MINUTES

of the

SIXTY FIFTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Meeting at Reformed Bible College,
Grand Rapids, Michigan

May 27 – June 2, 1998

and

YEARBOOK

of

THE ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Published by
THE ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
607 N. Easton Road, Building E
Box P
Willow Grove, Pennsylvania 19090
USA
OFFICERS OF THE SIXTY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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Assistant Clerk

Statistician
Ruling Elder Mr. Luke E. Brown, 1585 Bauman Drive, Maple Glen, PA 19002

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FOREWORD

The three sections of this volume are the following:

JOURNAL - the minutes of the daily sessions of the Assembly. Though the Journal does not contain the documents that appear in the second section (Appendix) it does contain the recommendations made in those documents; those recommendations appear in the Journal at the point where they were considered. For ease of reference and cross-reference the Journal is divided into articles, denoted by the symbol §. In the Index that symbol, in bold-face type, indicates reference to articles in the Journal; page numbers refer to the Appendix and the Yearbook.

APPENDIX - the documents submitted to the Assembly by presbyteries, committees of the Church, and by other bodies, for the Assembly’s consideration. With the exception of overtures, communications, and complaints, the several documents appear in the Appendix in the order in which they were presented to the Assembly. All references to documents in the Appendix are by page number, in both the Journal and the Index.

YEARBOOK - general information about the denomination. References to items in this section are by page number.

ABBREVIATIONS

used in this volume for the Standards of the Church

BCO - The Book of Church Order
FG - Form of Government
BD - Book of Discipline
SR - Standing Rules
WCF - Westminster Confession of Faith
WLC - Westminster Larger Catechism
WSC - Westminster Shorter Catechism

The Clerk welcomes suggestions for the improvement of these annual volumes.
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Journal

MINUTES
of the
SIXTY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
of
THE ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Meeting at
Reformed Bible College
Grand Rapids, Michigan
May 27 - June 3, 1998

JOURNAL

Wednesday Evening, May 27, 1998

1. OPENING WORSHIP. The Sixty-Fifth General Assembly of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church was called to order at 7:59 p.m. by the Rev. John W. Mahaffy, Moderator of the Sixty-Fourth General Assembly. Mr. Mahaffy constituted the meeting with a worship service and delivered a sermon on the subject, “Preaching in the Presence of Christ” based on 2 Timothy 4:1, 2.

The sacrament of the Lord’s Supper was administered by Mr. Mahaffy, assisted by Ruling Elders Robert L. Ayres, John de Bruin, John R. Ferguson, Alan C. Hardwicke, Cyril T. Nightengale, and George S. MacKenzie.

The offering which was later designated for the General Assembly Operation Fund amounted to $720.35.

2. RECESS. The Assembly recessed following the pronouncement of the benediction at 9:25 p.m.

Thursday Morning, May 28, 1998

3. RECONVENE. The Assembly reconvened at 7:59 a.m. with the singing of the hymn All hail the pow’r of Jesus’ name! The Moderator read Psalm 121 and led in prayer.

4. COMMISSIONERS ROLL.

[Nos. (x/x) are (number listed/number apportioned).]

Presbytery of the Central United States (CUS)
Minister (1/1) - Geoffrey C. Smith
Ruling Elder (1/1) - Robert L. Ayres (Caney)

Presbytery of Connecticut and Southern New York (C&SNY)
Ministers (2/2) - Richard R. Gerber, William Shishko
Ruling Elder (1/1) - Joseph Yankura (Franklin Square)
Sixty-Fifth General Assembly

Presbytery of the Dakotas (DK)
Ministers (3/3) - Joseph A. Auksela, Leonard J. Coppes, W. Ralph English
Ruling Elders (2/2) - Cyril T. Nightengale (Thornton), Ronald E. VandenBurg (Carson)

Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic (MA)
Ministers (8/9) - DeLacy A. Andrews, Jr., Douglas A. Felch, George W. Hall, Jr., George W. Knight III, Th.D., Robert D. McCurley, David M. Moore, Donald H. Taws, Thomas E. Tyson
Ruling Elders (5/6) - Newman de Haas (Silver Spring), Gary Flye (Matthews), Leonard E. Miller, Ph.D. (Silver Spring), J. Bradley Robinson (Glade Spring), Walter J. Robinson (Glade Spring)

Presbytery of the Midwest (MW)
Ruling Elders (9/9) - Darrell E. Allgaier (Springfield), Jack E. De Troye (Oostburg), John R. Ferguson (St. Thomas), Glen B. Grevenoed (Hanover Park), Lars R. Johnson (Hanover Park), Keith A. Le Mahieu (Orland Park), Mitchell K. Mahan (Des Moines), William (“Tripp”) Martin, III (Oakland Hills), Roger C. Raih (Cedar Grove)

Presbytery of New Jersey (NJ)
Ruling Elders (6/6) - Richard A. Barker (Westfield), David C. Coumo (Hackettstown), Robert A. Freeman (Whippany), James K. Luchs, Jr, (Glassboro), Murali Rao (Glassboro), Bruce A. Stahl (Stratford)

Presbytery of New York and New England (NY&NE)
Ruling Elders (2/5) - Paul S. Mac Donald (Bangor), Stephen A. MacDonald, Ph.D. (Portland)

Presbytery of Northern California (NC)
Ministers (3/3) - Martin R. Ban, Calvin D. Keller, Jeffery A. Landis
Ruling Elders (3/3) - Joseph L. Hanna (Santa Cruz), James Huizinga (San Jose), George S. MacKenzie (Antioch)

Presbytery of Northwest (NW)
Ministers (2/7) - Larry D. Conard, Richard A. Miller
Ruling Elders (2/4) - John de Bruin (Eugene), Marc J. Renkema (Bothell)

Presbytery of Ohio (OH)
Ministers (4/5) - Charles G. Dennison, L. Charles Jackson, Lawrence Semel, Douglas W. Snyder
Ruling Elders (4/4) - James S. Gidley, Ph.D. (Sewickley), Timothy L.
McClymonds (Columbus), Dennis R. Ritenour (Dayton), Gerald W. Tittle (Dayton)

Presbytery of Philadelphia (PH)
Ruling Elders (7/7) - Luke E. Brown (Hatboro), Mark T. Bube (Glenside), Peyton H. Gardner (Wilmington), John O. Kinnaird (Oxford), John F. A. Kramer (Glenside), Robert M. Meeker (Glenside), Steven T. Vanderhill (Gwynedd)

Presbytery of the South (SO)
Ministers (6/6) - Jeffrey K. Boer, Thomas S. Champness, Robert Y. Eckardt, Richard C. Gamble, Ph.D., Jack W. Sawyer, Jon D. Smith
Ruling Elders (3/4) - Bernard S. Crippen (Lauderhill), Russell J. Hamilton (Lake Worth), Raul Montes (Hialeah)

Presbytery of Southern California (SC)
Ruling Elders (4/6) - Robert M. Coie (Garden Grove), Willard C. Gekler (Long Beach), Archibald M. Laurie (Goleta), David Winslow, Jr. (Garden Grove)

Presbytery of the Southwest (SW)
Ministers (4/4) - Gary W. Davenport, John R. Hunt, Jr., Michael D. Pasarilla, Jack J. Peterson
Ruling Elders (2/2) - Alan C. Hardwicke, M.D. (Abilene), Raymond D. White (Denton)

Ex Officio
Minister - Donald J. Duff (PH)
Minister - John W. Mahaffy (NW)

Committee Representatives
Commissioners: Richard A. Barker (Trustees), Mark A. Bube (Foreign Missions), George R. Cottenden (Foreign Missions), Leonard J. Coppes (Diaconal), Gary W. Davenport (Foreign Missions), Charles G. Dennison (Historian), Ross W. Graham (Home Missions), John R. Hilbelink (Home Missions), Garret A. Hoogerhyde (Home Missions, Pensions), David W. King (Diaconal), Jack J. Peterson (Ecumenicity), Thomas E. Tyson (Christian Education)
Corresponding Members: John W. Mallin III (Appeals and Complaints), Kenneth A. Smith (Arrangements)

Fraternal Delegates
Walter Lorenz, Presbyterian Church in America; Yasunori Ichikawa, Reformed Church in Japan; Neale R. Riffert, Reformed Church in the U.S.; Jerome M. Julien, United Reformed Churches in North America
5. **SURVEY OF COMMISSIONERS’ LENGTH OF SERVICE.** At a later time, a survey of commissioners and corresponding members present yielded the following information as to their dates of ordination:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates of Ordination</th>
<th>No. of Presbyters Responding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Since Jan. 1, 1990</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 1, 1980 through Dec. 31, 1989</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 1, 1970 through Dec. 31, 1979</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 1, 1950 through Dec. 31, 1959</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 1, 1940 through Dec. 31, 1949</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before Jan. 1, 1940</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Those attending the General Assembly for the first time</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. **APPORTIONMENT OF COMMISSIONERS TO 65th GA.** The apportionment of commissioners to the Sixty-Fifth General Assembly, in accordance with Chapter I of the *Standing Rules of the General Assembly*, and enrollment are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Presbytery</th>
<th>Ministers Apport’d</th>
<th>Enrolled</th>
<th>Ruling Elders Apport’d</th>
<th>Enrolled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central United States</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut and Southern New York</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dakotas</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Atlantic</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York and New England</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern California</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern California</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderator, 64th GA</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stated Clerk, 64th GA</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>92</strong></td>
<td><strong>80</strong></td>
<td><strong>60</strong></td>
<td><strong>51</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. **COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS.** Mr. K. A. Smith reported for the Committee on Arrangements at this and at other times during the Assembly.

8. **ELECTION OF MODERATOR.** The floor was declared open for nominations to the office of Moderator. Mr. Graham was nominated. There being no further nominations, the Moderator declared Mr. Graham elected. Mr. Barker escorted Mr. Graham to the chair. Mr. Mahaffy welcomed Mr. Graham. Mr. Barker led in prayer for Mr. Graham.
At a later time, the Moderator appointed Mr. R. W. Eckardt as parliamentarian.

9. OVERTURES, COMMUNICATIONS, AND APPEALS. The Stated Clerk presented overtures, communications, and appeals addressed to the Assembly.

See: OVERTURES, pp. 44-49
COMMUNICATIONS, pp. 50-77
APPEALS, pp. 78-97

10. STANDING RULE SUSPENDED. On amended motion Standing Rule V.12. was suspended in order to include Appeal 3 among those before the Assembly (since it was impossible for the appeal to meet the six-week deadline).

On motion Standing Rule V.8. was suspended and the reports, overtures, and communications distributed by the Stated Clerk since the inception of the Assembly were ordered included in the minutes without being read to the Assembly.

11. DAILY SCHEDULE. On amended motion the times for convening, recessing, and reconvening were adopted as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convene</th>
<th>Morning</th>
<th>Afternoon</th>
<th>Evening</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recess</td>
<td>10:00-10:20 a.m.</td>
<td>3:15-3:35 p.m.</td>
<td>9:05 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recess (Meals)</td>
<td>12:15 p.m.</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exceptions:

a. Recess Thursday May 28, after item 13 to permit Advisory Committees to begin work
b. Reconvene Friday May 29, 11:55 a.m. or at the call of the Moderator
c. No session Saturday evening.
d. 30 minutes given on Tuesday, June 2, at 1:15 p.m. for a presentation of the Machen Retreat and Conference Center
e. 5 minutes at the call of the Moderator on Monday for a presentation of Mid-America Reformed Seminary by the Rev. Nelson D. Kloosterman, Th.D.

All sessions of the Assembly open with the singing of a hymn and prayer.
A daily devotional service: 11:55 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., Thursday through Tuesday.

Leaders: Thursday - Leonard R. Chanoux (NJ); Friday - Gordon H. Cook, Jr. (NY&NE); Saturday - Jeffery A. Landis, Jr. (NC); Monday - Richard A. Miller (NW); Tuesday - L. Charles Jackson (OH)

12. DOCKET. The docket up to this point was as follows:

1. Assembly convenes 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 27, 1998
2. Worship service conducted by the Rev. John W. Mahaffy, Moderator of the 64th General Assembly
3. Assembly recess at conclusion of worship service, to reconvene at 8:00 a.m., Thursday May 28.
4. Roll call
Sixty-Fifth General Assembly

5. Seating of corresponding members
6. Report of the Committee on Arrangements
7. Election of Moderator
8. Report of the Standing Committee on Date, Place, and Travel
9. Presentation of overtures, communications, complaints, and appeals
10. Set times for convening, recessing, and reconvening
11. Adoption of docket

On motion the remainder of the docket presented by the Stated Clerk was adopted as follows:

12. Assignment of items of business to Advisory Committees
13. Election of Advisory and Temporary Committees
   a. Advisory Committees in accordance with Standing Rule IX.5.b.
   b. Temporary Committee on Date, Place, and Travel, three members
   c. Temporary Committee to Examine Presbyterial Records, fourteen members
   d. Temporary Committee to Examine Standing Committee Records, eight members (none to be a member of any Standing Committee)
14. Report of Stated Clerk
16. Appointment of Assistant Clerk
17. Action on Revisions to the Standing Rules proposed by the previous Assembly (except those having to do with the Chaplains Commission)
19. Election of Statistician
20. Greetings and addresses by Fraternal Delegates from other bodies to be at times agreeable to them and the Moderator
21. Report of the Committee on Christian Education
22. Report of the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension
23. Report of the Committee on Foreign Missions
24. Report of the Committee on Coordination
25. Report of the Committee on Diaconal Ministries
27. Report of the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations
28. Report of the Committee on Appeals and Complaints
29. Consideration of all Overtures not already acted upon, 8:00 a.m., Monday
30. Report of the Committee on Revisions to the Directory for Worship
32. Report of the Committee for the Historian
33. Report of the Chaplains Commission
34. Temporary Committees other than Presbyterial Records, Standing Committee Records, and those already completed in connection with earlier reports
35. Report of the Committee to Examine Presbyterial Records, 8:00 a.m. Tuesday
36. Report of the Committee to Examine Standing Committee Records, following item 35
37. Reports of the Temporary Committee on Date, Place, and Travel as appropriate during the Assembly
38. Set Budgets for General Assembly purposes
39. Resolution of thanks
40. Unfinished Advisory Committee Business
41. Miscellaneous business
42. Reading and approval of Minutes (Note: Minutes are presented for approval following the lunch recess beginning on Saturday, May 30)
43. Dissolution of the Assembly (projected terminus: Noon, Wednesday, June 3)

13. TEMPORARY COMMITTEES ERECTED. On separate motions it was determined that the following temporary committees be erected, that reports, overtures, communications, complaints, and appeals be referred to them as indicated, and that the commissioners named below be appointed to these committees and the name given with each committee be the convener of the committee.

Advisory Committee 1 Total - 10 Lawrence Semel (OH)
- Report of the Committee on Foreign Missions
- Communication 18, 20, 22
- Members: Messrs. Allgaier (MW), Bosgraf (MW), Coumo (NJ), R. Y. Eckardt (SO), Gardner (PH), Georgian (PH), Shishko (C&SNY), Warren (SC), Vandenburg (DK)

Advisory Committee 2 Total - 10 Douglas B. Clawson (MW)
- Report of the Committee on Christian Education
- Communication 14
- Overture 5
- Members: Messrs. Andrews (MA), Barker (NJ), Brown (PH), Crippen (SO), Davenport (SW), Dennison (OH), Falk (NY&NE), Neumair (MW), Stonehouse (PH)

Advisory Committee 3 Total - 9 Peter Stazen, II (MW)
- Report of the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension
- Members: Messrs. Gekler (SC), MacKenzie (NC), McCurdy (MA), R. A. Miller (NW), Nightengale (DK), Raih (MW), Tritle (OH), Willour (NJ)

Advisory Committee 4 Total - 11 David Winslow (SC)
- Report of the Committee on Coordination
- Members: Messrs. de Bruin (NW), De Troye (MW), deHaas (MA), Galbraith (PH), Gidley (OH), Haehl (SO), Hunt (SW), King (MW), Rienstra (NY&NE), Snodgrass (PH)

Advisory Committee 5 Total - 10 David J. O'Leary (PH)
- Report of the Committee on Diaconal Ministries
- Report of the Committee on Pensions
- Report of the Chaplains Commission
- Proposed Standing Rules concerning Chaplains Commission
- Members: Messrs. Christian (NJ), Hanna (NC), Martin (MW), McClymonds (OH), Sawyer (SO), W. J. Robinson (MA), Stahl (NJ), Taws (MA), White (SW)

Advisory Committee 6 Total - 9 Robert W. Eckardt (NY&NE)
- Report of the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations
- Communications 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19, 21
- Members: Messrs. Champness (SO), Felch (MA), Freeman (NJ), Grevengoed (MW), Huizinga (NC), Knudsen (PH), Laurie (SC), G. C. Smith (CUS)
Sixty-Fifth General Assembly

Advisory Committee 7
Total - 9
Donald M. Poundstone (SC)
Pending amendments to the Standing Rules (Except new Chaplains Commission rules)
Report of the Historian
Report of the Committee for the Historian
Communication 17
Members: Messrs. Boer (SO), Cook (NY&NE), Hamilton (SO), Johnson (MW), Kuschke (PH), Luchs (NJ), Mueller (SC), B. Robinson (MA)

Advisory Committee 8
Total - 9
Thomas A. Foh (PH)
Report of the Committee on Revisions to the Directory for Public Worship
Overture 2
Members: Messrs. Baldwin (SC), Ban (NC), Gerber (C&SNY), Knight (MA), Pribble (MW), Rao (NJ), Snyder (OH), Tinsley (MW)

Advisory Committee 9
Total - 10
William Laverty (PH)
Report of the Stated Clerk
Report of the Statistician
Report of the Trustees of the General Assembly
General Assembly Budget
Overture 1, 3, 4
Communication 8, 9
Members: Messrs. Campbell (NJ), Cathey (PH), Gamble (SO), Hall (MA), Harley (SC), Mahan (MW), Montes (SO), Slack (NJ), Wilson (MW)

Advisory Committee 10
Total - 10
Jeffery A. Landis (NC)
Report of the Committee on Appeals and Complaints
Appeals of Complaints 1, 2, 3
Communications 4 and 23
Members: Messrs. Auksela (DK), De Master (MW), Harting (PH), R. P. Keller (SC), Kinnaird (PH), Le Mahieu (MW), Moore (MA), Ritenour (OH), Strange (NJ)

Committee on Date, Place, and Travel (#11)
Total - 3
Steven T. Vanderhill (PH)
Communication 3
Members: Messrs. Kramer (PH), Stanton (MW)

Committee to Examine Presbyterial Records (#12)
Total - 14
Leonard E. Miller (MA)
Members: Messrs. Ayres (CUS), Chanoux (NJ), Conard (NW), English (DK), Hardwicke (SW), Jackson (OH), C. D. Keller (NC), King (MW), P. S. MacDonald (NY&NE), Meeker (PH), Pontier (SC), J. D. Smith (SO), Yankura (C&SNY)

Committee to Examine Standing Committee Records (#13)
Total - 8
Stanford M. Sutton Jr. (NJ)
Members: Messrs. Browne (PH), Coie (SC), Ferguson (MW), Flye (MA), S. A. MacDonald (NY&NE), Pasarilla (SW), Renkema (NW)

14. RECESS. The Assembly recessed at 9:15 a.m. for advisory committee meetings following prayer led by the Moderator, including prayer for the Rev. Stewart E. Lauer.
Journal

15. DEVOTIONAL. The order of the day having arrived, at 11:57 a.m. the Assembly reconvened for a devotional service with the singing of the hymn *O God, most holy are your ways*. Mr. Chanoux read 1 Corinthians 1:1-9, and delivered a message entitled, “Called To Be Holy.” The Assembly recessed at 12:19 p.m. following prayer led by Mr. Chanoux.

Friday Morning, May 29, 1998

16. RECONVENE. The Assembly reconvened at 10:20 a.m. at the call of the Moderator with the singing of the hymn *How sweet and awesome is the place with Christ within the doors*. The Moderator read Romans 12:1-5, and led in prayer.

17. KROEZE ADDRESS. Dr. Nicholas V. Kroeze, President of Reformed Bible College, welcomed the commissioners to the college.

18. FRATERNAL DELEGATE INTRODUCTION. Mr. Peterson, Chairman of the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations, introduced the Rev. Yasunori Ichikawa, fraternal delegate of the Reformed Church in Japan, who, on motion, was seated as a corresponding member.

19. STATED CLERK’S REPORT. Mr. Duff presented the report of the Stated Clerk (see p. 98), with the following recommendations:

   RECOMMENDATIONS
   1. That the 65th General Assembly approve the amendments to the *Standing Rules* as proposed to the Assembly by the 64th General Assembly. (The proposed amendments are found in II of the report.) (Note: The Proposed Docket puts the consideration of those changes having to do with the Chaplains Commission under that topic in the docket. See §29.)
   2. That the special Committee on Addresses and Displays be continued.

20. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 9 (Stated Clerk). Mr. Laverty reported the silence of Advisory Committee 9 regarding the report of the Stated Clerk except to commend Peggy (Mrs. Donald) Duff for her work for the office of the Stated Clerk.

21. RECOMMENDATION ACTIONS (Stated Clerk). Recommendation 2 of the Stated Clerk was adopted.

22. TRUSTEES. Mr. Barker presented the report of The Trustees of the General Assembly (see p. 102), with the following recommendations:

   RECOMMENDATIONS
   1. That the following listed remuneration package for the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly for 1999 be adopted:
Salary $27,000.00
Housing Allowance 25,000.00
FICA Reimbursement (1/2) 3,978.00
Pension (6% of Salary) 3,120.00
Hospitalization, Surgical, Major Medical 6,300.00
Disability Insurance 500.00 (Est.)
Worker's Compensation Insurance 400.00 (Est.)
Total $66,298.00
Including four weeks paid vacation

2. (GAOF Budget, see §159)
3. That the presbyteries ask each new congregation and mission work to obtain an EIN and advise the Trustees of the General Assembly of the EIN when they do so.

23. CORPORATE NAME CHANGE. Mr. Barker announced that the denominational corporate name under the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been changed from "The Trustees of The General Assembly of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church" to "The Orthodox Presbyterian Church."

24. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 9 (Trustees). Mr. Laverty reported the silence of Advisory Committee 9 regarding the report of the trustees.

25. RECOMMENDATION ACTIONS (Trustees). Recommendations 1 and 3 of the Trustees were adopted (cf. §22).

26. TRUSTEES ELECTION. The floor was declared open for nominations to The Trustees of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church for the Class of 2001. The following were nominated: Minister: Martin L. Dawson, Sr.; Ruling Elder: Howard A. Porter (Glenside). There being no further nominations, the Moderator declared Messrs. Dawson and Porter elected to the Class of 2001.

27. ASSISTANT CLERK APPOINTED. The Stated Clerk announced that, in accordance with Standing Rule, Chapter III, Section B.2.a., he had asked Mr. Phillips to serve as Assistant Clerk, and he consented.

28. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 7 (Standing Rules). Mr. Poundstone reported for Advisory Committee 7 regarding the pending amendments to the Standing Rules. Regarding the proposed amendment to Chapter XI.2.b., the committee was silent. The committee recommended that the proposed amendment to Chapter III.A.16., be approved with the addition of the word "denominational" between the words "the" and "cause."

29. STANDING RULES AMENDED. On motion the Standing Rules of the General Assembly were amended as proposed by the 64th General Assembly (except those having to do with the Chaplains Commission; cf. Minutes of the 64th General Assembly, §27, §32) and as amended by the recommendation of Advisory Committee 7 above (this action covers Recommendation 1 of the Stated Clerk).

30. STATISTICIAN'S REPORT. Mr. Brown presented the report of the Statistician (see p. 106).
31. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 9 (Statistician). Mr. Laverty reported the silence of Advisory Committee 9 regarding the report of the Statistician, except to thank the Statistician for his excellent work which goes well beyond the size of his honorarium.

32. REPORT RETURNED. On motion the report of the Statistician was returned to Advisory Committee 9 for further review concerning the anomaly in the practice of moving churches from the status of organized congregations to mission works.

33. STATISTICIAN ELECTED. The floor was declared open for nominations to the office of Statistician. Mr. Luke E. Brown was nominated. On motion nominations were closed, and the Moderator declared Mr. Brown elected.

34. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION. Dr. Gidley, Vice-President of the Committee on Christian Education, presented its report (see p. 112), with the recommendations below. Mr. Tyson (General Secretary of the Committee on Christian Education) addressed the Assembly. On motion the Rev. Thomas R. Patete, Executive Director of Great Commission Publications, was given the privilege of the floor during the consideration of this report and addressed the Assembly.

RECOMMENDATIONS
1. That the Assembly approve the Plan for The Ministerial Training Institute of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church as presented by the Subcommittee on Ministerial Training
2. That the Assembly approve the Plan and Regulations for the Web Site of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church as presented by the Committee on Christian Education

35. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2 (Christian Education). Mr. Clawson reported for Advisory Committee 2 regarding the report of the Committee on Christian Education as follows: Advisory Committee 2 met with Thomas Tyson, General Secretary, James Gidley, and John Galbraith as representatives from the Committee on Christian Education. The committee also met with other individuals on specific matters regarding the report of the Committee on Christian Education. Advisory Committee 2 also discussed and responded to Communication 16 and Overture 5.

1. Regarding the Report of the Committee on Christian Education, the committee is silent except with respect to the committee’s first recommendation (IV.1). The committee moves a substitute for Recommendation 1 as follows:
   That the Assembly approve in general the Plan for The Ministerial Training Institute of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church as presented by the Subcommittee on Ministerial Training, recognizing that the plan needs clarification and revision at a number of sub-points.
2. Regarding Communication 16, the committee voted unanimously that the resignation of George W. Knight, III, be accepted, and that the vacancy be filled at the time of elections to the committee. (See §40.)
3. Regarding Overture 5, the committee recommends to the Assembly that it take no action on Overture 5 on the ground that Overture 5 seeks no more than what the 64th General Assembly on this same subject already provides (cf. Minutes, 64th General Assembly, §227, pages 64-65). (See §118.)
36. **DEVOTIONAL.** The order of the day having arrived at 11:55 a.m., Mr. Cook led the devotional service. The Assembly sang the hymn *It is well with my soul.* Mr. Cook read 2 Corinthians 1:1-7, and delivered a message entitled, “Ministering Comfort in a Hospital.” The Assembly recessed at 12:25 p.m. following prayer led by Mr. Cook.

Friday Afternoon, May 29, 1998

37. **RECONVENE.** The Assembly reconvened at 1:19 p.m. with the singing of the hymn *Unto the hills around do I lift up my longing eyes.* Mr. Poundstone led in prayer, including prayer for Mr. Raymond Waggoner (Matthews).

38. **DATE, PLACE, AND TRAVEL.** Mr. Haney reported for the Committee on Date, Place, and Travel as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance at end of 64th GA</td>
<td>($46.76)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions received June 1, 1997 to May 27, 1998</td>
<td>70,128.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance available for the 65th GA</td>
<td>70,082.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid 65th GA expenses</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total on hand</td>
<td>$70,082.17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RECOMMENDATIONS
That for travel to the 65th General Assembly:
1. The maximum reimbursement for travel within the contiguous United States which will cross the Mississippi be $600.00.
2. The maximum reimbursement for travel within the contiguous United States which does not cross the Mississippi be $400.00.
3. The maximum reimbursement for travel (whether by land or air) for commissioners within 250 miles of Grand Rapids, Michigan, (as determined by computerized travel route mapping) be $0.22 per mile.
4. The maximum reimbursement for international travel be $800.00.
5. That the deadline for submission of valid travel vouchers be set for the conclusion of the morning break (10:20 a.m.) on Saturday, May 30, 1998.
6. That for purposes of full travel compensation, attendance be required until 12:00 noon, Wednesday, June 3, or the dissolution of the assembly, whichever comes first.
7. That the following listed men be excused as indicated without loss of travel compensation:
   a. Mr. John A. Mahaffy at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, May 28, to speak at his daughter’s graduation.
   b. Mr. Robert A. Freeman for sufficient time from the Saturday, May 30, afternoon session to transport his wife from the airport.
   c. Mr. Donald H. Taws at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, June 3, to leave for his flight.

The committee reports that reimbursable mileage includes travel to and from your accommodations to the RBC campus.

The committee reports that maximum room and board reimbursement of $230 is a cap which does not correspond exactly to the actual cost of dormitory room.
and board which is $210, and commissioners should report their actual expenses, which are $210 if they are staying in a dormitory and have chosen the full meal package.

The committee apologizes to the assembly for its error in failing to include the names of members present or absent on page 102 of its minutes. These names are not available for correction of the minutes.

The term of Mr. Douglas A. Watson expires at the 65th General Assembly, and he has requested that his name not be submitted for nomination to another term. An election is required.

39. **RECOMMENDATION ACTIONS (Date, Place, and Travel).** The recommendations of the Committee on Date, Place, and Travel were adopted.

40. **RECOMMENDATION ACTIONS (Christian Education, cf. §34).** Recommendation 1 was adopted in the form recommended by Advisory Committee 2 (cf. §35). Recommendation 2 was adopted. The Moderator declared Recommendation 2 of Advisory Committee 2 moot in as much as Dr. Knight's resignation from the Class of 2000 was in effect.

41. **MINISTERIAL TRAINING ELECTIONS.** The floor was declared open for nominations to the Subcommittee on Ministerial Training for the Class of 2001, and one for the Class of 2000. The following were nominated: Ministers: Boer, Champness, Strange; Ruling Elders: Gidley, John R. Muether (Orlando), Winslow. At a later time the Moderator announced the election of Messrs. Gidley and Muether to the Class of 2001, and Mr. Winslow to the Class of 2000.

42. **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ELECTIONS.** At a later time the floor was declared open for nominations to the remaining openings on the Committee on Christian Education for the Class of 2001, and one for the Class of 2000. The following were nominated: Ministers: Boer, Champness, Clawson, George C. Miladin, Lendall H. Smith, Strange, Larry E. Wilson. At a later time, the Moderator announced the election of Messrs. Miladin, Strange, and Wilson to the Class of 2001, and Mr. Clawson to the Class of 2000.

43. **WINSLOW ASSUMES CHAIR.** At the request of the Moderator, Mr. Winslow assumed the chair.

44. **HOME MISSIONS.** Mr. Hilbelink, President of the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension, presented its report (see p. 133). Regional Home Missionary James Bosgraf and Home Missionary Robert Y. Eckardt, Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension General Secretary Ross Graham, and Director of Evangelism and Church Development William J. Vermeulen, addressed the Assembly.

45. **VERMEULEN RESOLUTION OF THANKS.** Mr. Hilbelink read the Resolution of Thanks to Mr. Vermeulen contained in the report of the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension (see p. 138) in anticipation of his retirement in August 1998. The Assembly gave Mr. Vermeulen a standing ovation.

46. **ADVISORY COMMITTEE 3 (Home Missions).** Mr. Stazen presented the report of Advisory Committee 3 as follows: Advisory Committee 3 met with
representatives of the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension, Ross Graham (General Secretary), John Hilbelink, Garret Hoogerhyde, and thoroughly reviewed with them the report of the committee.

Messrs. Graham and Hilbelink expressed God's grace in church planting endeavors and his faithfulness in supplying the resources.

We thank the committee and its officers for their sacrificial work this past year.

We discussed the Committee on Home Mission and Church Extension's report (including the resolution of thanks) and the Advisory Committee is silent.

47. RECESS. The Assembly recessed at 3:18 p.m., having by general consent extended the order of the day to complete a ballot, and reconvened with the Moderator in the chair at 3:36 p.m. with the singing of the hymn Jesus! what a Friend for sinners! Mr. Clawson led in prayer, including prayer for the work of the Committee on Christian Education.

48. FRATERNAL DELEGATE ADDRESS. The Rev. Yasunori Ichikawa, fraternal delegate of the Reformed Church in Japan, addressed the Assembly.

49. MATERIALS ADDRESSED. On motion it was determined that the author be directed to remove from public display, and to cease from distribution at this Assembly all of his materials which explicitly employ the word "heresy" to describe the views of an Orthodox Presbyterian minister who has not been charged with heresy according to the Standards of the Church, and who is currently a minister in good standing of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church, on the following grounds:

1. This is wrong in itself. It is a violation of the Ninth Commandment, see Larger Catechism #145.

2. This wrongly prejudices the Assembly in a matter it will be facing during this Assembly.

50. WINSLOW ASSUMES CHAIR. At the request of the Moderator, Mr. Winslow assumed the chair.

51. HOME MISSIONS ELECTIONS. The floor was declared open for nominations to the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension for the Class of 2001. The following were nominated: Ministers: Ban, Mark R. Brown, Knight, Gerald S. Taylor; Ruling Elders: Ayres, Robert A. Kramm (Denton). The Moderator declared Messrs. Ayres and Kramm elected, and at a later time announced the election of Messrs. Brown, Knight, and Taylor to the Class of 2001. Mr. Stazen led in prayer for the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension.

52. FOREIGN MISSIONS. Mr. Cottenden, Vice-President of the Committee on Foreign Missions, presented its report (see p. 147). Messrs. Bube (General Secretary of the Committee on Foreign Missions), and Moore and Lauer (missionaries to Japan) addressed the Assembly.

53. FRATERNAL DELEGATE INTRODUCTION. Mr. Peterson, Chairman of the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations, introduced the Rev. Walter Lorenz, fraternal delegate of the Presbyterian Church in America, who, on motion, was seated as a corresponding member.
54. **RECESS.** The Assembly recessed at 5:06 p.m. following prayer led by Mr. Bube.

**Friday Evening, May 29, 1998**

55. **RECONVENE.** The Assembly reconvened at 6:20 p.m. with the singing of the hymn *Let us love and sing and wonder*. Mr. Warren led in prayer.

56. **ADVISORY COMMITTEE 1 (Foreign Missions).** Mr. Shishko presented the report of Advisory Committee 1 regarding the report of the Committee on Foreign Missions as follows: Advisory Committee 1 considered the entire report of the Committee on Foreign Missions (CFM), noting any questions to be raised with representatives who would meet with the Advisory Committee. During that time the Rev. Donald Duff, a member of the Japan Subcommittee, met with Advisory Committee 1 to present some of the reasoning behind the recommendation of the CFM's February, 1998 meeting regarding the OPC Japan Mission in the Tohoku Presbytery (cf. Appendix, p. 171).

Following the Advisory Committee's review of the CFM report, it met with Mr. Mark Bube, General Secretary of the Committee on Foreign Missions, who both answered questions regarding the report, and also gave an update on challenges and opportunities on a number of present or potential future fields. During that time Advisory Committee 1 mentioned to Mr. Bube that it considered the CFM report to be unnecessarily lengthy, including much detail that is not essential to a sufficient General Assembly report.

Others who later met with the Advisory Committee were:

- Mr. Luke Brown, member of the Japan Subcommittee, offered some additional perspectives on the background to the CFM's recommendation regarding the Japan Mission.
- The Rev. Yasunori Ichikawa, fraternal delegate from the Reformed Church in Japan (RCJ) and professor of apologetics and ethics at the Kobe seminary, offered some RCJ perspectives on the Japan Mission of the OPC and the current situation within the RCJ.
- The Rev. Stewart Lauer and the Rev. David Moore, representing the OPC Japan Mission and the work in the Tohoku in particular, presented a case for the continuation of the OPC Japan mission in the Tohoku.
- The Rev. George Cottenden, representing the CFM, answered more specific questions for the Advisory Committee.

With respect to the Committee on Foreign Missions report, Advisory Committee 1 is silent.

With respect to the specific action of the CFM to docket consideration of the recommendation regarding the Japan Mission (see Appendix, p. ), Advisory Committee 1 urges the Assembly to let the CFM use its authority to make what it believes to be the wisest decision regarding the future of the Japan Mission to the Tohoku.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That Communications 18, 20, and 22 be referred to the CFM for consideration at its September 1998 meeting.
2. That the Assembly urge the Japan Mission to present its case for the continuance of its work in the Tohoku through a representative or representatives present at the meeting of the CFM in September 1998.

57. FOREIGN MISSIONS (cont.). Consideration of the report of the Committee on Foreign Missions continued. On motion Mr. Lauer was seated as a corresponding member.

58. RECOMMENDATION ACTIONS (Foreign Missions). The recommendations of Advisory Committee 1 were adopted. On a substitute motion for Recommendation 2 that was lost, namely, that the Assembly direct the Committee on Foreign Missions not to take action to close the Tohoku church-planting mission before the next Assembly, Messrs. Campbell, R. A. Miller, and Strange requested that their affirmative votes be recorded.

59. FOREIGN MISSIONS ELECTIONS. The floor was declared open for nominations to the Committee on Foreign Missions for the Class of 2001. The following were nominated: Ministers: Bosgraf, Davenport, Duff, English, Mahaffy, Tinsley; Ruling Elders: Brown, John D. Williams (Menomonee Falls). There being no further nominations, the Moderator declared Messrs. Brown and Williams elected, and later announced the election of Messrs. Davenport, Duff, and Mahaffy to the Class of 2001. Mr. Shishko led in prayer for the Committee on Foreign Missions.

60. DOCKET AMENDED. On motion, consideration of Appeal 2 was made the order of the day following the morning break on Saturday, May 30.

61. COORDINATION. Mr. Poundstone presented the report of the Committee on Coordination (see p. 205), including the recommendations below.

RECOMMENDATIONS
1. That the General Assembly approve the following Worldwide Outreach program for 1999:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Requests</th>
<th>COC Proposal</th>
<th>% Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christian Education</td>
<td>$241,600</td>
<td>$204,000</td>
<td>12.33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Missions</td>
<td>$850,000</td>
<td>$815,000</td>
<td>49.28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Missions</td>
<td>$650,000</td>
<td>$635,000</td>
<td>38.39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-total</td>
<td>$1,741,600</td>
<td>$1,654,000</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Horizons</td>
<td>$187,000</td>
<td>$187,000</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordination</td>
<td>$209,000</td>
<td>$209,000</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 1999 Worldwide Outreach</td>
<td>$2,137,600</td>
<td>$2,050,000</td>
<td>9.04%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Increase over 1998 approved budget 13.7% 9.04%

And that the Committee on Foreign Missions be granted permission to have a special offering in 1999, and that Instrument E.4.i.(3) be suspended with respect to the first $35,000 of this offering so that that portion of the offering be outside of "the cap."
2. That Instrument E of the Instruments of the General Assembly be amended by inserting the phrase "", but only to the extent that financial support for Great Commission Publications was included in such approved program" immediately following the words “Christian Education" in sub-paragraph E.4.i.(5) on the following ground: without such an amendment, should the Committee on Christian Education receive, say, a check today for $50,000 for GCP, that unsolicited designated gift could have the effect of shutting down the intern program (because it pushes the Committee on Christian Education up against “the cap” unless and until the other program committees also make “the cap”).

62. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 4 (Coordination). Mr. Winslow reported for Advisory Committee 4 regarding the report of the Committee on Coordination as follows: The committee met with Messrs. Haney, Poundstone, and Hoogerhyde for the Committee on Coordination (COC), with Mr. Bube for the Committee on Foreign Missions (CFM), and with Mr. Graham for the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension and for the COC.

A. Regarding Recommendations 1 and 2 in the Report of the COC the committee is silent.

B. The committee draws the attention of the Assembly to the efforts of the CFM to carry out the assignment given them by the 64th GA (Minutes, §§66, 68) to "adjust their program to fit the funds available or that can reasonably be expected and report their progress to the 65th General Assembly" as reported in III.A.3 of their Report (q.v.).

C. Regarding III.D. of the Report of the COC (q.v.): Representatives of the COC assured the Committee that the “Estate and Gift Design Policy Guidelines” will be submitted to a future GA before final adoption.

RECOMMENDATION
1. That this GA request the COC to submit the proposed “Estate and Gift Design Policy Guidelines” to the next GA.

D. Regarding IV of the Report of the COC (q.v.):

RECOMMENDATION
2. That the Assembly:
   a. inform the CFM and the COC that there are “special relationships” that are not in accord with Instrument E.4.o (which requires such missionaries to be male and at least licensed to preach; sections (1) and (3)(c));
   b. recognize these relationships for the time being; and
   c. instruct the COC to propose to the next GA suitable amendments to Instrument E.4.o which would provide for such relationships.

63. RECOMMENDATION ACTIONS (Coordination). The recommendations of the Committee on Coordination were adopted. The recommendations of Advisory Committee 4 were adopted.

64. COORDINATION ELECTIONS. The floor was declared open for nominations to the Committee on Coordination for the Class of 2001. The following were nominated: Minister: De Master; Ruling Elder: Stahl. There being no further nominations, the Moderator declared Messrs. De Master and Stahl elected
Sixty-Fifth General Assembly

to the Class of 2001. Mr. Winslow led in prayer for the work of the Committee on Coordination, and also for the Rev. George E. Haney, Jr.

65. DIACONAL MINISTRIES. Mr. King, President of the Committee on Diaconal Ministries, presented its report (see p. 225), including the recommendations which follow.

RECOMMENDATIONS
1. That the General Assembly request the congregations to give at least half of their contributions by the end of May.
2. That the General Assembly remind the presbyteries not to approve any call containing “free from worldly care” if they consider the call under consideration to be inadequate to provide for the minister’s livelihood, and to make certain that the call includes a provision for the payment of adequate hospitalization, surgical, and major medical insurance.
3. That the General Assembly approve a 1999 budget of $185,800 for the General Fund and $93,000 for the Aged and Infirm Ministers’, Widows’ and Orphans’ Fund, for a total budget of $278,800. Note: these figures are the same as those proposed to the last General Assembly, but not the same as those recorded in the minutes of that General Assembly.
4. That for the year 1999 the General Assembly request the churches of the OPC to support the work of this committee at the suggested rate of $19.00 per communicant member for the General Fund and $7.00 for the Aged and Infirm Ministers’ Fund.

66. RECESS. The Assembly recessed at 9:10 p.m. following prayer led by Mr. Pasarilla.

Saturday Morning, May 30, 1998

67. RECONVENE. The Assembly reconvened at 8:00 a.m. with the singing of the hymn Praise to the Lord, the Almighty. The Moderator read Psalm 116:1-7, and led in prayer.

68. DIACONAL MINISTRIES (cont.). Dr. Coppes, Secretary/Treasurer of the Committee on Diaconal Ministries, addressed the Assembly.

69. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 5. Mr. Martin reported for Advisory Committee 5 concerning the Committee on Diaconal Ministries as follows:

1. The committee met with Dr. Coppes representing the Committee on Diaconal Ministries. With respect to the committee Recommendations 1, 3 and 4, Advisory Committee 5 reports silence.
2. Advisory Committee 5 proposes an amendment to Recommendation 2: From: “That the General Assembly remind the presbyteries not to approve any call containing ‘free from worldly care’ if they consider the call under consideration to be inadequate to provide for the minister’s livelihood, and to make certain that the call includes a provision for the payment of adequate hospitalization, surgical, and major medical insurance.”
To: "That the General Assembly remind the presbyteries not to approve any call containing 'free from worldly care' if they consider the call under consideration to be inadequate to provide for the minister's livelihood, and to make certain that the call includes adequate provision for retirement and for payment of hospitalization, surgical, and major medical insurance." (Changed text is italicized for reference.)

3. Advisory Committee 5 advises the General Assembly that there appear to be ministers within The Orthodox Presbyterian Church without adequate retirement provision, and requests that the Assembly encourage the presbyteries to be active in examining whether adequate provision exists for the retirement of ministers within their presbyteries.

4. Advisory Committee 5 requests the General Assembly to direct the Committee on Diaconal Ministries to promote awareness of the financial needs of retired and retiring ministers within the church at large within their page in New Horizons.

70. RECOMMENDATION ACTIONS (Diaconal Ministries). The recommendations of the Committee on Diaconal Ministries (cf. §65) were adopted with Recommendation 2 amended as proposed by Advisory Committee 5. The recommendations in sections 3 and 4 of the report of Advisory Committee 5 were adopted.

71. DIACONAL ELECTIONS. The floor was opened for nominations to the Committee on Diaconal Ministries for the Class of 2001. The following were nominated: Minister: Duff; Ruling Elder: Frode M. Jensen (Grants Pass). There being no further nominations, the Moderator declared Messrs. Duff and Jensen elected to the Class of 2001.

Mr. Martin led in prayer for the work of the Committee on Diaconal Ministries.

72. PENSIONS. Mr. Hoogerhyde, Treasurer of the Committee on Pensions, presented its report (see p. 235), including the following recommendation:

RECOMMENDATION
That the 65th General Assembly request a contribution of $8.00 per communicant member from the churches in 1999 to be allocated as follows:

| Pension Supplement Fund | $1.00 |
| Hospitalization supplement | $7.00 |

73. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 5 (Pensions). Mr. Martin reported the silence of Advisory Committee 5 regarding the report of the Committee on Pensions.

74. RECOMMENDATION ACTION (Pensions). The recommendation of the Committee on Pensions was adopted.

75. PENSIONS ELECTIONS. The floor was opened for nominations to the Committee on Pensions for the Class of 2001. The following were nominated: Ministers: William E. Warren, Douglas A. Watson; Ruling Elder: Meeker. There being no further nominations, the Moderator declared Messrs. Warren, Watson,
and Meeker elected to the Class of 2001. Mr. Martin led in prayer for the work of the Committee on Pensions.

76. DOCKET AMENDED. By general consent consideration of the report of the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations was postponed (see §120).

77. DIRECTORY FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP. Mr. Cottenden presented the report of the Committee on Revisions to the Directory for Public Worship (see p. 292).

78. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 8 (Directory for Public Worship). Mr. Foh presented the report of Advisory Committee 8 regarding the report of the Committee on Revisions to the Directory for Public Worship as follows:

Advisory Committee 8 met with the following individuals and discussed the matters referred to it: George R. Cottenden and Robert D. Knudsen from the Committee on Revisions to the Directory for Public Worship; later, with John W. Mahaffy and Lars R. Johnson with regard to Overture 2.

Advisory Committee 8 appreciates the labors of the Committee on Revisions to the Directory for Public Worship and encourages the Church to continue to send in comments and suggestions to the committee. Advisory Committee 8 is passing along to the committee a list of its specific suggestions, along with a letter from a commissioner. Advisory Committee 8 is otherwise silent with regard to the committee’s report.

RECOMMENDATION
That the General Assembly deny Overture 2. (See §106)

Grounds:
(1) An adequate mechanism already exists for dealing with the perceived problem (Book of Discipline IV.A.1.d).
(2) Imposing a sanction which may be reversed on appeal may hinder the one disciplined from giving full attention to the testimony of the Church.
(3) The proposed wording removes the lower judicatory’s flexibility in dealing pastorally with individuals in certain situations (note the words “shall be executed immediately” and “shall not be executed” in proposed amendment b.1-2).
(4) There may be an easier way to amend the Book of Discipline to achieve the desired result (by simply striking the word “unusual” in Book of Discipline IV.A.1.d).

79. HISTORIAN. Mr. Dennison, Historian, presented his report (see p. 292).

80. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 7 (Historian). Mr. Poundstone reported for Advisory Committee 7 regarding the report of the Historian as follows: With respect to the report of the Historian, the Advisory Committee notes that the Historian is not presenting the “Proposed Policy for the Preservation of Records” for approval by the assembly, but it will serve as his working document under the guidance of the Committee for the Historian.

81. COMMITTEE FOR THE HISTORIAN. Mr. Olinger, member of the Committee for the Historian, presented its report (see p. 295), including the following recommendations:
RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Historian, the Rev. Charles G. Dennison, receive an honorarium of $6,050 for the fiscal year 1999.
2. That the proposed 1999 budget, as outlined in item V (p. 301) be approved.
3. That the 65th General Assembly propose to the 66th General Assembly the changes to its Standing Rules listed in Appendix A of the report as follows:
   I. Delete paragraph III.B.5.m. (Clerk's duties: To serve as archivist for the denomination).
   II. Add paragraph III.D as follows:

   D. The Historian
      1. The Historian of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church, who is a servant of the denomination and particularly of the General Assembly, shall be elected to his office by the General Assembly for a three year term.
      2. The Historian shall be in charge of the denomination's effort to preserve her history through the collection and organization of historical documents, records, and memorabilia.
      3. The Historian's duties shall include the following:
         a. He shall have oversight and be responsible for the organization of the denominational archives.
         b. He shall encourage and assist the General Assembly's committees and agents as well as presbyteries, congregations, and interested individuals in their efforts to deposit materials of historical value to the OPC in the denominational archives.
         c. He shall oversee the production of materials which shall promote a greater understanding of Orthodox Presbyterian history. This effort includes:
            (1) The publication of books and other literature and the production of video and audio tapes.
            (2) The management of scholarship programs.
            (3) The organization of conferences and the church's periodic anniversary celebrations.
            (4) The maintenance of the portion of the OPC web site pertaining to the denomination's history.
      4. He shall present an annual report of his activities to the General Assembly.
      5. The Historian shall be assisted in conducting his work by a Committee for the Historian.
   III. In first line of paragraph X.2.a, change ten to eleven.
   IV. After the last line of paragraph X.2.a, add the following line:

   the Committee for the Historian

   V. Add the following paragraph as X.2.j:

   j. The Committee for the Historian shall consist of four members of the OPC elected in three classes of two, one and one, respectively. The Historian
shall be an ex officio member of the committee. The function of the committee shall be to advise and assist the Historian in carrying out the responsibilities of his office. The duties of the Committee for the Historian shall be:

1. To prepare a budget and to control expenditures of funds provided by the General Assembly for the work of the Historian.
2. To raise capital needed for publication work.
3. To promote and distribute the literature and tapes published and produced by the committee.
4. To provide accountability and encouragement to the Historian in the exercise of his duties.
5. To provide an annual report to the General Assembly.

82. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 7 (Historian). Mr. Poundstone reported for Advisory Committee 7 regarding the report of the Committee for the Historian as follows:

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Recommendation 3 of the Report of the Committee for the Historian be approved with the following perfections: to section III, after the word "eleven" add the words "or twelve pending approval of the proposal for the Committee on Chaplains;" and to section V after the first letter "j" add the words "or k pending approval of the proposal for the Committee on Chaplains."
2. That the Assembly request the Committee for the Historian to send a copy of An Index to the Minutes of the General Assembly of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church 1936-1996 to each OPC session as a service to the church, with a request for a suggested donation of $6.00.

83. RECOMMENDATION ACTIONS (Committee for the Historian). Recommendation 2 of the Committee for the Historian was adopted. Recommendation 3 of the Committee for the Historian was adopted with the amendments proposed by Recommendation 1 of Advisory Committee 7. Recommendation 2 of Advisory Committee 7 was lost.

84. RECESS. The Assembly recessed at 10:00 a.m. and reconvened at 10:20 a.m. with the singing of the hymn Hallelujah, praise Jehovah, O my soul. Mr. Hamilton led in prayer, including prayer for Elder Timothy Cummings (Lake Worth).

85. APPEAL 2. The order of the day having arrived (consideration of Appeal 2), the Moderator made declaration as to those ineligible to make motions or vote.

86. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 10 (Appeal 2). Mr. Landis presented the report of Advisory Committee 10 regarding Appeal 2 as follows: In considering Appeal 2, the committee heard testimony from Messrs. Kuschke, Pedersen and J. Smith and representatives of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Messrs. Cottenden, Stonehouse and L. Brown.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Mr. John Pedersen be granted the privilege of the floor during the consideration of Appeal 2.
2. That Appeals 1 and 2 be considered as follows:
   a. Presentation of the report of the Committee on Appeals and Complaints (CAC) (for up to 10 minutes)
   b. Presentation of the Report of Advisory Committee 10 (for up to 10 minutes)
   c. Questions about and discussion on all reports, only on portions not related to a recommendation (for up to 10 minutes)
   d. Debate and action on the recommendation of the CAC that the appeal be found in order and properly before the Assembly
   e. Presentations by the appellants and then the representatives of the Presbytery of (Philadelphia/Dakotas) on the complaint and its appeal (for up to 15 minutes by each side).
   f. Questions of clarification concerning the presentation of the appellants and the presbytery, and concerning the recommendations of Advisory Committee 10 (for up to 15 minutes).
   g. Debate and action on the recommendations of Advisory Committee 10.

87. PROCEDURAL ACTIONS (Appeal 2). The recommendations were adopted, with the procedural recommendation (2) adopted only as it applies to the Presbytery of Philadelphia.

88. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS (Appeal 2). Mr. Strange presented the report of the Committee on Appeals and Complaints concerning Appeal 2 (see p. 284), including the following recommendation:

   RECOMMENDATION
   That the complaint be found in order and properly before the Assembly.

89. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 10 (Appeal 2). Mr. Landis reported for Advisory Committee 10 with the following recommendation:

   RECOMMENDATION
   Advisory Committee 10 recommends that Appeal 2 be denied.

   Grounds:
   (1) Mr. Pedersen, having resigned his ministerial charge without other ministerial work in view (FG XXIV.5) was bound to follow the procedures of FG XXIV.4, which requires the approval of presbytery for the contemplated labors of ministers without call.
   (2) The presbytery believed that it was not in the best interest of any of the parties involved for Mr. Pedersen to continue in Gettysburg, and thus gave the advice that they gave. It has not been demonstrated that such advice violates any of our standards.

90. RECOMMENDATION ACTION (Appeal 2). The recommendation of the Committee on Appeals and Complaints that Appeal 2 be found in order and properly before the Assembly was adopted. The procedure established in Recommendation 2 of Advisory Committee 10 (cf. §86) commenced. (See §93.)
Sixty-Fifth General Assembly

91. DEVOTIONAL. The order of the day having arrived, at 11:57 a.m., Mr. Landis led a devotional service. The Assembly sang the hymn Rejoice, the Lord is King. Mr. Landis read Revelation 1:9-20, and delivered a message entitled, "Focus on the King." The Assembly recessed at 12:17 p.m. following prayer led by Mr. Landis.

Saturday Afternoon, May 30, 1998

92. RECONVENE. The Assembly reconvened at 1:14 p.m. with the singing of the hymn Immortal, invisible, God only wise. Mr. Auksela led in prayer.

93. RECOMMENDATION ACTION (Appeal 2). The procedure established in Recommendation 2 of Advisory Committee 10 (cf. §86) continued. (See §95.)

94. RECESS. The Assembly recessed at 3:15 p.m. and reconvened at 3:35 p.m. with the singing of the hymn Rock of Ages, cleft for me. Mr. Martin led in prayer.

95. APPEAL 2 OF COMPLAINT DENIED. The procedure established in Recommendation 2 of Advisory Committee 10 (cf. §93) continued. The Moderator stated the question, "Shall the complaint as appealed, be sustained?" led in prayer, and put the question.

The complaint as appealed was not sustained.

96. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 9 (Statistician, cf. §32). Mr. Laverty reported further for Advisory Committee 9 regarding the report of the Statistician with the following recommendations:

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Assembly direct the Statistician to revise his report by an Addendum and the Statistical Reports of the Churches to reflect the fact that the Form of Government does not prevent presbyteries from taking actions which would have the effect of changing the status of a congregation from that of an organized church to that of an unorganized mission work (see FG XIV.5 and XXIX.A.1).

2. That the Assembly request the Presbytery of the South and the Presbytery of the Midwest to review their actions relative to reclassification of church status.

97. RECOMMENDATION ACTION (re Statistician). The recommendations of Advisory Committee 9 were adopted.

98. RECESS. The Assembly recessed at 5:03 p.m. following prayer led by Mr. Laverty, including prayer for the Stated Clerk, the Statistician, and the Trustees of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

Monday Morning, June 1, 1998

99. RECONVENE. The Assembly reconvened at 8:00 a.m. with the singing of the hymn Exalt the Lord, his praise proclaim. The Moderator read Ephesians 3:14-21, and led in prayer.
100. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 9 (Overture 1). The order of the day having arrived, Mr. Slack presented the report of Advisory Committee 9 regarding Overture 1 as follows: Having met with representatives of the Presbytery of the Dakotas to discuss the reasons for sending their questions, and having carefully reviewed the records relevant to the issues facing the presbytery, Advisory Committee 9 decided to recommend the following to the 65th General Assembly:

RECOMMENDATION

That the Assembly not enter into discussion on the two proposed questions.

Ground: That this would be tantamount to adjudicating a case not before the Assembly.

101. MINORITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE 9 (Overture 1). Mr. Laverty presented the report of the Minority of Advisory Committee 9 with the following recommendations:

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Assembly discuss the two proposed questions of Overture 1 in the narrowness of the request of the Presbytery of the Dakotas.

Grounds:

(1) Discussion of these questions will not prejudice any judicial proceedings as advice is not binding.

(2) Having met with the five commissioners from the Presbytery of the Dakotas, having heard their united and urgent plea for an answer to the questions, and taking those two questions in the narrowness of their stated request, discussion of those questions will prove helpful to the presbytery.

(3) It is biblically appropriate and incumbent upon us to receive questions and give advice as exemplified in Acts 15:1-11, 22-31.

2. That the 65th GA inform the Presbytery of the Dakotas that it is sin to have a fully automated laundromat open for business on Sunday.

Grounds:

(1) The determination to have a fully automated laundromat open for business on the Sabbath (Lord’s Day) is a denial of the distinctiveness of the Sabbath (Lord’s Day) over against the other six days of labor. The Sabbath (Lord’s Day) has been made distinct from the six days of labor by divine fiat, is a creation ordinance, and precedes the Mosaic Law. The distinctiveness of the Sabbath (Lord’s Day) is found in part, in God’s setting aside this one day in seven as a memorial of creation completed, redemption accomplished, and as a promise of glorification, the fullness of the application of redemption.

(2) The determination to have a fully automated laundromat open for business on the Sabbath (Lord’s Day) violates the holiness of the day. The command to keep the Sabbath (Lord’s Day) holy involves not only the personal exercise of the biblically prescribed conduct on that day, but also the ongoing maintenance and promotion at all times of the distinctiveness, separateness, and holiness of this day over against the six days of labor. The Sabbath (Lord’s Day) is not simply a convenient arrangement for worship but a sacred day of divine appointment, which binds all men in all ages to obedience.

(3) The determination to have a fully automated laundromat open for business on the Sabbath (Lord’s Day) is inconsistent with previous decisions of the OPC.
3. That unrepentance for the violation of the sanctity of the Sabbath Day may become a chargeable offense.

Kenneth J. Campbell
Richard C. Gamble
William Laverty
Raul Montes

Footnotes for Grounds:

1 Gen. 2:3; Exodus 16: 22-30. Cf. Minutes of the 40th GA, p. 93: “The weekly Sabbath is a ‘creation ordinance,’ of significance for all men in all ages.”
2 Exodus. 20:8-11; Deuteronomy 5: 12-15 where “Remember” is given more significance (vs. 15) by connecting back to the creation ordinance, back to Sinai and the Lord’s deliverance from Egypt (Cf. Analysis in Minutes of the 40th GA, p. 95); Hebrews 4:9: “There remains therefore a Sabbath rest for the people of God.”
3 WCF XXI.7: The Sabbath is: “a positive, moral and perpetual commandment binding all men in all ages.” Larger Catechism # 116: “The fourth commandment requireth of all men the sanctifying or keeping holy to God… expressly one whole day in seven.”
4 Cf. The decision of the Fortieth General Assembly (1973) p. 97: “The Sabbath was made for man, for Adam, for all men in all ages.” The decision of the 44th GA (1977) that public soccer playing was not allowed on Sunday. (pp. 124-28). (See §105.)

102. FRATERNAL DELEGATE INTRODUCTIONS. Mr. Peterson, Chairman of the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations, introduced the Rev. Messrs. Jerome M. Julien, fraternal delegate of the United Reformed Churches in North America, and Neale R. Riffert, fraternal delegate of the Reformed Church in the US, who, on motion, were seated as corresponding members.

103. RECESS. The Assembly recessed at 10:01 a.m. and reconvened at 10:21 a.m. with the singing of the hymn How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer’s ear! Mr. Coumo led in prayer.

104. KLOOSTERMAN ADDRESS. Dr. Kloosterman addressed the Assembly on behalf of Mid-America Reformed Seminary (cf. §11).

105. RECOMMENDATION ACTION (Overture 1; cf. §100). The following was substituted for the recommendation of Advisory Committee 9 and was adopted: that in response to Overture 1, the Presbytery of the Dakotas be advised that this matter is properly brought to the Assembly by way of an appeal of a judicial case, with specific reference to the Book of Discipline VII.1.

106. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 8 (Overture 2). Mr. Foh presented the report of Advisory Committee 8 regarding Overture 2 recommending that the Assembly deny Overture 2. (Cf. §78)

107. RECOMMENDATION ACTION (Overture 2). The recommendation of Advisory Committee 8 was adopted, denying Overture 2.

108. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 9 (Overture 3). The order of the day having arrived, Mr. Laverty presented the report of Advisory Committee 9 regarding
Overture 3 as follows: Present were: the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of the South, Robert Y. Eckardt, and the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic, Leonard E. Miller, plus two other representatives from the two presbyteries. Presentations were made including statistical break-downs and maps. There was a time of questions and answers.

RECOMMENDATION
That the Assembly approve Overture 3; with the addition of Macon County, Georgia, to the proposed Presbytery of the Southeast as a correction. (See §114.)

109. DEVOTIONAL. The order of the day having arrived, at 11:57 a.m., Mr. R. A. Miller led a devotional service. The Assembly sang the hymn O God, to us show mercy and bless us in your grace. Mr. R. A. Miller read 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5, and delivered a message entitled, “For the Time Will Come.” The Assembly recessed at 12:17 p.m. following prayer led by Mr. R. A. Miller.

Monday Afternoon, June 1, 1998

110. RECONVENE. The Assembly reconvened at 1:16 p.m. with the singing of the hymn Hallelujah, praise Jehovah. Mr. Willour led in prayer.

111. FRATERNAL DELEGATE ADDRESS. The Rev. Neale R. Riffert, fraternal delegate of the Reformed Church in the US, addressed the Assembly.

112. FRATERNAL DELEGATE ADDRESS. The Rev. Jerome M. Julien, fraternal delegate of the United Reformed Churches in North America, addressed the Assembly.

113. MINUTES. The Moderator called for the presentation of the minutes of the sessions of Wednesday, May 27, through Friday, May 29. The minutes were approved as corrected.

114. RECOMMENDATION ACTION (Overture 3; cf. §108). The recommendation of Advisory Committee 9 was adopted, granting Overture 3 (as amended by Advisory Committee 9) that a new presbytery, the Presbytery of the Southeast, be erected on January 1, 2000.

On a lost amendment that would have set the bounds of the new Presbytery of the Southeast so as to include the states of Georgia and Tennessee in whole, Messrs. Barker and Duff requested that their affirmative votes be recorded.

115. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 9 (Overture 4). The order of the day having arrived, Mr. Laverty presented the report of Advisory Committee 9 regarding Overture 4, recommending approval of Overture 4.

116. RECOMMENDATION ACTION (Overture 4). The recommendation of Advisory Committee 9 was adopted, granting Overture 4, that the State of Arkansas be transferred from bounds of the Presbytery of the South to the bounds of the Presbytery of the Central United States.
117. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2 (Overture 5). The order of the day having arrived, Mr. Clawson presented the report of Advisory Committee 2 regarding Overture 5 as follows:

RECOMMENDATION
That it take no action on Overture 5 on the ground that Overture 5 seeks no more than what the 64th General Assembly on this same subject already provides (cf. Minutes, 64th General Assembly, §227, pages 64-65).

118. RECOMMENDATION ACTION (Overture 5). The recommendation of Advisory Committee 2 was adopted in the following form: that the Assembly took no action on Overture 5 (and without the grounds listed by the committee).

119. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 7 (COMMUNICATION 17). Mr. Boer reported the silence of Advisory Committee 7 regarding Communication 17. On motion the Assembly responded to Communication 17 by advising the Presbytery of the Midwest that it has no objection to presbytery proceeding as it sees fit with the Rev. Robert M. Van Manen.

120. ECUMENICITY. Mr. Peterson, Chairman of the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations, presented its report (see p. 257), including the following recommendations:

RECOMMENDATIONS
1. The 1997 NAPARC adopted the following: Resolved that NAPARC initiate the process to suspend the Christian Reformed Church in North America from its membership. According to the Constitution of NAPARC the synod/general assembly of each member church now must vote on the suspension.

The committee determined that the question of approving the suspension of the CRCNA from membership in NAPARC be put to the assembly in the following form:

"Shall the assembly approve the suspension of the CRCNA from membership in NAPARC?"

(Your committee encourages an affirmative vote.)

2. That the Orthodox Presbyterian Church invite the United Reformed Churches in North America to enter into a relationship of Ecclesiastical Fellowship with the OPC.

Grounds:
(1) Their confessional standards are the Three Forms of Unity.
(2) They seek to maintain a vigorous faithfulness to their standards in their church life.
(3) They are members of the ICRC with us.
(4) Their Synod has expressed the desire to work more closely with us (See URCNA 1997 Synod Acts, §XXVII.b).

121. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 6 (Ecumenicity). Mr. R. W. Eckardt reported for Advisory Committee 6 regarding the report of the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations (CEIR) and Communications 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19, and 21 as follows:
I Regarding Recommendation 1 of the CEIR:

A. Advisory Committee 6 recommends that the Assembly return Recommendation 1 to the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations with the request that the CEIR cite specific grounds in support of their encouragement that the GA vote affirmatively on the question, "Shall the Assembly approve the suspension of the CRCNA from membership in NAPARC?"

B. In support of its recommendation Advisory Committee 6 offers the following grounds:

(1) No grounds that cite the CRCNA's violation of NAPARC's constitution are provided by the CEIR in support of their encouragement to vote affirmatively.

(2) The Assembly needs counsel from the CEIR regarding the CRCNA's contention in Communication 12, paragraph 11 that it has not violated NAPARC's constitution.

(3) There is no need to act on the NAPARC proposal at this Assembly since there is a three-year timetable for taking action on this matter.

(4) In order for the Assembly to adjudicate properly the question of the suspension of a member church in NAPARC more information is necessary.

II Advisory Committee 6 is silent regarding Recommendation 2 of the CEIR.

III Advisory Committee 6 recommends to the Assembly that Communications 2, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19, and 21 be referred to the CEIR for response as they deem appropriate.

IV Advisory Committee 6 encourages the CEIR, in response to Communication 1 from the CRCNA, to explore ways in which contact at some level may be maintained with the CRCNA and to report any recommendations it might have in this regard to the 66th General Assembly.

122. RECOMMENDATION ACTIONS (Ecumenicity). Consideration of Recommendation 1 of the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations commenced. The procedural recommendation in I.A. of the report of Advisory Committee 6 was laid on the table. (See §125.)

123. RECESS. The Assembly recessed at 3:16 p.m. and reconvened at 3:35 p.m. with the singing of the hymn *When I survey the wondrous cross*. Mr. English led in prayer, including prayer for tornado victims in the Bridgewater, South Dakota, area.

124. FRATERNAL DELEGATE ADDRESS. The Rev. Walter Lorenz, fraternal delegate of the Presbyterian Church in America, addressed the Assembly.

125. RECOMMENDATION ACTIONS (Ecumenicity; cont., cf. §122). On motion the whole matter of Recommendation 1 of the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations was referred to a temporary committee consisting of the six members of the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations present at the Assembly. (See §140.)

Recommendation 2 of the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relation was adopted without dissent.
The recommendation in paragraph III of the report of Advisory Committee 6 was adopted.

126. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 10 (Appeal 3). The Committee on Appeals and Complaints having yielded, Mr. Landis presented the report of Advisory Committee 10 regarding Appeal 3 as follows: The committee met with Calvin Keller and Martin Ban and, after consultation on the perceived grievance expressed in this complaint, the appellants determined to ask the Assembly's permission to withdraw the appeal. Subsequently, a letter, making this request, was received with the signatures of all the appellants. (See Communication 23)

RECOMMENDATION
That the request of the appellants to withdraw Appeal 3 be granted.

127. RECOMMENDATION ACTION (Appeal 3). The recommendation of Advisory Committee 10 was adopted, and the request to withdraw Appeal 3 was granted.

128. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 10 (Communication 4). Mr. Landis presented the report of Advisory Committee 10 regarding Communication 4 as follows:

RECOMMENDATION
That Communication 4 not be printed in the minutes, and that the clerk be requested to advise Mr. Mumma of this action and that the final adjudication of the matter took place at the 64th General Assembly.

129. RECOMMENDATION ACTION (Communication 4). The recommendation of Advisory Committee 10 was adopted.

130. PROCEDURAL ACTION (Appeal 1). The procedure established in Recommendation 2 of Advisory Committee 10 (cf. §86) was adopted only as it applied to the Presbytery of the Dakotas. The Moderator made declaration as to those ineligible to make motions or vote.

131. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS (Appeal 1). Mr. Strange presented the report of the Committee on Appeals and Complaints regarding Appeal 1 (p. 284), with the following recommendation:

RECOMMENDATION
That the complaint be found in order and properly before the Assembly.

132. RECOMMENDATION ACTION (Appeal 1). The recommendation of the Committee on Appeals and Complaints that Appeal 1 be found in order and properly before the Assembly was adopted.

133. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 10 (Appeal 1). Mr. Landis presented the report of Advisory Committee 10 regarding Appeal 1 as follows: In considering Appeal 1, the committee heard testimony from Messrs. Woiwode and Sturlaugson, members of the Bethel Session. Mr. Auksela represented the Presbytery.
RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Appeal 1 be sustained.

   Grounds:
   (1) A presbytery may indeed supervise a church that is without a pastor through a ministerial advisor (FG XVII.2). However, such supervision includes cooperation with the session. According to uncontested testimony, the Presbytery of the Dakotas did not consult with the ministerial advisor or the session before taking the action complained against.

   (2) The Presbytery of the Dakotas, by citing 2 Thessalonians 3:6, 7 as grounds for taking the action complained against, erred in the application of this Scripture in so far as it provided no explanation as to how the cited Scripture applied to Mr. Ferrie. The non-specific use of this passage stands, in effect, as an unsubstantiated summary judgment.

2. That the following amends be granted:
   a. That the Presbytery of the Dakotas be instructed to acknowledge to the Bethel Session their error of telling its session to cease having Paul Ferrie preach for them either in Carson or Bismarck without first having consulted with them.
   b. That the Presbytery of the Dakotas be instructed to expunge from its minutes the ground listed in minute 97-13, item 60.
   c. That the Presbytery of the Dakotas be instructed to acknowledge to Mr. Ferrie and the session of Bethel OPC its delinquency in quoting the Scripture it did to support its action without explanation and/or substantiation.

134. RECOMMENDATION ACTION (Appeal 1). The procedure established in Recommendation 2 of Advisory Committee 10 (cf. §86) commenced. (See §138.)

135. RECESS. The Assembly recessed at 5:01 p.m.

Monday Evening, June 1, 1998

136. RECONVENE. The Assembly reconvened at 6:22 p.m. with the singing of the hymn All for Jesus! All for Jesus! Mr. Rienstra led in prayer.

