.

2024-7: Jul 20, 2023 (*BCO* 32-5) — No record that Presbytery specified “the times, places and circumstances” for accused to make his defense” against the indictment.

2024-8: Oct 02, 2023 (*BCO* 13-9b; *BCO* 40-1) — Results of review of records of church Sessions not stated.

2024-9: Oct 02, 2023 (*BCO* 13-5; *BCO* 20-1) — No record of call to a definite work for a TE transferring from another denomination.

2024-10: Dec 31, 2023 (*BCO* 13-12) — Notice for called meeting not in order (10-day notice and verbatim meeting call not recored in minutes).

d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:

2022-1: Oct 04, 2021 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of transfer exam not recorded.

Response: We apologize for not recording all the details fully. TE [name omitted] was ordained at the Evangelical Church Alliance. We will note the minutes accordingly.

Rationale: Presbytery has not demonstrated that the specific requirements were fulfilled.

Response: We regret the oversight. All two TE(minister) admission(transfer) candidates passed all the requirements of the minister admission exams which are the same as the ordination exam requirements in our presbytery. We have revised the minutes accordingly and it is attached to this response.

2022-2: Apr 05, 2021 (*BCO* 13-11) — No Record of the February 26, 2021 Presbytery meeting.

Response: The “2/26/2021 meeting” mentioned in the middle of p. 5 is not referring to a regular presbytery meeting but an action commission meeting. Our bylaw allows the action commission to act on the matters of member resignation and other non-controversial

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nature on behalf of the presbytery (note below), which calls for a timely decision. The action commission includes at least two teaching elders and two ruling elders so that it can act as a commission. Korean Capital Presbytery ByLaws 4.2.2 The Action Commission 4.2.2.1 It shall resolve on the petitions which was received from the stated clerk and the matters submitted by the Presbytery, and it shall submit them to the Presbytery for an approval. Especially, when a pastor who has to leave his field before the next stated presbytery meeting requests for a dissolution of the pastoral relations, the commission may, within its judgment, decide to take up and resolve on the petition.

Rationale: The Presbytery has not provided the commission's minutes for review.

Response: The Action Commission reported its action through a summary of its important actions in a summary form, which was attached in Appendix E.1 (page 24) of the Apr 5, 2021 stated presbytery meeting minutes. That summary reads: "Action Committee Report submitted on 4/4/2021; 2/26/2021 [Korean Text Omitted] Approved TE [name omitted] Out-of-bounds status change (from assistant pastor at [church name omitted] to without call) and the Transfer to Korean Southwest (O.C.) presbytery at 2/26/2021 meeting." In the above summary, "2/26/2021 meeting" refers to the Action Commission meeting, not a presbytery meeting. The name "Action Commission" was in place effective 4/5/2021 meeting after the bylaw amendment approved that day, but the Action Committee was already authorized to approve TE ministry status change before that amendment. We made sure that the committee could act as a commission with proper quorum of both TEs and REs. We attach the minutes with the appendices to this new response for the RPR's review.

2023-1: Apr 4, 2022; Oct 3, 2022 (RAO 16-10.a) — No record in minutes of exceptions taken by GA.

Response: We were unable to review the exceptions until the following year. The Action Commission on Mar 24, 2023 approved the responses before they were submitted to the RPR and that action was reported at the following presbytery meeting on Apr 3, 2023 as part of the Action Commission report. The Apr 3, 2023 Presbytery Stated Meeting Minutes reflects that report

2023-2: Apr 04, 2022 (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded.

Response: We regret the oversight. Both candidates were examined all specific requirements of licensure exam on the floor (Christian experience and inward call to ministry, Theology, Bible content and *BCO*). We have revised the minutes accordingly and it is attached to this response

2023-3: Apr 04, 2022 (*BCO* 19-16) — 3/4 vote for waiving internship requirement not recorded.

Response: We regret the oversight. The required 3/4 vote for waiving internship requirement was met on the floor. We have revised the minutes accordingly and it is attached to this response

2023-4: Apr 04, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.

Response: We regret the oversight. All three candidates passed all the requirements of the ordination exams. We have revised the minutes accordingly and it is attached to this response.

2023-5: Apr 04, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not judged with the prescribed categories.

Response: We regret the oversight. All three ordination candidates had calls to a definite work and they were reviewed and approved by the presbytery. We have revised the minutes accordingly and it is attached to this response.

2023-6: Apr 04, 2022 (*BCO* 20-1) — No record of call to a definite work.

Response: We regret the oversight. All three ordination candidates had calls to a definite work and they were reviewed and approved by the presbytery. We have revised the minutes accordingly and it is attached to this response.

2023-7: Apr 04, 2022 (*BCO* 13-6) — No record of examination of TE transferring into Presbytery.

Response: We regret the oversight. All two candidates passed all the requirements of the ordination exams. Their ministry calls were also reviewed and approved. We have revised the minutes accordingly and it is attached to this response.

2023-8: Apr 04, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not judged with the prescribed categories.

Response: We regret the oversight. All licensure, ordination, and TE transfer candidates were examined as to their stated differences to the Westminster Standards and their exceptions were judged according to the prescribed categories of *RAO* 16-3.e.5. We have revised the minutes accordingly and it is attached to this response.

2023-9: Apr 04, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of endorsement by candidates' Sessions.

Response: We regret the oversight. The session endorsements for all three candidates of the gospel ministry were reviewed by the presbytery. We have revised the minutes accordingly and it is attached to this response.

2023-10: Oct 03, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.

Response: We regret the oversight. The candidate was not examined for the ordination but for transfer from another denomination. He passed all the requirements of the minister admission exams which are the same as the ordination exam requirements in our presbytery. We have revised the minutes accordingly and it is attached to this response.

2023-11: Apr 4, 2022; Oct 3, 2022 (*BCO* 20-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.6) — No record that call was approved.

Response: We regret the oversight. All ordination, TE transfer and TE admission candidates had calls to a definite work and they were reviewed and approved by the presbytery. The minutes are revised to reflect that action.

2023-12: Apr 04, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-months membership for candidates.

Response: We regret the oversight. The presbytery reviewed and confirmed that all candidates of the gospel ministry had at least six-month membership at the churches under the oversight of the endorsing sessions. We have revised the minutes accordingly and it is attached to this response.

34. That the Minutes of **Korean Central** Presbytery: *63-0-1*
- a. Be approved without exception: **Oct 10, 2022; Apr 19, 2023; Oct 10, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2023**

- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
- 2024-1: Oct 11, 2022** (*BCO* 24-1; 40-4; 11-4; Preliminary Principle 6) — Minutes contain several references to men being examined for the office of ruling elder. This appears to be the presbytery exercising oversight over the election of ruling elders.
- 2024-2: Oct 11, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.
- 2024-3: Oct 11, 2022** (*BCO* 38-2; 38-3) — Demission/withdrawal requires more information according to *BCO* 38-2; 38-3.
- 2024-4: Oct 11, 2022** (*BCO* 18-2) — Incomplete examination for candidates for the gospel ministry
- 2024-5: Oct 11, 2023** (*BCO* 24-1; 40-4; 11-4; Preliminary Principle 6) — Minutes contain several references to men being examined for the office of ruling elder. This appears to be the presbytery exercising oversight over the election of ruling elders.
- 2024-6: Apr 18, 2023** (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of examination for transfer from outside the PCA.
- 2024-7: Oct 11, 2023** (*BCO* 13-6) — Incomplete exam for transfer from another presbytery within the PCA
- 2024-8: Oct 11, 2023** (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of examination for transfer from outside the PCA. Portions of the exam may be omitted by a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of presbytery.
- 2024-10: Jan 10, 2023** - Minutes of Called Meeting 1/10/2023 missing/not received by RPR.
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
- 2022-2: Jul 13, 2021** (*BCO* 13-11) — Complaint sent to Presbytery not recorded in Presbytery’s minutes.
- Response:** Korean Central Presbytery respectfully disagrees with this exception. The original complaint was not included with the minutes for this called meeting due to our understanding of *BCO* 40-3: “Proceedings in judicial cases, however, shall not be dealt with under review and control when notice of appeal or complaint has been given the lower court.” At the time CRPR held its meeting in June 2021, this complaint was being adjudicated by the SJC. Now that the SJC has issued its final decision on this case, we have submitted the complaint to the 50th General Assembly for review.

Rationale: While the CRPR does not have any judicial authority in cases being adjudicated by a higher court such as the SJC, a full and accurate record of minutes (including all referenced appendices, etc.) has not yet been submitted for review. (see: *RAO* 16-3.e.8)

Response: [2023] KCP appreciates CRPR's clarification on this exception. The original Complaint in question will be submitted for review.

2023-3: Exceptions: Oct 12-13, 2021 (*RAO* 16-4.c.1; *BCO* 40-4) — A number of TEs are named to be investigated but no record or explanation of their connection to the Korean Central Presbytery or the PCA can be found in the minutes or directory.

Response: Korean Central Presbytery respectfully disagrees with the exception. The motion to investigate failed to meet the majority vote threshold to carry. Since this meeting, four TEs mentioned in this failed motion have departed from our Presbytery, including: 1) TE [name omitted]: transferred to the Presbytery of Northern Illinois; 2) TE [name omitted]: transferred to another denomination; 3) TE [name omitted]: demitted the ministry; 4) TE [name omitted]: demitted the ministry

2023-4: Oct 12-13, 2021 (*BCO* 8-7; 20-1; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) — TEs laboring out of bounds with missing information as to how and where they are serving.

Response: Korean Central Presbytery agrees with the exception. We will increase our efforts to gather reports from our members serving out of bounds per *BCO* 8-7 and include these documents when we submit our records.

2023-5: Apr 5-6, 2022 (*BCO* 24-1, 40-4; Preliminary Principle 6) — Agenda item 10 indicates that the presbytery voted to add 2 new ruling elders to Vineyard Presbyterian Church. This is out of order and in conflict with the *BCO*. Each congregation decides how many ruling elders to elect.

Response: Korean Central Presbytery agrees with the exception. The details from this Stated Meeting's records are admittedly vague. The church in question had sought the Presbytery's approval to add two REs to its Session, and the Presbytery simply acknowledged the request. In retrospect, this item should not have been on our meeting agenda since this matter is under the jurisdiction of the local

congregation per *BCO* 24-1. We apologize for the error, and we will be more careful in the future.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2021-1: Oct 13-14, 2020 (*BCO* 31-2) — There is no record in the minutes as to how the Presbytery disposed of accusations against TE [Name Omitted], TE [Name Omitted], and TE [Name Omitted].

Response: Korean Central Presbytery appreciates the Committee of Review of Presbytery Records attention to this matter but respectfully disagrees with this exception. The minutes from our October 2020 stated meeting specifically record our decision to form an ad-committee to investigate the accusations against these Teaching Elders and report their findings at the next stated meeting (see page 10 under agenda item 8).

Rationale: Presbytery misunderstands the nature of the exception. The accusations from the October 13-14 meeting list several ministers as accused, and while an ad interim committee is formed, the April 2021 meeting says that there was a “session of court” against only one of the TEs in question, but makes no mention of any of the other previously mentioned TEs. Presbytery records have no indication as to what happened to those members, nor are they listed in their directory.

Response: [2023] Korean Central Presbytery appreciates the CRPR’s clarification on this exception. The minutes of our 70th Stated Meeting in April 2021 indicate that Presbytery decided to accept the recommendations of the Ad-Interim Committee (p. 11). Regarding the three TEs in question, the Ad-Interim Committee’s recommendation was to “admonish [them] to act in accordance to the guidelines provided by the *BCO* as a way of preserving and protecting the purity of the church” (pp. 5-6 of the Committee Report). Since this April 2021 Stated Meeting, one of the TEs in question has transferred his membership to another Presbytery in the PCA, another has demitted from the ministry, and the third remains on KCP’s roll as a TE without a call.

Rationale: Admonition and deposition are censures inflicted by church courts which ordinarily require process (*BCO* 30-1). If this is

a case without process, confession of guilt is required and should be noted in the minutes (*BCO* 38-1).

2022-1: Apr 13-14, 2021 (*BCO* 13-11, 31-2, 32-2, 32-3, 32-4, 32-5, 36-1, 36-5, 37-3) — There is insufficient record in the minutes of actions taken by the Presbytery (as well as documents in support of those actions) pursuant to their handling of an ecclesiastical trial against TE [Name Omitted], such as, but not limited to the allegations against him, the recommendations from an ad interim committee appointed to consider these allegations, the indictment of the prosecutor, the imposition and removal of censure, and several additional motions related to this situation. These missing items need to be either recreated or collected and submitted to the 50th General Assembly.

Response: Korean Central Presbytery agrees with this exception and humbly apologizes for our oversight in this matter. We are submitting the following documents to the 50th General Assembly in response to this request by CRPR: (1) the original allegations against the TE as submitted to the Presbytery; (2) the findings and recommendations of the ad-interim committee as summarized in their report as received by the Presbytery; and (3) the minutes from this stated meeting, which summarizes our actions on the committee's recommendations. In addition, some of the actions from this April 2021 were the subject of a complaint that was adjudicated by the Standing Judicial Commission in June 2022 (SJC Case 2021-11).

Rationale: While the SJC sustained the complaint against some of Presbytery's procedural errors in this matter, it also ruled that many of these defects were no longer correctable, including the absence of an indictment from the prosecutor.

Response: Though Presbytery acknowledges their error and has sent some documents, the report from the interim committee seems to be missing their respective and referenced appendices (see: *RAO* 16-3.e.8), in addition to a letter of confession from the confessing TE.

Rationale: Appendices have been received; confession letter has not been received.

2023-1: Oct 12-13, 2021; Apr 5-6, 2022 (*BCO* 24-1, 40-4, 11-4; *BCO* Preliminary Principle 6) — Minutes contain several references to men having passed "the examination for ruling elders." This appears to be

the presbytery exercising oversight over who may be elected as a ruling elder.

Response: Korean Central Presbytery (hereafter “KCP”) acknowledges CRPR’s concern about the possibility of the Presbytery exercising undue oversight over local congregations. But we also respectfully note that the churches in our Presbytery elect their own ruling elder candidates. KCP examines these nominees only at the request of these church Sessions who deem themselves unable to administer these examinations on their own. The churches then install the RE nominees after they successfully complete their examinations by presbytery. While this seems to be a common practice among some Korean-language Presbyteries in the PCA, KCP acknowledges it is not ideal. We hope to move in a direction where our local church Sessions can examine their own nominees for Ruling Elders per *BCO* 12-5.b and *BCO* 24-1.

Rationale: Presbytery did not respond according to *RAO* 16-10.b. Presbytery can either agree with the exception or respectfully disagree with the exception.

2023-2: Oct 12-13, 2021; Apr 5-6, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not recorded in the minister’s/candidates own words.

Response: Korean Central Presbytery agrees with the exception. At our October 2021 Stated Meeting, an ordination candidate, [name omitted] , noted the following stated difference:

I have a different view of the “Sabbath” than WFC Chapter 21-8. I affirm with the Westminster statement that man needs to “observe a holy rest” on the Sabbath or Lord’s day. This means that man is to be separate from work, so that the Sabbath day looks different from other days. I affirm that man is not good at resting, there are many activities that one may consider resting that in fact is “profaning the day by idleness” (WLC 119). I believe that the specific definition of “holy rest” being that one should rest from “their works, words, and thoughts about their worldly employments and recreations” goes too far in its prohibitions. The statement “spend the whole time in public and private exercises of worship” fails to allow for creational rest and refreshment that can include such recreational activities as running, walking, and other God-glorifying, family nurturing actives as WLC

121 affirms. To do Sabbath worship and duties “all the day” and “the whole time” would seem at tension with the great significance Scripture also teaches on rest.

KCP adopted its Candidates and Credentials Committee’s recommendation to judge this stated difference to be “more than semantic but ‘not out of accord with any fundamental system of our doctrine.’”

At our April 2022 Stated Meeting, a licensure candidate, [name omitted], noted the following stated difference from *WCF* 21-8, *WLC* 117 and 119, and *WSC* 60-61:

I have a scruple concerning the forbidding of worldly recreations on the Lord’s day. I believe that recreation, such as the playing of sports or games can be a lawful form of rest on the Lord’s day.

KCP adopted its Candidates and Credentials Committee’s recommendation to judge this stated difference to be “more than semantic but ‘not out of accord with any fundamental system of our doctrine.’”

We apologize for not including these stated differences in our minutes, and we promise to be more careful in the future.

Rationale: Presbytery apologized and promises to be more careful in the future, but needs to amend the record and indicate as such in responses (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).

35. That the Minutes of **Korean Eastern** Presbytery: 65-0-1

- a. Be approved without exception: **None**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Sep 19, 2023 (*BCO* 8-7; *BCO* 20-1) — Presbytery approved an out-of-bounds call without assurance that the TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our church (8-7), without record that the TE is engaged in preaching and teaching the Word (8-7), and without stating reasons why it considers the out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry (20-1).

2024-2: Sep 12, 2023 (*BCO* 19-2.f) — No record of requiring statement of differences with our Standards

2024-3: Sep 12, 2023 (*BCO* 19-2) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded.

2024-4: Mar 14, 2023 (*BCO* 19-2) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded.

2024-5: Mar 14, 2023 (*BCO* 13-6) — Incomplete record of examination of TE transferring into Presbytery

2024-6: Mar 14, 2023 (*BCO* 13-6; *BCO* 21-4) — Incomplete record of exam for minister seeking admission from another denomination.

2024-7: Mar 14, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4; *BCO* 13-6) — No record of requiring statements of differences with our Standards.

2024-8: General 2023 (*BCO* 13-6; *BCO* 21-5) — A minister admitted from another denomination was not asked the questions put to candidates at their ordination.

2024-9: General 2023 (*BCO* 13-9.b; *BCO* 40-1) — No record of review of records of church Sessions.

2024-10: General 2023 (*BCO* 8-7) — No record of annual report(s) of TE(s) laboring out of bounds.

2024-11: General 2023 (*BCO* 18-6) — Annual reports of candidates not included.

2024-12: Mar 14, 2023 (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.

d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:

2019-1: Mar 18, 2018 (*BCO* 13-6) — Received as a member but no record of mechanism how it happened.

Response: The TE’s membership status was discussed on the floor and the KEP approved to grant him a continual membership with the promise of attending stated meeting and pay membership fee as required by the presbytery.

Rationale: A teaching elder must have a call to a definite work or be received as Without Call (*BCO* 13-5; 20-1).

Response: [2023] The TE’s membership status was discussed on the floor and the KEP approved to grant him a continual membership with the promise of attending stated meeting and pay membership fee as required by the presbytery.

Rationale: [2023] A teaching elder’s membership status must be recorded in the Presbytery’s minutes when he is received. A teaching elder must have a call to a definite work or be received as Without Call

(BCO 13-5; 20-1). Presbytery's response does not address the previous rationale.

Response: [2024] Thank you for the rational but this matter is heading toward wrong direction. The TE had a call and was a KEP member for many years. KEP discussed his membership status because he missed many stated meetings. Now the TE attends the meeting faithfully, so we sincerely ask to drop this exception before it causes more confusion.

2021-1: Mar 10, 2020 (BCO 20-1) — No record that teaching elder transferring into the presbytery has a call to a definite work.

Response: The presbytery admits the mistake. The minister served an independent church in Pittsburg, PA as senior pastor from September 2019. In March 2020, he requested to transfer his membership to PCA from the General Assembly of Presbyterian Church in Korea (Hapdong). At the same stated meeting the independent church in Pittsburg (PKPC) made a request to join KEP. PKPC submitted congregational meeting result for joining KEP. KEP formed commission with 5 TEs and 3 REs (P.4 of March 10, 2020 minutes).

2021-3: Mar 10, 2020 (BCO 13-8) — No record of examination of elders for a church that has petitioned to join the PCA.

Response: The presbytery apologizes for not including commission report with the stated meeting minutes. The Commissioners for PKPC met on June 9, 2020 with 5 TEs and 4 REs. The commissioners met with PKPC ruling elders. The commissioners explained PCA doctrine and polity and made sure the elders understand. Stated clerk asked the elders of PKPC questions from BCO 24-6, and they answered affirmatively. After the vote, commissioners unanimously approved PKPC's joining KEP.

2021-6: Sep 15, 2020; Mar 16, 2021 (BCO 20-1) — No record of call to a definite work.

Response: The Presbytery admits the mistake for not recording the call for the TE. TE [name omitted] was called by [church name omitted] PA. The call letter can be found in the docket page 45 of the September 15, 2020 stated meeting.

2021-7: Sep 15, 2020; Mar 16, 2021 (BCO 21-4) — No record of requiring statement of differences with our Standards.

Response: KEP apologizes the oversight of not recording the stated differences for licensure and ordination exam. Mr. [name omitted] , Mr. [name omitted] , and Mr. [name omitted] had no differences to the Westminster standards.

2023-3: May 15, 2022; Sep 13, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2; 18-3) — No record of endorsement by candidate’s Session; no record of six-months membership for candidate; no record of charges administered to candidate.

Response: KEP apologizes for not including docket that has all the information of the candidates. All the under care candidates had 6 months membership and endorsed by their session. Each candidate took the vows found in *BCO* 18-3 and brief charge was given. The Presbytery will make sure to submit the docket materials in future minutes

2023-4: May 15, 2022 (*BCO* 15-2) — Presbytery formed a commission to oversee a church with fewer than two teaching elders and two ruling elders.

Response: We believe this exception is for March 15, 2022. We do not meet on May. KEP admits that it has made a mistake to leave out some commissioners’ name (a TE and a RE) in March 2022 minutes. KEP will be more cautious in the future to record accurately.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2021-2: Mar 10, 2020; Sep 15, 2020 (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.

Response: The presbytery admits the mistake for not recording the commission report for those two churches this exception is referring to. We will be more careful in this matter and make sure to include commission reports

Rationale: Presbytery has not corrected its action by providing commission minutes to RPR to review.

2021-4: Sep 15, 2020; Sep 14, 2021 (*BCO* 8-7; 20-1) — Teaching Elders approved to minister out of bounds but with no record of a call to a definite work where they will be “engaged in preaching and teaching the Word ... [and] will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our church.”

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Response: The presbytery apologizes for not recording the calls for 2 TE's approved out of bounds ministry. TE [name omitted] started mission church ([church name omitted]) in Chino, California and TE [name omitted] received a call from [church name omitted] CA. Both TEs are asked for approval of out of boundary until they transfer to PCA presbytery near their geographic boundaries.

Rationale: Presbytery has not corrected the record by stating that it determined that these out-of-bounds TEs would "have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our church" as required by *BCO* 8-7.

2021-5: Sep 15, 2020 (*BCO* 13-6) — Details of transfer exam not recorded.

Response: TE [name omitted] was recommended by CEC for the floor exam. TE [name omitted] was a KEP member in good standing between 2010~2016 and he transferred to another PCA presbytery. So the KEP members agreed to examine him in the areas of ministry and theology. TE's answer was satisfactory with our standards. KEP approved the TE as a member after he took the vow found in *BCO* 13-7.

Rationale: Transfer exam is incomplete. According to *BCO* 13-6, TEs transferring from other Presbyterys in the PCA "shall be examined on Christian experience, and also touching their views in theology, the Sacraments, and church government."

2023-1: General 2022 (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) — No record of review of records of church Sessions.

Response: The Presbytery and Record Examination Committee apologize for not actively requesting and reviewing session minutes. Only a couple churches turned in the minutes for review. REC will continue to request the session minutes for review and promise to record the result in stated meeting minutes

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its action. No review of Presbytery records have been recorded for the current or past year.

2023-2: General 2022 (*BCO* 8-7) — No record of annual report(s) of TE(s) laboring out of bounds.

Response: Some of OB ministers submitted their ministry report with excuse absence request, and KEP kept the report in the docket of

stated meeting. KEP apologizes for submitting minutes without the docket material. The stated clerk will make sure to include OB ministers' report when submitting the meeting minutes.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record or its actions. No OB ministers' reports have been included for the current or prior year.

36. That the Minutes of **Korean Northeastern** Presbytery: *61-0-1*

- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Mar 14, 2023; Jun 21, 2023; Dec 15, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
2024-1: Sep 12, 2023 (BCO 38-3) — No record that presbytery made determinations required by BCO 38-3.
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2023-1: Mar 08, 2022 (BCO 8-7; 20-1) — No record that Presbytery is assured that an out of bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church or why Presbytery considers the out of bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and apologizes for the lack of clarity in the minutes and will be more careful in the future. The freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church was assured per our standard denominational call package form and it was considered as a valid out-of-bounds work as it involved ministerial work as an assistant pastor.

37. That the Minutes of **Korean Northwest** Presbytery: *61-0-0*

- a. Be approved without exception: **Apr 10, 2024; Oct 09, 2024**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **Apr 10, 2023; Directory**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
2024-1: Oct 10-13, 2022 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam
2024-2: Oct 10-13, 2022 (BCO 13-6; BCO 21-4) — Incomplete record of exam of TE transferring into presbytery
2024-3: Apr 10-12, 2023 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam

2024-4: Apr 10-12, 2023 (*BCO* 13-6; *BCO* 21-4) — Incomplete record of exam of TE transferring into presbytery

2024-5: Oct 09-11, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4.g) — No record of action taken on TE written exception to *WCF*

2024-6: Oct 09-11, 2023 (*BCO* 13-8; *BCO* 24-6) — No record of REs affirmation of officer vows.

2024-7: General 2023 (*RAO* 16-3.c.6) — Names of REs in attendance not listed in minutes.

d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:

2016-2: General (*RAO* 16-10.a) — No response to the Assembly concerning disposition of any exceptions of substance.

Response: [2018]: We apologize for not responding on time. It is not the attitude of the presbytery and its members to rebel or disrespect. It was the fault of the clerk and he apologizes and asks for forgiveness.

Rationale: [2018]: Please provide responses to presbytery exceptions of substance for 2014, 2013, and 2011.

Response: [2023] Again, it has been too long to provide responses to presbytery exceptions. While apologizing about this issue, it can be assured that we will submit the proper exception of substance in the future.

Rationale: [2023]: Respectfully, *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible) and correct its actions (if possible). Please provide responses to previous exceptions.

Response: [2024]: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2016-4: Apr 13, 2015 (*RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of exam not recorded.

Response: [2018]: Our examination committee keeps record of all the parts and details of the exam and just gives final report to the presbytery. We will do better job of recording requirements in our minutes in the future. We have revised our minutes to show required parts are approved and that the exam as a whole was approved.

Rationale: [2018]: Please provide a record of the revised minutes and the record of presbytery's revision including statement of differences in candidate's own words and presbytery's categorization of the differences.

Response: [2023] It has been too long and I am not authorized to revise the minutes (especially as a newly elected stated clerk); as far as I know, once approved minutes cannot be revised. However, the presbytery addressed this issue and has been recording the all specific requirements of exam.

Rationale: [2023]: *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). [*RONR* (12th ed.) 48:15 also allows a deliberative body to correct its minutes through a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted.] Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. There was no candidate to require statement of stated difference.

Response: [2024]: Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2018-1: Apr 24, 2017 (*BCO* 21-4) — All specific requirements of ordination exam not recorded.

Response: This issue has been addressed and now the Examination Committee has been recording all specific requirements of ordination exam and it has been recorded in the minutes.

Rationale: [2023] *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). Please correct the minutes from this meeting.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2018-4: Apr 24, 2017 (*BCO* 19-13) — Approval of internship for ordination not recorded.

Response: This issue has been noted will be addressed in the future minutes

Rationale: [2023]RAO 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). Please correct the minutes from this meeting.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2018-5: Oct 09, 2017 (BCO 13-6) — Incomplete record of transfer exam – no indication of transferee’s previous denomination

Response: This issue has been noted will be addressed in the future minutes.

Rationale: [2023] RAO 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). Please correct the minutes from this meeting.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2018-7: Oct 09, 2017 (BCO 19-2) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. The candidate was indeed examined in a. a statement of his Christian experience and inward call to preach the Gospel b. 1. basic knowledge of Biblical doctrine as outlined in the Confession of Faith and Larger and Shorter Catechisms of the Presbyterian Church in America. 2. practical knowledge of Bible content. 3. basic knowledge of the government of the Presbyterian Church in America as defined in The Book of Church Order. c. Be examined orally before Presbytery for his views in the areas outlined in part b above. d. a sermon. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future

2019-2: Apr 09, 2018 (*BCO* 21-4) — All specific requirements of ordination exam not recorded.

Response: This issue has been addressed and now the Examination Committee has been recording all specific requirements of ordination exam and it has been recorded in the minutes.

Rationale: [2023] *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). Please correct the minutes from this meeting.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2019-3: General 2019 (*BCO* 13-5) — TEs on roll without explanation. Apr 8, 2019 meeting listed 32 total TEs and Sep 30, 2019 meeting listed 36 total TEs.

Response: This issue has been addressed and the rolls has been specified in the presbytery minutes.

Rationale: [2023] *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). [*RONR* (12th ed.) 48:15 also allows a deliberative body to correct its minutes through a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted.] Please include record of ordination(s) and/or reception of transfer(s), if applicable.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. The difference was due to mistakenly including inactive members to the roll. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2021-1: Apr 8, 2019; Sep 30, 2019; Oct 13, 2020 (*BCO* 20-1; 13-7) — No record of call to definite work for ministers transferring from another denomination.

Response: This issue has been noted and began to be addressed from the fall presbytery of 2022

Rationale: [2023]: *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an exception of substance, it should also correct its record

(if possible). [*RONR* (12th ed.) 48:15 also allows a deliberative body to correct its minutes through a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted.] Please correct the minutes from these meetings.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. These candidates were called to definite work as pastor at an out of boundary church [name omitted] , and associate pastor at [church name omitted] [name omitted] , and pastor at [church name omitted] [name omitted] stated the following difference to our doctrinal standards: “The exception that I took with regard to Westminster confession of faith 21.8, is the confession (in its wording or language) seems to limit the definition or limitations of holy rest to private devotions and public worship and acts of mercy. I believe that other activities like going for a walk with your family, enjoying God’s creation which reflects his glory can also be valid for other means of rest. But that should not supplant the centrality of public worship and honoring the Lord.” The Presbytery judged this difference as more than semantic, but not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine (*BCO* 21-4)” (*RAO* 16.3–e.5). Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2021-8: Oct 11, 2021 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not judged with the prescribed categories.

Response: This issue has been noted and began to be addressed from the fall presbytery of 2022.

Rationale: [2023]: *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible).

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. The candidate [name omitted] stated the following difference to our doctrinal standards: “The exception that I took with regard to Westminster confession of faith 21.8, is the confession (in its wording or language) seems to limit the definition or limitations of holy rest to private devotions and public worship and acts of mercy. I believe that other activities like going for a walk with your family, enjoying God’s creation which reflects his glory can also be valid for other means of

rest. But that should not supplant the centrality of public worship and honoring the Lord.” The Presbytery judged this difference as more than semantic, but not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine (*BCO* 21-4)” (*RAO* 16.3–e.5). Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2021-9: Oct 13, 2020 (*BCO* 13-8) — No record of commission of Presbytery meeting with church ruling elders before receiving the church into its membership.

Response: This issue has been addressed and now the Examination Committee has been recording all specific requirements of ordination exams for the ministers transferring from another denomination and it has been recorded in the minutes.

Rationale: [2023]: *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). Please submit the commission report for review.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2023-1: General 2022 (*BCO* 13-12) — Presbytery did not meet at least twice OR minutes not submitted (if Fall 2022 meeting happened).

Response: Presbytery agrees with this exception and regrets the error. The minutes for the Fall 2022 meeting are now submitted. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future

2023-10: Apr 18, 2022 (*BCO* 18-6) — No record of intern reports.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. Presbytery regrets that it did not aware of the requirement for the annual reports of interns properly according to *BCO* 18-6. Presbytery will be more diligent to require all the interns to submit their annual reports in the future.

2023-2: Apr 18, 2022 (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4) — Incomplete record of exam for minister seeking admission from another denomination.

Response: Presbytery agrees with this exception and regrets the error. The candidate seeking admission to the Presbytery was coming from The General Assembly of Presbyterian Church. The Presbytery accepted his seminary education in lieu of exams in Greek/Hebrew. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future

2023-3: Apr 18, 2022 (BCO 21-4) — Incomplete record of ordination exam. [No indication of candidate's previous denomination; missing knowledge of Greek/Hebrew for candidate Ha]

Response: Presbytery agrees with this exception and regrets the error. The candidate in question was indeed was examined in Bible content and PCA History. Furthermore, Presbytery accepted the candidate's seminary education in lieu of exams in Greek/Hebrew. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2023-4: Apr 18, 2022 (BCO 21-4) — Incomplete record of ordination exam. [Greek/ Hebrew, Bible Content, PCA History for candidate Choe]

Response: Presbytery agrees with this exception and regrets the error. The candidate was indeed examined in PCA History, and Presbytery accepted the candidate's seminary education in lieu of exams in Greek/Hebrew. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2023-5: Apr 18, 2022 (BCO 12-5b) — The church Session has power to examine, ordain, and install ruling elders.

Response: Presbytery agrees with this exception and regrets the error. Presbytery made a decision to accept the consigned exam according to the request from the church session. The presbytery only supports the church session by having consigned examination. The church session ordains and installs the ruling elders. Presbytery will

be more diligent to indicate that this is the consigned examination for the future

2023-6: Apr 18, 2022 (*BCO* 20-1) — No record of call to a definite work for two ordination candidates and one transfer candidate.