137. DATE, PLACE, AND TRAVEL. Mr. Vanderhill reported for the Committee on Date, Place, and Travel, including the following:

<table>
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<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Balance available for the 65th General Assembly</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tentative total expenses paid for the 65th General Assembly</td>
<td>$64,214.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tentative balance available for the 66th General Assembly</td>
<td>$5,867.78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

138. RECOMMENDATION ACTION (Appeal 1; cf. §134). Recommendation 1 of Advisory Committee 10 was adopted in the following form: that the Assembly sustain the appeal as to “the error of the Presbytery of the Dakotas in directing Bethel Session not to have Mr. Ferrie preach for them) without first consulting with Bethel Session,” and as to “quoting the Scripture it did to support its action,” with insufficient explanation.

31
Recommendation 2 of Advisory Committee 10 was adopted in the following form:

That the Assembly grant the following amends: (a) that the Presbytery of the Dakotas be instructed to acknowledge to the Bethel Session its error in telling Bethel Session to cease having Paul Ferrie preach for them either in Carson or Bismarck without first having consulted with them; (b) that the Presbytery of the Dakotas be instructed to acknowledge to Mr. Ferrie and the session of Bethel OPC its delinquency in quoting the Scripture it did to support its action without explanation and/or substantiation; and (c) that presbytery be instructed to place a cross-reference in its minutes on p. 97-13, item 60, referencing forward to where the correction is noted.

During the course of the previous action on the original part b. of Recommendation 2, namely, that the Presbytery of the Dakotas be instructed to explain and apply in its minutes the ground listed in minute 97-13, item 60, the Moderator ruled in order:

1. an amendment which would have taken an exception to the minutes of the Presbytery of the Dakotas. Appeal was taken to the ruling of the Moderator. The ruling of the Moderator was not sustained, and therefore the amendment was out of order.

2. an amendment which would have instructed the Presbytery of the Dakotas to rescind certain actions from its minutes. Appeal was taken to the ruling of the Moderator. The ruling of the Moderator was not sustained, and therefore the amendment was out of order.

Additionally another amendment, to substitute the words “explain and apply in” for the words “expunge from” was moved. On motion all matters pertaining to the original part b. were postponed indefinitely.

139. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS ELECTIONS. The floor was declared open for nominations to the Committee on Appeals and Complaints for the Class of 2001. Mr. Strange was nominated. There being no further nominations, the Moderator declared Mr. Strange elected to the Class of 2001. Mr. Landis led in prayer for the work of the Committee on Appeals and Complaints.

140. TEMPORARY COMMITTEE (Ecumenicity; cont., cf. §125). Mr. Peterson reported for the temporary committee consisting of the members of the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations present at the Assembly as follows: In support of the CEIR’s encouragement of an affirmative vote in the matter of the suspension of the CRCNA from NAPARC, the temporary committee presents the following:

Ground: Eligibility for membership in NAPARC is limited to “Those churches ... which profess and maintain the basis for fellowship expressed in (Article) II and that maintain the marks of the true church (pure preaching of the gospel, the Scriptural administration of the sacraments, the faithful exercise of discipline).” (NAPARC Constitution, Article V, Section 2.) Article II of the NAPARC Constitution declares this basis:
II BASIS OF THE COUNCIL

Confessing Jesus Christ as only Savior and Sovereign Lord over all of life, we affirm the basis of the fellowship of Presbyterian and Reformed Churches to be full commitment to the Bible in its entirety as the Word of God written, without error in all its parts and to its teaching as set forth in the Heidelberg Catechism, the Belgic Confession, the Canons of Dordt, the Westminster Confession of Faith, and the Westminster Larger and Shorter Catechisms. That the adopted basis of fellowship be regarded as warrant for the establishment of a formal relationship of the nature of a council, that is, a fellowship that enables the constituent churches to advise, counsel, and cooperate in various matters with one another and hold out before each other the desirability and need for organic union of churches that are of like faith and practice.

The current position and practice of the CRCNA is contrary to the NAPARC Basis and to the fellowship of its member churches (see also the confessional materials reported at Minutes of the 64th (1997) General Assembly, §175, Recommendation 8, Part B, at pages 50-53, in support of the following):

1. The ordination/installation of women to “the office of elder, minister, or evangelist” is prohibited by Scripture (1 Timothy 2:12). Synod 1995 erred when it set aside a clear Scripture command (1 Tim. 2:12) when it opened the special offices of “elder, minister, and evangelist” to persons biblically prohibited from holding them.

2. The final authority in determining whether the special offices of “elder, minister, and evangelist” are open to women is Scripture alone, whereas the CRCNA has taken its position and practice knowingly without adducing any Scripture support.

3. It is one of the hallmarks of the Reformed church that it has developed a self-conscious hermeneutic, especially in the area of church government and worship. That hermeneutic is the centuries-old Reformed “Regulative Principle,” namely that there must be positive warrant from Scripture for every element of doctrine, government, and worship in the church, that is, whatsoever in these spheres is not commanded in the Scriptures, either expressly or by good and necessary consequence therefrom, is forbidden.

4. Synod 1995 erred when it determined to “recognize that there are two different perspectives and convictions, both of which honor the Scriptures as the infallible Word of God, on the issue of whether women are allowed to serve in the offices of elder, minister, and evangelist”—based on the assertion that numerous presentations to synods have “adduced[d] good biblical grounds for (the two mutually contradictory) positions” (Acts of Synod 1995, §75, pages 731-32). Synod 1995’s action does injury to the clarity and sufficiency of Scripture and to the infallible rule of its interpretation, adversely affecting the full commitment to the Bible required by the Basis of the Council.

5. Synod 1995 further erred when it acted to change an element (the qualifications for special office) in the government and worship of the church without positive Scriptural warrant. We note that proponents of arguments proffered in favor of changing a teaching regarding the government and worship of the church which has been the established position of the godliest of saints for almost 2,000 years are themselves willing to claim no more than “rough epistemic parity” for their new interpretation. Such hermeneutic falls far short of the Regulative Principle which has been embraced by Reformed churches since the time of the Reformation itself.
As with other actions that violate a command of Scripture, the action of Synod 1995 to relegate an elemental matter (like qualification for special office) to a detail for "regional decision" is inherently destabilizing and unworkable, and ultimately proves to be divisive to the body of Christ. When a duly ordained minister of the Word enters the pulpit, is he there by divine appointment? But what if he is biblically disqualified (or prohibited) from holding that office, is he still divinely appointed to such? Should he be received by those in the congregation as such? Does the King and Head of the church entrust the keys of the kingdom of heaven to persons whom He has previously barred from holding the office to which the exercise of such keys has been committed? The action of Synod 1995, by corrupting the biblical qualifications for special office in the church, insinuates itself into the three areas of the church's life (preaching, sacraments, and discipline) that have been cataloged as the marks by which a true church is known.

The CRCNA, in the action of Synod 1995 to open "the offices of elder, minister, and evangelist" to biblically disqualified persons, together with the rationale set forth in support thereof—and its continued refusal to repent therefrom—ceased to maintain the basis for fellowship of Presbyterian and Reformed Churches (which includes a full commitment to the teaching of the Bible in its entirety as set forth in the confessional and catechetical documents listed in the Basis of the Council). As a result thereof, the other members of NAPARC are, under the NAPARC Constitution, duty bound to proceed with the suspension of the CRCNA from privileges of membership in NAPARC.

RECOMMENDATION
That the assembly approve the suspension of the CRCNA from membership in NAPARC.

141. RECOMMENDATION ACTIONS (Ecumenicity). Consideration of the recommendation commenced. On motion consideration of the pending question was postponed to tomorrow morning at the call of the Moderator. (See §161.)

142. ADVISORY COMMITTEE 9 (Communications 8 and 9). Mr. Laverty presented the report of Advisory Committee 9 regarding Communications 8 and 9 as follows: The committee notes:
1. That Communication 8 be received as information.
2. That the request of Communication 9 has been granted already in the daily schedule (cf. §11)

143. RECESS. On motion the Assembly determined to recess at this time. The Assembly recessed at 9:02 p.m. following prayer led by Mr. Browne.

Tuesday Morning, June 2, 1998

144. RECONVENE. The Assembly reconvened at 7:59 a.m. with the singing of the hymn *Come, let us sing unto the Lord*. The Moderator read Psalm 27:1-5 and led in prayer.

145. PRESBYTERIAL RECORDS. The order of the day having arrived, Mr. L.
E. Miller reported for the Committee to Examine Presbyterial Records as follows: The Committee to Examine Presbyterial Records was comprised of fourteen commissioners with the duty to examine the minutes of the presbyteries and to report its findings to the General Assembly.

Minute books were submitted from all fourteen presbyteries. Each book was reviewed by two commissioners. The findings of individual reviewers were collated, discussed, and approved by the whole committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS
1. Regarding exceptions to minutes taken by the 64th General Assembly:
   That the responses of the following presbyteries be deemed sufficient: Central US, Mid-Atlantic, Midwest, Philadelphia, South; and Southwest.
2. That the minutes of the following presbyteries be approved without exception and with the notations listed by the committee: Connecticut and Southern New York, Midwest, New Jersey, Northern California, Northwest, Ohio, Southern California, and Southwest.
3. That the minutes of the Presbytery of the Central United States be approved with notations and with the following exceptions:
   a. The minute book was not submitted by the time specified by Rule 19.
   b. The Rules for Keeping Presbyterial Minutes are not included with the minute book, as specified by Rule 20.
   c. On page 97-20, the name of the moderator is not discernible from the minutes.
4. That the minutes of the Presbytery of the Dakotas be approved with notations and with the following exceptions:
   a. On page 97-13, numbered paragraph 60: there are two subjects in one paragraph, making the matter difficult to understand; also, a cross reference is needed.
   b. On page 97-14, it is not discernible what certificate is being discussed.
   c. On page 97-17, there is no indication of who was absent.
5. That the minutes of the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic be approved with notations and with the exception that on page 152, the minutes of the special meeting are not signed.
6. That the minutes of the Presbytery of New York and New England be approved with notations and with the following exceptions:
   a. The minutes of the special meeting of October 24, 1997, are not signed
   b. The minutes of the special meeting of November 21, 1997, are not signed
7. That the minutes of the Presbytery of Philadelphia be approved with notations and with the exception that on page 51, line 4, the minutes do not indicate an opening prayer.
8. That the minutes of the Presbytery of the South be approved with notations and with the exception that on pages 307, 332, and 334, the calls of the special meetings are not quoted verbatim, as required by Rule 9.
9. That the Rules for Keeping Presbyterial Minutes be amended in item number 8 by the addition of the words, "If none is absent, the minutes shall state this fact."

146. RECOMMENDATION ACTIONS (Presbyterial Records). The recommendations of the Committee to Examine Presbyterial Records were adopted.

35
147. STANDING COMMITTEE RECORDS. The order of the day having arrived, Mr. Coie reported for the Committee to Examine Standing Committee Records as follows:

RECOMMENDATIONS
1. That the failure of the Committee on Foreign Missions to respond to the exception taken to their minutes by the 64th General Assembly be deemed an insufficient response.
2. That the response of the Committee on Date, Place, and Travel to the exception taken to their minutes by the 64th General Assembly be deemed sufficient.
3. That the minutes of the Committee on Appeals and Complaints, the Committee on Christian Education, the Committee on Coordination, the Committee on Date, Place, and Travel, the Committee on Foreign Missions, and the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension be approved without exception and without notation.
4. That the minutes of the Committee on Diaconal Ministries, the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations, the Committee on Pensions, and the Trustees of the Assembly be approved with the notations listed and without exception.

148. RECOMMENDATION ACTIONS (Standing Committee Records). The recommendations of the Committee to Examine Standing Committee Records were adopted.

149. CHAPLAINS COMMISSION. Mr. Warren presented the report (p. 304) of the Chaplains Commission including the recommendations below.

RECOMMENDATIONS
1. That the Assembly adopt the changes to its Standing Rules as recommended by the 64th General Assembly.
2. That the General Assembly erect a committee to study and provide the biblical guidance requested by the PRJC on the subject of “Women in Combat.”

150. Advisory Committee 5 (Chaplains Commission). Mr. Martin reported for Advisory Committee 5 regarding the report of the Chaplains Commission as follows: The committee met with the Rev. William E. Warren representing the Chaplains Commission. With respect to the commission Recommendation 1, Advisory Committee 5 reports silence.

Advisory Committee 5 proposes an amendment to Recommendation 2, in accord with Standing Rule V.11:

To: “That the General Assembly erect a committee of three, including one active military chaplain, to study and report back to the 66th General Assembly the Biblical guidance requested by the PRJC on the subject of “Women in Combat,” and that a budget of $3,000 be allotted.” (Changed text is italicized for reference.)

151. STANDING RULES AMENDED. Recommendation 1 of the Chaplains Commission was adopted, amending the Standing Rules of the General Assem-
bly as proposed by the 64th General (cf. Minutes of the 64th General Assembly, §217, §218). (See Report of the Stated Clerk, p. 98.)

152. RECOMMENDATION ACTION (Chaplains Commission).

Recommendation 2 was adopted in the following form: That the General Assembly, in response to the request of the PRJC, erect a committee of three, including one active military chaplain, to study and report back to the 66th General Assembly biblical guidance on the subjects of women in the military and in combat, limiting its inquiry to the biblical and moral issues that are properly the concern of the church, and that a budget of $3,000 be allotted. Messrs. Baldwin, Crippen, deBruin, Dennison, Duff, English, Hanna, Harley, Laurie, Meeker, R. A. Miller, G. C. Smith, J. D. Smith, and Wilson requested that their negative votes be recorded.

During the course of the previous action, the Moderator ruled an amendment to an amendment out of order. Appeal was taken to the ruling of the Moderator. The ruling of the Moderator was sustained.

The Moderator later announced his appointment of Messrs. Knight, Robert B. Needham and Christopher H. Wisdom to the Committee on Women In The Military and in Combat.

153. RECESS. The Assembly recessed at 9:59 a.m. and reconvened at 10:19 a.m. with the singing of the hymn My God, how wonderful thou art. Mr. Tritle led in prayer.

154. STANDING COMMITTEE ON CHAPLAINS ERECTED. On motion, in accordance with the recommendation of the 64th General Assembly (cf. Minutes, 64th GA, p. 61, §217), the OPC Chaplains Commission was dissolved and the members of the former OPC Chaplains Commission were constituted the members of the Committee on Chaplains with the same classes as before.

155. CHAPLAINS ELECTIONS. The floor was declared open for nominations to the Committee on Chaplains for the Class of 2001. The following were nominated: Messrs. Cook, Jonathan C. Gibbs, III, and Robert B. Needham. The Moderator later announced the election of Mr. Needham to the Class of 2001. Mr. Martin led in prayer for the Committee on Chaplains and the OPC chaplains.

156. DATE, PLACE, AND TRAVEL. Mr. Vanderhill reported for the Committee on Date, Place, and Travel, including the following:

RECOMMENDATIONS
1. That the following men be excused as indicated.
   a. Mr. Le Mahieu from the Saturday, May 30, afternoon session and the Monday, June 1, morning session without loss of travel compensation.
   b. Mr. Grevengoed from the Friday, May 29, evening session and the Saturday, May 30, morning session with a reduction of travel compensation by $25.00.
2. That commissioners who submitted valid travel vouchers by 10:20 a.m., Saturday, May 30, 1998, be reimbursed for their expenses for one round-trip to the General Assembly, and their room, meal, and registration fee in the amount calculated by the following schedule:
   a. Those traveling by public conveyance be reimbursed the full cost of their fare as reported, to the nearest dollar.
b. Those traveling by private conveyance as drivers be reimbursed to the nearest dollar at the rate of $0.22 per mile plus $0.05 per mile for each passenger who is eligible to receive travel compensation plus tolls and parking fees, with the exception that the driver and passenger(s) not receive a combined amount greater than the combined cost of economy airfares for the driver and his passenger(s).

c. Those traveling by private conveyance as passengers be reimbursed at the rate of $0.05 per mile to the nearest dollar.

d. That commissioners who applied for it be reimbursed up to $230.00 for expenses incurred in conjunction with attendance at the assembly for room, meal and registration expenses.

3. That the General Assembly request the churches to contribute to the General Assembly Travel Fund for 1999 at the rate of $10.00 per communicant member.

4. That the Committee on Date, Place and Travel be authorized to make centralized arrangements for commissioners and other representatives to the 66th General Assembly. Presbyteries and committees are requested to notify the Stated Clerk of the names, addresses, and phone numbers of commissioners and representatives by March 1, 1999.

5. That the 66th General Assembly convene at Reformed Bible College, Grand Rapids, Michigan, beginning at 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 2, 1999, with a projected terminus of noon, Wednesday, June 9, 1999.

6. That Messrs. Kenneth A. Smith (convener), Donald F. Stanton, and William J. Vermeulen be constituted the Committee on Arrangements for the 66th General Assembly.

In regard to Communication 3 and the 67th General Assembly, the committee is pursuing a location other than Granby, Colorado.

The term of Mr. Douglas A. Watson expires with this General Assembly. An election is required (minister or elder). Mr. Watson does not wish to be nominated.

157. RECOMMENDATION ACTIONS (Date, Place, and Travel). The recommendations of the Committee on Date, Place, and Travel were adopted.

158. DATE, PLACE, AND TRAVEL ELECTION. The floor was declared open for nominations to the Committee on Date, Place, and Travel for the Class of 2001. Mr. Kramer was nominated. There being no further nominations, the Moderator declared Mr. Kramer elected to the Class of 2001.

159. GENERAL ASSEMBLY OPERATION FUND. Mr. Laverty reported for Advisory Committee 9 regarding the General Assembly Operation Fund as follows: That Recommendation 2 of the Trustees of the General Assembly be adopted in the following amended form: (see p. 104.)

RECOMMENDATION
That the General Assembly adopt the following budget for the General Assembly Operation Fund for 1999 and requests the churches of the denomination to contribute $16 per communicant member to the General Assembly Operation Fund in 1999:
<table>
<thead>
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Sixty-Fifth General Assembly

5. Committee Expenses

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160. RECOMMENDATION ACTION (GAOF Budget). The recommendation of Advisory Committee 9 was adopted.

161. RECOMMENDATION ACTIONS (Ecumenicity; cont., cf. §141). The Assembly continued consideration of Recommendation 1 of the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations, to approve the suspension of the CRCNA from membership in NAPARC. (See §165.)

162. DEVOTIONAL. The order of the day having arrived, at 11:55 a.m., Mr. Jackson led a devotional service. The Assembly sang the hymn *That man is blest who, fearing God, from sin restrains his feet*. Mr. Jackson read Matthew 7:13, 14, and delivered a message entitled, "Be Faithful to The Way that is Narrow." The Assembly recessed at 12:18 p.m. following prayer led by Mr. Jackson.

Tuesday Afternoon, June 2, 1998

163. RECONVENE. The Assembly reconvened at 1:15 p.m. with the singing of the hymn *And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood?* Mr. Meeker led in prayer.

164. MACHEN RETREAT PRESENTATION. The order of the day having arrived (cf. §11 and §142), Mr. Andrews presented a visual on the Machen Retreat and Conference Center.

165. RECOMMENDATION ACTIONS (Ecumenicity; cont., cf. §161). Recommendation 1 of the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations, to approve the suspension of the CRCNA from membership in NAPARC, was adopted. Mr. Laurie requested that his negative vote be recorded.

166. ECUMENICITY ELECTIONS. The floor was declared open for nominations to the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations for the Class of 2001. The following were nominated: Messrs. Barker, Donald Brinks (Wheaton), Richard B. Gaffin, Jr., Gamble, and Tyson. The Moderator later an-
nounced the election of Messrs. Barker, Brinks, and Gaffin to the Class of 2001. Mr. R. W. Eckardt led in prayer for the work of the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations.

167. RESOLUTION OF THANKS. Mr. Gerber presented the Resolution of Thanks. On motion the following resolution of thanks was adopted:

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

The 65th General Assembly expresses its sincere and heartfelt gratitude to Reformed Bible College, Mr. Daniel F. Bloem, and his efficient staff. Their continued service to us during the power outage caused by a severe storm was especially appreciated.

We further express our thanks to Messrs. Kenneth Smith, William Vermeulen, and Donald Stanton for their labors in making the arrangements for the Assembly and for handling many details during the Assembly.

We thank Abe and Anna Marie Ediger and Gordon and Marlene Pater for their assistance with registration.

We express our thanks to Mr. Harry Voortman, President of Voortman Cookies of Burlington, Ontario for the eight cartons of delicious cookies he provided for the coffee breaks.

We thank David R. Heise, and his sons Benaiah and Caleb for their work in photocopying and distributing the reams of paper work that helped the Assembly keep abreast of its work.

The Assembly also thanks Mr. Stephen Phillips for his diligent and efficient labors as the Assistant Clerk.

We appreciated the prompt pick up and delivery of commissioners by the staff of Calvin College. We also thank Calvin College for the use of some of their dormitory facilities.

Thanks be to the Father of lights from whom every good gift comes down.

168. MINUTES. The Clerk presented the minutes of Saturday morning, May 30, through Tuesday, June 2. On motion the minutes of May 30 through June 2 were approved as corrected.

169. MINUTES AS A WHOLE. The Clerk presented the minutes. On motion the minutes of the Assembly as a whole were approved as corrected.

170. DISSOLUTION AND NEXT ASSEMBLY. On motion it was determined that the Assembly be dissolved. Mr. Graham made the following declaration: “By virtue of the authority delegated to me by the church, let this General Assembly be dissolved, and I do hereby dissolve it, and require another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet at Reformed Bible College, Grand Rapids, Michigan, beginning at 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 2, 1999, with a projected terminus of noon, Wednesday, June 9, 1999.”

171. PRAYER AND BENEDICTION. The Moderator led the Assembly in prayer. The Assembly sang the Doxology, and the Moderator pronounced the Apostolic Benediction. The 65th General Assembly closed at 2:55 p.m., Tuesday, June 2, 1998.
Sixty-Fifth General Assembly
## APPENDIX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
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Overture 1

Presbytery of the Dakotas

April 14, 1998

The Presbytery of the Dakotas voted at its March 1998 stated meeting to overture the 1998 General Assembly as follows:

Overture GA: An amended motion was made that presbytery postpone consideration of communications D and J until the September 1998 stated meeting and overture the 65th General Assembly to advise us as to the answers to the two questions: 1) Is it a sin to have a fully automated laundromat open for business on Sunday? 2) If it is a sin, is it a chargeable offense?

The clerk is instructed to send all relevant complaints, reports, and minutes of presbytery (from Sept. 1996 through March 1998) concerning this matter to the General Assembly. A point of order challenged a speaker's comments. The moderator ruled that the speaker's comments were in order. The amended motion was adopted.

Enclosed are copies of the communications, complaints, etc., taken directly from the minutes of presbytery. All the relevant communications were already included in the minutes and so separate copies are not enclosed. This matter has been before our presbytery since September 1996 and is also docketed for the September 1998 stated meeting. We pray that the Lord will guide your deliberations and decision on this matter.

Rev. Edward A. Eppinger
Stated Clerk

Overture 2

Presbytery of the Midwest

April 20, 1998

The Presbytery of the Midwest overtures the 65th General Assembly of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church to amend the Book of Discipline, Chapter IV by deleting all of IV.C.3.b (p. 118) as follows:

b. When the trial judicatory has concluded its deliberations... the trial judicatory may not execute its judgment unless and until the judgment is affirmed by the judicatory to which final appeal is taken.

And by substituting the following:

b. When the trial judicatory has concluded its deliberations, the moderator shall announce its decision on each charge and each specification. If the accused has been found guilty, the trial judicatory shall pronounce censure against the accused.

1. Censures of admonition, rebuke, suspension from the Lord's Table, and suspension (for an officer) from office shall be executed immediately. If
notice of appeal is filed and an appeal is taken within the time prescribed in the Book of Discipline, Chapter VII, the trial judicatory's judgment shall remain in effect unless overturned by the judicatory to which final appeal is taken.

2. Censures of deposition and excommunication shall not be executed before the expiration of the time in which the accused may file notice of appeal. If notice of appeal is filed, and an appeal is taken within the time prescribed in the Book of Discipline, Chapter VII, the trial judicatory may not execute its judgment unless and until the judgment is affirmed by the judicatory to which final appeal is taken.

Grounds:

(1) The present language of the Book of Discipline tends to undermine the authority of the session and its responsibility to both fence the table of the Lord and protect the offices of the church. It does this by presuming that the local judicatory is in error and that its judgment may not take effect until reviewed by a higher judicatory or upon finding exceptional circumstances. This is contrary to Scripture and there is biblical warrant for the judgment of the judicatory taking effect immediately (I Corinthians 5:2-11).

(2) There is not biblical warrant for suspending or delaying the judgment of the trial judicatory solely on the basis of the appellant filing an appeal. That an appellant alleges error is not of sufficient weight to suspend or set aside the judgment of the judicatory.

(3) Civil jurisprudence operates on the premise that a person convicted of any punishable offense is guilty and is prevented from exercising the duties of his/her office until such conviction has been overturned by an appellate court. The appeals process provides a safeguard against error, but assumes the validity of the lower court judgment.

Timothy L. Bero, Stated Clerk

Overture 3

Presbyteries of the Mid-Atlantic and the South April 28, 1998

The Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic and the Presbytery of the South petition the 65th (1998) General Assembly of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church to reorganize these two presbyteries effective January 1, 2000 so as to form three presbyteries: a continuing Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic, a continuing Presbytery of the South, and new Presbytery of the Southeast.

This overture was approved unanimously by the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic at its stated meeting on April 24-25, 1998 in Leesburg, Virginia. The overture was approved unanimously by the Presbytery of the South at its stated meeting on April 22-25, 1998 in Tallahassee, Florida.

The new Presbytery of the Southeast would be composed of the states of North Carolina and South Carolina, the southern portion of Virginia, the northern portion of Georgia, the eastern portion of Tennessee, and Bermuda.

In Virginia, the new presbytery would include the following counties and those counties to their south: Bath, Rockbridge, Amherst, Buckingham, Cumberland, Goochland, Hanover, King William, New Kent, James, York.
In Georgia, the new presbytery would include the following counties and those counties to their north: Chattahoochie, Marion, Schley, Dooly, Pulaski, Dodge, Telfair, Wheeler, Montgomery, Toombs, Tattnall, Long, McIntosh.

In Tennessee, the new presbytery would include the following counties and those counties to their east: Stewart, Houston, Humphreys, Perry, Wayne, Hardin.

The churches, ministers, and licentiates that would be in the continuing Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic are the following:

Churches (12): Berea, Dayton, VA; Bethel, Leesburg, VA; Columbia, Columbia, MD; Covenant, Burtonsville, MD; Dayspring, Manassas, VA; First, Baltimore, MD; Grace, Vienna, VA; Knox, Silver Spring, MD; New Hope, Frederick, MD; Puritan, Laytonsville, MD; Sterling, Sterling, VA; Trinity Reformed, Bowie, MD.


The churches, mission works, ministers, and licentiates that would be in the continuing Presbytery of the South are the following:

Churches (9): Bethel, Lauderdaleh, FL; Calvary, Tallahassee, FL; Faith, Ocala, FL; Fellowship, Lake Worth, FL; Covenant, Forest, MS; Grace, Niceville, FL; Lake Sherwood, Orlando, FL; Pineville, Pineville, LA; and Sharon and La Roca Eterna, Hialeah, FL.

Mission works (2): Keys, Key West, FL and St. Cloud, FL.


The churches, mission works, ministers, and licentiates that would be in the new Presbytery of the Southeast are the following:

Churches (13): Agape, Greenville, SC; Christ, Mills River, NC; Covenant, Columbia, TN; Covenant, LaGrange, GA; Garst Mill, Roanoke, VA; Grace, Lynchburg, VA; Matthews, Matthews, NC; New Hope, Cumming, GA; Pilgrim, Raleigh, NC; Providence, Lenoir, NC; Providence, Meadowview, VA; Redeemer, Atlanta, GA; and Sandy Springs, Maryville, TN.

Mission works (4): Cornerstone, Chattanooga, TN; Covenant, New Bern, NC; Grace, Rocky Mount, VA; and Trinity Reformed, Bristol, TN.


The following seven ministers presently enrolled in Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic and living outside its present bounds would be permitted to choose between enrollment in the continuing Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic or enrollment in the new presbytery: Elmer M. Dortzbach, Douglas A. Felch, George E. Haney, David M. Moore, Lyman M. Smith, and Thomas E. Tyson. A transfer of minister Steven R. Hake to the Presbytery of Philadelphia is pending.

The following minister presently enrolled in Presbytery of the South and living outside its present bounds would be permitted to choose between enrollment in the continuing Presbytery of the South or enrollment in the new presbytery: Donald M. Parker.

Licentiates will follow their advisors into the new or continuing presbytery.

The churches is what would be the continuing Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic have agreed to continue supporting the home mission works of the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic which will find themselves located within the bounds of the new presbytery at the normal level for two years, in accordance with the guidelines now in effect in this presbytery. Similarly, those churches now in the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic that would be in the new presbytery have agreed to continue supporting the foreign missions work taking place in the bounds of the continuing Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic (H. Mekonnen, translation ministry) for two years at current levels. In addition, these two groups of churches of the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic have agreed to a division of accumulated funds.

Leonard E. Miller, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic
Robert Y. Eckardt, Stated Clerk, Presbytery of the South

Overture 4

Presbytery of the South April 28, 1998

On motion, presbytery approved the following: that the Presbytery of the South overture the 65th General Assembly to transfer the state of Arkansas from its geographical bounds to those of the Presbytery of the Central United States.

Robert Y. Eckardt,
Clerk, Presbytery of the South

Overture 5

Presbytery of Philadelphia May 16, 1998

The Presbytery of Philadelphia, at an adjourned meeting of the presbytery held on May 16, 199, adopted the following overture to the 65th (1998) General Assembly:

**Grounds:**

Our standards require: "Great care must be taken that all materials of song are in perfect accord with the teaching of Holy Scripture. Let the tunes as well as the words be dignified and elevated." *(Directory for the Public Worship of God, III.6.)*

The 64th (1997) General Assembly instructed the Committee on Christian Education "to make the complete draft of the *Trinity Songbook* available to sessions for review and comment, upon request, and to withhold its endorsement of the *Trinity Songbook* pending approval by the 65th (1998) General Assembly." The ground advanced by the advisory committee, whose recommendation was adopted, included: "Since the *Trinity Songbook* is being published by the OPC and PCA through the partnership of GCP, and it is to be used in public worship alongside of, or as a supplement to, the *Trinity Hymnal*, it therefore ought to be approved by the General Assembly as was the *Trinity Hymnal*." *(Minutes of the 64th (1997) General Assembly, §227, pages 64–65.)*

The process by which the (new) *Trinity Hymnal* was approved required the "words and music to the new selections" be "ma[de] available to the sessions by November 1, 1986" *(Minutes of the 53rd (1986) General Assembly, §§52 (I.A), 54 (3), and 59, pages 14–16), and the next General Assembly was scheduled to convene on June 11 of the following year (id., §§231–232, page 52). The Publisher’s Report on *Trinity Songbook* was mailed to the sessions (who requested a copy) on December 16, 1997—which was immediately before the busy holiday season—and the 65th (1998) General Assembly is scheduled to convene on May 27, 1998 *(Minutes of the 64th (1997) General Assembly, §§137–138, pages 42–43). Altogether, the sessions have almost two fewer months to review the materials in the *Trinity Songbook* than they had with respect to the (new) *Trinity Hymnal*—and a month-and-a-half less to submit their comments to the Committee on Christian Education in time to be considered in its final meeting before the general assembly.

It is desirable that the Committee on Christian Education have an adequate opportunity to engage fully the reasoned and developed comments and suggestions arising from the sessions' thoughtful review. But, in the current *Trinity Songbook* approval process, sessions are realistically being given only two-and-a-half months in which to undertake their review, to prepare their comments and suggestions, and to present them to the Committee on Christian Education. Since this is not sufficient time in which to do so, sessions are placed in the quandary of having to: i) accede to whatever the denominational committee deems appropriate—which many, as a matter of conscience, are unable to do; ii) promote a song-by-song review of the *Trinity Songbook* materials on the floor of the general assembly itself; iii) persuade the General Assembly to instruct the Committee on Christian Education to cause Great Commission Publications to cease and desist from further efforts towards publishing the *Trinity Songbook*; or, as does this overture, iv) ask the general assembly for an adequate time in which to conduct a proper review of the *Trinity Songbook* materials.

The difficulty of shortness of time for the sessions’ review is further compounded by the restriction imposed by Great Commission Publications that pro-
hibits the photocopying of the Publisher’s Report on Trinity Songbook for distribution among the individual members of the sessions. It takes longer than two-and-a-half months for a single copy of 135 songs—many of which a significant number of presbyters are seeing only for the first time—to be passed among a half-dozen or so members of a session for their individual review on any meaningful basis, let alone for the session to have a reasonable opportunity to meet to discuss the results of the work of its members in this process.

It is well worth waiting an additional year to ensure, insofar as is possible, that we do take “great care ... that all materials of song”—including the Trinity Songbook—which are used in the public worship of God, “are in perfect accord with the teaching of Holy Scripture.” (Directory for the Public Worship of God, III.6.)
COMMUNICATIONS

Communication 1

On behalf of the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church

June 26, 1997

Dear Brothers of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church:

The synod of the Christian Reformed Church in North America has received the June 10, 1997, letter of the Rev. Donald J. Duff on behalf of the General Assembly of your church. We regret that you have decided to terminate the relationship of ecclesiastical fellowship with us. Your delegate, the Rev. John P. Galbraith, has indicated with appreciation that the Orthodox Presbyterian Church still considers us as brothers and sisters in Christ. We assure you that we hold you in the same high esteem as a church of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We appreciate the clarity with which you described and defined the specific area of disagreement which brought you to your decision.

It is our hope that ways may be found to continue to discuss hermeneutical issues and search for ways in which we can cooperate, especially in local missions and witness. Furthermore, we hope we can continue the brotherly love that has bound us closely for many years.

Be assured of our continued prayers.

On behalf of the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church
David H. Engelhard, General Secretary

Communication 2

African Evangelical Presby. Church General Assembly

September 19, 1997

Dear Brothers in Christ,

Re: corresponding relations
Ref: Yours dated September 3, 1997

Greetings from Kenya in Christ Jesus our only Saviour

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter referred to above. I personally appreciate your initiative toward ecclesiastical relationship between OPC and AEPC. It has been my prayer that reformed family work together as she carries out her Lord's Great Commission. This definitely strengthens our witness globally.

The AEPC Mission Board, which currently handles Church Relations matters, will be discussing your invitation during its meeting of October 10, 1997 the recommendations of which will be presented before the General Assembly on 25th November, 1997.

The official response will be communicated immediately after the General Assembly.

Yours in His Grace,
Ronald W. Munithya
(For AEPC General Assembly)
Appendix

Communication 3

Presbytery of the Dakotas (abstracts) October 6, 1997

On motion, presbytery directed the stated clerk to communicate to the clerk of the General Assembly requesting the General Assembly not to carry through on plans to hold the 67th General Assembly at Snow Mountain Ranch in Granby, CO because (1) the location is at least 8,500 feet above sea level and this would be a health risk to the elderly and those with breathing and heart problems; (2) the 150 mile trip to Granby from Denver International Airport would be an extra expense.

Communication 4

Jeffrey Scott Mumma October 15, 1997

(Advisory Committee 10 recommends that Communication 4 not be printed in the minutes, and that the clerk be requested to advise Mr. Mumma of this action and that the final adjudication of the matter took place at the 64th General Assembly. Cf. §128)

Communication 5

Reformed Churches in the United States October 26, 1997

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

The 1997 Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States asked me to notify all churches with which we have fraternal relations of a statement adopted by our Synod in regard to a false teaching known as hyperpreterism. Rather than summarize our action, I will quote it in toto.

Whereas, the Hymenaeans called the "hyperpreterists" allege, against the clear teaching of God's inspired and infallible Word, that there is no physical resurrection of the body, and,

Whereas, the Hymenaeans called the "hyperpreterists" allege, against the clear teaching of God's inspired and infallible Word, that the second coming of our Lord is already past, and,

Whereas, the Hymenaeans called the "hyperpreterists" allege, against the clear teaching of God's inspired and infallible Word, that there is no future Great White Throne Judgment, and,

Whereas, these views represent a Satanic attack upon the holy catholic faith once delivered unto the saints,

Therefore, in the certain hope of the resurrection, the Reformed Church in the United States does hereby find the Hymenaean heresy to be contrary to orthodoxy, and its
adherents to be preachers of a false gospel. Let these enemies of Christ and His kingdom be anathema maranatha.

Please pass this along to your assembly.

In the service of Christ,
Frank H. Walker, Stated Clerk

**Communication 6**

Presbyterian Church (USA) December 16, 1997

The 209th General Assembly (1997) of the Presbyterian Church (USA) took an action aimed at building close relationships among churches of the Reformed tradition in North America. After discussion of our historical ties, the Assembly decided to invite The Orthodox Presbyterian Church to select a person to represent your church at our 210th General Assembly (1998), which will convene in Charlotte, North Carolina next June. The person you designate as a Fraternal Delegate will be one among 16 church sending Fraternal Delegates. These will include members of the Reformed family from Canada, the United States, and Mexico.

It is our hope that the mutual sharing of God's gifts of faith and vision during this time of worship, study, debate, and fellowship will strengthen our bonds of Christian community and will make more visible the unity that is God's intention for the church.

The persons selected as Fraternal Delegates will be our guests for two days, Tuesday, June 16 and Wednesday, June 17, 1998. This will allow them to participate in our Dinner for Ecumenical Guests, the Ecumenical Breakfast, and our annual Ecumenical Service of Worship. Fraternal Delegates will be present at the meeting as our guests; we will cover the cost of their room accommodations, meals, and registration fees for two days and two nights. This does not include the cost of travel or incidentals. If a Fraternal Delegate should wish to stay at the Assembly for longer than two days, at his or her own expense, we will happily assist in making reservations. The General Assembly meets from June 13 through 20, with a pre-Assembly conference on June 12.

We can assure your Fraternal Delegate of a warm and sincere welcome. We are equally glad to welcome a man or woman, clergy or lay person, youth or senior citizen. As in most churches, male clergy are still the largest number of persons who will be in attendance, and we would therefore be especially pleased if you choose a female or lay delegate.

An early response to this invitation would be appreciated. Upon receipt of the name and address of your delegate, we will contact them directly with correspondence and further information about the General Assembly.

We praise God for the life and witness of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church and hope you will be able to send someone who can become a part of our church for this brief period. We pray that you continue as a member of the worldwide Christian community, sharing the gifts of your church and will be enabled to the insights gained from participating in the life of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Please reply to: The Reverend Dr. Eugene G. Turner, Associate Stated Clerk, Office of the General Assembly, 100 Witherspoon Street, Room 4412, Louisville, KY
Appendix

40202-1396. If you need further information, you may contact the Office of the General Assembly at (502) 569-5423. We look forward to hearing from you.

Cordially yours,
Clifton Kirkpatrick, Stated Clerk
of the General Assembly

Communication 7

African Evangelical Presbyterian Church

December 19, 1997

Dear brother in Christ,

Re: corresponding relations

Greetings in the name of our most high Lord, the Saviour and Sustainer of our lives.

I am writing to inform you that we had our General Assembly meeting on 25th November, and we were happy to receive your invitation to enter into a status of corresponding relationship.

The matter was discussed and unanimously passed that AEPC enters into this relationship and furthermore, we are looking forward to a full ecclesiastical relationship.

Thank you. May our heavenly Father continue blessing you

Yours in Christ,
The Rev. David Kimanthi,
Stated Clerk (General Assembly)

Communication 8

Presbytery of New York and New England

December 24, 1997

On January 1, 1998, by action of the 64th General Assembly (Minutes, p. 28, §120), a new presbytery is formed out of the Presbytery of New York and New England, called the Presbytery of Connecticut and Southern New York. The following is a list of ministerial members, congregations, mission works, licentiates, and men under care in each of the two presbyteries.

Presbytery of New York and New England


On roll of regional church as minister: Carter R. Rowe, Jr.

Congregations (15): Covenant, Amsterdam, NY; Covenant, Rochester, NY; Memorial, Rochester, NY; Lisbon, Lisbon, NY; Calvary, Schenectady, NY; Peace, Boston, MA; Grace, Fall River, MA; First, Ipswich, MA; Merrimack Valley Presbyterian (name change), North Andover, MA; (New Life, So. Hadley, MA — dissolved); Presbyterian Church of Cape Cod, West Barnstable, MA; Pilgrim, Bangor, ME; Second Parish, Portland, ME; Lakeview, Rockport, ME; Skowhegan, Skowhegan, ME; Covenant, Barre, VT

Mission works (4): Hope, Syracuse, NY; Merrymeeting Bay, Topsham, ME; Jaffrey, Jaffrey, NH; Amoskeag, Manchester, NH

Licentiates (2): David E. Chilton, Ipswich (04/26/97); Vincent J. Tauriello, Ipswich (10/13/97)

Under Care (12): William B. Barcley, Ipswich (04/26/97); James C. Bates, Rockport (10/13/97); Nicholas P. Beckwith, Bangor (04/30/96); Robert L. Dalberth, Covenant-Rochester (10/11/94); Kevin M. Kisler, Ipswich (10/14/96); William H. Martel, Rockport (10/12/93); R. Lawrence McAlister, No. Andover (10/10/95); Robert D. McCurley, Schenectady (10/11/94); Robert S. Null, Ipswich (04/16/93); Richard G. Robertson, Rockport (10/10/95); Philip A. Urie, Williston/regional (04/16/93); Richard J. Wheeler, Schenectady (10/10/95)

Presbytery of Connecticut and Southern New York


Congregations (5): Westminster, Hamden, CT; Community, Newtown, CT; Franklin Square, Franklin Square, NY; Westchester, Mt. Vernon, NY; Hope, Staten Island, NY

Mission works (0):

Licentiates (0):

Under care (3): Gary M. Drennan, Hamden (04/26/94); Mendert Ploegman, Franklin Square (04/26/97); Mark L. Turcio, Hamden (04/30/96)
Communication 9

Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic

December 30, 1997

I am relaying a request of the Retreat Operating Committee of the Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic for an order of the day at the General Assembly. They would like to make a 30-minute presentation on the Machen Retreat and Conference Center on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, June 1-3, 1998.

L. E. Miller, Stated Clerk

Communication 10

United Reformed Churches in North America

January 29, 1998

Dear Brothers.

On behalf of the delegates to our 1997 Synod and our congregations, I want to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for your sponsorship of the United Reformed Churches in North America for membership in the International Conference of Reformed Churches. We are grateful that we have been accepted as members of this organization.

It is our desire as churches to participate in the ICRC so that we may be glorifying our God as a federation. Although we are young and small (we are growing by God’s grace) we believe such an ecumenical relationship is important. We look forward to the years ahead.

Again, thanks for your gracious help.

Sincerely,

The Rev. Jerome M. Julien, Clerk

Communication 11

The North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council

February 2, 1998

At the Twenty-third Meeting of The North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council, held in Atlanta on November 18-19, 1997, the following was passed, as found in the minutes of the meeting:

Resolved that NAPARC initiate the process to suspend the Christian Reformed Church in North America from its membership.

After a time of discussion and a short recess for the delegations of member churches to discuss the motion concerning the suspension of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, the question was put to the council.
The vote was as follows:

| ARPC | Yes | PCA | Yes |
| CRCNA | No | RCUS | Yes |
| KAPC | Yes | RPCNA | Yes |
| OPC | Yes |

Approved (6-1)

The council having voted according to the Constitution of NAPARC (Section V,3) the major assemblies of member churches have three years in which to vote on the matter of suspension and should two thirds vote in the affirmative the suspension will be in effect. You are hereby requested to take action on this matter in your major assembly and to inform the Secretary of NAPARC regarding your decision.

II A summary review of some of the actions of the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council having to do with the Christian Reformed Church in North America and the matter of women in ecclesiastical office is as follows:

From the Minutes of the 19th Meeting of NAPARC (1993)

That the Council express to the Synod of the CRC its renewed concern regarding the proposal of the 1993 Synod to permit women to serve in the office of teaching and ruling elder by sending a similar statement to the one adopted in the 1990 and 1991 meetings of the Council, to wit:

In harmony with the stated “purpose and function” of the NAPARC to “exercise mutual concern in the perpetuation, retention, and propagation of the Reformed Faith (Constitution III:3), the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council calls upon the Christian Reformed Church to reverse the action of the 1990 Synod leading to the opening of the offices of minister and ruling elder to women, as contrary to the Scripture and the Reformed standards which insist that “everything (will) be carried on in the church . . . according to the rule prescribed by Saint Paul in his Epistle to Timothy” (Belgic Confession of Faith §XXX). 1 Timothy 2 and 3, in giving authoritative instruction regarding proper conduct “in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth” (3:15), the Apostle explicitly disallows to a woman the exercise of teaching or ruling authority over men in the church (2:12), and grounds this command in the divine creation order.

Also from the Minutes of the 19th Meeting of NAPARC (1993)

That NAPARC appoint a study committee consisting of one representative of each church to review the relevant documents of the Christian Reformed Church in North America that give the grounds for the opening of the office of elder to women, such committee to report its finding to the next meeting of NAPARC so the matter may be discussed by the council.

From the 20th Meeting of NAPARC (1994)

The Study Committee reported to the meeting in part as follows:

On the basis of our study and discussion, we have concluded that:

1. The decision of the 1991 and 1993 Synods of the Christian Reformed Church to move toward permitting women to be ordained as elders is contrary to the teaching of God’s Word and contradicts the predominant practice of the Christian Church from apostolic times until now.
Appendix

(2) The attempt to support the decision from the Scripture is unpersuasive, resting as it does on faulty exegesis.

Also from the Minutes of the 20th Meeting of NAPARC (1994)

That this meeting of NAPARC express to the Christian Reformed Church in North America its deep thanks to God for the decision to which he led the CRC Synod 1994 to disapprove the ordination of women to ruling and teaching office in the church and to express the devout hope that that position will not change.

III Certain officers of NAPARC were requested to formulate, from the actions of major assemblies of the NAPARC churches pursuant to the matter of the ordination of women to ecclesiastical office in the Christian Reformed Church in North America, reasons to be sent to the NAPARC churches with citations from the actions of the major assemblies of the NAPARC churches.

In fulfillment of this mandate we would present the following:

1. Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church
   No formal actions by the Synod. The following was reported: While the ARPC has not produced a detailed body of official literature on the topic of women's ordination, the arguments pro and con were extensively discussed in the courts and publications of the church. The conclusion of the General Synod seems to have been that the teaching of Scripture is clear on this matter and that a change in the Form of Government (which ministers affirm to be "agreeable to and founded on the Word of God" (FG X.D.2.g.4)) is not warranted.

2. Christian Reformed Church in North America
   Opposed the proposed suspension

3. Korean American Presbyterian Church
   The Interchurch Relations Committee reported to NAPARC that their "GA voted in unanimity to file a petition with the Secretary of NAPARC that an action be taken that the Christian Reformed Church in North America be terminated in its membership in NAPARC, on the ground that the said church voted in 1996 to allow women to be ordained to church office, and that that decision was never rescinded in its 1997 synodical Assembly."

4. The Orthodox Presbyterian Church
   The following statement was made by The Orthodox Presbyterian Church General Assembly to the Christian Reformed Church in North America Synod with respect to their opening of the special "offices of elder, minister and evangelist" to women, declaring their action to be contrary to sound doctrine (Minutes of the 64th General Assembly (1997) pp. 49-53)

   ***

   Grounds:
   (1) The ordination/installation of women to "the office of elder, minister, or evangelist" is prohibited by Scripture (1 Timothy 2:12). Synod 1995 erred when it set aside a clear Scripture command (1 Tim. 2:12) when it opened the special offices of "elder, minister, and evangelist" to persons biblically prohibited from holding them (Acts of Synod 1995, §75 and 79, pp. 731-736). The inviolability of the
passage is particularly incisive. God declares, “I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over the man.” That this prohibition clearly is an abiding prohibition for the church today is apparent from its context. Scripture gives the reasons for that prohibition by declaring, “For Adam was formed first, then Eve” (v.13). He then states a second reason for the prohibition, namely, “For Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner” (v 14). Scripture thus grounds it forbidding of women to rule and teach in the church in the account creation and the fall. And by grounding the prohibition in these events in the history of redemption, the prohibition is removed from the temporary and culturally conditioned to that of abiding requirement for the church of the Lord Jesus Christ.

(2) The final authority in determining whether the special offices of “elder, minister, and evangelist” are open to women is Scripture alone.

(a) “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.” (Westminster Confession of Faith, I.10.)

(b) “The infallible rule of interpretation of Scripture is the Scripture itself: and therefore, when there is a question about the true and full sense of any Scripture (which is not manifold, but one), it must be searched and known by other places that speak more clearly.” (Westminster Confession of Faith, I.9.)

(c) “We receive all these books, and these only, as holy and canonical, for the regulation, foundation, and confirmation of our faith; believing without doubt, all things contained in them....” (Belgic Confession V)

(d) “... Therefore we reject with all our hearts whatsoever doth not agree with this infallible rule....” (Belgic Confession VII)

(3) It is one of the hallmarks of the Reformed church that it has developed a self-conscious hermeneutic, especially in the area of church government and worship. That hermeneutic is the centuries-old Reformed “Regulative Principle”, namely, that there must be positive warrant from Scripture for every element of doctrine, government, and worship in the church, that is, whatsoever in these spheres is not commanded in the Scriptures, either expressly or by good and necessary consequence therefrom, is forbidden.

(a) “The whole counsel of God concerning all things necessary for His own glory, man’s salvation, faith and life, is either expressly set down in Scripture, or by good and necessary consequence may be deduced from Scripture: unto which nothing at any time is to be added, whether by new revelations of the Spirit or traditions of men. Nevertheless, we acknowledge the inward illumination of the Spirit of God to be necessary for the saving understanding of such things as are revealed in the Word: and that there are some circumstances concerning the worship of God, and government of the Church, common to human actions and societies, which are to be ordered by the light of nature, and Christian prudence, according to the general rules of the Word, which are always to be observed.” (Westminster Confession of Faith I.6., emphasis added)

(b) “The light of nature sheweth that there is a God, who hath lordship and sovereignty over all, is good, and doth good unto all, and is therefore to be feared, loved, praised, called upon, trusted in, and served, with all the heart, and with all the soul, and with all the might. But the acceptable way of worshipping the true God is instituted by Himself, and so limited by His own revealed will, that He
may not be worshipped according to the imaginations and devices of men, or the suggestions of Satan, under any visible representation, or any other way not prescribed in the Holy Scripture.” (Westminster Confession of Faith XXI.1., emphasis added)

(c) “We believe that these Holy Scriptures fully contain the will of God, and that whatsoever man ought to believe unto salvation, is sufficiently taught therein. For since the whole manner of worship which God requires of us is written in (Holy Scriptures) at large, it is unlawful for any one, though an Apostle, to teach otherwise than we are now taught in the Holy Scriptures....” (Belgic Confession VII)

(d) “Question 96: What does God require in the second commandment? Answer: That we in nowise make any image of God, nor worship him in any way other than he has commanded in his Word.” (Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 96, emphasis added)

(e) “Christ orders his church by the rule of his Word; the pattern of officers, ordinances, government, and discipline set forth in Scripture is therefore to be observed as the instruction of the Lord. Church government must conform to the scriptural pattern and follow the specific provisions revealed in the New Testament....” (OPC Form of Government I.3., emphasis added)

4 Christ has appointed a government in His Church, and governors and ministers thereto, whose authority to govern and minister rests solely upon Christ’s appointment.

(a) “We believe that this true Church must be governed by the spiritual policy which our Lord has taught us in his Word—namely, that there must be Ministers or Pastors to preach the Word of God, and to administer the Sacraments; also Elders and Deacons, who, together with the Pastors form the council of the Church; that by these means true religion may be preserved, and the true doctrine every where propagated, likewise transgressors punished and restrained by spiritual means; also that the poor and distressed may be relieved and comforted, according to their necessities. By these means every thing will be carried on in the Church in good order and decency, when faithful men are chosen, according to the rule prescribed by St. Paul to Timothy.” (Belgic Confession XXX, emphasis added)

(b) “We believe that the Ministers of God’s Word, and the Elders and Deacons, ought to be chosen to their respective offices by a lawful election of the Church, with calling upon the name of the Lord, and in that order which the Word of God teacheth. Therefore every one must take heed not to intrude himself by indecent means, but is bound to wait till it shall please God to call him; that he may have testimony of his calling, and be certain that it is of the Lord....” (Belgic Confession XXXI, emphasis added)

(c) “In the meantime we believe though it is useful and beneficial that those who are rulers of the Church institute and establish certain ordinances among themselves for maintaining the body of the Church; yet they ought studiously to take care that they do not depart from those things which Christ, our only master, hath instituted. And, therefore, we reject all human inventions, and all laws which man would introduce into the worship of God, thereby to bind and compel the conscience in any manner....” (Belgic Confession XXXII, emphasis added)

(d) “The Lord Jesus, as King and Head of His Church, hath therein appointed a government, in the hand of Church officers....” (Westminster Confession of Faith XXX.1.)

(e) “To these officers, the keys of the kingdom of heaven are committed....” (Westminster Confession of Faith XXX.2.)

(f) “There is therefore but one King and Head of the church, the
only Mediator between God and man, Jesus Christ, who rules in his church by his Word and Spirit. His mediatorial office includes all the offices in his church. It belongs to his majesty from his throne of glory not only to rule his church directly but also to use the ministry of men in ruling and teaching his church through his Word and Spirit, thus exercising through men his own authority and enforcing his own laws. The authority of all such ministerial office rests upon his appointment, who has ordained government in his church, revealed its nature to us in his Word, and promised his presence in the midst of his church as this government is exercised in his name.” (OPC Form of Government I.2., emphasis added)

(5) It is especially important that those who fill the pulpits in the church be there only by divine appointment.

(a) “Question: By whom is the word of God to be preached? Answer: The word of God is to be preached only by such as are sufficiently gifted, and also duly approved and called to that office.” (Westminster Larger Catechism Q&A. 158).

(b) “The public reading of the Holy Scriptures (in public worship) is performed by the minister as God’s servant…” (Directory for the Public Worship of God, III.2., emphasis added)

(c) “In the sermon God addresses the congregation by the mouth of his servant (the minister).” (Directory for the Public Worship of God, III.3., emphasis added)

(6) The qualifications for those who would hold special office in the church are part of the “all things necessary” (in Westminster Confession of Faith 1.6. see above), and therefore are elemental ... not (merely) circumstantial ... to the worship and government of the Church. And Scripture is (as it must be for things which are elemental) sufficiently clear on the matter of whether women may hold the special offices of elder, minister, or evangelist.

(7) Synod 1995 erred when it determined to “recognize that there are two different perspectives and convictions, both of which honor the Scriptures as the infallible Word of God, on the issue of whether women are allowed to serve in the offices of elder, minister, and evangelist-based on the assertion that numerous presentations to synods have “adduced good biblical grounds for (the two mutually contradictory) positions” (Acts of Synod 1995, §75, pages 731-32). Synod 1995’s action does injury to the clarity and sufficiency of Scripture and to the infallible rule of its interpretation.

(8) Synod 1995 further erred when it acted to change an element (the qualifications for special office) in the government and worship of the church without positive Scriptural warrant. We note that proponents of arguments proffered in favor of changing a teaching regarding the government and worship of the church which has been the established position of the godliest of saints for almost 2,000 years are themselves willing to claim no more than “rough epistemic parity” for their new interpretation. Such hermeneutic falls far short of the Regulative Principle which has been embraced by Reformed churches since the time of the Reformation itself.

(9) As with other actions that violate a command of Scripture, the action of Synod 1995 to relegate an elemental matter (like qualification for special office) to a detail for “regional decision” is inherently destabilizing and unworkable, and ultimately proves to be divisive to the body of Christ. When a duly ordained minister of the Word enters the pulpit, is he there by divine appointment? But what if he is biblically disqualified (or prohibited) from holding that office, is he still divinely appointed to such? Should he be received by those in the congregation as such? Does the King and Head of the church entrust the exercise of the keys
of the kingdom of heaven to persons whom he has previously barred from holding the office to which the exercise of such keys has been committed? The action of Synod 1995, by corrupting the biblical qualifications for special office in the church, insinuates itself into the three areas of the church's life (preaching, sacraments, and discipline) that have been cataloged as the marks by which a true church is known.

(a) "... The marks by which the true Church is known are these: If the pure doctrine of the gospel is preached therein; if she maintains the pure administration of the sacraments as instituted by Christ; if church discipline is exercised in punishing of sin; in short, if all things are managed according to the pure Word of God, all things contrary thereto rejected, and Jesus Christ acknowledged as the only Head of the Church...." (Belgic Confession XXIX)

(b) "This catholic Church hath been sometimes more, sometimes less visible. And particular Churches, which are members thereof, are more or less pure, according as the doctrine of the Gospel is taught and embraced, ordinances administered, and public worship performed more or less purely in them." (Westminster Confession of Faith XXV.4.)

5. Presbyterian Church in America
   The following statement was adopted by the 23rd General Assembly (1995) of the Presbyterian Church in America:

   "... we are grieved and distressed over the action of the 1995 Synod of the Christian Reformed Church to permit women to hold the offices of minister and elder. The action of the Christian Reformed Church is in contradiction to the clear teaching of Scripture and the historic presbyterian and reformed confessions of faith. Furthermore, we have instructed our Interchurch Relations Committee to use all due process afforded to them in NAPARC, if the Christian Reformed Church does not repent of and rescind the action at the Synod.

   (M23 GA, p. 168)

6. Reformed Church in the United States
   The only action of Synod germane to this subject is the declining of "the invitation of the Christian Reformed Church to begin talks toward establishing fraternal relationships between our two denominations" (Recommendation 23, Standing Ecumenical Committee, 1996 Abstract, p. 71)

7. Reformed Presbyterian Church North America
   No formal actions by the Synod

Yours in Christ's service,
Donald J. Duff, Secretary

Communication 12

Christian Reformed Church in North America

February 23, 1998

Dear Friends:
Greetings in the name of the risen and ascended Christ!

This letter is addressed to the General Assembly of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC) in response to the action that was taken by the North American...
Presbyterian Reformed Council on November 18-19, 1997, namely to initiate the process to suspend the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA) from its membership.

The action was taken by a 6 to 1 unit vote, with only the CRCNA voting against the motion to initiate suspension. Your delegation voted in favor of the motion.

"...According to the Constitution of NAPARC (Section V, 3) the major assemblies of member churches have three years in which to vote on the matter of suspension, and should two thirds vote in the affirmative the suspension will be in effect. Your assembly has therefore been "requested to take action on this matter in your major assembly and to inform the Secretary of NAPARC regarding your decision.

Following the decision certain officers of NAPARC were requested to formulate, from the actions of major assemblies of the NAPARC churches, reasons for the decision gathered from the actions of member-church assemblies. A copy of the decisions of your 64th General Assembly (1997) has been communicated to us.

Now you are requested to vote on the matter of suspending the membership of the CRCNA from NAPARC membership.

The Interchurch Relations Committee of the CRCNA earnestly requests that your assembly/synod not vote to suspend the membership in NAPARC of the CRCNA.

Please note the following reasons for maintaining the membership of the CRCNA in NAPARC:

The CRCNA is one of the founding churches of NAPARC.

The CRCNA adheres to the basis of the council as articulated in NAPARC's Constitution (Section II).

Although a purpose of NAPARC is to "facilitate discussion and consultation between member bodies on those issues and problems which divide them as well as on those which they face in common..." there has not been substantive conciliar discussion relative to the issue of admitting women to ecclesiastical office. Only between The Orthodox Presbyterian Church and the CRCNA have there been intensive discussions, initiated by the CRCNA. There has been limited discussion between the Presbyterian Church in America and the CRCNA. The CRCNA is persuaded that the provisions of the Constitution argue for the maintenance of its membership rather than its suspension.

Please note that the above reference to "those issues and problems which divide them as well as...those which they face in common..." means that we may and should together belong to NAPARC even if we think differently on some issues. Reformed and Presbyterian churches have had a long history of differences on certain issues. We believe that our multilateral relationship through NAPARC should not be suspended or terminated.

We are enclosing a copy of The Hermeneutics and Theological Method of the CRC Position on Women's Ordination as prepared for discussions with the OPC by Dr. John Cooper, Professor of Philosophical Theology at Calvin Theological Seminary in Grand Rapids, Michigan. We trust that this material will assist you in taking the opportunity and the time once more to consider the matter from the perspective of the CRCNA. We appreciate the time and attention that you have given to discussions with representatives of the CRCNA in 1996 and 1997.

We regret that the action of NAPARC 1997 suggests that we cannot live in close harmony and in keeping with the prayer of our Lord, "May they be brought
to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved met John 17:23.

In light of the above, we urge you to vote against the suspension of the CRCNA as a member-denomination of NAPARC.

Interchurch Relations Committee
Leonard J. Hofman,
Administrative Secretary
Interchurch Relations Committee

Enclosure: *The Hermeneutics and Theological Method of the CRC Position on Women's Ordination*, Dr. John Cooper

**Communication 13**

Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia

Thanks for your letter of 23 March 1998, notifying us of the 65th General Assembly of the OPC to be held, DV, in May/June, and inviting us to commission a fraternal delegate.

Regretfully, I do not expect that we shall be able to send a delegate to the Assembly, but I shall raise the matter with the forthcoming (20 April) meeting of the Synod of Eastern Australia, just in case there should be someone able to represent us.

If, as I suspect, there is none, would you please convey to the brethren the very warm good wishes of the PCEA, and our prayers for the Lord's rich blessing to be upon the OPC as you continue to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints.

May the Lord also bless your labours as Clerk.

With kind regards, Yours sincerely in Christ,

Peter Gadsby (Rev.), Convener,
Inter-church Relations Committee, Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia

PS: It was my delight to (re)new acquaintance with OPC men Galbraith, Peterson, Gaffin, and Bube at the ICRC meeting in Seoul last year. Should you be speaking to any of them, please pass on my sincere greetings!

**Communication 14**

George W. Knight, III

This letter is an announcement to the forthcoming General Assembly that I am resigning from the Subcommittee on Ministerial Training and also from the Committee on Christian Education. This will allow the assembly to elect someone else to serve the remaining time in that class. Let me explain my decision.

When my name was put into nomination for the Subcommittee and therefore also for the Christian Education Committee, I did not think that the assembly would
elect someone who was already elected to the assembly committees on Home Missions and on Ecumenicity. Therefore I did not withdraw my name thinking that I would not be elected. The assembly proved my supposition to be wrong. I have attempted to serve all three committees and the subcommittee this year and also fulfill my other responsibilities of teacher and session member at Matthews Church, moderator of my presbytery and also on a presbytery oversight committee for a church plant, as well as a full-time responsibility of assisting my daughter homescool her five sons and certain conference and supply ministry. But the duties have proved to be too much for one supposedly “retired.” So I am resigning to attain this slight relief.

Perhaps a word is in order about why I have resigned from this committee and not one of the others. The other two committees are ones that I had served on in earlier days in the OPC and therefore it seemed fitting to continue where I had already begun, plus the fact that I have been elected secretary in one of them. Furthermore, the Christian Education Committee was one of the last ones to which I was elected.

Thank you for communicating this resignation to the General Assembly. I will send copies of this letter to the General Secretary of the Christian Education Committee and to the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Ministerial Training.

Cordially yours in Christ,
George W. Knight III

Communication 15

African Evangelical Presbyterian Church, General Assembly April 2, 1998

Greetings in the name of our most high Lord Jesus Christ.

Thank you so much for inviting us to attend your 65th General Assembly which will start on May 27. We are sorry to inform you that right now we are not in a position to meet the traveling expenses of those who can come. But with all that we send our warm greetings to all General Assembly members.

Thank you. God bless you as you prepare to meet.
Yours in Christ,

The Rev. David Kimanthi
Stated Clerk
AEPC General Assembly

Communication 16

Committee for Contact With the OPC of the Canadian Reformed Churches March 28, 1998

We received your invitation to send a delegate to the 65th General Assembly of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church. We are grateful for this invitation, however,
we are unable to send a delegate at this time. As you may know, our General Synod will meet, the Lord willing, in May of this year, possible for three weeks. At this meeting, the proposal of our committee to establish fraternal relations with The Orthodox Presbyterian Church will be discussed.

Synod will either appoint another Committee for Contact with The Orthodox Presbyterian Church, or it will entrust maintaining the relationship with The Orthodox Presbyterian Church to its Committee for Contact with Churches Abroad. At this point in time, we do not know who will be appointed to maintain the contact. Synod may also decide to appoint a delegate to attend your General Assembly. If that is the case, they will be contacting you.

We do wish your Assembly the Lord’s blessing in their meetings. May the discussions be fruitful and the decisions serve the upbuilding of Christ’s church.

On behalf of the Committee for Contact with The Orthodox Presbyterian Church,

N. H. Gootjes, secretary

Communication 17

Presbytery of the Midwest

The following action was taken at the spring stated meeting of the Presbytery of the Midwest (March 20-21, 1998 in Orland Park, IL).

a. Little Farms Chapel in Coopersville, MI (formerly in the Christian Reformed Church) was received as a congregation of the OPC pending the fulfilling of FG XXIX.B.2.b
b. Pastor Robert M. Van Manen, the current pastor of Little Farms Chapel, was also received into the OPC as an ordained minister contingent upon exceptions being approved at this year’s General Assembly.

The Presbytery of the Midwest reports to the 65th General Assembly regarding exceptions taken to Mr. Van Manen’s reception into the OPC as a minister of the Word. Mr. Van Manen has fulfilled the requirements of our Form of Government for reception, with the exception of proficiency in the Greek and Hebrew languages and a seminary education (FG XXXI.3).

The following information is given to the 65th GA to assist in making its ruling on this matter:

Mr. Van Manen came to the Presbytery of the Midwest as an ordained evangelist in the Christian Reformed Church, having served as de facto pastor of the CRC mission work Little Farms Chapel, Coopersville, Michigan (45 families, attendance: 125), for the past eight years. He has two bachelors degrees from Calvin College (religion/education; social studies/history), and taught 7-9 grade Bible for 16 years at three Christian schools (Ontario Christian, Hudsonville Christian, and Lamont Christian - all part of Christian Schools Intentional). He served as an elder of Cornerstone CRC (now URC) in Hudsonville, Michigan, and has spoken at many conventions, retreats and meetings over the past 16 years.

Eight years ago Mr. Van Manen was called as evangelist, a CRC office similar
to pastor, but restricted to the local congregation, of Little Farms Chapel. Since it was relatively small at the time, he served on a part-time basis. However, as the Lord blessed the chapel with growth, more and more time was necessary to pastor the congregation. Three years ago he left full-time teaching behind and began pastoring full-time at Little Farms.

In January 1990 Mr. Van Manen sustained a classical exam and was found to be sound in faith and qualified to serve as an evangelist of the Christian Reformed Church of North America by Classis Grand Rapids North. Having been declared eligible for ordination to the office of evangelist by classis, he was ordained and installed by the consistory of the overseeing church, Westview CRC. Mr. Van Manen’s classical exam was some 2 hours in length and covered the following areas: biblical, doctrinal, practical. He submitted a written sermon and preached a 15-minute sermon before classis.

In September, 1997 the congregation of Little Farms Chapel voted by a margin of 97% to sever its relationship with the CRC because of its departure from the Scriptures. At the same time it voted by a margin of 89% to affiliate with the OPC.

Mr. Van Manen was examined in all areas required by FG XXIII.6 by the Candidates and Credentials Committee of the Presbytery of the Midwest and did very well. Committee examinations took place during three separate sessions totaling over 7 hours. He was also thoroughly examined by the full presbytery at its stated meeting of March 20, 1998. Letters of recommendation were read from the Rev. Joel Vander Kooi (Walker URC, Grand Rapids), the Rev. Paul Murphy (Dutton Independent Reformed Church) and Mr. Don McCrory (member of Little Farms Chapel). Mr. Van Manen was thoroughly examined in theology by Mr. Stephen Pribble, and the floor was opened for further questions. On motion, Mr. Van Manen’s exams were deemed to fulfill the requirements of our Form of Government for reception, with the exception of proficiency in the Greek and Hebrew languages and a seminary education (FG X111.3). The moderator addressed Mr. Van Manen with the questions regarding his willingness to attain competency in Greek and Hebrew (FG XX111.3). Mr. Van Manen indicated his willingness.

The Presbytery of the Midwest hereby reports this whole matter to the 65th General Assembly and stands ready to weigh such advice as it may offer in response to our desire to recognize Mr. Van Manen as an ordained pastor to be received as such into the Presbytery of the Midwest.

Communication 18

Presbytery of New Jersey May 8, 1998

At its stated meeting at Cherry Hill, NJ. on April 28, 1998, the Presbytery of New Jersey determined to express to the General Assembly the following views with reference to the information communicated to the General Assembly by the denominational Committee on Foreign Missions (CFM), in its report to the Assembly, on page 125 of the Agenda for the Assembly in the indented paragraph in italics just below the middle of the page:

*The Presbytery of New Jersey advises the Sixty-fifth (1998) General Assembly that it would seem wiser to the Presbytery if the CFM would:*
Appendix

a) invite the Tohoku Presbytery of the Reformed Church in Japan to make its recommendations, comments, and suggestions even before considering docketing the CFM request that the Japan Mission present to the CFM a plan for the orderly closing of the Japan's Mission Church planting work in Tohoku. [Item d. in the cited paragraph in the CFM's report should come even before any consideration of docketing item c. in September (1998) or another time.]

b) give grounds to the OPC Japan Mission (no grounds having been given in the CFM's report).

c) give the Japan Mission adequate time to respond to any grounds the CFM gives them before the CFM places consideration of closing the Japan Mission's church planting work on the docket of the CFM.

Finally the presbytery thinks it would be wisest that the CFM not contemplate docketing consideration of closing the Japan Mission's church planting work in the Tohoku prior to the Sixty-sixth (1999) General Assembly meeting in Grantham, Pennsylvania.

Richard A. Barker, Stated Clerk

Communication 19

Free Church in Southern Africa May 14, 1998

I append an extract from the Minutes of our Assembly held recently in Somerset East in the Eastern Cape, South Africa.

We regret that we cannot send a representative to your assembly. You will understand the difficulties in the way of a small church in South Africa doing this.

We are glad of the contacts we have with you. For example, our representatives at last year's meeting of the International Conference of Reformed Churches enjoyed meeting your representatives there.

We wish you every blessing in your Assembly and in the work that you do in the service of the Master in the United States and beyond.

We hope you will to be forgetful of this small Presbyterian Church of ours, working mainly amongst Xhosa speakers in the Eastern Cape of South Africa.

Wishing you every blessing,
Ronald C. Christie,
Acting Clerk of Assembly

Communication 20

The Japan Mission of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church May 25, 1998

The Japan Mission greets you in the matchless Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, King of kings and Lord of lords. We pray that the blessing of Almighty God may be upon you and your deliberations at the 65th General Assembly of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

We are taking the unusual step of communicating with you directly in view
of the announced intention of the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions (CFM) to consider a motion to "begin winding down its church-planting work in the Tohoku," which along with related matters is included in the report of the CFM to the present Assembly (see, p. ). As you deliberate on that report, we would respectfully request that you consider the following summary, which expresses the unanimous views of the five ordained ministers who compose your Japan Mission. In addition, we have asked the Rev. Mr. Stewart Lauer to represent our concerns before you, and we trust that you will give him the privilege of the floor in connection with the report of the Committee on Foreign Missions.

When the CFM action of February 28 was reported to us in early March, we asked the committee a series of 13 questions respecting the reasons for this new direction (March 10); we pled again with the committee to inform us respecting their thinking regarding this matter (March 25). To date the only information from the committee in response to our requests has been a single private telephone conversation from the General Secretary. This leaves us in a position of tremendous disadvantage in this discussion, having to guess at the committee's reasons, and thus we have felt compelled respectfully to address the General Assembly directly from Japan.

We should first like to summarize the positive reasons why it is our earnest hope that the CFM will continue to encourage our work in Japan, and then seek to answer certain objections that have been or may be raised against our humble prayer.

WHY JAPAN EVANGELISM CONTINUES TO BE NEEDED

I Japan is basically still an unevangelized country. Roman Catholicism entered Japan in the 1540's with some success, but was ruthlessly exterminated from 1600-1854. Protestantism entered Japan from the West after the country was re-opened in the 19th century, and met with mixed results. After 130 years of vigorous evangelism, only approximately 2% of the population has become Christian (in any sense). Nota Bene. This is lowest percentage of any of our current mission fields. The Japanese church is small and weak, the largest Protestant (very mixed bag) denomination having only about 200,000 communicant members. The Reformed Church of Japan (RCJ) with which we work is the eighth largest denomination in Japan, with only 3600 resident communicant members. For all its veneer of scientific and material progress, Japan is still a pagan country caught in the demonic trap of superstition and idol worship. Only Jesus Christ can set it free.

II The Tohoku is the least evangelized region of Japan. If the average percentage of Christians for the whole country is less than two, the comparable figure for the Tohoku is probably about one-half of one percent. This is where we are currently engaged and from where we must not be withdrawn. How else can a pagan country be converted to Jesus Christ?

III Opportunities for preaching the gospel abound. Freedom to preach the gospel is unhindered. Christian worship services are not watched by the police. Freedom of expression in public or in private is unqualified. Conversations about religious topics are not prohibited in even government schools. Some groups use loudspeakers to proclaim the gospel without hindrance. People are probably more willing to discuss religion in public than in America. The door is wide open, lacking only workers.
IV  The work of the Mission has borne fruit in the past and can be expected to do so in the future by God's power. While not large in absolute numbers, over the past ten years OPC Mission related chapels grew at a rate of 6% per annum, much of that growth coming through converts from out of paganism. This was higher (by 1%) than that of the other two missions cooperating with the Reformed Church, and higher (by 5.8%) than the growth of the RCJ itself (non-mission related churches and chapels).

V  Pioneer evangelism and church planting is the primary missionary task to which we are called. While other areas of missionary work, such as seminary teaching and medical work, are important and useful adjuncts to the proclamation of the gospel, they must always be subservient to the primary task for preaching the Word and making disciples of believers. This is a principle of extreme importance to the church of Jesus Christ. Each of our missionaries was sent to Japan as an evangelist, about which our FG states, “such men shall preach the gospel free of pastoral charge in a particular flock in order that they may labor to being in other sheep.” It is exactly that primary evangelistic task in which four of the five missionaries of the RCJ are involved daily, and whose work the closing of the Japan Mission would bring to a halt. We do not believe that the OPC is willing to stop pioneer evangelism of the lost in Japan and be satisfied with trying to continue just a teaching ministry.

ANSWERS TO POSSIBLE OBJECTIONS

Three possible areas of concern by the committee may be surmised, namely, the overall financial stewardship entrusted to the CFM, questions about the work being done at present by the Japan Mission, and certain doubts about the direction in which our sister church the RCJ seems to be going.

I  The Overall Stewardship Entrusted to the CFM

1. Missionary support for Japan is very expensive. Unfortunately, there is a lot of truth in this statement. As an entire country, Japan has perhaps the highest cost of living in the world. However, it should be noted that the yen/dollar exchange rate has been moving in a favorable direction for the past couple of years, and your Japan missionaries no longer receive the highest level of individual support.

2. Response to the gospel is very low compared with the cost of missionary support. Again, unfortunately, there is some truth in this charge. However, when it is pointed out that the same thing is true of most countries which still have less than 5% Christian population (such as Muslim countries or Taiwan, for example) the response to the gospel in Japan, especially in the chapels where your missionaries are working, is relatively high.

3. We can send more missionaries to other countries with better response at less cost. Yes, if a pragmatic approach based on the dollar is the bottom line for the church of Jesus Christ.

4. Other countries with great needs are calling us. We praise the Lord for every Macedonian call he sends the way of the CFM. We do not believe that is a sound reason to neglect our wide open opportunities to preach the gospel in one of the least evangelized countries of the world, where we have been engaged over the long haul in proclaiming Christ's unsearchable riches, especially since these calls for help are coming from countries where up to 98% of the population is already Christianized.
5. The Japanese Church is wealthy and fully capable of evangelizing Japan on its own. This is a complete misreading of the situation in Japan. The tiny RCJ with its 3600 resident communicant members and an average congregation size of about 35 has a hard struggle to keep pace with the economy and population growth, and lacks pastors numerically sufficient for its own churches, much less any new chapels that may be started.

II The Japan Mission and its Current Work

1. The Japan missionaries are all currently serving as pastors of RCJ churches. Due to the shortage of Japanese pastors and evangelists, Tohoku Presbytery has requested three men (Moore, Cummings, Yaegashi) to serve as "cooperating evangelist" at four of the RCJ Chapels, three of which were works begun by our missionaries which have not yet become organized churches. Our cooperating agreement with the RCJ states that the chapels we begin will be RCJ chapels from the start, though the Mission has always recognized its responsibility to see these works through until they become full-fledged congregations. The only thing new about this arrangement is the title. What we are doing today is basically what Heber McIlwaine and George Uomoto did also during their long missionary careers.

2. The Japan Mission can't seem to come up with a distinctive "missionary" plan. Two quotations will point up the problem here. "Brothers, my aim in the time we have together...is to..." 3) Demonstrate that the essence of what we must be doing on the foreign mission field is really little different from what we must be doing in our congregations and within the bounds of our presbyteries and classes back home." (paper presented to ICRC, Seoul Korea, October 15-23, 1997—emphasis added) — and — "It is my impression that the Mission's strongest case for convincing the committee that the proposal is premature...is to identify the work to be done in Japan that is unique to the foreign missionary enterprise, and then to present how the Mission either is, or intends to go about, undertaking such." (emphasis in original letter to Japan Mission, April 6, 1998)

The Japan Mission confesses that it is at a loss to know how to reconcile these two statements made by the same person less than six months apart. It is precisely because our task on the field closely resembles our work at home—preach the Word, preach the Word again, and then preach the Word some more—that the Japan Mission's evangelistic task in this land is to continue doing just that, namely, the very preaching of God's Word that we are pouring out our hearts and souls doing at the present time. Not to belabor a point, but it seems to us that a missionary teaching in a seminary is not doing a task inherently more "unique to the foreign missionary enterprise" than are missionaries doing pioneer evangelism as at present.

3. The Mission hasn't been able to communicate to the committee a sense of urgency in the task to be done. The Mission feels that it has made every effort to persuade the committee that it seeks with all its heart to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to this pagan nation at every opportunity. Three years ago when the committee determined not to send Mr. Cummings back to the field after furlough, the Mission exerted such strong efforts to persuade the committee it had made a mistake that the committee "censured" the Japan Mission. "Once burned, twice shy" may apply here, but the Mission has a hard time seeing how we could be any more earnest in our urgency to persuade the committee that this is precisely the wrong
time to “wind-up its church-planting efforts in the Tohoku” because of the vast
task of evangelism that still awaits us in this country.

4. The Mission’s work could be done just as well by Japanese pastors. This is always a debatable matter. When should the Mission’s work be judged to be finished, so the missionaries can leave and the work turned over in entirety to the national church (such as happened as few years ago with the OPC Mission in Korea)? It is our contention that under no circumstances should our work in Japan be considered ripe for withdrawal at the present time. Five chapels (including Murray Uomoto’s new one in Sendai) would have no regular preaching supply for Lord’s Day worship; current other evangelistic outreach at two chapels and one RCJ church would cease; plans for starting additional chapels in Sendai would be shelved, and the forward-looking vision of the presbytery as a whole would be stricken a great blow. Tohoku Presbytery simply has neither the personnel nor the money to supply undershepherds for the chapels we are currently serving.

5. This proposal involves only two ordained missionaries’ financial support, with a very gradual shutdown. On paper that may be true, but in reality our whole mission effort in Japan would be closed down in short order.
   a. The proposal foresees Japanese congregations calling Messrs. Moore and/or Cummings as their pastor(s). Practically speaking, this is a pipe dream with no basis in present realities.
   b. Without the existence of a functioning Mission, Mr. Yaegashi’s supporting PCA presbytery would cease to approve continuing support of his work (already threatened in the past).
   c. Mr. Uomoto would not be able to maintain any hope of presbytery recognition of his work, because the Mission would no longer exist to guarantee continuation over the long haul.
   d. Mr. Lauer’s position as a teacher at an RCJ Seminary would become untenable without the continuing existence of a Mission that is vigorously pursuing cooperative evangelism.

III The Situation in the Reformed Church of Japan

1. The RCJ meets the five criteria established by the CFM as our goal for mission work.
   a. self-governing: yes;
   b. self-supporting: perhaps (depending on how defined—support from overseas continues in many areas);
   c. self-propagating: hardly (church growth over the past ten years in the RCJ averages less than 0.5% annually);
   d. with which we can have relations: yes, we are supposed to be in a very close fraternal relationship (though the presbytery is seeking a real improvement in communications and consultations from the CFM);
   e. sending out missionaries: not on the GA level now (three ordained men have served in the past, for less than ten years each, none in the field now).

2. The RCJ is drifting away from us doctrinally. It must be frankly admitted that there are doctrinal problems with some of the ministers in the RCJ, especially with higher critical views of Scripture. However, the church’s doctrinal standards are the same as the OPC’s, the three Westminster symbols. These are not openly criticized in the church, nor in recent years have there been attempts to revise them.
To the contrary, they are being actively used from the congregational to the Assembly level, and the Assembly is working to develop a more precise translation of them into Japanese.

3. **The RCJ intends to write its own confession.** This is quite true, and in principle, every church should write its own confession for the situation in which it exists as a bearer of God’s Word to the world. If the recent 50th anniversary Declaration on Predestination be taken as an example of the way in which the RCJ is capable of doing Reformed theology, it seems to us that the church should be encouraged, not criticized for this.

4. **The RCJ is headed toward the ordination of women ministers and ruling elders.** Several denominational committees have wrestled with this problem in the past few years, and many of their reports have been favorable to it. However we understand that a moratorium has been declared on this matter for the next five years. If we were capable of great patience when the CRC headed in that direction, how much more patient should we be with a sister church of a different background and culture? Were the OPC to withdraw cooperation from the RCJ, the only cooperating missionaries left would be from denominations that ordain women officers.

5. **The RCJ doesn’t seem to be listening to the testimony of the OPC, neither our denomination nor our missionaries.** If our evangelistic goal is a self-governing church, the missionaries have to be extremely careful in discerning when and when not to speak out. On several occasions our missionaries have called the RCJ’s attention to the way in which this issue of women’s ordination deeply affects our relationship with them. It is much too strong to say that our warnings are not heard. Because this problem is under discussion now makes it imperative that the OPC Japan Mission not be withdrawn at this critical juncture.

6. **The RCJ lacks one of the marks of the true church, namely, the administration of discipline.** In the past few years, three ministers of the RCJ have been defrocked for doctrinal and moral errors, so the RCJ does in fact exercise Biblical discipline. There are areas in which we could wish for greater doctrinal carefulness, particularly, for example, in the examination of ministers for ordination. One of our functions as the OPC Japan Mission may be to encourage greater awareness of the dangers of doctrinal laxity.

7. **The OPC Japan Mission has encountered difficulties in its relationship with Tohoku Presbytery.** Yes, problems may be expected to arise between national pastors and missionaries when they work together in a close relationship, such as we have with Tohoku Presbytery RCJ. But there is warm and accepting attitude on the part of the majority of the presbytery (see the presbytery’s letter to this GA), and those ministers who have a less cooperative attitude do not have a strong influence in the presbytery as a whole. In some respects Tohoku Presbytery is the “sick man of the RCJ”, and it was the Mission which by and large kept the functions going when the presbytery was paralyzed two or three years ago. So it is fair to say that the RCJ in its Tohoku Presbytery manifestation by no means meets the FMC’s criteria for its being time to close down the work here.

Fathers and brethren, we humbly plead with you to inform the FMC of the Assembly’s desire to continue its pioneer evangelism work in the Tohoku. We would be so bold as to ask the Assembly to indicate to the FMC that we intend to be persevering in that work and to send reinforcements to Japan. It is only a short five years before Mr. Moore reaches age 65 and Mr. Cummings will not be far behind.
Now is the time to prepare to send new laborers into the fields of Japan white unto harvest. And through them may God bring his glorious salvation to many souls in this needy nation.

Respectfully submitted for the OPC Japan Mission,
David M. Moore, chairman

Communication 21

Committee for Contact With The Orthodox Presbyterian Church
of the Canadian Reformed Churches

May 25, 1998

Dear Brothers,

Upon the invitation to send a delegate to the 65th General Assembly of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church, the secretary of our committee had informed the Stated Clerk of the OPC that we were unable to send a delegate, due to the fact that our General Synod was scheduled to meet in May. At that time we did not know who would be appointed to maintain the contacts with The Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

The General Synod of the Canadian Reformed Churches met in Fergus, ON from May 5 until May 22, and dealt with the proposal of our committee to establish ecclesiastical fellowship with The Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

We recommended to Synod that they would appoint someone to represent the Canadian Reformed Churches at the General Assembly of the OPC in 1998 to convey its decision concerning the relationship between the Canadian Reformed Churches and The Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

However, Synod decided not to do so, and instructed the newly appointed Committee for Contact with the OPC to appoint a delegate. The problem is that I know (unofficially) who have been appointed in this committee, but that not all the committee members are aware of it yet. And, of course, we did not have the opportunity to meet and to reflect on our new mandate. This is even complicated by the fact that our General Synod did not adopt the proposal of our Committee for Contact with the OPC, but added some elements to the Proposed Agreement between our respective churches. This decision was made last week, and it is not clear what the implications will be for our mutual relationship.

This predicament makes it impossible for us to send a delegate. This leads to the unfortunate situation that the Canadian Reformed Churches will not be represented at the 65th General Assembly of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church. We regret that this is the case, but there is not much we can do about it.

All we can do this time is wishing your Assembly the Lord’s blessing and the guidance of the Holy Spirit in your meetings. May your discussions be fruitful, so that the decisions may serve the glory of our God and the upbuilding of Christ’s church.

With brotherly greetings, Yours in Christ’s service,

The Rev. J. DeGelder
Convener of the Committee for Contact with the OPC
Communication 22

The Tohoku Presbytery of the Reformed Church in Japan

May 18, 1998

1. Greetings

"Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous, for praise is becoming for the upright. Praise the Lord with harp, sing unto him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings. Sing to him a new song, play skillfully with a loud noise." Psalm 33:1-3

We praise the Name of the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. We of the Tohoku Presbytery of the Reformed Church in Japan, servants of the Lord and the church by the amazing guidance and call of God, pray for the grace and peace of God the Father and of the Head of the church, the Lord Jesus Christ, to be upon The Orthodox Presbyterian Church and upon all of you on the Foreign Missions Committee, our fathers in faith and church planting.

We are deeply grateful that in your busy schedule in far away Kenya you were able to send us the “Memorandum Regarding Recent Directions in the Foreign Missions Committee.”

Regardless, we are compelled to say we were extremely surprised at point 'b' in the first proposal: (the Committee) “determine to begin winding up its church-planting endeavors in the Tohoku.” In Japanese we have a saying equivalent to “bolt out of the blue,” and that’s just how it made us feel. We think that behind this proposal there must be reasons of finances and reasons of changes in evangelism plans, but whatever the reasons, Tohoku Presbytery and especially its Evangelism Committee have considered this matter seriously, and have decided to express our thoughts and feelings in writing.

2. History and Thanksgiving

(1) First of all, as we look back over the long history of close cooperative evangelism between our presbytery and the OPC Japan Mission, and as we recall the manifold grace that the Lord has bestowed upon us during that time through your work, we of Tohoku Presbytery would like to express our heartfelt gratitude.

The relationship between the RCJ and the OPC Japan Mission began in 1951 with the coming of the first OPC missionary, Mr. Heber McIlwaine; in October of the same year a message from your Committee on Foreign Missions was addressed to our General Assembly, and the cooperation and fellowship of our two denominations came to birth.

In January 1956 Mr. George Uomoto began evangelistic work at a place near East Sendai Station. In October the same year the OPC Japan Mission submitted “Three Principles of Cooperation” to the 11th General Assembly of the Reformed Church in Japan and our Assembly adopted them; thus proper “rules for cooperation” were established and a good foundation was laid for gospel evangelism and church-planting endeavors in the Tohoku area.

The East Sendai work having begun, work in Ishinomaki was also started about that time; then Mr. McIlwaine who for nine years had been doing pioneer evangelism in Watari moved to Fukushima and started sowing the seed for what is now our Fukushima Chapel.

Mr. Arnold Kress came to Japan in 1966, and together with Mr. David Moore who came to Japan two years later, moved to Yamagata in 1972 to raise up the foundation of our present Yamagata Chapel.
In the “History of Eastern Presbytery at 25 Years” published in 1971, the respect and love of our RCJ toward the OPC at that time is expressed in this manner:

Generally speaking, the theological standpoint of the OPC and the RCJ is very similar, and in church polity and in other aspects as well, it is generally evident that we are able to cooperate without any feeling of strangeness. It is a great deal that we have received both concretely and abstractly from the OPC as a brother ten years older and heir of the long-standing Reformed tradition. In particular, our presbytery’s growth has been increased through its (i.e., the OPC’s) theological efforts and further through its concrete suggestions and advice in church government.

The OPC East Sendai Chapel was organized as a church in 1972, and thus the second church after Sendai Church was born in what would become Tohoku Presbytery. Psychologically and practically, this was of great significance for Tohoku Presbytery, as “dawn’s early light.” During Mr. Usui’s pastorale Ishinomaki Chapel purchased some land, and during Mr. Shiratsu’s pastorate built and dedicated their long-awaited sanctuary. In 1977 Mr. Kazuhiko Yaegashi of the PCA entered into a relationship with the OPC and began doing evangelism in Yamagata under a new plan, in partnership with Mr. Moore. Kita Nakayama Chapel (originally Nakayama Chapel) was begun with worship services twice a month in Mr. Uomoto’s home. Such services were continued during his absence on furlough by Messrs. Moore and Yaegashi and with the help of three Sendai area churches. Fukushima Chapel had a number of pastoral changes, but dedicated its church building in 1980. This kind of cooperative relationship between Eastern Presbytery and the OPC moved on to become cooperation between the OPC and Tohoku Presbytery, in connection with the founding of the latter in April 1983. Ishinomaki Chapel was transferred to the oversight of presbytery, Mr. George Uomoto having completed his work there about the time Mr. Calvin Cummings came to Japan as a missionary, and then Mr. Murray Uomoto came as a tent-making missionary. Thus the OPC Japan Mission has seen some changes, too.

Not long after Morioka Chapel was begun as a 25th anniversary project of Eastern Presbytery, Rokunohe and Hachinohe Chapels were started by Messrs. Matsuda and Fujimoto, respectively. In 1986 Sapporo Chapel was begun by the CRC missionary Mr. George Young, and presently supported by our Home Missions Committee, belongs to Tohoku Presbytery with Mr. Mino continuing the work. Further chapels were started by the CRC in Misawa and Aomori. These works were the opening scene in our evangelism of the Northern Tohoku area. As our presbytery was about to celebrate its tenth anniversary, Mr. Yoshioka, pastor of Sendai Church for more than 30 years, reached retirement age, and Messrs. Inoue of Morioka Chapel, Ushioda of Sendai Glory Church, and Inui of Fukushima Chapel moved to other areas of the country. Thus at one stroke four good men moved away from the Tohoku area, and Tohoku Presbytery faced an entirely new development in its history.

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The present Tohoku Presbytery is included in God’s abundant blessings going back over the more than 50 years of history since the founding of our church, the RCJ. The Tohoku is recognized as still a pioneering area for Christianity, where, despite wide open opportunities to do evangelism there are the fewest churches, chapels and preaching points in all Japan. The ancient customs of Japan’s “family system” remain strong here and young people have a difficult time finding jobs so they tend to gravitate to the metropolitan areas such as Tokyo (thus making it dif-
difficult to form Christian homes in the Tohoku). Consequently, the current situation is one where our zeal for "progress toward the consummation of the Kingdom of God" bears fruit with difficulty.

In such a situation, Tohoku Presbytery has been helped by the recent revision of our Form of Government, in that we have been able to ask Mr. Yaegashi at Yamagata Chapel, Mr. Moore at Fukushima and Shiroishi Covenant Chapels, and Mr. Cummings at Kita Nakayama Chapel to serve as cooperating evangelists. This new relationship is more than simply a cooperating one—they are precisely our fellow laborers.

The period following World War II, when the "grace and healing for the soul" of the gospel of Christ for people's "dryness of heart and soul" turned many toward the church, has changed. Today, Japanese society has become sated with material goods through rapid fiscal growth; greed has spread beyond all bounds; young people lacking in character have been produced by an educational system that puts acquisition of knowledge above all else; and the warped nature of society is reflected in outrageous crimes by young children.

Furthermore, unfortunately, it can be foreseen that in the next five years or so many churches and chapels will be lacking preachers and pastors, because the RCJ has been slow in developing pastors/teachers! evangelists. For this reason, the work of the OPC Japan Mission is needed in Tohoku Presbytery, and we beg you to continue your work here.

3. Prospective

(1) At this time our Tohoku Presbytery senses a regrettable situation, and we would like to speak forthrightly about it, in order to remove any misunderstandings.

Firstly, we are sure you recall that as a result of discussions with the OPCJM we sent the Foreign Missions Committee a formal letter requesting you to return Mr. Cummings to Japan. It is a source of gratitude that Mr. Cummings actually was able to return to Japan and we ourselves were overjoyed. However, it is unfortunate that no official response or reply to our request was ever sent to us. As Japanese, we were utterly amazed at this.

Secondly, when Dr. Gaffin came to Japan to speak to us, we strongly emphasized to him that we desired that an official path of communication be opened (between our presbytery and your committee). Of course you have your own way of doing things, but in the present case, the first letter regarding the "two proposals" which we received from the OPC was addressed to Mr. Moore (OPCJM), and it was through the OPCJM that it came to Tohoku Presbytery and to concerned parties of our General Assembly. Some of us simply cannot understand why there seems to be no desire on your part to communicate with us directly (we're not overlooking the receipt of your memorandum of April 21 for our Evangelism Committee). We're taking it on faith that this is a matter of the difference between Japanese and American culture, but we would like you to understand that we speak frankly when we say that we have difficulty with this manner of communicating.

(2) On April 21 we held a meeting of our Evangelism Committee (five men) and the OPCJM (all four men), at which the moderator of our General Assembly, Mr. Suzuki Hideaki, and the chairman of our GA Missions Relations Committee, Mr. Nishibori Norio were also present. Then on April 28 we had a meeting of our Moderator's Group consisting of Moderator Sudo Shoji who is also on the Evangelism Committee, Stated Clerk Ohba Yasushi, and Assistant Clerk Kubota Shoichi. The consensus of the entire presbytery will be sought at a called meeting in July,
but at these two meetings we determined to express our hopes, as follows:

(1) Premise: we desire to do adequate research on and to establish a more effective plan involving, (a) the necessity of checking out the possibility of financial cooperation as an expression of gratitude for the evangelistic and pastoral work of the OPCJM missionaries, and (b) the fact that the present activity of the missionaries (serving as cooperating evangelists at our chapels) may be different from the direction of the OPC Foreign Missions Committee, because our attitude of reliance on your missionaries in the Tohoku Presbytery may be too strong.

(2) Consequently:
   (a) we desire a regular annual meeting between the OPC Foreign Missions Committee and Tohoku Presbytery (Evangelism Committee and Moderator’s Group).
   (b) we desire that you meet at the same time with representatives of our General Assembly (Missions Relations Committee and GA Moderator’s Group).
   (c) the topic of such a meeting should be a Biblical, believing, continuing and cooperative concrete plan respecting the “comments, suggestions, or recommendations it deems appropriate, mentioned in “e” of your committee’s proposal.

(3) Toward this end: Since there is no time to research a concrete plan before the meeting with you which is scheduled for July 13th and 14th, we would request that you postpone reporting to this year’s OPC General Assembly in May your intention to “consider this proposal at your September 1998 meeting and to close things out at your February 1999 meeting.” would be a great blessing for us if this request were to be honored.

In Conclusion

Calling to mind the abundant fruit God bestowed upon the Apostle Paul’s extremely difficult evangelism to the Gentiles, we earnestly desire to be engaged together with you in the ministry which God has given us, in his strict command to take up the challenge of difficult evangelism to Japan.

We pray that God’s abundant grace in the heavenly storehouses may be poured out on all the congregations and members of the OPC. We pray as well that God may give “courage and hope” to all churches which obey him in prayer through the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Yours in the Lord, Amen.
Sudoh Shoji, Moderator

Communication 23

Signers of Appeal 3 May 29, 1998

We, the signers of Appeal 3 respectfully request permission of withdraw our complaint from the Committee on Complaints and Appeals. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Yours in Christ,
Martin Ban, Andrew Elam, Calvin Keller, Bradley Kelley, Richard Lewis, and David Neilands
APPEALS

Appeal 1

To the Rev Donald Duff, Clerk of the General Assembly of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church: And now this seventh day of January, AD 1998, comes the session of Bethel Orthodox Presbyterian Church and appeals from the decision of the Presbytery of the Dakotas on the enclosed complaint of the session of Bethel OPC against the actions of the Presbytery of the Dakotas, in order to bring that complaint to the General Assembly of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church for adjudication.

Session of Bethel OPC,
Carson, ND

January 7, 1998

To Ed Eppinger, Clerk of the Presbytery of the Dakotas of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church: And now, this 20th day of August, AD 1997, comes the session of Bethel Orthodox Presbyterian Church and complains against the action of presbytery in telling Bethel session to "cease to have Paul Ferrie preach for them either in Carson or Bismarck," and against the error of presbytery in doing so without first consulting with Bethel session, and its delinquency in quoting the scripture it did to support its action. In bringing this complaint we affirm that we believe that the presbytery has erred and been delinquent and that this error and delinquency is serious; that we have tried to understand the presbytery's point of view; that we have seriously examined, in prayer before the Lord, our willingness to be in subjection to our brothers in Christ; and indeed asked Paul Ferrie to cease to preach for us. But because of the serious nature of the error, and in order to preserve the peace, purity, and unity of the body of Christ, we feel constrained by our Savior to enter this complaint. In support of the complaint we set forth the following grounds:

(1) Scripture exhorts us, in lowliness of mind, to esteem others better than ourselves (Phil. 2:3) and to "recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake" (1 Thess. 5:12-13). FG XVII.3.2 states: "The presbytery may supervise a church that is without a pastor (as Bethel OPC was at the time) through a ministerial advisor (this was done as per XIII.6) or a committee. Such supervision includes cooperation with the session, or with any authorized committee, in the supply of the pulpit and in the seeking and securing of a pastor." The session of Bethel OPC was cooperating with its ministerial advisor, who reported nothing amiss in Paul Ferrie's preaching, yet presbytery, without a word to the session, passed a motion telling Bethel session to "cease to have Paul Ferrie preach for them either in Carson or Bismarck"—Bismarck Chapel being Bethel's mission outreach.

(2) The session, in asking Paul Ferrie to preach, was carrying out the will of the congregation, which voted as a body (see minutes of the meeting of October 13, 1996), with no audible dissent, to request the session to ask Paul Ferrie to preach as often as he is able. Tapes of all of Paul Ferrie's sermons were available, but none was requested by presbytery nor audited by its members.

(3) In support of its motion, presbytery cited 2 Thess. (3:6-7), "We command
you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly, and not according to the tradition which he received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not disorderly among you... (ellipsis POD's)" The only inference one can draw from this is that Paul Ferrie was walking disorderly, in the form of a freeloader, as the rest of the passage goes on to explain, once the verse is taken in context (7-10); or worse, as a busybody, a troublemaker who refused to work (11-12; cf. 1 Thess. 9-12). Since no evidence of this was given by any witness, it stands as general, unspecific, unsubstantiated slander (1 Tim. 5.19). Our Larger Catechism states in A.144, "The duties required in the ninth commandment are, the preserving and promoting of truth between man and man, and the good name of our neighbor, as well as our own; appearing and standing for the truth; and from the heart, sincerely, freely, clearly, and fully, speaking the truth, and only the truth, in matters of judgment and justice, and in all things whatsoever; a charitable esteem of our neighbors; loving, desiring, and rejoicing in their good name; sorrowing for, and covering of their infirmities; freely acknowledging their gifts and graces, defending their innocence; a ready receiving of a good report, and unwillingness to admit of an evil report, concerning them; discouraging tale-bearers, flatters, and slanderers," etc.

(4) Paul Ferrie, to the session's knowledge, has never walked in the disorderly way described in the passage from 2 Thess. but was and is, rather, an exemplary brother in Christ, an example to any flock (1 Pet. 5:1-3; Acts 20:32-35). The session affirms, as our minutes indicate, that Paul Ferrie, though receiving only a pulpit supply fee, did travel to Bismarck to preach when asked, did preach in Carson when asked; and also, while searching for another call, did with cheerfulness and grace minister to all who came to him; did visit widows and the infirm, did visit the sick in the hospital, did pray with the session at its regular meetings for the congregation, did conduct Wednesday worship services at Dakota Hill and Elgin Care Centers, and did work thirty to forty hours on each sermon he prepared.

(5) Further, in telling Bethel session to cease to use Paul Ferrie for pulpit supply, without consulting or cooperating with the session, the presbytery has brought upset to the peace and unity of Bethel OPC.

Wherefore the session requests presbytery to make these amends:

1. To confess their error to the session and the congregation of Bethel OPC; and
2. To expunge the minute about Paul Ferrie from its books.

Submitted in the name of Jesus Christ,

Stephen Sturlaugson,
Clerk of Session

Appeal 2

And now, this thirteenth day of April, AD 1998, comes Arthur W. Kuschke and appeals from the decision of the Presbytery of Philadelphia on the enclosed complaint of January 30, 1997 against an action of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, in order to bring that complaint to the 65th General Assembly for adjudication.
REASONS FOR THE APPEAL

Preface

This Complaint is a test of two constitutional commitments of the OPC: the sixth ordination vow, and the Church’s distinctive Calvinism. The Presbytery of Philadelphia failed to meet its responsibility to both commitments by refusing to treat the doctrinal issue, and this refusal is demonstrated by the circumstances of the case. The presbytery’s action of November 16, 1996 was a blunder; the presbytery was both delinquent and in error.

I The Sixth Ordination Vow

This vow is quoted as follows in Ground 5 of the Complaint:

"In teaching the truth of salvation by grace, even though his teaching was opposed by many people at Living Hope Church, Mr. Pedersen was acting in accordance with his ordination vow #6 (Form of Government XXIII.8.(6), p.54: 'Do you promise to be zealous and faithful in maintaining the truths of the gospel and the purity, the peace, and the unity of the church, whatever persecution or opposition may arise unto you on that account?')

Truth is indispensable to peace and unity, for peace and unity are divine blessings received only through the truth of the gospel. Truth cannot be set aside in the interest of outward peace and formal unity, because without truth there is no peace and no unity. Nor is faithful contention for truth prohibited, on the erroneous ground that formal peace and unity must have first priority and must prevail over considerations of truth. All this was clear when the OPC was founded.

The gospel itself brings division (Luke 12:51-53). The sixth vow recognizes this: "the truths of the gospel" arouse "opposition," but it is the duty of the minister to continue to maintain those truths whatever persecution or opposition may arise unto him on that account; on account, that is, of the preaching of those truths.

Arminian opposition arose in the Living Hope congregation with the demand for "free will" (see below); it was Mr. Pedersen’s duty according to his ordination vow to continue to be zealous and faithful in maintaining the truths of the gospel.

And those truths of the gospel constituted the bond between Mr. Pedersen and the minority of the congregation. He believed and taught them; by the grace of God, the minority was awakened and also believed them.

When on November 16, 1996 the presbytery "urged" Mr. Pedersen to "desist" from teaching these minority people, the presbytery wanted to break the connection between them. But the presbytery did not recognize the nature and the power of that connection: it was the bond of truth. The presbytery did not succeed in breaking that connection. Mr. Pedersen responded that in conscience he could not stop teaching the truths of the gospel; he would not break his ordination vow. The minority responded to the presbytery's action by uniting themselves more definitely with Mr. Pedersen. It appears that when the presbytery urged Mr. Pedersen to desist from teaching these people, the presbytery was not even considering Mr. Pedersen's obligation to teach the truths of the gospel, or the presbytery's own obligation to honor the sixth vow.

We cannot say that the sixth vow has no significance to the presbytery, for
although the presbytery has paid no attention to the Complainant’s argument that Mr. Pedersen has kept the vow, the presbytery has decided to change the vow itself and then to bring a judicial charge against Mr. Pedersen for violating the vow in its changed form. The vow has been arbitrarily amended by striking out the following words: “the truths of the gospel” and “whatever persecution or opposition may arise unto you on that account.”

A letter urging the presbytery to bring such a charge against Mr. Pedersen for violating the vow (in its altered form) was dated January 27, 1997. While this complaint was under consideration, the judicial charge was formally filed on July 30, 1997. At the September 20, 1997 stated meeting of the presbytery, the complaint was denied. Then at once the charge of July 30 was presented and a process was begun which has now established the form of the charge. All is now ready except for the fixing of the time and date of the first meeting of the trial judicatory. (The time, date, and place were once “fixed;” Mr. Pedersen was cited by the presbytery to appear for the first meeting of the trial judicatory at 1 p.m. on February 7, 1998. On that day however, “the judicial process” was “suspended.” There is no authorization for such a suspension in the Book of Discipline, III.8.c.)

The astonishing factor in this situation is that the same key words of the sixth vow are still stricken out. There were protests and a minority report against the arbitrary elimination of these key words, but the presbytery, in approving the form of the charge, has stated the vow in truncated form. The presbytery apparently believes that it has the power to amend the vow, which is part of the Constitution of the OPC, by striking out “the truths of the gospel”, in spite of the contention of the complaint that Mr. Pedersen has the obligation under that vow to teach “the truths of the gospel.” So the vow was changed in order to make it condemn Mr. Pedersen for an action which the vow in its full integrity required him to do.

It appears that this same indifference to the force of the sixth vow was present when the presbytery urged Mr. Pedersen to desist from teaching the truths of the gospel; and again, when the presbytery denied the complaint.

II The Distinctive Calvinism of the OPC

The gospel message itself, as given, for example, by our Lord in John Chapters 3, 6, 8, and 10, and by Paul in Romans, Galatians, and Ephesians, is unmistakably clear: The sinner is dead in trespasses and sins, totally unable to help himself out of that state; while God’s grace alone brings the sinner into life and salvation, enabling him to have faith in Christ alone. The sinner must know the true state of things: he must have a real conviction of his sin as it stands in contrast with God’s holiness; he must see the danger of depending on his own self-righteousness, and his absolute need of repentance; and then the glorious gospel of God’s grace comes to him in the Person of the gracious Saviour who saves to the uttermost all who come unto God by Him.

Mr. Pedersen began in Galatians, where he followed Paul’s teaching that any “gospel” relying on the sinner’s contribution to his own salvation is not the true gospel of justification by faith alone, but another gospel. He moved on to Ephesians and the power of God’s grace, only to be met by the circulation in the congregation of an Arminian document insisting on “free will” and attacking the five points of Calvinism as blasphemous. But many in the congregation were visited by God’s glorious grace. There was a true awakening, a true revival, not by human manipu-
lation but by the Holy Spirit. It was not an Arminian revival; it was a supernatural revival true to Scripture, and those who came to new life, whether as new believers or as revived believers, were able to speak of the truth of God's grace in a way true to Scripture.

The presence of this revival both of truth and of grace, which the presbytery has apparently not taken into consideration, witnesses to the distinctiveness of the sovereign truth and power of the gospel preached at Gettysburg and the distinctiveness of the sovereign power and grace of the Spirit.

The presbytery was informed of the Arminian document, and nobody in the presbytery defended it; but the presbytery was five months late in sending help to Mr. Pedersen, and that was too late to restrain the opposition to his teaching, for after the Arminian document appeared, "free will" became a rallying cry among some in the congregation as a true expression of Christianity, against Mr. Pedersen's teaching of the true gospel of grace. When "free will" raises its head against God's grace, it must be opposed, or the gospel itself is obscured. God's grace is not conditioned on something in sinful man.

The gospel, John Murray said to Westminster Seminary alumni in 1952, must be free from Arminian patterns of thought, from Arminian modes of expression, and from practices which have received their inspiration from Arminian theology. Many who came to Westminster, he said, came from backgrounds which were imbued with Arminian sentiment, but at Westminster they found themselves compelled to relinquish the Arminian way of presenting the gospel. It is only on the basis of the Reformed conception of salvation, of grace, of Christ and his redeeming work, only with the definitiveness and particularism which characterizes the Reformed Faith, that Christ is presented in all His fullness and freeness as the Saviour: "It is on the crest of the wave of the divine sovereignty that the full and free overtures of God's grace in Christ break upon the shores of a lost humanity." (Collected Writings, I, 146-147).

It was this full and clear gospel, free from Arminianism and guarded against Arminianism, that Mr. Pedersen saw in Galatians and Ephesians, and preached as "the gospel of God's grace." He did not use terminology like "Calvinism," or "The Reformed Faith" as he preached and taught. He presented clearly the truth of the Bible, which is the truth of the Reformed Faith. It was those who introduced the Arminian booklet, An Examination of TULIP: The Five Points of Calvinism, who introduced the label, "Calvinism." His faithful preaching of the gospel of grace came upon the Living Hope congregation as something new, for which they were unprepared, as is plain from the reactions of both sides in the congregation (See also below). That is to say, all were unprepared for the distinctive truths of Calvinism. Some were upset by Mr. Pedersen's rejection of "free will", and by his insistence upon our total inability, and upon the particularism of God's grace. Others received that grace with thanksgiving.

With the filing of this complaint, the issue of Arminianism versus the gospel of grace was brought to the presbytery, but the presbytery never was willing to grapple with it. Some in the Living Hope Church were unable to agree with Mr. Pedersen that Arminianism is a false gospel. They accused Mr. Pedersen of judging people's hearts. Mr. Pedersen has said on the floor of presbytery that he cannot judge anyone as to whether that person is one of God's elect; rather, he has insisted that we can not render a positive judgment that a person making an Arminian profession (relying on his own works or power of choice) is making a credible profession of faith.
Appendix

There has been considerable talk (with some approval) within the presbytery about a highly problematical quotation concerning Arminianism and Calvinism, allegedly from A. A. Hodge, which says that Arminians hold all essential truth, and that Arminians and Calvinists are each necessary to restrain, correct, and supply the one-sided strain of the other.

Concern for the real practical difference between Arminianism and Calvinism did temporarily come to attention on May 10, 1997, when the presbytery adopted a motion seeking general reconciliation of all problems at Gettysburg. It was a helpful approach, except that it contained one provision that Mr. Pedersen “must” regard as a believer a person who makes a profession of personal faith in Christ as the one atoning Saviour, “even though his understanding of Scripture would, if followed to its logical conclusion, lead to doctrines in conflict with the doctrines of sovereign grace alone as held by the OPC.” Messrs. Pedersen and Kuschke objected and on July 3, 1997 entered a complaint against this one provision of the motion, on the ground that it was not in any way a defense of the doctrines of sovereign grace alone and that it was a lapse from the requirements of our Directory for Worship, Chapter V, for public profession of faith in Christ. Papers were circulated on Arminianism and Calvinism. Then the presbytery decided not to pursue the question. On December 8, 1997, it suddenly rescinded the entire motion for reconciliation, thus removing not only the complaint of Messrs. Pedersen and Kuschke of July 3, but also the discussion of the doctrinal issue itself, along with the whole effort to bring reconciliation.

It may be asked, “What is the relevance of these events to this complaint?” They witness to the undeniable fact that since the fall of 1996, the presbytery has always backed away from any real consideration of the doctrinal issues which are the real issues at Gettysburg and in the presbytery. The presbytery has not been able to face the fact that Mr. Pedersen was teaching and defending the Reformed Faith in a straightforward fashion, as that is set forth in the Bible and our standards. The presbytery should not obstruct him in that teaching, nor should the presbytery urge him to desist from that teaching, if the presbytery itself is faithful to the Bible and our standards in respect to the distinctive truths of Calvinism. The time has come when the OPC needs to be very clear as to what we mean by our distinctive Calvinism, and whether those who faithfully teach it are to be supported or repudiated.

III The Circumstances of the Case: The Action of November 16, 1996 was a Blunder.

The presbytery made a number of mistakes in respect to the Living Hope Church and the developments there: the chronology of this complaint traces the order of these circumstances. Before Mr. Pedersen came, the session had been lax in the instruction of persons seeking membership, as the letters from former elders Luquette and Foster testify. The people were unprepared for Mr. Pedersen’s teaching of the total helplessness of the sinner and salvation by grace alone; this is clear because both those who opposed his teaching and those who received it agreed that it was something very new and different. The presence for over six years of the family who circulated the Arminian document is also evidence that the people were uninstructed. The visitation work of the presbytery, in its supervisory role,
should have disclosed this situation; but the presbytery's inquiries into the teaching at the church, if there were any such inquiries, did not suffice to bring the doctrinal climate of the congregation to the presbytery's attention. In particular, the people were unprepared for three things concerning Mr. Pedersen. These three things are all good and essential and yet all may engender opposition.

First was his zeal. He is zealous in evangelism; wherever he goes, he brings the gospel of grace to the people he meets, with seriousness, earnestness, and persistence. This is often seen as over-zealousness, and as abnormal. Second is his clear-cut teaching on sin and grace in a way that is faithful to the Scriptures and agreeable to Calvinism. This is often disturbing to people who have not been informed and instructed by such truths; And third, the revival that blessed his teaching apparently caused embarrassment or the perception of irregularity. Such a perception has been a historic failing among conservative presbyterians. The Old Side Presbyterians in colonial times could not put up with the benefits of the Calvinistic First Great Awakening; Archibald Alexander had to correct Charles Hodge for similar faults until Hodge took a positive view of that Awakening; and today we so much fear the errors of Arminian revivalism and the excesses of charismatic and Pentecostalist revivalism that we can scarcely credit the possibility that a true revival could appear in our own midst, in one of our own congregations. The presbytery, as well as many people at the Living Hope congregation, has not been able to extend a positive response to these three characteristics of Mr. Pedersen.

As noted, when the presbytery was informed by Mr. Pedersen that there had been great blessing in the truths of salvation by grace but that he needed help at Gettysburg in holding to the faith against Arminianism, the presbytery delayed its help for five months. During that time the opposition within the congregation had reached the point where "the votes had been counted to ask for his resignation, and the two ministers whom the presbytery finally added to the session both agreed that he should resign.

The night before the regular stated meeting of the presbytery on September 21, 1996, a congregational meeting at Gettysburg voted to accept Mr. Pedersen's resignation, which he had offered under protest. At the presbytery the next morning, when this was reported, some members of the Living Hope Church were given the floor and spoke of the glorious awakening and blessing ("life from the dead") that had come to them through Mr. Pedersen's preaching. (This complainant believed them to be reporting not just that they had had an experience, but that they were giving authentic testimony to a genuine and special manifestation of God's grace.) This complainant then prepared and offered a motion intended to encourage the Living Hope Church to hold to salvation by the grace of God alone as essential to the gospel, and urging all at Gettysburg to reconsider the resignation of Mr. Pedersen. This motion was debated, but then the presbytery took another wrong turn. It was observed that the Book of Order tells us what to do in this situation, namely, to dissolve the pastoral relationship; and this prevailed as a substitute motion. But the Book of Order says that the presbytery in such a case "may urge the congregation to reconsider its action" (FG XXIV.2).

After the presbytery dissolved the pastoral relationship, those people of Living Hope Church who had received an awakening though the preaching of their former pastor came to his home in Gettysburg and desired that he continue to teach them. The bond between them was very strong, as it should be. He agreed to teach them on Sunday afternoons and at a time which would not interfere with the regular services of Living Hope Church. He advised them to continue in all their usual
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attendance, at Sunday School, morning and evening worship, and their usual support of Living Hope Church. All this they did.

At the next meeting of the presbytery on November 16, 1996, an elder from Living Hope Church was given the privilege of the floor. He announced (without the prior knowledge or approval of the session) that there was still a connection between Mr. Pedersen, the former Pastor, and some members of Living Hope Church who were continuing to associate with Mr. Pedersen and hear his teaching. This, he said, was having a disruptive effect on the church.

The presbytery then acted to break up this connection. So it was moved, and carried, in spite of warnings that this was the wrong step, to "urge Mr. Pedersen to seek ministerial service in an area away from Gettysburg, and desist from teaching activities among members of the congregation."

That action, which is the action now being appealed, was a blunder. The presbytery did not appreciate the actual circumstances of the situation it was trying to address. Perhaps the presbytery supposed that the removal of Mr. Pedersen would help the Living Hope Church and keep all of its members together; instead, the action only drove out one of the two parties in the congregation. The presbytery should have understood that serious doctrinal division already existed among the members of the congregation and only a fair and compassionate willingness on the part of presbytery to consider these doctrinal concerns would have been appropriate. Instead, presbytery chose to disregard those concerns and simply seek to separate Mr. Pedersen from the people who, only a few months previously, he had led to faith in Jesus Christ.

It is important to note that even with the serious situation which existed within the congregation, no one from the minority who supported Mr. Pedersen had left the church until the action of presbytery.

If there was a "schism" from the Living Hope Church, the presbytery caused it by its rash action. There was no "schism," no departure of members from the church who supported Mr. Pedersen, until this action.

The presbytery, by this action, took sides. The presbytery did not really try to determine on which side the truth lay, or to resolve the doctrinal issues, but took action supporting the side which opposed Mr. Pedersen's teaching. The presbytery was not really aware that the bond between those people who left Living Hope Church and Mr. Pedersen was the bond of truth, because the presbytery had not sought to settle the problem by determination of truth or error.

Those who held to Mr. Pedersen's teaching had looked to the presbytery to support that teaching as true to the Scriptures and to the standards of our Church. Now by this action of November 16, presbytery appeared to be taking sides against that teaching and to be seeking to separate them from Mr. Pedersen and that teaching. Furthermore, the session of Living Hope Church was now in a position of supporting the action of presbytery. The people who believed and supported Mr. Pedersen's teaching now clearly felt they were being driven out of Living Hope Church because of the gospel. Yet, they still asked to be recognized as a particular congregation of the OPC, on the ground that they do indeed hold to the doctrinal position of the OPC. (On February 7, 1998, the presbytery denied that recognition.)

A different action could have been taken by the presbytery. It could have sought to determine matters of truth, while trying to reach all at Gettysburg with pastoral patience and reliance on Scripture, and to persevere in that patience and reliance so as to bring unity in the gospel. But the presbytery acted hastily and blundered.
IV  The Question of the Presbytery's Grounds for Denying the Complaint.

The Presbytery Minutes of September 20, 1997 (16.c) say:

Mr. Kuschke's complaint of January 30, 1997 (cf. February Minutes, Paragraph 16.f) was now considered. The question before the presbytery was determined to be the motion set before the presbytery at the May 10 adjourned meeting (Par. 7.f) by the now dissolved Committee on Matters Related to the Disruption at Gettysburg, that the Complaint of Arthur W. Kuschke dated January 30, 1997 be denied. The motion was passed and the complaint was denied. Messrs. Pedersen, Duggan, and Foraker had their negative votes recorded.

Here no grounds are mentioned, and it is clear that no grounds were adopted when the complaint was denied.

There is a reference to a motion set before the presbytery by the now dissolved committee. This reads as follows in the Minutes of May 10, 1997, (7.f):

A recommendation was moved by the committee that the complaint of Arthur W. Kuschke dated January 30, 1997 be denied.

That committee did bring a report, dated May 3, 1997, and presented it to the adjourned meeting of May 10. At that time the recommendation above was moved, but debate was deferred until the September 20 stated meeting. The report contained the following Grounds given by the committee for denying the complaint:

(a) The committee has not been convinced of the assertion that Mr. Pedersen's resignation was "forced" in that an alternative course of action was available to him.
(b) The committee has not been convinced that the sole reason for the disruption at Living Hope Church has been the offense of hearing the gospel.

When the motion to deny the complaint was before the presbytery on Sept. 20 it is not clear that all of the commissioners present were aware of these two grounds, or that all of them had seen the report of May 3. If the presbytery knew of these grounds and desired to approve them, the presbytery should have done so on September 20. Perhaps it was supposed that grounds do not have to be adopted. But it is important to adopt grounds for the denial of a complaint because they should give the presbytery's reasons for taking the action complained against and for the presbytery's denial of the complaint.

However, these grounds, which were offered in the committee's report, should be evaluated if they have any bearing at all upon the presbytery's reasons for denying the complaint.

The first ground focused attention on Mr. Pedersen's resignation. The resignation is not the point of the complaint; the complaint is directed against the presbytery's action of November 16, 1996. The fact that the resignation was forced cannot be denied. It is true that Mr. Pedersen could have refused the demand of the majority of the congregation for his resignation, and he could have taken his case to presbytery. But it is useless to speculate on what might have happened if events had taken a different course. The resignation itself did not justify the presbytery's action of November 16, 1996. There is no rule in the Form of Government that when a pastor ceases to be a pastor of a congregation he must break off contact
with the people of that congregation; or, that he must refuse to teach them the Scriptures if they so request.

As for the second ground, if "the offense of hearing the gospel" (probably the committee meant "the offense of the gospel") was not "the sole reason for the disruption," the committee seems to agree that it was one reason for it; and the committee did not supply any other reason.

V The Presbytery was both Delinquent and in Error.

The presbytery was delinquent in its action of Nov. 16, 1996, in its failure to face the real difference that existed between Mr. Pedersen's doctrinal position and that of the Living Hope congregation before he arrived; in its failure to discern that his teaching was truly faithful to the Scripture and to our Reformed standards, and therefore deserved to be supported; in its failure to recognize the gracious work of God's Spirit which brought true awakening to many people in the congregation; and for its failure to welcome the witness of these people.

The presbytery was delinquent, further, in failing to recognize the actual circumstances which prevailed in Gettysburg, when the presbytery took its action of November 16, 1996, that is to say, the already existing doctrinal opposition to Mr. Pedersen's teaching by the majority of the congregation, and the strength of the doctrinal commitment to Mr. Pedersen's teaching by the minority; so that that action, instead of preventing the departure of the minority of the congregation, precipitated that departure.

The presbytery was also further delinquent in acting as it did on September 20, 1997, without giving the reasons for that action, and the presbytery was delinquent in denying the complaint without adopting grounds for having taken the action of September 20, 1997. That action was taken upon undetermined grounds.

The presbytery was in error, first, in taking an action which itself was the moving cause of the departure from Living Hope Church of those people who now constitute the membership of Sovereign Grace Church.

The presbytery also erred in taking sides in a doctrinal conflict without taking into consideration the doctrinal issues, and therefore blundered into taking the wrong side doctrinally. It did not have to take sides; it should have followed a patient and pastoral policy toward all concerned, never neglecting the maintenance of the truth itself. But it took the side of those who were protesting the true message of grace, and against those who held to that true message of the Bible and our standards.

The presbytery also erred in urging Mr. Pedersen to desist from teaching, because its action was not based on any determination of error in Mr. Pedersen's doctrine nor upon any statement in the Form of Government; and because it acted contrary to its own commitment to the sixth ordination vow and to the distinctive Calvinism of the OPC.

In its action of November 16, 1996, the presbytery was both delinquent and in error (Book of Discipline IX.1). Therefore the complaint should be sustained.

VI Amends

The Book of Discipline (IX.7) states that the higher judicatory shall determine what amends are to be made.
The Complaint

To the Rev. Robert P. Harting, Jr., Clerk of the Presbytery of Philadelphia of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church:

And now, this thirtieth day of January, AD 1997, comes Arthur W. Kuschke and complains against the following action of the presbytery, taken November 16, 1996:

...that the presbytery urge Mr. Pedersen to seek ministerial service in an area away from Gettysburg, and desist from teaching activities among members of the congregation.

(There was an amendment which was added to this motion and which became part of the main motion later passed. This complaint is not directed against that additional amendment).

The circumstances and course of events concerning this complaint are set forth in the chronology, below. In bringing this complaint I affirm that I believe the presbytery has erred and that this error is serious; that I have tried to understand the presbytery’s point of view; that I have seriously examined, in prayer before the Lord, my willingness to be in subjection to my brothers in Christ; and that I have made a serious effort to correct this error short of entering a complaint.

In support of the complaint I set forth the following:

Grounds:

(1) The action to urge a minister to desist from teaching those no longer under his pastoral care is not founded on any clear principle of Scripture or our Book of Church Order. Considered as advice, it may be very wise advice in some circumstances, or very unwise advice in other circumstances. In this case, Mr. Pedersen was teaching not error, but the clear Gospel of salvation by Grace, which the people who came to him had already gladly received from him. They were not delinquent in their responsibilities toward Living Hope Church. They were continuing in attendance and support, as Mr. Pedersen had encouraged them to do. It was not until the presbytery’s action, the action complained against, that these members began to leave Living Hope Church. When the presbytery urged Mr. Pedersen to desist from teaching them, it was they who decided that if Mr. Pedersen was not to teach them while they were members of Living Hope Church, they would have to leave Living Hope Church so that he could teach them.

(2) This action did not take note of the fact that the gospel of grace itself results both in opposition and in blessing; the action appears to assume that the division in the congregation was the fault of the pastor.

(3) This action did not take proper cognizance of the fact that an outpouring of God’s grace had taken place in the congregation after the truth of salvation by grace had been made clear; a blessing which must be ascribed to the sovereign work of the Holy Spirit. Members of the congregation of Living Hope Church appeared before presbytery, at its stated meeting on September 21, 1996, and told how the truth of salvation by grace had changed their lives and had brought rejoicing.

(4) This action did nothing to heal the division within the congregation but instead was a causative factor in the departure from the congregation of those who adhered to the doctrines of grace as taught by Mr. Pedersen.
(5) In teaching the truth of salvation by grace, even though his teaching was opposed by many people at Living Hope Church, Mr. Pedersen was acting in accordance with his ordination vow #6 (Form of Government, XXIII.8(6), p.54): "Do you promise to be zealous and faithful in maintaining the truths of the gospel and the purity, the peace, and the unity of the Church, whatever persecution or opposition may arise unto you on that account?"

Amends.
(1) Rescind the action complained against.
(2) Elect a committee to consider the reception of the Sovereign Grace Church of New Oxford as a particular congregation of the Presbytery of Philadelphia.

Note: The following Chronology sets forth the events, in sequence, which explain the background of this Complaint.

CHRONOLOGY

1981: The Orthodox Presbyterian Church of Gettysburg is established by the Presbytery of Philadelphia (The church later changed its name to Living Hope Presbyterian Church, OPC, hereafter referred to as "Living Hope Church").
1981-1995: According to the testimony of two former elders of Living Hope Church, there was laxity on the part of the session in respect to teaching and examining new members who were received into the church. Mr. Dennis Luquette, for 13 years a member of the Church and for 6 years elder and clerk of the session (and who has since moved to Maryland) wrote a letter, dated November 5, 1996, to the session, with a copy to the presbytery in which he said:

I am convinced and convicted that the session failed to distinguish between those who were attempting to believe and those who fully understood the saving work of Christ according to the Scriptures. This appears to me to be the root of many of the problems Living Hope is experiencing at present. In short, the session often gloated over such things as natural gifts and former Church relationships, while evidence of immature faith or faithlessness was ignored... The result is that people were confirmed in their misunderstanding of the faith as a personal decision instead of being tested and confirmed in the things that matter, namely new birth that is a finished work of God... Too many people were allowed to join the membership without understanding faith. (See Document #1).

Elder Robert B. Foster, in a letter of December 13, 1996, to the session and congregation, says: "In the past the session erred in fulfilling its responsibility to encourage belief in sound doctrine for those considering membership..." (see Document #2).
1994: The first pastor of Living Hope Church resigns to accept a call to another position.
August, 1995: The Rev. John K. Pedersen is called to be the second pastor of the church, by unanimous vote of the congregation.
Sept. 16, 1995: Stated meeting of the presbytery. The presbytery determines to install Mr. Pedersen as pastor.
Sept. 29, 1995: Mr. Pedersen is installed.
Dec. 10, 1995: Mr. Pedersen, in a study of the Epistle to the Galatians in the adult Sunday School class, speaks of the way that the Gospel of God’s grace is distinguished from all other “versions” of the Gospel which qualify grace by human merit or effort. His remarks are focused on Galatians 1:6-10. The subject matter of the class causes a “considerable stir” among some who attend the class.

December, 1995 - February, 1996: Opposition arises to Mr. Pedersen’s teaching about sin, self-righteousness, repentance, justification by faith alone, and salvation by grace alone apart from our own works. But at the same time that same teaching is welcomed by other people, some of whom profess conversion or who speak of “life from the dead,” and all of whom say they have a new sense of the power of God’s grace over their sin so that they see the clarity and power of the gospel in a way that they never did before.

Feb. 10, 1996: A 23-page pamphlet entitled, “An Examination of TULIP - the Five Points of Calvinism!” is circulated in the congregation by a family who have been members of the church for eight years. This pamphlet contends for an extreme and aggressive Arminianism. It rejects each of the five points of Calvinism and concludes that Calvinism slanders the holy character of God, can only lead to fatalism, and is the kind of teaching which makes atheists. (see Document #3). With the sending of this pamphlet, the family stops attending Living Hope Church.

February, 1996 (later half): Mr. Pedersen personally informed the Stated Clerk of the presbytery and several other ministers of the presbytery that there was a serious division within the Living Hope Church with Arminian opposition to the doctrines of salvation by grace; and requested assistance.

April 26, 1996: A committee consisting of Mr. Georgian and Elder Ronald Murphy meets with the session. (This committee had been requested to do so by the Church Visitation Committee of the presbytery).

May 4, 1996: Stated Meeting of the presbytery. There was a brief report (See Document #4) of the committee that met with the session at Gettysburg. The report states:

Mr. Pedersen reports that, by God’s grace, many have been blessed by his ministry. Already in his pastorate upwards of a dozen persons have been converted, and new members are being added to the church’s membership. As he has preached and taught the primacy of God’s grace in salvation and in the Christian life, many longtime believers have been aided to a fresh appreciation of God’s love and grace.

Others, however, allege that the teaching of God’s love in election has been incessant, insensitive and unbalanced. It appears that some members may be talking about their pastor behind his back. (One family has sent to church families a 20-page booklet, “An Examination of Tulip,” a scandalous and inept attack on Calvinism.)

The upshot is that this congregation is in trouble. The session desires to request one or more of three inactive ruling elders to serve with them for an agreed-upon limited period. The thought is to invite dissident members to discuss with an augmented session their reasons for leaving the church, with the hope that issues and misunderstandings can be cleared up.

Should the inactive elders choose not to serve (or presbytery judge an internal augmentation to be unwise and ineffective), the session is open to presbytery augmenting the session.
Appendix

Mr. Pedersen reported that the local inactive elders had been asked if they would be willing to serve, and they had not expressed a willingness to be added to the session at this time. Also at the meeting, Mr. Pedersen spoke to the presbytery conveying the session’s official request for help in the serious conflict with Arminianism in the Living Hope Church. After discussion it was:

...determined that should the session of Living Hope, Gettysburg request elder augmentation the Committee on Church Visitation and Session Records be authorized to recruit and appoint elders for the task, subject to the approval of the congregation (Minutes, page 9, item 23).

May 8, 1996: The session did request that the session be augmented. The presbytery’s Committee on Church Visitation sought to recruit and to appoint two men to augment the session, but without immediate success.

May - July, 1996: The division at Gettysburg continues and the situation rapidly deteriorates. About 25 of the people who disagree with Mr. Pedersen’s teaching stop attending the church. Mr. Pedersen and Mr. Foster, a member of Living Hope seen as one of Mr. Pedersen’s “followers,” receive anonymous letters. One such letter (See Document #5) received by Mr. Pedersen on April 23, reads:

John, Why don’t you take your followers and start a new Church. We would like to have our (God’s) Church back. Please read Jeremiah 23:1, 2.

June 9, 1996: Under severe stress, Mr. Pedersen publicly expresses his intention to resign as Pastor. During subsequent conversations with Messrs. Cottenden and Duff, he is assured that the process of finding representatives from presbytery to serve on the session will be accelerated. The session votes not to accept his resignation. He announces his intention to remain as Pastor in anticipation of forthcoming help in resolving the conflict at Living Hope Church.

Early July, 1996: The session is presented with a petition from members of the Church requesting that three inactive ruling elders who are members of Living Hope be added to the session. These men have changed their minds about their previous hesitancy to be added to the session (refer to report of Messrs. Georgian and Murphy, above) and are now willing to be added to the session. The session is informed of the willingness of Messrs. John Mallin, III and Arthur Fox to serve on the session as representatives of presbytery, with the approval of the Committee on Church Visitation.

July 21, 1996: The congregation of Living Hope Church votes to approve Messrs. Mallin and Fox as members of session, also electing two previously inactive ruling elders, Mr. Thomas Johnston and Mr. Theodore Hise. Several members of Living Hope who have not been at regular attendance since February come to vote.

July 29, 1996: The augmented session meets, and adopts a “Protocol for Addressing Non-attending Members” (see Document #6). The protocol sets forth the principles of Matthew 18:15ff: as a foundation for systematic visitation with all dissenting members in an effort to effect biblical reconciliation and restoration of those who continue to absent themselves from the services of the church when Mr. Pedersen is present. The session agrees to begin this visitation program in August, continuing through the time Mr. Pedersen is on vacation.
August 3, 1996: A petition to the session of 15 members, asking to meet individually with the ministers of presbytery who had been added to the session.

August 4, 1996: A petition to the session of 10 members, asking that no action be taken to remove any one from the membership roll until January 1, 1997.

August 6, 1996: Mr. Pedersen leaves for vacation.

August 15, 1996: The session meets during Mr. Pedersen's vacation to discuss progress on meeting with non-attending members.

August 25, 1996: A petition to the session, signed by 22 members and 12 non-members, calling for a special meeting of the congregation as soon as possible, to discuss and take action on current problems. Several people with copies of the petition are stationed at exits after the morning worship service, soliciting signatures for the petition.

August 26, 1996: Pastor Pedersen and his family return from vacation.

September 1, 1996: Mr. Pedersen is approached by elder Tom Johnston after the morning worship service and told that a group is planning to request his resignation, and requests a meeting of the session to discuss this.

September 6, 1996: A meeting of session, including the representatives from presbytery, is held. Prior to this meeting, Mr. Pedersen had conferred with both Mr. Mallin and Mr. Fox, informing them that he believed that another petition was being circulated with the purpose of requesting his resignation according to the provisions of the FG. He expressed his desire to resign in view of the fact that the request for his resignation seemed inevitable. Both Mr. Mallin and Mr. Fox encourage him to resign and avoid a situation in which his resignation would be requested.

A petition to the session asking for a congregational meeting to request Mr. Pedersen's resignation is presented by ruling elders Tom Johnston and Jim Lott. When the petition is presented to Mr. Pedersen, Elder Jim Lott informs him that the votes to call for his resignation have been counted, indicating that the request from the congregation will be inevitable. Mr. Pedersen agrees to offer his resignation. The session grants Mr. Pedersen leave from his regular duties of preaching and teaching until his resignation is presented to a congregational meeting.

September 8, 1996: Mr. Pedersen's September 6 letter of resignation is read to the congregation (see Document #7). In this letter, he expresses his love for the people, and says:

Since I arrived, it has been my desire to clarify the gospel of God's grace in my teaching and preaching, and to distinguish it from what I believe is a false gospel. I believe this is a matter of eternal consequence. My conviction has been variously interpreted, but it comes from the weight of importance I feel for this glorious message of forgiveness and grace, and my deep love for you. On our return from vacation, it became clear to me that progress in resolving this controversy, for which I had hoped, had not occurred, but rather...a large number of the members of Living Hope Church were resolutely opposed to my continuance as pastor. In the light of what appears to be an inevitable request for my resignation as pastor, I herewith offer it.... I thank God...for the privilege of witnessing his power unto salvation again and again in so many of you. I "rejoice, and leap for joy" at what has happened here at Living Hope by his marvelous supernatural grace.
The session calls a congregational meeting for the evening of Friday, Sept. 20, to consider Mr. Pedersen’s resignation.

Sept. 11, 1996: A letter from Mr. Pedersen addressed to the members of the Presbytery of Philadelphia relative to his resignation and asking their consideration, ministry and counsel (see Document #8). In this letter, Mr. Pedersen surveys the year of his ministry at Living Hope and gives an account of what his teaching was and of the controversy which arose because of that teaching. He speaks warmly of the early months of his presence in the congregation. He goes on:

From December to the end of February, everything changed. During this period, I began a Sunday School series on the book of Galatians.... In my presentation, I spoke of the distinction between the Gospel of God’s grace and “another gospel” which qualifies the message in terms of human merit and works. It is my conviction that this “qualified gospel” is condemned in Galatians as “no gospel at all” and that those who are under its influence are in great danger. From that time the situation in the congregation began to deteriorate rapidly.... Some endorse the “positive” aspects of my teaching, but are unable to call “Arminianism” a false gospel.... My departure from Gettysburg comes by way of a desire to preach and teach the biblical Gospel of God’s grace.... The implications of my statement that the troubles resulting in my resignation have come by way of the preaching and teaching of the Gospel are weighty for the Presbytery of Philadelphia....

By the time the newly augmented session began its work, the lines of conflict and disagreement were firmly drawn. When I returned from vacation, a petition to the session calling for a congregational meeting was awaiting me. The petition was perfected as a call for a meeting to request my resignation. Knowing that such a request was inevitable, and that according to one member of the session “the votes have been counted”, I tendered my resignation on the evening of September 6.

In fact, while this year has been the most difficult and heartbreaking of my life to date, it has without question been the most amazing confirmation of the power of the Gospel unto salvation that I could ever have hoped to witness, even in my wildest dreams. It has also been the most joyous year of my life.

Sept. 20, 1996: Congregational meeting: Mr. Pedersen’s resignation is accepted by a vote of 43 to 14. Of the members who voted, at least 17 members had not been in regular attendance at Living Hope at least since March, and several of these members had not attended since February. Included among voting members were the family who had distributed the booklet, “...Calvinism!”, referred to above (Document #3).

September 21, 1996: Stated Meeting of the Presbytery. The following events are listed in the order in which they occurred; (see the Minutes.)

1) Mr. Fox, moderator of the augmented session at Living Hope Church, reported that at the congregational meeting, on the previous night, Mr. Pedersen’s resignation had been accepted. (Minutes, item 13, p. 6).

2) Members of Living Hope Church were recognized and given the privilege to speak. A number of them gave whole-hearted testimony to the grace of God in their lives, through the preaching of Mr. Pedersen. (item 13, p.6).

3) Mr. Angstadt reported of the presbytery’s Committee on Church Visitation concerning the committee’s work leading up to the augmentation of the session. (item 13, pp.-7).
4) The Assistant Clerk read Communication #23 from the Moderator of the session, Living Hope Church, reporting that the congregation concurred in the resignation of Mr. Pedersen as pastor.

(The minutes say that he also read Communication #26, “a letter of resignation from Mr. Pedersen.” This entry in the minutes is not accurate. There were two letters from Mr. Pedersen. The actual letter of resignation was the letter of Sept. 6 addressed to “Members and Friends of Living Hope Church”, listed in this Chronology under the date of Sept. 8. This letter was not read to the presbytery. The other letter was the letter of Sept. 11, addressed to “the Members of the Presbytery of Philadelphia”, listed in this chronology under the date of Sept. 11. The September 11 letter was read by the Assistant Clerk, referring to, but not reading, the letter of resignation.)

5) A motion was made and seconded:

To urge Mr. Pedersen and the Living Hope congregation to reconsider their actions and inform the congregation that it is the position of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church that salvation by the grace of God alone as set forth in the Scripture and as stated in the Westminster Confession and Catechisms, is true; and that it is essential to the gospel of Jesus Christ. (Item 15, p.7).

6) As a substitute for the motion on the floor, the following motion was substituted:

That presbytery determine that the pastoral relationship between John K. Pedersen and Living Hope Church, Gettysburg, be dissolved effective September 21, 1996, and that the pulpit be declared vacant as of that date.

Mr. Kuschke’s negative vote against the substitution was recorded at his request. (item 15, p7)

7) Presbytery determined that “the pastoral relationship between John K. Pedersen and Living Hope Church, Gettysburg, be dissolved effective Sept. 21, 1996, and that the pulpit be declared vacant as of that date (FG XII.12.a) (item 15, p.7).” (The previous reference is incorrect. The relevant reference in the FG is XXIV.2.)

8) At the request of the session, presbytery appointed Mr. John Mallin, III (a ministerial member of the Presbytery of New York and New England, now residing in Pennsylvania), as stated supply for Living Hope, Gettysburg. (item 15, p.7).

9) On motion presbytery appointed a committee consisting of Messrs. Gaffin, Troxel, and Brown to counsel with Mr. Pedersen regarding his experiences at Gettysburg. (item 15, p.7).

10) On motion it was determined:

That the Committee on Church Visitation be requested to examine the by-laws of presbytery to see if amendments are warranted that would allow presbytery to respond in a more timely manner to requests for help in addressing problems within its congregations. (Item 16, p.7)

11) On motion the following communication was sent to Gettysburg:
The Presbytery of Philadelphia sends cordial and compassionate greetings in Christ to the Living Hope Orthodox Presbyterian Church of Gettysburg, and informs the congregation and the session that it is the position of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church that salvation by the grace of God alone, as set forth in the Scripture and as stated in the Westminster Confession and Catechisms, is true, and that it is essential to the gospel of Jesus Christ. (Item 16, pp. 7-8).