Response: Presbytery agrees with this exception and regrets the error. These candidates were called to definite work as assistant pastor at [church name omitted] [name omitted], assistant pastor at [church name omitted] [name omitted] , and pastor at [church name omitted] [name omitted]. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2023-7: Apr 18, 2022 (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. The candidate was indeed examined in a. a statement of his Christian experience and inward call to preach the Gospel b. 1. basic knowledge of Biblical doctrine as outlined in the Confession of Faith and Larger and Shorter Catechisms of the Presbyterian Church in America. 2. practical knowledge of Bible content. 3. basic knowledge of the government of the Presbyterian Church in America as defined in The Book of Church Order. c. Be examined orally before Presbytery for his views in the areas outlined in part b above. d. a sermon from Luke 16:1-13. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2023-8: Apr 18, 2022 (*BCO* 24-1) — No record of complete RE exam for three candidates.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. The candidate was indeed examined in - Acquaintance with experiential religion, bible content, history of the PCA and principles and rules of the government and discipline of the church Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2016-1: General (BCO 40-1) — No record of review of session minutes.

Response: [2018]: We have a committee that reviews them each presbytery meeting. Many times, churches forget to bring them. We will be more diligent in this matter to ensure that sessional records are reviewed under *BCO* 40-1.

Rationale: [2018]: Please supply a record of presbytery action reviewing 2014 Session minutes.

Response: [2023] It has been too long to review of the 2014 Session minutes, while apologizing about this issue, the presbytery noted issue will record the review of the session minutes annually.

Rationale: [2023]: *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an exception of substance, it should also correct its actions (if possible) and correct its record (if possible). Please review the 2014 session minutes, if possible. If this is no longer possible, please include the response from the sessions in the Presbytery's minutes.

Response: [2024]: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. Presbytery has now finalized review of 2014 Session minutes. Presbytery will be more diligent in the future to make sure that Session records are reviewed in a timely manner.

Rationale: The minutes need to record the findings of the review of the 2014 minutes of each session. (*BCO* 40-3)

2016-3: Apr 13, 2015 (BCO 21-4) — No record of candidate meeting all qualifications for ordination.

Rationale: [2018]: Please provide a record of the revised minutes and the record of presbytery's revision including statement of stated differences in candidate's own words and presbytery's categorization of the differences.

Response: [2023]: It has been too long and I am not authorized to revise the minutes (especially as a newly elected stated clerk); as far as I know, once approved minutes cannot be revised. However, the presbytery addressed this issue and has been recording of candidates meeting all qualifications for ordination.

Rationale: [2023]: *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible).

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. There was no candidate to require statement of stated difference. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

Rationale: The background and educational qualifications of the candidate needs to be recorded if not already in the minutes (*BCO* 18-2,3,10; 21-4.a,b as applicable), and the minutes must record a) if the man has any stated differences, b) his statement of any differences, and c) how Presbytery judged those differences. If those statements cannot be recreated Presbytery could require the man to provide the statements now. (*BCO* 21-4.f,g)

2016-5: Apr 13, 2015 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — No record of candidate's stated differences, if any.

Response: [2018]: We will keep clear record of statement of differences with standards in the future.

Rationale: [2018]: Please provide a record of the revised minutes and the record of presbytery's revision including statement of differences in candidate's own words and presbytery's categorization of the differences.

Response: [2023] It has been too long and I am not authorized to revise the minutes (especially as a newly elected stated clerk); as far as I know, once approved minutes cannot be revised. However, the presbytery addressed this issue and has been recording the candidate's stated difference according to their own wording.

Rationale: [2023] *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). [*RONR* (12th ed.) 48:15 also allows a deliberative body to correct its minutes through a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted.]

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. There was no candidate to require statement of stated difference. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something

Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

Rationale: The minutes must record a) if the man has any stated differences, b) his statement of any differences, and c) how Presbytery judged those differences. If those statements cannot be recreated Presbytery could require the man to provide the statements now. (*BCO* 21-4.f,g)

2018-2: Apr 24, 2017; Oct 9, 2017 (*BCO* 21-4) — No record of requiring statement of differences with our Standards.

Response: This issue has been noted and to be addressed from the fall presbytery of 2022.

Rationale: [2023] *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). [*RONR* (12th ed.) 48:15 also allows a deliberative body to correct its minutes through a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted.] Please correct the minutes from these meetings.

Response: [2024]: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. All the candidates stated that there is no difference to our doctrinal standards. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

Rationale: The minutes must record a) if the man has any stated differences, b) his statement of any differences, and c) how Presbytery judged those differences. If those statements cannot be recreated Presbytery could require the man to provide the statements now. (*BCO* 21-4.f,g)

2018-3: Apr 24, 2017 (*BCO* 20-1) — No record of call to a definite work.

Response: This issue has been noted will be addressed in the future minutes.

Rationale: [2023] *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). Please correct the minutes from this meeting.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

Rationale: The nature of the man's call and Presbytery's action on that call must be recorded in the minutes. (*BCO* 8-6, 8-7, 21-1 as applicable)

2018-6: Apr 24, 2017; Oct 9, 2017 (*BCO* 21-4) — No record of requiring statement of differences with our Standards.

Response: This issue has been noted and to be addressed from the fall presbytery of 2022.

Rationale: [2023]: *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). Please correct the minutes from these meetings.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. All the candidates stated that there is no difference to our doctrinal standards. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

Rationale: The minutes must record a) if the man has any stated differences, b) his statement of any differences, and c) how Presbytery judged those differences. If those statements cannot be recreated Presbytery could require the man to provide the statements now. (*BCO* 21-4.f,g)

2019-1: Apr 09, 2018 (*BCO* 20-1) — No record of call to a definite work.

Response: This issue has been noted will be addressed in the future minutes

Rationale: [2023] *RAO* 16-10.b.1 notes that when a Presbytery agrees with an exception of substance, it should also correct its record (if possible). Please correct the minutes from this meeting.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in

those minutes pointing to this response. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

Rationale: The nature of the man's call and Presbytery's action on that call must be recorded in the minutes. (*BCO* 8-6, 8-7, 21-1 as applicable)

2023-9: Apr 18, 2022 (*BCO* 18-6) — Annual reports of candidates not included.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. Presbytery does not have candidates. Presbytery will be more diligent to specially indicate the difference between candidates and interns in the future

Response: The response indicates that Presbytery examined ruling elder candidates in areas that are not consistent with *BCO* 24-1. Presbytery must respond to that error.

38. That the Minutes of **Korean Southeastern** Presbytery: *63-0-1*

a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Feb 13, 2023.**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**

c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Apr 10-11, 2023; Jun 26, 2023; Oct 2-3, 2023 (*BCO* 12-3)
— No record of Session approval of interim moderator.

2024-2: Oct 2-3, 2023 (*BCO* 8-6) — Evangelist title granted to TE in area with sufficient REs.

d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2022-1: Oct 04, 2021 (*BCO* 38-3.a, b) — No record of whether departing TEs were categorized according to *BCO* 38-3.a or b.

Response: KSEP apologizes for this error and agrees with CRPR. We have amended our minutes to reflect that the withdrawing TEs were members in good standing per *BCO* 38-3.a as follows: 3. Removal from Presbytery roll: The following members of KSEP in good standing have requested to withdraw from the PCA to affiliate with other denominations: [names omitted]

Rationale: The issue in *BCO* 38-3 is not the standing of the TEs in the Presbytery but the nature of the denomination with which they are affiliating.

Response: Presbytery apologizes for the misunderstanding of the original exception. Some of the TEs withdrew from the PCA to join

other NAPARC denominations while others withdrew from the PCA to join denominations that are deemed as not rightly maintaining the Word and Sacraments in their fundamental integrity. Unfortunately, due to the passage of a number of years KSEP does not have up-to-date contact information to follow through with the provisions of *BCO* 38-3.b. In addition, a number of these TEs who withdrew from the PCA transferred to denominations in Korea. Presbytery is fully aware of its error and will work to comply with *BCO* 38-3 when TEs request approval to transfer to another denomination.

2023-1: Standing Rules (*BCO* 34-10) — The process outlined in the Standing Rules is at variance with the process outlined in *BCO* 34-10.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and has amended our Standing Rules to comply with *BCO* 34-10 as follows: For any Teaching Elder who shall habitually fail to be engaged in the regular discharge of his official functions, Presbytery shall follow the procedures of *BCO* 34-10.

39. That the Minutes of **Korean Southern** Presbytery: *61-0-0*

- a. Be approved without exception: **None**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: Oct 17, 2022** (*BCO* 7-2) — Church appoints women officers with no response from presbytery.
 - 2024-2: Oct 17, 2022** (*BCO* 13-4) — No quorum competent to do business yet action is taken on business.
 - 2024-3: Apr 17, 2023** (*BCO* 10; *BCO* 5-2.c) — Failure to provide 60 day notice to congregants.
 - 2024-4: Apr 17, 2023** (*BCO* 20-1) — No record of the reason why presbytery considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry
 - 2024-5: Apr 17, 2023** (*BCO* 13-10) — No record of transfer or dismissal of members from dissolving church.
 - 2024-6: Apr 17, 2023** (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that congregation concurred with dissolution of pastoral relation. Note if mission church, approval of temporary system of government would be required.
 - 2024-7: Apr 17, 2023** (*BCO* 23-1) — No record of six month membership of candidate.

2024-8: Apr 17, 2023 - No record of endorsement of candidates session.

2024-9: Apr 17, 2023 - No record of the two questions being asked the candidate and affirmed.

2024-10: Apr 17, 2023 (*BCO* 22-4) — No record that session concurred with the dissolution of pastoral relation.

2024-11: General 2023 (*BCO* 40-1) — No record of review of records of church sessions

2024-12: Apr 17, 2023 - No record of annual report(s) of TE(s) laboring out of bounds.

2024-13: Apr 17, 2023 - No record that interim or provisional session member was approved by congregation

2024-14: Apr 17, 2023 - Actions referenced were approved at previous presbytery that did not have a quorum.

d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:

2022-2: Apr 19, 2021 (*BCO* 34-10) — Presbytery adopted a rule that ministers without call for three years are “automatically removed by the decision of the Presbytery,” contravening the process required by *BCO* 34-10, including the requirements for a 2/3 vote, an inquiry into the cause of his dereliction, notification following the initial vote, and a second vote at the subsequent stated meeting.

Response: We just put some limitations for the period of TE’s no call situations. Surely, the decision of the Presbytery should follow the *BCO* 34-10. Clearly, we referenced *BCO* 34-10 in the Article 2, Section 5 in Presbytery Standing Rules.

Rationale: While Presbytery’s diligence is commendable, the rule as presently worded is in conflict with the required process of *BCO* 34-10 in that it contains the phrase “shall be automatically removed.”

Response: Meeting Date: Apr 19, 2021 From now on, we will delete the Section 5 – 1 in Article 2, “A teaching elder who is without a call to a particular work shall be listed on the roll of non- attending members for three years and shall be automatically removed by the decision of the Presbytery from the membership roll if his status would not be recovered to a regular member by the time of three years from the listing time.”

2023-1: Standing Rules (*BCO* 34-10) — The provision of Article 2 Section 7 appears to have the effect of *BCO* 34-10, but without

process. It automatically cancels the membership of a supported TE laboring abroad who does not report for more than three years.

Response: The phrase, “If he does not report more than 3 years, his membership shall be canceled automatically.” in Article 2 Section 7, is changed to “He shall not continue laboring at the same status for more than 3 years. When the Presbytery cancels his membership, the cancellation shall be done according to *BCO* 34 - 10.”

2023-2: Standing Rules (*BCO* 24-1, Preliminary Principle 6) — The provision of Article 13 Section 54 appears to conflict with *BCO* 24-1. It states, “The elected ruling elder shall be guided by the Session to be examined by the Presbytery and be installed within one year after passing the Presbytery’s examination.”

Response: From now on, the Section 54 in Article 13, “The elected ruling elder shall be guided by the Session to be examined by the Presbytery and be installed within one year after passing the Presbytery’s examination.” will be deleted.

2023-3: Jul 06, 2020 (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) — Purpose of called meeting not recorded verbatim in minutes.

Response: We attached to the minute the convocation notice of the called meeting which states the purpose of the meeting. And for your reference, the revised minute is attached to this response together with the original Korean convocation notice.

2023-4: Oct 18-19, 2021 (*BCO* 13-4) — No record of quorum for meeting.

Response: Because the quorum was not met, no decisions or actions were made or taken at the gathering. Only some reports and suggestions were heard at that time. The concerned minute was approved at the immediate next Presbytery meeting in which the quorum was met.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2021-1: Oct 21, 2019 (*BCO* 13-9, 24-1) — Examination of RE is not under the purview of the presbytery’s jurisdiction, rather the local session.

Response: [2022]: Although the minute records the results of the RE tests in the “Report of Examination Committee” on page 10 at the

item# 20, the test areas were not recorded. We are very sorry for not recording in detail. But in the future, we will pay more attention for this matter. The RE installation was not administered by the local session.

Rationale: [2022]: It is unclear how this is a response to the exception. Why was this RE reviewed by Presbytery and the installation not administered by the local Session? [p. 4, Credential Committee]

Response: [2023] At that time, the church was a mission church which had not her own Session to test a ruling elder. According to Article 13, Section 49 in Presbytery Standing Rules, “Examinations for a ruling elder shall be done by the church’s petition”, the church requested to do that work on behalf of her. So Presbytery answered to the request.

Rationale: *BCO* 5-3 provides several forms for temporary government for mission church and a mission church must have a temporary government, and that government must examine ruling elders.

Response: Meeting Date: Oct 21, 2019; When a mission church installs a RE, the procedure is to be done according to *BCO* 24-1. A RE in the Session of a particular church is to be dispatched to make a temporary Session of the mission church which can do all the RE installation processes.

Rationale: *BCO* 5-3 list the options for the temporary system of Government for a mission church. 1 RE does not make a session. This temporary government should be appointed by presbytery and remain in place until either presbytery changes members or church is particularized. *BCO* 5-3 provides several forms for temporary government for mission church and a mission church must have a temporary government, and that government must examine ruling elders.

2021-2: Oct 19, 2020 (*BCO* 21-6) — No congregation present at ordination/installation service of its pastor. No questions asked of the congregation.

Response: We ordained not a pastor but an assistant pastor of a local member church at the Presbytery Meeting not at the local church.

There was no congregation to give questions. Later, the assistant pastor started to work at that church.

Rationale: There remains no evidence that congregation or Session was asked the questions of *BCO* 21-6.

Response: Meeting Date: Oct. 19, 2020; Next time, we will include the part of asking to and answering from the congregation even at the installation of an assistant pastor, too.

Rationale: No record that presbytery corrected these actions.

2021-3: Oct 19, 2020 (*BCO* 13-6) — All specific requirements of transfer exams not recorded. Meeting Date: Oct. 19, 2020

Response: For the omission of recording the requirements of transfer exams of TE [name omitted] and TE [name omitted] at the time of their becoming Presbytery members, we will correct the points indicated.

Rationale: No record that presbytery corrected it records *RAO* 16-10.b.1. Presbytery has not listed the specific requirements and trials for ordination.

2022-1: Oct 19, 2020; Apr 19, 2021 (*BCO* 13-9.b, 40-3) — Results of review of records of church Sessions not stated.

Response: Although we strongly recommend member churches to make their Session Minutes be checked by the Presbytery, the results are not good yet. Because some churches submit their Session minutes annually, every Presbytery minute can not contain the record of the review results. Anyway, we will continue encouraging the member churches regarding this matter.

Rationale: Presbytery needs to approve its review of 2020-21 Session records and report its actions to the Assembly.

Response: Meeting Dates: Oct 19, 2020; Apr 19, 2021. For the churches which have a Session, their Session minutes for the years of 2020 and 2021 are to be checked during the Stated Presbytery Meeting period of October 16, 2023.

Rationale: No evidence provided that reviews ever took place.

2023-5: Apr 18, 2022 (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) — No record of review of records of church Sessions.

Response: For the churches which have a Session, their Session minutes are to be checked during the Stated Presbytery Meeting period

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of October 16, 2023. (This Presbytery has only one particular church, [church name omitted], which has a Session.)

Rationale: No evidence provided review ever took place. Missions Churches (temporary session, oversight session, oversight commission, and evangelists) are to maintain and provide its records to presbytery. Rolls do not indicate which churches are mission or particular however all must be reviewed.

40. That the Minutes of **Korean Southwest** Presbytery: 66-0-0
- a. **Should not be approved.**
 - b. **That all responses to the 51st General Assembly be found unsatisfactory.**
 - c. That the 51st General Assembly empower the Moderator to appoint a commission of three (3) teaching elders and three (3) ruling elders:
 - 1. To review all outstanding exceptions of substance to Korean Southwest Presbytery's minutes, and to determine which exceptions Presbytery shall be required to respond to, being serious irregularities that require review and correction.
 - 2. To review the 2023 minutes of Korean Southwest Presbytery, determining which serious irregularities shall require review and correction.
 - 3. To report their findings to Korean Southwest Presbytery 30 days prior to Presbytery's autumn stated meeting.
 - 4. To report their findings to the 52nd General Assembly through the Committee on Review of Presbytery Records.
 - d. That the officers of the Committee on Review of Presbytery Records, in consultation with the Stated Clerk, appoint two representatives, one of whom shall have fluency in Korean and English (both written and spoken), to:
 - 1. Consult with the Stated Clerk of Korean Southwest Presbytery prior to their autumn 2024 and spring 2025 stated meetings on how best to observe the Constitution.
 - 2. Attend the autumn 2024 and spring 2025 stated meetings to advise the Stated Clerk and Presbytery as a whole on how best to observe the Constitution.

3. Advise the Stated Clerk and Presbytery as a whole on how best to respond to the outstanding exceptions to Presbytery's minutes requiring response.
4. Advise the Stated Clerk on how to keep a full and accurate record of Presbytery's proceedings (*BCO* 13-11, *RAO* 16-3).
5. Report to the Committee on Review of Presbytery Records at its 2025 meeting (date to be determined by the Administrative Committee) with a report on Korean Southwest Presbytery's progress and recommendation on whether their work needs to continue for another year.
- e. That Korean Southwest Presbytery be cited to appear by representative before the Committee on Review of Presbytery Records at its 2025 meeting (date to be determined by the Administrative Committee) with responses to the 51st General Assembly and improved responses to previous General Assemblies.

41. That the Minutes of **Korean Southwest Orange County** Presbytery:

61-0-0

- a. Be approved without exception: **None**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: General 2023** (*BCO* 8-10) — A member of the court in good standing cannot be prevented from serving on a presbytery committee.
 - 2024-2: Mar 14, 2023** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.
 - 2024-3: Mar 14, 2023** (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation or Session concurred with the dissolution of pastoral relations.
 - 2024-4: Mar 14, 2023** (*BCO* 38-3) — No record that Presbytery made determinations required by *BCO* 38-3.
 - 2024-5: Mar 14, 2023** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not recorded in the candidate's own words.
 - 2024-6: Mar 14, 2023** (*BCO* 15-1) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.
 - 2024-7: General 2023** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not judged with the prescribed categories.

2024-8: Sep 12, 2023 (SR Article 13.1) — Presbytery allowed officers to appoint members of a commission.

2024-9: General 2023 (*BCO* 8-7) — No record of annual reports of TEs laboring out of bounds.

2024-10: Mar 14, 2023 (*BCO* 8-7) — No record that the Presbytery is assured that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church.

2024-11: Mar 14, 2023 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of endorsement by candidate's Session.

d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:

2021-1: Mar 10, 2020 (*BCO* 13-11) — Complaint sent to Presbytery not recorded in minutes. (“full and accurate record” *RAO* 16.3.e.6).

Response: This complaint was deemed to be a private matter and it was not dealt with in the presbytery other than noting the complaint. Due to the sensitive nature of this private matter, it would be difficult to redress this issue and include the specifics in the minutes.

Rationale: The complaint and the response of the Presbytery must be included in the record of the Presbytery (*BCO* 43-3, 6) and submitted for review (*BCO* 40-1).

Response: We appreciate your diligence in addressing the matter raised in your Exception to our Minutes dated March 10, 2020, concerning the complaint sent to the Presbytery not being recorded. We acknowledge your assertion that both the complaint and the Presbytery's response should be documented in accordance with the *Book of Church Order (BCO)* regulations. However, we maintain that in exceptional cases involving confidential or private matters, discretion must be exercised to uphold the integrity of the process and protect the individuals involved (especially because there is no explicit requirement to print the Complaint in the Minutes in *BCO* 43). Due to the sensitive matter of the complaint, it was assigned to a Commission, which adjudicated it until it reached the final resolution which was recommended to depose the former teaching elder. At the Presbytery meeting of Sept 15, 2020, the resolution was presented in front of the presbytery to receive the Complaint and full report of the commission and accept the committee's recommendations.

Rationale: The complaint and the response of the Presbytery must be included in the record of the Presbytery (*BCO* 43-3, 6) and submitted for review (*BCO* 40-1) and include the minutes of the commission (*BCO* 15-3). If the complaint was dealt with in executive session by Presbytery, it may be submitted under *RAO* 16-3.e.7 so that RPR will treat it confidentially. Otherwise, the complaint must be submitted through normal channels.

e. That responses shall be submitted to the following GA as no responses were received in 2024:

2023-1: General 2022 (*BCO* 13-2) — No evidence of annual reports from many of the TEs who are without call.

2023-2: Mar 15, 2022 (*BCO* 8-7; 13-5; 20-1) — A TE has begun to minister out of bounds. No record that Presbytery followed the appropriate *BCO* provisions to approve that.

2023-3: Mar 15, 2022 (*BCO* 15-1; 13-8) — A commission must be appointed by Presbytery, not a committee.

2023-4: Mar 15, 2022 (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4) — No evidence that men transferring in from other denominations met the educational, original language, or paper requirements.

2023-5: Mar 15, 2022; Sep 13, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2, 3) — No record of endorsement by candidates' Sessions, six-months membership for candidates, nor of charge given to candidates.

2023-6: Mar 15, 2022; Sep 13, 2022 (*BCO* 46-6) — TEs are received from other PCA presbyteries but no evidence of action of other Presbyteries.

2023-7: Mar 15, 2022 (*BCO* 19-7, 8, 9, 10) — Presbytery uses candidacy examination procedures for internship, so various steps are missing, including determination of the nature of the internship.

2023-8: Mar. 15, 2022 (*BCO* 20-1; 8-7; 13-5) — No record of calls to a definite work.

2023-9: Mar. 15, 2022 (*BCO* 19-2.d, e, f) — No sermon and no statement of differences with the Standards for one being licensed.

2023-10: Mar. 15, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4) — No evidence of educational requirements, required papers, or sermon for one being ordained; and no evidence the man was asked to state differences with the Standards.

2023-11: Mar. 15, 2022 (*BCO* 5-9) — Presbytery particularizes mission works with no evidence that all required procedures were

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followed – specifically no evidence of congregational meeting or petition.

2023-12: Mar. 15, 2022; Sept. 13, 2022 (*BCO* 8-7; 21-2; 23-1) — TEs are reported as resigning from or having left current calls from churches of Presbytery and/or are recorded as taking new calls, but no evidence that Presbytery dissolved pastoral relations, nor acted on the new calls, nor is there evidence that 8-7 and 21-1 were followed for out of bounds calls.

2023-13: Mar. 15, 2022 (*BCO* 46-6) — The minutes record that a man has transferred to another Presbytery. No record that congregation concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations, that Presbytery dissolved the pastoral relation, nor that Presbytery voted to release the TE to a different Presbytery.

2023-14: Sept. 13, 2022 (*BCO* 15-1) — Minutes show that commissions met and who was present, but there are no reports showing what the commissions did.

2023-15: Sept. 13, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated difference not recorded in the candidate's own words.

2023-16: Sept. 13, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not judged with the prescribed categories.

2023-17: Sept. 13, 2022 (*BCO* 20-1) — No record of call to a definite work.

2023-18: Sept. 13, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam. Men are approved for ordination but no evidence of education requirements, required papers, or original languages.

2023-19: Sep 13, 2022 (*BCO* 13-6) — No record of written credentials of dismissing Presbytery (not specified) for TE transfer.

2023-20: Sept. 13, 2022 (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of three licensure exams not recorded. Further, those seeking licensure are not required to be examined in sacraments and church history.

2023-21: Sept. 13, 2022 (*BCO* 38-3) — Presbytery does not follow *BCO* 38-3 for men who have joined other denominations.

2023-22: Sept. 12, 2022 (*BCO* 46-6) — The minutes record that 2 TEs have been removed from the roll because they joined another PCA Presbytery. No record that congregations concurred with dissolution

of pastoral relations, that Presbytery dissolved the pastoral relations, nor that Presbytery voted to release the TEs to the different Presbyteries.

2023-23: Sept. 13, 2022 (PP 6; *BCO* 3-1; 16-2) — Presbytery appoints an interim pastor with no evidence of congregational request or concurrence.

42. That the Minutes of **Lowcountry** Presbytery: *60-0-0*

- a. Be approved without exception: **Jan 28, 2023; Nov 02, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **Apr 25, 2023; Jul 22, 2023**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: General 2023** (*BCO* 20-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.6) — Specific arrangements of call not shown to be approved.
 - 2024-2: General 2023** (*BCO* 19-2.f) — No record that licentiate was asked about differences to standards.
 - 2024-3: General 2023** (*RAO* 16-4.c.3; *RAO* 16-10.a) — No response to the Assembly concerning disposition of exceptions of substance.
 - 2024-4: General 2023** (*RAO* 16-10.a) — No record in minutes of responses to exceptions taken by GA.
- d. **That responses shall be submitted to the following GA as no responses were received in 2024:**
 - 2023-1: General 2022** (*RAO* 16-10.a) — No record in minutes of exceptions taken by GA.
 - 2023-2: Feb 5, 2022; Jul 23, 2022** (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation /Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.
 - 2023-3: Jul 23, 2022; Nov 3, 2022** (*BCO* 22-2, 3) — No record of calls from the session/Congregation for Pastoral relations.

43. That the Minutes of **Metro Atlanta** Presbytery: *61-1-1*

- a. Be approved without exception: **None**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory; May 02, 2023**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1 General 2023** (*BCO* 13-9.b; *BCO* 40-1) — No record of review of records of church Sessions.
 - 2024-2: Oct 03, 2023** (*BCO* 21-9; *BCO* 15-2) — No provision made for installation of candidate.

2024-3: Oct 03, 2023 (*BCO* 22-2) — No record that congregation elected existing assistant pastor as an associate pastor on recommendation of the session.

2024-4: Oct 03, 2023 (*BCO* 22-5) — No record that session requested stated supply.

2024-5: Oct 03, 2023 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that the Congregation/(Session) concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

2024-6: Oct 03, 2023 (*BCO* 22-6; *BCO* 19-1) — Stated supply approved without licensure.

2024-7: Jan 24, 2023 (*BCO* 22-6; *BCO* 19-1) — Stated supply approved without licensure.

2024-8: Oct 03, 2023 (*BCO* 38-1) — Censure of indefinite suspension from office administered without full record of case without process.

2024-9: Oct 03, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4.g) — Presbytery granted a doctrinal exception that appears to be out of accord with the fundamentals of our doctrinal standards. It is not clear from the difference as stated if the candidate believes there are any forms of recreation that are proscribed by the commandment.

d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:

2021-1: Jan 28, 2020 (*BCO* 13-6) — Incomplete record of transfer exam for minister from another denomination (see also *BCO* 21-4).

Response: [2022]: It is unclear what RPR is taking an exception to here. “Incomplete record of transfer exam for minister from another denomination.” We are attaching the full transcript below from the January 28th meeting: Transfer into MAP - [name omitted] – [church name omitted] TE [name omitted]: from The Presbytery of the East of the EPC to [church name omitted] MSP to accept Mr. [name omitted] as a transfer from The Presbytery of the East of the EPC upon confirmation of his release from said Presbytery. TE [name omitted] was examined by the Committee on his Christian experience and his views on theology, the Sacraments and church government and was recommended by them to the court. Presbytery had the opportunity to examine him in all the areas according to *BCO* 13-6. TE [name omitted] expressed differences with the *WCF* (documented in Appendix D) were judged by the Court as more than semantic but not out of accord. MSP MSP to find Mr. [name omitted]’s call to be in

order. The call was placed in Mr. [name omitted]'s hands and was accepted and received by him. (Copy of call in Appendix E) MSP to find Mr. [name omitted]'s transfer and request to be in order. Mr. [name omitted] signed the Metro Atlanta Presbytery Book of ministerial obligation. MSP to approve a commission to install Mr. [name omitted] on April 19, 2020, at [church name omitted]. The commission is to consist of: [TABLE OMITTED]. Perhaps RPR is alluding to *BCO* 21-4 "If applicants come from other denominations, the Presbytery shall examine them thoroughly in knowledge and views as required by *BCO* 21-4 and require them to answer in the affirmative the questions put to candidates at their ordination. Ordained ministers from other denominations being considered by Presbyteries for reception may come under the extraordinary provisions set forth in *BCO* 21-4. Presbyteries shall also require ordained ministers coming from other denominations to state the specific instances in which they may differ with the Confession of Faith and Catechisms in any of their statements and/or propositions, which differences the court shall judge in accordance with *BCO* 21-4 (see *BCO* 21- 4.)" MAP believes that requirement was met with the Credentials Committee, his time on the floor and his installation. Please clarify.

Rationale: [2022]: Minutes do not indicate the transfer candidate was examined in both knowledge and views, as well as the areas of Greek and Hebrew languages, church history, and the history of the PCA, as required by *BCO* 21-4.

Response: [2023] Candidate was examined in knowledge and views by the Credential Committee and on the floor and MAP failed to record.

Rationale: [2023]: Minutes do not indicate that all areas of examination noted in the 2022 response rationale were completed. Presbytery response should indicate that these corrections have been taken and properly recorded in their minutes.

Response: [2024] The incomplete record of a transfer exam for a minister from another denominatio has been corrected and recorded in the October 2, 2023 minutes to reflect that Presbytery had completed all of the *BCO* requirements per *BCO* 13-6 and 21-4. The record now reflects:

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The Court examined Mr. [Name Omitted] in all the areas according to BCO 13-6 and 21-4.

his acquaintance with experiential religion, especially his personal character and family management (based on the qualifications set out in 1 Timothy 3:1-7, and Titus 1:6-9), his inner sense of God's calling on his life to ministry,

Bible content,

theology,

the Sacraments,

church history and the history of the Presbyterian Church in America,

the principles and rules of the government and discipline of the church

approval of a theological thesis and an exegetical study that included the use of original languages

the examining committee heard a preached sermon and approved it unanimously

and, the Court accepted Mr. [Name Omitted]'s seminary degree in lieu of an oral exam in the original languages.

2023-1: Jan 25, 2022 (RAO 16-3.e.5) — Presbytery minutes misstate licentiate's stated difference.

Response: the misstatement of the licentiate's differences was a clerical error. The error and correction were documented in the October 3, 2023 minutes. Mr. [name omitted]'s expressed differences with the WCF were judged by the Court as more than semantic but not out of accord. MSP to accept his stated differences.

2023-2: Jan 25, 2022 (RAO 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not recorded in minister's/candidate's own words.

Response: Mr. [name omitted] had no differences with the WCF. The correction to the Jan 25, 2022, minutes are now recorded in the October 2, 2023 minutes.

2023-4: May 3, 2022; Sep 20, 2022 (BCO 8-7) — No record that TE laboring out of bounds will be allowed full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of the church.

Response: The records of TEs called and approved to labor out of bounds at the May 3, 2022, and Sept. 20, 2022 minutes were corrected and recorded with the following in the October 2, 2023 minutes: 1)

Mr. [name omitted] confirms that he has full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church and that he will report to Presbytery annually on his work; 2) Mr. [name omitted] confirms that he has full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church and that he will report to Presbytery annually on his work; 3) Mr. [name omitted] confirms that he has full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church and that he will report to Presbytery annually on his work.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2023-3: Jan 25, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Presbytery granted a doctrinal exception that needs further clarity for proper review. While exceptions on the application of the 4th Commandment are common (e.g. recreation clause), it is quite another thing to say that the Sabbath has been fulfilled and is to be celebrated everyday instead of weekly. This would seem to be out of accord with our system of doctrine in that it appears to radically redefine one of the Ten Commandments in a way that is contrary to our confessional standards and God’s creation ordinance.

Response: The transfer candidate was approached for clarity. He submitted the following clarification, and this was recorded in the Oct 2, 2023 minutes: “My position is that of John Calvin as he stated in (1) Institutes 2:8:30-34; (2) Geneva Catechism Questions 166-184; and (3) Calvin's Commentary Colossians 2:16-17.”

Rationale: Candidates response is neither in his own words (*RAO* 16-3.e.5), and does not address the issue raised by the 50th Assembly. Candidates response must be in his own words, and must address the apparent abrogation of the 4th commandment implied by the Sabbath being fulfilled, and it being celebrated everyday instead of on the Lord’s Day.

44. That the Minutes of **Metropolitan New York** Presbytery: 53-9-4
- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Jan 10, 2023; Mar 14, 2023; May 09, 2023; Aug 08, 2023; Sep 19, 2023; Oct 16, 2023; Nov 14, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**

- c. Be approved with exception of substance: **None**
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2022-1: Mar 09, 2021 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not recorded in the minister's own words.

Response: Presbytery agrees with GA and has corrected the record to clearly record the stated differences which were stated but recorded incorrectly. The minutes have been amended to reflect this.

- a) The record of the March 9th, 2021, stated meeting recorded the candidates responses in the 3rd person.
- b) M/S/C to amend the March 9, 2021, minutes with this response from the candidates: TE [name omitted] states that 'I take an exception to recreation on the Sabbath.' TE [name omitted] states that 'I take an exception to recreation on the Sabbath.' TE [name omitted] states that 'I take an exception to WCF 21:8 regarding recreation on the Sabbath.' (Approved unanimously)
- c) M/S/C to approve TE [name omitted], TE [name omitted] and TE [name omitted] exceptions to the Westminster Standards as more than semantic, but not out of accord with any fundamentals of our system of doctrine (approved unanimously)

Rationale: The stated exceptions do not give any information as to the specific nature or the biblical rationale for the exceptions (BCO 21-4.e).