September 21, 1996, and October to November 16, 1996: Mr. Pedersen advises those members of the congregation who are attached to the doctrines of salvation by grace as he has preached them to continue their membership in the Living Hope Church, although they are convinced that those doctrines are vigorously opposed by those at Living Hope who forced Mr. Pedersen’s resignation. They all do continue at Living Hope, by attendance at the services, by financial contributions, and by other participation (until after the presbytery’s action of November 16, the action against which this complaint is entered).

At the same time these members of Living Hope, out of love for the truth of God’s grace, also meet with Mr. Pedersen on Sunday afternoons for further study of the Biblical doctrines to which they are committed.

November 16, 1996: Stated Meeting of the presbytery.

1) Mr. Fox reported for the augmented session.

2) A delegation of members from Living Hope Church, apparently led by Ruling Elder Thomas Johnston, is recognized by Mr. Fox and the Moderator.

3) Mr. Gaffin reported for the Committee to Counsel with Mr. Pedersen. (see Document #8A).

4) Mr. Pedersen then read the letter of November 5, 1996, from Mr. Dennis Luquette to the session, quoted at the beginning of this chronology as Document #1 (A copy had been sent to the Presbytery of Philadelphia by Mr. Luquette, but it had not been read by the clerk. Mr. Pedersen read it.)

5) A motion was made that "Presbytery urge Mr. Pedersen to seek ministerial service in an area away from Gettysburg and desist from teaching activities among the members of the congregation."

(This became the action complained against by this complaint. When it became the action of the presbytery, the motion had been amended by the addition of the amendment next noted in this chronology. That additional amendment, however, is not complained against.)

An amendment was moved to add the following: "... and remind the session to uphold and teach the congregation the doctrines of God’s sovereignty and salvation by grace alone, in accordance with their ordination vows."
The amendment passed. An amendment was moved to delete the words, "and desist from teaching activities among the members of the congregation." The amendment was defeated. Several members requested that their positive votes be recorded. The motion as a whole passed. Several members requested that their negative votes be recorded.

6) On motion the Committee to Counsel with Mr. Pedersen was continued and was asked to report with regard to Mr. Pedersen's theological views and his plans for future ministry.

7) Mr. Pedersen stated that he was not able to follow the urging of the presbytery to desist from teaching activities among the members of Living Hope Church. He stated that while it was true in the technical sense that he initiated his resignation at Living Hope, he should not have resigned, and called his willingness to initiate his resignation an act of cowardice of which he repented. He reiterated the fact that his resignation was forced, and that the presbytery should understand this fact.

8) On amended motion it was determined that: "In view of Mr. Pedersen's intention to continue teaching among the Living Hope congregation, expressed on the floor of the presbytery, the presbytery instruct the committee to counsel with Mr. Pedersen to consult with him to attempt to resolve this matter and report to the presbytery as soon as possible, at a special meeting of presbytery [if] the committee deems it advisable."

November 20, 1996: In a letter to the session of Living Hope Church (Document #9), Mr. Donald J. Buysse says that:

....the congregation has not been submissive to the session but seeks willfully to impose its own standards, which include tolerance of sinful error in our midst; and the congregation has forced the resignation of Mr. Pedersen in an effort to over-rule the session, without allowing the augmented session time to work out the problems in a Biblically sound manner.

Mr. Buysse says he has seen no change in the congregation's resistance to the discriminating truth of the gospel. He deplres the presbytery's action to urge Pastor Pedersen to leave town and to stop his ministry of Bible studies to all who wish to hear. Mr. Buysse resigns his positions as Treasurer, Trustee, and Custodian as of December 4.

December 13, 1996: In a letter to the session and congregation, Elder Robert B. Foster and family resign their membership in Living Hope Church (see Document #2). Mr. Foster says that the Gospel of God's grace came in the Spirit's power to Gettysburg in the preaching and teaching of Pastor Pedersen. Mr. Foster objects to the presbytery's motion urging Pastor Pedersen to seek ministerial service in some area away from Gettysburg and desist from teaching activities among the members of Living Hope congregation. He says:

...the motion is wrong; it says that Pastor Pedersen is not allowed to teach members of Living Hope when they invite his teaching. It is ironic in a bad way. Think of it. Many of us have been wonderfully changed by the message Pastor Pedersen brought to Living Hope. People offended with this teaching got together and forced him to offer his resignation. Because
he was forced to leave by people who did not agree with his preaching and teaching, those of us who have been supernaturally changed by this good news are told we may not regard him as our Pastor, and he is not allowed to teach those of us who ask for his counsel. This, in spite of the fact that what he taught (and continues to teach) is the true, biblical Gospel.... The presbytery has given us a choice by the urging to Pastor Pedersen. We have to choose between loving the truth of the message that got him in trouble, or loving the “unity” of Living Hope Church.... A great crime was committed at Living Hope in the fact that God’s servant, for whom we prayed for many months before he arrived, and who came bringing the good news, was forced to leave.

The session acts on the resignation from Living Hope Church of five members.

December 15, 1996: Mr. Pedersen receives his last salary check from Living Hope Church.

December 16, 1996: A petition that the Sovereign Grace Church be recognized as a tax-exempt entity by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was granted and signed.

January 1, 1997: Mr. Pedersen’s salary from Sovereign Grace Church begins.

January 5, 1997: First official service of the Sovereign Grace Church, with 37 present.

January 26, 1997: A petition to the presbytery (see Document #10) requests that the Sovereign Grace Church be received as a congregation of the Presbytery of Philadelphia of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

January 30, 1997: Complaint against the action of presbytery on November 16, 1996, is filed with the clerk of presbytery.

Arthur W. Kuschke, Complainant

Stated Clerk’s note regarding Appeal 3: Advisory Committee 10 met with Calvin Keller and Martin Ban and, after consultation on the perceived grievance expressed in this complaint, the appellants determined to ask the Assembly’s permission to withdraw the appeal (#3). (See Journal, §10, 126, 127 and Communication 23.)
REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK

This has been the sixth year in which the present Clerk has been in the office and the third year in which he has been in the new office building. Things have gone well at 607 N. Easton Road in Willow Grove this past year.

I GENERAL ASSEMBLY DOCKET

A. Appeals
   The Clerk has received two appeals of complaints. One involves a session and a presbytery. The other is a complaint of an individual against an action of a presbytery. Both were received in accordance with Standing Rule V.12 and distributed to the Committee on Appeals and Complaints.

B. Time Schedule
   The time schedule in the proposed docket is much like that followed in 1997. The Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic has requested an opportunity for the Retreat Operation Committee of the Machen Retreat and Conference Center to make a 30 minute presentation at the General Assembly (see Communication 9). The Clerk is suggesting that we allow 30 minutes for such a presentation right after the noon break on Tuesday. Assuming 3 hours of business on Thursday and a 30 minute presentation, and not counting time assigned to devotions, recesses (3 hours), there are 38 1/2 hours of time for assembly business in the proposed docket.

II AMENDMENTS PROPOSED TO THIS ASSEMBLY

A. Book of Church Order (BCO)
   There are no proposed amendments to the Book of Church Order to be considered.

B. Standing Rules (SR)
   Several amendments to the SR were proposed by the 64th Assembly to the 65th Assembly for adoption. The pending amendments to the SR (cf. Minutes of the 64th General Assembly, §27, §32, §217) are as follows:

   That the Standing Rules be amended as follows:

   That Standing Rule III.A. be amended with the addition of the following:

     16. The Moderator shall determine and announce to the assembly, prior to the receiving of any offering at the opening of the General Assembly, the cause to which that offering will be devoted.

   That Standing Rule XI.2.b. be amended at the end by the addition of the following:

     ", normally one year ahead of the expiration of his term of office."

   That Standing Rule X be amended as follows:
a. That Standing Rule X.2.a. be amended by substituting the word “eleven” for the word “ten” and adding the phrase, “the Committee on Chaplains” at the end of the lists of standing committees.

b. That Standing Rule X.2. be amended by adding a paragraph “j” as follows: “j. The Committee on Chaplains shall consist of three members arranged in three classes of one member each.

The mandate of the committee shall be to:

1. Represent the General Assembly on the Presbyterian and Reformed Joint Commission on Chaplains and Persons in the Military (PRJC). The PRJC shall serve as the agent of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church for the endorsement of men for military and other chaplaincies.

2. Inform the General Assembly on the policies, decisions and actions of the PRJC and to make appropriate recommendations.

3. Inform the General Assembly on other OPC Chaplain ministries such as hospitals and prisons, and where appropriate bring recommendations.

4. Inform OPC Chaplains of PRJC and/or General Assembly actions which affect them.

5. Maintain a current roster of OPC active duty, reserve, retired, and other chaplains.


Should the changes to SR X be approved the 64th General Assembly recommends to the 65th General Assembly that the OPC Chaplains Commission be dissolved and that the members of the former OPC Chaplains Commission be constituted the members of the Committee on Chaplains with the same classes as before.

III  GENERAL ASSEMBLY MATTERS

Special Committee on Addresses and Displays at General Assembly (See Minutes of the 63rd GA §28). This committee did not meet during the year. This is due to the failure of the Clerk to see that the meeting was called. The Clerk suggests that the committee be continued and the experiences of meeting in a new place be incorporated in any suggestions for upcoming General Assemblies.

IV  WORK OF THE STATED CLERK

A. Overview

The Clerk has endeavored to keep up with the correspondence this past year. 84 letters were written soon after the General Assembly in connection with the work and actions of the assembly. The editing of the Minutes and the Directory along with the preparation of the Agenda require a great deal of time. In addition the Clerk has mailed out all the documents just mentioned which has saved some money over past years but has been a major undertaking. Several volunteers from local churches have been a big help in the mailing.

The Clerk receives requests from all over the country and the world for information about The Orthodox Presbyterian Church. There are those, both within the church and outside, who request information about various study papers which are found in the Minutes of the general assemblies.

Something reported on two years ago has been the advent of an OPC
Web page (http://www.opc.org). There is more reported on this matter in the report of the Committee on Christian Education. The 63rd General Assembly adopted the following:

That the General Assembly request the Stated Clerk to include annually in his report to the GA a brief evaluation of his involvement in the OPC Web page, in such terms as the amount of his time that is spent providing and/or processing materials for the Web, the time spent in responding to inquiries precipitated by the Web, and other factors he may consider relevant.

The Clerk has not spent a lot of time during the year with regard to the web page. He is presently in charge of giving out opc.org e-mail addresses and keeping the ones which are assigned up to date. Increasingly a good deal of communication is being done by e-mail. This is a fast and quick way to do a lot of things, but it has added at times to the work of the Clerk. It is very easy if someone has a question just to fire off a quick note to the Clerk, but he may have to spend some time in order to answer the question.

In working out of the office in Willow Grove the Clerk seeks to serve the committees of the church, such as the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations or the Committee on Appeals and Complaints, in the flow of information and in support of their work. For the past six years the Clerk has served as the Secretary of NAPARC and because of that and other duties has been in contact with the Stated Clerks and General Secretaries of other denominations.

The Clerk is responsible ultimately to the General Assembly for his work, but he recognizes that the Trustees of the General Assembly are charged by the Standing Rules with the task of reviewing his performance as the Stated Clerk. The Clerk has submitted reports on his labors and a job description to the Trustees. He has attended the meetings of the Trustees to report in person. The Clerk will make his reports to the Trustees available to the Advisory Committee which considers this report.

B. Publications

1. Minutes
   a. The Minutes of the 64th General Assembly were 422 pages compared to 402 pages for the Minutes of the previous year. Final proofs went to the printer on October 21, 1997, and the Minutes were delivered on November 10, 1997.
   b. Cost. The printing of 750 copies of the Minutes was $8,020.00. One needs to realize that there is a good deal more expense in editing, copying, and postage. The 62nd General Assembly set the policy that the Stated Clerk has been following for the distribution of the Minutes namely, that the Minutes are sent to all ministers and sessions of the church with a request to contribute $15 per copy to cover the cost of printing. The Minutes were sent out as directed. Many did send in a contribution of $15 which has been a big help.
   c. The Clerk had a great amount of help from his wife as well as others in getting out the Minutes.

2. OPC Directory
   a. The OPC Directory was sent in final form to the printer on January 20, 1997. 8610 copies were received on February 3. They were distributed to the churches. The cost of printing them was $4,847.00.
Appendix

b. It is imperative that when there are changes to be made to the *Directory* that those changes be sent to the Stated Clerk. The Clerk collects changes throughout the year and often gets them only because he has heard of a possible change by word of mouth.

3. **Book of Church Order**
   The *Book of Church Order* was republished in 1995 by the Committee on Christian Education. The book was published in a bound form, but some copies were drilled so that the book was available for those who wish to replace the pages of their old six ring binder. This publication should include all the amendments to the book that went into effect on January 1, 1995 and should be in the form it will have for the next five years (FG XXXII.2). 1500 copies were printed with the expectation that they would last for five years. This past year the Committee on Christian Education printed 1,100 more. The *Book of Church Order* can be ordered through the Committee on Christian Education or through Great Commission Publications. Do note that the *Book of Church Order* can also be found on the OPC Web page (see above).

4. Certificates for licensure and ordination are available to stated clerks of the presbyteries for their use.

C. **Finances**

1. The Clerk has sent out notices to all the churches concerning the amount requested from each church for the General Assembly Operation Fund. A letter was sent to all the sessions on July 30, 1996 concerning the actions of the General Assembly including the requests for funds from various causes including the General Assembly Operation Fund and stating the need for funds. Along with that letter forms were sent to help in determining what each church should contribute to the General Assembly Operation Fund. Another letter was sent to all sessions on November 5, 1997 reminding the churches of what the General Assembly was asking them to give to the General Assembly Operation Fund. The churches did support the fund very well. (See the Report of the Trustees.)

2. The Clerk prepared 63 vouchers in 1997, and 14 thus far in 1998, for expenses charged to the General Assembly Operation Fund. Under the provisions of the *Standing Rules* the Clerk has met with the Trustees of the General Assembly and has prepared with them a proposed budget for the General Assembly Operation Fund for 1999. This proposed budget is to be found in the report of the Trustees. The Stated Clerk plans to make available to the advisory committee which deals with the matter of the General Assembly Operation Fund budget fairly detailed accounting of expenditures updated as much as possible to the time of the General Assembly.

V **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That the 65th General Assembly approve the amendments to the *Standing Rules* as proposed to the assembly by the 64th General Assembly. (The proposed amendments are found in II of this report.)

   (Note: The proposed docket puts the consideration of those changes having to do with the Chaplains Commission under that topic in the docket.)

2. That the special Committee on Addresses and Displays at the General Assembly continued.
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

I MEETINGS

The Trustees of the General Assembly have met twice since the 64th General Assembly, on September 16, 1997 and March 10, 1998. The elected officers of the Trustees are: Martin L. Dawson, Sr., President; Willard E. Neel, Vice-president; Samuel H. Bacon, Secretary; and Howard H. Porter, Treasurer.

II INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

A. The Trustees continue to correspond with the Internal Revenue Service, primarily by the submission of a required annual report of changes within the denomination, such as new congregations added, congregations disbanded, and changes of name and/or address of congregations, in regard to the group ruling granted to The Trustees of the General Assembly and the subordinate units of the General Assembly. This group ruling gives tax-exempt status to all the local congregations and other agencies listed in the current directory of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church. The reference number to be used only by The Trustees of the General Assembly in correspondence concerning tax-exempt matters is 23-7001990.

B. It should be remembered that:
   1. The Orthodox Presbyterian Church and its member churches have been certified by the Internal Revenue Service as being exempt from filing Federal income tax returns under sections 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and have been given IRS Identification Number 23-7001990. Donors may deduct, on their federal income tax returns, contributions to the denomination and/or member churches under Section 170 of the Code. This certification of exempt status is also useful to any member church in obtaining permission to mail through the US Postal Service at special third-class rates. If needed by any member church, a certificate of the church’s membership in the denomination and/or copy of the IRS certification letter may be obtained from the Secretary of The Trustees of the General Assembly.

   2. The tax-exempt status detailed above has no relationship with exemption from state sales taxes. Each state which has a sales tax has its own rules for making tax-exempt purchases for the church’s use. For these details, the church should write to the Department of Revenue of the state at its capital.

   3. Under no circumstances should any congregation or agency of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church use the reference number stated in Sections “A” and “B-1” above as its Employer Identification Number (EIN) or Tax Identification Number (TIN) in its dealings with the Internal Revenue Service with regard to payrolls, social security taxes, withheld Federal income taxes, etc. This reference number is exclusively for the use of The Trustees of the General Assembly for the purposes stated in Sections “A” and “B-1” above. If advice to the contrary is received, please do nothing before contacting the Secretary of the Trustees.

III EIN/TIN NUMBERS

What one must do to receive an IRS EIN is to telephone 1-800/TAX FORMS
(829-3676) and ask for Form SS-4, Application for Employer Identification Number. After sending the executed form, the IRS will send the congregation a postcard with the EIN on it. The Trustees of the General Assembly urge each congregation and mission work of the denomination to apply for an EIN. As stated above in II.A. the Trustees are required each year to report to the Internal Revenue Service concerning changes within the denomination. The Trustees have to report each new congregation and mission work and the Internal Revenue Service asks for the EIN of each one. Thus the need for Recommendation 3.

IV CORPORATE NAME CHANGE

The 63rd General Assembly requested The Trustees of the General Assembly of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church to investigate changing the corporate name from “The Trustees of The General Assembly of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church” to “The Orthodox Presbyterian Church,” and authorized the Trustees to proceed with the change in corporate name if it is deemed appropriate, and further, that the Trustees report to the 64th General Assembly. At the 64th General Assembly the Trustees reported they had not yet done anything about changing the corporate name. The Trustees are now proceeding to file the necessary paper work with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to change the name of the Corporation to “The Orthodox Presbyterian Church.”

V STATED CLERK

The Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, the Rev. Donald J. Duff, submitted his report to the Trustees per the Job Description and Form for Performance Evaluation previously adopted. Mr. Duff was evaluated on the basis of these documents and the evaluation was determined to be “superior.”

VI TRUSTEES’ REPRESENTATIVE TO THE 65TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Trustee Barker was delegated to represent the Trustees.

VII ELECTIONS

The present trustees are:
Class of 2000 - Samuel H. Bacon and Richard A. Barker;
Class of 1999 - Arthur W. Kuschke, Jr. and Willard E. Neel;
Class of 1998 - Martin L. Dawson, Sr., and Howard A. Porter;

The terms of the following trustees expire at this assembly: Class of 1998 - Martin L. Dawson, Sr. (minister), and Howard A. Porter (ruling elder). One minister and one ruling elder or deacon are to be elected to the class of 2001.

VIII RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the following listed remuneration package for the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly for 1999 be adopted:
Salary $27,000.00  
Housing Allowance 25,000.00  
FICA Reimbursement (1/2) 3,978.00  
Pension (6% of Salary) 3,120.00  
Hospitalization, Surgical, Major Medical 6,300.00  
Disability Insurance 500.00 (Est.)  
Worker’s Compensation Insurance 400.00 (Est.)  
Total $66,298.00  
Including four weeks paid vacation

2. The Trustees, in accordance with the Standing Rule XI.2.e. ("propose to the General Assembly a budget for the General Assembly Operation Fund, and suggest a per capita contribution for payment of assembly expenses") propose the following budget for the General Assembly Operation Fund for 1999 and request the churches of the denomination to contribute $16 per communicant member to the General Assembly Operation Fund in 1999:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Requested</th>
<th>Budget</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GAOF request per communicant member</td>
<td>$16.00</td>
<td>$16.00</td>
<td>$16.00</td>
<td>$16.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning Balance</td>
<td>56,844</td>
<td>56,843.66</td>
<td>76,954 (est.)</td>
<td>74,536</td>
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<tr>
<td>Receipts</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>128,750</td>
<td>142,741.28</td>
<td>132,600</td>
<td>140,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Directory Ads</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>4,575.00</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sale of Minutes</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,985.00</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,904.81</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc.</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer/Theo. Assist. Fund</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Receipts</td>
<td>139,750</td>
<td>154,211.09</td>
<td>140,100</td>
<td>149,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stated Clerk</td>
<td>48,500</td>
<td>62,585.22</td>
<td>50,500</td>
<td>52,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospit/Pension etc.</td>
<td>13,620</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>14,093</td>
<td>14,298</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Clerk</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Statistician</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500.00</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historian</td>
<td>5,500</td>
<td>5,500.80</td>
<td>6,050</td>
<td>6,050</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>1,500</td>
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<td>1,500</td>
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<td>Total Honoraria</td>
<td>71,120</td>
<td>70,086.02</td>
<td>74,343</td>
<td>76,048</td>
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</table>

2. Office

| Rent | 7,500 | 8,250.00 | 8,250 | 8,250 | 8,250 |
| Archive Room | 0 | 0 | 1,000 | 0 | 0 |
| Directory | 7,000 | 7,207.68 | 7,000 | 7,500 | 7,500 |
| Equip/Post/Supplies | 4,750 | 3,469.48 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| Total office | 19,250 | 18,927.16 | 20,250 | 19,750 | 19,750 |
3. General Assembly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minutes print /Distrib.</td>
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<td>9,311.19</td>
<td>10,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agenda print/Distrib.</td>
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<td>1,489.44</td>
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<td>Committee Arrangement</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>1,472.35</td>
<td>700</td>
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<td>1,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fraternal Delegates</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>6,894.56</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>6,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total GA</strong></td>
<td><strong>19,500</strong></td>
<td><strong>19,167.54</strong></td>
<td><strong>17,200</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>19,700</strong></td>
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4. Assessments

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<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<td>NAPARC</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>150.00</td>
<td>150</td>
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<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
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<td>1,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCMAF</td>
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<td>150</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Joint Chaplains Commission</td>
<td>1,400</td>
<td>1,645.00</td>
<td>1,575</td>
<td>1,575</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total assessments</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,168</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,663.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,375</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,375</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,375</strong></td>
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</table>

5. Committee Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tr>
<td>Appeals and Complaints</td>
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<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chaplains Commission</td>
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<td>3,543.64</td>
<td>2,300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Committee for Historian</td>
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<td>5,781.66</td>
<td>12,500</td>
<td>12,500</td>
<td>12,500</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CEIR</td>
<td>13,000</td>
<td>8,582.41</td>
<td>11,000</td>
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<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
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<td>Revision DPW</td>
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<td>80.17</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustees of the GA</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>28.70</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Committee</strong></td>
<td><strong>26,650</strong></td>
<td><strong>18,257.45</strong></td>
<td><strong>27,350</strong></td>
<td><strong>27,100</strong></td>
<td><strong>27,100</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total Expenses                | **143,688**| **134,101.17**| **142,518**| **142,773**| **145,973**|
| Receipts minus Expenses       | (3,938)   | 20,109.92 | (2,418)   | 4,727     | 3,027     |
| **Ending Cash Balance**       | **52,906**| **76,953.58**| **74,536**| **79,263**| (est.)77,563|

3. That the presbyteries ask each new congregation and mission work to obtain an EIN and advise The Trustees of the General Assembly of the EIN when they do so.

IX ESTIMATED EXPENSE

The Trustees estimate their costs for the next year will be $100.

Respectfully submitted,
Martin L. Dawson, Sr.
President
REPORT OF THE STATISTICIAN

This report summarizes statistics of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church for 1997. The Yearbook contains a summary of OPC statistics for 1997, followed by the detailed statistical reports of the local and regional churches, the reports of the presbyteries, and a recapitulation of membership statistics since 1938.

I SUMMARY

The Orthodox Presbyterian Church grew significantly again in 1997. A new presbytery was formed, several new local churches were added, and ten new mission works were begun. The growth in worship attendance that occurred in 1996 appears to have carried over into substantial growth in church membership in 1997. Total membership grew by 5.67 percent, while both worship and Sunday School attendance were up by almost 4 percent. Furthermore, a 6.6 percent increase in per capita giving combined with the membership increase to produce a 12.7 percent growth in total contributions. There is certainly much here to be thankful for as our Lord builds his church.

The number of local churches grew to 198 as six mission works were organized into new and separate churches, and two other congregations were received into the OPC as particular churches, while four congregations were dissolved. The OPC at the end of 1997 had a total of 42 mission works as nine new mission works were either started or received into the OPC, while six were organized as churches and one was terminated (for a net gain of three). This brings the total number of congregations (churches and mission works) to 240 at the end of the year, compared to 234 a year before.

Total church membership reached 23,386 with an increase of 1,255 persons (5.67 percent) for the year, exceeding the adjusted growth rates of recent years: 5.27 percent (1996), 4.38 percent (1995), and 5.19 percent (1994). These four years taken together amount to a 22.1 percent gain in total membership (over 4,000 new members), for an average annual growth rate of 5.13 percent over this period.

Morning worship attendance in 1997 grew somewhat less than membership, having increased by 671 persons (3.6 percent) to 19,346 as measured in November. Sunday School attendance grew by 408 persons (3.7 percent) to 11,514 in November, in line with the increase in worship attendance. The increases in membership and attendance were closely matched by a 5.4 percent increase in the total number of ordained officers in the church.

Finally, total offerings reached $24.06 million. A large portion of the 12.7 percent increase came in benevolence offerings which were up by 14.4 percent, marking a turnaround from many years of smaller increases.

II CHURCHES AND MISSION WORKS

The year began with the formation of the Regional Church of the Central US and its presbytery, which became effective on January 1, 1997. The new regional church consists of local churches in Kansas, Nebraska, and parts of Oklahoma and Missouri, currently numbering four congregations. Three of these churches came
from the Regional Church of the Dakotas and one church came from the Regional Church of the Southwest.

A correction should be noted to the statistical reports since 1993. Two congregations that have been reported as unorganized mission works should have been reported as churches. Keys Chapel, Key West, FL (in 1993) and Covenant OPC, Cedar Falls, IA (in 1995) were reported as churches that had been returned to mission work status by their respective presbyteries. However, since there is no provision in the *Form of Government* for making such a change in a church's status, both congregations remain as churches with their sessions appointed or augmented by the presbytery (cf., FG XIII.10). Thus, the number of congregations at the end of 1996 should have been reported as 194 churches and 40 mission works.

The total number of local churches at the end of 1997 stood at a record 198, from a net increase of four churches during the year. Six mission works were organized as new and separate churches, and two congregations were received into the OPC as organized churches. These gains in the number of churches were partially offset by the dissolution of four churches. The total number of unorganized mission works grew by 2 to 42, hardly revealing the great amount of activity in this area. The changes that occurred in 1997 are listed below along with their respective regional churches.

### Church Additions (8)

**Organized as new and separate churches from mission works**
- Providence, Royal Oak, MI
- Rockford Springs Community, Rockford, MI
- Faith, Indiana, PA
- Covenant, Mansfield, OH
- Sandy Springs, Maryville, TN
- Redeemer, Denton, TX

**Received into the OPC**
- Trinity, Audubon, NJ
- Sovereign Grace, Ramona, CA

**Regional Church**
- Midwest
- Ohio
- South
- Southwest
- New Jersey
- Southern California

### Church Reductions (4)

**Dissolved**
- Trinity, Denver, CO
- Trinity, Audubon, NJ
- Church of the Servant, Williston, VT
- New Life, So. Hadley, MA

**Regional Church**
- Dakotas
- NY & NE
- NY & NE

### Mission Work Additions (9)

**Started or received into the OPC**
- Covenant Chapel, New Bern, NC
- New Life Fellowship, Holland, MI
- Covenant, London, Ontario, Canada
- Westminster, Ocean City, NJ
- Jaffrey OPC, Jaffrey, NH
- Amoskeag, Manchester, NH
- Providence, Pickerington, OH
- Providence, Temecula, CA
- Westminster, Wichita Falls, TX

**Regional Church**
- Mid-Atlantic
- Midwest
- Midwest
- New Jersey
- NY & NE
- NY & NE
- Ohio
- Southern California
- Southwest
Mission Work Reductions (7)  
Organized as new and separate churches  
(See six churches listed above)  
Terminated  
Christ, Washington, PA  
Regional Church  
Ohio

III MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

The total membership of 23,386 persons at year’s end consisted of 376 ministers, 15,931 communicant members, and 7,079 baptized children (non-communicants). This represents an increase of 1,255 persons (5.67 percent) from 1996’s adjusted total of 22,131 members. This membership increase is comprised of the following gains: 10 ministers, 859 communicant members, and 386 baptized children. Communicant membership growth included 694 professions of faith and 704 reaffirmations of faith. Offsetting these gains were losses from deaths (102), net transfers (35), and discipline & erasures (402). The gain in non-communicants (baptized children) came as the result of additions by 587 baptisms and 618 children received with parents, and of reductions by professions of faith (229), deaths (2), children dismissed with parents (444), and erasures (144).

Worship attendance averaged 19,346 in November 1997, which is 82.7 percent of total membership. This is an increase of 671 persons (3.6 percent) from a year earlier. Sunday School attendance averaged 11,514 in November 1997. This is 408 persons (3.7 percent) higher than in 1996, and is once again the highest average Sunday School attendance on record. Both worship attendance and Sunday School attendance increases are considerably less than the 7 to 8 percent increases in 1996, but exceed the 3 percent increase in 1995.

IV CONTRIBUTIONS

Total giving in 1997 increased by 12.7 percent from the previous year, to a record high of $24,057,740. Total giving per communicant member (per capita giving) increased by 6.6 percent to $1,510 per communicant member, also a new high. The $24.06 million contributed to support all aspects of the ministry of the OPC in 1997 is divided into three categories for the statistical report. General offerings for local church expenses grew by 10.6 percent to $18,021,305 or 74.9 percent of giving. Previously it had been at 76.3 percent of giving. Benevolence offerings for missions, outreach, and diaconal ministry increased by over $500,000 (a whopping 14.4 percent) to $3,967,490, representing 16.5 percent of total contributions. Offerings designated or used for capital improvements totaled $2,068,954, or 8.6 percent of total giving. Finally, bequests in 1997 totaled $232,797.

V ORDAINED OFFICERS

There were 376 ministers in the OPC at the end of 1997. The following actions resulted in a net increase of 10 ministers on the rolls of OPC presbyteries. Dates and details are reported in the Yearbook.
Ministers Added To The Roll (18)

Ordained
- Heero E. C. Hacquembord
- Bruce P. Jarvis
- Stephen A. Mitgotsky
- Donald T. Owsley
- Peter J. Wallace
- Geoffrey L. Willour

Received into the OPC
- Benjamin Alvira, from PCA
- Steven M. Baugh, from PCA
- Bruce M. Brawdy, from CRC
- Gerald C. Dodds, from PCA
- Kenneth L. Gentry, Jr., from PCA
- David W. Inks, from PCA
- Rodney T. King, from PCA
- Daniel L. Korzep, from PCA
- William D. Lipford, from PCA
- Michael A. Obel, from PCA
- Allen C. Tomlinson, from RPCGA
- Joseph P. Trombetta, from independency

Presbytery
- Midwest
- Philadelphia
- NY & NE
- Northern California
- Midwest
- New Jersey

Ministers Removed From the Roll (8)

Deceased
- Lester R. Bachman

Dismissed from the OPC
- Terrance A. Clarke, Jr., to PCA
- Stephen G. Hohenberger, to PCA
- Timothy B. Perkins, to United Ref. Church

Demitted
- Douglas J. Smith

Divested
- Harold L. Baurer

Erased
- James D. Day, renounced OPC jurisdiction
- William O. Rudolph, renounced OPC jurisdiction

Presbytery
- Philadelphia
- Southern California
- Ohio
- Southern California
- Northwest
- Midwest
- NY & NE
- Southwest
- Philadelphia
- NY & NE
- New Jersey

In addition to these changes, eleven ministers transferred between OPC presbyteries in 1997.

Minister
- Robert Y. Eckardt
- W. Ralph English
- Stephen R. Hart
- H. Jeffrey Lawson
- Calvin R. Malcor
- R. Heber McIlwaine
- James R. Megchelsen
- Russell D. Piper

From
- Mid-Atlantic
- South
- Dakotas
- Philadelphia
- Northwest
- South
- Southern California
- Northwest

To
- South
- Dakotas
- Northwest
- Ohio
- N. California
- Philadelphia
- Midwest
- Philadelphia
Furthermore, the new Presbytery of the Central US was formed, effective on 1 January 97, having on its roll the following ministers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minister</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mark T. Harrington</td>
<td>Dakotas</td>
<td>Central US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LeRoy E. Miller</td>
<td>Dakotas</td>
<td>Central US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William A. Miller, Jr.</td>
<td>Dakotas</td>
<td>Central US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. Robert Nilson</td>
<td>Dakotas</td>
<td>Central US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard A. Shaw</td>
<td>Southwest</td>
<td>Central US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geoffrey C. Smith</td>
<td>Dakotas</td>
<td>Central US</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number of ruling elders in the church increased by 47 to 905, of whom 645 (71 percent) are currently serving on sessions. The total number of deacons grew by 43 to 667, of whom 476 (71 percent) are actively serving. In all, with ministers included, there are 1,948 ordained officers in the church.

VI CONCLUSION

The statistics from 1997 provide many reasons for encouragement. They enable us to see the Lord's work throughout our whole church in some ways that may not be apparent otherwise. Praise God that nearly 700 believers professed their faith in Christ last year in our churches, and that another 700 believers joined our fellowship by reaffirmation of faith. Praise him that the OPC grew by an average of 105 members (the size of a typical congregation) each month last year. Thank him for offerings that have increased at a rate far beyond wages or inflation, enabling the church to provide for its expenses and to reach out with the gospel at home and abroad. And praise him for raising up new generations of covenant people, as shown by nearly 600 children being baptized, 229 young people publicly professing their faith, and 100 more elders and deacons being called to serve in church office.

It would be easy to use our statistics to project another 4,000 members, an attendance of 22,000, and contributions well beyond $30 million by the end of the decade. It takes only a minute with a calculator in hand. However, it is said that “performance data represent past results, and do not reflect future performance.” It is misleading to conclude that the church can continue to grow as if it were on cruise control. Further growth is a continual struggle, and there will be opposition. It will demand our constant diligence and perseverance, not with a calculator looking back, but with the shield of faith and the sword of the Lord pressing on with prayer in the work that God has called us to do.

Respectfully submitted,
Luke E. Brown
Statistician
ADDENDUM

The Assembly "direct[ed] the Statistician to revise his report by an Addendum and the Statistical Reports of the Churches to reflect the fact that the Form of Government does not prevent presbyteries from taking actions which would have the effect of changing the status of a congregation from that of an organized church to that of an unorganized mission work (see FG XIV.5 and XXIX.A.1)" (cf. §95.) Accordingly, Keys Chapel, Key West, FL (South) and Covenant, Cedar Falls, IA (Midwest) should be regarded as mission works. Also, Living Hope Community Church, Ionia, MI (Midwest) was reported to have been "returned to mission status" on 12 September 97. With these changes the number of churches and mission works at the end of 1997 stood at 195 and 46, respectively, compared to corrected values of 192 and 42 for the end of 1996. All necessary corrections have been made to the Statistical Reports of the Churches.

Some errors in the detailed reports were brought to the attention of the Statistician, and these have been corrected in the Yearbook. These corrections revise total Sunday School attendance in November 1997 to 11,431, which is 2.93 percent higher than in 1996. Also, the total General offerings have been corrected to $17,984,055, and the total Benevolence offerings to $4,004,740, with no change in the Total contributions.
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SYNOPSIS

I THE BROADER MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
A. Highlights
B. Goal Areas
C. Special Committees
D. Subcommittee on Ministerial Training
E. Magazine Subcommittee
F. Staff
G. Officers

II GREAT COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS
A. The Year in Review
B. Finances
C. Publications Program
D. Communications/Advertising
E. The Board of Trustees

III BUDGET

IV RECOMMENDATIONS

V ELECTIONS

I THE BROADER MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

A. Highlights
Since the last Assembly, the Committee on Christian Education (hereinafter CCE, or the Committee) has addressed several new challenges and opportunities for ministry, among which are the following:

1. A Ministerial Training Institute of the OPC
2. The Plan and Management of the OPC Website (opc.org)
3. Expansion of the Ministerial Internship Program
4. Assistance in the building of a Christian School in Mbale, Uganda
5. Consideration of a new songbook of contemporary hymns

Details of these and other ministry projects and plans will be found below in the body of this report.

B. Goal Areas
There are five regular subcommittees of the Committee, each of which is responsible for research and promotion of a particular ministry, as well as assisting the Committee to encourage and support these ministries as they are performed by the membership of the denomination, listed with their members, goals and activity:

1. Worship (Wilson, Miladin, Williamson)
   a. Goal: to encourage and guide the individual, family, and congregational praise of God, engaging the intellect, will and emotions of his people in the varied ministry of Word, sacraments, music and prayer
   b. Activity
      (1) Great Commission Publications (GCP) markets Trinity Hymnal and continues to supply the adult study books, Discovering the Fullness of
Worship and Worship Planbook, as well as catechism bulletin inserts and Q & A, a series of flyers for teaching the catechism to the congregation

(2) *Our Songs in God’s Worship*, containing reports presented to the 13th and 14th General Assemblies on the subject of what are appropriate materials for singing praise to God in public worship, and annotated bibliographies on congregational and family worship are available to the churches

(3) *God’s Words for Worship* (aids for worship leaders compiled by Committee member Larry Wilson), a grouping of Scripture readings under various headings to assist in leading worship, is now available from GCP

(4) *Hymns for Piano Students*, a graded listing of hymns in Trinity Hymnal (both original and revised editions) by Mrs. F. Kingsley (Elinor) Elder, is available from GCP

(5) *Trinity Songbook*

The Committee reported to the 64th (1997) General Assembly that Great Commission Publications (GCP) hoped to publish a book of contemporary song as a supplement to *Trinity Hymnal*. That Assembly determined “that the Committee on Christian Education be instructed to make the complete draft of the *Trinity Songbook* available to sessions for review and comment, upon request, and to withhold its endorsement of the *Trinity Songbook* pending approval by the 65th General Assembly.” On October 17, 1997, all sessions of all Orthodox Presbyterian Churches received notification that a prototype of the songbook containing some 134 selections, entitled “Publisher’s Report on *Trinity Songbook*,” was available upon request from GCP (one per session). Sessions were requested to forward any comments to CCE’s Subcommittee on Worship. At its meeting on March 16, 1998, the Committee took the following actions:

(a) that approval of the publication of *Trinity Songbook* be delayed to allow further feedback and opportunity to make changes in light of that feedback (if persuaded), and that sessions be requested to give their evaluations to the Committee by September 30, 1998; and that the Committee convey to the sessions that it earnestly solicits responses from the whole church, and

(b) that, if this songbook is published, the name be changed, so that it is not associated with Trinity Hymnal; it be identified as a songbook to be used as sessions deem best for a variety of purposes; it be published with a different preface so that the songbook not be identified as being designed for public worship; and that it not attempt to settle the case for contemporary music in public worship

2. Teaching (Curry, Felch)

a. Goal: To assist the church in learning, applying and obeying in all of its life the whole counsel of God as revealed in Scripture and summarized in our doctrinal standards, with an understanding of God’s past leading of the church and his promises for the future

b. Activity

(1) The subcommittee considers any questions, comments and criticisms of GCP published materials that are communicated in writing, and makes any recommendations to GCP that it deems appropriate or brings the matter to the attention of the full CCE

(2) Through the services of GCP, Sunday School material is provided for ages two through adult

(3) The subcommittee continues to promote regional teacher training seminars through providing our churches with an informational brochure and granting them financial assistance
(4) During 1997, the General Secretary of CCE, in connection with his responsibility to represent the work of the Committee and to engage in the ministry of Christian Education:

(a) preached in Orthodox Presbyterian churches 18 times
(b) presented the work of the Committee six times to adult Sunday school classes
(c) served as an evaluator at four Readiness For Ministry seminars
(d) conducted 12 seminars in churches on a variety of subjects
(e) taught six adult Sunday School classes

(5) The subcommittee plans to publish soon the booklet, *God Or Mammon?*, by Thomas Tomer, addressing the subject of materialism

(6) Two 24-page booklets, *What Is The Reformed Faith?* and *What Is The OPC?* are available @ $1 postpaid from the Committee (minimum order: 5 copies)

(7) The subcommittee is considering the suitability for publication of *How To Be A Good Church Member*, by the General Secretary, as an adult Sunday School guide covering 13 weeks

3. Fellowship (Malcor, Curry)

a. Goal: *To promote the communion of saints for spiritual edification in the love of Christ and ministry in outward things, both within and without our denomination*

b. Activity

(1) Materials available:

(a) Two communicant membership courses, *Confessing Christ* (GCP) and *Professing Your Faith* (CCE), are available @ $3 each from the Committee

(b) The booklet, *Focus on Fellowship*, a descriptive list of 100 ideas to promote fellowship in the church continues to be made available free from the Committee

(c) A *Handbook for Camps and Retreats*, prepared by the subcommittee, was previously distributed to each presbytery and is still available upon request.

(2) Machen Retreat and Conference Center

The Committee has provided a total of $36,000 ($20,000 in 1997) for research and development of the Machen Retreat and Conference Center (MRCC) in McDowell, VA (about 50 miles NW of Staunton, VA). The Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic exercises oversight of this project which is being developed on some 50 acres donated to the OPC for this purpose by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Cunningham, members of Berea OPC in Dayton, VA. The presbytery has a special committee currently hard at work to develop this unique retreat and conference opportunity. Interested groups are invited to make use of facilities for up to 20 persons already in place (additional persons can be accommodated through the use of camper hook-ups) for year-round retreats. Mr. Cunningham may be reached for further information by e-mail at teleserv@cfw.com.

4. Evangelism (Miladin)

a. Goal: *To help equip the church for its mission to make disciples of all nations*
b. Activity
   (1) The report, *Evangelism in the OPC* and the tract, "Pray For Us" are available free from the Committee
   (2) A course on evangelism, entitled *Personal Evangelism Made Less Difficult*, by George Miladin, is available from the Committee (one free copy to each church, additional copies @ $2.00 postpaid).
   (3) A list of Reformed tracts is now available from the Committee

5. Christian Schools (Woiwode, Gidley, MacDonald, Muether)
   a. Goal: To encourage the establishing and conducting of Christian schools and to promote the passage of legislation which protects the rights of such schools
   b. Activity:
      (1) The General Secretary has prepared various materials on the need for and nature of Christian schools, and is available to conduct seminars in local churches on those topics
      (2) Subcommittee members continue to publish articles in *New Horizons* and elsewhere on Christian education
      (3) The subcommittee is working on the formulation of a curriculum for private and home-school parents
      (4) The Committee determined to contribute $17,500 to finance the construction and equipping of a Christian school in Mbale, Uganda, a special project approved by the Committee on Foreign Missions; Orthodox Presbyterian missionaries Tony and Kathleen Curto work closely with the church undertaking this venture

C. Special Committees
   The Committee has other special committees whose mandates fall outside the above-mentioned goal areas:

1. Equipping Ordained Officers (Gidley, Shishko, Wilson, Winslow, Williamson)
   a. Mandate: To prepare study materials for churches, designed to assist the office-bearers of the church in their God-given task of the edification of the whole body
   b. Activity
      During 1997 CCE, through its subcommittee, published four issues of *Ordained Servant*, a journal which provides materials for the equipping of office bearers to serve more faithfully. The goal of this journal is to assist the ordained servants of the church to become more fruitful in their particular ministry so that they in turn will be more capable to prepare God’s people for works of service. *Ordained Servant* includes articles (both old and new) of a theoretical and practical nature, with the emphasis tending toward practical articles wrestling with perennial and thorny problems encountered by office bearers. The publication is now being made available in a new format with folded and stapled pages and a glossy cover. It is sent free of charge to all OP churches for their officers and to all ministers and missionaries listed in the current *Directory of The OPC*. It is also sent free of charge to licentiates and men under care who request it. Others may subscribe at $12 per year. *Ordained Servant* is edited by G. I. Williamson, the subcommittee serves as the editorial board, and Pleroma Press in Carson, ND is responsible for production.
2. Long-Range Planning (Elder)
   This subcommittee exists to stimulate and coordinate the long-range planning activities of the other subcommittees and of the Committee itself, serving to encourage and enable the Committee to set goals and strategies for the future as well as to predict the financial support needed to carry out the various facets of the ministry of Christian Education for the next five to ten years.

3. The Plan and Management of OPC Website (Galbraith, Williamson)
   This special subcommittee assisted the Committee in responding to the mandate of the 64th (1997) General Assembly "to prepare a statement of purpose and overall plan for the management of the OPC website, including the following elements:

   1. Design and Policy
   2. Planning and Implementing
      a. Permanent content
      b. Temporary (changing) content
   3. Coordination of the contents, giving particular attention to the question of consultation among the Program Committees and other committees whose material might appear on the website, the Webmaster, and the managing body; and report with recommendations to the 65th General Assembly

At the present time the website, under the domain name OPC.ORG, is operated for the CCE in accordance with its action of March 12-13, 1996, by the General Secretaries of the three standing committees and the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, who had constituted themselves as an OPC website management team under the leadership of Ross Graham. They contracted with the Maracorp Corporation of East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania to be website host and appointed its president, Mr. Edward Walsh, as the OPC.ORG webmaster. The team also has maintained and overseen the contents of the web page.

The Committee, in fulfillment of the instruction of the 64th (1997) General Assembly (Minutes, §156; cf. p. 286, Recommendation 7, Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations), presents to the 65th (1998) General Assembly for its approval the following:

PLAN FOR THE WEBSITE
OF THE ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

I PURPOSE
The Orthodox Presbyterian Church shall, through its Committee on Christian Education, maintain an official presence on the World Wide Web through its website known as OPC.ORG, in order to:
   1. Provide public information concerning the description, beliefs, structure, ministries and publications of the OPC
   2. Promote the cause of Christ within the OPC
   3. Provide Reformed theological material for consideration by other Reformed churches around the world
   4. Evangelize and teach the gospel to the world
II DESIGN  
The design of OPC.ORG shall:  
1. Ensure that text and graphics will be accessible to a broad spectrum of Internet users  
2. Produce and maintain an attractive, professional appearance  

III CONTENT  
The content of OPC.ORG shall be of two classifications, permanent and temporary. These content classifications shall be governed as follows:  
1. Permanent content shall be those materials and official documents which the CCE has designated to appear permanently as part of the content of OPC.ORG  
2. Temporary content shall be those materials for which the CCE has set parameters and guidelines and which may be changed, substituted, replaced or updated as part of the routine management of OPC.ORG  
3. Materials and documents shall be classified as permanent or temporary prior to their posting on OPC.ORG  

IV MANAGEMENT  
OPC.ORG shall be managed as follows:  
1. Overall operation of OPC.ORG shall be by the CCE  
2. The CCE shall appoint a Website Committee to:  
   a. Engage personnel to maintain and manage OPC.ORG  
   b. Propose policies concerning OPC.ORG to the CCE  
   c. Execute policies concerning OPC.ORG  
   d. Determine and/or make recommendations to the CCE concerning the permanent and temporary content of OPC.ORG  

REGULATIONS  
In order to operate the Plan according to its provisions various regulations and policies are needed. They include the following:  
1. The Website Committee shall be composed of three members, appointed annually, which shall perform the duties specified in IV.2 of the Website Plan  
2. Include in the job description of the General Secretary: Administration of the Church’s website on the World Wide Web under the domain name OPC.ORG  
3. Assign to the General Secretary authority to engage a Webmaster and a Web Manager and to set the terms of their employment in consultation with the Website Committee  
4. The Webmaster shall maintain the OPC.ORG website subject to rules established by the Committee  
5. The Website Manager shall be responsible to the General Secretary; initially he shall serve part-time  
   a. Qualifications  
      (1) Computer literacy and a practical working knowledge of the function and use of a website  
      (2) Preferably he shall be a minister in the OPC; in any case he shall be a member of the OPC with theological and ecumenical knowledge and skills, approved by the Website Committee
b. Duties
   (1) Place ongoing content on the website, in consultation with the Website Committee and General Secretary of the CCE.
   (2) Maintain consultation with the program committees of the General Assembly, especially through their General Secretaries, and with the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly. The General Secretaries of the program committees shall have authority to restrict publication of materials that pertain to the work of their respective committees, pending approval by such committees.
   (3) Prepare an annual budget for the website work.

6. Responses to Inquiries
   Responses shall be made by:
   a. A body in the church that has special responsibility in a particular area of activity; or by
   b. The CCE in those areas where the church does not have a responsible body. Initially, these responders shall be persons chosen by the OPC Website Management Team formed by the CCE on March 12-13, 1996; however, the above-mentioned bodies shall review those appointments and may, if they so desire, select persons to fulfill these tasks.

7. Website improvements
   As modifications and additions to the web page are needed, such changes will be made within the management structure provided in Section IV of the Website Plan.

The Committee informs the General Assembly that it has:
   a. established a Website Committee composed of three members, appointed annually, whose duties shall be as stated in Section IV.2 of the Website Plan,
   b. determined to place the Plan in operation as of August 1, 1998, subject to the approval of the 65th (1998) General Assembly,
   c. adopted a budget for the operation of the website for the period August 1 through December 31, 1998, drawing on the Committee’s Capital Fund for its capital and operational expenditures, and
   d. adopted a budget for the year 1999, for submission to the 65th (1998) General Assembly, which shall provide that capital expenditures be drawn from the Committee’s Capital Fund and that operating expenses be drawn from the Committee’s share of Worldwide Outreach funds.

Further, the Committee informs the General Assembly that it has expressed its appreciation to the Rev. Larry E. Wilson for his foresight and initiative in the early work of establishing an Orthodox Presbyterian Church presence on the worldwide web, to Mr. Clifford Collins for his guidance and the use of his expertise as our first Webmaster, and to the three General Secretaries, Mark T. Bube (Foreign Missions), Thomas E. Tyson (Christian Education), and Ross W. Graham (Home Missions and Church Extension), for their effective labors in the initial management of the website, especially to the latter for his indefatigable labor in the organizing and promoting of the website, without whose efforts it would seem unlikely that we should have reached this point in this promising endeavor.

4. Present Subcommittee Structure (Shishko, Wilson)
   This special subcommittee is tasked with formulating a new
subcommittee structure for the CCE that would promote greater efficiency in its overall ministry.

D. Subcommittee on Ministerial Training (SMT)

1. Membership
The subcommittee consists of six members who are chosen directly by the General Assembly. The Bylaws require that it include at least two ministers and two ruling elders. Currently the members of the subcommittee are: G. W. Knight and G. I. Williamson (class of 2000), John P. Galbraith and William Shishko (class of 1999), James Gidley and David Winslow (class of 1998)

2. Duties
The duties of this subcommittee, as set forth in the *Standing Rules* (Chapter 10) involve assisting the churches and presbyteries in seeking out and preparing men for the gospel ministry. The subcommittee is to consider means for not only strengthening the preparation of men for the ministry but also continuing their education and development in the ministry. The subcommittee’s work has also involved consulting with seminaries and administering the Glenn R. Coie Fund and the Internship Program.

3. Internship Program
a. Summary of 1997 Internships: The Committee on Christian Education, through its Subcommittee on Ministerial Training, funded 10 summer internships during 1997. These internships are designed to give seminarians a taste of the pastoral ministry and to allow them to test their gifts and their calling by God. There was one additional summer internship that was not funded by us. Fifteen men served in year-long internships, normally the final phase of preparation for entering the ordained ministry: all of these churches were supported financially by the Committee. These longer internships are designed for men who believe that God is calling them to the pastoral ministry and who have made a commitment to pursue licensure in the OPC. We express our gratefulness to the dedicated core of congregations, pastors, and sessions, who have committed themselves to this necessary and sacrificial service of providing this vital training and ministry. The Committee provided $72,850 in 1997 to assist churches in funding internships.

b. The following is the list of churches and interns involved in summer internship programs during 1997:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church</th>
<th>Intern</th>
<th>Seminary</th>
<th>Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Orlando, FL</td>
<td>Hank L. Belfield</td>
<td>RTS-FL</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Wildwood, NJ</td>
<td>Michael Flowers</td>
<td>GCTS</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Stratford, NJ</td>
<td>Richard Anderson</td>
<td>WTS-PA</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Abilene, TX</td>
<td>Cornelius Johnson</td>
<td>GPTS</td>
<td>-0-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Vista, CA</td>
<td>Lane Tipton</td>
<td>WTS-CA</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Bridgeton, NJ</td>
<td>Chad van Dixhoorn</td>
<td>WTS-PA</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Hatboro, PA</td>
<td>Ben Westerveld</td>
<td>WTS-PA</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Sewickley, PA</td>
<td>Yong Kim</td>
<td>WTS-CA</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Glassboro, NJ</td>
<td>David Bottoms</td>
<td>WTS-PA</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Elmer, NJ</td>
<td>Novel Kim</td>
<td>WTS-PA</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Bellmawr, NJ</td>
<td>Scott Cabrera</td>
<td>WTS-PA</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Summer: 16,500
c. The following is the list of churches and interns involved in year-long internship programs during 1997:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church</th>
<th>Intern</th>
<th>Seminary</th>
<th>Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ipswich, MA</td>
<td>Steven Migotsky</td>
<td>GCTS</td>
<td>2,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ipswich, MA</td>
<td>Vincent Tauriello</td>
<td>GCTS</td>
<td>4,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Mirada, CA</td>
<td>C. Lee Irons</td>
<td>WTS-CA</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
<td>Robert McCurley</td>
<td>GPTS</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbus, OH</td>
<td>Steven Igo</td>
<td>WTS-PA</td>
<td>3,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elmer, NJ</td>
<td>Claude Taylor</td>
<td>GCTS</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheaton, IL</td>
<td>Heero Hacquebord</td>
<td>TDS</td>
<td>4,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamden, CT</td>
<td>Claude Taylor</td>
<td>WTS-PA</td>
<td>4,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hackettstown, NJ</td>
<td>Mark Richline</td>
<td>WTS-PA</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockport, ME</td>
<td>James Bates</td>
<td>BTS</td>
<td>3,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morgantown, WV</td>
<td>Robert Broline</td>
<td>RPTS</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ipswich, MA</td>
<td>David Chilton</td>
<td>GCTS</td>
<td>4,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westfield, NJ</td>
<td>John McGowan</td>
<td>GPTS</td>
<td>2,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Worth, FL</td>
<td>Russell Hamilton</td>
<td>KPTS</td>
<td>3,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheaton, IL</td>
<td>David Bottoms</td>
<td>WTS-PA</td>
<td>2,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tallahassee, FL</td>
<td>Novel Kim</td>
<td>WTS-PA</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vista, CA</td>
<td>Lane Tipton</td>
<td>WTS-CA</td>
<td>3,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Year-Long</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>56,350</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL 1997 INTERN SUPPORT**

72,850

d. Among policies regulating internships are the following:

1. No second summer internships for men not committed to the OPC will be funded by the Committee
2. OPC and PCA men contemplating summer internships ordinarily are required to be under care of a presbytery
3. Churches participating in the internship program, but which do not receive funding, are asked to assist us by submitting evaluations of interns
4. Year-long interns must present themselves for licensure by at least the mid-point of their internship
5. Year-long interns must be members of the OPC
e. The Committee recently added three items to its "Policy on Selecting Mentoring Churches" requesting that mentoring churches provide for:
   1. overseeing interns' reading of OPC related materials,
   2. instructing year-long interns in the OPC Book of Church Order, and
   3. guiding and evaluating the interns' understanding of the Westminster Standards and memorization of the Shorter Catechism
f. Recruitment: the Intern Director visits regularly these seminaries:
   1. Westminster Theological Sem. in Phila., PA (WTS-PA)
   2. Westminster Theo. Sem. in Escondido, CA (WTS-CA)
   3. Gordon-Conwell Theo. Seminary in Beverly, MA (GCTS)
(4) Greenville Presby. Theo. Sem. in Greenville, SC (GPTS)
(5) Reformed Theological Seminary in Orlando, FL (RTS-FL)
(6) Mid-America Reformed Sem., in Munster, IN (MARS)
(7) Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis, MO (CTS)
(8) Reformed Theological Sem. in Charlotte, NC (RTS-NC)

Other seminaries periodically contacted or visited are:
(1) Knox Presby. Theo. Seminary, Ft. Lauderdale, FL (KPTS)
(2) Reformed Presby. Theo. Sem. in Pittsburgh, PA (RPTS)
(3) Protestant Reformed Sem. in Grand Rapids, MI (PRS)
(4) Chesapeake Theological Seminary in Maryland (ChTS)
(5) Biblical Theological Seminary in Hatfield, PA (BTS)

The following is a list of current OPC ministers, totaling 70, who have had summer and/or year-long internships at some time since 1983:

4. Relationship with Seminaries
   a. Report of the OPC Observer to Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, the General Secretary of the CCE:

   I attended the meetings of the WTS-PA Board in Sandy Cove, Md. on Dec. 1-2, 1997. Prior to those meetings, a general discussion was held, to which the faculty was invited, on the subject of the relationship which WTS might now sustain towards the CRCNA, in the light of recent developments in the CRCNA, particularly in connection with the matter of women in ecclesiastical office. No decision was reached officially, but it is my judgment that the climate of opinion is clearly such that we might expect a weakening, if not a complete severing, of the friendly relationship heretofore enjoyed by the Seminary and Church. At the same time, it was frankly and openly faced that the membership of faculty member Dr. Sinclair Ferguson in the Church of Scotland (a denomination admittedly influenced, if not dominated, by liberal theology) does create a question of consistency, if CRCNA membership is to be seen as inconsistent with the stand of WTS on the matter of women in office. While there has been no change in the policy to allow women to serve on the faculty (albeit not in preponderance; e.g., more than 30%), there does not seem to be any hint that the Seminary might consider relaxing its stand against women's ordination.

   b. Seminary Visitation Program
   The SMT has adopted a program of seminary visitation intended to increase the contact that the SMT has with seminaries and to formalize the process of consultation with seminaries which is part of the Committee's mandate. The
program developed out of widespread and continuing concern in the OPC about the effect that the seminaries are having on OPC candidates for ministry and, through them, on the OPC herself. The immediate purpose of visiting a seminary will be to arrive at a more accurate picture of the seminary’s sympathy with the OPC and compatibility with our constitutional standards and of the seminary’s impact on the OPC through its graduates. The SMT also has in view a cumulative effect of this program: that we will arrive at a better understanding of what the OPC herself must do to prepare her candidates for ministry in the current situation.

The visitation process itself includes these three elements:
1. obtaining information directly from the seminary itself,
2. obtaining information from OPC graduates of the seminary and other OPC men familiar with the seminary, and
3. visitation of the seminary by two or three OPC representatives who will report to the SMT, which report, or an edited version of it, would be included in the report of CCE to the GA.

The subcommittee aims to visit three seminaries in 1998, and four seminaries per year thereafter. The first three seminaries that the SMT has determined to visit are Westminster in Philadelphia, Westminster in Escondido and Mid-America Reformed Seminary. On average, cost is expected to be about $500 per visit.

5. The Ministerial Training Institute of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church

The SMT informs the General Assembly that it plans to establish a ministerial training institute, to be known as the Ministerial Training Institute of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church (MTIOPC), in partial fulfillment of its responsibilities stated in General Assembly Standing Rule X.Z.C., the Institute to begin operation January 1, 1999, with instruction to begin in the fall of that year. Accordingly, the Committee presents the following plan for the MTIOPC to the General Assembly for its approval:

PREAMBLE

In March 1993, the SMT began an intensive phase of considering means for improving the training of men for ministry in the OPC. The SMT then considered some 24 responses from OPC ministers and ruling elders to an open-ended survey asking “What training do you think a man needs in order to be a minister in the OPC?” While the responses were diverse, there emerged an overall agreement that the current means of ministerial training were deficient.

Over the next two years, the SMT endeavored to define more clearly the task before it by brainstorming and evaluation methods and a more structured survey of selected men who had served on Candidates and Credentials Committees in the presbyteries. The SMT discussed a wide variety of perceived deficiencies in candidates for ministry in the OPC, including their lack of familiarity with the history and polity of the OPC; their lack of consistent grounding in covenant theology across the seminary curriculum; their lack of familiarity with the Westminster Standards, the biblical concept of office, and biblical Presbyterianism; their failure to rule their households well; and their inadequate knowledge of the Bible itself. While the SMT found it difficult to assess the magnitude of these deficiencies and
the frequency with which they are encountered, it continued to believe that further action by the church was needed to improve ministerial training.

In March 1995, the SMT established a subcommittee (the OPC Seminary Subcommittee) "to explore the Biblical warrant/mandate, feasibility and character of a church-operated seminary." The subcommittee presented a lengthy report to the October 1996 meeting of the SMT. In the meantime, the SMT, by action in its March 1996 meeting, began providing materials on OPC history to licentiates and men under care through the stated clerks of the presbyteries.

The OPC Seminary Subcommittee (OSS) concluded from the biblical data that the Church may, but need not, operate a seminary to train her ministers. Their report also reviewed the history of the "seminary question" in the OPC, beginning with the movement in the 1940's to bring Westminster Seminary under the control of the Church and the various reports made on the matter to the 12th and 13th GA's (1945 and 1946). The subcommittee's position was consistent with that of the 1945 minority and the 1946 committee reports, namely, that the Church may, but need not, operate its own seminary.

The OSS report went on to survey the historical relationship between the OPC and Westminster Theological Seminary. In the seminary's early years, the entire faculty was made up of OPC ministers, and the vision of the church and the seminary was unified. In later years, this situation changed substantially. The report concluded that:

...it has seemed to some in the OPC that Westminster no longer presents a positive image of the OPC to its students. Likewise, at many other seminaries, Reformed or otherwise, the OPC has seemed to have a negligible presence and impact, and, with a few notable exceptions, students seem to get no positive impetus from their seminary professors to consider ministry in the OPC as a worthwhile option.

Further, the report surveyed several options for redressing these perceived problems, including: "adopting" an existing seminary; establishing an OPC seminary, whether on a small scale, a large scale, or a "virtual" scale (the so-called electronic seminary); and establishing a ministerial training institute, which would offer a limited range of seminary-level courses to supplement existing seminary curricula. The report also surveyed various means of governing a seminary or institute and of connecting it to the OPC. The report finally concluded that the church would be best served at the present time by a ministerial training institute under the oversight of the Subcommittee on Ministerial Training, citing various difficulties in establishing a full seminary at this time.

During the following eighteen months, the SMT has debated the recommendation of the OSS report, and developed a more detailed plan for implementing it. The SMT has come to the conclusion that it ought now to establish a ministerial training institute. The SMT believes that the existing seminaries serve the OPC acceptably in some areas of the theological curriculum. What these schools do not do well is to integrate the curriculum with an eye toward ministering the Word in the context of an Orthodox Presbyterian congregation. Especially when we consider how an OPC seminary would compare to the existing schools and the difficulties involved in securing funding, faculty, and administration, the SMT believes that for the time being it is better to supplement what already exists than to start a new school.
Therefore the SMT has decided to work toward supplementing the theological education currently provided by existing seminaries. This course of action has the advantage of being rather inexpensive while allowing the SMT the opportunity to learn as it goes. The SMT has also adopted a new, more ambitious plan of visiting seminaries and reporting on them to the GA (see 4.b. above). Thus the SMT hopes to learn more about the existing seminaries while learning about offering theological education on a small scale.

It may transpire that offering supplemental education will be sufficient. But if after several years of providing such instruction and familiarizing ourselves with conditions at the existing seminaries, the SMT finds that serious deficiencies in ministerial training exist which cannot be addressed effectively through a ministerial training institute, we may wish to recommend the establishment of an OPC seminary. At that point, we shall have acquired some experience in offering theological education, and we hope that we shall have identified some OPC men who can effectively offer and oversee such education.

As the fruit of five years of deliberation and in light of the foregoing considerations, the SMT has adopted (on March 18, 1998) the following plan for a ministerial training institute:

**THE MINISTERIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE OF THE ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

I NAME
The name shall be The Ministerial Training Institute of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church

II PURPOSE AND GOALS
A. Purpose
The purpose of the Institute shall be to assist in maintaining and enhancing the quality of ministerial service in The Orthodox Presbyterian Church, especially pastoral and missionary, by helping men to prepare for informed and effective ministry that conforms to the standard of Holy Scripture. To this end, the Institute shall advance a constructive view of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church and its doctrine, government, discipline, and worship.

B. Goals
1. The Institute shall seek to offer supplementary education to students already enrolled in existing seminaries, and to licentiates and ministers who have completed their formal seminary program. Subjects shall include, but not be limited to:
   a. The Westminster Standards
   b. Presbyterian church polity, with special emphasis on the *Book of Church Order of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church*
   c. The history, character, and distinguishing commitments of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church
   d. Practical Theology, including preaching, poimenics, catechetics, and liturgics
   e. Presuppositional Apologetics
2. The Institute may offer courses by a variety of means, such as classes, video-conferencing, person-to-person mentoring, telephone, Internet, e-mail, traveling conferences, and other means as shall from time to time be deemed effective in fulfilling the purpose of the Institute.

III OPERATION

A. The Subcommittee on Ministerial Training shall be responsible for the operation of the Institute in accordance with General Assembly Standing Rule X.2.c.

B. Administration

1. There shall be a Director of the Institute, who shall be a minister of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church chosen by the SMT, who shall be responsible to the SMT. His responsibilities shall be to:
   a. Recommend to the SMT, for its approval, overall policy, the courses to be taught, and the persons to teach them
   b. Report to the SMT on the ongoing work of the Institute

2. There shall be an Administrator, who shall be minister or ruling elder of the OPC, chosen by the SMT, to administer the work of the Institute under the supervision of the Director. His responsibilities shall be to:
   a. Assist the teachers in developing uniform course content (including textbooks and required reading), syllabi, examinations, and grading scale. Both teachers and course material shall be approved by the SMT
   b. Make recommendations regarding fees and tuition
   c. Work with the administrations of Reformed and Presbyterian seminaries regarding their acceptance of the Institute's course work for credit toward a degree program. This may include actual course offerings by approved professors at such seminaries.
   d. Consider with the teachers the means by which and the venue in which instruction may best be carried out, and make recommendations to the SMT
   e. Communicate with presbyteries regarding the course offerings of the Institute, and encourage them to require these courses for men preparing for licensure and ordination in The Orthodox Presbyterian Church
   f. Encourage a broad use of the course availabilities by pastors and licentiates who have seminary degrees as well as by seminarians. This would include making recommendations regarding scholarship assistance where necessary.
   g. Communicate the work of the Institute through New Horizons, Ordained Servant, and other appropriate media, and by personal representation
   h. Report to the SMT annually on courses offered, students enrolled, and instructors utilized, and course results, as well as to make any recommendations for the future work of the Institute
   i. Keep records of the operation of the Institute, including academic and financial matters

C. Teachers

The teachers in the Institute shall be ministers or ruling elders of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church approved by the SMT

D. Eligibility to Receive Instruction

1. Ministers, licentiates, and men under care of the presbyteries of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church shall be eligible to receive instruction through the Institute

2. Others who desire to receive instruction through the Institute shall
apply to the SMT through the Administrator, providing a written statement of 
reasons for desiring such instruction
3. The number of students to be enrolled per class shall be set by the 
administrator in consultation with the Director and the professors
4. Instruction may be available to presbyteries and local churches or 
conferences, for a fee
E. Evaluations of Students
1. Teachers shall provide each student with an evaluation of and grade 
for his work, such evaluation to be based on the quality of written work, 
examinations, and personal interaction with the students
2. Evaluations of men preparing for ministry in the OPC shall be 
provided to the presbyteries having jurisdiction over them
3. All evaluations shall be provided to the SMT
4. The Administrator shall provide suitable forms for these evaluations
F. Offices
Arrangements shall be sought for administering the Institute from office 
space at 607 N. Easton Road, Bldg. E., Willow Grove, Pa. These offices shall 
accommodate the necessary phone and computer system(s), records, and secretarial 
staff.
G. Budget
1. The Director, in consultation with the Administrator, shall propose 
an annual budget to the SMT for its approval
2. Funds for the operation of the Institute shall be provided for in a 
budget approved by the General Assembly each year, as part of the Worldwide 
Outreach budget, as well as by tuition, gifts, fees, and other appropriate means
3. The Administrator shall make recommendations regarding fees and 
tuition costs
H. Remuneration
Remuneration of the Director, Administrator and teachers shall be 
determined by the SMT from year to year
I. Tuition
Courses shall be offered free of charge to Orthodox Presbyterian Church 
ministers, licentiates, and men under care. All others shall be charged a tuition fee 
as established from year to year by the SMT. Scholarships and other financial 
assistance may be made available also through the SMT.

IV PHASES AND GOAL OF INITIAL OPERATION
A. The Institute shall begin its operation on January 1, 1999, with initial course 
offerings for the fall semester, 1999
B. The Institute shall operate on a semester basis, with course offerings in 
the spring and fall semesters, and, on occasion, in winter or summer sessions
C. It shall be the goal of the SMT to have all licentiates of the OPC 
enrolled in at least one course by the fall semester of 2000.

(End of Plan)

Contingent on the General Assembly's approval of the plan for the 
MTIOPC, the CCE has determined to establish a fund, called the MTIOPC FUND, 
the purpose of which is to develop and partially capitalize the work of the Institute, 
capitalized initially by the $200,000 received from the GCP reimbursement,
supplemented by $100,000 of future payments from GCP, by gifts to the Committee designated for this purpose and by future action of the Committee, and invested under the oversight of competent advisors.

6. The CCE, upon recommendation of the SMT, has erected an *ad hoc* committee to prepare a plan for establishing the SMT as a separate standing committee of the General Assembly including appropriate revisions to the standing rules, such as, *inter alia*, consideration of the size and mandates of the CCE and the SMT, and to report to the Spring 1999 meeting of the CCE. The Committee grounded its action upon these considerations:

a. The standing rules of the GA establish an anomalous relationship between the CCE and the SMT:

   (1) An explicit mandate is given to the SMT but not to the CCE (Standing Rule X.2.c.)
   (2) The members of the SMT are elected directly by the GA (Standing Rule X.2.d.)

b. The anomalous features of the Standing Rules re the CCE and SMT establish a distinct function of the SMT over which the GA retains direct control, giving the SMT some of the characteristics of a standing committee.

c. The SMT has responsibility for the Intern Program, which accounts for a substantial proportion of the CCE's budget, and is undertaking substantial new initiatives in fulfillment of its mandate. These heavy responsibilities of the SMT warrant separating the SMT from the CCE so that the SMT may concentrate fully on ministerial training.

d. The separation of the SMT from the CCE would allow more direct communication and accountability to the GA regarding the important matters of ministerial training.

e. The separation of the SMT from the CCE would allow the CCE to focus its energies on aspects of Christian education not directly related to ministerial training.

E. Magazine Subcommittee (MS)

1. Mandate

   The Committee, through its Magazine Subcommittee (MacDonald, Galbraith, Malcor, Woiwode), the Editor and the Managing Editor, has sought to carry out the will of the church set forth in the following motion adopted by the 57th (1990) GA:

   that the General Assembly instruct the Committee on Christian Education to continue publishing *New Horizons* ten times each year in a 16-24-page format using the following guidelines:

   1. The magazine shall include:

      A. reports from the CHMCE, CFM, CCE, Committee on Diaconal Ministries, COC, a prayer calendar and news of the local, regional, national and worldwide church, and

      B. a feature article, doctrinal exposition, church history, pastoral and missiological concerns, letters to the editor, pro-con debate and book reviews
2. There must be a general balance in the number of pages between 1.A and 1.B in each issue
3. It is not necessary that each element in 1.A and 1.B above be in every issue

2. Policy Matter
The CCE, upon recommendation of the subcommittee, approved the following honoraria, to be paid from reserve fund income for 1998 and thereafter included in the budget for New Horizons: $100 per magazine page for articles accepted for publication and $50 per book review accepted for publication.

3. Production
During 1997 the Editor, under the direction of the subcommittee, planned issue contents, arranged for the writing of copy and provided general oversight of the magazine production. The Managing Editor composed the magazine in PageMaker and handled most of the details of the magazine's production. GCP art director John Tolsma produced the covers, Mrs. Ali Knudsen did the proofreading and Harmony Press of Easton, Penna., printed the magazine.

4. Finance
The cost of production in 1997 for 11 issues was $178,729 compared to a budget of $175,000.

F. Staff (at the end of 1997):
1. General Secretary and Director of the Intern Program—Thomas E. Tyson
2. Publications Coordinator and Managing Editor—James W. Scott
3. Secretary—Lisl Tyson (shared with the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension)

G. Officers (at the end of 1997):
1. President—Larry E. Wilson
2. Vice-President—James Gidley
3. Secretary—Paul S. MacDonald
4. Treasurer—David Winslow

II GREAT COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS
A. The Year in Review
During 1997, GCP implemented major changes and additions to operations in three areas:

1. The business office
   a. Goal: improve order processing/fulfillment and in-house efficiency
   b. Method: install new midrange computer, intra-office network and phone system; add support staff
2. Editorial and production
   a. Goal: startup Sunday School revisions and other publication projects
b. Method: establish new production systems; hire staff as needed for individual projects

3. Communications/advertising
   a. Goal: enhance communication with churches; initiate new programs
   b. Method: increase support staff to two full-time (previously covered by one part-time)

While these advances added significantly to expenditures last year, and in most cases the increased level will be ongoing, they will help set up GCP for future growth and improvement in service to its constituency.

The building, retooling mode that characterized 1997 established a pattern for the future. As resources permit, GCP's program will be expanded—driven by needs and opportunities across the church and governed by the doctrinal foundation and purpose established for the joint venture.

B. Finances

1. The financial picture for the year was adversely affected by two factors: increased expenses (as indicated above) and a flattening in Sunday School sales. Combined income for the six departments grew only 1% (instead of the standard 6%+). The trend began to change toward year end, and '98 sales are expected to return to a normal growth level. The other sales categories were on target, with an overall increase of 10%.

2. The sum of these conditions hampered GCP's ability to fulfill the scheduled repayment to the OPC for past inequities in contributions. A payment of $200,000 was made in 1996 and the remaining $239,000 was planned in 1997. At its October '97 meeting, the GCP Board authorized deferment as necessitated by financial constraints. Installments to satisfy this promise will be made as aggressively as possible and without handcapping GCP's program or financial stability.

C. Publication Program
Projects are currently in process as follows:

1. Sunday School curriculum / Primary department (grades 1-3). A revision will be introduced for the fall '98 quarter. Changes include new graphics, strengthening of the background preparation for teachers and updating of lesson activities. No alterations are being made in the basic structure or Scriptural content.

2. Sunday School curriculum / Nursery department (ages 2 and 3). An all new GCP course is being written to replace the current material, which is licensed from CRC Publications. The lessons focus on the basics about the person of God and his mighty works; selected doctrinal concepts will serve as learning mileposts throughout the one-year course. Introduction is planned for fall '99.

3. Sunday School curriculum / Junior department (grades 4-6). A minimal revision of this pivotal course is slated to begin in late 1998, with release projected for no later than fall 2000.

4. VBS curriculum. For 1997, the theme was "The King Is Coming" (based on Psalm 100) and in 1998 will be "The Race Is On" (based on John 14:6 and
Sixty-Fifth General Assembly

Hebrews 12:1-2). Each year, a new theme is chosen to unify the lesson material and serve as a promotional tool for the local church. Normally, the basic curriculum is not changed.

5. Adult electives. First Timothy, by Dr. Frank Barker, was published last year, along with an expanded and reformatted leader’s guide. No new titles are planned for 1998.

6. As for My House. Developed and previously published by the Rev. Randall Greenwald, pastor of Hope Presbyterian Church in Bradenton, FL, this is a quarterly devotional guide for families. Beginning in fall ‘98, GCP will take over the publication under a license agreement with Mr. Greenwald.

7. Trinity Hymnal. In early 1998, the 7th printing of the revised Trinity Hymnal (© 1990) was delivered. Distribution currently averages more than 2000 copies per month. Another special printing of the original Trinity Hymnal (© 1961) has been produced, along with a reprint of the Reformed Baptist version thereof. And, an additional supply of the original was ordered to meet projected needs over the next several years.

8. Trinity Songbook (working title). This project is in the hands of the OPC Committee on Christian Education for review. Additional time has been requested in order to further study the manuscript and receive feedback from sessions. In the meantime, production is at a standstill and will not be restarted until final approval is granted.

The current revisions to the GCP Sunday school curriculum will be complete when the Junior department is introduced in 2000. The original was published by the OPC from 1961 to 1974, then the first revisions (including addition of Preschool and Nursery courses) spanned 1978 to 1988, and phase three began in 1989. The next phase—or the “4th generation”—will be preceded by a thorough reevaluation to assess the curriculum’s structure, flow and departmental divisions.

D. Communications/Advertising

Two new endeavors were begun during 1997 to sharpen GCP’s communication to/from the churches it serves. One of those—the Regional Trainer network—has been in place for ten years, as a cooperative venture with the PCA Committee for Christian Education & Publications. Recently staff involvement was boosted in order to utilize the program more pro-actively and follow up contacts. Two of the trainers, Dr. Allen Curry and Mrs. Penny Pappas, are members of the OPC.

Secondly, local-area gatherings are being arranged for Sunday School teachers who use GCP. The two-hour program includes a presentation on the perspective and scope of the curriculum, interaction with participants around specific needs, and a brief training session. The goal is to reinforce the link with those who use GCP’s resources and provide a conduit for communication.

E. The Board of Trustees

The GCP Board of Trustees, appointed by the Christian education committees of the OPC and PCA, consists of fourteen members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>OPC members</th>
<th>PCA members</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Rev. George C. Miladin</td>
<td>Mr. Steve Fox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• San Diego, CA</td>
<td>• Montgomery, AL</td>
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Mr. Paul S. MacDonald  
• Bangor, ME  
1999  
Mr. John R. Muether  
• Maitland, FL  
Dr. F. Kingsley Elder, Jr.  
• Rochester, NY  
2000  
Rev. G. I. Williamson  
• Sheldon, IA  
Rev. Larry E. Wilson  
• Columbus, OH  
Ex Officio  
Rev. Thomas E. Tyson  
• Willow Grove, PA  
Rev. Marvin Padgett  
• Wheaton, IL  
Rev. Paul G. Settle  
• Dallas, TX  
Rev. G. Michael Potts  
• Margate, FL  
Dr. George W. Mitchell, III  
• Powder Springs, GA  
Mr. Jack Sullivan  
• Hendersonville, NC  
Dr. Charles H. Dunahoo  
• Atlanta, GA

III BUDGET

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<tr>
<th>Actual 1997</th>
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<th>Requested 1999</th>
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<td>Magazine administration</td>
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<td>Total expenses</td>
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</table>

IV RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Assembly approve the Plan for The Ministerial Training Institute of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church as presented by the Subcommittee on Ministerial Training.

2. That the Assembly approve the Plan and Regulations for the Web Site of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church as presented by the Committee on Christian Education.

V ELECTIONS

A. To aid commissioners in making informed choices in their selection of men to serve on the Committee we list those members whose terms expire at this assembly together with their present subcommittee assignments and office, if any:
1. Ministers
   a. Calvin R. Malcor—Magazine/Fellowship
   b. George C. Miladin—Evangelism/Worship/GCP
   c. Larry E. Wilson—Equip Ord. Off./Worship/GCP/President

2. Ruling elders
   a. James Gidley—Min Tr./Chr. Sch./Equip Ord. Off./Vice Pres.
   b. David Winslow—Min Tr./Equip Ord. Off./Treasurer/Finance

B. The Standing Rules of the General Assembly require three ministers and two ruling elders for each class of Committee membership. A Subcommittee on Ministerial Training of six members, in three classes, is first to be elected by the General Assembly. This subcommittee must include at least two ministers and two ruling elders. Since there are four ministers on this subcommittee whose terms do not expire at this Assembly (in the classes of 1999 and 2000), the two ruling elders to be elected to the CCE class of 2001 must first be elected to this subcommittee.
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON
HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION

SYNOPSIS

I INTRODUCTION

II FIELD SUPPORT IN 1997
   A. Fields Supported
   B. New Fields
   C. Field Support Policy
   D. Support Concluded

III REGIONAL HOME MISSIONARIES

IV WORKING WITH THE PRESbyterIES

V EVANGELISM AND CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

VI TRAINING AND PROMOTION

VII FINANCES

VIII BUDGETS

IX CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

X ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LOAN FUND

XI CONTINGENT FUND

XII AUXILIARY MINISTRIES
   A. Questionnaire for Ministers/Licentiates and Vacant Pulpit List
   B. Salary Scale Guidelines

XIII GENERAL ASSEMBLY MATTERS

XIV ADMINISTRATION
   A. Committee Members and Officers
   B. Executive Committee
   C. Committee Representative to COC
   D. Subcommittees
   E. Ministry Staff
   F. Office Staff

XV ELECTIONS

I INTRODUCTION

"The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few." These were the words of challenge which our Lord gave to his disciples and to his church in Matthew 9:37. We in The Orthodox Presbyterian Church are humbled as we realize afresh the descriptive and prophetic nature of our Savior's statement to us. The harvest is plentiful among us: throughout the United States groups of believers are spontaneously springing up and crying to us for help; local Orthodox Presbyterian congregations are responding to the numerical growth which God is causing in their midst by establishing daughter churches; and our presbyteries and regional home missionaries are constantly and actively engaged in starting and caring for new mission works. The laborers are needed: no longer do we search for places to start new OP churches; God sends them to us regularly and we search for men to be their pastors. No longer do we strain to stretch meager budgets to plant a few new churches; now we strain and search to find the men whom God is calling to be his church planters and shepherds.
God has richly supplied us to do the work of establishing new churches to reach the lost sheep which our Savior spoke of, the ones having no shepherd. It is with the establishment of churches that sheep find shepherds. The Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension (CHMCE) has learned well over the past several years the lesson that God supplies the needs of his people according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19). When Orthodox Presbyterians reach out with confidence in that supply of abundance, God’s flock is enlarged and his sheep are fed. No longer are we hesitant to boldly lay the plans to plant as many new churches as God will allow. Coordinating our efforts and mustering the prayer support to find the harvesters that God has appointed to work in his field is the real issue before us now.

As we watch our presbyteries grow and divide into new regional churches, and as we watch an ever-increasing number of young mission works grow rapidly to maturity and self-support, the constant challenges of the expansion of God’s kingdom lie before us. The report which follows is a testimony to the powerful hand of the Lord of the harvest who is at work among us in The Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

II FIELD SUPPORT IN 1997

A. Fields Supported

The following mission works were provided with financial assistance in 1997 (listed by presbytery):

Mid-Atlantic
- Bristol, VA (Robert D. McCurley)
- Lenoir, NC (Robert Y. Eckardt/
  Charles A. Telfer)
- New Bern, NC (Daniel A. Fincham)

Midwest
- Batavia, IL (James A. Megchelsen)
- Grand Rapids, MI (Rodney S. Thole)
- Independence, IA (Casey W. Reinkoester)
- Ionia, MI (Terry Thole)
- New Lenox, IL (Bruce H. Holliester)
- Rockford, MI (Louis P. Wislocki)
- Royal Oak, MI (Jeffrey B. Wilson)
- Springfield, IL (Robert M. Walker)

New Jersey
- Bloomfield, NJ (Douglas A. Watson)
- Phillipsburg, NJ (William O. Slack II)
- Toms River, NJ (Geoffrey L. Willour)

NY & NE
- Jaffrey, NH (Stephen A. Migotsky)
- Syracuse, NY (Gerald A. Malkus)
- Topsham, ME (Gordon H. Cook, Jr.)

Northern Calif.
- Eureka, CA (Andrew J. Preston)
- Salinas, CA (Donald T. Dewsley)

Northwest
- Anchorage, AK (David W. Inks)
- Boise, ID (Carl A. Durham)
- Oak Harbor, WA (Robert C. Van Kooten)

Ohio
- Indiana, PA (Douglas W. Snyder)
- Mansfield, OH (Lawrence B. Oldaker)

Philadelphia
- Gwynedd, PA (Edward N. Gross)
Eight new mission works began receiving financial assistance in 1997: Batavia, Illinois; Bristol, Virginia; Chattanooga, Tennessee; Denton, Texas; Jaffrey, New Hampshire; New Bern, North Carolina; Salinas, California; Toms River, New Jersey.

C. Field Support Policy
The Committee reminds the church that the following financial support policies are being followed:

1. Aid for new mission works
   a. The Committee will provide financial assistance for a mission work up to 50% of its total budget and only if the presbytery and/or the mission work cannot fully support the labors of a full-time evangelist for that work. This support will be for no more than four years on a quarterly declining scale after the first year, contingent upon the renewed yearly recommendation of the presbytery and with the understanding that the Committee will be consulted in the selection of the church planter.
   b. Before receiving initial support, the presbytery will submit to the Committee an historical sketch of the mission work, including guidelines and provisions for oversight and evaluation, and a plan for developing it into a self-governing and self-supporting congregation, including adequate provision in its budget for the labors of the evangelist on a full-time basis.
   c. Before receiving continued support for the second, third or fourth years, the presbytery will submit by November 15 a request for such renewal, together with a written annual evaluation of the mission work, including an indication that provision has been made in its budget for the continued labors of the evangelist on a full-time basis and for benevolent giving to presbytery and denominational causes.

The Committee reaffirms its desire to work in partnership with the presbyteries in establishing churches that are Reformed in doctrine and Presbyterian in polity. Emphasis is also placed on the importance of every mission work identifying itself with The Orthodox Presbyterian Church and including support of denominational budgets in the early ordering of its finances.

Monthly and quarterly reports are presented by church planters to the Committee as well as to the home missions committee of their presbytery. These include financial matters as well as attendance figures and a record of outreach calls being made. The Committee expects every church planter to make at least thirty outreach-type calls monthly. Items for praise and petition are also gleaned from these reports, with some being passed on through Home Missions Today and the Prayer Calendar in New Horizons.

2. Support for non-aid-receiving mission works
Financial support is not the only kind of aid provided for the development of mission works. The coordination of prayer support makes the
whole church aware of the needs of its mission works and encourages church planters and young congregations. For the fourth year, such prayer support has been coordinated by the Committee according to the following policy: The Committee will provide the same prayer support normally rendered to aid-receiving mission works to non-aid-receiving mission works upon request of the presbytery with the following stipulations:

a. Non-aid-receiving mission works will make a commitment to report monthly on the challenges and blessings of the ministry for use in prayer support.

b. Services and assistance provided by the Committee will include prayer listings in *New Horizons* and *Home Missions Today*, in addition to those services which the Committee makes available to all congregations of the OPC.

c. Such requests from a presbytery will be on a yearly basis with renewal up to four years.

D. Support Concluded

During 1997 several churches concluded their support relationship with the Committee. Aid was provided at the request of the Presbytery of the Midwest to Providence OPC in Royal Oak, Michigan, for the support of organizing pastor Jeffrey B. Wilson in Springfield, Illinois, from August 1996 through June 1997 totaling $14,560 and was discontinued at the request of the session with the concurrence of the presbytery due to the strong financial condition of the church.

Aid was provided at the request of the Presbytery of the Midwest to Covenant Reformed Church for the support of organizing pastor Robert Walker from November 1996 through June 1997 totaling $8,000 and was discontinued at the request of the session with the concurrence of the presbytery due to the strong financial condition of the church.

III REGIONAL HOME MISSIONARIES

God has raised up qualified and remarkable men to serve as regional home missionaries and has provided substantial financial resources to field them. During 1997 the OPC enjoyed the services of six full-time regional home missionaries.

The Rev. James L. Bosgraf continued his ministry as regional home missionary for the Presbytery of the Midwest by assisting new works beginning worship services in London, Ontario; Holland, Michigan; and the Lindenhurst/Grayslake, Illinois area.

The Rev. Gary W. Davenport moved from one side of the Presbytery of the Southwest to the other in the continuation of his labors as their regional home missionary. Relocating from Albuquerque, New Mexico to Sanger, Texas to be close to the nearby mission work in Denton, he will now be in a better position to work on East Texas church planting projects in the heavily populated I-35 corridor from Dallas to San Antonio. During the year he assisted in the development of a new mission work in Wichita Falls, Texas.

Ruling Elder James A. Heemstra continued his ministry as regional home missionary for the Presbytery of the South by assisting a group of believers in New Orleans, Louisiana with their efforts to form an Orthodox Presbyterian mission work. In late 1997 he announced his planned relocation from Tallahassee, Florida to Maryville, Tennessee in order to be in a location more central to the churches and projected mission sites of the presbytery.
The Rev. Donald M. Poundstone continued his ministry as regional home missionary for the Presbytery of Southern California with the development of a mission work in Temecula, which is also the community in which he has chosen to reside.

The Rev. Gregory E. Reynolds continued his ministry as regional home missionary for the Presbytery of New York and New England with the development of a mission work in Manchester where he and his family reside after the completion of his work in Jaffrey with the call of organizing pastor Stephen A. Migotsky.

The Rev. Bernard J. Stonehouse continued his ministry as regional home missionary for the Presbytery of Philadelphia by completing the development of a new mission work in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania where organizing pastor Glenn P. Evans was recently called to serve.

The Committee gives thanks for each of these dedicated and mature men and their effective labors as church planters and church planting coordinators for their presbyteries.

IV WORKING WITH THE PRESBYTERIES

In the biblical Presbyterian framework under which the OPC operates, it is the middle court, the governing body of the regional church, which most affects the expansion of the whole body. It is the presbytery which authorizes the establishment of new churches and oversees their progress and development. It is the presbytery which approves and calls qualified men to work as church planters. The Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension sees itself as working in a close partnership arrangement with each of the presbyteries of the OPC to do the work of home missions and church extension throughout the country. The Committee stands in support of the work which the presbyteries do. Each year the general secretary visits at least half of the presbyteries at the time of their regular stated meetings and spends time with the home missions committees of those regional church bodies in an effort to assist, encourage and coordinate.

Each fall, the Committee sponsors a regional church extension conference at a central location to enable presbytery regional home missionaries and home missions committee chairmen to confer together with the CHMCE staff in an effort to coordinate, as much as possible, their ministries and finances. These gatherings have proved increasingly beneficial to the whole church. They have enabled CHMCE and its staff to understand more precisely the needs and challenges faced by the presbyteries and have enabled presbytery home missions committees to work together with each other as well as with the denominational Committee in their efforts to start new churches. The 1997 gathering was held November 6-8 in the facilities of Grace OPC in Columbus, Ohio.

In a continuing effort to foster a spirit of cooperation and partnership with the presbyteries, the Committee revised and updated its “Manual for Presbytery/CHMCE Partnership” in December 1997 and published and distributed the document to each presbytery clerk, to members of each presbytery home missions committee, to each session of the OPC, and also published it in electronic format on the OPC’s website. The manual is a description of the outworking of FG XXIX and also provides assistance to presbytery home missions committees in their work.

Given the current rate of growth of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church, the Committee has understood the inevitability of the establishment of new regional
churches and their presbyteries and recognizes the challenge this poses to assisting all the presbyteries of the OPC in the work of church planting. With the establishment of the Presbytery of the Central United States in 1997 and the Presbytery of Connecticut and Southern New York in 1998, the OPC has grown from 12 to 14 regional churches. Discussions are underway in at least four other presbyteries about possible realignment and new presbytery arrangements. The Committee welcomes such challenges and purposes to stand in support of every presbytery of the OPC. Plans are under way to insure that the size and makeup of the CHMCE staff are sufficient to effectively serve the presbyteries.

V EVANGELISM AND CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

Ruling Elder William J. Vermeulen continues to serve the Committee as Director of Evangelism and Church Development from his home in Ada, Michigan. Through Mr. Vermeulen’s efforts, CHMCE assists church planters in their outreach and offers evangelism education and training seminars to OP congregations as well as mission works. The Committee believes that his labors are valuable to the church in promoting a strong evangelism focus for the OPC and that his printed materials, especially in the areas of church development and promotional advertising, are especially useful resources. CHMCE’s Special Ministries Subcommittee is in the process of collecting and arranging these materials so as to make them more effective use to the churches.

In addition to serving our six regional home missionaries and 23 mission works during the year, Mr. Vermeulen also served 34 existing congregations in their outreach and evangelism efforts. In August 1998 Mr. Vermeulen will retire from his position as director of evangelism and church development as he reaches 65 years of age after 19 years of service to the Committee and the Orthodox Presbyterian Church. The Committee thanks the Lord of the Church for providing this valuable servant to focus our attention on the important work of evangelism and offers this Resolution of Thanks:

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

The Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church gives thanks to God for the gifts he has given to our brother, William J. Vermeulen, that have been used in the past 19 years in the service of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Vermeulen began his service as Regional Home Missionary of the Presbytery of the Midwest in February 1980 while serving as Ruling Elder of the Griggs St. OPC in Grand Rapids, Michigan. On March 1, 1984, he began his service for the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension in a newly created staff position of Director of Evangelism and Church Development, and has continued in that position to the present. The Committee recognized its responsibility to assist our churches and their members in the task of telling the Good News and to encourage the churches to give evangelism a higher priority in their ministries. To this end Mr. Vermeulen was called to serve the OPC in providing for evangelism education and training and providing helpful resource materials and consultation.

Mr. Vermeulen worked vigorously with his assignment, serving the Committee and three General Secretaries and encouraging the churches to improve their ministries of
outreach. In his ministry and extensive travels he conducted at least a dozen seminars each year in our mission works and established congregations, provided consultation and demographic studies for the fields, collected materials to assist in the ministry of evangelism, and authored and compiled numerous papers, articles, brochures, and church planting manuals. In his zeal for and expertise in evangelism he also recognized that not everyone was like him. Therefore, he became interested in the work of producing original advertising materials as a means of getting people exposed to the Word of God, and to his own burning desire and motivation.

We furthermore give thanks to God for his wife, Gladys, whose support for her husband's ministry has been most exemplar. Using her secretarial skills, she has assisted in the office, proofreading, duplicating and collating materials, and mailings.

Having suffered a health setback in 1988, the Lord blessed Mr. Vermeulen with full recovery. During his recuperation he wrote numerous devotional articles which reflected his experiencing God's grace in a time of special need. Within a few years he willingly took on an unusually heavy work load, shouldering for the Committee extra responsibilities during the illness of one General Secretary and again during an interim between General Secretaries. In this time he assumed responsibilities for the Committee's annual Home Missions Training Seminar in the spring and the annual Regional Home Missionary Conference in the fall. He also promoted and gave leadership at the first Readiness for Church Planting Evaluation Seminar at Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, in the fall of 1991, and since then has labored diligently in the development and expansion of these seminars on the campuses of other reformed seminaries through the country.

Paul said appreciatively of the Galatians, "I can testify that, if you could have done so, you would have torn out your eyes and given them to me" (Galatians 4:15b). The Committee testifies with gratitude to our Lord that Mr. Vermeulen has given willingly, generously, cheerfully, and faithfully of himself to the outreach of the Gospel in The Orthodox Presbyterian Church in his service as Director of Evangelism and Church Development for the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension.

We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 1:3).

VI TRAINING AND PROMOTION

The Committee seeks to provide encouragement and tangible assistance to those who do the work of church planting in the OPC. One of the most effective means of doing this is by bringing together the OP church planters and regional home missionaries from around the country for an annual CHMCE-sponsored home missions training conference held in the spring of each year at Camp Geneva in Holland, Michigan. The 1997 conference featured the teaching of Dr. Peter Jones, Professor of New Testament at Westminster Theological Seminary in California, and provided a timely study of modern paganism, feminism and new age philosophy.

In its continuing effort to identify young men who possess church planting skills, the Committee sponsored "Readiness for Reformed Ministry" seminars on the campuses of Westminster Theological Seminary in California and Philadelphia, and Reformed Theological Seminary in Orlando, Florida.

In late 1995 a fund was established for the receipt of special gifts to be used
for the purchase and distribution to OP mission works of books published by the Committee for the Historian. Those distributions are now ongoing.

In an attempt to provide the churches with timely prayer request information about OP mission works, the twice-monthly prayer bulletin, previously known as *Phone Home*, was redesigned for additional use as an e-mailed prayer reminder called *Home Missions Today*. Current items of praise and petition gleaned from the reports of the mission works are made available by recorded message and e-mailed transcript. These transcripts continue to be mailed to every OP congregation along with Foreign Mission's *Telenews*.

The Committee staff also maintains and updates a current listing of all home mission works and seminars and training events in a brochure titled "Home Missions Ministries."

Two pages of copy are provided for each issue of *New Horizons* to keep the church informed of God's working in our home mission fields.

VII FINANCES

In 1997 the Committee witnessed a generous outpouring of support for its work. With gratitude to the Lord, the Committee was greatly encouraged when year-end figures showed that the churches had provided almost 116% of the Worldwide Outreach portion of the 1997 CHMCE budget. The annual Thank Offering also exceeded expectations with several large contributions noted. During 1998 the OPC will be supporting 35 mission works (as compared with 27 for 1997) along with six full-time regional home missionaries. Plans are being laid for the support of 12 new mission works during the year. In 1997 $415,000 went to assist new churches and RHMs. In 1998 $451,000 will be spent for those purposes.

VIII BUDGETS, 1997-1999

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OPC</td>
<td>$601,010</td>
<td>$550,000</td>
<td>$594,000</td>
<td>$650,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-OPC</td>
<td>18,601</td>
<td>15,000</td>
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<td>500.00</td>
<td>500.00</td>
<td>500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfer(Reserves)</td>
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<td>80,000</td>
<td>98,704</td>
<td>80,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$666,810</td>
<td>$645,500</td>
<td>$723,204</td>
<td>$760,500</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disbursements</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Budgeted</th>
<th>Budgeted</th>
<th>Requested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Church Planting</td>
<td>$423,199</td>
<td>$478,060</td>
<td>$486,788</td>
<td>$519,576</td>
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<td>Evangelism</td>
<td>21,872</td>
<td>23,000</td>
<td>23,000</td>
<td>23,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Promotion</td>
<td>3,528</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>178,919</td>
<td>200,572</td>
<td>208,916</td>
<td>213,424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$626,822</td>
<td>$706,132</td>
<td>$723,204</td>
<td>$760,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus/(Deficit)</td>
<td>$39,988</td>
<td>($60,632)</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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</table>
IX CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

As reported to previous assemblies, the Committee has not received new investments into the Church Extension Fund since March 18, 1993. Investors in the Fund continue to receive interest payments (or have them compounded) on their investments according to the original terms. As they have opportunity to do so, they may elect to withdraw their investment prematurely in order to purchase a Note(s) in The Orthodox Presbyterian Church Loan Fund (OPCLF).

The balances due on all loans from the Church Extension Fund as of December 31, 1997, are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Billings, MT</td>
<td>Rocky Mt. Community Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$92,193.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonita, CA</td>
<td>Bonita Orthodox Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$71,318.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bothell, WA</td>
<td>Trinity Orthodox Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$1,454.46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burtonsville, MD</td>
<td>Covenant Orthodox Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$207,756.06</td>
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<td>Cape Cod, MA</td>
<td>Presbyterian Church of Cape Cod</td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbus, OH</td>
<td>Grace Orthodox Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$55,145.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dayton, OH</td>
<td>Redeemer Orthodox Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$19,238.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dayton, OH</td>
<td>Redeemer Orthodox Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$70,683.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easton, PA</td>
<td>New Life Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$35,957.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frederick, MD</td>
<td>New Hope Orthodox Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$85,188.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gettysburg, PA</td>
<td>Living Hope Orthodox Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$53,412.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamden, CT</td>
<td>Westminster Orthodox Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$183,335.52</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hanover Park, IL</td>
<td>Grace Orthodox Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$60,146.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hialeah, FL</td>
<td>Sharon Orthodox Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$51,216.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kalamazoo, MI</td>
<td>Community Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$28,063.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Worth, FL</td>
<td>Fellowship Orthodox Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$252,267.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orlando, FL</td>
<td>Lake Sherwood Orthodox Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$75,889.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia, PA</td>
<td>Grace OPC</td>
<td>$59,914.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading, PA</td>
<td>Covenant Orthodox Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$84,008.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell, NM</td>
<td>Orthodox Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$92,115.64</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stratford, NJ</td>
<td>Stratford Orthodox Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$5,308.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoar, WS</td>
<td>Menominee Orthodox Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>$1,542.68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL $1,617,157.18

Notes outstanding, including accrued interest, on December 31, 1997 were as follows: demand, $571,481.63; five-year, $400,807.08; ten-year, $913,280.89. Additional financial reports on the Church Extension Fund are available upon request.

X ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LOAN FUND

The Committee established a new corporation in 1993 called The Orthodox Presbyterian Church Loan Fund (OPCLF) to replace the Church Extension Fund. Members of the Board of Directors of the OPCLF are elected by CHMCE. The Board is comprised of the following:

Class of 1999: Messrs. Garret A. Hoogerhyde, Richard E. Sackett
Class of 2000: Messrs. Richard A. Barker, Kenneth L. Bosgraf
The following men serve as officers of the Board: president, Garret A. Hoogerhyde; vice president, Kenneth L. Bosgraf; secretary, Richard A. Barker; treasurer, Richard E. Sackett; assistant secretary, Ross W. Graham; assistant treasurer, David E. Haney. Messrs. Graham and Haney are *ex officio* members of the Board. Mr. David E. Haney serves part-time as Loan Fund Administrator.

At the close of 1997 Notes in the OPCLF were offered in the following states (with others pending): Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia. Rigid regulations make it very difficult to offer Notes in some states. Notes are currently offered at the following fixed rates: 1-year, 5.0%; 3-year, 5.5%; 5-year, 6.0%; 10-year, 7.0%. At the close of the year the total of the Notes outstanding was $1,848,111.42.

Notes outstanding, including accrued interest, on December 31, 1997 were as follows: one-year, $392,301.23; three-year, $127,638.77; five-year, $561,247.72; ten-year, $766,923.70. Additional financial reports on the OPCLF are available upon request.

During the year the Board granted loans to Garden Grove OPC, Garden Grove, California and Providence OPC, Austin, Texas; no disbursements on these loans were made in 1997, however, due to various delays. In addition, other loans granted in 1996 were not fully disbursed in 1997. A monthly commitment fee of 1/4 of 1% is ordinarily charged on loans granted by the Board but not disbursed within three months.

A refinancing loan was granted to Calvin OPC, Phoenix, Arizona and disbursed at the close of the year. The balances due on loans from The Orthodox Presbyterian Church Loan Fund as of December 31, 1997, are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bend, OR</td>
<td>$186,269.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dallas, TX</td>
<td>166,773.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glassboro, NJ</td>
<td>68,222.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln, NE</td>
<td>50,272.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mansfield, PA</td>
<td>52,247.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orland Park, IL</td>
<td>250,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phoenix, AZ</td>
<td>189,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockport, ME</td>
<td>175,431.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Diego, CA</td>
<td>316,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,454,217.24</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

XI **CONTINGENT FUND**

The Contingent Fund was created through special gifts to the Committee and includes receipts from bequests. During 1997 $2,534 was received in bequests. These funds have been used to provide loans for the purchase of church property, to assist in building needs and to supplement program funds to finance capital purchases. The fund is also used to provide a cash reserve for the General Fund to cover any deficit in that fund.

The balances due on all loans from this fund as of December 31, 1997, are as follows:
Caney, KS - Caney Orthodox Presbyterian Church  $35,000.00
Gettysburg, PA - Living Hope Orthodox Presbyterian Church  16,498.01
Key West, FL - Keys Chapel (OPC)  143,913.36
Marlton, NJ - Rev. Ross W. Graham  70,981.83
Presby. of the Midwest, OPC - Living Hope OPC, Ionia, MI  33,608.91
Presbytery of New York and New England, OPC  10,190.39
Sonora, CA - Oak Hill Orthodox Presbyterian Church  50,000.00
Zoar, WS - Menominee Orthodox Presbyterian Church  6,165.82
Total  $366,358.32

The Contingent Fund has the following equity in real estate as of December 31, 1997:

Willow Grove, PA - Administration Building  $77,000.00
Stratford, NJ - Church  16,580.36
Roswell, NM - Vacant Land  7,307.60
Total  $100,887.96

The congregation of Roswell OPC, Roswell, New Mexico, conveyed to CHMCE 2.5 acres of land adjacent to the home of the pastor and the property on which the church building is located. At the time, the indebtedness of the congregation to the Contingent Fund in the amount of $14,515 was completely satisfied. Subsequently the vacant land, now an asset of the Committee, was placed on the market for sale. During the year one-half of the vacant land was sold.

The balance due as of December 31, 1997 on a loan from the Special Projects Fund to the Presbytery of the Midwest was $17,073.54.

XII AUXILIARY MINISTRIES

A. OPC Ministerial Information Form for Ministers/Licentiates
   The GA has assigned to the Committee the responsibility of administering a file of completed questionnaires submitted by licentiates and ministers in our denomination who desire to have their availability known to churches without pastors. At the end of the year, 15 questionnaires were on file. All churches requesting this information are sent copies. An updated list of vacant pulpits is also maintained in conjunction with the stated clerk and sent to those requesting such information.

B. 1998 Salary Scale Guidelines
   Salary Scale Guidelines for assisting churches and presbyteries in arriving at compensation packages for church planters in the initial phase of a mission work have been adopted annually for many years by the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension. The salary scale reflects an earlier day when the Committee called men to church planting efforts and guaranteed their salary according to the scale for a certain number of years.

   In more recent times the Committee has produced the salary scale at the request of the GA with the recognition that these annual Salary Scale Guidelines have been consulted by established churches in the call of a pastor and in some instances in the annual evaluation of the compensation for their pastor as well. While the reasoning for establishing such salary package guidelines for a pastor
have changed, the Guidelines have continued to prove useful to the church for determining basic parameters of pastoral compensation.

In compiling a salary package in any instance, the ideal compensation package reflects the following:

1. **Base Salary.** The calling body should make adequate provision for the pastor and his family (factors include the size of the family, personal preferences, style of living, amount of debt, if any, such as car loans, education loans, etc.). The Committee suggests a base salary of $23,323 for the first year of service following ordination. Yearly increments should be given on the basis of each additional year of service with an inflation factor included, based on the local and national cost of living index.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years of Service</th>
<th>Base Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>$23,323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>$23,906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>$24,504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>$25,117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>$25,744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>$26,388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>$27,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>$27,723</td>
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<td>14th</td>
<td>$32,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th</td>
<td>$32,955</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. **Housing considerations.** Consideration should be given to housing costs in the area, the ability of the pastor to rent or purchase adequate housing for his family, and personal preferences. When a realistic amount has been mutually arrived upon between the pastor and the congregation, the proper body should record that amount as "Housing Allowance" (in addition to salary) for tax purposes. This Housing Allowance shall include all utilities and other house-related items recognized by the IRS as being covered under the Allowance stipulation.

3. **Car allowance.** A car is an important part of a man's ministry. Providing for this cost depends upon several factors: condition of a car when a man is called to the field, type of car and family circumstances that might substantiate having more than one car. In carrying out his ministerial tasks the pastor should be reimbursed at the rate of at least 31.5 cents per mile.

4. **Hospitalization.** The congregation should pay the cost for medical/hospitalization premiums for the pastor and his family. It is strongly suggested that this be done through participation in the OPC plan.

5. **Pension.** The church should pay the recommended 6% of salary (base salary and housing allowance) as a pension premium with the strong suggestion that he participate in the OPC Pension Plan.

6. **Social Security.** The church should pay one-half of the pastor's Social Security premiums. For pastors not in the Social Security program, the church should pay one-half of the annual investment in an established investment or
retirement income plan, this being on the same basis and in the same amount as though the pastor were in Social Security.

7. Other considerations. The calling body may also consider as part of the salary package items such as: arrangements to help in house purchase with a down payment if needed, disability insurance, and assistance in meeting Christian school tuition for children. The ability to implement any or all of the above suggestions is determined in part by the following:

a. The congregation’s ability to meet the initial terms of the call with reasonable projections for annual evaluations, including increases as needed and prudent.

b. In the case of mission works, financial aid from CHMCE, the presbytery and other possible outside sources as significant factors in determining the salary package. CHMCE support is premised on annual presbytery requests with a maximum commitment of four years.

XIII GENERAL ASSEMBLY MATTERS

The Committee appointed the Rev. Ross W. Graham, General Secretary, the Rev. John R. Hilbelink, president, and Ruling Elder Garret A. Hoogerhyde as their representatives to the 65th GA.

XIV ADMINISTRATION

A. Committee Members and Officers:

Class of 2000
Ministers: Richard R. Gerber, John R. Hilbelink, Lawrence Semel
Ruling Elders: Richard A. Barker, Garret A. Hoogerhyde

Class of 1999
Ministers: Randall A. Bergquist, David J. O’Leary, William E. Warren
Ruling Elders: Jack H. Julien, D.D.S., Steven T. Vanderhill

Class of 1998
Ministers: Mark R. Brown, George W. Knight III, Gerald S. Taylor
Ruling Elders: Robert A. Kramm, Robert L. Ayres

Officers
President: John R. Hilbelink
Vice President: Mark R. Brown
Secretary: David J. O’Leary
Treasurer: Robert A. Kramm

B. Executive Committee: Messrs. Barker, Gerber, Hoogerhyde, O’Leary, and the president

C. Committee Representative to COC: Mr. Hoogerhyde

D. Subcommittees:
Finance: Messrs. Barker, Hoogerhyde (Chairman), Julien, Kramm, Semel
General Ministries: Messrs. Bergquist, Brown, O’Leary, Knight, Warren (Chairman)
E. Ministry Staff:
The current ministry staff consists of General Secretary Ross W. Graham and Director of Evangelism and Church Development William J. Vermeulen. With the retirement of Mr. Vermeulen at the end of August 1998, the Committee has begun to lay plans for the call and employment of a minister of the OPC to serve as an associate general secretary on or about January 1, 1999.

F. Office Staff
Secretary, Lisl G. Tyson (shared with Committee on Christian Education)

XV ELECTIONS

The terms of the above-named Class of 1998 expire at this assembly.
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION

SYNOPSIS

I PURPOSE

II OPERATION
   A. Membership
   B. Officers
   C. Standing Subcommittees
   D. Meetings

III ACCOMPLISHMENTS
   A. Worldwide Outreach Program
   B. Coordinated Promotional Efforts
   C. Administrative
   D. Estate and Gift Design Policy Guidelines

IV ITEMS TO BE REPORTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
   Paragraph E.4.o. of the Assembly’s Instruments

V 1999 BUDGET FOR THE COMMITTEE

VI RECOMMENDATIONS

VII ELECTIONS

APPENDIX

The committee rejoices at the good and godly response of his covenant people to the Worldwide Outreach of the Church in 1997. The opportunities that the sovereign Lord continues to lay before us at home and abroad never cease to amaze the committee! Balancing these opportunities with fiscal constraints remains our prayerful challenge.

I PURPOSE

The purposes of the committee are to recommend to the General Assembly a combined budget for the three program committees (Christian Education, Foreign Missions and Home Missions and Church Extension) for the succeeding year so as to help the church maximize the use of its resources for the fulfillment of its tasks, to support the ministry of the pastors and sessions in their responsibility to teach and encourage the practice of biblical stewardship in the church, to help coordinate the work of the three program committees in the development of support for their work.

II OPERATION

   A. Membership
      1. Elected by the General Assembly
         a. Class of 1998
            (1) The Rev. Ivan J. De Master
            (2) Ruling Elder Joseph LoGiudice, III
b. Class of 1999
   (1) The Rev. Donald M. Poundstone
   (2) Ruling Elder Louis C. LaBriola

c. Class of 2000
   (1) The Rev. Stephen L. Phillips
   (2) Ruling Elder Russell W. Copeland, Jr.

2. Elected by the Program Committees
   b. Foreign Missions - Ruling Elder John D. Williams
   c. Home Missions - Ruling Elder Garret A. Hoogerhyde

3. General Secretaries (ex officio)
   b. Foreign Missions - Ruling Elder Mark T. Bube
   c. Home Missions - The Rev. Ross W. Graham

B. Officers
   1. Chairman - The Rev. Ross W. Graham
   2. Vice-Chairman - The Rev. Ivan J. De Master
   3. Secretary - The Rev. Stephen L. Phillips
   4. Treasurer - Ruling Elder Louis C. LaBriola

C. Standing Subcommittees
   1. Administration
      The Administration Subcommittee, consisting of Messrs. Copeland, De Master and Phillips, is principally responsible for arranging for the orderly receiving and accounting of funds for the program committees.
   2. Promotional Guidelines and Stewardship Education
      The Promotional Guidelines and Stewardship Education Subcommittee, consisting of Messrs. LaBriola, LoGiudice, and Poundstone, is principally responsible for approving guidelines for promotion of the work of and developing support for the program committees, developing and preparing programs to encourage the practices of good stewardship, encouraging the procurement of support from individuals through both current and deferred giving, and providing counsel, assistance and literature aimed at increasing the commitment of each member of the church in the use of his or her means, time and talents in the work of Christ's kingdom.
   3. Program Review
      The Program Review Subcommittee, consisting of Messrs. Felch, Hoogerhyde and Williams, plus the three general secretaries, is principally responsible for organizing the review of the program committees' programs and budgets and preparing a proposed Worldwide Outreach budget for the following year for the committee's approval.
   4. The Chairman serves ex officio on all standing subcommittees.

D. Meetings
   The committee met three times since the last Assembly: August 18, 1997 (by conference call); December 15, 1997; and April 3, 1998.
III ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A. Worldwide Outreach Program

In 1997, the church experienced a 12% increase in giving to Worldwide Outreach, with total Worldwide Outreach receipts for the year increasing from $1,659,804 in 1996 to $1,859,385 in 1997. These 1997 receipts represented an excess over the approved 1997 budget of $1,760,000 of 5.6%. The New Horizons magazine received its full budget amount of $175,000, while the Committee on Coordination spent $160,000 out of a budgeted $170,000. The Committee on Christian Education received 105.2% of its approved budget; the Committee on Foreign Missions received 105.8% of its approved budget; and the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension received 111.5% of its approved budget. In addition, the Committee on Foreign Missions received a special spring offering of $74,075 to take it to 116.1% of its approved budget.

In light of these events and historical giving patterns, and after prayerful consideration, the committee is recommending a total Worldwide Outreach program for 1999 of $2,050,000, which represents a 9% increase over the approved 1998 budget (see recommendation below).

B. Coordinated Promotional Efforts

A special offering for the Committee on Foreign Missions and the 1997 Thank Offering were the only coordinated promotional efforts in 1997.

C. Administrative

Our Director of Finance and Planned Giving, Mr. David E. Haney, has continued his follow-up of responses to the quarterly inserts in New Horizons. He also gives presentations to presbyteries and other interested groups, and seeks to establish regional stewardship representatives for each presbytery. Biblical stewardship remains the focus as he helps people with estate planning and charitable giving, presenting a ministry view of their time, talents, and treasures in order for God-given abilities to manage God-owned property to accomplish God-ordained results. Increased activity in the Planned Giving program is anticipated, and the 1999 proposed budget for the Planned Giving Program reflects this (see Budget below), particularly in moving from a part-time bookkeeper to a full-time staff accountant. A resource library for stewardship education is being developed.

D. Estate and Gift Design Policy Guidelines

The committee provisionally adopted Estate and Gift Design Policy Guidelines for its Planned Giving program. The following instruments are included in these guidelines: bequests (wills), revocable living trusts, life-income gifts (split interest giving, pooled income fund gifts, charitable remainder trusts, and charitable gift annuities), property gifts (home, farm, etc.), real estate or securities, life insurance, tangible personal property, bargain sales, charitable lead trusts, and cash.

IV ITEMS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Pursuant to paragraph E.4.o. of the Instruments of the General Assembly, the Committee on Coordination has granted its approval to the undertaking of the following special relationships, which must be reported annually to the Assembly:
Field  Missionary  Relationship
China  Folta  First Presby. Church, North Shore, Ipswich, MA
Eritrea  Miller  Mid-Atlantic Presby. and Grace OPC, Vienna, VA
Ethiopia  Mekonnen  A group of congregations in the Midwest Presby.
Kenya  Alphenaar  A group of congregations in the Midwest Presby.
Prawius  Congregations in the Presbytery of NY and NE
Suriname  Hubenthal  Presbytery of the South and a group of congregations in the Presby. of So. California
Uganda  Curto  A group of congregations in the Midwest Presby.
Wingard

V  1999 BUDGET FOR THE COMMITTEE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Worldwide Outreach</td>
<td>$160,000</td>
<td>$170,000</td>
<td>$190,000</td>
<td>$209,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>14,784</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividends</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin. Fee (OPCLF)</td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>18,000</td>
<td>18,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc. Income</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$190,941</strong></td>
<td><strong>$201,500</strong></td>
<td><strong>$223,500</strong></td>
<td><strong>$242,500</strong></td>
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</table>

Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff (accounting only)</td>
<td>$111,850</td>
<td>$115,341</td>
<td>$120,732</td>
<td>$126,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planned Giving Program</td>
<td>35,410</td>
<td>43,147</td>
<td>56,165</td>
<td>69,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(See detail below)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff travel &amp; expenses</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>1,250</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office rent</td>
<td>8,250</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>2,061</td>
<td>1,750</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>3,718</td>
<td>3,200</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office equip./maint.</td>
<td>865</td>
<td>1,750</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office expenses/copier</td>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>3,650</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee meetings</td>
<td>4,425</td>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>4,697</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printed materials</td>
<td>568</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,250</td>
<td>1,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit</td>
<td>10,379</td>
<td>8,500</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotion</td>
<td>7,288</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>7,250</td>
<td>7,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer/Support/Supplies</td>
<td>1,429</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>3,156</td>
<td>3,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>1,128</td>
<td>912</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$191,226</strong></td>
<td><strong>$201,500</strong></td>
<td><strong>$223,500</strong></td>
<td><strong>$242,500</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Planned Giving Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff Travel and Expenses</td>
<td>$6,783</td>
<td>$4,250</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>3,515</td>
<td>13,147</td>
<td>20,565</td>
<td>41,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retainer - Lifestyle Giving</td>
<td>22,291</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>17,500</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training</td>
<td>449</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printed Materials</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>921</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Expense</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotion</td>
<td>1,034</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment/software</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$35,410</td>
<td>$43,147</td>
<td>$56,165</td>
<td>$69,440</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: These totals are included in the overall committee budget above.

VI  RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the General Assembly approve the following Worldwide Outreach program for 1999 (see III.A, above):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee Requests</th>
<th>COC Proposal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christian Education</td>
<td>$241,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Missions</td>
<td>850,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Missions</td>
<td>650,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-total</td>
<td>$1,741,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   | New Horizons        | 187,000     | 187,000     |
   | Coordination        | 209,000     | 209,000     |

Total 1999 Worldwide Outreach $2,137,600 $2,050,000

Increase over 1998 approved budget 13.7% 9.04%

And that the Committee on Foreign Missions be granted permission to have a special offering in 1999, and that Instrument E.4.i.(3) be suspended with respect to the first $35,000 of this offering so that that portion of the offering be outside of “the cap.”

2. That Instrument E of the Instruments of the General Assembly be amended by inserting the phrase “, but only to the extent that financial support for Great Commission Publications was included in such approved program” immediately following the words “Christian Education” in sub-paragraph E.4.i.(5) on the following ground: without such an amendment, should the Committee on Christian Education receive, say, a check today for $50,000 for GCP, that unsolicited designated gift could have the effect of shutting down the intern program (because it pushes the Committee on Christian Education up against “the cap” unless and until the other program committees also make “the cap.”)
VII ELECTIONS

The terms of the Rev. Ivan J. De Master and Ruling Elder Joseph LoGiudice expire at this Assembly. Under Standing Rule X.2.i., both are eligible for re-election. This Assembly should elect one minister and one ruling elder to the Class of 2001.
## WORLDWIDE OUTREACH

**Total Budgets and Receipts: 1980 - 1999**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total WWO Receipts</th>
<th>% Increase</th>
<th>Total WWO Budget</th>
<th>% Increase</th>
<th>Receipts as % of Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>$822,915</td>
<td></td>
<td>$812,500</td>
<td></td>
<td>101.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>839,561</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>882,811</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>95.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>782,714 (56,847)</td>
<td>-6.8%</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
<td>78.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>1,000,323</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
<td>972,150 (27,850)</td>
<td>-2.8%</td>
<td>102.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>934,779 (65,544)</td>
<td>-6.6%</td>
<td>962,415 (9,735)</td>
<td>-1.0%</td>
<td>97.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>936,057</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>1,026,161</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>91.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>1,055,821</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>1,050,000</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>100.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>991,266 (64,555)</td>
<td>-1.6%</td>
<td>1,064,000</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>93.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>1,276,283</td>
<td>28.8%</td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
<td>106.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>1,329,261</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>1,386,000</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
<td>95.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>1,179,190 (150,071)</td>
<td>-11.3%</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>78.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>1,202,440</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>1,605,000</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>74.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>1,284,485</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>1,400,000 (205,000)</td>
<td>-13.7%</td>
<td>91.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>1,388,158</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>1,400,000</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>99.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>1,484,904</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>1,450,000</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>102.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>1,536,379</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>1,545,000</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>99.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>1,659,804</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>1,680,000</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>1,859,384</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
<td>1,760,000</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
<td>105.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>[adopted]</td>
<td></td>
<td>[proposed]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>[adopted]</td>
<td></td>
<td>[proposed]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Averages: $60,969 (5.4%) $65,132 (5.2%) 95.2%

---

### WWO: Receipts and Budgets 1980-1999

![Graph showing the trend of WWO Receipts and Budgets from 1980 to 1999.](image-url)
**WWO: 1997 Sources of Funds**

- OPC: 92.3%
- Reserves: 2.2%
- Misc: 2.8%
- Non OPC: 2.7%

**WWO: 1997 Use of Funds**

(Program Services by Committee)

- CFM: 31.8%
- CHMCE: 21.2%
- CE: 4.5%
- NH: 8.5%
- Sppt.Serv.: 34.0%
### WORLDWIDE OUTREACH

Sources of Funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Actual 1997</th>
<th>Approved 1998</th>
<th>Requested 1999</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPC</td>
<td>$1,933,530</td>
<td>$1,920,000</td>
<td>$2,137,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non OPC</td>
<td>57,725</td>
<td>55,000</td>
<td>55,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Revenues</td>
<td>$2,048,673</td>
<td>$2,014,263</td>
<td>$2,239,550</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CASH RESERVES</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>46,359</td>
<td>342,334</td>
<td>162,433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL SOURCES OF FUNDS</strong></td>
<td>$2,095,032</td>
<td>$2,356,597</td>
<td>$2,401,983</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## WORLDWIDE OUTREACH

### Use of Funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Actual 1997</th>
<th>Approved 1998</th>
<th>Requested 1999</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PROGRAM SERVICES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Education</td>
<td>$94,464</td>
<td>$123,950</td>
<td>$169,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Missions</td>
<td>665,348</td>
<td>716,496</td>
<td>655,117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Missions &amp; Ch. Ext.</td>
<td>445,071</td>
<td>509,788</td>
<td>542,576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Horizons</td>
<td>178,729</td>
<td>186,000</td>
<td>187,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Program Services</strong></td>
<td>$1,383,612</td>
<td>$1,536,234</td>
<td>$1,554,043</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUPPORTING SERVICES</strong></td>
<td>711,420</td>
<td>820,363</td>
<td>847,940</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CASH RESERVES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL FUNDS USED</strong></td>
<td>$2,095,032</td>
<td>$2,356,597</td>
<td>$2,401,983</td>
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</table>

### WWO: Use of Funds 1997 - 1999

- **Reserves**
- **NH**
- **CFM**
- **Sppt.Serv.**
- **CHMCE**
- **CE**
## WORLDWIDE OUTREACH PROGRAM COMMITTEE FUND BALANCES

Source: 1990-1996 balance sheets prepared by Auditor

### CHRISTIAN ED.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>$55,621</td>
<td>$20,973</td>
<td>$19,142</td>
<td>$3,661</td>
<td>$26,077</td>
<td>$21,680</td>
<td>$18,098</td>
<td>$2,634</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital/Plant</td>
<td>192,193</td>
<td>201,772</td>
<td>195,231</td>
<td>187,233</td>
<td>184,771</td>
<td>191,822</td>
<td>201,916</td>
<td>221,056</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>325,715</td>
<td>336,184</td>
<td>325,688</td>
<td>298,234</td>
<td>306,627</td>
<td>291,653</td>
<td>492,784</td>
<td>475,212</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total CE</strong></td>
<td><strong>$573,529</strong></td>
<td><strong>$508,940</strong></td>
<td><strong>$453,041</strong></td>
<td><strong>$451,178</strong></td>
<td><strong>$527,475</strong></td>
<td><strong>$522,155</strong></td>
<td><strong>$712,709</strong></td>
<td><strong>$699,202</strong></td>
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</table>

### FOREIGN MISSIONS

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
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<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>$51,155</td>
<td>$57,131</td>
<td>$40,108</td>
<td>$28,787</td>
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<td>$0</td>
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<td>Capital/Plant</td>
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<td>365,623</td>
<td>1,271,230</td>
<td>1,437,267</td>
<td>1,388,576</td>
<td>1,270,737</td>
<td>1,060,450</td>
<td>1,076,283</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contingent</td>
<td>192,576</td>
<td>195,015</td>
<td>326,405</td>
<td>252,754</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Proj.</td>
<td>151,581</td>
<td>122,506</td>
<td>75,400</td>
<td>59,722</td>
<td>80,789</td>
<td>100,914</td>
<td>115,802</td>
<td>127,056</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>463,042</td>
<td>424,215</td>
<td>388,156</td>
<td>420,192</td>
<td>418,734</td>
<td>456,184</td>
<td>484,181</td>
<td>471,100</td>
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<td><strong>Total CFM</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,208,774</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,181,081</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,111,309</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,196,722</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,873,005</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,827,435</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,849,744</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,874,398</strong></td>
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### HOME MISSIONS

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>($44,463)</td>
<td>($77,738)</td>
<td>($2,628)</td>
<td>$99,556</td>
<td>$155,080</td>
<td>$156,138</td>
<td>$153,210</td>
<td>$193,187</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contingent</td>
<td>435,025</td>
<td>409,878</td>
<td>596,800</td>
<td>651,830</td>
<td>651,778</td>
<td>601,786</td>
<td>703,714</td>
<td>719,111</td>
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<tr>
<td>Church Extan.</td>
<td>310,428</td>
<td>325,350</td>
<td>355,023</td>
<td>355,358</td>
<td>356,069</td>
<td>379,666</td>
<td>550,342</td>
<td>570,342</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Proj.</td>
<td>217,997</td>
<td>219,860</td>
<td>219,294</td>
<td>184,826</td>
<td>183,009</td>
<td>155,404</td>
<td>132,876</td>
<td>93,053</td>
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<td>Plant</td>
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<td>272,545</td>
<td>163,388</td>
<td>187,234</td>
<td>194,771</td>
<td>191,822</td>
<td>201,819</td>
<td>221,056</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>104,017</td>
<td>70,597</td>
<td>6,750</td>
<td>40,282</td>
<td>8,198</td>
<td>8,485</td>
<td>23,011</td>
<td>23,828</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total CHMCE</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,256,433</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,305,957</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,423,719</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,819,216</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,539,805</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,552,841</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,777,912</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,820,387</strong></td>
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</table>

### COORDINATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>($2,421)</td>
<td>($558)</td>
<td>$450</td>
<td>($2,051)</td>
<td>$231</td>
<td>$1,296</td>
<td>$575</td>
<td>$291</td>
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<td>GA budget</td>
<td>91,450</td>
<td>84,108</td>
<td>89,181</td>
<td>56,735</td>
<td>40,707</td>
<td>43,789</td>
<td>56,844</td>
<td>76,954</td>
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<td>GA Travel</td>
<td>13,854</td>
<td>23,452</td>
<td>34,333</td>
<td>49,870</td>
<td>61,232</td>
<td>48,327</td>
<td>31,040</td>
<td>35,251</td>
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<td>Other</td>
<td>38,810</td>
<td>12,231</td>
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<td>8,000</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>9,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total CCO</strong></td>
<td><strong>$141,683</strong></td>
<td><strong>$118,932</strong></td>
<td><strong>$128,954</strong></td>
<td><strong>$112,354</strong></td>
<td><strong>$113,170</strong></td>
<td><strong>$104,412</strong></td>
<td><strong>$90,459</strong></td>
<td><strong>$121,559</strong></td>
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### TOTAL ALL FUNDS

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>$3,109,429</td>
<td>$3,254,980</td>
<td>$4,187,032</td>
<td>$4,347,420</td>
<td>$4,053,545</td>
<td>$4,007,654</td>
<td>$4,239,884</td>
<td>$4,315,553</td>
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</table>

### WWO: Committees' Fund Balances 1990-1997

![Graph showing fund balances for different categories]
### WORLDWIDE OUTREACH
Combined General Funds: Revenues and Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Actual 1997</th>
<th>Approved 1998</th>
<th>Requested 1999</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPC</td>
<td>$1,933,530</td>
<td>$1,920,000</td>
<td>$2,137,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non OPC</td>
<td>57,418</td>
<td>55,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>57,725</td>
<td>39,263</td>
<td>46,950</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenues</strong></td>
<td>$2,048,673</td>
<td>$2,014,263</td>
<td>$2,239,550</td>
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<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Education</td>
<td>$94,464</td>
<td>$123,950</td>
<td>$169,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Missions</td>
<td>665,348</td>
<td>716,496</td>
<td>655,117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Missions &amp; Ch. Ext.</td>
<td>445,671</td>
<td>509,788</td>
<td>542,576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Horizons</td>
<td>176,729</td>
<td>186,000</td>
<td>187,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Program Services</strong></td>
<td>$1,383,612</td>
<td>$1,536,234</td>
<td>$1,554,043</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Education</td>
<td>$100,850</td>
<td>$125,019</td>
<td>$117,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Missions</td>
<td>237,593</td>
<td>258,428</td>
<td>270,016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Missions &amp; Ch. Ext.</td>
<td>181,751</td>
<td>213,416</td>
<td>217,924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordination</td>
<td>191,226</td>
<td>223,500</td>
<td>242,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Supporting Services</strong></td>
<td>$711,420</td>
<td>$820,383</td>
<td>$847,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>$2,095,032</td>
<td>$2,356,597</td>
<td>$2,401,983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXCESS (Deficit)</strong></td>
<td>($46,359)</td>
<td>($342,334)</td>
<td>($162,433)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding of Deficit (Surplus):</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From (to) CCE cash reserves</td>
<td>$11,434</td>
<td>$74,906</td>
<td>$28,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From (to) CFM cash reserves</td>
<td>23,899</td>
<td>153,724</td>
<td>53,933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From (to) CHMCE cash reserves</td>
<td>7,012</td>
<td>98,704</td>
<td>80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From (to) NH cash reserves</td>
<td>3,729</td>
<td>15,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>From (to) COC cash reserves</td>
<td>285</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Deficit (Surplus) funded</strong></td>
<td>$46,359</td>
<td>$342,334</td>
<td>$162,433</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

- **1997 “Actual”:** Based on Auditor’s reports
- **1998 “Approved”:** Based on Committees’ reports, allocated as near as possible in the same manner as the Auditor.
- **1999 “Requested”:** Based on amounts requested by the Committees in their annual reports, allocated as near as possible in the same manner as the Auditor.

**Supporting Services:**

- All salary and benefits for staff have now been allocated as Supporting Services. A new program of Planned Giving was also added to the list of supporting services. This had increased this category as noted above.
## COMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### General Fund: Revenue and Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Actual 1997</th>
<th>Approved 1998</th>
<th>Requested 1999</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPC</td>
<td>$173,324</td>
<td>$165,000</td>
<td>$241,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non OPC</td>
<td>2,376</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>8,180</td>
<td>4,083</td>
<td>11,750</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Revenues</td>
<td>$183,880</td>
<td>$174,063</td>
<td>$258,350</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministerial training</td>
<td>$71,050</td>
<td>$95,850</td>
<td>$106,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training services</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ordained Servant</td>
<td>22,769</td>
<td>27,100</td>
<td>27,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>MTI-OPC</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>35,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Program Services</td>
<td>$94,464</td>
<td>$123,950</td>
<td>$169,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General administrative and Promotion</td>
<td>100,850</td>
<td>125,019</td>
<td>117,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>$195,314</td>
<td>$248,969</td>
<td>$286,850</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EXCESS (Deficit)</strong></td>
<td>($11,434)</td>
<td>($74,906)</td>
<td>($28,500)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Funding of Deficit (Surplus):**

|                  |             |               |                |
| Inter-fund transfers | $0          | $74,906       | $28,500        |
| Decrease (increase) in cash | 11,434     | 0             | 0              |
| **Deficit (Surplus) funded** | $11,434    | $74,906       | $28,500        |

**Note:**
The salary and benefits paid to the General Secretary have been allocated as follows:
25% to New Horizons, 75% to Christian Education.
### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN MISSIONS
General Fund: Revenues and Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Actual 1997</th>
<th>Approved 1998</th>
<th>Requested 1999</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPC</td>
<td>$824,196</td>
<td>$800,000</td>
<td>$850,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non OPC</td>
<td>36,441</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>18,405</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenues</strong></td>
<td>$879,042</td>
<td>$821,200</td>
<td>$871,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missionary support</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office &amp; administration</td>
<td>$223,042</td>
<td>$238,628</td>
<td>$250,516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotion</td>
<td>14,551</td>
<td>19,800</td>
<td>19,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Supporting Services</strong></td>
<td>$237,593</td>
<td>$258,428</td>
<td>$270,016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>$902,941</td>
<td>$974,924</td>
<td>$925,133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXCESS (Deficit)</strong></td>
<td>($23,899)</td>
<td>($153,724)</td>
<td>($53,933)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding of Deficit (Surplus):</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inter-fund transfers</td>
<td>$23,899</td>
<td>$153,724</td>
<td>$53,933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease (increase) in cash</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Deficit (Surplus) funded</strong></td>
<td>$23,899</td>
<td>$153,724</td>
<td>$53,933</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- The salary and benefits paid to all employees have been allocated to administration.
- 1997 revenues and expenses shown above do not reflect $83,331 receipts, nor $72,308 expenses for "Special Projects".
- Missionary Support figures include funding of shortfalls and anticipated shortfalls in the Direct Missionary Support Fund. The shortfalls are $206,403 and $178,112 and $149,761 for 1997, 1998 and 1999 respectively.
## COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION

**General Fund: Revenues and Expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Actual 1997</th>
<th>Approved 1998</th>
<th>Requested 1999</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPC</td>
<td>$601,010</td>
<td>$594,000</td>
<td>$650,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non OPC</td>
<td>18,601</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenues</strong></td>
<td>$619,810</td>
<td>$624,500</td>
<td>$680,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field support</td>
<td>$297,899</td>
<td>$328,788</td>
<td>$332,076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional home missionaries</td>
<td>95,000</td>
<td>122,400</td>
<td>146,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other church extension</td>
<td>52,172</td>
<td>58,600</td>
<td>64,100</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Program Services</strong></td>
<td>$445,071</td>
<td>$509,788</td>
<td>$542,576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office &amp; administrative</td>
<td>$178,223</td>
<td>$208,916</td>
<td>$213,424</td>
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<tr>
<td>Promotion</td>
<td>3,528</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>4,500</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Supporting Services</strong></td>
<td>$181,751</td>
<td>$213,416</td>
<td>$217,924</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>$626,822</td>
<td>$723,204</td>
<td>$760,500</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EXCESS (Deficit)</strong></td>
<td>($7,012)</td>
<td>($98,704)</td>
<td>($80,000)</td>
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</table>

Funding of Deficit (Surplus):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Actual 1997</th>
<th>Approved 1998</th>
<th>Requested 1999</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inter-fund transfers</td>
<td>$47,000</td>
<td>$98,704</td>
<td>$80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease (increase) in cash</td>
<td>(39,988)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Deficit (Surplus) funded</strong></td>
<td>$7,012</td>
<td>$98,704</td>
<td>$80,000</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Note:**
The salary and benefits paid to all employees have been allocated entirely to administration.
### NEW HORIZONS
General Fund: Revenues and Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Actual 1997</th>
<th>Approved 1998</th>
<th>Requested 1999</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions - OPC</td>
<td>$175,000</td>
<td>$171,000</td>
<td>$187,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>178,729</td>
<td>186,000</td>
<td>187,000</td>
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<td><strong>EXCESS (Deficit)</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>($3,729)</td>
<td>($15,000)</td>
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</table>

Funding of Deficit (Surplus):
- Inter-fund transfers
  - Decrease (increase) in cash
  - Deficit (Surplus) funded

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Actual 1997</th>
<th>Approved 1998</th>
<th>Requested 1999</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION**
General Fund: Revenues and Expenses

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Actual 1997</th>
<th>Approved 1998</th>
<th>Requested 1999</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions - OPC</td>
<td>$160,000</td>
<td>$190,000</td>
<td>$209,000</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>30,941</td>
<td>33,500</td>
<td>33,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Revenues</td>
<td>$190,941</td>
<td>$223,500</td>
<td>$242,500</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Services</td>
<td>191,226</td>
<td>223,500</td>
<td>242,500</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EXCESS (Deficit)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>($285)</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
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</table>

Funding of Deficit (Surplus):
- Decrease (increase) in cash

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Actual 1997</th>
<th>Approved 1998</th>
<th>Requested 1999</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$285</td>
<td>$-0</td>
<td>$-0</td>
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</table>
WORLDWIDE OUTREACH
Percentage Distribution of Budgets Approved by the General Assembly
1973 - 1998

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>CE</th>
<th>CFM</th>
<th>CHMCE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>27.2%</td>
<td>39.2%</td>
<td>33.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>27.5%</td>
<td>42.1%</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
<td>40.9%</td>
<td>32.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
<td>41.0%</td>
<td>32.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>26.2%</td>
<td>39.5%</td>
<td>34.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>26.1%</td>
<td>39.6%</td>
<td>34.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>26.2%</td>
<td>39.7%</td>
<td>34.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
<td>39.8%</td>
<td>34.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>26.1%</td>
<td>39.9%</td>
<td>34.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
<td>40.6%</td>
<td>32.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>27.4%</td>
<td>40.6%</td>
<td>32.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>27.4%</td>
<td>40.6%</td>
<td>32.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>27.4%</td>
<td>40.6%</td>
<td>32.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>26.0%</td>
<td>42.3%</td>
<td>31.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>24.5%</td>
<td>42.3%</td>
<td>32.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>21.2%</td>
<td>44.7%</td>
<td>34.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>19.9%</td>
<td>46.6%</td>
<td>33.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>19.9%</td>
<td>46.6%</td>
<td>33.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
<td>48.2%</td>
<td>40.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>47.3%</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>47.3%</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
<td>47.2%</td>
<td>39.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>47.6%</td>
<td>39.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
<td>49.1%</td>
<td>38.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>11.6%</td>
<td>50.2%</td>
<td>38.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>39.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999 (proposed)</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>49.3%</td>
<td>38.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average: Last 5 years 12.2% 48.8% 39.0%
Average: 1973-1998 21.4% 43.6% 35.0%

Budgets Approved by the GA: 1973-1998
Percent Distribution by Committee
### WORLDWIDE OUTREACH
Percent of Approved Budget Funded: By Committee 1983-1997

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Funded</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>% Funded</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>% Funded</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>% Funded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>244,911</td>
<td>234,315</td>
<td>104.5</td>
<td>366,428</td>
<td>347,196</td>
<td>105.5</td>
<td>287,942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>210,588</td>
<td>229,243</td>
<td>91.9</td>
<td>343,579</td>
<td>339,680</td>
<td>101.1</td>
<td>260,057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>214,940</td>
<td>250,206</td>
<td>85.9</td>
<td>370,160</td>
<td>370,343</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>266,836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>221,486</td>
<td>241,800</td>
<td>91.6</td>
<td>431,160</td>
<td>393,380</td>
<td>109.6</td>
<td>272,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>197,630</td>
<td>227,850</td>
<td>86.7</td>
<td>407,054</td>
<td>393,380</td>
<td>103.5</td>
<td>279,430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>205,875</td>
<td>225,382</td>
<td>91.3</td>
<td>582,203</td>
<td>475,000</td>
<td>122.6</td>
<td>346,211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>188,293</td>
<td>238,000</td>
<td>83.3</td>
<td>594,146</td>
<td>556,000</td>
<td>106.9</td>
<td>345,119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>166,770</td>
<td>254,660</td>
<td>65.5</td>
<td>477,275</td>
<td>662,270</td>
<td>72.1</td>
<td>354,151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>95,650</td>
<td>145,000</td>
<td>66.0</td>
<td>492,016</td>
<td>632,000</td>
<td>77.9</td>
<td>397,293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>114,950</td>
<td>145,000</td>
<td>79.3</td>
<td>539,491</td>
<td>539,000</td>
<td>100.1</td>
<td>385,667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>145,035</td>
<td>145,000</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>541,013</td>
<td>539,000</td>
<td>100.4</td>
<td>456,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>163,628</td>
<td>157,016</td>
<td>104.2</td>
<td>576,401</td>
<td>554,173</td>
<td>104.0</td>
<td>477,055</td>
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<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>153,628</td>
<td>160,000</td>
<td>96.0</td>
<td>608,044</td>
<td>600,000</td>
<td>101.3</td>
<td>500,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>166,251</td>
<td>165,000</td>
<td>100.8</td>
<td>674,846</td>
<td>665,000</td>
<td>101.5</td>
<td>529,851</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>173,324</td>
<td>165,000</td>
<td>105.0</td>
<td>750,120</td>
<td>710,000</td>
<td>105.7</td>
<td>601,010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1983-1997 Average: 90.1 100.8 93.3
Last 5 Years Average: 101.2 102.6 103.1

### Percent of Budget Funded: By Committee 1983 - 1997

- **CE**
- **CFM**
- **CHMCE**
### Appendix

#### The Orthodox Presbyterian Church

#### Unrestricted Liquid Cash Reserve Levels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>30,462</td>
<td>16,742</td>
<td>30,306</td>
<td>36,077</td>
<td>31,890</td>
<td>18,096</td>
<td>1,659</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital/Plant</td>
<td>4,844</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>217,458</td>
<td>245,663</td>
<td>276,460</td>
<td>174,675</td>
<td>183,130</td>
<td>387,684</td>
<td>380,808</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total CE</strong></td>
<td>252,764</td>
<td>262,705</td>
<td>308,766</td>
<td>210,752</td>
<td>214,820</td>
<td>405,790</td>
<td>382,467</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FM</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>59,540</td>
<td>5,759</td>
<td>22,803</td>
<td>(16,706)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,406</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital/Plant</td>
<td>56,583</td>
<td>329,135</td>
<td>459,394</td>
<td>391,912</td>
<td>570,024</td>
<td>337,015</td>
<td>415,443</td>
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<td>Contingent</td>
<td>195,615</td>
<td>277,664</td>
<td>252,754</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>43,769</td>
<td>47,691</td>
<td>48,484</td>
<td>52,610</td>
<td>53,271</td>
<td>55,086</td>
<td>57,350</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total CFM</strong></td>
<td>357,508</td>
<td>660,249</td>
<td>783,435</td>
<td>427,817</td>
<td>623,295</td>
<td>393,487</td>
<td>472,793</td>
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<td><strong>HM</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>(7,038)</td>
<td>(2,672)</td>
<td>97,697</td>
<td>156,080</td>
<td>156,138</td>
<td>153,248</td>
<td>186,000</td>
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<td>Contingent</td>
<td>289,416</td>
<td>319,444</td>
<td>351,027</td>
<td>141,760</td>
<td>103,936</td>
<td>199,880</td>
<td>251,663</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2,175</td>
<td>2,260</td>
<td>2,638</td>
<td>2,464</td>
<td>1,235</td>
<td>3,810</td>
<td>2,566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total CHMCE</strong></td>
<td>275,553</td>
<td>319,052</td>
<td>451,362</td>
<td>300,324</td>
<td>280,970</td>
<td>353,038</td>
<td>440,429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>(858)</td>
<td>473</td>
<td>(2,051)</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>1,296</td>
<td>575</td>
<td>(1,467)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA Budget</td>
<td>82,416</td>
<td>75,866</td>
<td>56,735</td>
<td>40,707</td>
<td>43,789</td>
<td>56,844</td>
<td>78,954</td>
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<tr>
<td>GA Travel</td>
<td>23,452</td>
<td>34,333</td>
<td>49,670</td>
<td>61,232</td>
<td>48,327</td>
<td>31,040</td>
<td>35,321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>9,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Agencies</strong></td>
<td>107,009</td>
<td>115,672</td>
<td>112,354</td>
<td>113,170</td>
<td>104,412</td>
<td>99,459</td>
<td>119,808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td>992,834</td>
<td>1,357,678</td>
<td>1,653,917</td>
<td>1,052,043</td>
<td>1,203,497</td>
<td>1,251,774</td>
<td>1,415,497</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Liquid Cash Reserves

![Liquid Cash Reserves Graph]

- **C.C.E.**
- **C.F.M.**
- **C.H.M.C.E.**
- **Other**
## ADMINISTRATION BUILDING COMMITTEE

**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**December 31, 1997**

### General Operations Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning Balance</td>
<td>37,328</td>
<td>(5,156)</td>
<td>(13,453)</td>
<td>(13,453)</td>
<td>18,915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental Income - C.E.</td>
<td>6,775</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>8,250</td>
<td>8,250</td>
<td>8,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental Income - F.M.</td>
<td>6,775</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>8,250</td>
<td>8,250</td>
<td>8,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental Income - H.M.</td>
<td>6,775</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>8,250</td>
<td>8,250</td>
<td>8,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental Income - C.O.C.</td>
<td>6,775</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>8,250</td>
<td>8,250</td>
<td>8,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental Income - G.A.</td>
<td>6,775</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>8,250</td>
<td>8,250</td>
<td>8,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental Income - G.C.P.</td>
<td>6,775</td>
<td>4,517</td>
<td>3,106</td>
<td>3,388</td>
<td>3,388</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lease Income - TopLink</td>
<td>21,865</td>
<td>24,218</td>
<td>18,458</td>
<td>21,326</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lease Income - Palmer &amp; Barr</td>
<td>31,148</td>
<td>22,500</td>
<td>37,969</td>
<td>30,986</td>
<td>31,875</td>
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<tr>
<td>Misc. Income</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>93,789</td>
<td>88,735</td>
<td>100,882</td>
<td>96,950</td>
<td>91,513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condominium Fee</td>
<td>10,800</td>
<td>10,800</td>
<td>9,900</td>
<td>10,800</td>
<td>10,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janitorial Service</td>
<td>11,350</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>12,714</td>
<td>13,000</td>
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<td>Real Estate Taxes</td>
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<td>16,931</td>
<td>1,564</td>
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<td>Insurance</td>
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<td>2,717</td>
<td>1,094</td>
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<td>10,652</td>
<td>10,725</td>
<td>10,541</td>
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<td>Postage - UPS Fee</td>
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<td>Postage - Meter Rental</td>
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<td>721</td>
<td>504</td>
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<td>525</td>
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<td>Office Equip./Furniture</td>
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<td>473</td>
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<td>Office Equip./Maint.</td>
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<td>1,196</td>
<td>905</td>
<td>500</td>
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<td>Supplies</td>
<td>1,767</td>
<td>1,837</td>
<td>2,310</td>
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<td>Legal Fees</td>
<td>1,260</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>3,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
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<td>2,269</td>
<td>116</td>
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<td>1,000</td>
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<td>Renovations</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>Debt Service</td>
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<td>33,000</td>
<td>33,000</td>
<td>33,000</td>
<td>33,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security System</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc.</td>
<td>5,467</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>1,155</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>136,273</td>
<td>94,474</td>
<td>75,638</td>
<td>96,950</td>
<td>86,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Excess/(Deficiency)</strong></td>
<td>(42,484)</td>
<td>(5,739)</td>
<td>25,244</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4,588</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Change in Advance balance</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(2,558)</td>
<td>5,124</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ending Balance</strong></td>
<td>(5,150)</td>
<td>(13,453)</td>
<td>16,915</td>
<td>(13,453)</td>
<td>21,503</td>
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### Capital Fund Balance Sheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Real Estate</td>
<td>865,070</td>
<td>865,070</td>
<td>865,070</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>6,084</td>
<td>7,867</td>
<td>7,867</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Liability - Notes Payable</td>
<td>(297,000)</td>
<td>(264,000)</td>
<td>(231,000)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ending Fund Balance</strong></td>
<td>574,154</td>
<td>608,937</td>
<td>641,937</td>
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### Copier Fund

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning balance</td>
<td>17,110</td>
<td>7,878</td>
<td>8,490</td>
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<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>7,168</td>
<td>6,649</td>
<td>7,835</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>(16,600)</td>
<td>(5,837)</td>
<td>(8,369)</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ending Balance</strong></td>
<td>7,768</td>
<td>8,490</td>
<td>7,958</td>
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</table>

### ABS Fund Summary (Ending Cash Balances)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Fund</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Copier Fund</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Ending ABS Cash Balances</strong></td>
<td>2,222</td>
<td>(2,324)</td>
<td>22,832</td>
<td>0</td>
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</table>
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DIACONAL MINISTRIES

And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples and said to Him, “Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?” Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them. And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me.” Matthew 11:2-6

I INTRODUCTION

Being in prison because of his boldness in denouncing King Herod for his immorality, John the Baptist sent to Jesus inquiring whether He was the promised Messiah. Jesus replied that what He said and did were His credentials. He did the promised diaconal work and the promised ministerial work. He healed the sick, raised the dead, and preached the gospel. The Committee on Diaconal Ministries is an agency established by The Orthodox Presbyterian Church to help the local assemblies and our foreign missions in that part of Jesus’ ongoing ministry called diaconal ministries. May God help us as we together seek to carry forth the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ.