Response: TE [name omitted] stated difference
I take exception to WCF 21.8 and the corresponding sections in the Catechisms: WLC Q.117 and WSC Q.60, specifically the prohibitions of worldly recreations on the sabbath. The 4th commandment is clear that the sabbath is a blessing for creation and that, for mankind, one day out of seven is given by God to rest from labors and to worship him. I do not see a prohibition of worldly recreations expressed in Scripture. I believe it is in the scope of worship to enjoy God's creation and the fruits of labor (Genesis 2:2-3). We can enjoy appropriate recreation with celebration and reflection of God as part of rest and worship and keeping the sabbath holy. (Nehemiah 8:9-10)

M/S/C his exception(s) to the Westminster Standards as more than semantic, but not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine. (Approved Unanimously)

M/S/C to amend the minutes of March 9th, 2021 to include the updated stated differences of [name omitted] stated differences

I take exception to the Westminster Confession 21.8 and the corresponding Larger Catechism 117 and Shorter Catechism 60. The Confession states that, "This Sabbath is then kept holy unto the Lord, when men, after a due preparing of their hearts, and ordering of their common affairs beforehand, do not only observe a holy rest all the day from their own works, words, and thoughts, about their worldly employments and recreations." I whole heartedly agree with this statement and that Scripture also talks about the importance of keeping the Sabbath day holy and the importance of resting as well (Gen. 2:2-3; Exod. 16:23-30; 20:8-11; 31:15; Deut. 5:12-15). However, I do think that the language about recreation is a bit too restrictive and that recreation can actually be a form of rest and delighting in God, that can produce robust fellowship, and most importantly a celebration of who God is (Neh 8:9-10, 1 Chron 15:29).

M/S/C his exception(s) to the Westminster Standards as more than semantic, but not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine. (Approved Unanimously)

M/S/C to amend the minutes of March 9th, 2021 to include the updated stated differences of [name omitted] to work within their bounds as stated supply (approved Unanimously) (Appendix 11)

2023-5: Jan 11, 2022 (BCO 18-2) — No record of endorsement by candidate's Session.

Response: Presbytery agrees with GA that presbytery failed to note the candidate's endorsement by the session of [church name omitted]. The endorsement was received by the Leadership Development Committee and came before the presbytery. The record has been amended. **M/S/C** to amend the January 11th, 2022, minutes that candidate [name omitted] received his session's endorsement from [church name omitted] to serve as a candidate of MNYP (approved unanimously)

2023-6: Sep 20, 2022 (BCO 21-4.f) — Presbytery granted a doctrinal exception that needs further clarity for proper review (WLC #183).

Response: I take exception to the *WLC* Q 183 where it says ‘nor for those that are known to have sinned the sin unto death’ I believe only God knows who these people are and cannot understand how we would implement the Apostle John’s admonition TODAY. M/S/C to amend the September 20th, 2022, minutes to include TE [name omitted]’s updated stated differences with the WS. (approved unanimously) M/S/C to approve his exception to the Westminster Standards as more than semantic, but not out of accord with any fundamentals of our system of doctrine (approved unanimously)

2023-7: Nov 08, 2022 (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and has corrected its minutes. M/S/C to amend the November 8th, 2022, minutes to include the minutes of the commission (approved unanimously) (Appendix 10)

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2023-3: Sep 20, 2022 (*WCF* 21-5; *WLC* 158; *BCO* 4-4; 8-5; 40-5; 58-4) — Presbytery delinquent to redress a Session who admitted to unconstitutional proceedings of: (1) permitting a woman to expound the Scriptures during a worship service on the Lord’s Day; (2) holding many worship services without preaching; and (3) serving the Lord’s Supper at many services without a preceding sermon.

Response: The matters referenced in this exception were referred to the SJC by the 50th General Assembly per *BCO* 40-5.

Rationale: This matter is connected to, and is answered in reference to, item (g), below.

- f. **Find that the following response regarding the Standing Judicial Commission, Case No. 2023-13, be found unsatisfactory and inadequate:**

1. Trinity’s response to the questions proposed to them by MNYP from the report of the SJC.

Response to the Metropolitan New York Presbytery:

The Session of Trinity Presbyterian Church finds that it erred in allowing a woman to deliver the message during the Sunday

worship service on October 31, 2021. because doing so is inconsistent with our constitutional standards (*BCO* 4-4; 8-5; *WCF* 21.5; *WLC* 156 and 158). The Session did not intend to act contrary to our constitution in this matter. When the Senior Pastor notified the Session that he intended to invite a woman as a guest to deliver a “message” on Reformation Sunday, he advised the Session of his understanding at that time that such an invitation would not conflict with the *BCO* because the *BCO* had been interpreted to mean that the regular preaching of the Word needed to be done by ordained ministers and did not prohibit non-ordained men and women from occasionally giving a “message” in PCA churches.

In response to the MNYP’s request that the Session examine its views regarding women preaching the Word of God in public worship services in light of the PCA Constitution, the Session has reviewed the Constitution as well as the MNYP’s position set forth in the minutes of its August 8, 2023, meeting. The Session (including its Senior Pastor) has concluded that the interpretation of the *BCO* formerly held and described by the Senior Pastor when the invitation was extended is incorrect and that the invitation should not have been extended.

In summary, the Session of Trinity Church (including the Senior Pastor) believed that it was within our constitutional bounds to have a woman deliver an occasional message in the place of a sermon by an ordained minister. Our views on this matter have changed, and we believe our earlier view was incorrect. We now consider having a woman deliver a message to be contrary to our constitutional standards. The Session and the Senior Pastor assure the Presbytery that they will not commit this error again.

Accordingly, the Session hereby takes the following actions:

1. Agrees with and adopts the MNYP’s position set forth in the minutes of its August 8, 2023, meeting as its own. Specifically, it is the position of Trinity Presbyterian Church that:

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- a. An “exposition of the Word” by a woman shall not take the place of the ordinary sermon in public worship services.
 - b. Only qualified men should preach to God’s people during public worship services. We do not believe that the principle that “a woman can do whatever an non-ordained man can do” is to be applied to the preaching in public worship services (*BCO* 4-4, 8-5; *WCF* 21.5; *WLC* 156, 158).
 - c. It is permissible for non-ordained and unlicensed men to occasionally preach (*BCO* 19-1), but not for a woman to do so.
2. Directs that this response to the MNYP be communicated to the membership of the church no later than May 31, 2024, most likely at its April 21 congregational meeting.

Finally, the Session expresses its remorse for its error and for the trouble that it has brought to the MNYP and the PCA, and it humbly requests their forgiveness.

Adopted by the Session

February 13, 2024

Presbytery’s approval of Trinity’s response

M/S/C MNYP presbytery approve and receive Trinity Presbyterian’s response to the questions.

M/S/C that these minutes be forwarded to RPR as MNYP response to the SJC ruling.

Presbytery’s Further Action at its May 14, 2024 Stated Meeting

M/S/C that Presbytery completes its work of dealing with TE [name omitted] and the Session of [church name omitted] with the confirmation that their response to the Metropolitan New York Presbytery was communicated to their church at their April 21st congregational meeting, and that we report the

results to the Committee on Review of Presbytery Records for the 51st General Assembly.

Rationale: The SJC opinion entered the following decision with respect to this citation:

The SJC remits this matter to Metropolitan New York Presbytery with the injunction that they take up and dispose of the matter in a constitutional manner. (*OMSJC* 15-6.c) Metropolitan New York Presbytery has addressed this matter as indicated in Minutes of August 8, 2023 and September 19, 2023. The Presbytery shall complete its work of dealing with TE [name omitted] and the Session of [church name omitted], and report the results of that work to the Committee on Review of Presbytery Records for the 51st GA.

Metro New York has not disposed of the matter in a constitutional matter. The report made it clear that TE [name omitted] was formerly of the view that it was acceptable for a woman to preach a Sunday morning sermon in a PCA church.

This response is an admission of serious theological error. It admits not only a violation of the PCA's constitution, but of clear Scripture (e.g. 1 Tim. 2:12). Not only did TE [name omitted] hold and practice a grossly erroneous view, he taught the Session, and at least by implication, the congregation, of [church name omitted], according to his erroneous view.

Having received this confession, which unquestionably raised a strong presumption of guilt, the Presbytery had a duty to institute process against TE [name omitted] (*BCO* 31-2), which it failed to do. Given that TE [name omitted] has confessed his error, the Presbytery, after having instituted process, "may deal with him according to its discretion." This requires an evaluation of the considerations set forth in *BCO* 34-5, 34-6, and 34-7. Presbytery might also have conceivably dealt with TE [name omitted] via a case without process pursuant to *BCO* 38-1. However, there is a substantial open question concerning TE [name omitted]'s view of scripture that has not been addressed. There is a significant question

regarding the credibility of TE [name omitted]'s statement given the clear language of Scripture.

2. **Therefore, that the 51st General Assembly:**
 - a. Find that the Presbytery's response to SJC Case No. 2023-13 indicates the Presbytery's persistence in an error pursuant to *RAO* 16-10.c.;
 - b. Cite the Metropolitan New York Presbytery to appear, per *RAO* 16-10.c. and *BCO* 40-5, before the PCA's Standing Judicial Commission pursuant to the *Operating Manual for the SJC*, particularly chapter 15, at a time and date appointed by the SJC; and
 - c. Direct the CRPR Officers to appoint one or more representatives of the GA and Report (*OMSJC* 15.2) to present this case to the SJC.

All members of the Standing Judicial Commission who are serving on CRPR abstained from discussion and all votes with regard to Metropolitan New York.

45. That the Minutes of the **Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley:** 61-0-0
 - a. Be approved without exception: **Mar 20, 2023; May 02, 2023; Nov 07, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **Feb 07, 2023**
 - c. Be approved with exception of substance:
2024-1: General 2023 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of 6-month church membership or 1 month prior filing of application for men coming under care.
2024-2: General 2023 (*BCO* 8-7; *BCO* 13-2) — No record of annual reports for the majority of men serving out of bounds or without call.
2024-3: Aug 01, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4.e) — No record that Presbytery followed *BCO* 21-4.e (as amended at the 50th GA) in conducting an ordination examination.
2024-4: Aug 01, 2023 (*RONR* 9:34) — Committee empowered to act as a commission makes decisions via e-mail which does not constitute a deliberative assembly.
 - d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**

2023-1: Feb 2, 2021; May 4, 2021 (*RONR* 9:34) — A commission conducted business by email, which does not constitute a deliberative assembly.

Response: The Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley expresses our thanks to RPR for their careful work and for correcting us in regard to the proper practice of commissions appointed to do the work of presbytery. We regret our error and reminded commissions and committees that are tasked with commission responsibilities that they are to be sure that such work is done in a deliberative assembly per *RONR* 9:34. Again, thank you. Presbytery should ratify actions taken outside the deliberative assembly. Once again PMV thanks the CRPR committee for their work and diligence. We have ratified all previous records that were approved outside of a deliberative assembly, (Nov 7 minutes). As previously stated, we have changed our practice of approving minutes.

Rationale: Presbytery should ratify actions taken outside the deliberative assembly.

Response: Once again PMV thanks the CRPR committee for their work and diligence. We have ratified all previous records that were approved outside of a deliberative assembly, (Nov 7 minutes). As previously stated, we have changed our practice of approving minutes.

46. That the Minutes of **Missouri** Presbytery: *60-0-1*
- a. Be approved without exception: **Feb 11, 2023; Jul 15, 2023; Oct 17, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
 - c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: General 2023** (*BCO* 19-12) — Annual report of interns not included.
 - 2024-3: Jan 17, 2023** (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.
 - 2024-4: Jan 17, 2023** (*BCO* 19-16) — 3/4 vote for waiving internship requirements not recorded.
 - 2024-5: General 2023** (*BCO* 13.9.b; 40-1) — Incomplete record of review of records of church sessions.

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2024-6: General 2023 (BCO 46-6; 13-7) — No record reflecting when a man who was transferred to another presbytery was received by that presbytery.

2024-7: General 2023 (BCO 8-7) — No record of annual report of TEs laboring out of bounds.

2024-8: Directory (RAO 16-4.c.1) — No record of change of status from licensed to senior pastor.

2024-9: Oct 07, 2023 (BCO 20-3; 20-6; 22-2) — No record of vote from congregation calling pastor or record of 4/5 majority required

2024-10: General 2023 (BCO 46-6) — No recording regarding the reception of a certificate of dismissal from transferring presbytery.

2024-11: Apr 18, 2023 (BCO 13-11; PP II.8; BCO 40) — Allegations against a pastor(s) and session received by presbytery not recorded in the presbytery minutes.

2024-12: Jan 17, 2023 (BCO 21-4.c.4; BCO 13-6) — 3/4 vote for extraordinary clause not recorded.

2024-13: General 2023 (BCO 8-7) — No record that presbytery is assured that out of bounds TE has full freedom to maintain/teach doctrine of PCA.

2024-14: Jan 17, 2023 (BCO 46-6) — No record that TE released from call and transferring to a different denomination was removed from the rolls.

d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:

2023-1: Oct 22, 2022 (BCO 23-2; 13-1) — A minister who is honorably retired was released to the care of a church session.

Response: The following resolution was adopted by Missouri Presbytery at its October 17, 2023 stated meeting. 2310-06 MSP to amend Resolution 2210-22 to read “2210-22 MSP to change the call of TE [name omitted] from Professor, Covenant Seminary, to Honorably Retired.” [MOP 2023 Minutes, page 2393.]

47. That the Minutes of **Nashville** Presbytery: 62-0-1

a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; May 12, 2023; Jul 06, 2023; Sep 26, 2023; Nov 14, 2023**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**

c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Aug 08, 2023 (*BCO* 38-2) — Presbytery approved a 38-2 request without a record of a “full deliberation” and not the “next stated meeting” from when the request was submitted. It also appears that Presbytery dissolved a call that had been previously dissolved (per the request letter).

2024-2: Nov 12, 2023 (*BCO* 14-9.b; *BCO* 40-1) — No record of Presbytery action on review of Session records.

2024-3: Feb 14, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.

2024-3: Aug 08, 2023 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation(/Session) concurred with dissolution of pastoral relation.

- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2022-1: Feb 8, 2021; Aug 10, 2021 (*BCO* 18-7) — No reasons given for removing candidates from rolls.

Response: We agree with the exception. In each case our committee recommended removal for valid reasons, but this fact is not recorded in our minutes. We have since modified our practice to comply with the requirement.

Rationale: Presbytery has not yet recorded the reasons for the removal of these candidates from its rolls (*BCO* 18-7).

Response: In every case, the candidate was removed from the roll of candidates at his own request. We have recorded the fact with the names of the men in the minutes of November 14, 2023 and added a notation to the 2021 minutes.

2023-2: Feb 8, 2022; Apr 12, 2022; Jul 18, 2022 (*BCO* 19-16) — 3/4 vote for waiving internship requirement not recorded.

Response: We agree with the exception. In each case the court took notice of the requirements of *BCO* 19-16 and the required procedure was followed. The error is in the recording of the action. We have adjusted our recording to bring our minutes into compliance

2023-3: May 3, 2022; Jul 18, 2022 (*BCO* 13-12) — Notice for called meeting not in order; no record of 10-day notice.

Response: We agree with the exception. Notice for the May 3 called meeting was sent and received on April 22. Notice for the July 18 meeting was sent and received on July 8. We have since modified

our practice to record the dates and the call for the meeting verbatim in the minutes for each called meeting.

2023-4: Nov 08, 2022 (BCO 23-1) — No record that Congregation/Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

Response: We agree with the exception. The August 28, 2022 minutes of the congregational meeting were made available to the presbytery and the church spoke through her commissioners at the meeting. Nevertheless, the action of the congregation to dissolve the call—though presented to the presbytery—is not recorded in our minutes. We have since modified our recording to reflect specific action taken by the session or congregation.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2023-1: General 2022 (BCO 13-9.b; 40-1) — No record of review of records of church sessions.

Response: We agree with the exception. We have since amended our standing rules to create a particular committee charged with annual review of all session minutes and have elected the members to serve on the committee. The committee has completed a thorough review of session records and will submit its report for action at our 116th Stated Meeting (November 14, 2023).

Rationale: The Committee to review Session Records reported at the November 2023 stated meeting with a sampling of the types of exceptions the committee noted in the minutes of Sessions from 2022, but no recommendations were brought forth for the Presbytery to adopt. Only the Presbytery or a commission formed for that purpose can cite a lower court with an exception to their minutes.

48. That the Minutes of **New Jersey** Presbytery: 66-0-0

- a. Be approved without exception: **Mar 18, 2023; May 20, 2023; Sep 16, 2023; Nov 18, 2023**

- b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**

- c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: General 2023 (BCO 5-3.c) — TE [name omitted] was called in a meeting to serve as the church planter of [church name omitted],

but was not made a member of the commission acting as that church's session.

d. No response to previous assemblies required.

49. That the Minutes of **New River** Presbytery: 62-0-0

a. Be approved without exception: **Mar 04, 2023**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2023**

c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Aug 05, 2023 (BCO 18-2) — No record of endorsement by candidate's session.

2024-2: Aug 05, 2023 (BCO 18-2) — No record of six-months membership for candidate.

2024-3: Nov 04, 2023 (BCO 18-2) — No record of endorsement by candidate's Session.

2024-4: Nov 04, 2023 (BCO 18-2) — No record of six-months membership for candidate.

2024-5: Nov 04, 2023 (BCO 19-2) — No record of requiring statement of differences with our Standards.

2024-6: Dec 11, 2022 (BCO 13-12) — Notice for called meeting not in order (10-day notice, verbatim meeting call, etc., not indicated/recorded).

d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:

2022-1: General (BCO 13-9.b; 40-1) — No record of review of records of church Sessions.

Response: We apologize for the delays regarding our churches' minutes—both in reviewing and in approving them. We are in the process of reviewing the minutes for both 2021 and 2022

Rationale: No report on progress provided or included in minutes.

Response: We apologize for the lack of specificity. To repeat what we previously noted: we have made significant progress since your review of our presbytery's 2022 minutes. On August 5, 2023, at the 148th stated meeting of New River Presbytery (NRP), the chairman of our Administrative Committee reported on said committee's review of session minutes. On November 4, 2023, at the 149th stated meeting of NRP, the chairman of our Administrative Committee once again discussed session minutes. Both of these instances are outlined in 2023 minutes from the respective stated meetings. Furthermore, the

discussion and review of session minutes was brought up in our 150th Stated Meeting, held on March 2, 2024, and session minutes will continue to be discussed in some of our subsequent stated meetings.

2023-1: General 2022 (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) — No record of review of records of church Sessions.

Response: We apologize for not recording the review of records of our sessions, and will try to do better in the future. We have, however, made significant progress since your review of our presbytery's 2022 minutes. On August 5, 2023, at the 148th stated meeting of New River Presbytery (NRP), the chairman of our Administrative Committee reported on said committee's review of session minutes. On November 4, 2023, at the 149th stated meeting of NRP, the chairman of our Administrative Committee once again discussed session minutes. Both of these instances are outlined in 2023 minutes from the respective stated meetings. Furthermore, the discussion and review of session minutes is ongoing, and will be discussed in our 150th stated meeting.

2023-2: General 2022 (*RAO* 16-10.a) — No record in minutes of exceptions taken by GA.

Response: We respectfully disagree with this exception. The summary of our responses to exceptions made by General Assembly is as follows: 1) Exceptions from the 49th General Assembly – These were exceptions of the 2021 minutes of NRP. On March 4, 2023, at our 147th stated meeting, we responded to these. Although the response did not occur within the same calendar year as the exceptions (i.e., the exceptions occurred in 2022, but the response occurred in 2023), and such a delay is not recommended or advised (according to *RAO* 16-10.a), this delay is not forbidden; 2) Exceptions from the 50th General Assembly – these are exceptions of the 2022 minutes of NRP. The response to these exceptions has been delayed until March 2024. We believe, therefore, that this exception is unwarranted.

2023-3: General 2022 (*RAO* 16-10.a) — No response to the Assembly concerning disposition of an exception of substance.

Response: We respectfully disagree with this exception for the same reasons outlined in the preceding response

2023-4: General 2022 (*BCO* 13-11; 40-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.7) — Minutes to called meeting not included.

Response: We apologize for the omission of the minutes from this called meeting. On March 2, 2024, NRP approved said minutes, and the approval will be noted in the minutes of our March 2 Stated Meeting

2023-5: General 2022 (BCO 8-7) — No record of reports of TEs laboring out of bounds.

Response: We have two TEs serving out of bounds.

1) One of them, TE [name omitted] , did give an oral report at the 146th Stated Meeting of NRP, held on November 5, 2022. This report was recorded in the minutes and reads as follows (and is [italicized]): *Chaplain [name omitted] – TE [name omitted] opened in prayer. He then gave an update on his ministry. M/s/c to allow him 5 more minutes to speak. He then shared a couple prayer requests, and then closed in prayer.*

Our stated clerk did not, however, explicitly note that TE [name omitted] is laboring *out of bounds*, and we apologize for that omission.

2) The other TE laboring out of bounds is [name omitted] *was then questioned by the RE's and TE's present on the Bible, theology of the Westminster standards, and the BCO. A motion was made from the C&C Committee to grant [name omitted] 's exception, which is: "I have reservations with the wording on "recreations" for the Sabbath Day. The Sabbath differs from other days in that it was set aside and explicitly stated to be kept holy. I understand that restful recreation that is honoring to the Lord and not done in a capricious way to be acceptable under the commandment given in Scripture. If the understanding of the prohibition of "recreations" is meaning not to watch football on television with my son or a restaurant with my family as violating the Standards, then I believe that goes beyond the intent of the command given in Scripture. I believe that the Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath and that it is an issue of the heart for what is an honoring day for the Lord for keeping it holy." The presbytery agreed (via the C&C Committee) to grant this exception, concluding, in the words of BCO 19-2, that "the applicant's declared difference is not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine because the difference is neither hostile to the system nor strikes at the vitals of religion."*

The minutes state clearly that the applicant's exception (which was recorded in his own words [*cf. RAO 16-3.e.5*]) was granted by the presbytery. Furthermore, the minutes explicitly use the language (i.e., the prescribed category) taken from *BCO 19-2*, that "the applicant's declared difference is not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine because the difference is neither hostile to the system nor strikes at the vitals of religion."

2023-10: Nov 05, 2022 (*BCO 18-2*) — No record of six-months membership for candidate.

Response: There were four men who came under care of New River Presbytery at this stated meeting. It was recorded in the minutes from this stated meeting, in Appendix C, that three of these four men had been members of the respective churches for longer than the six-month requirement. Even though the fourth candidate met the six-month membership requirement, there was no record of it in the minutes. For that we apologize, and our presbytery will try to do better recording this in the future.

50. That the Minutes of **New York State** Presbytery: *60-0-0*

- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; May 20, 2023; Sep 15, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **Jan 21, 2023**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance: **None**
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2023-1: General 2022 (*BCO 8-4*) — No record of annual report by TEs called to "needful work."

Response: The Shepherding Committee has received and considered an exception reported to you by the PCA RPR Committee regarding the 2022 Presbytery Minutes of the New York State Presbytery. This exception pointed out our failure to require yearly reports from all TEs designated as ministering either 'without call' or 'out-of-bounds.' We apologize for this failure to follow the clearly indicated procedure, and we have determined that we will require such yearly reports from now on. Note that not all the members of this committee were aware of this requirement, and this has been corrected. At our stated meeting on September 15, 2023 we approved this response statement to RPR. We believe that we have taken the

steps necessary to prevent it happening again. The committee authorized and presented three of these reports at the recent (September 16, 2023) NYSP meeting; they will be included in the final minutes. We are now tracking down the other TEs who have not made reports recently and we are informing them of the deficiency. At the next meeting (January 2024), we expect we will have all outstanding reports completed and approved. Thank you for your patience and forbearance.

2023-2: Feb 26, 2022 (*BCO* 13-12) — Notice for called meeting not in order (10-day notice, verbatim meeting call, etc., not indicated/recorded).

Response: The notice of the called meeting was sent to the Presbytery on January 25, 2022. It was not recorded in the minutes in oversight. But more than 10-days' notice was given.

2023-3: Feb 26, 2022 (*BCO* 34-10) — 2/3 vote for divesture of office requirement not recorded.

Response: The vote for divesture was unanimous. It was an oversight not to record this fact.

2023-4: Feb 26, 2022 (*BCO* 34-10) — Notice for grounds for proceeding against TE not in order (not indicated/recorded).

Response: Minutes note: "Committee motion to remove TE [name omitted] from the rolls of New York State Presbytery due to non-attendance for over 20 years and inability to make contact – approved." Stated Clerk checked with the Administration Committee in Atlanta and received a reply that the Administration Committee also had no record of any contact with TE [name omitted] nor had any contact information. Since no one in the Presbytery has any knowledge of this TE nor any way to contact him, this action amounts to cleaning up the Presbytery rolls.

2023-5: May 21, 2022 (*BCO* 13-10) — No record of transfer or dismissal of members upon dissolving a church associated with 60-day notice.

Response: On March 6, 2022, the temporary session of [church name omitted] met with the members of [church name omitted] to discuss our intention to ask the presbytery to dissolve [church name omitted] at our May 21, 2022 meeting. On March 20, 2022, the temporary session of [church name omitted] provided email

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notification of the same to the members of [church name omitted]. Members were encouraged to transfer their membership to other particular or mission churches. At the May 21, 2022 meeting of the presbytery, in addition to dissolving [church name omitted], the presbytery placed remaining members under the oversight of a commission acting as a temporary session until such time as either a new congregation could be formed or such persons were dismissed to membership in another church, per *BCO* 13-10.3. We will make every effort to be more complete in our reporting in the future

2023-6: May 21, 2022 (*BCO* 8-7) — No record that the Presbytery is assured that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church.

Response: Since this is a military chaplaincy, and the Presbytery is aware of the Chaplain’s Manual of the Presbyterian and Reformed Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel Policy and Guidance Handbook Policies for All Endorsed Chaplains (pp. 19–20), it was deemed redundant to document this in the minutes of the May 21, 2022 meeting. Since we now understand that you would like this identified specifically for military chaplains, we shall include the point that all TEs from our Presbytery who are approved to serve as military chaplains will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church, as documented in the Chaplain’s Manual of the Presbyterian and Reformed Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel Policy and Guidance Handbook Policies for All Endorsed Chaplains.

2023-7: Sep 16-17, 2022 (*BCO* 25-11) — No record that Presbytery confirmed that a 30-day notice was given by Session for congregational meeting to withdraw from the denomination.

Response: The information concerning the 30-day notice of the congregational meeting at [church name omitted] was obtained by the Stated Clerk of New York State Presbytery, but not recorded in the entry in the September 16-17, 2022 minutes due to oversight.

51. That the Minutes of **North Florida** Presbytery: *63-0-1*
- a. Be approved without exception: **May 11, 2023; Aug 10, 2023; Aug 26, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2023; Feb 09, 2023**

- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
2024-1: Nov 09, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4.c.(1)(b)) — Incomplete record of ordination exam. **2024-2: Nov 09, 2023** (*BCO* 8-7) — No record of annual reports of TEs laboring out of bounds
- d. **No response to previous assemblies required.**
- e. That the General Assembly find the February 4, 2024, letter from [name omitted] et al. is not a report of an “important delinquency or grossly unconstitutional proceedings” (*BCO* 40-5).
Rationale: Without expressing an opinion as to whether the actions alleged were improper, they do not rise to the heightened standard of 40-5.

RE Jay Neikirk abstained from discussion and all votes with regard to North Florida.

52. That the Minutes of **North Texas** Presbytery: 63-0-0

- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **Feb 3-4, 2023; Aug 11-12, 2023**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
2024-1: May 5-6, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not recorded in the minister’s/candidate’s own words.
2024-2: Nov 3-4, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not recorded in the minister’s/candidate’s own words.
2024-3: Nov 3-4, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4) — No record of requiring statement of differences with our Standards.
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2023-1: Feb 18-19, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4.c; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.

Response: *Regarding Mr. [name omitted]’s papers* —NTP approved the following on February 3, 2024: NTP records in its minutes that [name omitted] was in fact examined in May 2021 and February 2022 and approved according to each of the *BCO* 21-4 requirements for ordination.

Candidate under care of presbytery
 Testimonials pertaining to candidate’s internship
 Internship approved
 College diploma(s)

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Seminary diploma(s)
Thesis on theological topic approved by presbytery
Exegetical study approved by presbytery
Sermon preached before Presbytery
Sermon approved by Presbytery
Written call or letter certifying a call from a congregation or appropriate body
Christian Experience
Knowledge of both Greek and Hebrew (Exam or Seminary degree)
Bible Content
Theology
Sacraments
Church History and History of the PCA
Principles and Rules of Government and Discipline of PCA
No Stated Differences with Westminster Confession, and Catechisms
Examination Sustained as a Whole
Received into Presbytery

Regarding examination of Mr. [name omitted] 's views--Mr. [name omitted]'s views (No Stated Differences) were approved in May, 2021 and the NTP Theological Examining Committee Report in the February 18-19, 2022 Docket (2022 Minutes Page 25 reports regarding Mr. Miller that upon his final examinations for ordination by the Theological Examining Committee, Mr. Miller had not changed his views. "Please note that [name omitted] 's views were received at his licensure exams at the May 2021 Presbytery meeting. His views have not changed." NTP believes this statement of the Theological Examining Committee satisfies the requirement of BCO 21.4.b.

Mr. [name omitted] 's sermon was preached and approved on November 7, 2020. See 2021 Minutes Page 4, item 2. "M/S/A to receive and accept the sermons of Messrs. [Names Omitted]."

2023-2: Aug 12-13, 2022 (BCO 21-4.f) — Presbytery judged a stated difference as "merely semantic." This decision needs further clarity. At a minimum the difference appears to be an exception.

Response: During the oral floor exam, TE [name omitted] was questioned about his stated difference and the dialogue with presbyters

brought greater clarity to the appearance of his written statements. We believe there is a real purpose to the oral exams in addition to the written statements because they afford Presbytery an opportunity to examine the stated differences from more angles than what a written statement allows. For example, in the phrase “not only impossible” TE [name omitted] was acknowledging the inability of fallen humans to perfectly fulfil the biblical command. We found TE [name omitted]’s stated difference in this to result more from his own conception of what the Standards require and Presbytery discussion with him brought clarity to his understanding and provided the basis for Presbytery’s decision. Further, we believe *RAO* 16.3.e(5) allows Presbytery to determine how to classify the stated differences and does not specify that Presbytery record its rationale along with the classification.

2023-3: Aug 12-13, 2022 (*BCO* 13-6) — Incomplete record of a transfer exam for a TE coming from a different Presbytery.

Response: The 2022 Minutes Page 285 includes the report of the NTP Theological Examining Committee which states, “The committee examined Rev. [name omitted] for transfer into the North Texas Presbytery, to serve as pastor at [church name omitted]. The committee examined [name omitted] in the areas of Christian character, calling, differences with the standards, theology, sacraments, and church government.”The 2022 Minutes Page 223 record the action of NTP that "TE [name omitted] was examined in Christian experience and views for transfer. See 149th NTPSM Docket Page 55. MSA that, for [name omitted] , the North Texas Presbytery sustain his examination in all areas and approve his transfer into the North Texas Presbytery. (*BCO* 21.4)"

2023-4: Aug 12-13, 2022 (*BCO* 18-3) — No record of candidate exam recorded.

Response: In the 2022 Minutes page 225, the action of NTP approving the candidates is likewise recorded with reference to the requirements of *BCO* 18-3. While the reference to *BCO* 18-3 was intended to refer to the elements of *BCO* 18-3 but may be insufficiently explicit, NTP did in fact examine the candidates according to the specific *BCO* 18-3 requirements of “experiential religion and motives for seeking the ministry” in the Stated Meeting.

MSA that [name omitted] [church name omitted] be received as a Candidate (BCO 18-3).

MSA that [name omitted] [church name omitted] be received as a Candidate (BCO 18-3).

Since our reference to *BCO* 18-3 in the report of the Candidates Committee and Minutes of the Stated Meeting has not been received by RPR as sufficiently explicit as to the examinations conducted, we will in the future list them individually along with citation of *BCO* 18-3.

2023-5: Sep 17, 2022 (BCO 13-4; RAO 16-3.c.1) — Purpose of called meeting not recorded verbatim in the minutes.

Response: The purpose of the called meeting was recorded verbatim in the 2022 Minutes Page 225 as follows:

MSA to receive the complaint from a [church omitted] member regarding the Session decision concerning a columbarium as in order and timely filed.

MSA to call a special meeting to hear the complaint received in the previous motion.

Per the Moderator's recommendation, a meeting to hear the complaint is called for September 17 2022 at 9:00am.

The 2022 Minutes Page 341 records that at the September 17, 2022 Called Meeting, "Moderator gave background on the proceeding and the notice of the meeting." This item in the September 17, 2022 Called Meeting cited the "notice of the meeting" which was included in the call for the meeting on August 19, 2022, "to hear the complaint."

So the purpose of the meeting was recorded verbatim in the minutes (2022 Minutes Page 225) and then that notice was cited in the September 17 meeting. We do not read *RAO* 16-3.c.1 to specify the sequence in which the purpose of the meeting must be recorded verbatim in the minutes of Presbytery.

In future minutes of Called Meetings, we will include a restatement of the purpose of the called meeting.

2023-6: Sep 17, 2022 (BCO 43-10) — Presbytery remanded a complaint to a lower court expressing its opinion rather than giving instructions for a new hearing.

Response: How does NTP bring a past Action into conformity with RPR? M/S/A that Presbytery refer the complaint back to the

lower court for a new hearing with expression of Presbytery's concerns about the controversial nature of the question and because of the Scriptural preference for burial.

2023-7: Nov 4-5, 2022 (BCO 18-3) — No record of candidate exams recorded.

Response: The 2022 Minutes Page 405 includes the report of the NTP Candidates Committee and states, "II.4. We examined Candidate and Intern Applicants (BCO 18-3)." The reference to (BCO 18-3) is the committee's way of indicating that he was examined in accord with the requirements of BCO 18-3 which include experiential religion and on his motives for seeking the ministry.