II OVERVIEW

The following chart is presented to provide a quick overview of the ministry of this committee for the year 1997.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1996 Actual</th>
<th>1997 Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$14,959 (7%)</td>
<td>$17,436 (8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry Foreign</td>
<td>31,518 (16%)</td>
<td>39,474 (18%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry USA</td>
<td>78,135 (38%)</td>
<td>84,422 (38%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIM</td>
<td>80,110 (39%)</td>
<td>79,910 (36%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$204,722</td>
<td>$221,242</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are several matters that should not be overlooked here. First, our administrative costs are only 8% of our expenditures. This is extremely low. We encourage the churches and members of the OPC to note this low administrative cost in considering their giving to diaconal ministries at home and abroad. Secondly, the proportion of foreign missions giving has increased. We remind the readers that our foreign ministries are not originated by this committee, but by the missionaries on the foreign field. Thirdly, our ministries USA has increased significantly. This is due primarily to the loans we extended during the year. Finally, our giving to AIM causes has decreased due to the decrease in pensioners looking to this committee for aid. Such needs are being shifted to the Committee on Pensions.

We rejoice that over the years there has been a steady increase both in the number of churches giving to this ministry and to the proportion of those giving. Of the 235 churches in the OPC at the close of 1997, 148 gave to this committee. That is slightly over 62%. For many years this committee has maintained that the
churches of the OPC do give, and give liberally, to the diaconal ministry of the 
church as a whole. Nor should we forget that reports come to us from all over the 
denomination of continued diaconal ministry by the local churches and by 
presbyteries. Truly, the OPC evidences a sincere attempt not to forget the poor and 
needy (Gal. 2:10).

III ADMINISTRATION

The committee met twice during 1997, once in February and again in October. 
each meeting was held in Denver, and all members were present. 
The committee is administered by its membership, its executive committee, 
and its secretary-treasurer. Most of the day to day work is done by the secretary-
treasurer. This involves responding to the communications received provided this 
does not require decisions beyond what he is authorized to facilitate. He is the 
primary agent responding to phone messages and other questions tendered to the 
committee. He also is responsible to keep the financial records and disperse funds 
to approved causes. To this end Mrs. Diana Coppes functions as our bookkeeper. 
When matters arise which are beyond the normal duties of the secretary-trea-
surer, the executive committee (to which he belongs) is contacted for their decision. 
If the situation requires a major decision, then the entire committee is contacted. 
Only rarely is the entire committee consulted. Normally, they exercise their over-
sight at the two meetings each year. 
The secretary-treasurer continues to face a dilemma with regard to the New 
Horizons. For many years he has produced articles with some help from other con-
tributors. In recent months the help from other contributors has dried up. More-
over, the agents who act in our behalf in actually administering funds and other 
help have not submitted much in the way of reports. This is not a complaint against 
them since so many of them are so deeply involved in ministry that they just do not 
have the time to write down for us what they are doing. We certainly believe that 
doing the ministry is more important than reporting it. Also, some informed us as 
to what they are doing in our behalf, but the form of their report to us has not been 
suitable to include in the New Horizons.

IV FOREIGN MINISTRIES

This year we ministered through our OPC missionaries in South America 
(Suriname), the Middle East (Lebanon), Africa (Sudan, Kenya, and Uganda), and 
Asia (Japan). 
It was our privilege to help believers in Uganda as they were faced with a 
famine. Our missionary on the scene was offered more money by us than he deemed 
wise to expend. Consequently, we hold some funds in reserve to meet any future 
requests. Meanwhile, several congregations and individuals have sent funds 
through our Committee on Foreign Missions to meet the needs of our brothers in 
Uganda. 
We have sent $9,000 to Kenya to help in the hospital that we have been aiding 
for over ten years. The report from that work was very detailed as to how the 
funds were spent for various needs of the hospital operation. Sadly, this year saw 
the closing of our work in Eritrea when the government there saw fit to make it
impossible for our missionaries to continue working there. We pray earnestly that the Lord will be merciful to the believers left behind, strengthening them and blessing their witness in His behalf. We also discontinued helping the Reformed Church of East Africa due to the removal of our missionary and the unsettled internal state of that church.

Our work in the Near East and in North Africa is carried out through MERF. We sent $5000 to help in the recovery and continued sustenance of believers in war-torn Lebanon. In Sudan we gave $4,000 to the believers there as they continue to fight against Islam for the freedom to worship God as Christians. Our money goes to the wounded, the sick, and the hungry to provide life-giving medical aid and food.

The work in Japan is administered by our mission there in conjunction with the Reformed Church in Japan. We sent $3,000 for relief aid, Christian school scholarships, in help for the blind and those needing rehabilitation.

We continue to send some funds to Suriname to help in the diaconal work there. The country has been ravaged by years of war and is immersed deeply in poverty.

We sent about $12,000 as additional emergency aid. Of these funds $4,484.03 had been sent to us designated for Uganda, $6,640.06 as designated for MERF, and $900 designated for Africa.

V HOME MINISTRIES

In 1997 we sent $12,700 to help in providing scholarships for students in Philadelphia who are affiliated with Emmanuel Chapel. During the last year we have put an article in the New Horizons written by the pastor of that work. He reported how carefully they screen applicants for the aid. Also, in the past he has told us that in the grade schools in that part of Philadelphia, students face peers who carry knives and other deadly weapons to school. Although it is physically dangerous for them to attend the public schools, we all believe the most serious danger is the danger to their souls. We rejoice in helping students get out of the godless environment perpetuated by their peers and, sadly, by the educational establishment. No doubt, there are some Christian teachers in those schools who faithfully labor to extend the love and help of our Savior, but the philosophy of education adopted by the public school system certainly exalts the creature rather than the Creator. With our help these students are now enjoying God-centered education at the hands of Christian teachers. The pastor there has reported that those who receive aid agree to helping in the church or school as an expression of their good faith and desire to show their thankfulness in a concrete manner.

This year we helped a few families, mostly ministers, outside inner-city Philadelphia in sending their children to Christian schools. Applicants for this aid must establish in the mind of their presbytery that they are truly needy. Either the presbytery or this committee receives a full financial statement from applicants. Moreover, we counsel them in other avenues of fund raising. Only after we are satisfied that the family is truly needy, faithful in financial matters, and truly unable to provide the funds from some other source, do we continue the processing of the scholarship.

In 1997 we helped two families with no interest "loans." We put the word loan in quotes to remind readers that these loans are really gifts that the recipients
voluntarily request to be loans. Applicants normally have spoken with their presbytery or session regarding their need, so the request comes to us with the sanction of the overseeing body. A number of such requests were met by those overseeing bodies, and we rejoice for this. One request was granted to help a worthy applicant in making a transition in his living quarters, a transition necessitated by a radical change in his occupational status. Another request was to help a family who had temporarily been unable to meet their financial obligations, especially Christian school. In each case, the committee satisfied itself that the applicants were needy and worthy. Each submitted to us a financial statement and presented himself to inquiry from the committee as to his situation. Being satisfied with their responses, the "loans" were extended. Subsequently, upon the request of one of the recipients, and after a substantial repayment, the balance of the "loan" was turned over into a gift.

One very important ministry of this committee is to provide insurance for some of our indigent ministers. Presently, eleven families or individuals receive this help. Without our funds, they would have no, or very inadequate, coverage. Under these conditions they are liable to extensive medical bills or, perhaps, no medical help when faced with a crisis. We continue to urge the ministers and presbyteries to make certain that all the employees of God's church have sufficient insurance coverage. "A laborer is worthy of his hire." We recommend that this coverage be obtained through our Committee on Pensions. In our experience, some who believe they have adequate coverage under other programs find that they are mistaken in this belief when they face the need to obtain or pay for needed medical help. This committee stands ready to help those who are in need. To be certain, our funds are somewhat limited. Applicants should be prepared for us to send them to their overseeing body (session or presbytery) and to pursue their requests through those channels.

VI AIMWOF

The Aid to Infirm Ministers, their Widows and Orphans Fund (AIMWOF) provides pension supplements for some families and individuals. The administration of this aid is coordinated with the work of the Committee on Pensions. At present we extend such aid to eight families or individuals. Each year at Christmas time the committee gives each recipient a special $50 gift. Again this year, we received many letters expressing special thanks for this gift. It allows our saints to enjoy the holidays in many ways.

We have continued to help the Rev. Roger A. Ramsey in his long years of disability. Mr. Ramsey's medical needs continue to be overwhelming, but by God's grace he has continued to be able to get the help he needs to sustain his life. We continue to guarantee that the needs in this area of our ministry are adequately underwritten financially. In keeping with past decisions of the General Assembly, we transfer needed funds from the general fund to cover shortcomings in giving to AIMWOF. This year we transferred $37,252.71.

VII Remembrance and Thanksgiving

It is with deepest joy and praise to our Lord Jesus Christ that this committee gives thanks to Him for the life and ministry of the Rev. Lester R. Bachman. Mr.
Bachman served as the secretary-treasurer of this committee for many years. He gave willingly and zealously of his time and talents. He guided the committee from its inception through many years of patient and loving ministry to the church at home and abroad. He poured out his heart for us. He wrote countless letters to the congregations and ministers urging us to help in the worldwide diaconal ministry and reminding us of our duty and privilege before the Lord. He wrote countless poems and other literary works seeking to capture the compassion of our Lord Jesus Christ. Who can forget his sonorous booming voice as he sang before the General Assembly or in our midst as we worshipped? Many articles appeared in the *Presbyterian Guardian* and, later, in the *New Horizons* as he comforted the weak, struggled to instruct us in imitating the compassion of our Lord, challenged those who disagreed with his views, and stirred us all to deeper compassion and love in behalf of Christ. Many of our aged and retired ministers or their widows felt the touch of Lester's compassion for them when he personally tracked down their need and saw that it was met. Others whose need came to his attention received a call or letter expressing sympathy, offering help, or even containing a check. It seems that every meeting of this committee saw Lester offer to forgo repayment of aid he had extended from his own funds to some needy person. Lester struggled with physical disability for years, but his soul soared above all that and reached out to all of us and especially in praise and service to His master Jesus.

Truly we give thanks to our merciful Savior for having known and served with our brother. As he enjoys that rest into which he has entered, may his unflagging zeal and commitment be an example to stir us all to continued faithfulness.

VIII Elections

Terms that expire with this Assembly: minister, Donald Duff; ruling elder, Frode Jensen

Requirements for membership on this committee: this committee shall consist of seven members with one minister in each class, two deacons in one class, and one elder in each remaining class.

Currently the committee consists of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minister</th>
<th>Elder</th>
<th>Deacon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1999: David W. King (pres.)</td>
<td>Frode Jensen</td>
<td>Robert Wright, Jr.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IX RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the General Assembly request the congregations to give at least half of their contributions by the end of May.
2. That the General Assembly remind the presbyteries not to approve any call containing "free from worldly care" if they consider the call under consideration to be inadequate to provide for the minister's livelihood, and to make certain that the call includes a provision for the payment of adequate hospitalization, surgical, and major medical insurance.
3. That the General Assembly approve a 1999 budget of $185,800 for the General Fund and $93,000 for the Aged and Infirm Ministers', Widows' and Orphans' Fund, for a total budget of $278,800. Note: these figures are the same as those proposed to the last General Assembly, but not the same as those recorded in the minutes of that General Assembly.

4. That for the year 1999 the General Assembly request the churches of the OPC to support the work of this committee at the suggested rate of $19.00 per communicant member for the General Fund and $7.00 for the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund.

PROPOSED BUDGET 1999

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Account</th>
<th>1997 Actual</th>
<th>1999 Budget</th>
<th>1998 Budget</th>
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</thead>
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<td>Office/Admin.</td>
<td>486.10</td>
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<td>Audit</td>
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<td>500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Com trav</td>
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<td>Promotion</td>
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<td>1,500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sal Sec.</td>
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<td>9,600.00</td>
<td>9,600.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reserve</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>17,435.81</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>Diaconal Ministries - Foreign</th>
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<td>Eritrea</td>
<td>1,950.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Relief</td>
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<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bl Cntr</td>
<td>500.00</td>
<td>500.00</td>
<td>500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehab</td>
<td>500.00</td>
<td>500.00</td>
<td>500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarship</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>1,000.050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinic</td>
<td>9,000.00</td>
<td>9,000.00</td>
<td>9,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ref Ch. of E. Africa</td>
<td>3,000.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>3,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>5,000.00</td>
<td>5,000.00</td>
<td>5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>4,000.00</td>
<td>4,000.00</td>
<td>4,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suriname</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>3,500.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dis-Emerg Relief</td>
<td>12,024.09</td>
<td>11,500.00</td>
<td>9,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>39,474.09</td>
<td>41,000.00</td>
<td>41,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diaconal Ministries - USA</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special Relief</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>5,000.00</td>
<td>5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans</td>
<td>9,100.00</td>
<td>10,000.00</td>
<td>10,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Medical</td>
<td>2,793.32</td>
<td>24,000.00</td>
<td>24,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Scholarships</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phila</td>
<td>12,700.00</td>
<td>12,700.00</td>
<td>12,700.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>7,300.00</td>
<td>9,000.00</td>
<td>9,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospitaliz. Premiums*</td>
<td>52,528.68</td>
<td>63,000.00</td>
<td>63,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>84,422.00</td>
<td>123,700.00</td>
<td>123,700.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total General Budget</td>
<td>141,331.90</td>
<td>185,800.00</td>
<td>185,800.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix 231

Aged and Infirm Ministers', Widows' and Orphans' Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund Type</th>
<th>12/31/96</th>
<th>12/31/97</th>
<th>12/31/97</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pension Fund</td>
<td>36,599.00</td>
<td>49,000.00</td>
<td>49,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infn'd Minister</td>
<td>43,310.00</td>
<td>44,000.00</td>
<td>44,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal</td>
<td>79,910.00</td>
<td>93,000.00</td>
<td>93,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total all accounts</td>
<td>221,241.90</td>
<td>278,800.00</td>
<td>278,800.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL GIVING 1997 | 248,651.31
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS | 221,241.90
Difference | $27,409.41

13 March 1998
The Committee on Diaconal Ministries
of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church
c/o Rev. Leonard Coppes
9161 Vine St.
Thornton, Co. 80229

Gentlemen:

I have reviewed the accompanying statements of assets, liabilities and equity of the Committee on Diaconal Ministries of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church as of 31 December 1996 and 1997 along with the related statements of revenues and expenses (cash basis), statement of changes to fund balance and statement of sources and uses of funds for the year ended 31 December 1997, in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. All information included in these financial statements and supporting schedules is the representation of management of the committee.

A review consists principally of inquiries of company personnel and analytic procedures applied to financial data. It is substantially less in scope than an examination in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion.

Due to the nature of the fund no attempt was made to confirm income from contributions as it would be prohibitively difficult.

Based on my review, I am not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with the cash basis of accounting.

Respectfully,
George Vogler

DIACONAL MINISTRIES OF THE ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Comparative Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Equity - cash basis
(Unaudited)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>12/31/96</th>
<th>12/31/97</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash on Hand (Note C)</td>
<td>$93,003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans Receivable (Note D)</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Current Assets</td>
<td>103,003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Balance, Unrestricted</td>
<td>103,003</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Statement of Changes to Fund Balance - cash basis (Unaudited)
## Statement of Revenues and Expenses - Cash Basis

**For the Twelve Months Ended 12/31/97 (Unaudited)**

### Receipts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Unrestr. (Undesig.)</th>
<th>Restr. (Designated)</th>
<th>AIMWOF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OP Churches</td>
<td>$234,911</td>
<td>$188,926</td>
<td>$10,670</td>
<td>$35,315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OP Others</td>
<td>13,240</td>
<td>4,335</td>
<td>2,263</td>
<td>6,642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-OP</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>2,819</td>
<td>2,819</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>710</td>
<td>710</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>252,180</td>
<td>196,790</td>
<td>13,333</td>
<td>42,057</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Disbursements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Unrestr. (Undesig.)</th>
<th>Restr. (Designated)</th>
<th>AIMWOF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Admin. (Schedule 1)</td>
<td>17,436</td>
<td>17,436</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Min. Foreign (Schedule 2)</td>
<td>39,474</td>
<td>26,141</td>
<td>13,333</td>
<td>-0-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Min. USA (Schedule 3)</td>
<td>75,322</td>
<td>75,322</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIMWOF (Schedule 4)</td>
<td>79,310</td>
<td>7,253</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>42,057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>211,542</td>
<td>156,152</td>
<td>13,333</td>
<td>42,057</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Receipts less Disbursements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Unrestr. (Undesig.)</th>
<th>Restr. (Designated)</th>
<th>AIMWOF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(12,700)</td>
<td>40,638</td>
<td>40,638</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
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</table>

### Debt Forgiven

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Unrestr. (Undesig.)</th>
<th>Restr. (Designated)</th>
<th>AIMWOF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(12,700)</td>
<td>27,938</td>
<td>27,938</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STATEMENT OF SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 12/31/97 (Unaudited)

Sources of Funds
Unrestricted Contr. $193,261
Int. Earned (Unrestr.) 2,819 196,080
Restricted Contri. 13,333
Restricted AIMWOF 42,057 55,390
Loan Repayments 4,800
Bank adjustment 710 5,510
Total Sources 256,980

Uses of Funds
General Fund Disp. 132,232
AIMWOF Disp. (Sched. 4) 9,310
Increase in Advances 0
New Loans Made 9,100 220,642

Net Decrease to Cash on Hand (36,338)
Cash in Bank 12/31/96 93,003
Cash in Bank 12/31/97 129,341

THE ACCOMPANYING SCHEDULES AND NOTES ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THESE STATEMENTS

Supporting Schedules

1. Administrative Expenses
Office Expense 486
Salary 9,600
Travel/Meals 5,350
New Horizons 1,500
Accounting Fee 500
17,436

2. Foreign Ministries Expenses
Lebanon 5,000 *Japan Detail
Sudan 4,000
Suriname 1,500
Kenya 12,000
Korea -0-
Uganda Relief -0-
Haiti -0-
Japan* 3,000
Ethiopia -0-
Eritrea 1,950
Disaster Rel. 12,024 Total 39,474
3. USA Ministries Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>12/31/96</th>
<th>Add</th>
<th>Repay</th>
<th>Forgiven</th>
<th>12/31/97</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special Relief</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emerg. Med. Rel.</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hosp. Premiums*</td>
<td>52,529</td>
<td>Fam. 1</td>
<td>4,125</td>
<td>Fam. 29</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>Fam. 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misdirected</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>Fam. 6</td>
<td>4,125</td>
<td>Fam. 32</td>
<td>2,800</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergen. Rel.</td>
<td>2,793</td>
<td>Fam. 7</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>Fam. 35</td>
<td>1,350</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scho. - Phila.</td>
<td>12,700</td>
<td>Fam. 11</td>
<td>2,474</td>
<td>Fam. 32</td>
<td>75,329</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scho. - Other</td>
<td>7,300</td>
<td>Fam. 23</td>
<td>6,750</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethany Chr.</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>Fam. 29</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disaster Rel.</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>Fam. 32</td>
<td>6,750</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>75,322</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. AIMWOF Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Fam.</th>
<th>12/31/97</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pension Aid</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fam.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fam. A</td>
<td>5,450</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fam. B</td>
<td>4,250</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fam. C</td>
<td>3,850</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fam. D</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fam. E</td>
<td>4,250</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fam. F</td>
<td>2,450</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fam. G</td>
<td>4,850</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fam. H</td>
<td>5,450</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fam. I</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fam. J</td>
<td>3,850</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fam. K</td>
<td>4,850</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fam. L</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td></td>
<td>36,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>36,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Infirm Aid

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Fam. 1</th>
<th>12/31/97</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>43,310</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>79,310</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Supporting Notes

A. Basis of Accounting: the books are kept on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements. Incurred administrative expenses are recorded only when paid and pledged contributions are recognized only when received.

B. Reporting entity: these statements represent the financial position and activity of the Committee on Diaconal Ministries of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church. The committee receives funds primarily from Orthodox Presbyterian Churches to support various domestic and foreign ministries and various retired ministers as directed by the committee.

C. Cash on Hand

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>12/31/96</th>
<th>12/31/97</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3,346</td>
<td></td>
<td>7,632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89,657</td>
<td></td>
<td>121,709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$93,003</td>
<td></td>
<td>$129,341</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D. Loans Receivable (Original)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amt.</th>
<th>12/31/96</th>
<th>Add</th>
<th>Repay</th>
<th>Forgiven</th>
<th>12/31/97</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09 /97</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>2100</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 /97</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>7000</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>-0-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>9100</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>$1,600</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PENSIONS

SYNOPSIS
I PENSIONS AND INSURANCE
   A. Investment Policies
   B. Investment Results
   C. Term Life Insurance
   D. Eligibility and Participation
   E. Benefits
II PENSION SUPPLEMENT FUND
   A. Eligibility
   B. Contributions From Churches
   C. Benefits
   D. Summary Financial Report
III VOLUNTARY TERM LIFE INSURANCE
   A. Premiums and Eligibility
   B. Coverage
   C. Enrollment
IV HOSPITALIZATION
   A. Description of Plan
   B. Eligibility and Participation
   C. Financial Summary
   D. Benefits of Participation in the Plan
   E. Contributions From Churches
V ADMINISTRATION
   A. Committee Members
   B. Officers
   C. Executive Committee
   D. Staff
VI RECOMMENDATION
VII ELECTIONS
VIII AUDIT REPORTS

Anyone familiar with benefit plans knows that the operation and administration of such plans involves myriad duties and responsibilities. Collecting contributions, developing and revising plans of benefits, making payments to beneficiaries, and investing plan assets are only a few of the many integral parts of plan administration. The increase in government regulations also plays an important part in these areas. The committee continues to wrestle with all of these issues with varying degrees of success.

I PENSIONS AND INSURANCE

   A. Investment Policies
      1. The investments of the Retirement Equity Fund are managed by two investment managers: Fahnestock & Co., Inc., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Beacon Trust Co., Chatham, New Jersey. Both managers function under guidelines established by the committee. Those guidelines state in part that the managers
should select investments with the optimal combination of quality and future growth prospects. Equity investments under the guidelines are restricted to a maximum of 65% of the total funds under their management.

2. At the end of 1997 the investments of the fund were allocated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Investment Type</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Money Market Funds</td>
<td>4.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mutual Funds</td>
<td>.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate Bonds</td>
<td>4.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Governments and Agencies</td>
<td>29.62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Stock</td>
<td>62.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Investment Results

1. The net assets of the fund at the end of the year amounted to $12,436,753. There was a net gain of 23.00% ($2,325,966) for the year 1997. The growth of the fund over the years is shown in the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Net Assets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>$28,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>742,649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>3,440,191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>12,436,753</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. At the end of 1997, each participant's account was credited with 3.55% income and with 19.56% in increased market value, amounting to a total credit of 23.11%. The investment results over specific periods is shown in the following:

- Average annual percentage of gain - the last 5 years: 14.41%
- Average annual percentage of gain - the last 10 years: 13.58%
- Average annual percentage of gain - the last 15 years: 14.78%
- Average annual percentage of gain - the last 20 years: 13.66%

C. Term Life Insurance

Included as part of the pension plan is $20,000 of term life insurance, which remains in force until a participant retires and begins to receive pension payments. The annual premium for this coverage per individual for 1997 was $101. This coverage is underwritten by Union Central Life Insurance Company.

D. Eligibility and Participation

1. During the year 1997, thirteen persons enrolled in the plan, six withdrew from the plan, and one participant died, for a net increase of six.

2. At the end of 1997, the participants in the plan consisted of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participants Making Contributions</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants Not Making Contributions</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired - Drawing Pension</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surviving Spouses - Drawing Pension</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired - Receiving Annuity</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>232</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
E. Benefits
1. During the year 1997, the following retirement payments were made:
   Annuity payments - insurance companies $7,243
   Pension payments - Committee 259,630

   The average pension payment by the committee was $424 per month.

2. The committee has designated for the calendar year 1998 that $200 per month of pension distributions to an ordained member shall constitute a housing allowance, provided, however, that such housing allowance is not to exceed the actual expenditures for housing, utilities, maintenance, repairs, and other expenses related to providing a house.

II PENSION SUPPLEMENT FUND

A. Eligibility
   Benefits from this fund are available to ministers (and their surviving spouses, unless they remarry) who have at least 20 years of service in The Orthodox Presbyterian Church, were at least 65 years of age prior to January 1, 1988, and are receiving regular pension payments. At the end of 1997, there were 17 ministers and 14 surviving spouses receiving supplementary payments.

B. Contributions from Churches
   For a period of five years (1989-1994) the committee had not requested contributions from the churches for this fund. However, as a result of a decrease in earnings in the fund, combined with the projected cost-of-living increases, the committee has requested contributions in the last four years. To enable the fund to continue to its eventual liquidation based on actuarial projections, the committee is again recommending to the assembly that the same request of $1.00 per communicant member be made for 1999 (see recommendation below).

C. Benefits
1. During the year 1997, payments made to eligible participants were $135 per month. Those participants whose regular pension accounts have been exhausted or who are receiving commercial annuity payments purchased with their pension account monies received $145 per month since they no longer benefit from the investment results of the Retirement Equity Fund.

2. The pension supplement payments made to retired ministers were designated as housing or rental allowances paid in recognition of, and as compensation for, their past services. These payments were not subject to federal income tax.

D. Summary Financial Report
1. Income and expense

   The summary financial report of the Pension Supplement Fund for the year 1997 is as follows:
Balance - January 1, 1997

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Receipts</th>
<th>$319,287.31</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>11,478.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>14,626.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividends</td>
<td>8,709.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Receipts</td>
<td>34,814.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disbursements</td>
<td>354,102.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pension supplements</td>
<td>53,625.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>94.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Disbursements</td>
<td>53,719.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance - December 31, 1997</td>
<td>$300,383.13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Investments
The assets of this fund are invested primarily in money market funds, fixed income mutual funds, government securities, and a loan to the Hospitalization Plan.

III VOLUNTARY TERM LIFE INSURANCE

A. Premiums and Eligibility
This plan, separate from the pension and hospitalization plans, is open to all full-time church employees and ordained officers and their families. The monthly premium for individual and spouse is based on their ages, but is a fixed cost of $1.50 per month for all children in a family under age 19, or age 25 if a full-time student.

B. Coverage
The maximum individual coverage available is as follows:

| Participant | $500,000 |
| Spouse | 150,000 |
| Children | 5,000 |

C. Enrollment
The enrollment in the plan increased slightly during the year, and at the end of 1997 had 61 participants. Total insurance in force at year end was as follows:

| Participants | $3,402,000 |
| Spouses | 1,120,000 |
| Children | 165,000 |
Appendix

IV HOSPITALIZATION

A. Description of the Plan

1. The plan is designed to provide medical benefits to participants and their families, including hospitalization and prescription drug costs. As of April 1, 1997, the committee added to the plan a network of medical providers. This change was made to keep the costs of medical care to plan participants as competitive as possible while improving the benefits at the same time. In summary, if participants use the providers in the network, the deductible is decreased, the co-pay is increased to 90%, and the maximum out-of-pocket costs will be less. Participants are still able to choose non-network providers, and the benefits remain as before. The revised plan design is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Network Individual/Family</th>
<th>Non-Network Individual/Family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deductible</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicare Primary</td>
<td>$250/$750</td>
<td>$250/$750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$250/$750</td>
<td>$500/$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-insurance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicare Primary</td>
<td>80% of $2,000/$4,000</td>
<td>80% of $2,000/$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>90% of $5,000/$10,000</td>
<td>80% of $5,000/$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum out of pocket</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicare Primary</td>
<td>$650/$1,550</td>
<td>$650/$1,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$750/$1,750</td>
<td>$1,500/$3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RX</td>
<td>Generic/Name Brand</td>
<td>Generic/Name Brand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$0 / $15</td>
<td>$0 / $15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. The plan is structured as a self-funded plan with stop-loss insurance policies carried with an insurance company. The plan is equivalent to what might be considered a medical diaconal fund. All of the participants contribute their quarterly payments, and from these funds the committee pays a third-party administrator to process, evaluate, and pay the claims submitted. In addition, premiums are paid to an insurance company to insure the fund for all individual claims that exceed $96,026 and for total claims in a year that exceed $699,616. All the remaining funds are used to pay claims. In effect, the claims experience of the participants determines the level of premiums that need to be charged to the individuals in the plan.

B. Eligibility and Participation

1. Those eligible for inclusion in the plan are ministers, ruling elders, deacons, licentiates of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church, and full-time (an average of 30 hours per week) employees of the churches and denominational agencies. Also eligible are full-time teachers in Christian schools that are associated with The Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

2. Participants and their dependents who enroll within 30 days after becoming eligible will be entitled to immediate coverage. Those who do not enroll within the 30-day eligibility period will be required to wait for an open enrollment period.
date that is designated by the committee. The 30-day eligibility period begins from the date of employment, licensure, ordination, or installation in a position or office which would entitle a person to participate in the plan.

3. At the end of 1997, the enrollment in the plan was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Elders &amp; Ministers</th>
<th>Deacons</th>
<th>Employees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single Individuals</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Group</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surviving Spouses</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>132</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. Financial Summary

1. For the year 1997, the premiums collected were more than the claims and expenses for the year. As a result, all of the deficit reduction contributions received ($44,720) were used to reduce the deficit. With the restructured plan, the committee expects a continued reduction in claims costs and expenses to enable the continued reduction of the deficit.

2. The third-party administration of claims payments continues to be provided by National Employee Benefit Administrators of Moorestown, New Jersey.

3. In 1996 the committee determined to adopt a regional rate structure for the plan in order to reflect costs and competitive rates in the various parts of the country. The regions were those set up by one of the major insurance companies. The regions established were as follows:

Region 1: AK, CA, CT, FL, HI, IL, KS, MA, NV, NJ, NY, PA, RI, TN
Region 2: AL, AR, AZ, CO, DE, GA, IN, MI, MO, MT, NB, ND, OH, OK, SD, TX, VA, WV, WY
Region 3: IA, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, MN, MS, NH, NM, NC, OR, SC, UT, VT, WA, WI

The monthly rates by category and region are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Region 1</th>
<th>Region 2</th>
<th>Region 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single Individual</td>
<td>$205.00</td>
<td>$185.00</td>
<td>$165.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Group</td>
<td>500.00</td>
<td>480.00</td>
<td>450.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special 65 - Single</td>
<td>155.00</td>
<td>155.00</td>
<td>155.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special 65 - Husband &amp; Wife</td>
<td>275.00</td>
<td>275.00</td>
<td>275.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single(65) &amp; Depend.(under 65)</td>
<td>360.00</td>
<td>340.00</td>
<td>320.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D. Benefits of Participation in the Plan

The committee regularly receives requests for information about the plan from those seeking medical coverage. In most cases, the decision about participation is made largely on the current cost factor. There are, however, important benefits to be considered other than cost.

1. Mobility of Ministers. A very important and beneficial feature of our plan is that ministers in the plan, unlike those in a local or regional plan, can move from one part of the country to another without losing coverage. If an individual leaves the plan and obtains coverage under a local or regional plan, he must,
when he moves to another area, start anew with another insurer, subject to medical underwriting in most cases; that would not apply to ministers leaving and returning to our plan as long as they kept themselves continually covered. If there were medical conditions, it could be difficult or even impossible to enter another plan. Our plan would be available at the next open enrollment date.

2. Many policies, particularly those issued on an individual basis, are cost-rated based on age of the participant. The denominational plan maintains the same premium cost regardless of the age of the participant.

3. As more individuals enroll in the plan, particularly younger men, the rates and the benefits in the plan will show more stability because of the nature of the plan itself.

4. As participants in the plan reach retirement, they are able to continue the same benefits they have enjoyed, with a reduced rate, under Special-65 coverage, including the prescription drug card. This is not available to anyone who has not been covered by the plan prior to retirement.

E. Contributions from Churches

One of the difficulties under which the plan has been functioning is the continuing deficit incurred over the years. To help alleviate the burden, the last seven General Assemblies approved the request of the committee to seek assistance from the churches. The committee is grateful for the response it has received to date; the plan could not have continued without these additions, and the committee is submitting the same recommendation for the year 1999 (See recommendation below).

V ADMINISTRATION

A. Committee Members

Class of 2000
Minister: William Laverty
Ruling Elders: Roger W. Huibregtse, Jerry Drake

Class of 1999
Minister: Gary W. Davenport
Ruling Elders: David E. Haney, Garret A. Hoogerhyde

Class of 1998
Ministers: William E. Warren, Douglas A. Watson
Ruling Elder: Robert M. Meeker

B. Officers

President: Roger W. Huibregtse
Vice President: Douglas A. Watson
Secretary: Robert M. Meeker
Treasurer: Garret A. Hoogerhyde

C. Executive Committee: Garret A. Hoogerhyde, Roger W. Huibregtse (Chairman), Robert M. Meeker, and Douglas A. Watson

D. Staff: Administrative Assistant - Kathleen Kline
VI RECOMMENDATION

The committee recommends that the 64th General Assembly request a contribution of $8.00 per communicant member from the churches in 1998 to be allocated as follows:

| Pension Supplement Fund (see II.B above) | $1.00 |
| Hospitalization supplement (see IV.E above) | $7.00 |

VII ELECTIONS

The terms of the class of 1998 expire with this assembly. The Standing Rules of the assembly provide that each class of the committee shall include at least one minister and at least one ruling elder.

VIII AUDIT REPORTS

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Committee on Pensions
Orthodox Presbyterian Church

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for plan benefits of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church Pension Fund as of December 31, 1997 and 1996 and the related statements of changes in net assets available for plan benefits for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for plan benefits of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church Pension Fund at December 31, 1997 and 1996 and the changes in net assets available for plan benefits for the years then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for plan benefits of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church Pension Fund as of December 31, 1997 and 1996 and the changes in net assets available for plan benefits for the years then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audits were made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplemental schedules of cash receipts and disbursements for the years ended December 31, 1997 and 1996, and schedules of reporting requirements of form 5500 and assets held for investment as of December 31, 1997 are presented for purposes of additional information and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The schedules of reporting requirements of form 5500 and assets held for investment are supplementary information.
required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. The additional information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Radics & Co., LLC
May 1, 1998

ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PENSION FUND
STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR PLAN BENEFITS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended</th>
<th>12/31/97</th>
<th>12/31/96</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments at fair value</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money Market funds</td>
<td>$496,898</td>
<td>$393,429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mutual Funds</td>
<td>31,468</td>
<td>44,466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate bonds and debentures</td>
<td>506,440</td>
<td>383,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common stocks</td>
<td>7,649,466</td>
<td>6,332,321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Government securities</td>
<td>3,654,033</td>
<td>2,828,504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total investments</td>
<td>12,338,305</td>
<td>9,981,830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued interest and dividends receivable</td>
<td>33,095</td>
<td>25,267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous receivable</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment - net of accumulated depreciation of $2,609 (1997) and $1,625 (1996)</td>
<td>553</td>
<td>1,117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash in interest-bearing accounts</td>
<td>89,661</td>
<td>116,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total assets</td>
<td>12,461,769</td>
<td>10,124,417</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Liabilities

| Due to broker | 19,720 | 10,034 |
| Accrued expenses | 4,267 | 3,082 |
| Exchange | 129 | 514 |
| Total liabilities | 25,016 | 13,630 |

Net assets available for plan benefits | $12,436,753 | $10,110,787 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.
ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PENSION FUND
STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR PLAN BENEFITS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended</th>
<th>12/31/97</th>
<th>12/31/96</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Additions</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net appreciation in fair value of investments</td>
<td>$1,804,767</td>
<td>$691,567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realized gain on sale of investments</td>
<td>171,090</td>
<td>41,811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>238,619</td>
<td>200,568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividends</td>
<td>180,214</td>
<td>181,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>2,394,690</td>
<td>1,115,796</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment expenses</td>
<td>23,541</td>
<td>17,017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employer</td>
<td>328,160</td>
<td>306,852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees</td>
<td>5,525</td>
<td>299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total contributions</strong></td>
<td>353,685</td>
<td>332,151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other additions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer from supplemental fund</td>
<td>53,625</td>
<td>52,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total additions</strong></td>
<td>2,778,459</td>
<td>1,483,260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deductions from assets attributable to</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premiums on life insurance</td>
<td>16,271</td>
<td>17,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pension distributions</td>
<td>259,630</td>
<td>248,890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental pension</td>
<td>53,625</td>
<td>52,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lump sum withdrawals</td>
<td>76,017</td>
<td>47,861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative expenses</td>
<td>6,950</td>
<td>5,392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total deductions</strong></td>
<td>452,493</td>
<td>411,553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net increase</strong></td>
<td>2,325,966</td>
<td>1,071,707</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net assets available for plan benefits - beginning of year | 10,110,787 | 9,039,080 |

Net assets available for plan benefits - end of year | $12,436,753 | $10,110,787 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.
ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PENSION FUND
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 1997

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church Pension Fund (the “Pension Fund” or the “Plan”) are maintained on the accrual basis of accounting.

 Marketable securities are stated at current market value, as determined by the quoted market prices on the last business day of the year. The change in the difference between current value and the cost of such securities is reflected in the statement of changes in net assets available for plan benefits as unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the current value of marketable securities.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a Trade-Date Basis. Interest Income is recorded on the Accrual Basis. Dividends are recorded on the Ex-Dividends Date.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN

The following is a brief description of the Pension Fund. Participants should refer to the plan agreement for a more complete discussion.

The Pension Fund is a Defined Contribution Plan which was created to provide term life insurance during the period of eligibility and retirement benefits at age sixty-five (65) for the church’s ordained ministers, its permanent, full-time employees, and the permanent, full-time employees of a congregation or organization thereof. The normal retirement benefit is based on a participant’s equity in the Pension Fund at the time of retirement and on the income option selected. The Pension Fund also provides death benefits. Participants’ contributions are limited to a percentage of their annual compensation which is determined by the individual congregations. The current recommended percentage is 6%. Contributions are generally made by the participating churches, and allowances are given to individuals to make voluntary contributions of their own.

Key provisions of the Plan are

a. Eligibility for coverage

All ordained ministers and all permanent, full-time employees of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church or of any congregation or organization of the church are eligible to participate. Ministers are eligible to participate upon ordination. Non-ministerial employees are eligible to participate upon being declared a “permanent employee” by their employers.

b. Normal retirement date
The normal retirement date is the first day of the month following the participant's 65th birthday. The retirement date is not mandatory.

c. Vesting

The vested interest of participants who leave the plan after the fifth anniversary of their participation will not be less than the following percentages of the total equity in their account:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years of Service</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5-7</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-9</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 and over</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Participants who leave the plan before the fifth anniversary of their participation in the plan receive a percentage of their total equity in the Pension Fund corresponding to a share of the total contributions made to the Pension Fund by them personally.

d. Normal form of pension

The normal form of retirement benefits is a life-time annuity which is guaranteed for at least ten years.

e. Optional forms of pension available

Participants may elect any option acceptable to the Plan Committee.

3. INVESTMENTS

a. Investment securities consist of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>12/31/97</th>
<th>12/31/96</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>Market Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money Market funds</td>
<td>$496,898</td>
<td>$496,898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Securities with brokerage firms</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate bonds</td>
<td>496,372</td>
<td>506,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common stocks</td>
<td>3,181,460</td>
<td>7,649,466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Gov't securities</td>
<td>3,528,791</td>
<td>3,654,033</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total securities</td>
<td>7,206,623</td>
<td>11,809,939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mutual funds</td>
<td>32,712</td>
<td>31,468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$7,736,233</td>
<td>$12,338,305</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b. The unrealized appreciation or (depreciation) of the plan's investment securities is summarized below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>12/31/97</th>
<th>12/31/96</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corporate bonds</td>
<td>$ 5,722</td>
<td>(6,356)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common stock</td>
<td>1,750,916</td>
<td>778,027</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Government securities</td>
<td>48,632</td>
<td>(79,047)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mutual funds</td>
<td>(503)</td>
<td>(1,057)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$1,804,767</td>
<td>$691,567</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. **INCOME TAX STATUS**

The plan has qualified under the applicable sections of the Internal Revenue Code and, therefore, is not subject to tax under present income tax laws.

5. **PARTY IN INTEREST**

The accounting firm of Hoogerhyde and Baker, CPA's received fees of $38,000 in 1997 and $36,000 in 1996 for the accounting and administration of the plan. Mr. Hoogerhyde is a Director of the plan.

### Schedule I

**ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**PENSION FUND**

**SCHEDULES OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS**

December 31, 1997

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended</th>
<th>12/31/97</th>
<th>12/31/96</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash balance - beginning of year</td>
<td>$116,048</td>
<td>$97,303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash receipts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions received</td>
<td>353,685</td>
<td>333,721</td>
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<tr>
<td>Receipts - trust accounts</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>320,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receipts - pension supplemental plan</td>
<td>53,625</td>
<td>56,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income</td>
<td>88,657</td>
<td>122,743</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exchanges</td>
<td>46,741</td>
<td>26,681</td>
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<td>Sale of investments *</td>
<td>4,060</td>
<td>124,669</td>
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<td>946,768</td>
<td>984,609</td>
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<td>Cash disbursements</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Payments - trust accounts</td>
<td>475,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Premiums - life insurance</td>
<td>16,271</td>
<td>18,650</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pension payments</td>
<td>259,630</td>
<td>248,890</td>
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<td>Withdrawals - vested interest</td>
<td>76,017</td>
<td>47,861</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exchanges</td>
<td>46,227</td>
<td>53,128</td>
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<td>Equipment purchase</td>
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<td>487</td>
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<td>Payments pension supplemental plan</td>
<td>53,625</td>
<td>52,330</td>
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<td>Total cash disbursements</td>
<td>927,190</td>
<td>921,346</td>
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<td>Expenses - general fund</td>
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<td>Administration fees</td>
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<td>2,550</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<td>3,566</td>
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<td>958</td>
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<td>Postage</td>
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<td>445</td>
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<td>Telephone</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<td>Cash balance - end of year</td>
<td>$89,661</td>
<td>$116,048</td>
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* Net of amounts reinvested.
Schedule II
ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PENSION FUND
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF ITEM 27 OF FORM 5500

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Item on Form 5500</th>
<th>Description of Reporting Requirements</th>
<th>Applicability of Reporting Requirements to the Plan</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Item 27 (a)</td>
<td>Assets held for investment</td>
<td>Schedule III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 27 (b)</td>
<td>Obligations in default</td>
<td>None to report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 27 (c)</td>
<td>Leases in default</td>
<td>None to report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 27 (d)</td>
<td>Reportable (5%) transactions</td>
<td>None to report</td>
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<tr>
<td>Item 27 (e,f)</td>
<td>Prohibited transactions</td>
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<td>Item 27 (g)</td>
<td>Qualifying employer securities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Item 27 (h)</td>
<td>Non-publicly traded securities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Item 27 (i)</td>
<td>Assets managed by 10% party in interest</td>
<td>None to report</td>
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Schedule III - Table 1 of 4
ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PENSION FUND
SCHEDULE OF ASSETS HELD FOR INVESTMENT
December 31, 1997

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Par Value</th>
<th>Investments</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Fair Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>GNMA#116076, 13.0% due 08/15/2014</td>
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<td>$1,128</td>
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<tr>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>GNMA#214712, 10.0% due 08/15/2017</td>
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<td>6,727</td>
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<tr>
<td>18,000</td>
<td>GNMA#253142, 9.5% due 09/15/2018</td>
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<td>7,908</td>
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<td>50,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip due 11/15/2002</td>
<td>35,531</td>
<td>38,031</td>
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<tr>
<td>65,000</td>
<td>US Treas. Note 6.25% due 02/15/2003</td>
<td>66,409</td>
<td>66,483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip due 11/15/1998</td>
<td>93,322</td>
<td>95,313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip due 11/15/1998</td>
<td>94,224</td>
<td>95,313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip due 11/15/1998</td>
<td>94,135</td>
<td>95,313</td>
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<tr>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip due 11/15/1999</td>
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<td>90,031</td>
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<td>90,031</td>
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<tr>
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<td>87,499</td>
<td>90,031</td>
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<td>100,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip due 05/15/2000</td>
<td>87,795</td>
<td>87,562</td>
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<td>100,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip due 11/15/2001</td>
<td>76,992</td>
<td>80,344</td>
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<tr>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip due 05/15/2002</td>
<td>77,911</td>
<td>78,062</td>
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<tr>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip due 05/15/2003</td>
<td>72,118</td>
<td>73,656</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip due 11/15/2003</td>
<td>66,365</td>
<td>71,594</td>
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<tr>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip due 05/15/2004</td>
<td>61,448</td>
<td>69,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip due 08/15/2004</td>
<td>67,739</td>
<td>68,531</td>
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<tr>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip due 08/15/2005</td>
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<td>64,437</td>
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<tr>
<td>Par Value</td>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>Fair Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip, due 11/15/2005</td>
<td>62,551</td>
<td>63,531</td>
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<tr>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>FNMA, 6.35%, due 01/26/2006</td>
<td>99,754</td>
<td>99,307</td>
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<tr>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>FHLMC, 6.50%, due 07/30/2007</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>100,439</td>
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<tr>
<td>150,000</td>
<td>US Treas. Note, 6.25%, due 05/31/2000</td>
<td>151,140</td>
<td>151,875</td>
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<tr>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip, due 11/15/2001</td>
<td>162,330</td>
<td>160,688</td>
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<tr>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip, due 11/15/2002</td>
<td>141,131</td>
<td>152,125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip, due 11/15/2003</td>
<td>131,824</td>
<td>143,188</td>
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<tr>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip, due 11/15/2004</td>
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<td>134,875</td>
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<tr>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip, due 05/15/2005</td>
<td>120,455</td>
<td>130,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip, due 08/15/2006</td>
<td>111,990</td>
<td>121,375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip, due 11/15/2006</td>
<td>117,279</td>
<td>119,500</td>
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<td>200,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip, due 02/15/2007</td>
<td>111,316</td>
<td>117,688</td>
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<td>US Treasury Strip, due 05/15/2007</td>
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<td>115,875</td>
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<td>US Treasury Strip, due 02/15/2008</td>
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<td>110,688</td>
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<tr>
<td>220,000</td>
<td>US Treas. Note, 6.375%, due 08/15/2002</td>
<td>221,407</td>
<td>225,707</td>
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<td>US Treas. Note, 6.25%, due 10/31/2001</td>
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<td>223,850</td>
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<td>250,000</td>
<td>US Treasury Strip, due 11/15/2000</td>
<td>202,887</td>
<td>212,577</td>
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</table>

Total US Government Securities: 3,528,791 3,654,033

Schedule III - Table 2 of 4
ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PENSION FUND
SCHEDULE OF ASSETS HELD FOR INVESTMENT
December 31, 1997

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Par Value</th>
<th>Investments</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Fair Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>55,000</td>
<td>American Express Credit Corp 6.125%, due 11/15/2001</td>
<td>54,641</td>
<td>54,946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55,000</td>
<td>Assoc.Corp.NA 6.375%, due 06/15/2000</td>
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<td>55,316</td>
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<tr>
<td>55,000</td>
<td>BankAmer.Corp. 7.2%, due 09/15/2002</td>
<td>54,626</td>
<td>57,064</td>
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<tr>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>Commonwealth Edison Co. 8.0%, due 10/15/2003</td>
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<td>10,150</td>
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<tr>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>Ford Motor Credit Notes 7.25%, due 05/15/1999</td>
<td>49,813</td>
<td>50,735</td>
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<tr>
<td>55,000</td>
<td>GMAC 6.625%, due 10/01/2002</td>
<td>53,955</td>
<td>55,822</td>
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<tr>
<td>55,000</td>
<td>Merrill Lynch 6.50%, due 04/01/2001</td>
<td>55,073</td>
<td>55,491</td>
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<tr>
<td>55,000</td>
<td>Morgan Stanley Group 6.375%, due 12/15/2003</td>
<td>53,912</td>
<td>54,928</td>
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<tr>
<td>55,000</td>
<td>Sears Roebuck Acceptance Corp. 6.95%, due 05/15/2002</td>
<td>55,903</td>
<td>56,427</td>
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<tr>
<td>55,000</td>
<td>Southwest.Bell 6.375%, due 04/01/2001</td>
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<td>55,561</td>
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Total Corporate Bonds: 496,372 506,440
<table>
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<td>Allied Signal Inc.</td>
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<td>Amoco Corporation</td>
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<td>AT&amp;T Corp.</td>
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<td>Bank of Boston</td>
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<tr>
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<td>BankAmerica Corp.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3,200</td>
<td>Bell Atlantic Corp.</td>
<td>99,781</td>
<td>291,200</td>
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<td>BellSouth Corporation</td>
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<td>Boeing Co.</td>
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<td>97,875</td>
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<td>Burlington Resources</td>
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<td>1,800</td>
<td>Central &amp; South West Corp.</td>
<td>14,310</td>
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<td>Chevron Corp.</td>
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<td>Cisco Systems Inc.</td>
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<td>Conagra Inc.</td>
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<td>49,687</td>
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<td>Crane Co.</td>
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<td>Deere &amp; Co.</td>
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<td>40,775</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Dover Corp.</td>
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<td>43,350</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Dresser Industries Inc.</td>
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<td>Emerson Electric</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Equitable Cos Inc.</td>
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<td>Exxon Corp.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Imation Corp.</td>
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<td>Intel Corp.</td>
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<td>International Business Machines Corp.</td>
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<td>Int'l Flavors &amp; Fragrances</td>
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<td>Johnson &amp; Johnson</td>
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<td>800</td>
<td>Lancaster Colony Corp.</td>
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<td>2,600</td>
<td>Lucent Technologies</td>
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<td>Manor Care</td>
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<td>Merck &amp; Co., Inc.</td>
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<td>Par Value or Number of Shares</td>
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<td>Cost</td>
<td>Fair Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------</td>
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<td>296,127</td>
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<td>Temporary Invest Fund</td>
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<td>TOTAL INVESTMENTS</td>
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<td>$12,338,305</td>
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</table>
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Committee on Pensions
Orthodox Presbyterian Church

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for plan benefits of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church Hospitalization Trust as of December 31, 1997 and 1996 and the related statements of changes in net assets available for plan benefits for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Trust’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for plan benefits of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church Hospitalization Trust at December 31, 1997 and 1996 and the changes in net assets available for plan benefits for the years then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared assuming that the Trust will continue as a going concern. As shown in the financial statements, the Plan’s liabilities at December 31, 1997 and 1996 were $207,489 and $267,133 greater than Plan assets at those dates, respectively. Because of that and other matters discussed in Note 7, the Trust may be unable to continue its existence. The financial statements do not include any adjustments relating to the recoverability and classification of recorded assets, or the amounts and classification of liabilities that might be necessary in the event the Trust cannot continue in existence.

Our audits were made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The schedules of cash receipts and disbursements for the years ended December 31, 1997 and 1996, are presented for purposes of additional information and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Radics & Co., LLC
May 1, 1998
ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HOSPITALIZATION TRUST
STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR PLAN BENEFITS

Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>12/31/97</th>
<th>12/31/96</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>$2,491</td>
<td>$2,281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>23,750</td>
<td>33,386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>31,006</td>
<td>31,758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>4,058</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total assets</td>
<td>57,322</td>
<td>71,483</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Liabilities and net assets available for plan benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>12/31/97</th>
<th>12/31/96</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loans payable</td>
<td>121,000</td>
<td>137,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claims payable</td>
<td>91,259</td>
<td>156,586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premiums collected in advance</td>
<td>49,008</td>
<td>44,955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued expenses</td>
<td>3,544</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total liabilities</td>
<td>264,811</td>
<td>338,616</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Liabilities in excess of net assets available for plan benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>12/31/97</th>
<th>12/31/96</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$(207,489)</td>
<td>$(267,133)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HOSPITALIZATION TRUST
STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR PLAN BENEFITS

Year Ended

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>12/31/97</th>
<th>12/31/96</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premiums - members</td>
<td>$664,945</td>
<td>$712,433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service charges</td>
<td>711</td>
<td>474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income</td>
<td>1,582</td>
<td>1,169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deficit reduction fund</td>
<td>44,720</td>
<td>108,805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop loss reimbursements</td>
<td>184,716</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrealized gain on investments</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total revenue</td>
<td>896,728</td>
<td>822,881</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>12/31/97</th>
<th>12/31/96</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Claims paid and incurred</td>
<td>$688,860</td>
<td>$546,610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premiums - insurance companies</td>
<td>81,655</td>
<td>105,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust administration fees</td>
<td>53,031</td>
<td>46,389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>9,625</td>
<td>11,323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General and administrative expenses</td>
<td>3,912</td>
<td>6,248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrealized loss on investments</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenses</td>
<td>837,083</td>
<td>716,096</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Excess of revenue over expenses 59,645 106,785

Liabilities in excess of net assets available for plan benefits at beginning of year (267,133) (373,918)

Liabilities in excess of net assets available for plan benefits at end of year $(207,488) $(267,133)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HOSPITALIZATION TRUST
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 1997

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Welfare Benefits Funding Plan for Employees of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, Inc. (the "Hospitalization Trust" or "Trust") was established on July 1, 1984 when the church's prior hospitalization plan was terminated.

The Trust uses the accrual method of accounting.

Investments are stated at fair market value using, where available, quoted market prices as determined by the last quoted price on the last business day in December 1997 and 1996, as reported by The Wall Street Journal.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN

The Hospitalization Trust, which is administered by Trustees elected by the General Assembly of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church, was established as a funding vehicle for designated welfare benefit plans maintained by the church for its employees.

All employees of the church who meet the eligibility requirements of the Health and Welfare Benefit Plans may participate in the plan.

3. TAX STATUS

The Trust is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(9) of the US Internal Revenue Code as a voluntary employees' beneficiary association.
4. INVESTMENTS

Investments consist of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>12/31/97 Carrying Cost</th>
<th>12/31/96 Carrying Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Value</td>
<td>Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Securities Fund</td>
<td>$2,828</td>
<td>$2,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value Line US</td>
<td>$2,491</td>
<td>$2,281</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. LOANS PAYABLE

Loan - Pension Supplement Fund; interest payable at 7.50' per annum; principal due on demand

12/31/97: $121,000
12/31/96: $137,000

In February 1996, Grace Dalby forgave a loan of $65,000. That amount was added to the deficit reduction fund during the year ended December 31, 1996.

6. PARTY IN INTEREST

The accounting firm of Hoogerhyde & Baker CPA's received management fees of $6,500 and $6,000 for the accounting administration of the Hospitalization Plan during the years ended December 31, 1997 and 1996, respectively.

7. GOING CONCERN

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles, which contemplate continuation of the plan as a going concern. However, the plan has sustained losses in prior years, and at December 31, 1997, the plan's liabilities exceeded its assets by $207,489.

In view of these matters, the Trust's ability to continue in existence depends on the extent to which the sponsoring churches can contribute amounts necessary for the Trust to meets its obligations. Management believes that actions presently being taken provide the opportunity for the Trust to continue as a going concern.

ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HOSPITALIZATION TRUST
SCHEDULES OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended</th>
<th>12/31/97</th>
<th>12/31/96</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash receipts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premiums received</td>
<td>$671,766</td>
<td>$714,199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service charges</td>
<td>711</td>
<td>474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchanges received</td>
<td>117,021</td>
<td>73,966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop-Loss reimbursements</td>
<td>184,716</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deficit reduction funds</td>
<td>44,720</td>
<td>44,806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>1,426</td>
<td>2,144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total cash receipts</td>
<td>1,020,360</td>
<td>835,589</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cash disbursements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount 1</th>
<th>Amount 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trust administration fees</td>
<td>46,596</td>
<td>46,866</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance premiums paid</td>
<td>81,411</td>
<td>106,541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claims paid</td>
<td>755,220</td>
<td>528,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan repayment</td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>52,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchanges paid</td>
<td>117,096</td>
<td>74,592</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General and administrative expenses:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies and postage</td>
<td>1,095</td>
<td>2,817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional</td>
<td>2,842</td>
<td>3,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>9,700</td>
<td>11,248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total cash disbursements</strong></td>
<td>1,029,996</td>
<td>826,237</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Decrease) increase in cash balance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount 1</th>
<th>Amount 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>(Decrease) increase in cash balance</strong></td>
<td>(9,636)</td>
<td>9,352</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cash balance - beginning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount 1</th>
<th>Amount 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cash balance - beginning</strong></td>
<td>33,386</td>
<td>24,034</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cash balance - ending

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount 1</th>
<th>Amount 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cash balance - ending</strong></td>
<td>$23,750</td>
<td>$33,386</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECUMENICITY AND INTERCHURCH RELATIONS

SYNOPSIS

PERSPECTIVE

I THE COMMITTEE
   A. Meetings
   B. Officers
   C. Subcommittees/liaisons
   D. Website

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   A. Fraternal Delegates/observers
   B. Churches in “Ecclesiastical Fellowship”
   C. Churches in “Corresponding Relationship”
   D. Restructuring our ecclesiastical relationships
   E. Position papers

III FELLOWSHIP WITH CHURCHES IN NORTH AMERICA
   A. Churches in Ecclesiastical Fellowship
      1. Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARPC)
      2. Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA)
      3. Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)
      4. Reformed Church in the U.S. (RCUS)
      5. Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America (RPCNA)
   B. Other Churches
      1. Bible Presbyterian Church (BPC)
      2. Canadian Reformed Churches (CANREF)
      3. United Reformed Churches of North America
      4. Others

IV FELLOWSHIP WITH CHURCHES ABROAD
   A. The Churches
   B. Meetings with delegations at the ICRC
   C. Invitations sent regarding “Corresponding Relationship”
   D. Initial stages of contact
   E. Reformed Church in Japan (RCJ)
   F. African Evangelical Presbyterian Church (AEPC)
   G. Other churches

V INTERCHURCH BODIES
   A. International Conference of Reformed Churches (ICRC)
   B. North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council (NAPARC)

VI STUDIES BEING DONE BY THE COMMITTEE

VII THEOLOGICAL TRAINING ASSISTANCE FUND/ADOPT-A-PASTOR

VIII BUDGET

IX RECOMMENDATIONS

X ELECTIONS
PERSPECTIVE

From the beginning the OPC has labored in the world-wide Reformed church. We have labored to obey the Lord by "...making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the pond of peace. There is one body...."

The document that defines the position of the OPC in its ecumenical labors and guides the committee in its service to the Lord and his church is "Biblical Principles of the Unity of the Church." The text is found in the Minutes of the 63rd GA on pages 262-266.

Regarding "The unity of the church: The church finds its unifying principle in the covenant promise 'my dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be my people' (Ezek. 37:27; Lev. 26:12). This finds fulfillment in Jesus as Emmanuel ('God with us', Matt. 1:23, Jn 1:14), who came as the mediator of the covenant of grace to redeem and purchase this people for his dwelling by his blood. The ultimate consummation of the promise is the new Jerusalem, the bride of Christ (Rev. 21:3). The church must recognize, appreciate, and confess this fundamental unity of the covenant people of God, the body of Christ; which is a God-given creation and not a human achievement. The church, the visible organization, is described in the Bible as one church. God has given only one covenant of love (Deut. 7:6-12) and has only one people of the covenant. In the New Testament this teaching of the unity of the people of God is sustained (see Eph. 2:11-22 and 4:1-16). Yet the situation is different. No longer are the people of God circumscribed by ethnic, political, or geographical boundaries. All nations are to be discipled, the unity of Christ transcends all diversity arising from language, race, culture, history. What is more, this unity embraces and utilizes all the diversity that is proper and this is created by God’s providence.”

How is this done? In “IV. Toward perfecting biblical unity”, we note: “The unity of the church is in Christ and it is both a given reality and also a requirement. The unity of the faith is both gift and mandate. The church is compelled to give expression to this reality and requirement, this gift and mandate, by actively seeking the promised goal, namely, that of being one body which serves the Lord in perfect peace, purity, and unity. The ultimate goal of the unity of the church is nothing less than one world-wide presbyterian/reformed church. The unity of the church is unity in Christ, unity in the gospel of Christ, ‘unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the son of God’ (Eph. 4:13). This Christ, this gospel, this faith and knowledge, the church must confess. It is summarized for us in our Confession of Faith. The present division into separate denominations is because of unfaithfulness to God as expressed in beliefs, teaching, and living, on the part of both individuals in the church and the churches that are contrary to the word of God. We find ourselves in this sinful situation as we undertake to pursue the mandate to unity. There exists between us and all other churches a sinful disunity that demands reconciliation in a biblical way. This sin must be faced and removed so that true and full unity and fellowship of the church may be reached. In seeking actively the unity of the church, we must recognize several levels of separateness (i.e., degrees of purity) among the churches. There are presbyterian and reformed churches that are more or less faithful. There are non-reformed churches that are more or less faithful. There are also churches that have apostatized, and no longer have the...
right to be called church."

"In seeking unity with faithful presbyterian and reformed churches: There should be mutual agreement on what the gospel is. The churches must confess in their official documents of faith and life the same gospel.... There should be a relationship of ecclesiastical fellowship established in which official interchange may take place including the exchange of delegates at the meetings of the ruling bodies of the church.... There will be fellowship and cooperation in organizations, both domestic and international, which give expression to oneness of faith and life."

I THE COMMITTEE

A. Meetings
The committee has held two full meetings since the previous General Assembly. The first was September 11-13, 1997 and the second was March 9-12, 1998, both in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania.

B. Officers
The officers of the committee are Mr. Peterson, Chairman and George W. Knight, III, Secretary.

C. Subcommittees/liaisons
The committee has assigned individual members as "liaisons" whose duty it is to represent the committee as contact persons with specific churches to keep the committee informed about the life of that church or churches and, in turn, to inform the whole church when it believes that significant information is available or appropriate action needed. In addition to the liaisons there are continuing subcommittees and subcommittees for specific tasks. The liaisons and subcommittees at present are:

1. Liaisons
   a. ARPC - John P. Galbraith
   b. CRCNA - Richard B. Gaffin, Jr.
   c. KAPC - Mark T. Bube
   d. PCA - George W. Knight, III
   e. RPCNA - Richard A. Barker
   f. RCUS - Robert B. Needham
   g. CANREF - Richard B. Gaffin, Jr.
   h. BPC - Thomas E. Tyson
   i. FRCNA - G. I. Williamson
   j. ProtRC - Williamson
   k. EPC - Needham
   l. URCNA - Williamson
   m. Presbyterian Reformed Church (PresRC) - Tyson
   n. NAE - Barker
   o. ICRC - Peterson

2. Subcommittees
   a. Fraternal delegates - Barker
   b. Asia/Pacific - Tyson, Bube
   c. Africa (except South Africa) - Peterson, Bube
   d. Europe - Barker, Knight
   e. South Africa - Gaffin, Peterson
f. South and Central America/Mexico - Williamson, Needham

g. Theological Training Assistance Fund - Peterson, Tyson

h. International Ecumenical Organizations (Reformed Ecumenical Council (REC), World Evangelical Fellowship (WEF), World Alliance of Reformed Churches (WARC), etc.) - Galbraith

D. Website

1. The committee encourages each church to place the OPC website address in their bulletins. That address is http://www.opc.org.