For each Candidate, the committee reported that:

IV.1. That [name omitted] [church name omitted] be received as a Candidate (BCO 18-3).

IV.3. That [name omitted] [church name omitted] be received as a Candidate (BCO 18-3).

IV.6. That [name omitted] [church name omitted] be received as a Candidate (BCO 18-3).

In the 2022 Minutes page 356, the action of NTP approving the candidates is likewise recorded with reference to the requirements of BCO 18-3. While the reference to BCO 18-3 was intended to refer to the elements of BCO 18-3 but may be insufficiently explicit, NTP did in fact examine the candidates according to the specific BCO 18-3 requirements of "experiential religion and motives for seeking the ministry" in the Stated Meeting. Minutes Page 356

MSA as an omnibus:

That [name omitted] [church name omitted] be received as a Candidate (BCO 18-3).

That [name omitted] [church name omitted] be received as a Candidate (BCO 18-3).

That [name omitted] [church name omitted] be received as a Candidate (BCO 18-3).

Since our reference to BCO 18-3 in the report of the Candidates Committee and Minutes of the Stated Meeting has not been received by RPR as sufficiently explicit as to the examinations conducted, we

will in the future list them individually along with citation of *BCO* 18-3.

53. That the Minutes of **Northern California** Presbytery: 62-0-0

- a. Be approved without exception: **Oct 06, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2023**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: Feb 03, 2023** (*BCO* 20-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.6) — Specific arrangements of call not shown to be approved.
 - 2024-2: Feb 03, 2023** (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.
 - 2024-3: Apr 12, 2023** (*BCO* 13-12; *RONR* (12th ed.) 25:10) — Notice for called meeting not in order (10-day notice, verbatim meeting call, etc., not indicated/recorded).
 - 2024-4: May 05, 2023** (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.
 - 2024-5: May 05, 2023** (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.
 - 2024-6: May 05, 2023** (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.
 - 2024-7: May 05, 2023** (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.
 - 2024-8: May 05, 2023** (*BCO* 20-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.6) — Specific arrangements of call not shown to be approved.
 - 2024-9: Aug 02, 2023** (*BCO* 13-12; *RONR* (12th ed.) 25:10) — Notice for called meeting not in order (10-day notice, verbatim meeting call, etc., not indicated/recorded).
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
 - 2023-1: General 2022** (*BCO* 13-9.b) — No record of Presbytery reviewing Session minutes.

Response: From the response to the 50th General Assembly, which was found acceptable: “In 2022, although we made progress in asking churches to exchange session minutes with another church and to review each other’s records, the presbytery did not review the results of those inter-church reviews. The 2022 presbytery minutes will not reflect a presbytery review of session records. At the February 2023 presbytery meeting, we have approved a plan with a timeline

each year for the interchurch review of session minutes, for the sessions to submit reports of the session minute reviews to presbytery, for the presbytery to review the reports and for the presbytery to vote on exceptions of substance. Our Recording Clerk is overseeing this process.” This process is in place and will be reflected in the Presbytery’s minutes for 2023.

2023-2: Feb 04, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4, *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam. Approval of theses and sermon not recorded.

Response: The man in question was transferring from a sister denomination, with a PhD and many years of faithful service. The presbytery applied the extraordinary clause on the basis of his prior experience, in lieu of requiring theses from him, but we failed to record the vote of the presbytery. We will correct the record, and will be more diligent in the future.

2023-3: Feb 04, 2022 (*BCO* 38-3) — No record of following *BCO* 38-3 for two ministers withdrawing to another denomination.

Response: *BCO* 38-3.a requires, “if at the time of the attempt to withdraw he is in good standing, the irregularity shall be recorded, his new membership acknowledged, and his name removed from the roll.” Both men were in good standing, and transferring to NAPARC denominations, which ‘irregularity’ was recorded for each in the minutes referenced (though the word “irregularity” was not used). Since the NAPARC Agreement on Transfer of Members, clause 1, governs these transfers, the Presbytery believes the record as presented in the minutes meets the Constitutional requirements.

2023-4: Feb 4, 2022; May 6, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-months membership for candidate.

Response: The candidates in question had, at the time of their acceptance under care of the presbytery, each been members in good standing for the requisite period. This was verbally noted by the Chair of the Committee, but was not recorded in the minutes. We will amend the record and strive to be more complete in the future.

2023-5: Feb 4, 2022; May 6, 2022 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation/Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

Response: Between these two meetings, there were six ministers requesting to resign, and none of the resignations were contested. For

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four of the six, the congregation had already voted, but the word “uncontested” was omitted in the record. For the final two, the congregational vote was to take place very soon after the Presbytery meeting(s), but the RE delegates from the churches in question represented that they expected the votes to be unanimous, or nearly so (as indeed, they were). Nevertheless, we failed to make clear in the record that these were not contested: we will amend the record and will strive to be more complete in the future.

2023-6: Oct 07, 2022 (*BCO* 8-7) — No record that the Presbytery is assured that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church.

Response: The minister in question is serving at an organization well-known to the Presbytery, and his call specifically included his full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church. However, that freedom was not recorded separately in the minutes. We will correct the oversight and be more complete in the future

54. That the Minutes of **Northern Illinois** Presbytery: 64-0-0

- a. Be approved without exception: **Nov 16, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: General 2023 (*BCO* 13-2) — No record of annual report of ministers without call.

2024-2: General 2023 (*BCO* 8-4) — No record of annual report of minister appointed to a needful work.

2024-3: Jan 14, 2023 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

2024-4: Jan 14, 2023 (*BCO* 8-7) — No record that the Presbytery is assured that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church.

2024-5: Jan 14, 2023 (*BCO* 22-6) — No record that the Session requested the renewal of Stated Supply.

2024-6: Feb 23, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.

2024-7: Feb 23, 2023 (*BCO* 20-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.6) — Specific arrangements of call not shown to be approved.

2024-8: Feb 23, 2023 (BCO 15-1; RAO 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.

2024-9: May 09, 2023 (BCO 18-7) — Candidates dismissed from roll without record of informing former candidates.

2024-10: May 09, 2023 (BCO 15-1; RAO 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.

2024-11: Jul 25, 2023 (BCO 38-1; RAO 16-3.e.8) — Record of Case without process not recorded in minutes.

2024-12: Sep 09, 2023 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.

2024-13: Sep 09, 2023 (BCO 23-1) — No record of four-fifths (4/5) majority vote of congregation on petition to request that an associate pastor succeed the senior pastor.

d. No response to previous assemblies required.

55. That the Minutes of **Northern New England** Presbytery: 62-0-0

a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Jan 21, 2023; May 20, 2023; Oct 21, 2023; Dec 09, 2023**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **Feb 04, 2023**

c. Be approved with exception of substance: **None**

d. No response to previous assemblies required.

56. That the Minutes of **Northwest Georgia** Presbytery: 65-0-1

a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Jan 21, 2023; Jan 21, 2023; Jan 21, 2023**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory**

c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Apr 04, 2023 (BCO 15-1) — No record commission submitted “complete minutes” of its meetings.

d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory: 2023-2: Aug 20, 2022 (BCO 13-11) — Complaint sent to Presbytery not recorded in Presbytery’s minutes.

Response: The Northwest Georgia Presbytery agrees with the exception. The minutes of the August 20, 2022 Stated Meeting of the NWGP have been amended to include the Exhibits attached to the July

21, 2022 letter sent to the Presbytery. The letter and exhibits are also submitted to the CRPR as a separate PDF attachment titled “[name omitted] et al Complaint 07.21.22”. The Stated Clerk regrets this oversight and promises to be more careful in the future. [Exhibits 1, 2, and 3 of the letter on p. 25 need to be included for review.] Please see the additional pdf documents.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2022-1: Apr 13, 2021 (BCO 43-8) — If a complaint is properly filed, it shall be heard by the Presbytery. A complaint may not be denied without a hearing except on narrow administrative grounds.

Response: At the April 13, 2021 meeting of Presbytery, there was an indication that the complainant intended to withdraw his complaint and that he would not pursue it any further nor elevate it to a higher court. The complainant communicated such in an email to Presbytery’s Stated Clerk on April 16, 2021. The Stated Clerk regrets the failure to record this in the minutes.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not rescinded the unconstitutional denial of the complaint.

Response: The Northwest Georgia Presbytery agrees with the exception. A complaint, timely filed and in order, must be given a hearing (*BCO* 43-8). The Presbytery therefore erred in denying the complaint without a hearing. However, it is not possible for the Presbytery to correct its error since the complaint has been withdrawn by the complainant. This action to withdraw the complaint was taken by the complainant on April 16, 2021 in a letter emailed to the Stated Clerk for circulation to the NWGP (and submitted to the CRPR as a separate PDF attachment titled “[name omitted] Withdrawal of Complainant”). There is therefore no complaint before the Presbytery to take up or otherwise correct. Nevertheless, the Presbytery regrets its error and promises to adjudicate all complaints it may receive in the future in strict adherence to the provisions of the *Book of Church Order*. (The Presbytery also adopted an apology to the complainants in the above cases and directed its Stated Clerk to deliver the apology

to them. The apology is submitted to the CRPR as a separate PDF attachment titled “NWGP Ltr to Complainants 1.24.24”)

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). The Presbytery serves as an example to others in the way it apologized to the Complainants for its incorrect actions, but Presbytery has not rescinded the unconstitutional denial of the complaint. Acknowledgement of abandonment or withdrawal should only come after the unconstitutional action has been rescinded because the alleged abandonment or withdrawal occurred after the unconstitutional dismissal by the Presbytery.

2023-1: Apr 05, 2022 (*BCO* 43-8) — Timely and orderly complaints (3) denied without a hearing.

Response: The Northwest Georgia Presbytery agrees with the exception. A complaint, timely filed and in order, must be given a hearing (*BCO* 43-8). The Presbytery erred in adopting the decision of its judicial commission in the instant case because the judicial commission made its recommendation without holding a hearing. However, it is not possible for the Presbytery to correct this error since the case (one which consolidated three complaints) has already been appealed to and ruled upon by the SJC in two separate decisions (*SJC* 2022-16 [name omitted], et al. v. NWGP, & *SJC* 2022-05 [name omitted] et al. v. NWGP). Even if the Presbytery could rehear a case subsequently decided by the higher court, the complaint is now moot (as the SJC ruled in both above cases) since the underlying issue in the consolidated cases was resolved when the [church name omitted] Session dismissed all charges against the accused Ruling Elders and ended the judicial process. Nevertheless, the Presbytery regrets its error and promises to adjudicate all complaints it may receive in the future in strict adherence to the provisions of the *Book of Church Order*. (The Presbytery also adopted an apology to the complainants in the above cases and directed its Stated Clerk to deliver the apology to them. The apology is submitted to the CRPR as a separate PDF attachment titled “NWGP Ltr to Complainants 1.24.24”)

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). The Presbytery serves as an example to others in the way it apologized to the Complainants for its incorrect actions, but Presbytery has not rescinded the unconstitutional denial of the

complaints. Acknowledgement of judicial mootness should only come after the unconstitutional action has been rescinded because the action of the higher court occurred after the unconstitutional dismissal by the Presbytery.

- f. That the General Assembly** Find that the April 22, 2024, letter from [name omitted] is not a report” of an “important delinquency or grossly unconstitutional proceedings” (*BCO* 40-5).

Rationale: To the extent that unconstitutional actions may be alleged, they are being redressed through the constitutional process of review and control (*BCO* 40-3), particularly through CRPR’s recommendation that one of NWGA Presbytery’s responses to an exception of substance be found unsatisfactory (see [2022-1], above).”

RE Jay Neikirk abstained from discussion and all votes with regard to Northwest Georgia.

57. That the Minutes of **Ohio** Presbytery: 61-0-0

- a. Be approved without exception: **Feb 04, 2023; May 06, 2023; Oct 07, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
2024-1: General 2023 (*BCO* 18-6) — No annual report from candidates given.
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2023-1: Feb 05, 2022 (*BCO* 21-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.6) — No record of Presbytery approving the call to a TE [name omitted] whose status was changed.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with this exception and has corrected its actions by approving the call to TE [name omitted] at the October 2023 Stated meeting of the Ohio Presbytery and appointing a commission to install him to that call. The Presbytery promises to be more careful in the future

2023-2: May 07, 2022 (*BCO* 19-2.a, d) — Incomplete record of a licentiate examination.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception that we had an incomplete record of a licentiate examination. Since we have already ordained TE [name omitted], we cannot correct our mistake

with regard to his previous licensure. It has been our practice to consider under care examinations “on experiential religion and on his motives for seeking the ministry” (*BCO* 18-3) as sufficient to fulfill the licensure requirement of “statement of his Christian experience and inward call to preach the Gospel” (*BCO* 19-23.a.). However, we will heed the GA’s counsel going forward that “[t]hese examinations are not interchangeable, but require increasingly close examination of the character of the candidate” (Commissioner’s Handbook 50GA 4003). The Presbytery promises to be more careful in the future to not only fulfill all the requirements of the licentiate examination, but also make sure that our records adequately show that work.

2023-3: Sep 30 - Oct 1, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4.c.4) — Incomplete record of ordination examination.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception that our records are incomplete with regard to the Ordination Examination of Candidate [name omitted]. The Ohio Presbytery took action on October 7, 2023, to approve his sermon. The Presbytery promises to be more careful in the future.

58. That the Minutes of **Ohio Valley Presbytery:** *59-0-1*

- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Jan 28, 2023; Apr 11, 2023; May 16, 2023; Oct 17, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance: **None**
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory: 2023-1: Feb 15, 2022** (*BCO* 19-2.d) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded.

Response: Presbytery respectfully disagrees with the exception. We call the Committee’s attention to Attachment 22-X of the Minutes of the meeting in question (15 February 2022 Special Meeting), the Report of the Candidates and Credentials Committee (C&C), p. ii, Item B.4. which says that the Committee voted to recommend that Presbytery “[a]pprove [the licensure candidate’s] sermon as meeting the requirements of licensure and ordination.” While the word “written” is absent from that recommendation, it is our practice for a candidate for licensure to “[p]rovide his written sermon on an assigned passage of Scripture embodying both explanation and application” to

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C&C and to then to “present orally his sermon or exhortation before Presbytery” (citations from *BCO* 19-2.d.). The reference in Attachment 22-X demonstrates that a records of his providing the written sermon does exist, though we did not explicitly identify it in our Minutes as the written copy, which we will do in the future to avoid additional misunderstanding.

59. That the Minutes of **Pacific** Presbytery: 60-0-0

- a. Be approved without exception: **Mar 09, 2023; May 02, 2023; Oct 03, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: General 2023** (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-3) — Incomplete record of review of records of church Sessions.
 - 2024-2: Jan 28, 2023** (PP 6) — No record that members of tempory session were called by the congregation.
 - 2024-3: Nov 29, 2023** (PP 6) — No record that members of tempory session were called by the congregation.
- d. **No response to previous assemblies required.**

60. That the Minutes of **Pacific Northwest** Presbytery: 63-0-1

- a. Be approved without exception: **Oct 13, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: Feb 02, 2023** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.
 - 2024-2: Feb 02, 2023** (*BCO* 19-16) — 3/4 vote for waiving internship requiremetns not recorded.
 - 2024-3: May 19, 2023** (*BCO* 43-8) — Timely and orderly complaint dismissed without a hearing.
 - 2024-4: May 19, 2023** (PP 6) — No record that members of interim/provisional Session were called by congregation.
 - 2024-5: May 19, 2023** (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that congregation concurred with dissolution of pastoral relation.
 - 2024-6: May 19, 2023** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not recorded in the candidate’s own words.

2024-7: May 19, 2023 (*BCO* 19-6) — 3/4 vote for waiving internship requirements not recorded.

2024-8: May 19, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exams.

2024-9: May 19, 2023 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of endorsement by candidate's Session.

2024-10: May 19, 2023 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-month membership for candidate.

2024-11: Oct 12, 2023 (*BCO* 8-7) — No record that Presbytery is assured that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of the church.

2024-12: Oct 12, 2023 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that congregation concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

2024-13: Oct 12, 2023 (*BCO* 13-2) — No record of TE laboring out of bounds with concurrence of Presbytery within whose bounds he labors.

2024-14: Oct 12, 2023 (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded.

2024-15: General 2023 (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.

d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:

2022-2: May 20-21, 2021 (*BCO* 13-6) — Incomplete record of transfer exam.

Response: Respectfully, Presbytery disagrees with the citation, and we regard the entry in our May 2021 Minutes (below) to be an adequate record of the transfer exam, which was the only such exam at the May 2021 meeting. However, in the future PCA transfer exams, we will record verbatim: "The transferring PCA minister was examined on Christian experience, and also touching his views in theology, the Sacraments, and church government." Hopefully, that addresses the concern in the GA citation. Here is the excerpt from p. 43 of PNW's 2021 Records: "Transfer Exam: [name omitted] . Bio ... Mr. [name omitted] holds a BA from Covenant College and an MDiv from RTS Orlando. He is a member of New Jersey Presbytery and has served most recently as [call omitted]. Motion: to examine Rev. [name omitted] on his experience and views, per *BCO* 13-6. Adopted.

Motion: to arrest the exam. Adopted. Rev. [name omitted] expressed the following difference from the Westminster Standards: ... Recommendation: That Presbytery judge Mr. [name omitted]'s difference to be more than semantic but not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine (because the difference is neither hostile to the system nor strikes at the vitals of religion). Adopted In accordance with Standing Rule 2.51, the Presbytery entered closed session for the completion of Rev. [name omitted]'s transfer exam. Recommendation: To approve the call of Rev. [name omitted] [to] [church name omitted]. Adopted, on the condition that the terms of call be changed to 4 weeks of vacation.

Rationale: All specific requirements of transfer exam have not been listed (*RAO* 16-3.e.5).

Response: PNW second response, to 51st GA: The transferring PCA minister was examined on Christian experience, and also touching his views in theology, the Sacraments, and church government. (*BCO* 13-6)”

2023-1: May 19-20, 2022 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation/Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

Response: PNW first response, to 51st GA: We disagree with this citation. Here is what the Minutes record: [Committee Recommendation] “That Presbytery approve the request of TE [name omitted] and dissolve his call as Associate Pastor at [church name omitted]. At a meeting on March 13, 2022, the congregation adopted a motion to notify Presbytery that it did not contest the request.” (Emphasis added.)

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2022-1: Feb 05, 2021 (*BCO* 20, 21) — No record that TE, whose call changed from Assistant to Associate, was installed as Associate Pastor.

Response: Presumably the citation refers to the excerpt below from PNW's 2021 Records Package (p. 30): "Recommendation: To approve TE [name omitted] change from Assistant to Associate Pastor at [church name omitted]. Adopted." TE [name omitted] was installed as Associate Pastor at [church name omitted] on Sunday morning, April 18, 2021. The Commission included TEs [name omitted] and

[name omitted], along with REs [name omitted] and [name omitted]. We have attached those Commission minutes to our October 2022 Minutes as well as to this Response.

Rationale: Response says that the Commission minutes were attached to their October 2022 Minutes and also attached to this report. Minutes were not included for review. (*RAO 16-10.b.1*)

Response: PNW second response, to 51st GA: Our Records indicate TE [name omitted] was properly installed as Associate Pastor at [church name omitted] in Bellevue Washington on April 18, 2021 by Presbytery's Commission of TE [name omitted], TE [name omitted], RE [name omitted] and RE [name omitted] .

Rationale: Minutes for a commission to install must be submitted for review. If the Commission minutes are missing, they need to be recreated.

61. That the Minutes of **Palmetto** Presbytery: *64-0-0*

a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Feb 09, 2023; Nov 09, 2023**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**

c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: May 11, 2023 (*BCO 20-8*) — No record commissioners appointed by the church presented and prosecuted the call of a TE before Presbytery.

2024-2: Aug 10, 2023 (*BCO 23-1*) — No record Presbytery cited the church to appear by its commissioners to show cause why the resignation of a TE should be accepted.

d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**

2022-2: May 13, 2021 (*BCO 19-1*) — No record of licensure exam.

Response: Mr. [name omitted] was examined for licensure. Because he had been previously examined in Christian Experience and Call to the Ministry as part of his examination for candidate status, he was not reexamined in these two areas. His exam included Bible knowledge, theology, and church government. The minutes of May 13, 2021 of the Licensure exam of [name omitted] do show examination in the three areas of English Bible, Theology, and Church Government. See below: 1) 22-22. That [name omitted]'s examination in English Bible be sustained. MSC; 2) 22-25. That [name omitted]'s

examination in Theology be sustained. MSC; 3) 22-26. That [name omitted]'s examination in Church Government be sustained. MSC.; 4) 22-27. That [name omitted]'s written sermon be approved. MSC; 5) 22-28. That [name omitted]'s preached sermon be approved. MSC; 6) 22-29. That [name omitted]'s examination for licensure in all its parts and be sustained and he be granted licensure by Palmetto Presbytery and added to the roll of licentiates of the presbytery. MSC.

Rationale: The examination on Christian experience and inward call in *BCO* 19-2 is not the same as in *BCO* 18-3.

Response: For several years Palmetto Presbytery has understood the personal qualifications in *BCO* 18-3 and 19-2 to be synonymous and therefore did not require a re-examination in those areas in the later steps toward ordination. We submit to the interpretation of the RPR of the non-synonymous nature of 18-3 and 19-2 and have now made it our standard operating procedure to examine candidates with 3 different levels of scrutiny and expectation in the Christian experience area: (1) candidacy, (2) licensure, and (3) ordination and will make sure that our minutes reflect this difference. TE [name omitted] has transferred to another Presbytery so we cannot reexamine him.

2022-3: May 13, 2021 (BCO 15-2) — A commission to ordain and install must have a minimum of two TEs and two REs for a quorum.

Response: (In approving the installation commission for [name omitted]) Presbytery erred in approving the commission with only 1 ruling elder. We will make sure that each commission in the future has at least 2 ruling elders and 2 teaching elders

Rationale: No record that Presbytery took any action to ratify the actions of an improperly constituted commission.

Response: Palmetto Presbytery recognizes its error (we are unsure if this was a typographical error or one of serious oversight) and requests that since Chaplain (CPT) [name omitted] has been serving as a PRCC-endorsed U.S. Army chaplain for two years since the ordination, that Presbytery be forgiven for the error and that his ordination not be invalidated.

2022-4: May 13, 2021; Aug 12, 2021; Nov 11, 2021 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16- 3.e.5) — All specific requirements of ordination exam not recorded.

Response: It has not been the practice of reexamining those who have been licensed by this Presbytery in the specific areas already covered. When the licensure and ordination exams for each of these three men: [name omitted] , [name omitted] , and [name omitted] , are compared, our minutes demonstrate that each was examined and approved in Christian experience, Greek and Hebrew (by seminary transcript), Bible content, theology, sacraments, Church history and the history of the PCA, Church Government and Discipline, the writing of a theological thesis, the writing of an exegesis paper, a preached sermon, and their accord with the Westminster standards. We did not mention their undergraduate degrees which were presupposed by their seminary or graduate degrees. We mentioned [name omitted]'s successful completion of Greek at Hebrew in seminary but should have made it clear that he is a graduate of RTS. It was noted that each had successfully completed the internship requirements.

Rationale: Presbytery has not demonstrated that each candidate for ordination was examined in experiential religion, with an emphasis on personal character and family management, as required by *BCO* 21-4.c (1) (a).

Response: All three men were examined regarding their personal character and family management by the Candidates and Credentials Committee and the Presbytery, though that fact was not noted in the Presbytery minutes. For several years Palmetto Presbytery has understood the personal qualifications in *BCO* 18.3 and 19.2 to be synonymous and therefore did not require a re-examination in those areas in the later steps toward ordination. We submit to the interpretation of the RPR of the non-synonymous nature of 18-3 and 19-2 and have now made it our standard operating procedure to examine candidates with 3 different levels of scrutiny and expectation in the Christian experience area: (1) candidacy, (2) licensure, and (3) ordination and will make sure that our minutes reflect this difference. **2022-5: May 13, 2021** (*BCO* 21-4) — No record (or unclear record) of ordination exam.

Response: The Presbytery minutes state clearly that Mr. [name omitted] was examined in the three areas which are required for ordination after one has been licensed. 1) 22-30. That Mr. [name omitted]'s examination in Sacraments be sustained. MSC. 2) 22-31.

That Mr. [name omitted]’s examination in Rules of Discipline be sustained. MSC. 3) 22-32. That Mr. [name omitted]’s examination in Church History and the History of the PCA be sustained. MSC. 4) 22-36. That Mr. [name omitted]’s examination for ordination in all its parts and as a whole be sustained and he be instructed to sign the ministerial obligation forms and proceed to ordination. MSC. The RPR has not cited our Presbytery previously for assuming that the approval of an examination implies that he was examined in the particular area.

Rationale: Licensure requires a “statement of his Christian experience and inward call to preach the Gospel” (*BCO* 19-2.a). Ordination, requires “A careful examination as to...his acquaintance with experiential religion, especially his personal character and family management (Based on the qualifications set out in 1 Timothy 3:1–7, and Titus 1:6–9)” (*BCO* 21-4.c.(1).(a)). Thus, questions for ordination are different from questions for licensure, requiring a higher level of Presbytery’s scrutiny. Furthermore, “No Presbytery shall omit any of these parts of trial for ordination except in extraordinary cases, and then only with three-fourths (3/4) approval of Presbytery” (*BCO* 21-4.c).

Response: For several years Palmetto Presbytery has understood the personal qualifications in *BCO* 18-3 and 19-2 to be synonymous and therefore did not require a re-examination in those areas in the later steps toward ordination. We submit to the different interpretation of the RPR of the non-synonymous nature of 18-3 and 19-2 and have now made it our standard operating procedure to examine candidates with 3 different levels of expectation in the Christian experience area: (1) candidacy, (2) licensure, and (3) ordination and will make sure our minutes reflect this difference

2023-1: General 2022 (*BCO* 8-7) — No record of annual report(s) of TE(s) laboring out of bounds.

Response: Palmetto Presbytery confesses that it has not been consistent in requiring reports from teaching elders laboring outside of bounds. The motion was moved, seconded, and carried in the meeting of Presbytery on November 9, 2023 that (1) those TE [name omitted] be reminded of their duty to report to Presbytery at least annually (*BCO*, 8-7) and (2) the Presbytery MTW Committee be reminded of its duty (Presbytery ByLaws, Article VII, J, 6) to oversee

men [name omitted] and that they be tasked to carry out this responsibility, at least in part, by obtaining reports from TE [name omitted] as required by the *BCO*, and report back to Presbytery (concerning both those TEs who have provided a report and those who have not) at each quarterly meeting, stating that these reports are on file.

2023-2: May 12, 2022; Aug 11, 2022 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation/Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

Response: The Presbytery confesses its error in these details. The motion was moved, seconded, and carried in the meeting of Presbytery on November 9, 2023 May 12, 2022, previously adopted, be amended so that 26-57 states, “That the pastoral relationship between TE [name omitted] , as Assistant Pastor, and [church name omitted] be dissolved by mutual consent, and that he remain on the rolls of Palmetto Presbytery without call effective June 4, 2022. The Presbytery has written notification that the session of [church name omitted] has approved the dissolution of the relationship of assistant pastor between T. E. [name omitted] and the church. MSC.” The motion was moved, seconded, and carried in the meeting of Presbytery on November 9, 2023 August 11, 2022, previously adopted, be amended so that 27-24 states, “That the relationship of associate pastor between TE [name omitted] and [church name omitted] be dissolved, by mutual request, and that he be released to Evangel Presbytery, pending his acceptance by that Presbytery. NOTE: Pastor [name omitted] of [church name omitted] affirmed that the dissolution of this call was by mutual consent of the congregation and TE [name omitted] , and the Presbytery has a copy of the minutes of the congregational meeting in which the vote was taken to approve the dissolution of the call of TE [name omitted] as associate pastor, which motion was passed.” MSC. It was moved, seconded, and carried in the meeting of Presbytery on November 9, 2023 that Presbytery confesses that in its minutes of August 11, 2022, previously adopted, in regard to 27-28 which states, “That the relationship of assistant pastor between TE [name omitted] , [church name omitted], be dissolved, by mutual request, effective 9/1/22. NOTE: Pastor [name omitted] of [church name omitted] affirmed that the dissolution of this call was by mutual consent between the Session and TE [name omitted] , MSC,” it did not request an official

confirmation from the session of [church name omitted] with a ruling elder present to represent the session. We will endeavor to do so in the case of all future examinations. It was moved, seconded, and passed at its meeting on November 9, 2023 that the Presbytery charge the Church and Ministerial Health Committee that when a resignation from a teaching elder is received from one of the churches, the church must have a commissioner present at Presbytery to verify of the congregation's or the session's approval of the resignation

2023-3: Aug 11, 2022 (BCO 21-7) — Incomplete record of ordination exam: no record of sermon preached to presbytery.

Response: It was moved, seconded, and carried in the meeting of Palmetto Presbytery on November 9, 2023 that under Motion 27-13, previously adopted, concerning the ordination examination of Mr. [name omitted], the Presbytery was accepting Mr. [name omitted]'s preached sermon which was approved by Presbytery as part of his licensure exam on May 12, 2022

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2022-1: Feb 21, 2021 (BCO 15-3; 31-10; 34; 36) — Censure inflicted by a judicial commission without process being instituted or a judgment approved by the Presbytery.

Response: In the judicial case concerning T. E. [name omitted] he consented to the recommendation made by the Judicial Committee for definite suspension. He has pleaded neither guilty nor not guilty to the charges made; the Presbytery is waiting for the decision of the civil court before it deals decisively with this case. However, Presbytery should have made clearer in its minutes of the executive session that "MSC" means that the motion was made, seconded, and carried by Presbytery.

Rationale: Presbytery's response does not address the issue. A Presbytery may suspend a minister from office following the conclusion of judicial process; or, under 31-10, he may be suspended from his official functions while under process. Presbytery has not indicated that the minister is under process.

Response: The minister in question had already requested and been granted suspension from office by an act of Presbytery on

2/11/2021 Minutes, Attachment E) and remained under suspension from office, meaning that he could not rightly exercise any of the functions of an ordained teaching elder. The judicial process in our Presbytery had begun with this suspension and was intensified when further evidence surfaced of his offenses; the Presbytery deemed it wise not to further the process until the teaching elder's case had been adjudicated in the civil court. The civil case took an unusual amount of time for the adjudication to take place, and in the end the teaching elder took an Alford plea which is allowed in civil cases by the Supreme Court of the U.S. but not in our church courts. At the specific request of and with the approval of the teaching elder, the church trial was postponed until after the civil case had been settled. The civil case was concluded and the Presbytery in its meeting of May 11, 2023, resumed process against this teaching elder. Arraignment was set for the August 10, 2023 meeting of Presbytery. The teaching elder did not appear, and a motion was made empowering the Stated Clerk to appoint a Judicial Commission to bring the matter to a conclusion and report back to the Presbytery. Furthermore, it was moved, seconded, and carried in the meeting of Palmetto Presbytery on November 9, 2023 that this action of the presbytery on 11/9/23 be added to this response to GA/RPR by March 15, 2024.

Rationale: Presbytery has not adequately shown that the TE was suspended under one of only two methods prescribed in the *BCO*: (1) as a censure or (2) as an administrative act toward a teaching elder already under process (*BCO* 31–10). The *BCO* does not permit a presbytery to suspend a teaching elder because he requests to be suspended, nor as the first act of process.

62. That the Minutes of **Pee Dee** Presbytery: 59-0-1
- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Apr 22, 2023; Jul 27, 2023; Oct 26, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **Sep 26, 2023**
 - c. Be approved with exception of substance:
2024-1: Jan 26, 2023 (*BCO* 31-2; *BCO* 12-5.a) — In adopting recommendation No 1 of the commission, the presbytery constituted an investigative commission under *BCO* 31-2 to investigate several matters, including “to investigate matters surrounding a scandalous

incident involving an officer and two other members of Surfside PCA.” Absent accepting a reference from the session, the presbytery has no authority to conduct a 31-2 investigation into anyone other than a TE.

d. No response to previous assemblies required.

63. That the Minutes of **Philadelphia** Presbytery: 63-0-0

a. Be approved without exception: **Feb 07, 2023; Sep 16, 2023; Nov 09, 2023; Dec 05, 2023; Dec 19, 2023**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **Jan 20, 2023; May 20, 2023; Aug 24, 2023**

c. Be approved with exception of substance:
2024-1: Mar 18, 2023 (BCO 43-3) — Complaint from lower court (church Session) not included in regular meeting minutes or executive session minutes.

2024-2: General 2023 (BCO 13.9.b; BCO 40-1) — No record of review of records of church sessions.

d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:

2022-1: Mar 20, 2021 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5) — Licensure candidate stated that he disagrees with the “strictness” of the Westminster Standards’ view of the Sabbath but is not clear on what his stated difference is. *WCF* 21.8, *WLC* 117, 119 *WSC* 60, 61 “I take exception to *WCF* 21.8 in that I don’t think that Scripture requires as strict of an observance of the Sabbath as the confessions seem to portray. Taking Matthew 12 as exegetical support, Jesus healed, and told the healed to pick up and go home. Also, to carry the spirit of Mark 2:27, Sabbath should be focused on spiritual rest and corporate worship, not mere outward action. But of course the two affect each other. I take exception to the strictness of the confessions.”

Response: The Philadelphia Presbytery, in considering the entirety of the candidate’s fully enumerated exception provided above, deemed his differences with the Westminster Standards as exceptions of substance that nonetheless do not strike at the vitals of religion, nor are out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not clarified what the candidate means by

“I take exception to the strictness of the confessions.” (*WCF* 21.8, *WLC* 117, 119 *WSC* 60, 61.)