2. The committee is working on its part on the website including the placing of the papers "Biblical Principles of the Unity of the Church" and "Churches in Eclesiastical Fellowship" on the website.

3. The committee is also preparing for the website a list of churches with which the OPC has "Ecclesiastical Fellowship" and with which it has "Corresponding Relations."

II FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHER CHURCHES

A. Fraternal Delegates/observers

1. Since the last General Assembly fraternal delegates have been sent to the major assemblies of the Christian Reformed Church in North America (Galbraith), the Presbyterian Church in America (Graham), the Reformed Church in Japan (Peterson), the Reformed Church in the US (Richard Miller) and the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America (Mark Harrington).

2. Since the last General Assembly fraternal observers were sent to the major assemblies of the Bible Presbyterian Church (Needham), the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of England and Wales (F. Kingsley Elder) and the United Reformed Churches in North America (Stephen Phillips and Tyson)

3. This year the committee plans to send fraternal delegates to the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, the Korean American Presbyterian Church, the Presbyterian Church in America, the Presbyterian Church in Korea/Kosin, the Reformed Church in Japan, the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America and the Reformed Church in the United States.

4. This year the committee plans to send observers to the Bible Presbyterian Church, the Free Reformed Churches of North America, the Independent Presbyterian Church in Mexico and the United Reformed Churches in North America.

5. Our 64th (1997) General Assembly received fraternal delegates from the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, the Christian Reformed Church in North America, the Christian Reformed Churches in the Netherlands, the Presbyterian Church in America, the Reformed Churches in the Netherlands/Liberated, the Reformed Church in the US, the Reformed Church in Japan, and the United Reformed Churches in North America.

6. Presbyterian Church (USA) [PCUSA] invitation

a. The Stated Clerk referred to the committee for response an invitation from the PCUSA. Selected paragraphs read:

The 209th General Assembly (1997) of the Presbyterian Church (USA) took an action aimed at building close relationships among churches of the Reformed tradition in North America. After discussion of our historical ties, the Assembly decided to invite The
Orthodox Presbyterian Church to select a person to represent your church at our 210th General Assembly (1998)... The person you designate will be among 16 church sending Fraternal Delegates. These will include members of the Reformed family from Canada, the United States, and Mexico.

It is our hope that the mutual sharing of God's gifts of faith and vision during this time of worship, study, debate, and fellowship will strengthen our bonds of Christian community and will make more visible the unity that is God's intention for the church.

The persons selected...will be our guests for two days.... This will allow them to participate in our Dinner for Ecumenical Guests, the Ecumenical Breakfast, and our annual Ecumenical Service of Worship.

b. In response the committee sent the following letter:

Thank for your letter of December 16, 1997 inviting our church to send a Fraternal Delegate to your 210th General Assembly (1998). The letter, addressed to the Stated Clerk of our church, was referred to this committee because our General Assembly would be unable to reply in time for your purpose.

We understand the effort of the Presbyterian Church (USA) to bring together the churches of the "Reformed tradition" in association with you. Under ideal circumstances that would be a commendable endeavor. However, the circumstances in today's religious world are far from ideal. That was true, in fact, 62 years ago when, if you will recall, The Orthodox Presbyterian Church was founded. At that time the then Presbyterian Church in the USA decided that it would continue to allow teaching and preaching that deny the finality of Scripture and the Christian gospel as the only way of salvation. At the same time it excluded from the Church's ministry those who sought to provide a continuing witness to the truth of the whole of Scripture.

We want you to know also that we believe very deeply in the unity of Christ's church and in its visibility. Our Savior did indeed pray to the Father that "those whom you have given me may be one, as we are." We believe also, however, that Jesus further taught us that our love of him is expressed in keeping his commandments, that unity is rooted in a mutual obedience to his Word: "if you love me you will keep my commandments."

In the years since our founding we have seen no evidence of any modification or reversal of your actions taken at that time. In fact, over the years your church abandoned acceptance of the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms as a requirement for ministry in the church, which explains at least in part the continued decline of Christian doctrine and ethics in the church. Under these circumstances, while we see the intended kindness of your invitation, you will understand that we cannot agree that we express a common faith with you, and we are therefore unable to accept your invitation to participate with you at your General Assembly.

Nevertheless, if your church wishes to discuss these matters with representatives of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church, we shall cooperate fully in arranging a meeting for that purpose.

B. Churches in "Ecclesiastical Fellowship"
1. The document that defines the position of the OPC in its ecumenical service is "Biblical Principles of the Unity of the Church." That document is found in the Minutes of the 63rd (1996) GA, pages 262-266.
2. At present we are in Ecclesiastical Fellowship with 11 churches which are:
a. the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church
b. the Christian Reformed Churches in the Netherlands
c. the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Ireland
d. the Free Church of Scotland
e. the Presbyterian Church in Korea (Kosin)
f. the Presbyterian Church in America
g. the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland
h. the Reformed Church in Japan
i. the Reformed Churches of New Zealand
j. the Reformed Church in the United States
k. the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America.

C. Churches in "Corresponding Relationship"

Our 64th (1997) General Assembly invited the following churches to enter into corresponding relations:

1. Africa Evangelical Presbyterian Church (AEPC)
2. Presbyterian Church in Uganda (PCU)
3. United Reformed Churches in North America
4. The Church of Christ in the Sudan Among the Tiv (Nongo u Kristu u ken Sudan hen Tiv) in Nigeria
5. The Reformed Churches in the Netherlands (Liberated) [de Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland (Vrijgemaakt)]

D. Restructuring our ecclesiastical relationships

The proposed restructuring of our ecclesiastical relationships were sent to both NAPARC and the ICRC as mandated by the 64th (1997) General Assembly.

E. Position papers

The position paper concerning a framework for discussion with churches holding the Three Forms of Unity, PROPOSAL FOR UNITY — A FRAMEWORK FOR DISCUSSION and the paper dealing with keeping other churches informed of significant changes in OPC constitution or practices POLICY REGARDING OTHER CHURCHES IN THE LIGHT OF SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN OPC CONSTITUTION OR PRACTICES were sent to both NAPARC and the ICRC as mandated by the 64th (1997) General Assembly.

III FELLOWSHIP WITH CHURCHES IN NORTH AMERICA

Fellowship with several churches in North America is maintained largely by our membership in NAPARC, and we seek to meet with their delegations individually as well as through the plenary meetings of the Council. Our church also maintains fellowship with churches that are not members of NAPARC.

A. Churches in Ecclesiastical Fellowship

1. Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARPC)
   a. By mutual agreement the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church and the OPC exchange Fraternal Delegates alternately from year to year. In 1997 the ARPC sent a Fraternal Delegate to the OPC General Assembly. The committee is appointing a Fraternal Delegate to the ARPC Synod in 1998.
   b. At the present time the ARPC has "fraternal relations" with the following churches: Christian Reformed Church in North America, Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Korean-American Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian Church
in America, Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, Presbyterian Church (USA), Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America (formerly 2nd Cumberland Church), and the Reformed Church in America, together with the OPC and with member churches of NAPARC, except that the Reformed Church in the US does not reciprocate and with whom occasional discussions are held. The fraternal relationships of the ARPC are broader than those of the OPC because they feel that such relationships do not necessarily involve them in “co-responsibility” for the actions of the other churches.

c. Questions pertaining to possible membership in the NAE/WEF and the WPRF are currently under study by their Inter-Church Relations Committee. The church currently has joint ministry arrangements with the EPC, involving a church-planter assessment center, and with the PC (USA) through the Presbyterian Council on Chaplains and Military Personnel. Also they have missionaries from other denominations, such as the CRCNA, serving with World Witness, their foreign missions agency.

d. In 1992 they terminated their membership in the World Alliance of Reformed Churches (WARC) and the Reformed Ecumenical Council (REC). They were received into the International Conference of Reformed Churches (ICRC), with sponsorship from the OPC, at the 1997 meeting in Seoul, Korea. The reception was not without some difficulty, revolving largely around the membership of Freemasons in the church.

e. The ARPC is undergoing numerical growth in areas far from their traditional South Carolinian home base. For a number of years they have had churches in Canada, and during the past year they received a group of 12 Korean-speaking churches from Korean Hap Dong affiliation. They were received as the Presbytery of the Pacific, with churches in California, Texas, and New York.

f. The church is endeavoring to expand its ministry and this has put strains on their ability to finance growth ministries. It is projected that 1997-98 receipts for their Denominational Ministries Fund, corresponding roughly to the OPC Worldwide Outreach program, will fall short of needs. The 1997 Synod urged the congregations to give 20% of their general fund receipts to the Ministries Fund; it also approved for distribution in the churches a summary of Scripture teaching on stewardship (A Concise Statement on Biblical Stewardship). The Synod also authorized Outreach North America (the home missions agency) to proceed with its plans for a projected $3 million capital funds campaign. The goal of this campaign will be the establishment of a permanent endowment for home missions efforts, the income from which will be used to finance the purchase of land and structures for mission churches.

g. The World Witness mission agency supports long-standing mission efforts in Pakistan and Mexico (where national ARP churches exist), with other works in Turkey, Russia, and Germany. Outreach North America, the home missions agency, placed four new mission developers on the field in 1996. In addition, 13 missions congregations received direct financial assistance from the Board.

h. At the end of 1996 total membership of the ARPC was 34,117, an increase of two percent from the previous year. During 1997, prior to compilation of statistics for the year, 22 new congregations and 32 ministers were added.

i. The ARPC sponsors a variety of institutions, including Erskine College (founded 1839) and Erskine Theological Seminary (founded 1837) in Due West, S. Carolina and the Bonclarken Assembly conference grounds in Flat Rock, N. Carolina.
The 1997 the ARPC Synod voted to send a letter to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in response to the passage of an action by the General Assembly and presbyteries of that denomination (an amendment to the PC(USA) Book of Order) which affirmed that "those who are called to service in the church" must abide by the requirement to live either in fidelity within the covenant of marriage between a man and a woman or chastity in singleness). The letter was to commend that church for a public stand affirming the biblical model of marriage and morality as it pertains to church officers.

The committee plans to seek a meeting with the ARPC Interchurch Relations Committee or representatives to discuss various policies of our respective churches.

2. **Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA)**

Our 64th (1997) General Assembly terminated the relationship of Ecclesiastical Fellowship with the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

3. **Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)**

   a. The 25th General Assembly (GA) of the PCA met in Village Seven Presbyterian Church, Colorado Springs, Colorado, on June 10-13, 1997. There were 1,191 commissioners: 820 Teaching Elders, 365 Ruling Elders, with 6 Ruling Elder Alternates. There were 630 churches represented at the General Assembly. Elder Samuel J. Duncan of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, was elected Moderator.

   b. The PCA now has 1,163 churches plus 175 mission churches with a total membership of 277,899 which includes 57,050 non-communicant members. There are 2,573 ministers. This growth represents a 2.4% increase over the past year and a 14.6% increase over the last five years. There are 57 presbyteries, 7 of which are Korean language presbyteries.

   c. There were seven judicial cases reported to the GA for final ratification plus one case that was remanded to be retried by a Special Judicial Commission and a memorial that was submitted to the Standing Judicial Commission. The Standing Judicial Commission, starting this year, based on changes to the *Book of Church Order*, will be making final decisions on behalf of the General Assembly, the decisions being reported to the General Assembly without any further action by the General Assembly. Provision however is made in case there is a serious division of thought on any particular case for the General Assembly to decide by way of a majority report and a minority report.

   d. With reference to the Christian Reformed Church, the General Assembly took the following action:

   > That the General Assembly terminate our recognition of the Christian Reformed Church as a church in ecclesiastical fellowship with the PCA effective immediately and the IRC be instructed to initiate conversations with the CRC with a view toward making a recommendation to the 26th General Assembly concerning the future relationship between the two denominations but that presbyteries and sessions be encouraged to develop fellowship with the classes and congregations of the CRC which do not ordain women to ruling office.

The representative from the CRC to the PCA General Assembly spoke rather critically of the report of the IRC to the General Assembly and made such negative remarks that it was necessary for the General Assembly to respond to these remarks.
General Assembly further acted on the relationship of CRC to NAPARC in dealing with questions raised about actions by the IRC last year at NAPARC. The following was the action taken: “That the General Assembly accepts the rationale for the decision of the IRC to proceed with suspension of the CRC from NAPARC as a step toward expulsion and directs the IRC that, if the CRC does not reverse the action of Synod 95 regarding women in office within a year of being suspended by NAPARC, at the next meeting of NAPARC the IRC shall introduce a motion that the CRC be expelled from NAPARC.”

In other actions relating to the Interchurch Relations Committee, the IRC was instructed: “to bring a report and recommendations to the 26th General Assembly clarifying and updating the categories of ecclesiastical relations with other churches, particularly for the purpose of refining or revising criteria by which the General Assembly will recognize churches in Fraternal Correspondence, with the understanding that present categorization of churches as being in Fraternal Correspondence carries no official status until such report be received and acted upon.”

The General Assembly is continuing to plan for the celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the PCA in St. Louis, Missouri, on June 30 through July 3, 1998, at the Adams Mark Hotel in downtown St. Louis.

4. **Reformed Church in the United States (RCUS)**
   a. The 251st annual Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States (RCUS) met in Sacramento, California from May 19-22, 1997. Several of its elder statesmen have gone to be with the Lord and others were unable to attend.
   b. The most important issues dealt with vows of subscription for ministers, elders and deacons, the approval of a form for the confession of faith, and a proposed Directory of Worship. These three matters must be ratified by at least two-thirds of the classes of the church before taking effect. Previous versions of these vows had failed to receive the required ratifying votes by the classes.

   The new form for subscription vows for ministers and elders includes the following,

   **Do you honestly and in good conscience before the Lord declare that you believe and are persuaded that all the articles and points of doctrine in the Confessions of this Church, the Heidelberg Catechism, the Belgic Confession, and the Canons of Dordt, are in complete and accurate agreement with the Word of God; and do you promise to teach and defend the same in good faith and reject all doctrines conflicting therewith?**

   This vow is essentially the same for a deacon with the exception of replacing the word “teach” with the word “promote.”

   The membership vows (also sent to the classes for ratification) include,

   **Do you believe the bible, consisting of the Old and New Testaments, to be the Inerrant and Infallible Word of God and its doctrine summarized in the confessions of this Church to be the perfect and only true doctrine of salvation?**

   The RCUS thus holds its office bearers to a strict subscription vow and its members to vows inclusive of the confessions of the Church.
c. The Directory of Worship proposed to the classes by Synod breaks up long compound sentences and simplifies their structure to make it more understandable. When ratified, it will be published in both Traditional English (using the forms “Thee” and “Thou”) and Modern English versions.

d. The Synod also received reports and recommendations of the various committees that carry out its decisions between meetings. The largest budget items involve home and foreign missions, and ministerial relief for retired pastors and widows of pastors.

The RCUS Synod works in cooperation with its various classes both in funding and oversight in planting new churches. No new works have been begun during the last year, but new areas are under consideration.

The Synod approved continuation of its cooperative Foreign Mission work with the Reformed Churches in the Netherlands (Liberated) in the Congo (formerly Zaire), and authorized its Foreign Ministries Committee to follow up contacts with Reformed groups in Kenya.

The financial support of retired ministers and their widows is carried on in the RCUS through what was designed to be a special diaconal aid fund but has in recent years been taxed to the limit through rising costs of living. It is a matter of some concern that these diaconal payments now total $98,000 a year, or 21% of the total synodical budget RCUS. Synodical funds are supported through “guidelines for giving” which are suggested amounts per communicant member.

e. Major ecumenical actions included:

1. Positive response to entering “sister-church” relations with the Canadian Reformed Churches,

2. Postponement of seeking fraternal relations with the newly founded United Reformed Churches as being a matter premature at this time,

3. Seeking continued joint fellowship and ministry with The Orthodox Presbyterian Church even though our “distinctives make organic union unlikely,” and

4. Continued contacts with the KAPC, the PCA, the ARPC, and the Hungarian Reformed Church’s Calvin Synod of the UCC.

f. In another major item of business, the Synod of the RCUS, in response to an overture from its Western Classis, condemned the Hymenaean or hyper-preterist heresy.

g. Statistically, the total giving of the RCUS churches rose 6.6% to $2.66 million, while inclusive membership rose 2% to 4,333 baptized members.

5. Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America (RPCNA)

a. Synod gave thanks for “many new congregations” and for “new exploratory work.” Emphasis has also been given to revitalizing declining congregations. There is special concern about their Presbytery of Japan with six churches and very few ordained officers.

b. The issue of Vow 8 remains in tension (not resolved).

c. There are committees revising the directory for public worship and the book of discipline.

d. They are encouraged by the report of current financial strength. The financial state of Geneva College is better than it has been for years.

e. Their Home in Pittsburgh celebrated its 100th anniversary.

f. The RPCNA is working with the American Presbyterian Church (APC) on uniting the two churches.
B. Other Churches

1. Bible Presbyterian Church (BPC)
   The committee has determined to send an observer to the 62nd General Synod of the BPC and to invite the BPC to send an observer to the 64th GA of the OPC. The contact continues to be encouraging.

2. Canadian Reformed Churches (CANREF)
   a. Last year we reported that this committee and the Committee for Contact with the Orthodox Presbyterian Church (CCOPC) adopted a joint document, "Proposed Agreement For Opening the Way to Ecclesiastical Fellowship." The heart of this proposal is the following statements:

   Concerning Fencing the Lord's Table:
   The churches of the Reformation confess that the Lord's Supper should not be profaned (1 Cor. 11:27, see Heid. Cat. Lord's Day 30, Q&A 82; Westminster Confession ch. 29,8). This implies that the celebration of the Lord's Supper is to be supervised. In this supervision the church exercises discipline and manifests itself as true church. This supervision is to be applied to the members of the local church as well as to the guests. This means that a general verbal warning by the officiating minister alone is not sufficient, and that a profession of the Reformed faith and a godly life is required. This means that a general verbal warning by the officiating minister alone is not sufficient and that a profession of the Reformed faith and confirmation of a godly life is required. The eldership has a responsibility in supervising the admission to the Lord's Supper.

   Concerning Confessional Membership:
   The churches of the Reformation believe that they have to contend for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints (Jude 3) and are called to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned (Rom. 16:17). Anyone who answers the membership vows in the affirmative is bound to receive and adhere to the doctrine of the Bible. The patristic church has summarized this teaching in the Apostles' Creed and the churches of the Reformation have elaborated on this in their confessions. Every confessing member is bound to this doctrine and must be willing to be instructed in it.

   Agreement to these statements would be with the understanding that remaining differences in confession and polity will not be ignored but will be discussed within a relationship of Ecclesiastical Fellowship.

   b. The report of the Committee for Contact with the OPC includes the recommendation of their committee to their Synod 1998, Fergus, to invite the OPC into full Ecclesiastical Fellowship with them.

   c. We will report to you the decision of the next General Synod of the Canadian Reformed Churches (May 1998), concerning establishment of a bond of Ecclesiastical Fellowship with the OPC, in which we can continue to discuss our differences, as churches, and so, if God grants, arrive at more perfect unity in doctrine, polity, and life.

3. United Reformed Churches in North America (URCNA)
   a. Our 64th (1997) General Assembly invited the URCNA to enter into corresponding relations with the OPC.

   b. The committee informed the stated clerk of the URCNA that the CEIR (or its representatives) would be pleased to consult with the URC special committee that is studying the OPC Confessional Standards and Church Order if they so desire.

   c. The committee is recommending to the GA that it invite the
URCNA to enter into Ecclesiastical Fellowship with the OPC. See Recommendation 2 below.

d. The committee had invited the ICR Committee of the URCNA to explore with us possibilities for cooperation in missions and education.

e. The URCNA was received as a member church of the ICRC at the meeting in October 1997.

4. Others

The committee is seeking to have contact with several other North American churches by means of our liaisons.

The committee is arranging for the exchange of fraternal observers with the Synod of the FRCNA.

IV FELLOWSHIP WITH CHURCHES ABROAD

A. The Churches. The committee seeks to maintain an active fellowship with churches abroad especially through our membership in the ICRC, though not limited to those.

B. The delegates to ICRC 1997 Seoul met with delegations from the Christian Reformed Churches in the Netherlands, the Reformed Church in Japan, the Reformed Churches of New Zealand, The Reformed Churches in the Netherlands (Liberated) (de Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland (Vrijgemaakt)), the Reformed Churches of Sri Lanka.

C. Our 64th (1997) General Assembly invited the following churches to enter into "Corresponding Relations":
   1. Africa Evangelical Presbyterian Church (AEPC)
   2. Presbyterian Church in Uganda (PCU)
   3. United Reformed Churches in North America
   4. The Church of Christ in the Sudan Among the Tiv (Nongo u Kristu u ken Sudan hen Tiv) in Nigeria
   5. The Reformed Churches in the Netherlands (Liberated) [de Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland (Vrijgemaakt)].

There has been communication with these churches and movement toward getting to know each other better.

D. The committee is also in initial stages of contact with other churches such as the Reformed Churches of Sri Lanka, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Ghana, the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Malawi.

E. Reformed Church in Japan (RCJ)
   1. The delegates to ICRC 1997 Seoul met with representatives of the RCJ.
   2. Mr. Peterson served as a fraternal delegate to and addressed the General Assembly of the RCJ at Hamamatsu. He also visited the Theological Seminary of the RCJ at Kobe and met with representatives of the RCJ.
   3. Because the RCJ is discussing the issue of women in ruling and teaching office the committee determined to send to the Interchurch Relations Committee of the RCJ the OPC formulation concerning women in ecclesiastical office that
Appendix

was sent to the CRCNA by the 64th (1997) GA, drawing their attention to the fact that the CRCNA action to approve women in office was adopted consciously without Scripture grounds, and respectfully requesting the IRC to meet with representatives of this committee to be appointed by the chairman, at a time to be arranged (perhaps at the time of the 1998 RCJ Assembly).

F. African Evangelical Presbyterian Church (AEPC). There are now six good men at the Bible school. Missionary Brian Wingard attended the first General Assembly of this church. The committee is encouraged by its contact with this church.

G. Other churches
1. Dr. Kingsley Elder has been appointed a continuing observer to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of England and Wales (EPCEW). He has visited each congregation in the EPCEW. That church is now a member of the International Conference of Reformed Churches (ICRC).
2. There is intense persecution of Christians in the Sudan. The Middle East Reformed Fellowship ministers to their financial needs and puts Arabic Bibles in their hands. It is urged that these persecuted brothers and sisters be included in our prayers.
3. The Independent Presbyterian Church of Mexico (IPCM). Tentative plans are being discussed for a visit to Mexico in conjunction with the Committee on Foreign Missions.
4. There is continuing contact with the Evangelical Church in Poland, which is Reformed and which knows the OPC. A seminar was held in May with Steven Miller as the instructor.
5. In pursuance of the action of the 64th (1997) General Assembly requesting "the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations (to) consider the establishment of an official relationship with the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Mexico", the committee has written to the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Mexico to inform them of this action, to tell them about our church and to see if there is interest in working toward a relationship between our churches. As of the writing of this report no response has been received.

V INTERCHURCH BODIES

A. International Conference of Reformed Churches (ICRC)
   Report on 1997 ICRC Seoul
2. The proceedings are in published form and are available for purchase.
3. The conference opened with a prayer service with Mr. Galbraith preaching.
4. The officers of the conference and the Interim Committee until the 2001 Conference were: President: Soon Gil Hur (Presbyterian Church of Korea/Kosin), Vice-president: Jack J Peterson (OPC), Secretary: Peter Vander Meyden (Free Reformed Churches in North America), Corresponding secretary: Marinus Ven Beveren (Canadian Reformed Churches) and Treasurer: H Berends (Canadian Reformed Churches). Further Messrs. Van Spronsen (Canadian Reformed Churches)
and Bilkes (Free Reformed Churches in North America) were appointed alternate members of the Interim Committee.

5. Churches received into membership. The seven churches applying for membership were accepted for membership to the ICRC: the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, the Christian Reformed Churches in The Netherlands, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in England and Wales (even though there were no delegates from this Church present at the 1997 Conference), the Gereja Gereja Masehi Musyafir N.T.T. (Indonesia), the Reformed Churches of New Zealand, the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America and the United Reformed Churches in North America. The only application that was contested was that of the ARPC because of the presence of a few Masons among the officers in the church. By means of a polled vote, this church was accepted with 16 churches in favor and 3 abstentions. The PCEA requested that its abstention be recorded.

6. Correspondence from the OPC (all communications were referred to advisory committees).

a. Regarding the OPC relationship with the CRCNA: the conference received this letter for information, and recorded its appreciation to the OPC for submitting it.

b. Regarding Restructuring “Ecclesiastical Fellowship” several church delegations expressed appreciation for the model for ecclesiastical fellowship which the OPC has been developing.

After discussion the following was adopted:

(1) We acknowledge that the spiritual unity given to us in Jesus Christ should be manifested visibly whenever and wherever possible.

(2) We consider that as members of the ICRC we must aim to assist and encourage and stimulate each other to bear witness in the world to the Lord Jesus Christ by word and deed.

(3) We believe that as the member churches bear this witness in word and deed the framing of rules to express developing relationships will come to appropriate expression by the churches involved.

(4) We commend the letter of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church to the member churches for their attention in ways which seem appropriate in each case.

(5) We urge the member churches to be mindful of the diversity of circumstances in the churches and to seek to further relationships with due humility.

(6) We affirm that it is vital that the churches do not lose sight of their absolute dependence upon the Lord of the church: “not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit” says the Lord.

c. Regarding the proposed policies for interchurch relations together with the document Biblical Principles of the Unity of the Church the following action was taken:

(1) that the Conference receive with deep appreciation the letter and “Document 5” submitted by the OPC;

(2) that a special paper or papers on “Biblical Principles of the Unity of the Church” be prepared for the ICRC 2001 utilizing the material submitted by the OPC, with contributing speeches from both the Presbyterian tradition and the (Continental) Reformed tradition, the speakers to be decided at a later session of this Conference: c. that the latter part of the letter concerning policy regarding other Churches be referred to Advisory Committee 3 and that this committee report to a later session of the Conference.

7. Improving the Relationship between Member Churches.

In what is perhaps the most significant and far-reaching action of
the meeting, the conference, in response to a communication of the OPC, took the following actions:

a. The ICRC suggests to the member churches that, for the purpose of assisting one another and furthering the unity of the churches, they adopt the following or similar procedure:

When a matter arises that would affect the relationship of the ICRC member churches to each other, such as a change being contemplated by a church in its doctrinal basis or ethical practices, the church should:

1) inform the interchurch relations committee of the member churches concerning the proposal;

2) ask them for the official position of their church on such a matter, for their advice (and/or that of colleagues) with regard to it, and their help in the study of the matter;

3) keep the churches informed on developments in the matter as it is progressively dealt with by the church.

b. The ICRC suggests to the churches that they would do well to seek cooperation in areas such as evangelization, missions and diaconal assistance, and to promote contacts and exchanges between institutions for training for the ministry.

8. Missions. The following decisions were made:

a. To instruct the Missions Committee to continue their mandate in the light of the Advisory Committee report (printed above). This mandate reads:

1) to update information from the member churches regarding missionary activity in general, and also about missionary training and methodology of mission in particular;

2) to ask the respective member churches to organize four different mission conferences, two years after each ICRC, one in the West (Curacao, Surinam, Brazil, Peru), one in Africa (South-Africa, Ghana, Republic of Congo), one in the East (Japan, Indonesia, Philippines, Taiwan, India, Papua New Guinea), and one in Europe (including Eastern Europe). The reports of these conferences have to be sent at least one and a half years before the next ICRC to the Missions Committee;

3) to ask the churches which are working among the Jews to contact one another and to send their report to the Missions Committee at least one and a half years before the next ICRC;

4) to inform the member churches each and every half year about mission work, stating also their needs and strategies, in a newsletter;

5) to send the report to the Corresponding Secretary at least one year before the next ICRC.

b. That a paper be presented to the 2001 Conference on work among the Jews, not merely restricted to Jews living in the state of Israel but focusing on Jews wherever they live.

c. The conference appointed Mr. Goris, (Convener), Mr. Bube, Prof. Boyd, Mr. Haak, Mr. Miller, and Mr. Van Spronsen, Mr. S.C. Lee (Korea) as members of the Missions Committee.

d. The following proposals were is adopted:

That the conference suggest to the member churches that they keep in mind the benefit of regional conferences on particular, timely topics and plan such conferences when deemed appropriate.

and

That the conference request the Missions Committee to encourage the member churches to hold regional mission conferences and assist the member churches in holding and coordinating such conferences.
That the conference include in its budget an amount of US $8,000 per year for assistance when necessary, enabling the members to share one another's burdens, and that it be administered by the Missions Committee.

9. Changes to item 3.4.2 of the Constitution
The revised article now reads as follows:

1. Those churches shall be admitted as members:
   a. which faithfully adhere to the Reformed Faith stated in the confessional documents listed in the Basis, and whose confessional standards agree with the said Reformed Faith;
   b. which have been sponsored by at least two member churches.
   c. furnish
      i. their confessional standards
      ii. their declaratory acts (if applicable)
      iii. their form of subscription
      iv. their form of government
   d. are not members of the World Council of Churches or any other organization whose aims and practices are deemed by the conference to be in conflict with the Basis.
   e. are accepted by a two-thirds majority vote of the delegations of the member churches, every member church having one vote;

2. Termination of membership shall be by a two-thirds majority vote of the delegations of the member churches whenever the conference is of the opinion that a member church in its doctrine and/or practice is no longer in agreement with the Basis.

10. Revision of Regulations 3.1 §5: Participants
The revised article now reads as follows:

1. The following may take their seats as participants in meetings of the conference:
   a. Voting delegates of the member churches.
      Each member church shall be entitled to send two voting delegates to the meeting.
      These delegates shall be known as 'Voting Delegates.'
   b. Advisory delegates of the member churches.
      Each member church may appoint two advisors, but they shall have no vote.
      These delegates shall be known as 'Advocates.'
   2. No others shall sit as participants in the meeting unless and until invited by the conference to participate.
      These include:
      a. Observer delegates of churches that have made application for membership in the conference.
      These delegates shall be known as 'Observers.'
      b. Visiting delegates of Churches which have not yet applied for membership.
      These delegates shall be known as 'Visitors.'
   3. The Conference may provide a designated area for official Observers and Visitors, to distinguish them from others who may be present to observe the meeting.
11. Revision of Regulations 3.2. §7.1.e: Agenda Material
The revised article now reads as follows:

1. The Conference shall place on its agenda .... e. recommendations from any two member churches sponsoring a church that applies for membership.

12. Papers. Five papers were presented followed by discussion of the papers.

a. Paper 1: “Reformed Principles of Missions” by Mr. M.T. Bube (The text of the paper is printed in the Proceedings). Beginning with the premise that worship lies at the heart of the church’s missionary endeavors, Mr. Bube outlined God’s decree to save a people for himself, for the manifestation of his glory. He noted that God has foreordained all the means by which such is to be accomplished; that it is to the church that Christ has entrusted this ministry for the gathering and perfecting of the saints; that in this supernatural ministry, God is especially pleased to make the preaching of the Word an effectual means of accomplishing that end; and that, in his Word, God has fully supplied the elders in his church with all that is necessary for them to carry out this work.

The discussion focused on the use of parachurch organizations, the character of a credible profession of faith on the mission field, the place of personal witnessing as opposed to organizational mission, the social aspect of mission work, and the need for mission churches to become self-supporting.

b. Paper 2: “Women in Office - Especially about ‘Deaconesses’” by Dr. S.G. Hur. He stated that eldership is restricted to male members of the church because its task is to exercise authority over the congregation. This is a clear teaching of the Scriptures (1 Timothy 2:12). However, diaconal office does not involve the exercise of authority. Therefore, it seems possible that female members may be installed as unordained deaconess or assistant-deacons, seeing that women were positively involved in the life of the apostolic church.

The discussion focused on the developing appreciation within the churches of the position of women in the church, the difficulty of determining the precise task of “deaconesses” in the New Testament church if “deaconesses” indeed existed, and the unofficial teaching by women that is recorded for us in Scripture (e.g Acts 18:26). Points also discussed were the absence of clear post-apostolic sources for the work of women in the early church, the difficulty of determining whether deacons are officers/office-bearers in the church, the ordination of deacons, the implications of a particular culture for determining the structure of the offices within the church, the use of the Old Testament in the issue of women in office, and the uses of the terms “office” and “service.”

c. Paper 3: “Biblical Principles for the Relation between Church and State” by Dr. Robert C. Beckett. Dr. Beckett affirmed the total sovereignty of God over all the structures of authority in both secular and ecclesiastical realms. The New Testament does not give approval to any specific form of government. Democracy involves the determination of laws by the majority views of fallen man, and is a perilous substitute for the infallible Word of God. Both church and state are established by God under the sovereignty of Jesus Christ, and are distinct structures that should peaceably co-exist and support each other. Complete separation of church and state is an unbiblical illusion, and Christians should be encouraged to act as “salt and light” within the political process. Involvement of pastors as politicians is forbidden by Scripture, and brings dangerous confusion to the gospel...
message. Within a pluralistic society, the church can best fulfill its duty to God and the state by prioritizing the Great Commission. Obedience is to be rendered to the state as far as humanly possible, without transgressing the law of God. When the demands of the state are in conflict with the law of God, God must be obeyed rather than man, and civil disobedience becomes inevitable.

The discussion focused on the relationship between church and state in a society governed by an anti-Christian government, theocratic government in a New Testament era, national covenants with God, and the practices of the member churches on how they go about exercising their duty towards the civil government.

d. Paper 4: "The Challenge of the Charismatic Movement to the Reformed Tradition" by Dr. R.B. Gaffin Jr. Dr. Gaffin addressed two issues: the meaning of Pentecost (being baptized with the Holy Spirit); and, the cessation of certain gifts of the Spirit. On the first issue, Dr. Gaffin argued that Pentecost has its significance in terms of *historia salutis* (the completed accomplishment of salvation), not *ordo salutis* (the ongoing application of salvation). It does not provide a repeatable paradigm event for individual Christian experience. In the light of the truth of 1 Corinthians 15:45 ("the last Adam became a life-giving Spirit"), Pentecost reveals the unbreakable unity between the activity of the exalted Christ and the Holy Spirit in the church in all aspects of their conjoint activity. On the issue of cessation, Dr. Gaffin argued that New Testament prophecy possessed inspired and infallible authority and was present in the life of the church only for the period when the NT canon was in the process of formation. The view that NT prophecy continues today with lower, fallible, authority, was shown to be not sustainable exegetically and to undermine the final authority of Scripture.

Points touched on in the discussion included the doubts of those who question the presence of the Spirit within themselves, the impact of Pentecost on the mission of the church, the working of the Holy Spirit in children, the "already" and the "not yet" of salvation, revivalism, the freedom of the Spirit today in his work, the baptism with the Holy Spirit of which John the Baptist speaks, and the views of Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones. Dr. Hur noted that the charismatic movement is very tempting to churches in Korea which tend to be occupied with growth and expressed his and the conference's appreciation for the paper.

e. Paper 5: "The Ministry of the Word amongst Asian Religious People (Hindus, Buddhists, Jains and Zoroastrians)" by the Rev. David John. He gave information about Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Zoroastrianism in India, stating that many Asian people respect their elders; they worship ancestors; and seem to be very respectful and humble. They claim to be seekers of wisdom, peace and light, desiring to become one with god and achieve salvation. To achieve this goal they go to extremes, such as "yoga", transcendental meditation, and asceticism. This often means a withdrawal from real life and its hardships, trials, and responsibilities. Tradition holds that the gospel was brought to India first by Thomas, the disciple of Jesus, in AD 52. Christian missions, including both Roman Catholic and Protestant, have been present in India ever since. Besides evangelism, educational work and establishments of mercy have been founded. It is said that annual church growth in India is about 3.4%, and that there are now about 97,700 "Christian" congregations with 7,300,000 members and 16,000,000 adherents. It should go without saying that the only approach to all religions is by the Word of God and the only salvation is by the atoning work of the Lord Jesus Christ. Points touched on in the discussion include whether the form
of Hinduism in India is tolerant or exclusivist, how to evangelize Hindus, how to face the Buddhist-Shintos of Japan where people are philosophically accepting despair and young people are being brainwashed by cultic forms of Buddhism, Hinduism in China as a changing religion, and the need to hold to the gospel without compromising and to meet other religions head on.

13. Introduction of non-member churches

a. Dr. Allan M. Harman introduced the Presbyterian Church of Australia. He pointed out that the present Presbyterian Church of Australia resulted from the formation of the Uniting Church of Australia in 1977 when the majority of the Presbyterian Church entered that church. Since then the process of reformation in the continuing church has been steadily maintained with a particular emphasis on theological education. There has been a considerable movement back to the reformation heritage and further strengthening of this is anticipated.

b. Dr. Vorster introduced the Reformed Churches in South Africa. Dr. Vorster informed the gathering that the RCSA were instituted in 1859 because their forefathers wanted to resist the Arminian influence in the larger Dutch Reformed denomination in South Africa. In 1862 this denomination started a Christian University with various degree-granting programs. This federation has ecumenical ties with members of the ICRC (FCS and the CRCN). The RCSA withdrew from the REC because of its refusal to exercise discipline and are now looking for a new ecumenical body to join. The RCSA is struggling with interracial issues and the support given by the CRCN in these matters has been much appreciated.

c. Dr. Joseph Michael Velazquez of the Independent Presbyterian Church of Mexico (IPCM) introduced his church. This denomination was instituted in 1947 as a response to Barthian theology taught in the larger Presbyterian Church. This denomination instituted a seminary in 1948. It has broken fellowship with the Christian Reformed Church and has withdrawn from the REC. The IPCM is in need of reformed literature and assistance for its seminary. They invite members of the ICRC to come and preach the Gospel in Mexico.

d. Mr. C. Richard Holst informed the Conference that the Reformed Presbyterian Church in Cardiff (RPCC) seceded from the Presbyterian Church of Wales in 1968 mainly because that denomination had forsaken its confessional standards, the Calvinistic Methodist Confession of Faith of 1823. The present church seceded under the leadership of the Rev. D.J. Hooper whose ministry uncovered the doctrine of the covenant. The confession of the RPCC reflects that theology. There are two congregations of 91 and 30 members respectively and a church school which has existed for 23 years. In 1996 the church was offered a sister-church relationship with RCN(11), to which we are now in the process of responding.

e. The Lanka Reformed Church of Sri Lanka. Mr. Prabath de Silva introduced his church, the Lanka Reformed Church. Sri Lanka has a population of 18 million. The LRC was formed in 1996 because of unbiblical ecumenical trends in the Dutch Reformed Church. The DRC is a member of the National Christian Council of Sri Lanka, which in turn is the official representative of the WCC in Sri Lanka. The DRC is also a member of the REC. The LRC strongly believes that the pulpit ought to be protected and protests against the practice in the DRC and to share the pulpit with Pentecostals and Arminians and also against the liberal theological practices of the main line Presbyterian Church of Lanka. The federation comprises 2 congregations, with 33 communicant members and 13 non-communicant. The LRC uses both the Three Forms of Unity and the Westminster Standards as expressions of her faith.
f. Greetings from the Christian Reformed Church in Myanmar were read from a fax received from the Christian Reformed Church in Myanmar (Burma). The words of the Rev. Moses Ngunhlei Than which were read are as follows: I would also be grateful if you could kindly convey the URCM's greetings to the Fourth Assembly of the ICRC which is in progress now. It is our wish that God will bless the Assembly's proceedings and deliberations.

g. The Rev. Joseph Chien introduced the Taiwanese Reformed Presbyterian Church and also the Reformed Theological Seminary serving these churches.

h. The Church of Christ in Sudan among the Tiv. The Rev. G. N. Oragbe introduced his church, the Church of Christ in the Sudan among the Tiv. It came into being through the mission work of the Dutch Reformed Church in Nigeria and later the Christian Reformed Church and is a reformed church subscribing to the Apostle's Creed and the Heidelberg Catechism. Ministers are required to subscribe to the doctrinal standards and must promise not to teach in public or in private anything contrary to these standards. Federatively the church operates with a synodical system and discipline is exercised by the elders. Presently the church comprises some 215 local churches with a membership of about 130,000. The CCST is a member of the Reformed Ecumenical Council of Nigeria. The Reformed Theological College of Nigeria belongs to the CCST.

i. Prof. Ichikawa introduced the Reformed Church in Japan beginning with a statement of gratitude to God for his mercy since the earthquake three years ago. Most of the churches whose buildings were damaged have been able to be rebuilt. Toward the Second World War there came about a Reformed identity in the Christian church of Japan. Freedom of religion was secured after W.W.II and the RCJ was founded. In the period that followed the RCJ grew. The RCJ is a member of the REC, but is concerned about the direction it is taking. They request our prayer for wisdom in this matter. Another issue being dealt with is that of women in office which is being studied. "We wish you the Lord's blessing in your meeting," he said.

j. Christian Witness to Israel. The Rev. John Ross gave a presentation on the Reformed Churches and Jewish mission. He pointed out that mission among the Jews traditionally has had strong support from Reformation churches both among the Presbyterian and continental Reformed church leaders. The Reformed confessions require that the church be a missionary church. This then should be no less true of missions among the Jews. In line with confessional teaching men like Samuel Rutherford, John Owen, and Cotton Mather prayed for the work of mission among the Jews. But this traditional concern should not be understood in terms of modern eschatological categories; there is a difference between the restoration of Israel to their own nation and the conversion of the Jews as a people. The Scottish churches were influenced by the interest of men like Andrew Bonar and R. M. McCheyne. It was the moral obligation of mission rather than a preoccupation with eschatology that moved the Scottish churches to initiate this work. Regardless of our eschatology, we may not ignore this area of mission work. If we do, then we are saying either that the gospel is unworthy of the Jews or that the Jews are unworthy of the gospel. The former is an insult to our Lord, the latter prejudicial to the Jews. Although there are many questions Reformed Christians will want to explore we cannot leave this issue on the back burner. We cannot hold a moratorium until all the questions are resolved. The church has slept for too long. It is time for a Reformed witness to the Jewish people. (This presentation was at the request of the FCS).
k. The Rev. L. Kiemlo Pulamte introduced *Reformed Presbyterian Church North East India Synod*. He indicated that the RPCNEIS began in 1979 and now comprises 7 congregations spanning some 2000 km of region and forming two presbyteries. There are two missionary churches, where the missionaries visit from house to house. The doctrine of the church is based on the *Westminster Confession of Faith*. The RPCNEIS has a school in Manipur. Mr. Pulamte requested the prayers of the delegates for the work of the RPCNEIS done among widows and orphans.

1. **Institute of Reformed Theological Training.** The Rev. C. J. Haak introduced the IRTT. This institute was set up in 1989 and renamed in 1993 after restructuring. When the Indonesian government made it difficult for church workers to enter Indonesia it was thought feasible to set up an institute for instruction in The Netherlands and have indigenous people study there. Initially the Institute went under the name “Missionary Training Institute” and was later renamed “Institute for Reformed Theological Training”. The Institute is open to the involvement of other member churches of the ICRC. The Institute has recently changed its approach, giving the students problems to solve among themselves. Instead of giving them prepackaged Reformed answers, they are given the Reformed “tools” which enable them to solve their own problems. This will allow the students to practice reformed theology in their own context. The idea is also to invite churches in other countries to participate in the teaching of a course on the field, e.g. in the Philippines. [This was requested by the RCN(l)]

m. **Missionary Training Institute.** Dr. Young J. Son introduced the Missionary Training Institute to the Conference. The MTI has trained some 600 missionaries who are working in some 60 countries of the world. Dr. Young J. Son emphatically appealed to the delegates to consider coming to lecture at the MTI or to have their churches send men to assist in cross-cultural training. The *lingua franca* is English, so lecturers should manage easily. He recalled the challenge of J. G. Vos who said: “You Koreans only come to get; but why don’t the Koreans start giving to the world?” Dr. Son questioned whether he had anything to give. But, while Koreans had some 500 missionaries in the world 30 years ago when Vos made his comment, now there are some 30,000 missionaries.

14. Those present at the conference were:

a. **Member Churches:**
   - Canadian Reformed Churches: C. Van Spronsen, N. H. Gootjes
   - Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Ireland: Robert C. Beckett, Stephen J. Roger
   - Free Church of Central India: David John
   - Free Church of Scotland: Clement Graham, John A. Macleod, David C. Meredith, Peter Morrison, John Ross
   - Free Church in Southern Africa: David Miller
   - Free Reformed Churches of North America: Lawrence W. Bilkes, Peter Vander Meyden
   - Free Reformed Churches in South Africa: Christo F. Heiberg
   - Gereja Gereja Reformasi di Indonesia N.T.T.: M. B. Radjah, Pila Njuka
   - Orthodox Presbyterian Church: Jack J. Peterson, John P. Galbraith, Richard B. Gaffin Jr., Mark T. Bube
   - Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia: W. Peter Gadsby, Rowland S. Ward
   - Presbyterian Church in Korea (Kosin): Soon Gil Hur, Sung Bok Park, Eun Cho Park, Keun Doo Jung, Yookwang Hyon
   - Reformed Churches in The Netherlands (liberated): C. J. Haak, H. van Veen, A. de Jager
   - Reformed Church in the United States: Vernon Pollema
   - Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland: W. David J. McKay

   A letter from the Free Reformed Churches of Australia informed the conference of their withdrawal from the ICRC. A response from the conference to the FRCA was sent.

b. **Churches Applying for Membership:** Associate Reformed Presby-
terian Church: Jack C. Whytock; Christian Reformed Churches in The Netherlands: Jacob Westerink, Paul Den Butter, Willem H. Velema, Adrian W. Overwater; Evangelical Presbyterian Church of England and Wales: (No delegates); Gereja Gereja Masehi Musyafir N.T.T.: Eli Fangidae, Melky Bulan; Reformed Churches of New Zealand: Michael Flinn, John Goris, Dick Vanderpyl; Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America: John H. White, Shigeru Takiura (Japan); United Reformed Churches in North America: Joginda S. Gangar.


15. **Interim Committee 1997-2001.** The following was adopted:

*That the Interim Committee for 1997-2001 be empowered and directed to:*

1. oversee the practical arrangements for the 2001 meeting; including time and place; consulting with the host church as necessary;
2. formulate and circulate prior to the meeting a draft agenda with main items of each day's business for approval by the meeting;
3. appoint the ICRC auditor in consultation with the Treasurer;
4. appoint advisory committees as deemed necessary in the light on the upcoming business;
5. seek a host church for the ICRC 2005;
6. arrange to distribute all papers to all delegates and observers and make them available to visitors and the press;
7. select topics for papers, speakers and the number of papers which have not been designated by the conference; the paper on "work among the Jews" (Minutes, §36) will focus primarily on the biblical/theological issues involved;
8. propose a way or ways of making the conference papers more useful to the member churches and others.

16. **Further arrangements for ICRC 2001**

a. **Hosting Church.** In fulfillment of Point 5 of the mandate of the Interim Committee (§85), the following motion was made and adopted: *That one of the South African churches be asked to host the ICRC for 2005.*

b. **Policy Proposal for Papers.** The following proposal regarding conference papers was discussed and adopted:

1. A typed copy of the paper is to be submitted at least six months before the conference in order that it might be circulated in good time to member churches.
2. A copy of the paper on 3+" computer disc in common format, clearly marked as to format, is to be submitted with the paper to facilitate printing of the paper.
3. Authors are permitted to make appropriate adjustments to the text prior to publication in the proceedings.
4. Each paper is preferably to begin with a synopsis of not more than 250 words and be concluded with numbered propositions or conclusions for discussion by the conference.

5. The author will be given not more that 30 minutes to give an overview of his paper with a view to maximizing the time available for interaction and discussion.

c. Proposal for Topics and Speakers. A proposal was made in fulfillment of the decision under Article 24. It was pointed out that the decision under ‘b’ above takes care of the procedure for approving the speeches. Suggestions and names were submitted to the Interim Committee for speakers at the next conference. Among the topics suggested were: Preaching or Reformed Hermeneutics, the Church Growth Movement, Ecumenicity and Missions, Polygamy in Relation to Baptism and the Lord’s Table, the Task of the Church in a Secular Society, the Challenges of this Age, and the Regulative Principle.

17. Budget and mandate for the treasurer for 1998 - 2001. To adopt the proposed budget as presented and to give the treasurer the following mandate:

(a) to assess the membership annually according to the established method;

(b) to collect the funds in equal installments;

(c) to reimburse all costs incurred by the conference;

(d) to provide the Missions Committee with the budgeted amount as required;

(e) to submit a financial report to the next conference; and

(f) to draw up a budget with the assistance of the Interim Committee for the following conference.

18. Comments about Korean Christians (quoted from the minutes): “Mr. Peterson introduced the Rev. Mr. John P. Galbraith to present some information about the Christians of Korea. He noted that when, in 1884, the first missionaries came to Korea the Koreans responded quickly to the gospel. In 1906 the Japanese occupied the land but for some time the church continued to flourish. When the Japanese instituted obligatory shrine worship the Korean Christians who insisted that they would worship only the true God refused to submit to shrine worship. When the Rev. Bruce F. Hunt, an Orthodox Presbyterian missionary, and several Korean Christians were being led in chains to be tried in court the streets were lined with Christians shouting ‘To the end!’ Later during the Communist rule Christian elders and ministers were sought out and executed. Many sent their wives and children to the south and the Kosin church started in extreme poverty. Yet these widows would save a few grains of rice each day as offerings to the Lord. It is clear that the Korean Christians have been blessed richly by our Lord. The Chairman responded by acknowledging that the Korean Christians are indeed thankful to God for what He has given them and thanked Mr. Galbraith for his words.”

B. North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council (NAPARC)

1. The North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council met on November 18, 1997, at the Crowne Plaza Atlanta Airport Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. The Chairman was Jack C. Whytock of the ARPC. The delegates of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church appointed by the committee were Richard A. Barker, Mark T. Bube, George W. Knight, III and Jack J. Peterson. They report:

2. Present were:
Denomination
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARPC)
Christian Reformed Church in NA (CRCNA)
Korean American Presbyterian Church (KAPC)
The Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC)
Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)
Reformed Church in the United States (RCUS)
Reformed Presbyterian Church in NA (RPCNA)

3. The following observer churches were represented:
Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Presbyterian Reformed Church
Protestant Reformed Churches

Others present were:
Donald J. Duff, (OPC) Secretary
Paul R. Gilchrist (PCA)
Robert A. Henning, (RPCNA) Treasurer
Gordon J. Keddie (RPCNA)
Darrell Todd Maurina (press) (on Wednesday)
Keith R. Magill
Frank J. Smith

4. The following officers were elected: Chairman, Gordon J. Keddie (RPCNA); Vice chairman, Ronald L. Potter (RCUS); Secretary, Donald J. Duff (OPC); Treasurer, Robert A. Henning (RPCNA).

5. The treasurer reported that the dues for member churches was set at $150.00 per member church in 1998.

6. Each of the member churches reported the significant actions of their general assembly/synod. Observer churches also reported: the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, the Protestant Reformed Church and the Presbyterian Reformed Church.

7. The new Interim Committee will be as follows: ARPC, William B. Evans; CRCNA, David H. Engelhard; KAPC, to be appointed; OPC, Donald J. Duff (Secretary); PCA, K. Eric Perrin; RCUS, Ronald L. Potter; RPCNA, Gordon J. Keddie (Chairman).
8. Communications

3. *From The Orthodox Presbyterian Church General Assembly concerning “Ecclesiastical Fellowship.”*

4. *From The Orthodox Presbyterian Church General Assembly concerning proposed polices for interchurch relations.*

5. *From The Orthodox Presbyterian Church General Assembly concerning actions taken with regard to the CRCNA.*

10. *From Joel H. Nederhood and James A. De Jong asking NAPARC “to consider organizing a forum ...to make judgments on the issues impinging on the question of continuing Christian Reformed membership in NAPARC.”*

9. The banquet speaker was Dr. Frank A. Brock, President of Covenant College.

10. A Home Missions and a Foreign Missions consultation were held on November 17-18, 1997.

11. Westminster Assembly Commemoration Fund. It was moved to give these funds to the KAPC for the North Korean Relief Work of that denomination. This was referred to the Interim Committee for their report.

12. CRCNA. The Interim Committee put the following motion before the council: Resolved that NAPARC initiate the process to suspend the Christian Reformed Church in North America from its membership. After a time of discussion and a short recess for the delegations of member churches to discuss the motion concerning the suspension of the CRCNA, the question was put to the council. The voting: ARPC - Yes; CRCNA - No; KAPC - Yes; OPC - Yes; PCA - Yes; RCUS - Yes; RPCNA - Yes; Approved (6-1)

The following motion was adopted: That a committee comprising of the Chairman, Vice-chairman and Secretary of NAPARC be requested to formulate, from the actions of major assemblies of the NAPARC churches pursuant to the matter of the ordination of women to ecclesiastical office in the Christian Reformed Church in North America, reasons to be sent to the NAPARC churches with citations from the actions of the major assemblies of the NAPARC churches, together with the information concerning the proposed suspension of the Christian Reformed Church in North America from membership in NAPARC.

13. NAPARC recommend to member churches that they join the KAPC in their relief work in North Korea.

14. NAPARC web page with a focus on church directories of member churches. This was referred to a committee of three, to be appointed by the Chairman, to report in 1998 regarding the feasibility (including budget, content and oversight) of establishing a web page.

15. The next meeting of NAPARC to be held in Sioux Falls, South Dakota on November 17 & 18, 1998 with the RCUS as host.

VI STUDIES BEING DONE BY THE COMMITTEE

The committee has concluded that, although the National Association of Evangelicals provides helpful services for its members with regard to government and civilian agencies, there continue to be obstacles of principle that would prevent our church from becoming a member:

a. It grants voting rights to (a) individuals, (b) parachurch organizations, (c) congregations, as well as denominations.
b. It continues to produce literature of various kinds that does not conform to our confession.

c. It undertakes the work of the church.

VII  THEOLOGICAL TRAINING ASSISTANCE FUND/ADOPT-A-PASTOR

A. The committee continues to desire to build up a fund for scholarships for theological students or pastors to study outside their home areas and to send instructors to theological schools abroad. However, due to budget constraints no line item has been given to the fund by recent Assemblies.

B. The Adopt-a-Pastor program continues to bless both giver and receiver.

VIII  BUDGET

Budget Proposal to the 65th (1998) General Assembly

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| Fraternal Delegates            |             |             |             |               |
| To/from ICRC travel            | 4,000       | 2,576       | 4,000       | 4,000         |
| ICRC travel                    | 2,000       | 4,319       | 2,000       | 0             |
| **Total Fraternal delegates**  | **6,000**   | **6,895**   | **6,000**   | **4,000**     |

| Dues                           |             |             |             |               |
| NAPARC                         | 400         | 150         | 150         | 150           |
| ICRC                           | 5,868       | 5,868       | 1,500       | 1,500         |
| **Total dues**                 | **6,268**   | **6,018**   | **1,650**   | **1,650**     |

| Total GAOF items               | 22,268      | 21,497      | 16,650      | 15,650        |

*Grounds:

1. The importance of interchurch relations - "Biblical Principles of the Unity of the Church." The OPC is in danger of losing its place as a leader in the Reformed world in the area of ecumenics because of lack of funds for the committee to properly do its work.

2. The OPC has a responsibility to other churches, especially other Reformed churches, and even more to churches to which we are bound by constitutional responsibility in NAPARC and ICRC to "Exercise mutual concern in the perpetuation, retention, and propagation of the Reformed faith" and "Promote cooperation wherever possible and feasible on the local and denominational level in such areas as missions, relief efforts, Christian schools, and church education" (NAPARC By-laws).

3. Subcommittees have met in the recent past with representatives of the CRCNA, CANREF, PCA, etc. There are similar opportunities with other churches.
(4) ICRC. The ICRC is the single official, organizational bond of the OPC to the worldwide Reformed church. It is still in its formative stages. With the experience of almost 40 years in the Reformed Ecumenical Synod/Council, the OPC is respected and recognized as experienced in ecumenical matters. It is incumbent upon us to exercise that responsibility as fully as possible.

(5) Dues. With the privilege of belonging to national and international organizations come the responsibility to share in the costs involved in such organizations.

(6) Fraternal delegates. Face to face contact with the highest/broader assemblies the other churches are reminded of the existence and labors of the OPC and we of theirs.

IX RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the 1997 NAPARC adopted the following: Resolved that NAPARC initiate the process to suspend the Christian Reformed Church in North America from its membership. According to the Constitution of NAPARC the synod/general assembly of each member church now must vote on the suspension.

   The committee determined that the question of approving the suspension of the CRCNA from membership in NAPARC be put to the assembly in the following form:

   "Shall the assembly approve the suspension of the CRCNA from membership in NAPARC?"

   The committee encourages an affirmative vote.

2. That The Orthodox Presbyterian Church invite the URCNA to enter into a relationship of Ecclesiastical Fellowship with the OPC.

   Grounds:
   (1) Their confessional standards are the Three Forms of Unity.
   (2) They seek to maintain a vigorous faithfulness to their standards in their church life.
   (3) They are members of the ICRC with us.
   (4) Their Synod has expressed the desire to work more closely with us (See URCNA 1997 Synod Acts, §XXVII.b).

X ELECTIONS

Terms expiring at this GA are those of Messrs. Barker, Gaffin and Tyson. Members may be ministers and/or ruling elders. There is no required number of one or the other to be elected to this committee.
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

The committee met once during the past year prior to May 1, 1998. At this meeting, one case had been presented for consideration, viz. an appeal by Bethel OPC, Carson, ND bringing forward a complaint brought against the Presbytery of the Dakotas (PoD) and denied. Since that meeting, held on January 31, 1998, a second complaint has been brought forward on appeal by the Rev. Arthur W. Kuschke. This appeal is from the decision of the Presbytery of Philadelphia (PoP), which material was received by committee members on April 17, 1998. The committee discussed possible lessons learned from previous cases and the desirability of proposing possible amendments to the Book of Discipline.

II THE SESSION OF BETHEL OPC, CARSON, ND COMPLAINT

A. Summary

The essence of the complaint is that the PoD erred "in telling Bethel Session 'to cease to have Paul Ferrie preach for them either in Carson or Bismarck' and against the error of presbytery on doing so without first consulting with Bethel session, and its delinquency in quoting the scripture it did to support its action, without providing any evidential witnesses to support its accusations against a fellow elder."

The complaint is directed against a single action of the presbytery, instructing the session to cease to have Mr. Paul Ferrie to preach for them. The session contends that by way of this action, the presbytery erred in failing to consult with the session before acting, and in citing 2 Thessalonians 3:6-7 as the ground for its action. Five grounds for the complaint are appended. The two amends sought by the session help to focus the concerns of the complaint.

Mr. Ferrie had served as the installed pastor of Bethel OPC from December 1995 until September 1996, when he informed the presbytery of changes in his doctrinal convictions so that he could no longer, in good conscience, keep the second and third installation vows (Form of Government XXIII.12); and he renounced the jurisdiction of the OPC, upon which the presbytery erased his name from its roll.

Subsequent to this renunciation, the session employed Mr. Ferrie as pulpit supply. Review of sessional minutes which recorded that employment served as the occasion for the action against which the session has complained.
B. CHRONOLOGY

1. September 1995 stated meeting of the Presbytery of the Dakotas: the Rev. Paul Ferrie was examined by presbytery from the Presbytery of Southwest Texas, PCA, and a call to the Carson church was placed in his hands and accepted by him.

2. December 18, 1995: At a special meeting of presbytery, Mr. Ferrie was installed as pastor of Bethel OPC of Carson, ND and enrolled as a ministerial member of presbytery.

3. September 1996 stated meeting of presbytery: Mr. Ferrie apparently came to PoD indicating that he had arrived at views which prevented him from continuing to affirm his installation vows 2 and 3 and various parts of the Confession and Catechisms; and, in accordance with BD V.2.b.(1), renounced the jurisdiction of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church by declaring himself independent. Presbytery erased his name from the rolls of the presbytery and declared the pulpit at Bethel OPC, Carson, ND vacant, effective September 25, 1996. The presbytery directed the Candidates and Credentials Committee to work with the session in reference to a severance package for Mr. Ferrie, and directed the Sessional Oversight Committee to work with the session in arranging for members of presbytery to help fill the pulpit of Bethel church, and drew up a pastoral letter (dated October 14, 1996) to the Carson congregation explaining the events of the meeting.

4. September 26, 1996: In a special meeting, session discussed “recent actions at presbytery” and scheduled Paul Ferrie to preach.

5. From September 26, 1996 through March 5, 1997: Session minutes regularly refer to the continuing preaching and other pastoral ministry of Mr. Ferrie to those under the oversight of the Bethel session.


7. October 13, 1996: At a special congregational meeting, Mr. Ferrie was granted severance pay.

8. October 27, 1996: At a special session meeting, the session discussed with Mr. Auksela the matter of Mr. Ferrie’s decision to leave the OPC.

9. From November 6, 1996 through May 21, 1997: Session minutes refer to discussions of the Ferries’ use of the manse until May 1, 1997.

10. February 2, 1997: Session recorded an affirmation that “it is satisfied that Paul Ferrie in his preaching has not taught or raised issues in which he has acknowledged differences with the OPC standards and has continued to preach the Reformed faith with zeal and benefit to the local congregation....”

11. February 2, 1997: At the annual congregational meeting, session gave a report concerning recent sessional decisions regarding Mr. Ferrie.
12. March 1997 stated meeting of Presbytery: The Sessional Oversight Committee reported to presbytery regarding the minutes of the Bethel, Carson session. In the course of discussion of this report, presbytery “instructed the session of Bethel OPC of Carson to cease to have Mr. Paul Ferrie preach for them either in Carson or Bismarck. Grounds: 2 Ths. 3:6-7 ‘... we command you brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly and not according to the tradition which he received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not disorderly among you...’” This is the action complained against.

13. March 30, 1997: Session discussed recent actions of presbytery and reported to the congregation at prayer meeting.


15. April 14, 1997: The session is informed by letter of actions of presbytery at its March 1997 stated meeting.


17. May 5, 1997: Session discussed presbytery’s exceptions to sessional minutes – “our past use of Paul Ferrie as pulpit supply.”

18. May 21, 1997 and June 21, 1997: Session determined to send a letter of standing regarding Miller Ferrie to Grace Reformed Church of the Lord Jesus, Hebron, ND, in accordance with BD II.B.3.b.

19. August 20, 1997: The session of Bethel Orthodox Presbyterian Church notified the presbytery that session “complains against the action of presbytery in telling Bethel Session to ‘cease to have Paul Ferrie preach for them either in Carson or Bismarck,’ and against the error of presbytery in doing so without first consulting with Bethel session, and its delinquency in quoting the scripture it did to support its action.”

20. September 1997 stated meeting of presbytery: The complaint of the Bethel session was considered by presbytery, and presbytery denies the complaint. At this meeting, the presbytery also “advised the Carson session that fraternal relationships are to be maintained only with other fraternal bodies recognized by our General Assembly. ... Therefore we no longer have any fraternal relationship with (Mr. Ferrie) nor with Grace Reformed Church of the Lord Jesus in Hebron ND which he is starting (‘Biblical Principles of the Church,’ Minutes of the Sixty-Third General Assembly, 1996, esp. IV.D, p.265).”

21. November 19, 1997: The presbytery’s Sessional Oversight Committee wrote to the session of Bethel OPC, Carson, “in order to help you understand some recent actions of presbytery involving your church,” specifically the matters taken up in the complaint.

22. January 7, 1998: The session of Bethel OPC, Carson carried its com-
plaint against presbytery on appeal to the General Assembly.

23. **February 6, 1998:** Bethel session wrote a response to presbytery’s Sessional Oversight Committee’s November 1997 letter.

C. **RECOMMENDATION**
   1. That the complaint be found in order and properly before the assembly.

III **THE KUSCHKE COMPLAINT**

A. **SUMMARY**
   The Kuschke complaint begins with a ten page preface which introduces the complaint proper which was before the PoP. The essence of the complaint is its dispute with the action of PoP "...that the presbytery urge Mr. Pedersen to seek ministerial service in an area away from Gettysburg, and desist from teaching activities among members of the congregation."

B. **CHRONOLOGY**
   1. In *August 1995*, the Rev. John K. Pedersen is called to serve as pastor of Living Hope Presbyterian Church (hereafter, LHPC) in Gettysburg, PA.
   2. On *29 September 1995*, Mr. Pedersen is installed at LHPC, having been previously approved by the Presbytery of Philadelphia.
   3. From *December 1995-February 1996*, controversy arises within the congregation of LHPC. Some within the congregation of LHPC see the controversy as engendered largely by Mr. Pedersen’s teaching of an Adult Sunday School Class on Paul’s Epistle to the Galatians, particularly the stress placed on Calvinistic soteriology as understood by Mr. Pedersen. Of those within the congregation of LHPC who believe that the controversy largely stems from Mr. Pedersen’s teaching, some claim great benefit and blessing from his teaching, while others claim that Mr. Pedersen’s teaching is imbalanced and/or uncharitable. Furthermore, some within the congregation of LHPC do not see the controversy as arising primarily out of Mr. Pedersen’s teaching but rather out of Mr. Pedersen’s style of ministry. Beginning in *January 1996*, some disaffected members stop attending LHPC.
   4. On *10 February 1996*, a family within LHPC (members for two years; in attendance for ten), distributes to some at LHPC a twenty-three page pamphlet entitled, "An Examination of TULIP—the Five Points of Calvinism!" This pamphlet is, without dispute, an inept and highly partisan attack on Calvinistic soteriology (Document 1).
   5. In *late February 1996*, Mr. Pedersen notifies the Clerk of the Presbytery of Philadelphia (hereafter, PoP) that Calvinistic soteriology is under attack at LHPC and that he needs assistance from the PoP in dealing with this problem.
   6. On *19 March 1996*, Mr. Pedersen writes the family who distributed
the anti-Calvinistic pamphlet, expressing his concern over their absence and assuring them of his love and willingness to confess any offense that he might have committed against them. While the letter does not mention the pamphlet or raise any doctrinal concerns, Mr. Pedersen stresses the urgent need for a meeting with the family (Document 2).

7. On 26 April 1996, two men from the Pop, having been requested by the Pop's Church Visitation Committee, meet with session of LHPC in an attempt to assist the session in dealing with the disruption that has arisen with the congregation of LHPC.

8. On 4 May 1996, the Pop, at its stated meeting, took up the matter of the disruption at LHPC. The committee that had met with the session of LHPC reported (Document 3). Mr. Pedersen conveys to the Pop the session's official request for help in the difficulties at LHPC. The Pop, after deliberation "determined that should the session of Living Hope, Gettysburg request elder augmentation the Committee on Church Visitation and Session Records be authorized to recruit and appoint elders for that task, subject to the approval of the congregation" (Minutes of the Pop, p. 9, item 23).

9. On 9 June 1996, with the situation at LHPC deteriorating, Mr. Pedersen publicly expresses his intention to resign as Pastor of LHPC, effective 1 July 1996, with a meeting of the congregation set for 23 June 1996 for the purpose of asking the congregation to petition the Pop to dissolve the ministerial relationship. Subsequently, the session votes not to accept his resignation and Mr. Pedersen announces that he will remain as pastor in anticipation of a forthcoming resolution of the difficulties at LHPC.

10. In early July 1996, the session of LHPC receives a petition from members of LHPC requesting that three out of four inactive ruling elders, all members of LHPC, be added to the session. These men indicate their willingness to serve on the session. Additionally, the Rev. Messrs. John Mallin III and Arthur Fox express their willingness to serve on the session, with the approval of the Pop's Committee on Church Visitation and Session Records (Note: Mr. Mallin was then a ministerial member of the Presbytery of New York and New England and is now a ministerial member of the Presbytery of Connecticut and Southern New York. He lives in the Gettysburg area where he serves, *inter alia*, as a pastoral counselor.)

11. On 21 July 1996, the congregation of LHPC votes to augment the session with the two aforementioned ministers (see item 10, supra) and two of the inactive ruling elders from LHPC. Shortly thereafter, the augmented session seriously seeks to begin addressing disaffected members in a systematic, pastoral fashion.

12. In early August 1996, two requests from various members of LHPC are sent to the session, one being a request to meet with the ministerial augmentees of the session and the other asking that no action be taken to remove any members who had left from the rolls before 1 January 1997. Mr. Pedersen leaves for vacation and is gone most of the month.
13. On 25 August 1996, a petition from some members of the congregation of LHPC is sent to the session requesting that the session call a special meeting of the congregation to discuss and act upon current concerns.

14. On 1 September 1996, shortly after Mr. Pedersen's arrival home from vacation, an elder informs Mr. Pedersen that a group within LHPC seeks Mr. Pedersen's resignation and the elder requests a meeting of the session to discuss Mr. Pedersen's possible resignation.

15. On 6 September 1996, the session of LHPC meets. Mr. Pedersen, being aware of the petition cited in item 13 (supra) and being urged by various members of the session to resign, does agree at this meeting to resign, subsequently submitting such a letter of resignation (Document 3).

16. On 8 September 1996, Mr. Pedersen's 6 September letter of resignation is read to the congregation of LHPC. The session announces that it has called a congregational meeting for 20 September 1996 to consider congregational action upon Mr. Pedersen's resignation.

17. On 11 September 1996, Mr. Pedersen writes a letter to the POP seeking counsel from them relative to his resignation as Pastor of LHPC (Document 4).

18. On 20 September 1996, the congregation of LHPC, in a meeting called by the session for the purpose of considering Mr. Pedersen's resignation, votes 43 to 14 to accept his resignation, and to ask the POP to dissolve the ministerial relationship.

19. On 21 September 1996, at the stated meeting of the PoP, the presbytery considers the request of the congregation of LHPC in concurring with Mr. Pedersen's resignation, and in asking the PoP to dissolve the ministerial relationship. The PoP determines that "the pastoral relationship between John K. Pedersen and Living Hope Church, Gettysburg, be dissolved effective Sept. 21, 1996, and that the pulpit be declared vacant as of that date" (PoP Minutes, p. 7, item 15). The PoP grants the request of the session of LHPC that Mr. Mallin be appointed as stated supply at LHPC. The PoP appoints a three-man committee to counsel with Mr. Pedersen. The PoP also passes two further motions relating to this case, one requesting expedited procedures for church visitation and the other greeting the congregation and session of LHPC and assuring them that "salvation by the grace of God alone ... is essential to the gospel of Jesus Christ" (PoP Minutes, pp. 7-8, item 16).