Response: Presbytery will inquire of licentiate [name omitted] , who gave this reply, to further clarify in writing what is meant by “strict.” Presbytery will then reconsider his response as it fits within the *BCO*’s definition of exceptions. Once received, the Stated Clerk will include his response in Presbytery’s response to RPR. Presbytery received the following, and with this clarification, is an exception similar to what we have received as a Presbytery in prior cases, as an exception of substance but not hostile to nor striking at the vitals of the Christian religion: “Looked over my answer and it does seem vague so I think the request for clarification is good. Here is my previous response in the questionnaire and the bold portion is the addition. Please let me know if you think I need to elaborate further before you present this to presbytery. I was thinking about adding that I try and encourage not spending money on the Sabbath, but didn't since that's more of an addition rather than an exception. *WCF* 4.1, *WLC* 15, *WSC* 9 - My affirmation of the Framework view affirms that the account in Genesis 1 is not necessarily sequential ("in the space of six days") but literarily topical. The account of Genesis 2:5 of ordinary means of vegetation (Light, Day 1, Luminaries, Day 4). Also, accounting the interpretive possibilities for 'yom' (Ps 90), the account in Genesis 1 seems to be literarily topical. I do acknowledge that the weakness of the views have been to potentially think creation as non-historical, but creation is historical. I believe Adam was a historical man, and creation happened in the history of creation, and this historicity does not conflict with my affirmation of the framework view of creation. I affirm Framework's strengths to be teaching covenant, image of God, and Sabbath. *WCF* 21.8, *WLC* 117, 119 *WSC* 60, 61 – I take exception to *WCF* 21.8 in that I don’t think that Scripture requires as strict of an observance of the Sabbath as the confessions seem to portray. Taking Matthew 12 as exegetical support, Jesus healed, and told the healed to pick up and go home. Also, to carry the spirit of Mark 2:27, Sabbath should be focused on spiritual rest and corporate worship, not mere outward action. But of course the two affect each other. By ‘strict of an observance,’ what is intended was the allowance of recreation with spiritual community as a means

of spiritual rest and a pointing towards resting in our Lord away from our labors.

2023-1: General 2022 (BCO 8-7) — No record of reports of TEs laboring out of bounds.

Response: The Philadelphia Presbytery is currently contacting all TEs laboring out of bounds. We have done this over the years, but have not made explicit mention in our minutes. Presbytery's Shepherdng Team will provide such updates beginning with the January 2024 Minutes.

2023-2: Standing Rules (BCO 10-3) — *BCO* only allows for moderator of Presbytery to be elected for a period of up to one year.

Response: The Philadelphia Presbytery will change its Standing Rules at some point in 2024 to correct this

2023-6: Sep 17, 2022 (BCO 20-1) — No record of the reasons why Presbytery considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.

Response: Teaching Elder [name omitted] continues to be an active member, both online and when possible, in-person, with the Philadelphia Presbytery. He has asked that he remain under the oversight of our Presbytery while he serves in this out-of-bounds church ministry, as we would similar to a chaplain or missionary work. His call is to co-pastor a very small, non-PCA church in rural Minnesota.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2023-3: Jan 15, 2022 (BCO 13-9.b; 40-1) — Presbytery did not fulfill its constitutional duty to review session records when it declined to review 2019 and 2020 minutes.

Response: The Philadelphia Presbytery has been reviewing past Session Records, and will approve a new process at the January 2024 meeting that will ensure Session Records are reviewed in an expedited manner.

Rationale: No evidence the Presbytery has been reviewing these minutes.

2023-4: Mar 19, 2022 (BCO 19-2; RAO 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded.

Response: The licentiate in question did in fact preach at Presbytery that day and had his sermon approved at the March 2022 Stated Meeting. The final minutes omitted what Presbytery actually did that day.

Rationale: The minutes for this March 2022 meeting need to be corrected to include all of the specific requirements.

2023-5: May 21, 2022; Sep 17, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.

Response: Presbytery examined all candidates in all areas prescribed by the *BCO*, but these were omitted from the minutes. We apologize for any confusion.

Rationale: The minutes for these two meetings in May and September 2022 need to be corrected to include all of the specific requirements.

64. That the Minutes of **Philadelphia Metro West Presbytery:** 66-0-0

- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Feb 25, 2023; May 06, 2023; Sep 16, 2023; Nov 14, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance: **None**
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2023-1: General 2022 (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) — Incomplete record of review of records of church Sessions.

Response: With two exceptions, all of the churches in Philadelphia Metro West Presbytery have submitted to the Presbytery for its review, and the Presbytery has reviewed, their session meeting minutes and congregation meeting minutes for calendar years 2020, 2021 and 2022. One church has been unable to submit its session meeting minutes for calendar year 2021 because the disruptions created by the Covid pandemic resulted in the session (which was composed of one teaching elder [who left the church at the end of 2021] and one ruling elder) not having regular meetings with minutes in 2021 and not being able to provide to the Presbytery session meeting minutes for 2021. Because of the disruptions, the church also is not able to provide to the Presbytery congregation meeting minutes for calendar year 2021. A second church, which in 2023 the Presbytery approved for dissolution, has submitted its session meeting minutes

for calendar years 2020, 2021 and 2022, and minutes for some, but not all, of its congregation meetings for calendar years 2020, 2021 and 2022. The Presbytery has requested that a search be made for the missing congregation meeting minutes, but as yet they have not been submitted to the Presbytery.

65. That the Minutes of **Piedmont Triad** Presbytery: 56-0-3

- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Mar 09, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **Nov 11, 2023**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: Feb 11, 2023** (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-month membership for candidate.
 - 2024-2: May 13, 2023** (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-month membership for candidate.
 - 2024-3: Aug 12, 2023** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.
 - 2024-4: Feb 11, 2023** (*RAO* 15-2) — Presbytery allowed the same RE to serve on Overtures Committee for more than two consecutive assemblies without two-thirds vote of Presbytery.
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
 - 2023-1: May 14, 2022** (*BCO* 13-10.3) — No indication 60-days notice was given before dissolution of Grace Asheboro; minutes also do not indicate a commission was formed to care for the members who were received into the care of the presbytery as required by *BCO* 13-10.

Response: Please forgive us for the lack of clarity on this matter. On 3/3/2022, the [church name omitted] session voted to dissolve the church. A congregational meeting was called on 3/13/2022 to make the announcement. The last worship service and congregational meeting were held on 4/17/2022. It was not the presbytery that “determined to dissolve” the church (*BCO* 13-10). Rather, the church requested the presbytery dissolve it during a congregational meeting, which requires 30-days notice (*BCO* 25-2). Before they proceeded with any of the aforementioned plans, the pastor of [church name omitted] sought counsel from the PCA Stated Clerk, who confirmed that the timeline and procedures for closing the church were correct. We are also sorry for not being clear about the care of [church name

omitted]’s members. It was determined that our presbytery’s Shepherd Team would make sure members were cared for, but we did not establish them as a commission as required. We will do our best to correct our practice in the future.

2023-2: Nov 12, 2022 (*BCO* 13-10) — No indication 60-days notice was given before dissolution of mission church.

Response: The attempt to form a temporary session failed, and therefore a mission church was never formally established. This was agreed upon by all of the parties involved and noted in the minutes.

66. That the Minutes of **Pittsburgh** Presbytery: *60-0-0*

- a. Be approved without exception: **None**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2023**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: Jan 28, 2023** (*BCO* 19-2.e-f.; *RAO* 16-3.e.5(a-d)) — No record of if candidates states any differences to the Westminster Standards, and if any, presbytery’s judgment of these (*RAO* 16-3.e.5)a-d).
 - 2024-2: Jan 28, 2023** (*BCO* 19-12) — Incomplete review of interns’ updates.
 - 2024-3: Apr 01, 2023** (*BCO* 19-12) — Incomplete review of interns’ updates.
 - 2024-4: Jul 22, 2023** (*BCO* 19-12) — Incomplete review of interns’ updates.
 - 2024-5: Oct 21, 2023** (*BCO* 19-12) — Incomplete review of interns’ updates.
- d. **No response to previous assemblies required.**

67. That the Minutes of **Platte Valley** Presbytery: *59-0-1*

- a. Be approved without exception: **Feb 04, 2023; Apr 29, 2023; Aug 12, 2023; Nov 30, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2023**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
 - 2023-1: General 2022** (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) — Incomplete Record of review of records of church Sessions.

Response: Presbytery agrees with this exception and regrets the error. Presbytery has now completed reviews of the records of church Session for both 2021 as well as 2022, with the exception of three churches for 2022, which are currently still under review and which Presbytery will, Lord willing, act upon at its next stated meeting in early February of 2024. Presbytery will be more careful in the future to review all the previous year's records of church Sessions every year, as well as to record the results of those reviews

2023-2: Feb 05, 2022 (BCO 19-9) — Specific requirements of internship exam not recorded.

Response: Presbytery agrees with this exception and regrets the error. The intern in question was indeed examined on his inward call to the ministry of the Word. Presbytery will be more careful in the future to record all specific requirements of internship examinations

68. That the Minutes of **Potomac** Presbytery: *61-0-0*

- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Jan 24, 2023; Mar 18, 2023; Jun 06, 2023; Aug 08, 2023; Sep 19, 2023; Nov 18, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance: **None**
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory: 2023-1: Jan 25, 2022; Sep 20, 2022 (BCO 21-6)** — No installation commission appointed for associate pastor.

Response: We thank RPR for their diligent work. We agree with the exception and as follow-up on the two instances we note that there was an original Presbytery commission appointed on 09/16/18 in the first instance and 09/24/17 in the second instance where the same minister was ordained at the same church congregation. Additionally in follow-up with the two churches involved there was a ceremonial transition involving the congregation where a clear distinction was made between Assistant and Associate Pastors. We promise to be mindful of these transitions in the future.

2023-2: Jun 07, 2022 (BCO 13-6) — Minister from another denomination (EPC) was examined as if he were a transfer from within the PCA rather than as one who was coming from outside the denomination.

Response: We thank RPR for their diligent work. We agree with the exception and have reviewed our process for this particular transfer. The committee conducting the examination orally presented this as an extraordinary exception in line with *BCO* 21-4.d but this was not recorded in our minutes. We promise to be more careful in the future when handling transfers from other Christian denominations.

2023-3: Jun 07, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4) — No record of transfer or dismissal of members upon dissolving a church.

Response: We thank RPR for their diligent work. We agree with the exception having followed up with the members on the roll at the time of the dissolution but failing to record our previous action. There were no members listed on the roll of the church at that time and therefore no further corrective action may be taken. We promise to be more careful in recording our actions and hope the dissolution of churches continues to be a rare event.

69. That the Minutes of **Providence** Presbytery: 63-0-0

- a. Be approved without exception: **None**
- b. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; May 02, 2023**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: Feb 07, 2023** (*BCO* 13-11) — Executive session not included and these must be presented for review next year.
 - 2024-2: Aug 01, 2023** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.
 - 2024-3: Aug 01, 2023** (*BCO* 13-11; *RAO* 16-3.e.7) — Executive session not included and these must be presented for review next year.
 - 2024-4: Nov 07, 2023** (*RAO* 16-3.c.8) — No record that previous minutes were approved.
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
 - 2023-1: Feb 01, 2022** (*BCO* 8-7) — No record that the Presbytery is assured that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church. No record that out-of-bounds TE is engaged in preaching and teaching the Word.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with this exception and notes that the TE in question transitioned from being a Church Planter to creating his own 501c3 ministry while serving in the same area. This

new ministry has a board of directors comprised of REs and TEs from within our Presbytery. This TE continues to preach and teach in our Presbytery and through this ministry with the full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church. We erred in not recording these details, in accordance with *BCO* 8-7 and promise to be more careful in the future

2023-2: Feb 01, 2022 (*BCO* 19-1, 13-6; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of licensure views exam not recorded for TE from another Presbytery being licensed.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with this exception and promises to be more careful in the future. The specific requirements of the licensure views exam were fulfilled, but not properly recorded with specificity to each item. This response serves to update our records to reflect what was done during these candidates exams and we are endeavoring to keep diligent and faithful records in the future to specify all *BCO* requirements have been met

2023-7: Nov 01, 2022 (*BCO* 46-8) — No record of Presbytery assigning deposed minister to membership of some particular church.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with this exception and promises to be more careful in the future. The deposed minister was assigned to [church name omitted] in Madison, AL and this was known by the Presbytery via the aforementioned full statement of the case and the judgment by Judicial Commission

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2023-3: May 3, 2022; Nov 1, 2022 (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with this exception and promises to be more careful in the future. The Minutes of the Commission were received by the Presbytery, included in the Docket for the Presbytery's, but were not included in the Minutes as required. They are attached to the Minutes from the Presbytery meeting [Nov 7, 2023] that this response to RPR is approved

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). [The response says that the minutes of the commission are

“attached” to the end of the 7 November 2023 minutes, but they are not.]

2023-4: May 03, 2022 (*BCO* 34-7; 30-3) — No record of trial or case without process prior to suspending member from sacraments.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with this exception and promises to be more careful in the future. On the basis of a signed confession and the desire to protect the peace and purity of the Church, we suspended the now deposed member from the Sacraments. It was a misapplication of *BCO* 34-7 that led us to that action, as we also instituted a definite suspension from ministry at the same time. A later Judicial Commission led to a final judgment of the former TE being deposed from ministry and indefinite suspension from the Sacraments.

Rationale: Report from Judicial Commission not entered into the record.

2023-5: Nov 01, 2022 (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with this exception and promises to be more careful in the future. Should this Candidate come forward for Ordination, as anticipated, we will examine him in these areas and those required for Ordination.

Rationale: Presbytery’s response does not correct the error, as it is not clear that the Presbytery has actually conducted the licensure exam.

2023-6: Nov 01, 2022 (*BCO* 15-3) — No record of full statement of the case and the judgment rendered by Judicial Commission.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with this exception and promises to be more careful in the future. The full statement of the case and the judgment rendered by Judicial Commission were properly before the Court, but not properly recorded in the Minutes. These will be appended to the Minutes in which this response is approved to correct the previous failure to include that statement in the Minutes.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1)

70. That the Minutes of **Rio Grande** Presbytery:

61-0-0

a. Be approved without exception: **None**

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- b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2023**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: Jan 23, 2023 - Jan 24, 2023** (RAO 16-3.e.5).a-d.) — No record of requiring statement of differences with our Standards.
 - 2024-2: Jan 23, 2023 - Jan 24, 2023** (BCO 21-4.a.) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.
 - 2024-3: Jan 23, 2023 - Jan 24, 2023** (BCO 21-4.c.(1)(g)) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.
 - 2024-4: Jan 23, 2023 - Jan 24, 2023** (BCO 21-4.c.(1)(g)) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.
 - 2024-5: Jan 23, 2023 - Jan 24, 2023** (BCO 21-4.c.(1)(g)) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.
 - 2024-6: Apr 24-25, 2023** - Incomplete record of ordination exam.
 - 2024-7: Apr 24-25, 2023** (BCO 15-2) — Non-members of the Presbytery listed among the quorum for the ordination commission.
 - 2024-8: Apr 24-25, 2023** (BCO 21-6) — Ordination questions to the congregation wrongly asked of a congregation of which the TEs are not ministers.
 - 2024-9: May 21, 2023** (BCO 13-12) — No record of required 10-day notice for scheduling a called meeting.
 - 2024-10: May 21, 2023** (BCO 20-1, 7, 8; 21-1) — Called meeting is out of order.
 - 2024-11: Sep 25-26, 2023** (BCO 18-7) — Required items for dismissal of a candidate not recorded.
 - 2024-12: Sep 25-26, 2023** (BCO 20-1, 7, 8; 21-1) — Presbytery is not allowed to ordain a minister prior to taking action on an in order call from a congregation.
 - 2024-13: Sep 25-26, 2023** (BCO 23-1) — No record presbytery cited church to appear at presbytery to agree or challenge TE's resignation.
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
 - 2021-1: Jan 27-28, 2020** (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not properly recorded.

Response: The text read: Mr. [name omitted]'s one exception to the Westminster Confession of Faith Sabbath day observance was noted as more than semantic but not striking to the vitals the faith. His verbatim statement is recorded in the Sept minutes of his licensure examination. The Court approved his exception. The text has been

changed to: Mr. [name omitted]’s one exception to the Westminster Confession of Faith Sabbath day observance. The court judged the stated difference(s) to be more than semantic, but “not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine” (*BCO* 21-4) His verbatim statement is recorded in the September 2019 minutes of his licensure examination. The Court approved his exception.

2021-2: General 2023 (Standing Rules) — No provision in the standing rules for conducting a meeting in this manner. The meeting may be invalid.

Response: Presbytery voted at the January 2023 Stated Meeting to amend our Standing Rules to include virtual meetings and to adopt all actions at the September 2020 meeting. Please see the minutes in the January 2023 Stated Meeting.

2021-3: Apr 29-30, 2019 (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4) — Incomplete record of transfer exam of TE transferring into presbytery.

Response: The original text reads: “3. Transfer examination for TE [name omitted] to the PRG from North Texas Presbytery to Associate Pastor of [church name omitted], NM as a PCA TE in good standing. The Call was received, approved by the Court, and recorded (Attachment 10). During the Ordination Committee presentation of TE [name omitted] to the court, they noted TE [name omitted]’s *BCO* 20-9 Exception to Recreation on the Sabbath (cited verbatim below) as more than semantic but not striking to the vital tenants of the faith. TE [name omitted] was recommended with no reservations by the Ordination Committee. TE [name omitted] gave testimony of walk with the Lord and call to the ministry and christian experience, as well as questions to determine if there have been any changes in his views per *BCO*-21-4 since his ordination. During the examination, the court propounded a question on his view of the Sabbath. TE [name omitted] stated that he had an unquestioned high view of the sabbath day as the Lord’s Day but stated verbatim: “ I take exception to *WCF* 20-8, specifically, the clause which prohibits “...thoughts about their worldly employments and recreations...” on the Lord’s Day. It is my conviction that the 4th commandment does not preclude one from having thoughts of worldly employments and from engaging in recreational activity.” The Court approved a motion from the floor to arrest examination as a whole. An omnibus Motion was made by the

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committee to approve: the exam, statement of experiential religion, and the exemption to the Westminster Confession of Faith. The motion was approved.” The text has been changed to read: “3. Transfer examination for TE [name omitted] to the PRG from South Texas Presbytery to Associate Pastor of [church name omitted], NM as a PCA TE in good standing. TE [name omitted] was examined on Christian experience, and also touched on views concerning theology, the Sacraments, and church government (*BCO* 13-6. The Call was received, approved by the Court, and recorded (Attachment 10). During the Ordination Committee presentation of TE [name omitted] to the court, they noted TE [name omitted]’s *BCO* 20-9 Exception to Recreation on the Sabbath (cited verbatim below) as more than semantic but not striking to the vital tenants of the faith. TE [name omitted] was recommended with no reservations by the Ordination Committee. TE [name omitted] gave testimony of walk with the Lord and call to the ministry and Christian experience, as well as questions to determine if there have been any changes in his views per *BCO*-21-4 since his ordination. During the examination, the court propounded a question on his view of the Sabbath. TE [name omitted] stated that he had an unquestioned high view of the sabbath day as the Lord’s Day but stated verbatim: “I take exception to *WCF* 20-8, specifically, the clause which prohibits “...thoughts about their worldly employments and recreations...” on the Lord’s Day. It is my conviction that the 4th commandment does not preclude one from having thoughts of worldly employments and from engaging in recreational activity.” The Court approved a motion from the floor to arrest examination as a whole. An omnibus Motion was made by the committee to approve: the exam, statement of experiential religion, and the exemption to the Westminster Confession of Faith. The motion was approved.”

2021-4: Sep 23-24, 2019 (*BCO* 13-6) — Incomplete record of transfer for minister. Type of transfer from a Korean language presbytery or another denomination not specified.

Response: The Ordination Committee presented TE [name omitted] to the Court for transfer from the Korean Presbytery per *BCO* 21. The text has been changed to read: “The Ordination Committee

presented TE [name omitted] to the Court for transfer from the Korean Southwest Presbytery per *BCO* 21” (see attached file)

2021-5: Sep 23-24, 2019 (*BCO* 21-4) — No record of requiring a statement of differences with our Standards.

Response: The text read: “TE [name omitted] was examined per *BCO* 21-4 for Ordination in the PCA in all areas.” The text has been changed to read: “TE [name omitted] was Christian experience, and also touched on views concerning theology, the Sacraments, and church government (*BCO* 13-6). TE [name omitted] was also examined concerning his differences with the Standards, which he had None

2021-6: Sep 23-24, 2019 (*BCO* 13-6) — Incomplete record of transfer for minister from another presbytery.

Response: The text read: “The Ordination Committee presented TE [name omitted] for transfer in good standing from the Tennessee Valley Presbytery with a Call to SERGE Ministries (Call at Attachment 15). The court examined TE [name omitted] on his views.” The text has been changed to read: “The Ordination Committee presented TE [name omitted] for transfer in good standing from the Tennessee Valley Presbytery with a Call to SERGE Ministries. (Call at Attachment 15). TE [name omitted] was examined on Christian experience, and also touched on views concerning theology, the Sacraments, and church government (*BCO* 13-6). TE [name omitted] was also examined concerning his differences with the Standards, which he had None” (See pdf)

2021-7: Sep 23-24, 2019 (*BCO* 13-6) — Incomplete record of transfer exam for minister from another denomination.

Response: The text read: “Ordination Examination for TE [name omitted] [RPCNA Pastor/currently under a call as an Army Chaplain] per *BCO*-21-4 with full examination in all *BCO* areas and acceptance of Ministerial Credentials and previous ordination vows. The Ordination Committee presented TE [name omitted] to the Court for transfer into the PCA from the RPCNA [per *BCO* 21, Letter of Good Standing at Attachment 12]. TE [name omitted] presented a testimony of his Christian experience and call to the ministry; and path of the call: TE [name omitted] was examined by the court on all areas of *BCO* 21-4.” The text has been changed to read: “Ordination

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Examination for TE [name omitted] [RPCNA Pastor/currently under a call as an Army Chaplain] per *BCO*-21-4 with full examination in all *BCO* areas and acceptance of Ministerial Credentials and previous ordination vows. The Ordination Committee presented TE [name omitted] to the Court for transfer into the PCA from the RPCNA [per *BCO* 21, Letter of Good Standing at Attachment 12]. TE [name omitted] presented a testimony of his Christian experience and call to the ministry; and path of the call: TE [name omitted] was examined on Christian experience, and also touched on views concerning theology, the Sacraments, and church government (*BCO* 13-6).”

2022-1: Apr 26-27, 2021 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Exception not properly recorded.

Response: The text read: (M/S/C) Receive exceptions as not striking at the vitals, see Attachment 5. The text has been changed to: Mr. [name omitted] has three exceptions to the Westminster Confession of Faith as noted in Attachment 5. The court judged the stated difference(s) to be more than semantic, but “not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine” (*BCO* 21-4).

2022-3: General 2023 (*BCO* 18-19) — No record of candidate coming under care, licensure or ordination exams, or internship.

Response: The previous records are from the April 2021 Stated Presbytery meeting concerning Mr. [name omitted] . [name omitted] was licensed and ordained at the April 26-27, 2021 Presbytery meeting.

2023-1: Jan 31, 2022; Apr 25-26, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-months membership for candidate.

Response: In reviewing the minutes, we do accept that an error was made. Mr. [name omitted] was not a member for six months. We will promise to be more diligent in the future.

2023-2: Sep 26-27, 2022 (*RAO* 16-10.a) — No response to the Assembly concerning disposition of exceptions of substance approved in Presbytery’s minutes.

Response: We will be submitting responses to all of the exceptions of substance this year.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2022-2: General 2023 (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) — Notice and purpose and those calling the called meeting not recorded.

Response: The previous stated clerk forgot to attach the call to the minutes. The following is the call: “Dear Brothers, Please see the attached docket and documents for the called Presbytery meeting on May 21, 2021 in Las Cruces. This meeting addresses TE [name omitted] being called as pastor to [church name omitted], [name omitted] being called as intern by [church name omitted] and changes in the affiliation of [church name omitted] and [name omitted. [church name omitted] has decided to withdraw from the PCA and join the Bible Presbyterian Church. While I am sad to see them leave and will miss seeing leaders from [church name omitted] at Presbytery, I honor their decision. At this time, TE [name omitted] wishes to remain as Honorably Retired in our Presbytery. The call letter to [name omitted] will be sent to you when I receive it. Yours in Christ, [name omitted] , Temporary Clerk”

Rationale: No reference as to whether PRG has corrected its minutes. PRG must resubmit corrected minutes

2022-4: General (*BCO* 13-9.b) — No record of review of records of church Sessions.

Response: Noted in the minutes that I do have record that Presbytery reviewed the minutes of the sessions

Rationale: No record that Presbytery approved review of session minutes (April 25-26, 2022).

2023-3: Sep 26-27, 2022 (*BCO* 13-5, 23-2) — Presbytery adopted a policy requiring honorably retired ministers to transfer their membership upon relocation to another Presbytery. [*BCO* 13-5 specifically excludes honorably retired ministers from the expectation that they must become members of the Presbytery in the area they reside.]

Response: In correspondence with the Stated Clerk’s office, we adopted a policy that stated it is up to the will of the Presbytery body to determine if a candidate should remain in our Presbytery, even if honorably retired. In this case, we had a retired minister who lived 2,000 miles away, making repeated requests of Presbytery even though he had no involvement in our body. We are willing to modify our language or rescind the policy if it violates the will of RPR.

Rationale: *BCO* 13-5 does not apply to an honorably retired TE.

71. That the Minutes of **Rocky Mountain** Presbytery: 63-0-0

- a. Be approved without exception: **Nov 27, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Jan 26, 2023 (Preliminary Principle 6) — No record that members of interim Session were called by the congregation.

2024-2: Jan 26, 2023 (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4; *BCO* 15-3) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.

2024-3: General 2023 (*BCO* 18-7) — No record that candidate was notified of the reasons that he was removed from the roll.

2024-4: Apr 27, 2023 (*BCO* 34-10) — No record of advance notice to minister or of 2/3 vote to divest him of his office without censure.

2024-5: Oct 05, 2023 (*BCO* 22-5) — No record that session requested stated supply.

2024-6: Oct 05, 2023 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation or Session concurred with dissolutions of pastoral relations.

- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2019-1: Feb 1, 2018; Apr 26, 2018; Oct 4, 2018 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record of congregational concurrence in dissolution of pastoral relations.

Response: Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with the exception and will correct our record (if possible), will correct our action (if possible), and promises to be more careful in the future

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). The Presbytery should act to include appropriate documentation in its record.

Response: [2023] Rocky Mountain Presbytery apologizes for failing to correct our minutes as required and will make CORRECTIONS to our minutes as indicated below: From 1) Feb. 1, 2018; Moved and carried to approve the dissolution of TE [name omitted] as associate pastor of [church name omitted] and to change his status to without call. The congregation of [church name omitted], MT voted January 24, 2018 to concur with this action. 2) From Apr. 26, 2018; Approval of dissolution of the pastoral relationship of [name

omitted] at [church name omitted] in Billings and approve his call to minister out of bounds at Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, PA as of July 1, 2018. The congregation of [church name omitted] in Billings, MT voted March 18, 2018 to concur with this action.; 3) From Oct. 4, 2018 Moved and carried the dismissal of TE [name omitted] to OPC presbytery of Southern California; to approve the pastoral dissolution of TE [name omitted] and [church name omitted] and to change his status to without call; the dismissal of TE [name omitted] to Pacific Presbytery pending their reception of him; to change the terms of call of TE [name omitted] from assistant pastor to associate pastor of [church name omitted]; to dismiss TE [name omitted] to Savannah River Presbytery, pending their reception of him. “The congregation of [church name omitted] in Wheat Ridge, CO voted to concur with the dissolution of their relationship with TE [name omitted]. The congregation of [church name omitted] voted to concur with dissolution of their relationship with Associate Pastor TE [name omitted]. TEs [name omitted] was an Assistant Pastor, and TE [name omitted] is Honorably Retired.”

2021-1: Jan 24, 2019 (*BCO* 21-4.c.(1)(g)) — All specific requirements of ordination examination not recorded. (No record of examination in history of PCA.)

Response: Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with the exceptions and corrects its record (if possible), corrects its action (if possible), and promises to be more careful in the future. (*RAO* 16-10, b, 1)

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). The Presbytery should act to include appropriate documentation in its record.

Response: [2023] Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with this exception, apologizes for the error, and promises to be more careful in the future. RMP also apologizes for not correcting its minutes earlier, and the following CORRECTION will be made to the minutes of the 2019 Winter Stated Meeting of Rocky Mountain Presbytery: “Candidate for ordination [name omitted] was examined in the area of PCA History and his examination was sustained.”

2021-3: Oct 03, 2019 (*BCO* 21-4.d) — Apparent use of 3/4 clause during transfer exam of minister from the OPC not explicitly demonstrated in the minutes.

Response: Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with the exceptions and corrects its record (if possible), corrects its action (if possible), and promises to be more careful in the future. (*RAO* 16-10, b, 1)

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). The Presbytery should act to include appropriate documentation in its record.

Response: [2023]After reviewing and researching the actions taken at the original meeting on Oct 3, 2019, Rocky Mountain Presbytery respectfully disagrees with the original exception. As required in *BCO* 13-6, all areas specified by *BCO* 21-4 for examination were done and the 3/4 clause was not used. We regret that the minutes of Oct 3, 2019 did not reflect this. The following CORRECTION will be added to minutes of Oct 3, 2019: “TE [name omitted]’s examination included all areas specified by *BCO* 13-6 and *BCO* 21-4, (1), a – h.” (Correction does not list each category [a through h] because of the limited space available to insert the correction into the minutes of Oct 3, 2019.)

2022-1: Apr 25, 2019; Apr 22, 2021 (*BCO* 21-4.c.(1)(g)) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded. (Apr 25, 2019 - No record of written sermon; Apr 22, 2021 - No record of approval of sermon)

Response: Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with the exceptions and corrects its record (if possible), corrects its action (if possible), and promises to be more careful in the future. (*RAO* 16-10, b, 1)

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). The Presbytery should act to include appropriate documentation in its record.

Response: 2023 RESPONSE: RE: April 25, 2019 [p. 57] Rocky Mountain Presbytery respectfully disagrees with this exception. The minutes recorded on p. 57 of the 2019 Rocky Mountain Presbytery Minutes state the candidate’s (Mr. [name omitted]) sermon was approved. RE: April 22, 2021 [p. 34, 37] Rocky Mountain Presbytery

agrees with this exception and promises to be more careful in the future. Four candidates were examined for ordination on that date; minutes record approval of sermon for two of them ([Names Omitted]). The other two candidates examined for ordination on that date (p. 34 – [name omitted] and p. 37 – [name omitted]) will have the following CORRECTION inserted into the minutes of April 22, 2021: “Moved and carried to sustain the candidate’s sermon.)

2022-2: Apr 22, 2021 (*BCO* 13-6) — No record of Transfer being examined on views touching sacraments or church government.

Response: Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with the exceptions and corrects its record (if possible), corrects its action (if possible), and promises to be more careful in the future. (*RAO* 16-10, b, 1)

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). The Presbytery should act to include appropriate documentation in its record.

Response: [2023] Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with this exception, apologizes for its oversight, and promises to be more careful in the future. The four candidates for transfer into RMP were examined in their views touching sacraments and church government. CORRECTION will be made to the minutes for transfer candidates TE [name omitted], TE [name omitted], TE [name omitted], TE [name omitted] to state the following: “The candidate was examined regarding his views in the area of Sacraments. Moved and carried to arrest this portion of the examination.” and “The candidate was examined regarding his views in the area of Church Government. Moved and carried to arrest this portion of the examination.”

2023-1: General 2022 (*BCO* 8-7) — No record of annual reports of TEs laboring out of bounds.

Response: Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with the exception and will encourage the RMP Shepherding Committee to secure annual reports from TEs laboring outside the bounds of Rocky Mountain Presbytery in all years, with special attention paid to doing so in 2024.

2023-2: General 2022 (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) — No record of review of records of church Sessions.

Response: Rocky Mountain Presbytery respectfully disagrees with this exception on the grounds Session record reviews were

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recorded as follows: 1) Minutes of 2022 Winter Stated Meeting (pg. 16) record review of Session minutes; 2) Minutes of 2022 Spring Stated Meeting (pg. 37) record review of Session minutes; 3) Minutes of 2022 Fall Stated Meeting (pg. 68) record review of Session minutes. **2023-3: Jan 27, 2022; April 21, 2022; Oct 6, 2022 (BCO 18-2)** — No record of endorsement by candidate's session or six-months membership for candidate.

Response: Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with this exception and promises to be more careful in the future. Endorsement by a candidate's session and six-month membership are part of the normal process carried out by the RMP Christian Education Committee, but recording these things in the minutes of Presbytery did not happen. CORRECTION will be made to the minutes of Jan 27, 2022; April 21, 2022; and Oct 6, 2022 to state: "The candidate was endorsed by his session and meets the six-month membership requirement."

2023-5: Jan 27, 2022 (PP 6) — No record that members of interim/provisional Session were called by the congregation.

Response: Rocky Mountain Presbytery respectfully disagrees with this exception on the grounds that as a Mission Church no congregation exists. The temporary session was formed to provide oversight for the church planter.

2023-6: Jan 27, 2022 (BCO 18-3) — No record of examination of candidates in experiential religion and motives for seeking the ministry.

Response: Rocky Mountain Presbytery respectfully disagrees with this exception on the grounds the following statement was a part of record on pg. 14, "TE [name omitted] presented five men to come under care of the Rocky Mountain Presbytery. Each shared their testimony and call to ministry." RMP will be careful in the future to make the record of candidate exams more clearly identified.

2023-7: Jan 27, 2022 (BCO 8-6) — Presbytery acted to move TE from Evangelist to Church Planter with temporary Session, then acted to renew terms as Evangelist.

Response: Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with this exception and apologizes for its error. Action will be taken at the 2023 Fall Stated Meeting on October 5, 2023 to clarify the status of TE [name omitted]. (Presbytery did not take action on this matter at the Oct 5, 2023

meeting but did take action at the 2024 Winter Stated Meeting on Jan 25, 2024.) TE [name omitted] is provided oversight by the temporary Session and did not have his Evangelist status renewed. CORRECTION: The minutes of Jan 27, 2022 will be corrected to state: “TE [name omitted] did not have his status as an Evangelist renewed.”

2023-8: Jan 27, 2022; Apr 21, 2022; Oct 6, 2022 (BCO 13-6) — Incomplete record of examination of TE transferring into presbytery.

Response: Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees the minutes of Jan 27, 2022 and April 21, 2022 do not record examinations in Sacraments and Church Government for those two transfer candidates. Those examinations were done but were not recorded. CORRECTIONS will be made to those minutes that state “The candidate was also examined in the areas of the Sacraments and Church Government.” Rocky Mountain Presbytery respectfully disagrees with the exception for the Oct 6, 2022 meeting. Transfer candidate [name omitted] was examined in the Sacraments and Church Government as noted on pg. 65 “Moved and Carried to sustain the candidate’s examinations in Testimony, Calling, Bible, Sacraments, Church Government, and *BCO*.”

2023-9: Jan 27, 2022 (BCO 19-2,3,4, RAO 16.e.5) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded.

Response: Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with this exception, especially noting the absence of any reference to the candidate’s sermon. Minutes indicate all other requirements were recorded. CORRECTION will be made to the minutes of Jan 27, 2022 to state “The candidate’s sermon was approved.”

2023-10: Jan 27, 2022 (BCO 19-3, 19-4) — No record of licensure questions, response, prayer, or declaration.

Response: Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with this exception and apologizes for failure to record in our minutes these important elements of the licensure process. CORRECTIONS will be made to our Jan 27, 2022 minutes to state for each candidate: “Licensure questions from *BCO* 19-3 were asked and answered in the affirmative, prayer for the candidate was offered, and the declarations of *BCO* 19-4 were made.”

2023-11: Apr 21, 2022 (*BCO* 13-6, 21-4) — Incomplete record of exam for minister seeking admission from another denomination.

Response: Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with this exception in that there appears to be no record in our minutes regarding transfer from another denomination candidate [name omitted]’s demonstrating knowledge of Greek and Hebrew. CORRECTION will be made to the Apr 21, 2022 minutes to state: Candidate’s seminary degree from Covenant Theological Seminary shows evidence he has knowledge of Greek and Hebrew.” Rocky Mountain Presbytery promises to be more careful in the future.

2023-12: Apr 21, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4, *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.

Response: Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with this exception and promises to be more careful in the future. We will also make CORRECTION to our Apr 21, 2022 minutes to state: “Candidate [name omitted] was examined in the area of Bible Knowledge during his licensure exam on Jan 27, 2022 (recorded in the minutes of 2022 on pg. 12). Candidate [name omitted] exegetical paper was approved by the Credentials Committee, and his seminary degree from Covenant Theological Seminary gives evidence to his knowledge of Greek and Hebrew.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2021-2: General (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) — Incomplete record of review of records of church Sessions. (Received and reviewed 7 churches. At Spring Stated Meeting, Session record of churches north of Denver are reviewed. (SR1.072) No report of reviewed records at Fall Stated Meeting. At Fall Stated Meeting, Session records of churches in and south of Denver are reviewed. (SR 1.072)

Response: Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with the exception and will correct our record (if possible), will correct our action (if possible), and promises to be more careful in the future.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). The Presbytery should act to include appropriate documentation in its record.

Response: [2023] Rocky Mountain Presbytery respectfully asks for clarification to what year these exceptions took place so corrections can be made appropriately.

Rationale: This 2022 General exception regards the RMP minutes of 2021 (7 of 35 churches reviewed, pp. 42, 70).

2023-4: Jan 27, 2022 (*BCO* 15-1, *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.

Response: Rocky Mountain Presbytery agrees with this exception, will make CORRECTIONS to our minutes of Jan 27, 2022 by adding “Commission reports as Appendices F, G, H, and I.” RMP promises to be more careful in the future. [4 commission reports:[name omitted] Commission, [name omitted] Commission, [name omitted] Commission, and [church name omitted] Denver Commission]

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the record for review. [4 commission reports:[name omitted] commission, [name omitted] commission, [name omitted] commission, and [church name omitted] commission].

72. That the Minutes of **Savannah River** Presbytery: *59-0-1*

- a. Be approved without exception: **Jan 20, 2023; Apr 18, 2023; Jul 15, 2023; Oct 17, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2023**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance: **None**
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2023-1: Oct 17, 2022 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record of congregational meeting dissolving pastoral relation or presbytery approval of dissolution.

Response: The SRP concurs with the exception; however, the dissolution of the pastoral relations between TE [name omitted] and [church name omitted] occurred in a congregational meeting on October 2, 2022, and was received by the Candidates and Credentials Committee. Since TE [name omitted] was a member of Presbytery and the transfer was within the bounds of the Presbytery, the unanimous approval of the call and transfer was de facto approval of the dissolution of the pastoral relations with IPC. The October 2022

minutes will be revised to reflect the date of the Congregational Meeting dissolving the pastoral relation and the Presbytery approval of the dissolution..

2023-2: Oct 17, 2022 (*BCO* 25-11) — No record that Presbytery confirmed that a 30-day notice was given by Session for congregational meeting to withdraw from the denomination.

Response: The SRP concurs with the exception; however, a letter received from the Stated Clerk of [church name omitted] dated October 5, 2022 and included in the October 2022 Docket attachments documented the Congregational Meeting was called with a 30-day notice. The minutes will be revised to document Presbytery confirmation of the 30-day notice. Please see pdf of October 2022 Minutes.

73. That the Minutes of **Siouxlands** Presbytery: 53-0-1

a. Be approved without exception: **Apr 07, 2023; Jul 14, 2023**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**

c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: General 2023 (*RAO* 16-10.a) — No response to the Assembly concerning the disposition of the exception of substance to which the response to the 50th GA was found to be unsatisfactory.

2024-2: General 2023 (*RAO* 16-3.c.6) — The minutes do not list the names of teaching and ruling elders who are present at any given meeting. The latter is particularly important should there be a complaint, protest, etc.

2024-3: Jan 27, 2023 (*BCO* 19-7; 19-10) — Presbytery establishes an internship for a man but there is no record of how that internship will fulfill *BCO* 19-7, para 3, or that the steps in *BCO* 19-10 were taken.

2024-4: Jan 27, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4.g) — Presbytery granted a doctrinal exception that appears to be out of accord with the fundamentals of our doctrinal standards. This statement seems to say we can make “images” that picture the incarnate second person of the Trinity, even “placing them in a worship space,” so long as they are not made an object of worship.

2024-5: Jan 27, 2023 (*BCO* 21-1) — A commission, acting as the session of a mission church, votes to call a man as their pastor. They then offer him employment as directory of ministry until he can

complete his ordination examination. There is no evidence that Presbytery ever granted the man permission to move onto the field prior to his examination.

2024-6: Jan 27, 2023 (*BCO* 46-6) — No record regarding the reception of a certificate of dismissal from transferring presbytery.

2024-7: Apr 27, 2023 (*BCO* 18-7) — Apparent improper removal of candidates from the roll.

2024-8: Apr 27, 2023 (*BCO* 19) — Improper approval of internship requirement.

2024-9: Apr 27, 2023 (*BCO* 23-1) — Presbytery transferred a TE with no record of first dissolving his call or citing his church to appear.

2024-10: Apr 27, 2023 (*BCO* 15-1) — Presbytery receives an oral report from a commission, but no report of the commission is included in the minutes.

2024-11: Sep 28, 2023 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-month church membership for candidate or that his application was filed one month in advance.

2024-12: Sep 28, 2023 (*BCO* 18-7) — No record of proper process for candidate being received from another presbytery.

2024-13: General 2023 (*BCO* 8-7; *BCO* 13-2) — No record of annual reports from men without call or from some men serving out of bounds. Further, the reports that are received come only to a committee with no record that they are shared with Presbytery, even in summary form.

2024-14: General 2023 (*BCO* 18-6) — No record of annual reports from most candidates, and the one report that is received appears to have been shared only with a committee. There is no record of Presbytery having heard the report.

d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:

2022-1: Jan 22, 2021, (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16.3.e.5) — All specific requirements of ordination exam not recorded.

Response: Presbytery had previously examined the candidate on two separate occasions, once for licensure (Sept 2019) and once to complete the portions of the ordination exams not recorded on Jan 22, 2021 meetings minutes (the 120th meeting of Siouxlans Presbytery). We acknowledge the lack of clarification in our meeting minutes and

have amended them by adding the following information to the minutes of January 22, 2021:

At the 117th Meeting in September 2019, the candidate was examined and sustained in the following areas for licensure: Christian experience, English Bible, theology, *BCO* church government, any stated exceptions to our Constitution, and a sermon preached by the candidate before the presbytery.

At the 119th Meeting in September 2020, the licentiate was examined and sustained in the following areas as a partial exam for ordination: theological paper and sacraments

Rationale: The relationship between the examinations at the September 2019 and September 2020 meetings remains unclear, and there is no evidence of examination in church history, PCA church history, or exegetical paper.

Response: At the 117th Meeting in September 2019, the candidate was examined and sustained in the following areas for licensure: Christian experience, English Bible, theology, *BCO* church government, any stated exceptions to our Constitution, and a sermon preached by the candidate before the presbytery. At the 119th Meeting in September 2020, the licentiate was examined and sustained in the following areas as a partial exam for ordination: theological paper and sacraments. At 120th meeting in January 2021, the licentiate was examined in the areas of church history, PCA church history, and exegetical paper; the ordination exam was sustained as a whole.

The confusion was due to the fact that licensure and ordination examinations were conducted over three meetings spanning different calendar years. Please see the copies of our 120th meeting minutes attached (see minutes 120-27 through 120-34).

2023-2: Jan 28-29, 2022; Sep 22-23, 2022 (*BCO* 13-6, 19-2) — TE was examined for licensure when it appears it was a transfer from another PCA Presbytery.

Response: We believe that the TE from another PCA Presbytery was correctly examined for licensure rather than for transfer in January 2022.

2023-3: Sep 22-23, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not recorded in the candidate's own words.

Response: The applicant for transfer, an ordained TE from another PCA Presbytery, submitted a three-page document listing out stated differences. The document was attached to our minutes in the Appendix section, as part of the Candidates and Credentials Committee report. However, the stated differences were not listed separately in the minutes of the Presbytery meeting, and they do not appear in the portion of the minutes where the applicant was examined on the floor. We will be more careful in the future to list the official stated differences in a more prominent place in the minutes, and not buried in the Appendix section.

2023-4: Sep 22-23, 2022 (BCO 19-16) — 3/4 vote for waiving internship not recorded.

Response: We acknowledge our error in failing to record the required supermajority vote threshold for taking the action to waive internship requirements in lieu of previous experiences in comparable ministry. The Presbytery did follow the specific voting requirement. This action was taken with an over 3/4 approval (per *BCO* 19-16). We have amended our minutes to include this fact, and we will be careful to record the detail in the future.

2023-5: Sep 22-23, 2022 (BCO 18-2) — No record of six-months membership for candidate.

Response: The six-month membership was noted during the committee exam on Sept 16, 2022 (appendix – C&C One), was confirmed in the session endorsement letter noted as an attachment in our minutes, and was orally reported on the floor of the Presbytery. However, the information was not specifically noted in our records. We have amended our minutes to include this fact, and we will be careful to document this requirement in our future record-keeping going forward.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2023-1: Jan 28-29, 2022 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not recorded in the candidate’s own words.

Response: The incoming applicant for licensure, an ordained PCA TE from another Presbytery, was seeking to serve as a stated supply for a particular church within the Presbytery and was therefore

examined for licensure (per *BCO* 19-1, 19-2). He did not submit stated differences. However, in the course of his licensure examination, both in the committee and on the floor, touching upon his views in theology, it became clear in the judgment of the Presbytery that his view of the acceptability of liturgical dance in worship did not conform to the teaching of *WCF* 21. In response to extra-confessional views orally expressed by the applicant on the floor, the Presbytery took action to restrict his teaching concerning the elements acceptable in worship, so that it conforms to *WCF* 21.3-5 as long as he's engaged in the ministry of the word within the bounds of our Presbytery. While the Presbytery did examine and probe the applicant's views beyond written materials provided, and while the Presbytery did take measures to seek to guard the confessional integrity of the teaching within her bounds, we do acknowledge our failure to record any differences orally expressed in the applicant's own words. We will be more diligent to document any differences discovered during exams, and we will be careful to record such matters more thoroughly.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the candidate's stated differences in his own words for review.

74. That the Minutes of **South Coast** Presbytery: 59-0-1

- a. Be approved without exception: **None**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: General 2023** (*RAO* 16-10.a) — No record in minutes of exceptions taken by GA.
 - 2024-2: General 2023** (*BCO* 13-11) — Documents are consistently “approved” by Presbytery but they are not included in the minutes.
 - 2024-3: General 2023** (*BCO* 18-2; 18-3; 19-7; 19-9; 19-10) — No record of candidate applications being submitted one month in advance; of the provisions of *BCO* 18-3 being carried out for men coming under care; or of the provisions of *BCO* 19-7,9,10 being carried out in the establishment of internships.
 - 2024-4: General 2023** (*BCO* 21-4.g; 13-6) — Presbytery consistently either fails to state whether a man has stated differences or fails to record the content of those stated differences. This is at least the 3rd

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year for this exception. Recommend that the Assembly refer the matter to the Standing Judicial Commission per *RAO* 16-10.c;

2024-5: Jan 24-25, 2023 (*BCO* 31-2) — Presbytery treats a *BCO* 31-2 report as a motion and defeats the motion to begin an investigation. *BCO* 31-2 requires at least some investigation and that Presbytery demand satisfactory explanations from the one against whom the report is made. There is no record that this happened.

2024-6: General 2023 (*BCO* 15-1; 10-5; 13-11; *RAO* 16-3; *RONR* 9:30-36) — The Administration Commission minutes do not conform to the requirements of the *BCO* and *RAO*. Further, the Administration Commission takes actions (approving and dissolving calls, establishing commissions, etc) via “electronic correspondence.” This does not constitute a deliberative assembly. Further, there is no evidence that SCP’s ByLaws allow electronic meetings, that quorums were present when those decisions were made, or that such actions were ever appropriately ratified.

2024-7: Apr 26, 2023 (*BCO* 13-4) — Presbytery conducts a meeting without a quorum. Only 2 REs were present.

2024-8: Apr 26, 2023 (*BCO* 13-6; *BCO* 21-4) — Incomplete record of examination for minister seeking admission from another denomination.

2024-9: Apr 26, 2023 (*BCO* 46-6) — No records of certificates of dismission for TEs transferring in from other PCA presbyteries or other denominations.

2024-10: General 2023 (*RAO* 16-3.b; *BCO* 13-11) — The minutes often reference documents that are required to be part of the minutes as being available in a dropbox. That cannot provide the permanent record required for the minutes.

2024-11: Jul 17, 2023 (*BCO* 13-12) — Notice for called meeting not in order. (10-day notice not evident/recorded).

2024-12: Jul 17, 2023 (*RAO* 16-3.e.7; *BCO* 13-11) — Executive session not included and these must be presented for review next year.

2024-13: Sep 26, 2023 - Sep 27, 2023 (*BCO* 15-1) — Commission report not attached to the minutes.

2024-14: Sep 26-27, 2023 (*BCO* 8-7) — Presbytery, on motion, dissolves a man’s call to an out-of-bounds work without the concurrence of the man or the calling body, or even evidence of

communication with the calling body, and with no evidence of formal process.

2024-15: Sep 26, 2023 - Sep 27, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4.e) — No record that Presbytery followed *BCO* 21-4.e (as amended in 2023) in conducting an ordination examination.

2024-16: General 2023 (*BCO* 20-1) — Men are examined for transfer or ordination, but their calls are referred to the Administrative Commission that processes them at some point after the meeting.

2024-17: General 2023 (*BCO* 18-6) — No record of annual reports from candidates.

2024-18: General 2023 (*BCO* 19-12) — No record of reports on interns at each stated meeting.

2024-19: General 2023 (*BCO* 8-7; *BCO* 13-2) — No record of annual reports on most men who are serving out of bounds or who are without call.

2024-20: General 2023 (*BCO* 40-1) — No record of any review of the records of sessions.

d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:

2022-2: General (*BCO* 13-9.b, 40-1) — Incomplete record of review of records of church Sessions.

Response: Our Administrative Commission, is working to get this back in order. We apologize and will work to correct this.

2022-4: Apr 24, 2021 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record of the congregation having approved the dissolution of the call of the former pastor.

Response: Per *BCO* 34-9, the Presbytery dissolved the pastoral relationship, the congregation was informed in the case of the two former ministers deposed at this meeting (two different congregations, both deposed for cases of public scandal). In the future, we will include the communication from the congregation approving the dissolution of the pastoral relations.

2023-4: Mar 12, 2022 (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) — Purpose of called meeting not recorded verbatim in the minutes.

Response: The purpose of the called meeting is listed on page 1818 line numbers 11-13. The presbytery will do better to list the purpose verbatim in the minutes in the future.

2023-8: Sep 27, 2022 (*BCO* 5-9.B.g, h, i) — No record of members of the mission church petitioning Presbytery to proceed to

organization. No record of Presbytery appointing an organizing commission. No record of an organizing commission or that the service of organization included the necessary elements.

Response: We apologize for this oversight, and the records are included in this years Administrative Commission minutes

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2022-1: General (RAO 16-3.e.4) — Commission minutes not provided.

Response: Commission minutes will be provided in the future.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the minutes for review.

2022-3: Apr 24, 2021 (BCO 34-4) — A minister was found contumacious, but Presbytery did not make “record... of the fact and of the charges under which he was arraigned.”

Response: We apologize for this error, the record of charges will be included in the future. This meeting had two depositions, and this pastor was also deposed at a later meeting. We will ensure this is carried out properly in the future.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the required records for review

2022-5: Aug 14, 2021 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not judged with the prescribed categories.

Response: We apologize again, and will include the stated differences of ministers in the prescribed categories in the future.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the candidate’s stated difference in his own words for review.

2022-6: Aug 14, 2021 (BCO 13-6) — All specific requirements of transfer exam not recorded.

Response: We apologize for not including all the specific requirements of the transfer exam in the minutes, however, the Ordination Team does follow the requirements in the *BCO* for transfer exams, this will be noted in the minutes in the future.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not amended the minutes of the meeting or submitted the required records for review.

2023-1: Jan 25, 2022; Apr 26, 2022; Sep 27, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not recorded in the minister's/candidate's own words.

Response: The Presbytery apologizes for not recording the stated differences of minister's/candidates in their own words in the minutes of the meeting for 1/25/22, 4/26/22, and 9/27/22. We will adjust our process to include all stated differences with the Confessional Standards

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the candidates' stated differences in their own words for review.

2023-2: Jan 25, 2022 (*BCO* 19-16) — 3/4 vote for waiving internship requirement not recorded.

Response: The Presbytery apologizes for failing to note the 3/4 vote, but this motion was adopted with the appropriate vote count and the Presbytery simply failed to note the count.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1) by amending the minutes of the meeting where the requirement was not recorded.

2023-3: Jan 25 2022; Mar 12, 2022 (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.

Response: These minutes were received by our administrative commission and reported to the presbytery, but we failed to enter them into the minutes. We will revise our processes to include them in the future.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the minutes for review.

2023-5: Apr 26, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not judged with the prescribed categories.

Response: We apologize again, and will include the stated differences of ministers in the prescribed categories in the future.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not judged the candidate's stated differences in the prescribed categories.

2023-6: Apr 26, 2022 (*BCO* 20-1) — No record of call to a definite work.

Response: Calls are referred to the Administrative Commission for approval, we will include the Administrative Commission minutes in the future.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the required record for review.

2023-7: Apr 26, 2022 (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.

Response: We apologize for this, and will include commission minutes in the future.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the minutes for review.

2023-9: Sep 27, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — No record of requiring statement of differences with our Standards.

Response: The Presbytery apologizes for not recording the stated differences of minister's/candidates in their own words

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the candidate's stated difference in his own words for review.

2023-10: Sep 27, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2, 18-3, 19-9, 19-10) — No record of endorsement by candidate's Session. No record of six-months membership for candidate. No record of charge given to candidate. No record of Examination for internship. No declaration of Internship by Moderator recorded.

Response: These were received, reviewed, and approved by the Ordination Team. However, we apologize for not including them in the minutes, we will correct this in the future to ensure they are recorded in the minutes.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the required records for review.

- f. **That responses shall be submitted to the following GA as no responses were received in 2024:**

2021-1: Jan 26, 2019; May 4, 2019; Sep 24, 2019 (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.2.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.

Response: [2022]: These minutes were received by our administrative commission and reported to the presbytery, but we failed to enter them into the minutes. We will revise our processes to include them in the future.

Rationale: [2022]: When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

2021-2: Jan 25, 2020 (*BCO* 19-2.a) — No exam/statement of Christian experience and inward call.

Response: [2022]: Our ordination team has historically received a statement of Christian experience and inward call when candidates come under care in the presbytery. In the future, we will make sure this is added to licensure candidates as well.

Rationale: [2022]: When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

2021-3: Jan 25, 2020 (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4) — Incomplete transfer exam (no theology, Bible content or Sacraments).

Response: [2022]: Our ordination team recognizes and agrees with this error and will remedy it in future transfer exams.

Rationale: [2022]: When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

2021-4: Jul 23, 2019 (*BCO* 13-6) — Incomplete record of transfer exam (no record of questions on views of sacraments or church government).

Response: [2022]: Our ordination team recognizes and agrees with this oversight and will work to conduct a complete transfer exam in the future.

Rationale: [2022]: When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

2021-5: Jan 25, 2020 (*BCO* 19-7) — No indication of Mr. [name omitted] having completed his presbytery internship prior to ordination.

Response: [2022]: Our ordination team agrees with this oversight and will work to insure it is completed in the future.

Rationale: [2022]: When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

2021-6: Jan 25, 2020 (*BCO* 21-4) — No record that theological thesis or exegetical papers submitted.

Response: [2022]: Our ordination team agrees with this oversight and will work to insure it is completed in the future.

Rationale: [2022]: When GA takes exception to a Presbytery's minutes for failure to record or take a required action, and Presbytery agrees with the exception, a satisfactory response should indicate that they have taken the required action, if possible, and properly recorded the same in their minutes, amending and resubmitting relevant portions of past minutes if necessary.

g. That the 51st General Assembly:

1. Find that South Coast Presbytery has, for at least three years, consistently failed to record whether men have stated differences or has failed to record the content of those stated differences as

required by *BCO* 13-6; 19-2.e,f; 21-4.f,g (as amended by the 50th GA); and *RAO* 16-3.e.5.

2. Find that South Coast Presbytery has for three years failed to provide, in violation of *RAO* 16-4.e, acceptable responses to exceptions of substance taken to their minutes in 2021.
3. Find that South Coast Presbytery has for at least two years failed to provide commission minutes.
4. Cite South Coast Presbytery to appear, per *RAO* 16-4.e and 16-10.c, and *BCO* 40- 5, before the PCA’s Standing Judicial Commission which the 51st GA constitutes its commission to adjudicate this matter, by representative or in writing, at the SJC’s fall stated meeting, to “show what the lower court has done or failed to do in the matters in question,” following the *Operating Manual for the SJC*, particularly chapter 15.
5. Direct the CRPR Officers to appoint one or more representatives of the General Assembly to represent the Report (*OMSJC* 15.2) and thereby present this case to the SJC.

75. That the Minutes of **South Florida** Presbytery: 63-0-0

- a. Be approved without exception: **None**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: Feb 08, 2023** (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of endorsement by candidate’s Session.
 - 2024-2: Feb 08, 2023** (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-month membership for candidate.
 - 2024-3: Nov 14, 2023** (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of endorsement by candidate’s Session.
 - 2024-4: Nov 14, 2023** (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3-e-5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.
 - 2024-5: Feb 08, 2023** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.
 - 2024-6: Feb 08, 2023** (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.

2024-7: Feb 08, 2023 (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.

2024-8: May 13, 2023 (*BCO* 38-1) — Full confession for a 38-2 case without process not recorded in the minutes.

2024-9: Aug 08, 2023 (*BCO* 13-6) — Incomplete record of examination of TE transferring into Presbytery. No exam of views touching on theology, the Sacraments, or church government.

2024-10: Aug 08, 2023 (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded. No record of written sermon.

2024-11: Nov 14, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam, specifically: educational requirements, knowledges of Greek and Hebrew languages, and exegetical papers. Additionally, no record of completion and approval of an internship.

2024-12: Nov 14, 2023 (*BCO* 20-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.6) — Specific arrangements of call not shown to have been approved.

2024-13: Nov 14, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4) — Incomplete record of ordination exam, specifically: theological and exegetical papers.

2024-14: Nov 14, 2023 (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded. No written sermon.

2024-15: General 2023 (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) — No record of review of records of church Sessions.

d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:

2018-1: May 9, 2017; Aug 8, 2017 (*BCO* 18-2; 21-4) — Stated difference not recorded in the minister’s/candidate’s own words (*RAO* 16-3.e5).

Response: [2021]: Actually, it was. If the candidate says he is taking the “Continental Exception to the Sabbath per 21-8” then that is what he said in his own words.

Rationale: [2021]: Candidate must state “specific instances in which he” (*BCO* 19-2.e) differs from *WCF*, *LC*, *SC*; not simply name a view.

Response: [2022] Agreed; candidate’s actual words now being recorded.

Rationale: [2022]: The candidate’s own words must be recorded and entered in the minutes and submitted for review.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. Lamentably, it was common practice of the Presbytery at that time that many of our candidates simply stated their views (orally, not written down) and did not cite the specific instances of our doctrinal standards where their views differed. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response (attached). Also lamentable is that with the time lapse it is difficult to know exactly what was said on the floor and many of the candidates listed have moved out of the Presbytery. Attached are written statements of two current TEs that were originally given to the Credentialing Committee (though not read before Presbytery). Presbytery apologizes for this past oversight and has been more diligent in this area since that time.

2019-1: Feb 13, 2018; May 8, 2018 (*BCO 21-4, RAO 16-3.e.5*) — Differences of three candidates not judged to prescribed categories.

Response: [2022]: Agreed. Categories now being used for all determinations of exceptions to the standards.

Rationale: [2022]: Presbytery’s judgment of stated differences using the prescribed categories need to be submitted for review.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. Candidates’ stated differences with the confessional standards were implicitly judged as “more than semantic but not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine” by passing the candidate. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response (attached). Lamentably, at that time Presbytery was not using the prescribed categories but simply passing or denying candidates’ differences. Presbytery apologizes for this past oversight and has been more diligent in this area since that time.

2019-2: Feb 13, 2018; May 8, 2018 (*BCO 21-4, RAO 16-3.e.5*) — Differences not stated in candidates’ own words.

Response: [2022]: Agreed. Candidate’s words now being recorded in the minutes.

Rationale: [2022]: The candidate’s own words must be recorded and entered in the minutes and submitted for review.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. Lamentably, it was common practice of the Presbytery at that time that many of our candidates simply stated their views (orally, not written down) and did not cite the specific instances of our doctrinal standards where their views differed. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response (attached). Attached are written statements of TEs that were originally given to the Credentialing Committee (though not read before Presbytery). Presbytery apologizes for this past oversight and has been more diligent in this area since that time.

2021-7: Feb 11, 2020; Aug 11, 2020 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of ordination exam not recorded.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. Each element of ordination exams was conducted by the Credentialing Committee, but each element was not recorded in the minutes. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response (attached). Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2021-8: Nov 10, 2020 (*BCO* 15-1) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted to append the minutes to the November, 10, 2020 stated meeting (attached). Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2021-9: Nov 10, 2020 (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4) — Unclear record of transfer exam for minister from another denomination.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. In regard to TE [name omitted] 's ordination examinations, given the language barrier (Chinese), the ordination exams were determined to have been performed by a panel of TEs from the PCA and OPC. Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2022-8: Directory (*BCO* 15-1, 21; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — No record of ordination for a man who is listed in the 5/18/21 and 8/17/21 minutes as licensed, but in 11/9/21 minutes as ordained.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. TE [name omitted] was approved by Presbytery to be ordained at its August 11, 2020 stated meeting. The directory was not updated until November 2021. Presbytery will be more diligent to keep its rolls properly updated in the future.

2022-9: Feb 9, 2021; Nov 9, 2021 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not recorded in minister’s own words.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. Lamentably, it was common practice of the Presbytery at that time that many of our candidates simply stated their views (orally, not written down) and did not cite the specific instances of our doctrinal standards where their views differed. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response (attached). Attached are written statements of TEs that were originally given to the Credentialing Committee (though not read before Presbytery). Presbytery apologizes for this past oversight and has been more diligent in this area since that time.

2022-10: Feb 09, 2021 (*BCO* 19-5) — No record that the examination for transfer of licensure was completed.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. TE [name omitted] was not “transferring” his licensure but seeking to be licensed in a second presbytery concurrently (Gulfstream and South Florida) because of his ministry in both. He was approved for stated supply in Gulfstream Presbytery, and he was already ordained as an RE in South Florida Presbytery, where he is also a seminary professor. Dr. [name omitted] had just been examined in Gulfstream and so our Presbytery did not repeat the examinations. Nevertheless, Dr. [name omitted] was still examined concerning his Christian experience, his call to preach the Gospel, and his views in theology. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response (attached). Presbytery

apologizes and will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2022-11: Feb 09, 2021 (*BCO* 13-6) — No record of transfer exam from another Presbytery.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. The minutes record that TE [name omitted] was examined on his Christian experience and his call to preach the Gospel. He was also examined on his views in theology, Sacraments, and church government by the Credentialing Committee, who then recommended him to Presbytery. The TE also answered questions on the floor of Presbytery, but this was not recorded in the minutes. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response (attached). The Presbytery apologizes for this oversight in recordkeeping, and we will document this fully in the future.

2022-12: Feb 9, 2021; May 18, 2021; Aug 17, 2021 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of ordination exam not recorded.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. Each element of ordination exams was conducted by the Credentialing Committee, but each element was not recorded in the minutes. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response (attached). Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2022-13: May 18, 2021 (*BCO* 18-5; 22-5) — Student supply approved without licensure.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. The need for student supply was in a difficult mission field some distance from the rest of Presbytery (Puerto Rico); the student was in the final stages of his training, overseen by other TEs, and was soon ordained on August 17, 2021 (ninety days later). Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response (attached). Presbytery apologizes and will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2022-14: May 18, 2021 (*BCO* 13-6) — Incomplete record of transfer exam from another Presbytery.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. The minutes record that the applicants for transfer were examined on their Christian experience and their call to preach the Gospel. They were also examined on their views in theology, Sacraments, and church government by the Credentialing Committee, who then recommended them to Presbytery. The TEs also answered questions on the floor of Presbytery, but this was not recorded in the minutes. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response (attached). The Presbytery apologizes for this oversight in recordkeeping, and we will document this fully in the future.

2022-15: May 18, 2021 (*BCO* 13-6; 21-4) — Incomplete record of transfer exam for minister from another denomination.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. The minutes record that Mr. [name omitted] was examined on his Christian experience and his call to preach the Gospel, and his views in theology. According to the Credentialing Committee, the candidate was examined and approved as detailed in *BCO* 21-4, but each element of the exam was not appropriately listed in the minutes. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response (attached). The Presbytery apologizes for this oversight in recordkeeping, and we will document this fully in the future.

2022-16: Aug 17, 2021 (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes from commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets this mistake of not including the minutes of the installation commission. An oral report was given to the Presbytery on the installation. The commission minutes are on file and Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted to append the minutes to the August 17, 2021 stated meeting (attached). Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2023-1: Feb 08, 2022 (*BCO* 13-6) — Incomplete record of examination of TE transferring into Presbytery.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. The TE transferring into the Presbytery was indeed examined on his views in theology, the Sacraments, and church government by the Credentialing Committee, who then recommended him to Presbytery. The TE answered questions on the floor of Presbytery, but this was not recorded in the minutes. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response (attached). The Presbytery apologizes for this oversight in recordkeeping, and we will document this fully in the future

2023-2: Feb 08, 2022 (*BCO* 13-11) — Motions not fully recorded.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets this mistake in recordkeeping. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response (attached). Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future

2023-3: May 10, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5.) — Stated differences not judged with prescribed categories.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. The stated differences of each of the candidates listed were judged to be more than semantic but not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine. This was not rightly recorded, so Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response (attached). Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future

2023-5: May 10, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5.) — No record of ordination exam.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. The Presbytery appealed to *BCO* 13-6 where it states, “Ordained ministers from other denominations being considered by Presbyteries for reception may come under the extraordinary provisions set forth in *BCO* 21-4.” Because this applicant had originally been ordained in South Florida Presbytery before transferring to the EPC, it was

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deemed an exceptional case. Nevertheless, the applicant was examined on Christian experience and his views in theology, the Sacraments, and church government. This was done by the Credentialing Committee, who recommended the applicant to Presbytery. The applicant then answered questions on the floor of Presbytery about his views, especially with regard to women in ministry. This was not rightly recorded, so Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response (attached). Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future

2023-6: May 10, 2022; Aug 8, 2022 (*BCO* 38-1) — *BCO* 38-1 Confession for a case without process not recorded in minutes.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error of not including the full minutes of the Judicial Commission. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted to append the minutes to the May 10, 2022 and August 8, 2022 stated meetings (attached). Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2023-7: May 10, 2022 (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4.) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets this mistake of not including the minutes of the installation commission. An oral report was given to the Presbytery on the installation. The commission minutes are on file and Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted to append the minutes to the May 10, 2022 stated meeting (attached). Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2023-8: May 10, 2022; Nov 8, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of endorsement by candidates' Session.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets this mistake in recordkeeping. The Session endorsements of these candidates are on file. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response (attached). We will be more diligent to record this in the minutes in the future.

2023-9: May 10, 2022; Nov 8, 2022 (BCO 18-2) — No record of six-months membership for candidates.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets this mistake in recordkeeping. Each of these candidates have been members of a PCA church for six months in keeping with *BCO* 18-2. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response (attached). We will be more diligent to record this in the future.

2023-10: May 10, 2022; Nov 8, 2022 (BCO 13-11) — Presbytery failed to provide a full and accurate record of judicial cases.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. The complaints and minutes of the judicial commission are on file, and Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted to append the complaints and judicial commission minutes to the November 8, 2022 stated meetings (attached). Presbytery will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

2023-11: Aug 08, 2022 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.

Response: Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. TE [name omitted] was licensed by Presbytery at the May 10, 2022 stated meeting where he preached a sermon before a committee of Presbytery and the minutes record his examination in Bible, theology, and *BCO*. TE [name omitted] has requisite seminary training, study in the original languages, and produced an exegetical paper. These are all on file. Presbytery has corrected the record by a motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted and has made a marginal notation in those minutes pointing to this response (attached). The Presbytery regrets this error of recordkeeping and will be more diligent in including these things in the future.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2022-7: General (BCO 13-9.b; 40-1) — No record of review of Session minutes.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception and regrets the error. The Presbytery has created an ad-hoc committee to review Session minutes. We will be more diligent to handle this issue correctly in the future.

Rationale: No record of review of any Session records from the period cited.

2023-4: May 10, 2022 (*BCO* 24-4.f.) — Presbytery implicitly granted a doctrinal exception that needs further clarity for proper review. Mr. [name omitted] appears to advocate for paedocommunion (*WLC* 177).

Response: Presbytery regrets this lack of clarity in full recordkeeping. It is correct that Mr. [name omitted] gave a stated difference with the Westminster Standards in line with what is called “paedocommunion” (though Mr. [name omitted] did not use this term). The Presbytery questioned him thoroughly about this view, especially as it touched other doctrines in our confessional system and “Federal Vision theology.” The Presbytery was satisfied with his answers, especially his commitment not to promote this view or practice it. Since the Presbytery has allowed for this exception in the past, it was deemed acceptable still. We will strive to record the full extent of the Presbytery’s examination of its candidates’ stated differences with the Standards.

Rationale: Presbytery needs to demonstrate how his views are not hostile to our system of doctrine.

76. That the Minutes of **South Texas** Presbytery: 63-0-1

a. Be approved without exception: **Oct 27-28, 2023**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**

c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Jan 27-28, 2023 (*BCO* 19-2; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded.

2024-2: Jan 27-28, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.

2024-3: Apr 28-29, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exam.

2024-4: Apr 28-29, 2023 (*BCO* 13-1; 13-3) — Meeting attendance roll list church with less than 350 members with three or more ruling elder commissioners present with no record of which two are voting.

2024-5: Aug 11-12, 2023 (*BCO* 15-2; *BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — The Ministerial Relations Committee acted as a commission without a quorum.

2024-6: General 2023 (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.

2024-7: General 2023 (*BCO* 19-12; 18-6) — No record of annual reports received on every intern and on candidates.

2024-8: General 2023 (*BCO* 8-4; 8-7) — No record of receiving reports from teaching elders working outside the bounds, and no record of Presbytery approval of TE laboring outside bounds.

- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2023-2: Jan 28-29, 2022; Aug 12-13, 2022; Oct 28-29, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of endorsement by candidate's Session, and/or no record of six-months membership for candidate.

Response: South Texas Presbytery concurs with the Exception and regrets its failure. The Candidates and Credentials Committee maintains records of candidates' membership qualifications Session endorsement prior to recommending the candidate for floor examination. Candidates in both cited instances met the *BCO* requirements. The Presbytery will be more diligent to include recitations of candidates meeting the requirements in future minute keeping.

2023-9: Apr 29-30, 2022 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation/Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

Response: South Texas Presbytery concurs with the Exception and regrets its incomplete minutes. The Ministerial Relations Committee reported in the Chairman's report that the Congregation and Session concurred with the dissolution of the relationship with TE [name omitted] was examined in the areas above, but the wording of our minutes inadequately reflected these elements. The Presbytery will be more diligent to ensure that a recitation of all items of the trials for licensure or ordination meetings be noted in our minutes.

2023-16: Oct 28-29, 2022 (BCO 15-1) — Committee cannot deliberate and conclude the business referred to it. It can only examine, and make recommendations in its report to the Presbytery.

Response: South Texas Presbytery concurs with the Exception and regrets its error. The extension of “without call” status will be only upon the vote of Presbytery in the future.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2022-1: Apr 23-24, 2021 (BCO 20-1) — No record of call to a definite work.

Response: South Texas Presbytery concurs with the Exception and regrets its omission. As reported by the Candidates Committee, there was a call to a definite work, however the Clerk neglected to record it. The Presbytery will ensure recitation of the calls be included in future minutes.

Rationale: The minutes need to include appropriate correction
2022-2: Apr 23-24, 2021; Aug 13-14, 2021 (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5) — All specific requirements of ordination exam not recorded.

Response: South Texas Presbytery concurs with the Exception and regrets its error. All examination requirements of *BCO 21-4* were met, however, the Clerk failed to record each detail of examination. The Presbytery will be more diligent in its record keeping for trials of examination in its minutes.

Rationale: There is no record that the minutes have been corrected.

2023-1: General 2022 (BCO 15-1; RAO 16-3.e.4) — No minutes of any committee empowered as commissions submitted for GA review.

Response: South Texas Presbytery concurs with the Exception and regrets this omission. the Stated Clerk has called for all Commission reports to be turned in to him to be included in the minutes. Commission minutes will be included with the 2023 minutes.

Rationale: Minutes of past commissions need to be properly attached to the appropriate minutes and submitted for review.

2023-3: Jan 28-29, 2022 (BCO 40-2.1) — Minutes state that the presbytery voted to receive the commission report to ordain and install [name omitted] , but referenced Attachment speaks only of a report to

Commission to Ordain/Install a Mr. [name omitted] . Minutes make no mention of Mr. [name omitted] .

Response: South Texas Presbytery concurs with the Exception and regrets the oversight. The minutes should have reflected receipt of the report of the Commission to ordain and install Rev. [name omitted]. The Presbytery regrets this scrivener's error.

Rationale: There is no record that the minutes have been corrected.

2023-4: Apr 29-30, 2022; Oct 28-29, 2022 (BCO 15-1) — It appears committees are empowered to act as if they were commissions.

Response: South Texas Presbytery concurs with the Exception and regrets the oversight. RE [name omitted]'s report included only one Committee item which needed Presbytery approval, and because there was no quorum, a motion and second was required. Our minutes were unclear on that point. Our Standing Rules empowers the Ministerial Relations Committee to act as a commission to dissolve the pastoral relations of a minister in cases "where the minister and congregation formally concur in such dissolution and when pastoral problems are not involved." The Chairman of the committee should have asked for Presbytery ratification of the committee/commission's actions. As for the report of the Administrative Committee on the complaint against TE [name omitted], the Standing Rules grant the Committee authority for initial investigation to determine if the complaint was in order. This is what happened. The Presbytery regrets the ambiguity of its minutes. In the case of TE [name omitted]'s theology and exegetical papers, the Stated Clerk failed to memorialize the motion of the Candidates and Credentials Committee's motion to approve those actions. The Presbytery regrets this oversight and will endeavor to be more complete in future records keeping.

Rationale: There is no record that the relevant minutes have been corrected.

2023-5: Apr 29-30, 2022 (RAO 16-3.e.5) — Minutes do not indicate which areas transfer candidates were examined in.

Response: South Texas Presbytery concurs with the Exception and regrets the oversight. All transfer candidates are examined in their views covered in BCO 13-6 both by the Candidates Committee and on the floor of Presbytery. The Presbytery regrets that our minutes did not

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include those areas of examination and will endeavor to include them in future minutes.

Rationale: There is no record that the minutes have been corrected.

2023-6: Apr 23, 2022; Aug 20, 2022 (BCO 13-6) — Incomplete record of examination of TE transferring into Presbytery.

Response: South Texas Presbytery concurs with the Exception and regrets its oversight. Transferring TEs are examined in their views of theology in accordance with *BCO* 13-6 both in committee and on the floor of presbytery. This examination occurred by the minutes failed to memorialize the event. The Presbytery will endeavor to be more diligent in recording topics of views examination in its minutes.

Rationale: There is no record that the minutes have been corrected.

2023-7: Apr 29-30, 2022 (BCO 13-1) — Minutes indicate honorably retired TE is a member of a church.

Response: South Texas Presbytery concurs with the Exception and regrets its mischaracterization. The minutes should have reflected TE [name omitted] attends [church name omitted], not that he was a member. The Presbytery will take care to use more precise vocabulary in the future.

Rationale: There is no record that the minutes have been corrected.

2023-8: Apr 29-30, 2022 (BCO 8-7; 20-1) — No record of the reasons why Presbytery considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry. No record that the Presbytery has full assurance that the TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church.

Response: South Texas Presbytery concurs with the Exception and regrets its oversight. TE additionally reported to our MTW and Candidates committees that he would have freedom to teach the doctrines of the Confession of Faith. His work is with the United Church of Bogota. The United Church of Bogota is over 100 years old. He is the new senior pastor of the church, following two other PCA pastors in that role. The Presbytery will be more diligent to record these details in future minutes.

Rationale: There is no record that the minutes have been corrected.

2023-11: Apr 29-30, 2022 (BCO 13-6) — Incomplete record of examination of TE transferring into Presbytery.

Response: South Texas Presbytery concurs with the Exception and regrets its error. TE [name omitted] was examined in each of the areas noted, but the details of those examinations were inadvertently left out of the minutes for the Presbytery.

Rationale: There is no record that the minutes have been corrected.

2023-12: Apr 29-30, 2022; Aug 12-13, 2022; Oct 28-29, 2022 (BCO 46-6) — No record of dismissal from original presbytery.

Response: South Texas Presbytery concurs with the Exception and regrets the errors. All TEs were dismissed from their previous presbyteries in good standing; the Clerk failed to note those details in the minutes. The Presbytery will be diligent to include this information in the minutes in the future.

Rationale: There is no record that the minutes have been corrected.

2023-13: Aug 12-13, 2022; Oct 28-29, 2022 (BCO 15-3; 36-7; 38-1; 40-2; RAO 16-3.e.4) — Minutes provide an incomplete record of cases of discipline, and complaints received. Minutes indicate commission received confession of a TE and imposed censures of deposition from office and indefinite suspension from the sacraments. This may have been a *BCO* 38-1 case without process but there is no indication; it appears from the AC report that this commission was retroactively authorized and therefore had no authority to conduct the case or impose censure; also no indication procedures in *BCO* 36-7 were followed; also not clear if accused was a church officer; confession is not in minutes.

Response: South Texas Presbytery concurs with the Exception and regrets its error. This was a case without process. The Presbytery erred in its initial handling the case and these errors were reported by the Administrative Committee to the floor of Presbytery. The Presbytery chose to ratify the actions of the judicial commission and the case continued to the deposition of Mr. [name omitted], but the Clerk failed to note that in the minutes of the Presbytery. Mr. [name

omitted] then chose to associate with another branch of the Church, severing his relationship with the PCA. The Presbytery will endeavor to avoid such irregularities in exercising discipline in the future.

Rationale: There is no record that the relevant minutes have been corrected or that the appropriate documents related to the 38-1 matter have been attached to the minutes.

2023-14: Aug 12-13, 2022 (BCO 21-2) — Presbytery did not find extraordinary circumstance or record super-majority vote to waive six-month requirement to be taken under care.

Response: South Texas Presbytery concurs with the Exception and regrets its error. The statement concerning the waiver of the six-month requirement included in the minutes was inadequate and conclusory. The vote to take Mr. [name omitted] under care was unanimous, but the Clerk failed to record that fact. The Presbytery will endeavor to be more precise in its record keeping in the future.

Rationale: There is no record that the minutes have been corrected.

2023-15: Oct 28-29, 2022 (BCO 21-1) — No record that transfer candidate received a call or that the presbytery approved the call.

Response: South Texas Presbytery concurs with the Exception and regrets its error. The Candidates Committee recited the call, its sufficiency and TE [name omitted] 's acceptance of his call, however, the Clerk failed to record that information in the minutes. The Presbytery will endeavor to be more complete in its recordation of calls and acceptance in future minutes.

Rationale: There is no record that the minutes have been corrected.

2023-17: Oct. 28-29, 2022 (BCO 21-1) — No record that candidate received a call or that the presbytery approved the call.

Response: South Texas Presbytery concurs with the Exception and regrets its error. TE [name omitted] did receive a call as reported by the Candidates Committee and the Presbytery did approve the call. The Stated Clerk failed to record this information and will be more diligent in recording the actions of the floor in the future.

Rationale: The minutes need to include appropriate correction.

77. That the Minutes of **Southeast Alabama** Presbytery: 63-0-1
- a. Be approved without exception: **Aug 22, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2023**
 - c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: Jan 24, 2023** (BCO 19-2) — Presbytery did not make record of the trial parts omitted in an extraordinary case of licensure.
 - 2024-2: Mar 07, 2023** (RAO 16-3.c.1) — The portion of the call for the meeting stating the purpose of the meeting is not recorded verbatim in the minutes of the meeting.
 - 2024-3: Dec 14, 2023** (RAO 16-3.c.1) — The portion of the call for the meeting stating the purpose of the meeting is not recorded verbatim in the minutes of the meeting.
 - 2024-4: Jan 24, 2023** (BCO 13-10) — No record of 60 days notice of dissolution.
 - 2024-5: Apr 25, 2023** (BCO 18-2) — No record of endorsement by candidate’s Session.
 - 2024-6: Apr 25, 2023** (BCO 18-2) — No record of six-month membership for candidate.
 - 2024-7: Aug 25, 2023** (BCO 15-1) — No record of commission proceedings/minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.
 - 2024-8: Oct 24, 2023** (BCO 21-4; RAO 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not recorded in the minister’s/candidate’s own words.
 - 2024-9: Oct 24, 2023** (BCO 21-4) — No record of requiring statement of differences with our Standards.
 - 2024-10: Oct 24, 2023** (BCO 19-2.f) — No record of requiring statement of differences with our Standards.
 - 2024-11: Oct 24, 2023** (BCO 21-4) — No record of requiring statement of differences with our Standards.
 - 2024-12: Dec 14, 2023** (BCO 13-12) — Business conducted that was not stated in the purpose of the called meeting.
 - d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
 - 2023-1: General 2022** (BCO 8-4) — No record of annual reports received from TEs doing work needful to the Church.

Response: We are not sure to which TE this exception refers. If the TE in question is TE [name omitted] TE [name omitted] reported

to presbytery on his work with CURE Montgomery on January 25, 2022

2023-2: General 2022 (*BCO* 13-2) — No record of annual reports received from TEs without call.

Response: We agree with this exception. TE [name omitted] submitted his annual report in July 2022, but we failed to include this report in presbytery’s minutes for August 2022.

2023-3: Jan 25, 2022 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation (/Session) concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

Response: In its report, the Shepherding Committee did confirm that all Congregations (/Sessions) listed in 22-01-07.B.1.i-iii. concurred with the dissolution of pastoral relations. We did not list these details in our minutes.

2023-6: Mar 31, 2022 (*BCO* 13-12; *RAO* 16-3.c.1) — Notice for called meeting not in order and purpose of called meeting not recorded verbatim in the minutes.

Response: We agree with this exception and will correct our actions in the future.

2023-7: Apr 26, 2022 (*BCO* 19-1, 22-6) — Stated supply is not listed in directory or minutes as an elder or licentiate.

Response: We agree with this citation. The man in question has been Stated Supply at that particular church for close to 30 years. We were renewing his license to preach but failed to list him on our roll as such. We will correct that error.

2023-8: Apr 26, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Incomplete record of ordination exams.

Response: Because there were multiple examinations at this meeting of Presbytery, we are unclear as to which examinations were cited as incomplete. Please see answers to Exceptions 9-12, which might provide clarification on this exception.

2023-9: Apr 26, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not judged with the prescribed categories.

Response: We agree with this exception. The committee judged Mr. [name omitted]’s differences to be “more than semantic, but not out accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine.” This was an oversight on the Committee’s part, which the Presbytery failed to catch. We will correct our actions in the future.

2023-10: Apr 26, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4, *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Candidate’s stated difference appears to be incompletely recorded.

Response: The language as received by Presbytery from the Committee is recorded in the minutes. It does not represent an incomplete record of the candidate’s differences.

2023-11: Apr 26, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — No record of requiring statement of differences with our standards.

Response: We agree with this exception. The candidate had no stated differences, but we failed to record this in our minutes.

2023-12: Apr 26, 2022 (*BCO* 21-5, 10-4) — Incomplete record of ordination and installation.

Response: We agree with this exception. We did follow the requirements set forth in *BCO* 21-5 but failed to record this in our minutes.

2023-13: Oct 25, 2022 (*BCO* 13-10) — No record of transfer or dismissal of members upon dissolving a church.

Response: We agree with this exception. The members of [church name omitted] were transferred to [church name omitted], which was reported at Presbytery, but which we failed to record in our minutes.

2023-14: Oct 25, 2022 (*BCO* 13-10) — At least 60-day notice to presbytery to dissolve a church not in order. (Not indicated/recorded).

Response: We agree to this exception. This action was taken in response to a request received from [church name omitted] on October 24, 2022. We took final action at our next stated meeting, and the property and members were transferred to the care of the session of [church name omitted]. We failed to include this communication in our minutes/records. We will correct our actions in the future.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2023-4: Jan 25, 2022; Apr 26, 2022; Aug 23, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-months membership for candidate.

Response: We agree with the exception. In the future, we will add the following language to our minutes, “[This candidate], having met the requirements of *BCO* 18-2 and having been examined/questioned in accord with *BCO* 18-3 was received under care of SEAL Presbytery, as moved by the Committee and approved by Presbytery.”

Rationale: Presbytery must report that the minutes have been corrected.

2023-5: Jan 25, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of examinations (Under Care / Internship).

Response: We agree with the exception. In the future, we will add the following language to our minutes, “[This candidate], having met the requirements of *BCO* 18-2 and having been examined/questioned in accord with *BCO* 18-3 was received under care of SEAL Presbytery, as moved by the Committee and approved by Presbytery.”

Rationale: Presbytery must report that the minutes have been corrected.

78. That the Minutes of **Southern Louisiana** Presbytery: 64-0-0

- a. Be approved without exception: **None**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **Jan 21, 2023; Directory**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: Apr 22, 2023** (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-month membership or endorsement by candidate’s Session.
 - 2024-2: Oct 28, 2023** (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-month membership or endorsement by candidate’s Session.
 - 2024-3: Oct 28, 2023** (*BCO* 20-1) — No record of the reasons why Presbytery considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.
 - 2024-4: General 2023** (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1; 40-3) — No record of review of records of church Sessions.
 - 2024-5: General 2023** (*BCO* 8-7) — No record of annual report(s) of TE(s) laboring out of bounds.
 - 2024-6: General 2023** (*BCO* 18-6) — Annual reports of candidates not included.
 - 2024-7: Oct 28, 2023** (*BCO* 21-5) — No record of the ordination questions being given to a candidate during his ordination service.
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
 - 2023-4: Apr 23, 2022** (*BCO* 21-4) — Incomplete record of ordination exam: experiential religion, especially his personal character and family management; history of the PCA.

Response: The Clerk of SOLA Presbytery apologizes for failing to include this information in the the Minutes. It was simply an

oversight on his behalf. The Presbytery did examine him both in the committee and on the floor on these topics. We will make every effort to include this information in the minutes in the future.

2023-5: Apr 23, 2022 (*BCO* 15-1) — Commission minutes not recorded in Presbytery minutes.

Response: The Clerk of SOLA Presbytery apologizes for failing to put the minutes in our record. Please see the minutes attached to this report.

2023-6: Jun 18, 2022 (*BCO* 21-5, 6, 7) — Incorrect ordination procedure.

Response: The Clerk of SOLA Presbytery apologizes for failing to include this information in our minutes. Please see the attached minutes with the correction. See pdf.

2023-8: Aug 02, 2022 (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

Response: The Clerk of SOLA Presbytery apologizes for not including this information in our report to RPR. Please see the attached minutes from the Congregational meeting held by [church name omitted] to dissolve the pastoral tie. See pdf.

2023-9: Aug 02, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not judged with the prescribed categories. [TE Davison’s difference with *WCF* 4.1 on Creation]

Response: The Clerk of SOLA Presbytery apologizes for not including the Presbytery’s judgment of TE [name omitted]’s views regarding the Sabbath. The Presbytery, in agreement with our Candidates Committee, found that his view was “more than semantic but not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of our doctrine”. (Please see attached minutes from Candidates Committee who recommended that we receive his stated difference in this manner). See pdf.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2023-1: General 2022 (*BCO* 8-7) — No record of annual report(s) of TE(s) laboring out of bounds.

Response: SOLA Presbytery apologizes for not including annual reports from our TE’s laboring out of bounds in our Minutes. It is our

practice to hear reports from our ministers and churches at the end of our meetings. At that designated time our ministers laboring out of bounds give a report before presbytery. We will make an effort to make note of the reports when they are delivered by our Ministers laboring out of bounds going forward.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record or actions. Presbytery has not recorded its receipt of reports from out of bounds ministers.

2023-2: General 2022 (*BCO* 13-9.b; 40-1) — No record of review of records of church Sessions.

Response: SOLA Presbytery apologizes for failing to note the work of our Shepherding Committee who handles the Review of Sessional Records on behalf of SOLA Presbytery. It is our usual practice for the Shepherding Committee to take up the records at our Stated January meeting, review the records, and then, hand the records back at our Stated April Meeting. Last year the Committee was able to take up all records and redistribute them from January to April. It was a simple oversight on the Clerk's part to not make note of this in our minutes. We will attempt to do better in the future.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record or actions. Presbytery has not recorded its review of Session records for 2022. Presbytery is required to review the records of lower courts annually and record in its own minutes whether it approves, disapproves or corrects the records in any particular (*BCO* 40-1, 40-3).

2023-3: Jan 22, 2022 (*BCO* 19-2) — Incomplete record of licensure exam: no statement of Christian experience and inward call.

Response: The Clerk of SOLA Presbytery apologizes for failing to include this information in the Minutes. This is always the first part of the floor examination that we approve and I simply left it out. We will make every effort to include this information in the minutes in the future.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record. Presbytery has not recorded the receipt of a statement of Christian experience and inward call from the licensee.

2023-7: Aug 02, 2022 (BCO 23-1) — Presbytery did not act to dissolve a TE's call and place him on the rolls without call after his church left the denomination and he left the field.

Response: The Clerk of SOLA Presbytery apologizes for failing to include this action in our minutes. It was an oversight on the clerk's part. We will make every effort to include all actions of the Presbytery in our minutes in the future.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record. Presbytery has not recorded the dissolution of the TE's call.

2023-10: Oct 22, 2022 (BCO 5-9) — Presbytery organized a church that had not elected ruling elders or called a pastor. [attached Dec. 19, 2022 commission minutes]

Response: The commission minutes unfortunately were incomplete and we apologize for not completing them prior to filing our RPR report last year. Five men were duly elected and installed as Ruling Elders and three men were duly elected and installed as Deacons by the church. Please forgive our failure to include that information. We will make every effort to correct this failure in the future.

Rationale: Presbytery's response does not record the names of officer candidates and all necessary steps for officer election and examination.

2023-11: Oct 22, 2022 (BCO 21-9) — Presbytery installed a pastor without having received or approved a call.

Response: The commission failed to note that the TE did receive a call and it was placed in his hands. Please forgive this failure on our part. We will make every effort to include this information going forward.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not approved the terms of call for the TE.

79. That the Minutes of **Southern New England** Presbytery: *66-0-0*
- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Jan 21, 2023; Mar 04, 2023; Apr 28-29, 2023; Oct 21, 2023; Dec 16, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory**
 - c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Sep 16, 2023 (BCO 38-3.a.) — TE improperly permitted to withdraw from membership and removed from roll even though he was not (1) affiliated with another branch of the church and (2) a member in good standing.

d. No response to previous assemblies required.

80. That the Minutes of **Southwest Florida** Presbytery: 60-0-1

a. Be approved without exception: **Feb 11, 2023; Nov 14, 2023**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **General 2023**

c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: May 09, 2023 (BCO 8-7) — No record that the presbytery is assured that an out of bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our church.

2024-2: May 09, 2023 (BCO 8-7) — No record that out of bounds TE is engaged in preaching and teaching the Word.

2024-3: May 09, 2023 (BCO 20-1) — No record of the reason why presbytery considers an out of bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.

2024-4: Sep 09, 2023 (BCO 21-6) — Installation questions for assistant pastor addressed to congregation instead of session.

d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:

2023-1: Sep 10, 2022 (BCO 23-1) — No record that Congregation/Session concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the Exception of Substance. The Presbytery should have received communication from the Congregation—and not merely the Session—requesting the Presbytery dissolve the pastoral relation between the church and the Teaching Elder. Since the Teaching Elder has already left the church and the Presbytery has already dissolved the pastoral relation, there is no way to remedy the error. However, the Presbytery promises to be more careful in the future to obtain the correct communication from the church requesting a pastoral dissolution.

81. That the Minutes of **Suncoast Florida** Presbytery: 61-0-0

a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Jan 04, 2023; Feb 04, 2023; May 09, 2023; Sep 12, 2023.**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**

- c. Be approved with exception of substance:
2024-1: Feb 14, 2023 (*BCO* 21-4) — Candidate’s stated difference(s) not recorded
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2023-1: Feb 08, 2022 (*BCO* 8-4; 20-1) — No record that the Presbytery is assured that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church. No record of the reasons why Presbytery considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.

Response: When the Presbytery approved this new calling, it came from the same calling body that had previously been approved, so there was no debate regarding whether there would be “full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church.” Additionally, the Presbytery has full confidence in the Presbyterian and Reformed Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel. A note has been added to the minutes of Feb. 8, 2022, to read: “Presbytery is fully satisfied that the ‘TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church,’ and that this is ‘a valid Christian ministry.’”

2023-2: May 10, 2022 (*BCO* 13-9a; 46-6) — No record of vote to dismiss TEs called to other Presbyteries. Further, there is no evidence that the men were received by these other presbyteries.

Response: The Presbytery regrets not noting that the transfer had been completed. A Note was added to the minutes of May 10, 2022, to read: “TE was received into South Texas Presbytery on 6/9/2022.”

2023-3: May 10, 2022; Sept. 13, 2022 (*BCO* 15-1) — Report of Commission established at the May Stated Meeting to install 2 TEs is not noted or included in subsequent minutes.

Response: The Presbytery regrets the error of not including the minutes of this Commission to install 2 TEs. Those minutes were received by the Presbytery at its September 12, 2023 Stated meeting and are part of the record of that meeting.

2023-5: May 10, 2022 (*BCO* 46-6) — TE is received from another PCA presbytery but no evidence of action of other Presbytery.

Response: The Presbytery regrets not noting that the transfer had been completed. A Note was added to the minutes of May 10, 2022, to read: “TE was received into Pacific Northwest Presbytery on 10/18/2022.”

2023-6: Nov 09, 2022 (BCO 19-1) — Presbytery gives permission to a man to preach in a pulpit on a regular basis without proper licensure.

Response: The Presbytery undertook a full licensure exam at this meeting, but noted some weaknesses that needed further clarification before final approval. The Presbytery was well satisfied that they were preserving the pulpit by allowing this man to preach for a very set time that would not be extended beyond a second examination. The man was fully licensed at a Called Meeting on January 4, 2023.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2023-4: May 10, 2022 (BCO 20-1) — No record of the reasons why Presbytery considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.

Response: The Presbytery regrets the error of not noting that the work is a valid Christian ministry. A note was added to the minutes of May 10, 2022, to read: “The ministry to which this TE is called is a valid Christian ministry.” The Presbytery also notes that the citation regarding an “out-of-bounds ministry” in the September 13, 2022 minutes did not involve the actual approval of a call, but an inquiry by the Presbytery regarding a TE’s activity.

Rationale: No reason given for why it is a valid Christian ministry.

82. That the Minutes of **Susquehanna Valley Presbytery:** 58-0-0

- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Apr 22, 2023; May 20, 2023; Sep 19, 2023**

- b. Be approved with exception of form: **Nov 18, 2023**

- c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: Feb 11, 2023 (BCO 23-1) — No record that Congregation concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

2024-2: Feb 11, 2023 (BCO 8-7) — No record that the Presbytery is assured that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church.

- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2023-1: May 21, 2022 (BCO 13-6; 21-4) — Incomplete record of transfer exam for minister from another denomination.

Response: Our Candidates, Interns, and Examinations (CIE) committee examined TE [name omitted] in the areas of Bible Content, Theology, Sacraments, Church History and Church Government. The CIE committee also heard his sermon and confirmed his educational credentials. During our floor examine, we only examined TE [name omitted] with representative questions from theology, sacraments, and church government as though he was transferring from another PCA presbytery. We apologize for our negligence and will be diligent going forward to fully examine men transferring from another denomination both in committee and on the floor of presbytery.

83. That the Minutes of **Tennessee Valley** Presbytery: 64-0-0
- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of form: **None**
 - c. Be approved with exception of substance:
 - 2024-1: Jan 17, 2023** (*BCO* 13-12; *RONR* (12th ed.) 25:10) — Notice for called meeting not in order (10-day notice, verbatim meeting call, etc., not indicated/recorded).
 - 2024-2: Feb 11, 2023** (*BCO* 13-11; 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes, and these must be presented for review next year.
 - 2024-3: Feb 11, 2023** (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-month membership for candidate.
 - 2024-4: Feb 11, 2023** (*BCO* 23-1) — No record that Congregation (/Session) concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.
 - 2024-5: Mar 23, 2023** (*BCO* 13-12; *RONR* (12th ed.) 25:10) — Notice for called meeting not in order (10-day notice, verbatim meeting call, etc., not indicated/recorded).
 - 2024-6: Mar 23, 2023** (*BCO* 30-1) — Presbytery requires additional steps after the censure of admonition is administered.
 - 2024-7: May 13, 2023** (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-month membership for candidate.
 - 2024-8: May 13, 2023** (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-month membership for candidate.
 - 2024-9: May 13, 2023** (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-month membership for candidate.

2024-10: Aug 08, 2023 (BCO 18-2) — No record of six-month membership for candidate.

2024-11: Aug 08, 2023 (BCO 8-7) — No record that the Presbytery is assured that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church.

2024-12: Aug 08, 2023 (BCO 23-1) — No record that Congregation (/Session) concurred with dissolution of pastoral relations.

2024-13: Nov 07, 2023 (BCO 18-2) — No record of six-month membership for candidate.

c. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:

2022-1: Jan 09, 2021 (BCO 22-5; 20-1) — Improper status granted to TE who has no pastoral call but is stated supply, pending approval from other presbytery.

Response: The Tennessee Valley Presbytery acknowledges and apologizes for the mistake. The Pastoral Care Committee (functioning as a commission in accord with our Standing Rules) intended only to approve of the dissolution of the TE's current call, not to approve him as Stated Supply for another presbytery. For information that affects corrective actions, the TE has now been transferred out of the Tennessee Valley Presbytery with a new call.

2022-3: Oct 19, 2021 (BCO 19-1) — Candidate under care preaching regularly in PCA pulpits without a license.

Response: The Tennessee Valley Presbytery acknowledges and apologizes for the mistake. The Candidate was not preaching regularly. The Candidate did use the phrases "occasionally preaching" and "preaching various times per month." When TVP saw that language, we contacted the candidate to understand the regularity with which he had preached. He acknowledged that his communication with us was not clear, and that he preached only 3 total times in 2021.

2023-4: Jan 8, 2022; Apr 9, 2022; Jul 12, 2022; Oct 18, 2022 (BCO 46-6) — TEs are received from other PCA presbyteries but no evidence of action of other Presbytery.

Response: We erred by not recording the action of the other Presbyteries. We do now have it on record that TEs [names omitted] were all released from their respective Presbyteries

d. That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:

2022-2: Jul 13, 2021 (*BCO* 15-1, 2) — An individual may not take an action on behalf of a court; a commission is required.

Response: The Tennessee Valley Presbytery acknowledges and apologizes for the mistake. The motion for an individual to be empowered to respond to RPR exceptions was out of order. We will not make this mistake in the future.

Rationale: Presbytery has not corrected its error by ratifying the actions in question.

2023-1: General 2022 (*BCO* 40-1; *RAO* 16-10) — Report of review by GA of 2021 minutes not included in the minutes of Presbytery, and no response to the Assembly concerning disposition of the exceptions of substance.

Response: We erred by not reviewing the report by GA of 2021 and by not approving a response by the deadline. We are responding now.

Rationale: *RAO* 16-10.a — No response to the Assembly concerning disposition of an exception of substance.

2023-2: Jan 08, 2022 (*BCO* 15-1) — Commissions are formed to install previously ordained TEs but no commission reports are found in subsequent minutes.

Response: We erred by not including the installation reports for TE [name omitted] and TE [name omitted] was installed January 2022, and we do have his report. TE [name omitted] was installed February 2022, and we do have his report.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the minutes for review.

2023-3: Jan 08, 2022 (*BCO* 8-7; 20-1) — No record that the Presbytery is assured that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church. No record of the reasons why Presbytery considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.

Response: We erred by not making sure the call had language guaranteeing that TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the

doctrine of our Church. We erred by not recording the reasons why we consider the work of a chaplain to be a valid Christian ministry

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the minutes for review.

2023-5: Apr 09, 2022 (*BCO* 19-7-10) — Presbytery “forms an internship” for a candidate, but does not approve the nature of the internship, does not examine the man, and does not address the intern as required.

Response: We erred by not recording the nature of Mr. [name omitted]’s internship, by not specifying that this internship candidate was examined with regard to his inward call to the ministry of the Word, and that the intern was addressed according to *BCO* 19-10. We did do all of these.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the minutes for review.

2023-6: Apr 9, 2022; Jul 12, 2022; Oct 18, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2; *RAO* 16-6.c.2) — No record of six-months membership requirement and one month application deadline for man coming under care. This was an Exception of Form also in the report on the 2021 minutes.

Response: We erred by not recording that Mr. [name omitted] , Mr. [name omitted] , and Mr. [name omitted] satisfied all the requirements of *BCO* 18-2, including the six-month membership requirement. They did satisfy those requirements at that time.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the minutes for review.

2023-7: Apr 09, 2022 (*BCO* 8-7; 15-1; 20-1; 21-1) — A TE’s status is changed from Honorably Retired to Out of Bounds, but specific arrangements of call not shown to be approved. No record that the Presbytery is assured that an out-of-bounds TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church. No record of the reasons why Presbytery considers an out-of-bounds work to be a valid Christian ministry.

Response: We erred by not specifying that we did in fact approve of TE [name omitted]’s call, and we erred by not including that call in the minutes. We erred by not making sure the call had language guaranteeing that TE will have full freedom to maintain and teach the

doctrine of our Church. We erred by not recording the reasons why we consider the work of a chaplain to be a valid Christian ministry

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the minutes for review.

2023-8: Apr 9, 2022; Oct. 18, 2022 (*BCO* 15-1; 23-1) — A commission dissolves men’s call, but no evidence of congregational (or sessional) concurrence, and sometimes the matter is not included in the minutes of Presbytery.

Response: We erred by not including the minutes from congregational or session meetings where the dissolution of pastoral relationship for TE [name omitted] , TE [name omitted] , and TE [name omitted] were voted on.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the minutes for review.

2023-9: Jul 12, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2, 3) — No record of endorsement by candidate’s session, six-months membership, charge given to candidate, nor of his answering the required questions.

Response: We erred by not recording that Mr. [name omitted] satisfied all the requirements of *BCO* 18-2, including the six-month membership requirement and an endorsement by the candidate’s session. He did satisfy those requirements at that time. We erred by not properly recording that we did in fact give a charge and that the candidate did answer the questions in 18-3.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the minutes for review.

2023-10: Jul 12, 2022 (*BCO* 5-9; 15-1; 24-1) — There is no report in the October meeting of the commission to organize the mission work and to show that *BCO* 5-9.i was followed even though the work is listed in the Directory as being organized.

Response: We erred by not including the report of particularization, which we did have at the time and which does satisfy that *BCO* 5-9.i was followed

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the minutes for review.

2023-11: Oct 18, 2022 (*BCO* 15-1; 13-6; *RAO* 16-1.e.5) — Report and minutes of Theological Examining Committee, acting as a commission to conduct a transfer exam not included.

Response: We erred by not attaching the TEC minutes from July 7, 2022 where the TEC acted as a commission to conduct a transfer exam, which we do have now.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the minutes for review.

84. That the Minutes of **Tidewater** Presbytery: 64-0-0

- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; May 01, 2023; Oct 05, 2023**
- b. Be approved with exception of form: **Feb 03, 2023**
- c. Be approved with exception of substance: **None**
- d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory: 2021-1: Aug 01, 2019 (*BCO* 19-5) — Incomplete record of a licensure transfer exam.**

Response: [2022]: The Presbytery disagrees with this exception. We suggest that the language of 19-5 is confusing at best. In the first sentence we read, “the latter Presbytery may, at its discretion, on his producing proper testimonials from the former, repeat any portion of the previous Presbytery’s examination it desires.” The following sentence then reads, “The Presbytery into whose bounds the licentiate is moving, however, must at least examine the man concerning: a. his Christian experience, b. his call to preach the Gospel, c. his views in theology, d. Bible content, e. church government.” We erred in the favor of the “at its discretion” finding the examination of the previous presbytery and the documentation provided to as sufficient and decided to only repeat his testimony and views.

Rationale: [2022]: *BCO* 19-5 mandates a minimum exam that must be given to licentiate transfers. The whole *BCO* 19-2 exam need not be repeated, but the 19-5 elements must be.

Response: [2023] The Presbytery understands its error and has taken every step to correct this for the future. The membership committee has been apprised of the requirements of *BCO* 19-5 and moving forward a minimum exam will be given. The Tidewater Presbytery approved these actions in our 2/4/2023 Stated Meeting.

Rationale: [2023] No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not properly resolved the

examination of the licentiate through proper examination. If the man seeks to have his license renewed *BCO* 19-5 must be followed.

Response: Presbytery now better understands this exception. Presbytery's new Stated Clerk reviewed this matter extensively, including reviewing all related materials and interviewing individuals present at that exam. What was listed as an examination of the candidate's views did in fact include all the elements of *BCO* 19-5, though this was not properly recorded in the minutes. Presbytery has corrected our process for transferring licentiates to avoid this error in the future. As such, should this individual's licensure come up for renewal, Presbytery will make sure to follow *BCO* 19-5 and record the fulfillment of all the elements. Presbytery corrected the record at its next Stated Meeting on October 5, 2023, as follows: Mr. [name omitted] came for transfer of his licensure from the James River Presbytery. All appropriate documentation has been received. Mr. [name omitted] shared his testimony and call to preach the Gospel with the TWP. Mr. [name omitted] was examined by the TWP on his views in theology, Bible content, and church government. TWP notes that all elements of *BCO* 19-5 were fulfilled in this examination.

2021-2: Feb 01, 2020 (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission (to ordain and install) TEs [names omitted] not entered into presbytery minutes.

Response: [2022]: The Presbytery agrees with this omission. This was purely an oversight of the Clerk. The Sessional Oversight Commission was appointed to ordain and install and I failed to note that in the minutes

Rationale: [2022]: Presbytery needs to submit the commission minutes for review.

Response: [2023] While I failed to record the make up of the commissions to ordain the two candidates, the minutes of these commissions were not approved until a later Stated Meeting. At the Feb 1, 2020 meeting the candidates were examined and approved for ordination, the dates and times were not set at that meeting. One candidate left the PCA before his ordination, and the other did have his ordination commission at a later date.

Rationale: [2023] No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the commission minutes for review.

Response: Presbytery now better understands this exception. One commission met, but the presbytery neglected to record that report in its minutes. Presbytery regrets the error and corrected the record at the Stated Meeting of October 5, 2023, by reviewing and recording the commission minutes for Chris Cartwright. However, the second commission involves a very complex situation with no satisfactory remedy. [Name omitted] was examined successfully for ordination and a commission was established to ordain and install him at a later date. Prior to that date, Mr. [name omitted] left the church and the denomination. The ordination and installation commission was never able to meet, so there are no minutes to review. Presbytery acknowledges the irregularity of this situation. Presbytery updated the record at its Stated Meeting of October 5, 2023, as follows: Presbytery recognizes that the commission to ordain and install [name omitted] was never able to carry out the work assigned to it. Presbytery recognizes the irregularity of these circumstances and dissolves the commission with thanks. Presbytery notes that [name omitted] is not at this time a member of Presbytery or of the PCA.

2022-1: Feb 06, 2021 (Bylaws 7.2.1) — Taking action at virtual meeting expressly prohibited by Presbytery bylaws.

Response: Due to extraordinary circumstances of that week, the Executive Committee had to make a meeting decision. The meeting was scheduled to meet in a school, which closed due to a Covid outbreak. The local gas prices shot up and many stations were closed due to shortages, so the Executive Committee agreed that on the short notice of a change, rather than cancel the meeting, to hold it virtually. The Presbytery was in the process of making the Bylaws Change to allow this but had not had all the necessary readings. The Bylaws have since been amended, Covid shut downs are a thing of the past, and this will no longer be an issue.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its actions (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not ratified the actions taken without proper authority.

Response: Presbytery now better understands this exception and agrees. Presbytery updated the record at its Stated Meeting of October 5, 2023, to ratify the actions taken at the virtual presbytery meeting of February 6, 2021. Presbytery acknowledges the irregularity of the difficulties posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

2022-2: Feb 6, 2021; Oct 7, 2021 (BCO 15-1, 2) — An individual may not take an action on behalf of a court; a commission is required.

Response: In the Feb 6 Minutes [p4] recommendation 3 reads: “Recommendation 3 – refer to admin committee and clerk to develop a plan of action – MSP. The Admin Committee and the Clerk were to serve together to develop the plan of action. As can be seen in the “Report of the Commission,” a commission was appointed to adjudicate the case and Recommendation 3, from the Commission, was for the Admin Committee with the clerk to handle one aspect of the resolution. At no time was an individual taking action on behalf of the court.

Rationale: The original exception related to the item on ll. 11–12 on p. 4 of the Feb 6, 2021 minutes and ll. 33–34 on p. 4 of the Oct 7, 2021 minutes. Presbytery did not respond to the identified exception of substance.

Response: Presbytery now better understands this exception and agrees. Presbytery updated the record at its Stated Meeting of October 5, 2023, as follows: Presbytery ratifies the actions of the Stated Clerk in the wake of the February 6, 2021, and October 7, 2021, Stated Meetings to approve nominations to General Assembly committees. Presbytery recognizes that it improperly assigned this duty to the Stated Clerk and notes that in the future, a properly-constituted commission will be established to take actions on behalf of Presbytery

2022-3: Feb 06, 2021 (BCO 15-3) — Presbytery took action on a recommendation from a judicial commission without receiving a full statement of the case.

Response: During the verbal report to the TWP, a full statement was made of the case. Due to the sensitive nature of the case, the Commission and the TWP concurred that a printed copy would not be distributed but the summary with the report. We will, in the future, make sure we clearly follow 15-3.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not provided the statement in written form to the Presbytery or submitted the record for review.

Response: Presbytery agrees with this exception. Presbytery updated the record at its Stated Meeting of October 5, 2023, as follows: Correct the record of February 6, 2021, to include in the minutes a written version of the verbal the statement of the case presented by the judicial commission. That supplemental report has now been added to the minutes of Presbytery.

2022-4: Oct 07, 2021 (*BCO* 13-11) — Complaint and Appeal sent to Presbytery not recorded in Presbytery’s minutes.

Response: We were in error for not including all of the email correspondence as the majority of the complaint and appeal were handled via email conversations. We have since cleaned up our process for receiving and handling complaints and appeals.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1). Presbytery has not submitted the records for review.

Response: Presbytery better understands this exception and agrees that a complaint or appeal should be published in the minutes. Further investigation of this matter revealed that only an appeal was filed with presbytery, not a complaint. The confusion about having both a complaint and an appeal stemmed from initial communications from the laypersons involved. Only an appeal was filed; there was no complaint. Presbytery updated the record at its Stated Meeting of October 5, 2023, to record the Appeal sent to presbytery in the minutes.

2023-1: Feb 05, 2022 (*BCO* 15-3) — Action of Presbytery judicial commission was not approved or disapproved by vote of Presbytery.

Response: Presbytery agrees with this exception. The action of the judicial commission was approved but not recorded in the minutes. Presbytery corrected the record at its next Stated Meeting on October 5, 2023, as follows: Correct the record of the February 5, 2022, meeting of Tidewater Presbytery to... record that Presbytery did approve the action of the TWP judicial commission.

2023-2: Feb 05, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Two stated differences not judged with the prescribed categories; one stated difference not judged at all.

Response: Presbytery agrees with this exception. Presbytery corrected the record at its next Stated Meeting on October 5, 2023, as follows: Correct the record of the February 5, 2022, meeting of Tidewater Presbytery to... Clarify that Presbytery ruled all three of [name omitted] 's exceptions (Creation, Sabbath, Images) to be more than semantic, but “not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine.”

2023-3: Feb 05, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — One stated difference not judged with the prescribed categories; and a difference the candidate did not state or was not recorded was judged.

Response: Presbytery agrees with this exception. Presbytery corrected the record at its next Stated Meeting on October 5, 2023, as follows: Correct the record of the February 5, 2022, meeting of Tidewater Presbytery to... Clarify that Presbytery ruled two of [name omitted] 's exceptions (Sabbath, Images) to be more than semantic, but “not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine.” Presbytery ruled that his stated exception regarding “willful desertion” to be merely semantic. Correct the record of the February 5, 2022, meeting of Tidewater Presbytery to... record [name omitted] 's exception regarding images in his own words: As it pertains to *WLC* 109, I affirm the second commandment. I believe that for purposes of catechizing those in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, particularly young children, that it can be appropriate to show forth some kind of symbolic representation of the Lord Jesus that displays to the watching world that God the Son, did take on flesh in His incarnation. However, any illustrative or pictorial representations of God the Son in His incarnation as Jesus of Nazareth should be done with reservation and prayerful thought and not in a flippant manner. By this, I mean that any symbolic representation of Christ should never be portrayed or taught as being “the real Jesus”. Fundamentally, any symbolic representation of the Lord should never be used for the purpose of worshipping Him. It seems to me that the thrust of the second commandment is to prohibit those made in the image of God from bowing down or serving images or representations of created things as if they are God.

2023-4: Feb 05, 2022 (BCO 15-2) — Commission established to take action on behalf of Presbytery without meeting minimum membership requirement.

Response: Presbytery agrees with this exception. Presbytery has taken action to better handle nominations that arrive between the winter stated meeting and the deadline for nominations to General Assembly Committees of Commissioners. Presbytery corrected the record at its next Stated Meeting on October 5, 2023, as follows: Correct the record of the February 5, 2022, meeting of Tidewater Presbytery to... ratify the actions of the Moderator and Stated Clerk to approve nominations to General Assembly, noting that the minimum membership requirement of Ruling and Teaching elders was not met in the commission established for this purpose

85. That the Minutes of **Warrior** Presbytery: 60-0-0

a. Be approved without exception: **Jan 24, 2023; Mar 04, 2023; Apr 18, 2023; Oct 17, 2023**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory**

c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: General 2023 — Annual reports of candidates not included.

2024-2: General 2023 (BCO 10-3) — The Moderator may be elected for at most 1 year at a time. The Standing Rules state that he "shall serve until his successor is elected", which has no limit.

d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**
2023-1: General 2022 (BCO 8-7) — No record of annual report(s) of TE(s) laboring out of bounds.

Response: Warrior Presbytery apologizes for this oversight and will ensure TEs laboring out of bounds provide an annual report. During this time period, Warrior only had two TEs laboring out of bounds and both were present at the January 25, 2022 meeting. It is possible they gave reports and it was not recorded in the minutes, however we are unable to verify this.

2023-2: Oct 18, 2022 (BCO 15-1; RAO 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.

Response: Warrior Presbytery apologizes for this oversight and will ensure that minutes of commissions are entered into the minutes. At Warrior's October 17, 2023 meeting, the October 18, 2022 minutes

were corrected by appending the commission minutes through a motion to “Amend Something Previously Adopted.”

86. That the Minutes of **West Hudson** Presbytery: 39-16-10

a. Be approved without exception: **Sep 14, 2023; Nov 16, 2023**

b. Be approved with exception of form: **Directory; May 16, 2023**

c. Be approved with exception of substance:

2024-1: General 2023 (BCO 19-12) — Reports on every intern by the committee charged with the oversight of interns at each stated meeting not included.

2024-2: Feb 09, 2023 (BCO 19-6) — 3/4 vote for waiving internship requirement not recorded.

2024-3: General 2023 (BCO 18-6) — Annual reports of candidates not included.

2024-4: General 2023 (BCO 19-12) — Annual report of Interns not included.

d. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory:**

2023-1: General 2021; General 2022 (BCO 8-7) — No record of annual reports of TEs laboring out of bounds.

Response: West Hudson agrees with the exception. Presbytery has begun in 2023 to receive and record in its minutes reports of TEs laboring out of bounds.

2023-2: May 03, 2021 (BCO 23-1) — No record if presbytery determined “the dissolution of the pastoral relationship with the senior pastor was brought about in Christian love and good order on the part of the parties concerned.”

Response: West Hudson respectfully disagrees with the exception. There is no constitutional requirement that the words “the dissolution of the pastoral relationship with the senior pastor was brought about in Christian love and good order on the part of the parties concerned” be recorded in Presbytery’s minutes, and the operating assumption of Presbytery is that its committees are competent to discharge their duties according to the provisions of the *BCO*. Moreover, *BCO* 23-1 was explicitly cited in the minutes in reference to the required vote minimums, which suggests that Presbytery was aware of its obligation to ensure that the dissolution was brought about according to our standards. Finally, both the church

and the outgoing minister have the ability to complain against an action of Presbytery in the event that the dissolution was not brought about according to our standards, which did not happen. For these reasons, Presbytery does not agree that its minutes are deficient in this instance.

2023-3: May 03, 2021 (BCO 15-2) — No record of commission members or a motion to empower anyone to appoint members.

Response: West Hudson respectfully disagrees with the exception but will change its practice going forward. Presbytery’s practice has been to form ordination/installation commissions using the method of appointment by the chair (*RONR* (12th ed.) 50:13 (d)) with the added implied understanding that the chair’s designee, named ‘convener’ in the minutes, would fill out the committee membership as needed. Presbytery notes that this practice has not led to any exceptions of substance with respect to the make-up or discharge of the duties of any ordination/installation commission it has formed. Furthermore, not a single commissioner of Presbytery has ever objected to this practice. While the practice may be incautious, it has not impacted the actual work of Presbytery.

2023-4: Sep 09, 2021 (BCO 8-7) — No record of presbytery determining that a TE laboring out of bounds will “be assured he will have full freedom to maintain and teach the doctrine of our Church.”

Response: West Hudson agrees with this exception. A statement from the TEs church, which was supplied at the time of the TEs ordination, has been included in Presbytery’s minutes, an extract of which is attached to this form.

2023-5: Nov 18, 2021 (BCO 40-4) — Presbytery failed to “deliberate and judge in the whole matter” regarding a report received according to *BCO* 40-4. (“Whether [church name omitted] erred by sustaining [name omitted] as Youth Director”—the committee chose not to make a recommendation because the person in question was no longer employed, and presbytery approved this recommendation).

Response: West Hudson respectfully disagrees with the exception. Presbytery did, in fact, “judge in the whole matter” by taking action on all three parts of the *BCO* 40-4 report, as the minutes indicate. That Presbytery responded to the *BCO* 40-4 report as it did, and not another way, may be a matter of wisdom, but in Presbytery’s

judgment it is not an instance of failing to deliberate and judge in the whole matter.

2023-6: Feb 10, 2022 (BCO 23-1) — No mention that the pastoral relationship was dissolved “in Christian love and good order on the parties concerned.”

Response: Presbytery respectfully disagrees with the exception. There is no constitutional requirement that the words “in Christian love and good order on the parties concerned” be recorded in Presbytery’s minutes when acting on the dissolution of a pastoral relation, and the operating assumption of Presbytery is that its committees are competent to discharge their duties according to the provisions of the *BCO*. For these reasons, Presbytery does not agree that its minutes are deficient in this instance.

2023-8: May 09, 2022 (BCO 21-4) — Presbytery granted a doctrinal exception that needs further clarification for proper review.

Response: West Hudson respectfully disagrees with the exception. Presbytery does not agree that the granted exception requires further clarification for the Committee on Review of Presbytery Records to properly review the matter.

2023-9: May 09, 2022 (BCO 19-1, 5) — Presbytery transferred a licentiate without a proper examination.

Response: West Hudson agrees with the exception. The licentiate was examined according to *BCO* 19-5 prior to receiving him, but that examination only took place in committee and not on the floor of Presbytery. Presbytery will endeavor to be more careful in the future.

2023-10: May 09, 2022 (BCO 38-2) — Divesting a TE takes two meetings of presbytery. No record that he made the request at a previous meeting of presbytery.

Response: West Hudson agrees with the exception. The teaching elder in question was made fully aware of the process and made his request to be divested without censure prior to Presbytery’s stated meeting. Since the teaching elder in question did not reside in the geographic bounds of Presbytery, his request was reported and acted on at the same Presbytery meeting. Presbytery will endeavor to be more careful in the future.

- e. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found unsatisfactory, therefore new responses shall be submitted to the following GA:**

2023-7: Apr 26, 2022 (*BCO* 13-6) — No record of which presbytery TE is transferring from and whether he is a member in good standing.

Response: As far as Presbytery can discern, this is an error from the Committee on Review of Presbytery Records. Presbytery did not meet on April 26, 2022.

Rationale: Although the Presbytery did not meet on April 26, 2022, a commission of presbytery did meet on that date to examine a TE for transfer (page 2022-20). The commission minutes fail to record which presbytery the TE is transferring from and whether he is a member in good standing.

87. That the Minutes of **Westminster** Presbytery: 57-0-0
- a. Be approved without exception: **Mar 11, 2023; Apr 25, 2023; Aug 01, 2023; Aug 12, 2023; Nov 11, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of substance: **None**
 - c. **No response to previous assemblies required.**

88. That the Minutes of **Wisconsin** Presbytery: 62-0-0
- a. Be approved without exception: **General 2023; Jan 28, 2023; Oct 28, 2023**
 - b. Be approved with exception of substance:
2024-1: Apr 22, 2023 (*BCO* 38-3) — No record that Presbytery made determinations required by *BCO* 38-3 (specifically in applying a. or b.).
2024-2: Apr 22, 2023 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-month membership for candidates
2024-3: Jul 22, 2023 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-month membership for candidates.
 - c. **That the following responses to the 51st GA be found satisfactory: 2022-1: Jan 23, 2021** (*BCO* 19-2.a) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded.

Response: As noted in the minutes, both Mr. [name omitted] and Mr. [name omitted] had been examined in the area of the “inward call to the ministry,” which included their inward call to preach the gospel,

during their exams for coming under care. Mr. [name omitted] had been examined at the Stated Presbytery meeting on September 26, 2020, and Mr. [name omitted] had been examined at the Stated Presbytery meeting on April 27, 2019.

Rationale: Candidates coming under care are required to be examined “on experiential religion and on his motives for seeking the ministry” (*BCO* 18-3). Licensure requires a “statement of his Christian experience and inward call to preach the Gospel,” which seeks greater scrutiny than to come under care (*BCO* 19-2.a). Furthermore, “No Presbytery shall omit any parts of examination except in extraordinary cases; and whenever a Presbytery shall omit any of these parts, it shall always make a record of the reasons therefore, and of the trial parts omitted.” (*BCO* 19-2).

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception; has voted to correct its minutes from January 23, 2021; and promises to be more careful in the future. The Presbytery did not think it possible to re-examine these men, who have been now been ordained, especially as they have since exhibited Godly personal character and family management in their own ministries.

2022-2: Jan 23, 2021 (*BCO* 19-7) — All specific requirements of internship not recorded.

Response: Mr. [name omitted] was a candidate under the care of the Presbytery since being examined at the Stated Presbytery meeting on September 26, 2020. He had given an oral statement of his inward call to the ministry of the Word during that Stated Presbytery meeting and the Presbytery did not choose to re-examine him in this area at the Stated Presbytery in January, but accepted his statement from September 26, 2020. The internship program was presented and approved, he was given the requisite charge, and he was prayed for. It is unclear what further requirements need to be recorded.

Rationale: Candidates coming under care are required to be examined “on experiential religion and on his motives for seeking the ministry” (*BCO* 18-3). The process for becoming an intern requires a statement “of his inward call to the ministry of the Word” (*BCO* 19-10). These questions are different, and a single candidate must be examined on both questions.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception; has voted to correct its minutes from January 23, 2021; and promises to be more careful in the future. The Presbytery did not think it possible to re-examine the intern, who has now been ordained, especially as he has since exhibited Godly personal character and family management in his own ministry.

2022-3: Jan 23, 2021 (*BCO* 19-2.f; *RAO* 16-3.e.5) — Stated differences not recorded in the candidate’s own words.

Response: Actually these are exactly the words the candidate submitted. Attached as Exhibit A is the document the Presbytery received from Mr. [name omitted] in preparation of this meeting.

Rationale: Presbytery had adopted a motion classifying the Framework Interpretation as “an allowable exception” (Jan 23, 2021, p. 4), and the candidate declared, “I humbly submit my exception to the phrase ‘in the space of six days’ as I personally hold to a Framework Interpretation.” Stating one’s differences from our confessional standards in one’s own words requires more than citing a different doctrine; a candidate must give his own biblical rationale for exactly what he believes, since “it is the right and responsibility of the Presbytery to determine if the candidate is out of accord with any of the fundamentals of these doctrinal standards and, as a consequence, may not be able to in good faith sincerely to receive and adopt the Confession of Faith and Catechisms of this Church as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures” (*BCO* 21-4.e).

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception; has voted to add the document the Presbytery received from Mr. [name omitted] referred to above as Exhibit A to its minutes from January 23, 2021, to document his rationale; and promises to be more careful in the future.

2022-4: Apr 24, 2021 (*BCO* 21-5) — Constitutional vows for ordination not propounded to two ordinands.

Response: The Presbytery apologizes for this typo in its Commission’s Report. The actual questions asked and vows taken were the ones from *BCO* 21-5, not 21-9.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception, has voted to correct its minutes from April 24, 2021, and promises to be more careful in the future.

2022-5: Apr 24, 2021 (*BCO* 5-9) — All specific requirements for the organization of a particular church not recorded.

Response: The Presbytery apologizes for failing to note the reception of petitions from each of the three churches. Petitions were received from the members of all three missions and can provide copies of the same upon request.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception, has voted to correct its minutes from April 24, 2021, and promises to be more careful in the future.

2022-6: Aug 07, 2021 (*BCO* 21-4; *RAO* 16- 3.e.5) — All specific requirements of ordination exam not recorded. (No Approval of Theological/Exegetical Papers; Personal Character; Family Management.)

Response: Mr. [name omitted] had been examined in the area of his acquaintance with experiential religion, personal character, and family management at the Called Presbytery meeting in July 2019, and was not re-examined in these areas. As noted in the minutes, it was acknowledged that Mr. [name omitted] submitted the necessary theological papers, which includes the Theological and Exegetical Papers required under *BCO* 21-4(c)(2) and (3). The Presbytery does not see where *BCO* 21-4 requires it to approve of said papers, only that preparation by the candidate is necessary.

Rationale: Licensure requires a “statement of his Christian experience and inward call to preach the Gospel” (*BCO* 19-2.a). Ordination, requires “A careful examination as to...his acquaintance with experiential religion, especially his personal character and family management (Based on the qualifications set out in 1 Timothy 3:1–7, and Titus 1:6–9)” (*BCO* 21-4.c.(1).(a)). Thus, questions for ordination are different from questions for licensure, requiring a higher level of Presbytery’s scrutiny. Additionally, all parts of the trials of ordination must be approved, including submitted theological and exegetical papers, since the Presbytery must be “fully satisfied of his

qualifications for the sacred office” (*BCO* 21-4.g). Furthermore, “No Presbytery shall omit any of these parts of trial for ordination except in extraordinary cases, and then only with three-fourths (3/4) approval of Presbytery” (*BCO* 21-4.c).

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception; has voted to approve the Theological/Exegetical Papers; has corrected its minutes from August 7, 2021; and promises to be more careful in the future. The Presbytery did not think it possible to re-examine the ordained minister, especially as he has since exhibited Godly personal character and family management in his own ministry.

2022-7: Sep 25, 2021 (*BCO* 5-4) — The nature of provision for pastoral ministry for a mission church not clearly defined.

Response: The Presbytery apologizes that this is not clear in its minutes, but Rev. [name omitted] was hired as the Prospective Church Planter for [church name omitted].

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception, has voted to correct its minutes from September 25, 2021, and promises to be more careful in the future.

2022-8: Sep 25, 2021 (*BCO* 21-5) — Constitutional vows for ordination not propounded to an ordinand.

Response: The Presbytery apologizes for this typo in its Commission’s Report. The actual questions asked and vows taken were the ones from *BCO* 21-5, not 21-9.

Rationale: No record that Presbytery corrected its record (*RAO* 16-10.b.1).

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception, has voted to correct the Commission’s Report in its minutes from September 25, 2021, and promises to be more careful in the future.

2023-1: Jan 22, 2022; Apr 23, 2022 (*BCO* 21-5) — Constitutional vows for ordination not propounded to an ordinand. (Vows given were installation only - *BCO* 21-9).

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception, has voted to correct its minutes from January 22, 2022, and April 23, 2022, reflecting that the vows under 21-5 were propounded. The Presbytery promises to be more careful in the future.

2023-2: Jan 22, 2022; Jul 23, 2022; Oct 22, 2022 (*BCO* 19-2.a) — All specific requirements of licensure exam not recorded. (Christian experience; Inward call to preach the gospel.)

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception; has voted to correct its minutes from January 22, 2022, July 23, 2022, and October 22, 2022; and promises to be more careful in the future. The presbytery did not think it possible to re-examine those licentiates that have since been ordained, especially since they are exhibiting a strong Christian experience and inward call to preach the Gospel on a regular basis, but it will examine that licentiate examined on October 22 who has not yet been ordained if he comes before the Presbytery for ordination.

2023-3: Mar 08, 2022 (*BCO* 13-12) — Notice for called meeting not in order (10-day notice).

Response: Presbytery respectfully disagrees with the exception, the Notice was sent out on Tuesday, February 22, 2022

2023-4: Apr 23, 2022 (*BCO* 38-3) — Teaching elder removed from the rolls without specifying nature of removal, and without including either the “irregularity” (*BCO* 38-3.a) or the “full record of the matter” (*BCO* 38-3.b).

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception, has voted to correct its minutes from April 23, 2022, noting the irregularity under 38-3.a. The Presbytery promises to be more careful in the future.

2023-5: Apr 23, 2022 (*BCO* 18-2) — No record of six-months membership for candidate or of endorsement by candidate’s Session.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception. It was seeking to transfer the candidate from the Chicago Metro Presbytery, from which the candidate had received a certificate of dismissal, in accordance with 18-7, and did not see the six-month membership and session endorsement under 18-2 being re-invoked or still required since he was already a candidate with Chicago Metro Presbytery. However, the Presbytery promises to be more careful in the future.

2023-6: Apr 23, 2022; Oct 22, 2022 (*BCO* 19-9) — All specific requirements of internship not recorded (inward call to the ministry of the Word).

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception; has voted to correct its minutes from April 23, 2022, and October 22, 2022; and promises to be more careful in the future. The Presbytery did not think

it possible to re-examine those interns that have since been ordained, but it will examine those interns who have not yet been ordained if they come before the Presbytery for approval of their internships and ordination.

2023-7: Apr 23, 2022; Jun 3, 2022; Oct 22, 2022 (*BCO* 21-4) — Incomplete record of ordination exams. (Experiential religion, especially his personal character and family management.)

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception; has voted to correct its minutes from April 23, 2022, June 3, 2022, and October 22, 2022; and promises to be more careful in the future. The Presbytery did not think it possible to re-examine those men who have been ordained, especially as they have since exhibited Godly personal character and family management in their own ministries.

2023-8: Jul 23, 2022 (*BCO* 15-1; *RAO* 16-3.e.4) — Minutes of commission not entered in Presbytery minutes.

Response: The Presbytery agrees with the exception, has voted to correct its minutes from July 23, 2022, attaches a copy of the Minutes of the commission here as well to correct its actions, and promises to be more careful in the future.

VII. Officers Elected for 2024-2025

Chairman: TE Jon Anderson
Vice-Chairman: TE Stephen Tipton
Secretary: TE Thomas Rickard
Assistant Secretary: TE Jacob Gerber

VII. Roster of Members Present

Presbytery

Arizona
Ascension
Blue Ridge
Calvary
Canada West
Catawba Valley
Central Carolina
Central Indiana
Chesapeake

Representative

TE Joshua Harp
RE Jay Neikirk
TE Jon Anderson
TE Robert Cathcart
TE Jeremy Britton
RE Steve Stout
RE Flynt Jones
TE Mike McBride
RE Brad Chwastyk

APPENDIX O

Chicago Metro	TE Caleb Hughes
Columbus Metro	RE Michael Mattes
Covenant	RE Bob Barber
Eastern Canada	RE Mark Hare
Eastern Carolina	RE Daniel Prins
Eastern Pennsylvania	RE Terry Carnes
Evangel	RE Walter Monroe
Fellowship	TE Corey Lanier
Georgia Foothills	RE Martin A. Moore
Great Lakes	TE Elliott Pinegar
Gulf Coast	TE Stephen Tipton
Heartland	TE Dale Thiele
Heritage	TE Steve Coward
Highlands	TE James Curtis
Houston Metro	TE Mark Blalack
Illiana	TE Harris Adams
Iowa	TE Wayne Larson
James River	RE Matt Fender
Korean Capital	TE David Bae
Korean Central	TE Brian Park
Korean Northeastern	TE Paul Lee
Korean Southeastern	TE Eddie Lim
Lowcountry	TE Jacob Lee
Metro Atlanta	TE Rush Hill
Metropolitan New York	TE Jim Fredere
Mississippi Valley	RE Steven Holman
Missouri	RE Ken Leslie
Nashville	TE Matthew Bradley
New Jersey	TE Stephen O'Neill
New York State	TE Tim LeCroy
North Florida	TE Tommy Park
North Texas	TE Donny Friederichsen
Northern New England	TE Thomas Powell
Northwest Georgia	TE Robby Baxter
Ohio	TE Jason Piland
Ohio Valley	RE Bruce Petrie
Pacific	TE Nicholas Whitaker

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Pacific Northwest	TE Adam Parker
Palmetto	RE Andrew Rutherford
Pee Dee	RE Paul Goodrich
Piedmont Triad	TE Derek Radney
Pittsburgh	TE Frank D. Moser
Platte Valley	TE Jacob Gerber
Potomac	RE Mark Doehnert
Savannah River	TE Ken McHeard
Siouxlands	RE Blake Pool
South Texas	RE Barry McBee
Southeast Alabama	TE Reed DePace
Southern Louisiana	RE Alec Moyer
Southern New England	RE Patrick Sewell
Southwest Florida	TE Freddy Fritz
Suncoast Florida	TE David L. Stewart
Susquehanna Valley	RE Douglas Sharp
Tennessee Valley	TE Sean Morris
Warrior	TE Michael Perry
West Hudson	TE Christopher Diebold
Westminster	TE Thomas Rickard