20. From 21 September 1996 through 16 November 1996 supporters of Mr. Pedersen at LHPC remain in the congregation (supporting the ministry of LHPC in all the regular ways), though they are displeased with his resignation and are convinced that Calvinistic soteriology is under attack at LHPC by those who called for and supported Mr. Pedersen's resignation. These same supporters meet with Mr. Pedersen on Sunday afternoons for further instruction from him.

21. On 16 November 1996, at the stated meeting of the PoP, an elder from LHPC, responding to a question from the floor, gives his opinion that Mr. Pedersen's continuing presence in Gettysburg is disruptive and asks the PoP to do
something about Mr. Pedersen's continuing presence and his holding of Bible studies in the area with his supporters. The Committee to Counsel with Mr. Pedersen reports. Following this and other discussion, the PoP determines on motion: "That the presbytery urge Mr. Pedersen to seek ministerial service in an area away from Gettysburg and desist from teaching activities among the members of the congregation." This is the action against which this complaint is lodged. Mr. Pedersen states that he will not desist from his teaching of members of LHPC. The Committee to Counsel with Mr. Pedersen, in light of Mr. Pedersen's assertion that he will not desist from teaching in the Gettysburg area, is instructed by the PoP to seek to resolve the matter of his continued teaching and report to the PoP as soon as possible, even at a special meeting of presbytery if deemed advisable by the committee (PoP Minutes, Nov. 1996, para. 22).

22. On 5 January 1997, Sovereign Grace Church, consisting of Mr. Pedersen and his supporters, holds its first official service.

23. On 26 January 1997, Sovereign Grace Church requests that the PoP receive them as a congregation of the PoP of the OPC. Sovereign Grace expresses its intention to call Mr. Pedersen as its Pastor. Mr. Pedersen therefore subsequently requests of the PoP that he be given permission to labor at Sovereign Grace Church. (Important Note: On 7 February 1998, the PoP denied both Sovereign Grace's and Mr. Pedersen's requests.)

24. On 30 January 1997, Arthur W. Kuschke files a complaint against the action of the PoP on 16 November 1996 in urging Mr. Pedersen to seek ministerial service elsewhere and to desist from teaching members of LHPC.

25. On 20 September 1997, the PoP denies the complaint of Arthur W. Kuschke filed on 30 January 1997. No grounds are adopted by the PoP at this meeting though the Special Committee on Matters Related to the Disruption at Living Hope Church, Gettysburg, PA (erected at the February 1997 stated meeting of the PoP), in its report of 3 May 1997 to the PoP, has recommended the denial of the complaint and has offered two grounds (Document 5).


C. OBSERVATIONS

Narrowly conceived, this case is about whether or not the PoP rendered proper "advice" to one of its ministerial members who was without call, whatever force that "advice" is deemed to have by different parties. The issue of whether the PoP rendered proper "advice," though, is overshadowed by larger concerns in this case, as can be seen in the appellant's "Reasons for the Appeal." The appellant would not have the GA construe his complaint most narrowly but also address a host of underlying, serious constitutional concerns: Has the PoP violated the integrity of the sixth ordination vow and has it compromised "the distinctive Calvinism of the OPC?" The Committee on Appeals and Complaints would caution the Assembly that it may not be possible to address all the weighty constitutional concerns by the vehicle of this complaint, at least in such a way that justice would be given to all the constitutional issues raised. It seems to the committee that the
broader constitutional questions are in order only insofar as they are directly tied to the question, ‘Did the PoP err in the ‘advice’ that it gave to Mr. Pedersen?’

This GA should be aware that the PoP is currently hearing a judicial case against Mr. Pedersen involving the sixth ordination vow mentioned by Mr. Kuschke in his “Reasons for the Appeal.” Mr. Kuschke in his “Reasons for the Appeal” complained that the “judicial process” against Mr. Pedersen had been “suspended” at the 7 February 1998 meeting of the PoP. At the 2 May 1998 meeting of the PoP, however (which occurred subsequent to this appeal to the GA), the PoP determined to proceed to try Mr. Pedersen on his alleged violation of the sixth ordination vow (as stipulated by the PoP). Additionally, Mr. Pedersen had filed a complaint against the suspension of the judicial process, seeking the reinstatement of the judicial process and the reversal of the PoP’s denial of the petition of Sovereign Grace Church to become a congregation of the OPC and of Mr. Pedersen’s request to labor there. All this is to say that the complaint presently before the assembly may not allow the assembly to get at every issue involved in the broader case, at least without landing the assembly in something of a morass. Does this GA, for instance, believe that it is competent to determine, on the basis of the evidence before us, that the PoP has, in some way, failed to maintain the “distinctive Calvinism of the OPC?” The committee therefore, in urging that the complaint be found in order and properly before the assembly, does not believe that this complaint is the vehicle for thoroughly addressing all the serious constitutional concerns that might be better addressed by other cases currently under adjudication.

SPECIAL NOTE: Mr. Mallin, as a member of the session of LHPC by action of the PoP, has recused himself, and Mr. Wisdom served as alternate in the consideration of this case.

D. RECOMMENDATION
2. That the complaint be found in order and properly before the assembly.

IV BUDGET

The committee urges that a budget of $1000.00 for its work in the coming year be considered by the assembly.

V ELECTIONS

Committee members are Messrs. Strange, Jones, Mallin, and alternate Wisdom. Mr. Strange’s term expires at this assembly.
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON
REVISIONS TO THE DIRECTORY FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP

SYNOPSIS
I  THE MANDATE
II  THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE
III  PLANS FOR COMPLETION OF THE TASK
IV  BUDGET

The members of the Committee on Revisions to the Directory for Public Worship are the Rev. Messrs. George R. Cottenden, John P. Galbraith, Robert D. Knudsen, Moisés Silva, and Bernard J. Stonehouse. Ruling Elder John O. Kinnaird is the alternate. Messrs. Knudsen and Silva were added by action of the 61st (1994) General Assembly to aid the committee in addressing its enlarged mandate.

I  THE MANDATE

Besides the basic task of revising the Directory for Public Worship, past General Assemblies have referred to the committee several overtures relating to worship. Most of these either have already been reported on at previous assemblies or will be addressed in the revision itself. In the latter category is Overture 10 to the 56th (1989) General Assembly. It sought to make specific provision for testimonies in public worship and for the saying of the “amen” by members of the congregation. That Assembly also gave a threefold mandate to the committee:

1. The committee was “to complete the revision of the Directory for the Public Worship of God.”
2. The committee was “urged to provide a proposed revision of Directory for Worship, Chapter III to the 57th (1990) General Assembly, harmonizing this chapter with the Form of Government, and taking into account the breadth of understanding of Scriptural Worship in the OPC.”
3. The committee was “requested to consider whether, in extraordinary circumstances, ruling elders may administer the sacraments (which would require amendment of the Westminster Confession of Faith, Chapter XXVII, Section 4, and the Westminster Larger Catechism, #169).”

This mandate is still being addressed.

The 60th (1993) General Assembly referred to the committee the issues raised in Complaint 4 to that Assembly (concerning “special music” in worship) and requesting a report to the 61st (1994) General Assembly. In part because of this task, involving the need to study again, in greater depth, the meaning and application of the regulative principle of worship, the 1994 Assembly expanded the committee to its present size.

The 60th Assembly also enlarged the mandate of the committee to include authority to propose amendments to other portions of the Book of Church Order where these are necessary to bring the three portions into substantive and linguistic harmony.
II THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

Since the 64th (1997) Assembly the committee held half-day to full-day meetings approximately once a month, from September through April. We sought to move ahead into parts of the Directory that were not previously revised. However, we also gave attention to suggestions received from ministers and sessions. Helpful submissions were received from three sessions, three ministers, two ruling elders, and one other individual. The suggestions of Advisory Committee 8 of the last assembly were considered in detail and led to some amendments. Further, committee members submitted articles and papers of which they had become aware in their own reading. Parts of the draft were revised in response to some concerns that were raised.

The committee has done a major revision of the order of the paragraphs in Chapter I of the draft. The purpose was to achieve what seemed to us a better flow of thought. We would note, however, that there is no one ideal way to order that chapter. Several people have suggested changes in the order, and the suggestions have differed from one another at least as much as they did from the committee’s draft.

We did more work on the chapters dealing with the sacraments and with occasional elements of public worship. In the former we divided the baptismal questions for parents into four, in order to allow the various elements to stand out more clearly. In the latter we are providing separate sections for profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith, and reception on letter of transfer. The committee believes it appropriate for all receptions into membership to be acknowledged publicly before the congregation, even when, as is the case with transfers from a sister congregation, the actual reception is simply by action of the session. A section was completed on “Prayer and Fasting.” It is possible that a section on “Special Times of Thanksgiving” may be ready by the time of the Assembly. Both matters were addressed in the Westminster Assembly’s Directory, but are not treated in our present Directory.

According to the plan presented to earlier Assemblies, the committee has now prepared a recommendation that would move the portions of the present Directory dealing with ordination services to the corresponding place in the Form of Government, to bring all the materials used in such a service together into one place. It will bring this recommendation to the Assembly at which it presents its draft of the Directory for formal consideration.

The committee has decided that it should include a revision of the “Suggested Forms for Particular Services,” even though they are not part of the Constitution, rather than to leave that task for a later committee. One member is working on a preliminary draft of the sections on marriages, funerals, and the dedication of church buildings.

To avoid burdening the pages of the General Assembly’s Minutes with a working draft of the revision each year, the committee will again make a copy of the latest draft available to commissioners to the Assembly and by mail to anyone who writes to the Chairman requesting one.

III PLANS FOR COMPLETION OF THE TASK

The committee is close to completion of its draft of the constitutional portion of the Directory. During the coming year we plan to finish that work and the revi-
sion of the "Suggested Forms," to go over the entire document for style and consistency, and to revisit substantive issues not yet fully resolved. We continue to consider the meaning and application of the regulative principle and the relationship of office to the matter of roles in worship. During this year we would solicit further comments from the church.

The committee has reviewed the procedure followed at the time of the adoption of the present Form of Government (see Minutes of the 44th GA, pp. 120-123). It has determined to follow the same pattern when it comes time to submit a revised Directory for Worship to the General Assembly for action. The committee intends to present its completed draft to the 66th (1999) Assembly. On that basis the schedule would be as follows:

1999   Committee presents completed draft to the 66th General Assembly
   General Assembly sends completed draft to presbyteries and sessions for study
   Presbyteries and sessions send suggestions to the committee by November 30, 1999
2000   Committee recommends adoption of the revised Directory to the 67th General Assembly
   General Assembly engages in seriatum consideration of the revised Directory, permitting only such amendments as may first be approved by the members of the committee present at the assembly and then by the assembly itself
   General Assembly votes on whether to approve the revised Directory and send it to the presbyteries for approval
2001   General Assembly declares that the Directory has or has not been approved

IV BUDGET

The committee requests a budget for 1999 of:

Travel 200
Postage 200
Duplicating costs 100
   Total $500

George R. Cottenden, Chairman
John P. Galbraith
Robert D. Knudsen
Moisés Silva
Bernard J. Stonehouse
REPORT OF THE HISTORIAN

At the conclusion of last year’s report, I expressed the hope that I would be able to present to this year’s General Assembly a proposal for the preservation of material of historical interest to the denomination. You will find the fruit of my work below. Other activities in which I have been involved are described or touched upon in the report of the Committee for the Historian.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles G. Dennison

Proposed Policy for the Preservation of Records

Principles

1. The Orthodox Presbyterian Church is committed to the preservation of its historical records in the denominational archives.

2. The Historian of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church shall serve as denominational archivist.

3. The archivist shall have responsibility for the collection, organization, and management of documents and other materials from presbyteries, congregations, and parties important to the history of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church. Among the archivist's duties shall be the solicitation of such documents and materials. He shall also collect, organize, and manage documents and other material produced and received by the denomination's committees and employees in the discharge of their duties.

4. All records of the standing and special committees of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church and all records of servants of the general assembly are the property of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church. Included in these records are minutes, reports, correspondence, and other forms of communications, both sent and received, involving official business. Communications, although including personal material, insofar as they pertain to the business of the committees or an employee's performance of the duties related to his or her office, are property of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

5. The General Assembly committees and employees are to make provisions for the deposit of their official materials in the denomination's archives.

6. Before materials are deposited in the archives, they are under the supervision of the potential depositor as a steward before God. Every effort is to be made by these parties to preserve their records. Since the records of general assembly committees and the employees of the denomination are the property of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church, the greatest care must be exercised in classifying and in discarding or destroying materials.

7. Depositors shall have access to the material they have deposited in the archives.
Procedures

1. Ordinarily, committees and servants of the general assembly will deposit accumulated materials with the denominational archives every seven years or according to a schedule arranged with the denomination's historian.

2. Terms of agreement between the historian and depositors have contract status, both parties signing an agreement to be kept on file by the historian and the parties involved.

3. No one may have access to the archives without the consent of the archivist or the archivist's representative.

4. Classified material must be so stipulated upon deposit in the archives and the terms of classification and declassification specified. Access to classified materials shall be at the discretion of the depositor; access to declassified material or materials without classification shall be at the discretion of the archivist.

5. All materials not permanently arranged by the depositor shall be arranged by the archivist.

6. All materials, once deposited with the archives, cannot be removed from the archives without the joint consent of the archivist and the depositor (or their representative). No material may be removed without completion of the proper forms.

7. No material is to be rearranged without the archivist's consent.

8. Depositors may make copies of their deposited material. Others, wishing copies, must secure the consent of the archivist or his representative.

Sample archival contract:

On the ___ day of _____________, 19/20___

(name of depositor)

deposits with the archives of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church the materials listed in the attached summary, understanding that these materials will be administered by the archives according to the above principles and procedures. We, the depositor, also attach at this time a summary of any classified materials, stipulating the terms of their classification.

(the signature of the depositor or the representative of the depositor)  (date)

(the signature of the Historian of the OPC or his representative)  (date)
Sample agreement for the temporary withdrawal of material:

In borrowing the following materials from the archives of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church, the undersigned assumes all responsibility for their safety and return in the form in which they were received. Materials shall be returned on a date agreed upon with the Historian of the OPC or his representative.

Materials borrowed: __________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Purpose for borrowing: __________________________________________

Date of borrowing ___________ Date of return ___________

The undersigned understands that failure to comply with this agreement could mean the forfeiture of all rights of access to the archives.

__________________________
(signature of the borrower)

__________________________ Date
(signature of the Historian of the OPC or his representative)
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE HISTORIAN

I COMMITTEE'S ACTIVITIES AND DECISIONS

A. Composition
During 1997 the committee continued operating with the same members who were elected for a three year term by the 63rd General Assembly. They are: John S. Deliyannides (Chairman), Charles G. Dennison (Historian), Danny E. Olinger (Book Promotion Manager/Treasurer), Douglas J. Smith (Secretary), and David K. Thompson (Vice-Chairman/Business Manager).

B. Meetings
The committee met twice during 1997: on February 22, 1997 and September 27, 1997. In addition there were numerous communications between members of the committee by telephone and e-mail.

C. Book Sales
We continue to distribute and sell the books published by or currently being promoted and sold by the committee. As God continues to bless our endeavors, we have seen a consistent volume of books sold. We are pleased to report the following totals:

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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>1997 Sales</th>
<th>Total Sales</th>
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</thead>
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<td>137</td>
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<td>*109</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guide to the Writings of Cornelius Van Til</td>
<td>8</td>
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*Beginning from the time when the Committee on Christian Education assigned distribution of the video to the Committee for the Historian.

D. Publication and Reproduction Activity
During 1997 the third edition and sixth printing of Lest We Forget was produced in a format comparable to the other books published by the committee. The Index to the Minutes of the OPC General Assembly, edited by John Muether, has been completed and the first printing of 600 copies will be available by May 1998. The Committee for the Historian has decided to send a free copy to each OPC minister as a service to the church. Two other books are also being reprinted and will be available at the same time. They are The Presbyterian Conflict, 3rd printing by the committee, (5th over all), 1000 copies, and Pressing Toward the Mark, 3rd printing, 1000 copies.
E. Other Activities

The committee is negotiating with The Banner of Truth Trust for permission to republish Bruce Hunt's book, *For a Testimony*. The Banner of Truth Trust currently holds the copyright of this book. So far we have permission for a one-time printing, an option which the committee intends to exercise in 1999.

A considerable amount of effort was spent in archival activities. Mr. Chad Bond, under the guidance of the Historian, Mr. Charles Dennison, and the direct supervision of Miss Grace Mullen, continued his work of archiving the personal collections of Mr. John Galbraith, Mr. Charles Schaufele and Mr. Leroy Oliver. His next project will be the archives of the Committee on Christian Education. He has been working about 10 hours a week and will continue through the summer and until his graduation from Westminster Theological Seminary in May 1999. The Historian has met with the General Secretaries of the Standing Committees of the OPC to discuss guidelines for preserving all documents relevant to the history of the church, while at the same time protecting the confidentiality of some of these documents. He has prepared a draft of a Proposed Policy for the Preservation of Records for discussion and approval.

The Historian has given lectures on the history of the OPC at Covenant College in the spring of 1997 and 1998, and also in Philadelphia. He will be a conference speaker at the family camp for the Presbytery of Northern California in the summer of 1998.

We have updated and expanded the web page describing the books and tapes offered by the committee. A new feature which has had a measure of success is the option of placing orders on-line.

Mr. James Dennison continued his work of updating the records for the next edition of the *Ministerial Register*. The new update, to be published in 2001, will include a register of OPC congregations.

F. Plans for 1998 and Beyond

Several projects are underway for 1998 and the future. The 3rd printing of *Fighting the Good Fight* is scheduled for 1999. In addition, at least 25 more copies of the 60th Anniversary Lecture tapes and 200 copies of Perspectives, the printed text of the same lectures, will be produced in 1998.

An OPC History Essay Contest with a scholarship prize is planned for 1998-1999. It will be expanded to include a category for seminary students in addition to college students. The contest will be advertised in the June issue of the *New Horizons*. Deadline for submitting essays will be 1/31/99, and the awards will be announced by 4/1/99.

There are plans to advertise the books and tapes offered by the committee in the April, September, and November 1998 issues of the *New Horizons*.

The Audio Project, postponed again from last year, will be carried out in late 1998 and 1999. The Historian will make several trips to capture, through recorded interviews, the recollections of individuals with direct knowledge of events pertinent to OPC history. In particular, at its next meeting the committee will consider a plan which will allow the Historian to devote extended time to study the Peniel controversy.

The project to produce a book of important documents on the "Incomprehensibility of God" debate of the 1940s is currently on hold, but definitely in the plans as a future project.
Other ideas being considered and evaluated are the possibility of publishing an OPC historical journal, developing an OPC history web page, producing a directory of Reformed Churches and publishing an Anthology of the OPC with a revised bibliography.

Please pray that our God of grace and hope will continue to bless our efforts throughout the 1998-99 year.

G. Revision of General Assembly Standing Rules

The 64th General Assembly adopted the following recommendation of Advisory Committee 7:

*That the 64th General Assembly ask the Committee for the Historian to propose an amendment to the Standing Rules (cf. Chapter III, Chapter X, and/or a new section) to make provision for the Historian and the Committee for the Historian, and report to the 65th General Assembly.*

In response to the above recommendation, the Committee for the Historian is proposing the changes to the General Assembly Standing Rules outlined in Appendix A of this report.

II PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT (1/1/97 THROUGH 12/31/97)

Income

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>Interest</td>
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**Net Income**

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<td>7,142.77</td>
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III  BALANCE SHEET (As of December 31, 1997)

Assets

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<th>Actual</th>
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Liabilities/equity

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<td><strong>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</strong></td>
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IV  1997 GENERAL ASSEMBLY OPERATING FUND EXPENSES

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<td>Audio Project</td>
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<td>Archival &amp; Register</td>
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V  PROPOSED 1999 BUDGET

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<tr>
<td>Audio Project</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Service</td>
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<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Archival</td>
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<td>Register</td>
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<td><strong>$12,500</strong></td>
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VI  RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Historian, the Rev. Charles G. Dennison, receive an honorarium of $6,050 for the fiscal year 1999.
2. That the proposed 1999 budget, as outlined in item V, above, be approved.
3. That the 65th General Assembly propose to the 66th General Assembly the changes to its Standing Rules listed in Appendix A.

Respectfully submitted,
John S. Deliyannides, Chairman
Charles G. Dennison
Danny E. Olinger
Douglas J. Smith
David K. Thompson
APPENDIX A

Proposed changes to General Assembly Standing Rules related to the Historian and the Committee for the Historian.

I Delete paragraph III.B.5.m.

(Clerk’s duties: To serve as archivist for the denomination).

II Add paragraph III.D as follows:

D. The Historian

1. The Historian of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church, who is a servant of the denomination and particularly of the General Assembly, shall be elected to his office by the General Assembly for a three year term.

2. The Historian shall be in charge of the denomination’s effort to preserve her history through the collection and organization of historical documents, records, and memorabilia.

3. The Historian’s duties shall include the following:
   a. He shall have oversight and be responsible for the organization of the denominational archives.
   b. He shall encourage and assist the General Assembly’s committees and agents as well as presbyteries, congregations, and interested individuals in their efforts to deposit materials of historical value to the OPC in the denominational archives.
   c. He shall oversee the production of materials which shall promote a greater understanding of Orthodox Presbyterian history. This effort includes:
      (1) The publication of books and other literature and the production of video and audio tapes.
      (2) The management of scholarship programs.
      (3) The organization of conferences and the church’s periodic anniversary celebrations.
      (4) The maintenance of the portion of the OPC web site pertaining to the denomination’s history.
   d. He shall present an annual report of his activities to the General Assembly.

4. The Historian shall be assisted in conducting his work by a Committee for the Historian.

III In first line of paragraph X.2.a, change ten to eleven.

There shall be eleven Standing Committees, namely

IV After the last line of paragraph X.2.a, add the following line:

the Committee for the Historian

V Add the following paragraph as X.2.j:

j. The Committee for the Historian shall consist of four members of the OPC elected
in three classes of two, one and one, respectively. The Historian shall be an ex officio mem-
ber of the committee. The function of the committee shall be to advise and assist the Histor-
rian in carrying out the responsibilities of his office. The duties of the Committee for the
Historian shall be:

(1) To prepare a budget and to control expenditures of funds provided by the
General Assembly for the work of the Historian.

(2) To raise capital needed for publication work.

(3) To promote and distribute the literature and tapes published and produced
by the committee.

(4) To provide accountability and encouragement to the Historian in the exer-
cise of his duties.

(5) To provide an annual report to the General Assembly.
Report of the Chaplains Commission

The OPC Chaplains Commission met once during the past year in conjunction with the meeting of the Presbyterian and Reformed Joint Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel (PRJC or the Joint Commission). The meeting was at the regular annual meeting of the PRJC which was held on 16-17 March 1998 at the Crown Plaza airport Hotel in Atlanta Georgia. All of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church representatives were present at this meetings of the RPJC. Mr. Warren was once again elected as the Vice-Chairman of the Joint Commission. Mr. Needham was appointed as the OPC member of the three man Sub-committee on Issues and Concerns, and Mr. Warren was appointed as the OPC member of the Sub-committee on Finances.

I OFFICERS. Officers for the commission were elected as follows:

A. Mr. Robert Needham was elected Chairman,
B. Mr. Chris Wisdom was elected as Vice-chairman, and
C. Mr. William Warren was elected as Secretary.

II ROLL OF CHAPLAINS

A. The Joint Commission presently endorses 6 OPC Chaplains serving on Active Duty, 7 serving in the Active Reserves, 1 serving as an endorsed hospital chaplain, 1 serving as a part time chaplain with the Veterans Administration, and 1 serving as a full time State Prison Chaplain.

B. Those serving on Active Duty are:
   CH (MAJ) Jonathan C. Gibbs, III [USA]
   CH (MAJ) Chester H. Lanious [USA]
   CH (LT) Timothy J. Power [USN]
   CH(CDR) Lyman M. Smith [USN]
   CH (LCDR) Bryan J. Weaver [USN]
   CH (MAJ) Christopher H. Wisdom [USA]

C. Those serving in the Active Reserves are:
   The Rev. William B. Acker (CDR)
   The Rev. Martin L. Dawson (LTC)
   The Rev. William A. Miller (LT)
   The Rev. James W. Reber (CPT)
   The Rev. Jack K. Unangst (CDR)
   The Rev. Earl Vanderhoff (CPT)

D. The Rev. William A. Hard is serving as a hospital Chaplain in Escondido, CA.

E. The Rev. Gordon H. Cook, Jr. is serving as a part-time chaplain with the Veterans Administration.
Appendix

F. The Rev. Gary F. Findley is serving as a State Prison Chaplain in Florence, AZ

III FINANCES

A. Finances continue to decline as a concern for the Joint Commission since the Executive Director, the Rev. David Peterson has been working very hard and very successfully to increase the giving to the PRJC from interested members of the various denominations which make up the PRJC. He has again this year reported that there has been an increase in financial support, and that all of the active duty chaplains have paid their required amount for services rendered to them by the commission.

B. Once again this year, the Mission to North America (MNA) has supplied funds to meet the deficit for the RPJC. The deficit in 1996 was $22,854.00 and for 1997 was only $14,155.00. It is still the hope of all the members of the commission that the day will come, in the not too distant future, when MNA will not have to supply any funds to make up for the commission's deficit.

C. The Joint Commission's budget for 1997 was $125,000.00 and the commission voted to adopt a budget of $125,583.00 for 1998.

IV CHANGE OF STANDING RULES

The 64th General Assembly has recommended to the 65th General Assembly that the General Assembly's Chaplains Commission be changed from a commission to a Standing Committee of the General Assembly and recommended the necessary changes to the Standing Rules of the General Assembly.

V MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

A. Women in Combat: The issue of women serving in combat units was discussed at great length by the PRJC. It was reported to the commission that the Presbytery of Philadelphia of the PCA will be sending an Overture to the General Assembly of the PCA requesting that Assembly to petition the civil magistrate to cease all actions that might lead to the placing of women in combat units so that in case of a war they would be fighting in front line units. There was a request from a member of the Presbytery of Philadelphia of the PRJC that each member denomination in the PCA consider the same overture. After extended debate the following motion was passed by the commission:

Whereas, for the first time in our nation's history, women are being increasingly used as military combatants, potentially without restriction, and whereas the General Assemblies of the PCA and the OPC, and the Synod of the RPCNA, have not adopted a position on this matter, nor given counsel to its military chaplains, military members, nor our daughters and sons who may
potentially serve in the military, voluntarily or by conscription, we the Presbyterian and Reformed Joint Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel (PRJC) respectfully request the General Assemblies of the PCA and the OPC, and the Synod of the RPCNA, provide Biblical counsel on this matter to the PRJC and the chaplains it endorses and oversees; to the members, sessions, and churches of each assembly; and if it be deemed appropriate, to speak by way of humble petition to the leaders of the nation.

B. The Joint Commission voted to continue the appointment of Mr. David Peterson as the Executive Director until 31 December 1998.

C. The Joint Commission voted to appoint two men to share a non-pay status of Associate Director. Those men are CAPT. Stan Beach, CHC, USN (RET) and Chaplain (LTC) Beryl Hubbard, (USAF, Ret). The OPC members of the PRJC believe that these two PCA men are very well qualified and will be a great assistance to the Executive Director as they provide ministry to the chaplains of the PRJC in the Navy and Air Force respectively.

D. All of the respective denominations of the PRJC having passed the recommendation of the PRJC concerning the payment of fees for services rendered by the PRJC and the Executive Director (see Minutes of the 63rd General Assembly, §§187 & 198) the PRJC is now implementing its provisions.

VI RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the assembly adopt the changes to its Standing Rules as recommended by the 64th General Assembly.

2. That the General Assembly erect a committee to study and provide the Biblical guidance requested by the PRJC on the subject of "Women in Combat."

VI BUDGET

A. The Chaplain’s Commission requests a budgets of $2,500.00 for travel and lodging to enable the three OPC members of the PRJC to attend the annual meeting of the commission in Atlanta in March 1999.

B. If the recommended amendment to the Standing Rules passes making the Chaplain’s Commission a Standing Committee (The Standing Committee on Chaplains), the commission requests an increase to the budget of $500.00 for start up expenses, e.g., purchasing a minute book that would meet the requirements of the Assembly, etc.

C. The Assembly should note that with 6 chaplains on Active Duty at the beginning of this year, our assessment of $235.00 per active duty chaplain to be paid to the RPJC amounts to $1,410.00.
VII ELECTIONS

The term of Mr. Robert B. Needham expires at this meeting. One member of the Chaplain’s Commission (or The Standing Committee on the Chaplains) is to be elected to the class of 2001.

Respectfully Submitted
William E. Warren (’00)
Christopher H. Wisdom (’99)
Robert B. Needham (’98)
Statistical Reports of Congregations and Regional Churches
for the year ending December 31, 1997

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### SUMMARY OF OPC STATISTICS FOR 1997

<table>
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<th>CHURCHES</th>
<th>Jan. 1 Membership Roll Statistics</th>
<th>Dec. 31 Attendance</th>
<th>Contributions</th>
<th>Officers</th>
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<td>Child. Death</td>
<td>Dismiss.</td>
<td>Avg. per C.M.</td>
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<td>Bequests</td>
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### Notes:
- The data includes statistics for the OPC for the years 1997, summarizing membership, attendance, contributions, and officers across various regions.
- The data is presented in a table format, with columns for different categories such as churches, membership, attendance, and contributions.
- Each region is listed separately, with detailed statistics for membership, attendance, contributions, and officers.
13
5

24
2

10
1

195
46

617

691

19

76

47

80

211

229

16

19

12

24

115
1

102
2

2
0

11
2

6
0

15
0

583
343

726
444

29
16

70
28

61
32

71
46

434
206

402
144

22
14

35
9

48
7

45
19

D&E
D&E

23007
15928
7079

723
507
216

2115
1550
565

1407
939
468

I8739
10872

610
405

1764
971

1092
557

2373
1409

(May)

42

1.038
1.029

18675
11106

19385
11431

618
374

1862
993

1230
650

2458
1440

(Nw)

MomingWorship
SundaySchool

II ATTENDANCE II

2816
1962
854

Dcc. 31
TOTAL
ComMcm.
Bapt Child.

1.047
1.037

727
539

704
618

25
17

84
37

56
50

60
53

Removedfrom Roll
Death Dismia
Prof.
Death Dismia

RATIO of 1997:1996
1.057
1.016
1.15
0.97 1.12
0.89 1.25 0.93
1.057
1.095
1.06 1.15
1.09 2.00 1.29 0.70
1.058
Numbers in italics are revised from the previous year's report.
Heading abbreviations:
Prof. = Profession of Faith; R d . = R d i r m a t i o n of Faith;Xfr.= Received by Letter of Transfer
Bapt. = Baptized; WiPar = Received with Parents
Death = Deceased; Dismis. = Dismissed on Letter of Transfm, D&E = Discipline or Erasure

606
556

694
587

21
13

66
71

54
54

75
46

a.

17897
10485

da
da
du

21 765
15072
6693

727
495
232

1955
1440
515

1312
897
415

2 725
1881
844

Added to Roll
RcafK
Bapt
WPar

MEMBERSHIP ROLL STATISTICS

Prof.

21765
15072
6693

COMPARISON
to 1996:
192

1997

WHOLE CHURCH

SOUTHWEST

15
9

so. CALIFORNIA

soum

PHILADELPHIA

Jan.]
TOTAL.
Com.Mm.
Bapt Child.

II

Churchca

MissionWorka

(CHURCmeS

-

SUMMARY OF OPC STATISTICS FOR 1997, Continued

1.103
1.155
1.305

$16,298,445
$3,467,209
$1,585,474

517,984,055
$4,004,740
$2,068,954

$671,272
$179,081
$100,157

$1,797,684
$473,864
$465,653

$1,129,077
$304,660
$42,318

$2,238,487
$454,108
$392,355

Capitalhprw.

1.127
1.066
0.632

$21,351,122
$1,416
$368,562

$24,057,740
$1,510
$232,797

$950,509
$1,875
$26,000

$2,737,201
$1,766
$20,000

$1,476,054
$1,572
$0

1.04
1.10

1.03

622
236

645
260

28
6

58
21

39
20

85
23

*

366

376

16

37

24

52

1.04
1.14

457
167

476
191

14
2

50
23

30
8

54
9

Inactive

Actk

Deacons

OFFICERS

Elden
h4inhxs Ruling
Inactive

11

$3,084,949
$1,570
$37,458

B q m

Avg.pcrC.M.

Total OffCringJ

CONTRIBUTIONS
GcMIl
Bcnevolencc

I

k'

b


## REGIONAL CHURCH OF THE CENTRAL U.S. - STATISTICAL REPORT FOR 1997

### CHURCHES and Mission Works

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State, City or Town, and Name of Church</th>
<th>Jan. 1</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Dec. 31</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baptist Child.</td>
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<td>TOTAL Added to Roll</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday School</td>
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<td>(May)</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### KANSAS

- **Caney, CANEY OPC**
  - 206 N. Vine St.
  - William A. Miller, Jr.
  - 54
  - 47
  - 47
  - 39
  - $47,525
  - $14,290

- **Overland Park, PARK WOODS**
  - 10521 W. 129th St. (no mail)
  - Geoffrey C. Smith
  - 76
  - 103
  - 103
  - $81,835
  - $5,293

### NEBRASKA

- **Lincoln, FAITH**
  - 5640 Salt Valley View
  - LeRoy E. Miller
  - Mark T. Harrington, evangelist
  - 50
  - 57
  - 44
  - $27,347
  - $815

### OKLAHOMA

- **Bartlesville, WESTMINSTER**
  - 1001 SE Adams Blvd.
  - Vacant
  - 60
  - 57
  - 25
  - $43,200
  - 0

### TOTALS

- 244
- 247
- $199,907
- 2

### Notes:

Numbers in *italics* are revised from the previous year's report.
## COLORADO

### Denver, Park Hill (B)
- **Jan. 1:** 44
- **Added to Roll:** 43
- **Prof. Reaff. Xfr.:** 30
- **Removed from Roll:** 30
- **Dec. 31:** 35
- **Morning Worship:** $61,906
- **Total Offerings:** $67,716

### 34th and Albion (no mail)
- **Jan. 1:** 31
- **Added to Roll:** 0
- **Prof. Reaff. Xfr.:** 0
- **Removed from Roll:** 0
- **Dec. 31:** 1
- **Morning Worship:** $5,810
- **Total Offerings:** $2,257

### Richard Wynja
- **Jan. 1:** 13
- **Added to Roll:** 0
- **Prof. Reaff. Xfr.:** 0
- **Removed from Roll:** 0
- **Dec. 31:** 1
- **Morning Worship:** $0
- **Total Offerings:** $0

### Denver, PROVIDENCE
- **Jan. 1:** 150
- **Added to Roll:** 162
- **Prof. Reaff. Xfr.:** 176
- **Removed from Roll:** 171
- **Dec. 31:** 171
- **Morning Worship:** $158,067
- **Total Offerings:** $184,700

### 4200 E. Warren St. (no mail)
- **Jan. 1:** 103
- **Added to Roll:** 7
- **Prof. Reaff. Xfr.:** 4
- **Removed from Roll:** 2
- **Dec. 31:** 140
- **Morning Worship:** $26,633
- **Total Offerings:** $1,579

### Leonard J. Coppes
- **Jan. 1:** 47
- **Added to Roll:** 4
- **Prof. Reaff. Xfr.:** 6
- **Removed from Roll:** 4
- **Dec. 31:** 45
- **Morning Worship:** $0
- **Total Offerings:** $0

### Archibald A. Alison, evangelist

### Denver, TRINITY
- **Jan. 1:** 25
- **Added to Roll:** 0
- **Prof. Reaff. Xfr.:** 0
- **Removed from Roll:** 0
- **Dec. 31:** 0
- **Morning Worship:** $0
- **Total Offerings:** $0

### Dissolved on 30 September 97
- **Jan. 1:** 16
- **Added to Roll:** 0
- **Prof. Reaff. Xfr.:** 0
- **Removed from Roll:** 0
- **Dec. 31:** 0
- **Morning Worship:** $0
- **Total Offerings:** $0

### Fort Collins, Emmaus (C)
- **Jan. 1:** 15
- **Added to Roll:** 29
- **Prof. Reaff. Xfr.:** 26
- **Removed from Roll:** 35
- **Dec. 31:** 35
- **Morning Worship:** $37,620
- **Total Offerings:** $38,098

### 821 W. Lake St. (no mail)
- **Jan. 1:** 8
- **Added to Roll:** 12
- **Prof. Reaff. Xfr.:** 26
- **Removed from Roll:** 35
- **Dec. 31:** 35
- **Morning Worship:** $478
- **Total Offerings:** $3,175

### Archibald A. Allison, org. pastor
- **Jan. 1:** 7
- **Added to Roll:** 17
- **Prof. Reaff. Xfr.:** 19
- **Removed from Roll:** 20
- **Dec. 31:** 17
- **Morning Worship:** $0
- **Total Offerings:** $0

### Thornton, IMMANUEL
- **Jan. 1:** 21
- **Added to Roll:** 20
- **Prof. Reaff. Xfr.:** 18
- **Removed from Roll:** 18
- **Dec. 31:** 18
- **Morning Worship:** $31,537
- **Total Offerings:** $36,692

### 9291 Clayton St.
- **Jan. 1:** 16
- **Added to Roll:** 0
- **Prof. Reaff. Xfr.:** 0
- **Removed from Roll:** 1
- **Dec. 31:** 15
- **Morning Worship:** $5,155
- **Total Offerings:** $2,446

### Richard Wynja
- **Jan. 1:** 5
- **Added to Roll:** 0
- **Prof. Reaff. Xfr.:** 0
- **Removed from Roll:** 0
- **Dec. 31:** 5
- **Morning Worship:** $0
- **Total Offerings:** $0

### KANSAS (See Regional Church of the Central U.S.)

### NEBRASKA (See Regional Church of the Central U.S.)

## NORTH DAKOTA

### Bismarck, OP Chapel (D)
- **Jan. 1:** 6
- **Added to Roll:** 12
- **Prof. Reaff. Xfr.:** 35
- **Removed from Roll:** 35
- **Dec. 31:** 35
- **Morning Worship:** $9,099
- **Total Offerings:** $11,692

### 114 N 3rd St. (no mail)
- **Jan. 1:** 4
- **Added to Roll:** 6
- **Prof. Reaff. Xfr.:** 10
- **Removed from Roll:** 10
- **Dec. 31:** 6
- **Morning Worship:** $2,593
- **Total Offerings:** $1,949

### Carson, BETHEL
- **Jan. 1:** 72
- **Added to Roll:** 76
- **Prof. Reaff. Xfr.:** 43
- **Removed from Roll:** 43
- **Dec. 31:** 43
- **Morning Worship:** $22,925
- **Total Offerings:** $35,181

### 601 Grant St.
- **Jan. 1:** 51
- **Added to Roll:** 55
- **Prof. Reaff. Xfr.:** 37
- **Removed from Roll:** 36
- **Dec. 31:** 36
- **Morning Worship:** $12,256
- **Total Offerings:** $640

### Vacant
- **Jan. 1:** 21
- **Added to Roll:** 0
- **Prof. Reaff. Xfr.:** 4
- **Removed from Roll:** 0
- **Dec. 31:** 1
- **Morning Worship:** $0
- **Total Offerings:** $18,266

## REGIONAL CHURCH OF THE DAKOTAS, Continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHURCHES and Mission Works</th>
<th>Jan.1</th>
<th>MEMBERSHIP ROLL STATISTICS</th>
<th>Dec. 31</th>
<th>ATTENDANCE</th>
<th>CONTRIBUTIONS</th>
<th>OFFICERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>Added to Roll</td>
<td>Removed from Roll</td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>Morning Worship</td>
<td>General</td>
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<td>Bapt. Child</td>
<td>Bapt.</td>
<td>W/H</td>
<td>Prof.</td>
<td>Death</td>
<td>DRE</td>
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<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td>685</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>27</td>
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<td><strong>SOUTH DAKOTA</strong></td>
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<td>Bancroft, MURDOCK MEMORIAL</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>524</td>
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<td>104 W. 5th St.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward A. Eppinger</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridgewater, TRINITY</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>43</td>
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<td>540 E 2nd St.</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>W. Ralph English</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hamill, WESTMINSTER</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>46</td>
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<tr>
<td>HC 89, Box 4</td>
<td>38</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry J. Moes</td>
<td>22</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Volga, CALVARY</td>
<td>116</td>
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<td>95</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>95</td>
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<tr>
<td>119 3rd St. at Astrachan Ave.</td>
<td>86</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph A. Aukela</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winner, WINNER OPC</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>50</td>
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<td>72</td>
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<td>505 Lincoln St.</td>
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<td>Remaining members of former congregations, others (A)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

Numbers in *italics* are revised from the previous year's report.

(A) Members are on the roll of the regional church.

(B) Under the oversight of Session, Immanuel OPC, Thornton, CO, but not included in their statistics.

(C) Under the oversight of Session, Providence OPC, Denver, CO, but not included in their statistics.

(D) *Members are on the roll of Bethel OPC, Carson, ND.
### REGIONAL CHURCH OF THE MID-ATLANTIC - STATISTICAL REPORT FOR 1997

#### CHURCHES and Mission Works

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location Address</th>
<th>Slate, City or Town, and Name of Church</th>
<th>TOTAL Morning Worship</th>
<th>General Benevolence</th>
<th>Total Offerings</th>
<th>Contributions</th>
<th>R. Elders</th>
<th>Discap</th>
<th>Officers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MARYLAND</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore, FIRST</td>
<td>3455 Erdman Ave.</td>
<td>34 22 20</td>
<td>$31,203</td>
<td>$34,731</td>
<td>$662</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stuart R. Jones</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 0 0</td>
<td>$2,866</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bowie, TRINTITY REFORMED</td>
<td>125 Crescent Dr.</td>
<td>81 72 83</td>
<td>$64,490</td>
<td>$73,208</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gerald S. Taylor</td>
<td>18</td>
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<td>$2,157</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burtonsville, COVENANT</td>
<td>4515 Sandy Spring Rd.</td>
<td>247 202 190</td>
<td>$228,320</td>
<td>$283,820</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Mark Sumpter, associate pastor</td>
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<td>2 0 0</td>
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<td>$283,820</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert L. Myers</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>0 0 1</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Mark Sumpter, associate pastor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbia, COLUMBIA OPC</td>
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<td>571 440 458</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stephen Green, associate pastor</td>
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<td>Frederick, NEW HOPE</td>
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<td>Laurence N. Vail, associate pastor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laytonsville, PURITAN</td>
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### REGIONAL CHURCH OF THE MID-ATLANTIC, Continued

#### CHURCHES and Mission Works

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### REGIONAL CHURCH OF THE MID- ATLANTIC, Continued

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**Notes:**

Numbers in italics are revised from the previous year's report.

(A) Members are on the roll of the regional church.

(B) *Members are on the roll of Providence OPC, Meadowview, VA.

(C) *Members are on the roll of Grace OPC, Lynchburg, VA.
### REGIONAL CHURCH OF THE MIDWEST - STATISTICAL REPORT FOR 1997

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#### CONTRIBUTIONS

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### Appendix

319
### CHURCHES and Mission Works

#### Jan. 1 MEMBERSHIP ROLL STATISTICS

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<th>Total Offering</th>
<th>Benevolence</th>
<th>Avg. per C.M.</th>
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**MICHIGAN**

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**Cedar Springs (see Rockford)**

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**Gowen, SPENCER MILLS**

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**Grand Rapids, HARVEST**

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**Grand Rapids, MILL CREEK**

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# Regional Church of the Midwest, Continued

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*Appendix*
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<th>周日赞美</th>
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总计：$59,817, $105,959
## WISCONSIN, Continued

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## ONTARIO, CANADA

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Notes: Numbers in italics are revised from the previous year's report. Members are on the roll of the regional church. Members are on the roll of Bethel OPC, Wheaton, IL. Under the oversight of Session, Covenant OPC, Palos Heights, IL, but not included in their statistics. Under the oversight of Session, Christ OPC, Janesville, WI, but not included in their statistics. Under the oversight of Session, falls OPC, Menomonee Falls, WI, but not included in their statistics. Under the oversight of Session, Franklin Hills OPC, Farmington Hills, MI.
### Regional Church of New Jersey - Statistical Report for 1997

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHURCHES and Mission Works</th>
<th>Jan 1</th>
<th>MEMBERSHIP ROLL STATISTICS</th>
<th>Dec 31</th>
<th>ATTENDANCE</th>
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<tr>
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### CHURCHES and Mission Works

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<th>MEMBERSHIP ROLL STATISTICS</th>
<th>Dec. 31</th>
<th>ATTENDANCE</th>
<th>CONTRIBUTIONS</th>
<th>OFFICERS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>Added to Roll</td>
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<td>Morning Worship</td>
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### Notes
- **Attendance**: Morning Worship (May) and Sunday School (Nov)
- **Contributions**: General, Benevolence, Capital Improv., Requests
- **Officers**: Elders, Deacons, On Session, Active, Inactive

Appendix

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### REGIONAL CHURCH OF NEW JERSEY, Continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHURCHES and Mission Works</th>
<th>Jan.1</th>
<th>MEMBERSHIP ROLL STATISTICS Dec. 31</th>
<th>ATTENDANCE</th>
<th>CONTRIBUTIONS</th>
<th>OFFICERS</th>
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<tr>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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| Numbers in italics are revised from the previous year's report. (A) Members are on the roll of the regional church. (B) A minister on the roll of the regional church with ministerial credentials held in suspense per FG XXIII.18.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHURCHES and Mission Works</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>MEMBERSHIP ROLL STATISTICS</th>
<th>Dec. 31</th>
<th>ATTENDANCE</th>
<th>CONTRIBUTIONS</th>
<th>OFFICERS</th>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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<td>Added to Roll</td>
<td>Removed from Roll</td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>Morning Worship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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### REGIONAL CHURCH OF NEW YORK AND NEW ENGLAND, Continued

#### CHURCHES and Mission Works

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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>Morning Worship</td>
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#### NEW YORK, Continued

- **Syracuse, Hope (A)**
  - 4962 W. Seneca Tpk.
  - Members: 31, 35, 43, 45
  - Contributions: $35,908, $35,908
  - Officers: $0, $1,632, 0, 0

- **Gerald P. Maltus, organizing pastor**

#### VERMONT

- **Barre, COVENANT**
  - Barre Town School (no mail)
  - Members: 76, 108, 42, 78
  - Contributions: $54,228, $77,800
  - Officers: $14,054, $1,255, 1, 2

- **Stephen D. Doe**
  - Andrew H. Selle, teacher

- **Williston, CHURCH OF THE SERVANT**
  - Dissolved on 1 March 97
  - Members: 33, 21, 0, 0
  - Contributions: $0, $0, 0, 0

- **Remaining members of former congregations, others (A)**
  - Members: 8, 8, 0, 0, 0
  - Contributions: 0, 0, 0, 0

- **Member without rights of presbytery (C)**
  - Members: 1, 1
  - Contributions: 0, 0

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**Notes:**
- Numbers in italics are revised from the previous year's report.
- (A) Members are on the roll of the regional church.
- (B) *Members are on the roll of Second Parish OPC, Portland, ME.
- (C) A minister on the roll of the regional church with ministerial credentials held in suspense per FG XXIII:18.
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Appendix
### CHURCHES and Mission Works

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**Notes:** Numbers in *italics* are revised from the previous year's report.

(A) Members are on the roll of the regional church.
## Regional Church of the Northwest - Statistical Report for 1997

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### Notes

- **Total Offerings** include both General and Bencov. contributions.
- **Inactive**牧师包括已被任命为新工作和退休的牧师。
## Regional Church of the Northwest, Continued

### Churches and Mission Works

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State, City or Town, and Name of Church</th>
<th>Location Address</th>
<th>Jan 1</th>
<th>MEMBERSHIP ROLL STATISTICS</th>
<th>Dec 31</th>
<th>ATTENDANCE</th>
<th>CONTRIBUTIONS</th>
<th>OFFICERS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>Added to Roll</td>
<td>Removed from Roll</td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>Morning Worship</td>
<td>General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bapt. W/Pay</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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### Oregon, Continued

- **Eugene, Oak Hill**
  - Eugene, OAK HILL
  - 3350 Willamette St.
  - Vacant
  - Added to Roll: 34
  - Removed from Roll: 25
  - Total: 20
  - Morning Worship: $23,883
  - General: $23,993

- **Grants Pass, Faith**
  - Grants Pass, FAITH
  - 280 Red Mountain Dr.
  - Larry D. Conard
  - Added to Roll: 135
  - Removed from Roll: 133
  - Total: 101
  - Morning Worship: $67,995
  - General: $91,312

- **Medford, Trinity**
  - Medford, TRINITY
  - 1332 Mt. Pitt Ave.
  - Jay M. Milejevich
  - Added to Roll: 87
  - Removed from Roll: 93
  - Total: 78
  - Morning Worship: $48,452
  - General: $55,122

- **Newberg, Trinity**
  - Newberg, TRINITY
  - 600 E. Columbia Dr.
  - John W. Mahaffy
  - Added to Roll: 39
  - Removed from Roll: 37
  - Total: 35
  - Morning Worship: $56,351
  - General: $123,502

- **Portland, First**
  - Portland, FIRST
  - 8245 NE Fremont St.
  - Jack L. Smith
  - Added to Roll: 162
  - Removed from Roll: 181
  - Total: 160
  - Morning Worship: $103,188
  - General: $158,721

### Washington

- **Bothell, New Life**
  - Bothell, NEW LIFE
  - 23211 S. Meridian Ave.
  - Earl W. Vanderhoff
  - Added to Roll: 75
  - Removed from Roll: 76
  - Total: 75
  - Morning Worship: $69,000
  - General: $78,000

- **Kennewick, Covenant (A)**
  - Kennewick, Covenant (A)
  - 1500 S. Union St. (no mail)
  - None
  - Added to Roll: 41
  - Removed from Roll: 35
  - Total: 46
  - Morning Worship: $50,410
  - General: $56,271

- **Kent, Emmanuel**
  - Kent, EMMANUEL
  - 25213 116th Ave. SE (no mail)
  - Randall A. Bergquist
  - Added to Roll: 105
  - Removed from Roll: 122
  - Total: 123
  - Morning Worship: $118,120
  - General: $234,840

---

**Note:** The table includes details on membership rolls, attendance, contributions, and officers for various churches in Oregon and Washington. The data is organized to highlight key statistics such as membership changes, morning worship attendance, and contributions, along with the names and roles of officers including Elders and Deacons.
### CHURCHES and Mission Works

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location Address</th>
<th>Jan. 1</th>
<th>MEMBERSHIP ROLL STATISTICS</th>
<th>Dec. 31</th>
<th>ATTENDANCE</th>
<th>CONTRIBUTIONS</th>
<th>OFFICERS</th>
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<tr>
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**Notes:**

- Numbers in *italics* are revised from the previous year's report.
- (A) Members are on the roll of the regional church.
- (B) Members are on the roll of Emmanuel OPC, Kent, WA, but not included in their statistics. The parent church is the regional church.
### REGIONAL CHURCH OF OHIO - STATISTICAL REPORT FOR 1997

#### CHURCHES and Mission Works

<table>
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<tr>
<th>State, City or Town, and Name of Church</th>
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<th>MEMBERSHIP ROLL STATISTICS</th>
<th>Dec. 31</th>
<th>ATTENDANCE</th>
<th>CONTRIBUTIONS</th>
<th>OFFICERS</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Morning Worship</td>
<td>General</td>
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<td>Xfr.</td>
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<td>Prof.</td>
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<td>CHURCHES and Mission Works</td>
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<td>ATTENDANCE</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTIONS</td>
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<tr>
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## ATTENDANCE
- **Morning Worship**: (May) - 39, (Nov) - 35
- **Total**: (May) - 39, (Nov) - 35
- **General**: (May) - 0, (Nov) - 0
- **Total Offerings**: (May) - 0, (Nov) - 0
- **R. Rides**: (May) - 0, (Nov) - 0
- **B. Rides**: (May) - 0, (Nov) - 0
- **B. Requests**: (May) - 0, (Nov) - 0
- **Active**: (May) - 0, (Nov) - 0

## CONTRIBUTIONS
- **General**: (May) - 0, (Nov) - 0
- **Total Offerings**: (May) - 0, (Nov) - 0
- **R. Rides**: (May) - 0, (Nov) - 0
- **B. Rides**: (May) - 0, (Nov) - 0
- **B. Requests**: (May) - 0, (Nov) - 0
- **Active**: (May) - 0, (Nov) - 0

## OFFICERS
- **Elders**: (May) - 0, (Nov) - 0
- **Deacons**: (May) - 0, (Nov) - 0
- **Total**: (May) - 0, (Nov) - 0
- **Active**: (May) - 0, (Nov) - 0
## REGIONAL CHURCH OF OHIO, Continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHURCHES and Mission Works</th>
<th>Jan. 1</th>
<th>MEMBERSHIP ROLL STATISTICS</th>
<th>Dec. 31</th>
<th>ATTENDANCE</th>
<th>CONTRIBUTIONS</th>
<th>OFFICERS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>Morning Worship</td>
<td>General Benevolence</td>
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|                            |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        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### CHURCHES and Mission Works

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## Regional Church of Philadelphia, Continued

### Churches and Mission Works

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### Attendance

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<td>(Nov)</td>
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### Notes:

Numbers in italics are revised from the previous year's report.

(A) Members are on the roll of the regional church.
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Chad C. Sadorf, assistant pastor
### REGIONAL CHURCH OF THE SOUTH, Continued

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Numbers in *italics* are revised from the previous year's report.
(A) Members are on the roll of the regional church.
(B) Under the oversight of Session, Sharon OPC, Hialeah, FL, but not included in their statistics.
(C) *Members are on the roll of Lake Sherwood OPC, Orlando, FL.
## REGIONAL CHURCH OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA - STATISTICAL REPORT FOR 1997

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<th>MEMBERSHIP ROLL STATISTICS</th>
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### Notes

- **California, Continued**
- **Encino (see San Fernando Valley)**.
## Regional Church of Southern California, Continued

### Churches and Mission Works

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## Regional Church of Southern California, Continued

### Churches and Mission Works

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<td>Santee, Valley</td>
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<td>Donald M. Poundstone, contact</td>
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<td>Remaining members of former</td>
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<td>congregations, others (A)</td>
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<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
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<td>1955</td>
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<td>76</td>
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<td>70</td>
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<td>84</td>
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<td>70</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

- Numbers in *italics* are revised from the previous year’s report.
- (A) Members are on the roll of the regional church.
- (B) Under the oversight of Session, Bayview OPC, Chula Vista, CA, but not included in their statistics.
- (C) Under the oversight of Session, Garden Grove OPC, Garden Grove, CA, but not included in their statistics.
- (D) Under the oversight of Session, Calvary OPC, La Mirada, CA, but not included in their statistics.
- (E) Members are on the roll of Harvest OPC, Vista, CA.
# REGIONAL CHURCH OF THE SOUTHWEST - STATISTICAL REPORT FOR 1997

## NEW MEXICO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Members</th>
<th>Baptism</th>
<th>Added to Roll</th>
<th>Removed from Roll</th>
<th>TOTAL Morning Worship/Member</th>
<th>TOTAL Sunday School/Member</th>
<th>General Benevolence</th>
<th>Total Offerings</th>
<th>On Session</th>
<th>Active</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albuquerque, COVENANT OF GRACE</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>0/0</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>$60,200</td>
<td>$63,428</td>
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<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roswell, ROSWELL OPC</td>
<td>40</td>
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<td>$26,099</td>
<td>$875</td>
<td>$791</td>
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<td>1601 W. McGaffey St.</td>
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<td>$791</td>
<td>$875</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glenn D. Jerrell</td>
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<td>$0</td>
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## OKLAHOMA

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<th>Members</th>
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<th>Added to Roll</th>
<th>Removed from Roll</th>
<th>TOTAL Morning Worship/Member</th>
<th>TOTAL Sunday School/Member</th>
<th>General Benevolence</th>
<th>Total Offerings</th>
<th>On Session</th>
<th>Active</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma City, KNOX</td>
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<td>50</td>
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<td>$4,250</td>
<td>$663</td>
<td>$875</td>
<td>$791</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roger L. Gibbons</td>
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<td>$0</td>
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## TEXAS

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>TOTAL Morning Worship/Member</th>
<th>TOTAL Sunday School/Member</th>
<th>General Benevolence</th>
<th>Total Offerings</th>
<th>On Session</th>
<th>Active</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abilene, COVENANT</td>
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<td>Neil J. Lodge</td>
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<td>106</td>
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REGIONAL CHURCH OF THE SOUTHWEST, Continued

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<tr>
<th>CHURCHES and Mission Works</th>
<th>Jan 1 MEMBERSHIP ROLL STATISTICS</th>
<th>Dec 31 ATTENDANCE</th>
<th>CONTRIBUTIONS</th>
<th>OFFICERS</th>
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<tr>
<td>State, City or Town, and Name of Church</td>
<td>Added to Roll</td>
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<td>San Antonio, GRACE</td>
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<td>Christopher H. Wisdom, associate pastor</td>
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<td>Tyler, TYLER OPC</td>
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<td>John H. Johnson, Jr.</td>
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<td>Remaining members of former congregations, others (A)</td>
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<td>16</td>
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Notes:
Numbers in italics are revised from the previous year's report.

(A) Members are on the roll of the regional church.
STATISTICAL REPORTS OF THE PRESBYTERIES

I  PRESBYTERY OF THE CENTRAL US

Special note: Effective 1 January 97 the Presbytery of the Central US was formed. The geographical boundaries of the new presbytery are as follows: KS, MO (Cass, Clay, Jackson, and Platte Counties), NE, and OK (northeastern counties).

A. General Information
1. Membership: 6 Ministers, 12 Ruling Elders
2. Stated meetings: January, May, and September
3. Stated Clerk: LeRoy E. Miller, term expires 1/00

B. Churches and Mission Works
1. Number of congregations: 4 churches and no unorganized mission works
2. Changes in congregations:
   Caney OPC, Caney, KS, 1 January 97, previously in the Regional Church of the Dakotas
   Park Woods, Overland Park, KS, 1 January 97, previously in the Regional Church of the Dakotas
   Faith, Lincoln, NE, 1 January 97, previously in the Regional Church of the Dakotas
   Westminster, Bartlesville, OK, 1 January 97, previously in the Regional Church of the Southwest
3. Mission works: None

C. Ministers
1. Ordinations: None
2. Ministers received to form Presbytery of the Central US, 1 January 97
   Mark T. Harrington, LeRoy E. Miller, William A. Miller, Jr., V. Robert Nilson, and Geoffrey C. Smith, from Presbytery of the Dakotas
   Richard A. Shaw, from Presbytery of the Southwest
3. Ministers removed: None
4. Ministers installed: None
5. Pastoral relationships dissolved:
   Richard A. Shaw, 30 September 97, pastor of Westminster OPC, Bartlesville, OK
6. Roll of ministers:
   Mark T. Harrington  LeRoy E. Miller  William A. Miller, Jr.
   V. Robert Nilson  Richard A. Shaw  Geoffrey C. Smith

D. Licentiates
1. Licensures: None
2. Licentiates received: None
3. Licentiates removed: None
4. Roll of licentiates: None

II  PRESBYTERY OF THE DAKOTAS

A. General Information
1. Membership: 11 Ministers, 43 Ruling Elders
2. Stated meetings: fourth Tuesday of March
   fourth Tuesday of September
3. Stated Clerk: Edward A. Eppinger, term expires March 99
4. Moderator: Joseph A. Auksela, term expires March 98

B. Churches and Mission Works
1. Number of congregations:
   8 churches and 3 unorganized mission works
2. Changes in congregations:
   Caney OPC, Caney, KS, 1 January 97, became part of the Regional Church of the Central US
   Park Woods, Overland Park, KS, 1 Jan. 97, became part of the Regional Church of the Central US
   Faith, Lincoln, NE, 1 January 97, became part of the Regional Church of the Central US
   Trinity, Denver, CO, 30 September 97, dissolved
3. Mission works
   Park Hill, Denver, CO Parent church
   Emmaus, Fort Collins, CO Immanuel OPC, Thornton, CO
   Bismarck, Bismarck, ND Providence OPC, Denver, CO
   Bismarck, Bismarck, ND Bethel OPC, Carson, ND

C. Ministers
1. Ordinations: None
2. Ministers received:
   Ralph W. English, 13 April 97, from Presbytery of the South
3. Ministers removed:
   Mark T. Harrington, LeRoy E. Miller, William A. Miller, Jr., V. Robert Nilson, and Geoffrey C. Smith, 1 January 97, to the newly formed Presbytery of the Central US
   Stephen R. Hart, 26 April 97, dismissed to Presbytery of the Northwest
   Timothy B. Perkins, 7 July 97, dismissed to Doon Iowa United Reformed Church
   Terrance A. Clarke, Jr., 15 July 97, dismissed to Pres. of Missouri, PCA
4. Ministers installed
   Ralph W. English, 13 April 97, pastor of Trinity OPC, Bridgewater, SD
5. Pastoral relationships dissolved:
   Jack K. Unangst, Jr., 30 Sept. 97, pastor of Trinity OPC, Denver, CO
6. Roll of ministers
   Archibald A. Allison Sam M. Allison Joseph A. Auksela
   Leonard J. Coppes Ralph W. English Edward A. Eppinger
   Gerald I. Williamson Richard Wynja

D. Licentiates
1. Licenses: None
2. Licentiates received: None
3. Licentiates removed: None
4. Roll of licentiates: None
III  PRESBYTERY OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

A.  General Information
1.  Membership:  38 Ministers, 73 Ruling Elders
2.  Stated meetings:  fourth Friday and Saturday of April
    third Friday and Saturday of September
    first Friday and Saturday of December
3.  Stated Clerk:  Leonard E. Miller, term expires September 98
4.  Moderator:  George W. Knight III, term expires Sept. 98

B.  Churches and Mission Works
1.  Number of congregations
   19 churches and 3 unorganized mission works
2.  Changes in congregations
   Covenant Chapel, New Bern, NC, 26 April 97, recognized as a mission
   work
3.  Mission works
   Parent church
   Covenant, New Bern, NC  The regional church
   Trinity Reformed, Bristol, TN  Providence OPC, Meadowview VA
   Grace, Rocky Mount, VA  Grace OPC, Lynchburg, VA

C.  Ministers
1.  Ordinations:  None
2.  Ministers received
   Charles K. Telfer, 19 September 97, from Presbytery of New Jersey
   Donald H. Taws, 19 September 97, from Presbytery of New Jersey
3.  Ministers removed
   Stephen G. Hohenberger, 22 February 97, dismissed to Potomac
       Presbytery, PCA
   Robert Y. Eckardt, 31 August 97, dismissed to Presbytery of the South
4.  Ministers installed
   Laurence N. Vail, 23 June 96, associate pastor of New Hope OPC,
       Frederick, MD
   Charles K. Telfer, 19 Sept. 97, pastor of Providence OPC, Lenoir, NC
5.  Pastoral relationships dissolved:  None
6.  Roll of ministers
   DeLacy A. Andrews, Jr.  John Carrick  Roy Davenport
   Elmer M. Dortzbach  Richard N. Ellis  Thomas T. Ellis
   Bryan D. Estelle  Douglas A. Felch  Stephen Green
   Timothy H. Gregson  Stephen R. Hake  George W. Hall, Jr.
   George C. Hammond  George E. Haney  Allen H. Harris
   Richard L. Horner  Stuart R. Jones  Edward L. Kellogg
   George W. Knight III  Richard E. Knodel, Jr.  Robert M. Lucas
   Thomas A. Martin  Hailu Mekonnen  David M. Moore
   Robert L. Myers  Cromwell G. Roskamp  Lyman M. Smith
   G. Mark Sumpter  Donald H. Taws  Gerald S. Taylor
   Charles K. Telfer  Albert J. Tricarico, Jr.  T. Nathan Trice
   Thomas E. Tyson  Edwin C. Urban  Laurence N. Vail
   Douglas M. Withington  Laurence H. Withington

D.  Licentiates
1.  Licensures:  None
2.  Licentiates received
   Robert D. McCurley, 26 April 97, from Presbytery of the South
M. Daniel Fincham, 5 December 97, from the PCA

3. Licentiates removed: None

4. Roll of licentiates
   Robert Bjerkaas
   M. Daniel Fincham
   Robert D. McCurley
   Steven Scott

IV  PRESBYTERY OF THE MIDWEST
A. General Information
1. Membership: 52 Ministers, 178 Ruling Elders
2. Stated meetings: third Friday and Saturday of March
   2nd Fri. & Sat. after Labor Day (September)
3. Stated Clerk: Timothy L. Bero, term expires March 98
4. Moderator: Tripp Martin, term expires March 99

B. Churches and Mission Works
1. Number of congregations
   25 churches and 10 unorganized mission works
2. Changes in congregations
   Living Hope Community, Ionia, MI, 12 September 97, returned to mission status
   Providence, Royal Oak, MI, 11 October 97, organized as a new and separate church
   Rockford Springs Comm, Rockford, MI, 31 October 97, organized as a new and separate church
3. Mission works
   Parent church
   Covenant of Grace, Batavia, IL
   Bethel OPC, Wheaton, IL
   New Covenant Community, Covenant OPC, Palos Heights, IL
   New Lenox, IL
   Covenant, Cedar Falls, IA
   The regional church
   New Covenant Fellowship, Christ OPC, Janesville, WI
   Independence, IA
   Central Lake, MI
   The regional church
   Living Hope Community, The regional church
   Ionia, MI
   New Life Fellowship, The regional church
   Holland, MI
   The regional church
   Meadow Springs Community,
   Spencer Mills OPC, Gowen, MI
   Kentwood, MI
   Madison OPC, Madison, WI
   Falls OPC, Menomonee Falls, WI
   Covenant Community,
   Oakland Hills, Farmington Hills, MI
   London, Ontario, Canada

C. Ministers
1. Ordinations
   Heero E. C. Hacquebord, 20 April 97
   Peter J. Wallace, 25 April 97
2. Ministers received
   Rodney T. King, 11 April 97, from New River Presbytery (PCA)
James R. Megchelsen, 24 Oct. 97, from Presbytery of So. California

3. Ministers removed
   William O. Rudolph, 12 September 97, erased (renounced jurisdiction of the OPC to enter the “Holy Orthodox Church”)

4. Ministers installed
   Rodney T. King, 11 April 97, pastor of Grace Reformed OPC, Des Moines, IA
   Jeffrey B. Wilson, 11 Oct. 97, pastor/Providence OPC, Royal Oak, MI
   James R. Megchelsen, 24 October 97, associate pastor of Bethel OPC, Wheaton, IL
   Louis P. Wislocki, 31 October 97, pastor of Rockford Springs Community OPC, Rockford, MI
   Martin A. Novak, 31 October 97, evangelist, New Life Fellowship OPC, Holland, MI

5. Pastoral relationships dissolved
   William O. Rudolph, 14 July 97, pastor of Westminster OPC, Westchester, IL
   Jeffrey B. Wilson, 11 October 97, associate pastor of Oakland Hills Community OPC, Farmington Hills, MI

6. Roll of ministers
   William B. Acker III
   William J. Bomer
   David W. Cole
   Daryl A. Daniels
   Dennis L. Disselknoen
   Abe W. Ediger
   Henry H. Fikkert
   Bruce H. Hollister
   Rodney T. King
   Frank J. Marsh
   Martin A. Novak
   Ralph A. Rebandt II
   Roger W. Schmurr
   Donald F. Stanton
   Rodney S. Thole
   Cornelius Tolsma
   Peter J. Wallace
   Louis P. Wislocki
   Victor B. Atallah
   James L. Bosgraf
   Kenneth Dale Collison
   Norman DeJong
   Leslie A. Dunn
   Lawrence R. Eyres
   John N. Fikkert
   Theocharis Joannides
   Michael D. Knierim
   James R. Megchelsen
   James R. Megchelsen
   Jonathan F. Peters
   Donald F. Ritsman
   Kenneth A. Smith
   Peter Stazen II
   Terry F. Thole
   Dale A. Van Dyke
   Robert J. West
   Timothy L. Bero
   Douglas B. Clawson
   Raymond E. Commeret
   Ivan J. DeMaster
   Lap O. Duong
   James E. Ferguson
   Heero E. C. Hacquebord
   David W. King
   Mark J. Larson
   Gerald J. Neumair
   Stephen A. Pribble
   Craig R. Rowe
   Lendall H. Smith
   David Stevenson
   John R. Tinsley
   Robert M. Walker
   Jeffrey B. Wilson

D. Licentiates
1. Licensures
   Timothy McConnel, 21 March 97

2. Licentiates received: None

3. Licentiates removed
   Heero E. C. Hacquebord, 20 April 97, ordained
   Peter J. Wallace, 25 April 97, ordained
   John Challies, 12 September 97, no longer a member of the OPC

4. Roll of licentiates
   Timothy McConnel
   Darren S. Thole
V. PRESBYTERY OF NEW JERSEY

A. General Information
1. Membership: 33 Ministers, 68 Ruling Elders
2. Stated meetings: fourth Saturday of February
   fourth Tuesday of April
   fourth Saturday of September
   first Tuesday of December
3. Stated Clerk: Richard A. Barker, term expires Sept. 99
4. Moderator: Thomas D. Church, term expires Sept. 98

B. Churches and Mission Works
1. Number of congregations
   17 churches and 3 unorganized mission works
2. Changes in congregations
   Trinity, Audubon, NJ, 22 February 97, received as a particular congregation
   Trinity, Audubon, NJ, 31 December 97, dissolved
3. Mission works
   Parent church
   Living Hope, Nutley, NJ
   Westminster, Ocean City, NJ
   Redeemer, Toms River, NJ

C. Ministers
1. Ordinations
   Geoffrey L. Willour, 31 May 97
2. Ministers received
   Joseph P. Trombetta, 16 March 97, from independency
   Albert W. Steever, Jr., 19 October 97, from Presbytery of Philadelphia
3. Ministers removed
   Charles K. Telfer, 19 Sept. 97, dismissed to Presby. of the Mid-Atlantic
   Donald H. Taws, 19 Sept. 97, dismissed to Presby. of the Mid-Atlantic
4. Ministers installed
   Joseph P. Trombetta, 16 March 97, pastor/Trinity OPC, Audubon, NJ
   Geoffrey L. Willour, 31 May 97, evangelist, Toms River, NJ
   Albert W. Steever, Jr., 19 Oct. 97, pastor of Calvary OPC, Ringoes, NJ
5. Pastoral relationships dissolved
   Joseph P. Trombetta, 31 Dec. 97, pastor/Trinity OPC, Audubon, NJ
6. Roll of ministers
   Samuel H. Bacon
   Kenneth J. Campbell
   Thomas D. Church
   Howard Currie
   David F. Elmer
   Meredith G. Kline
   Richard A. Nelson
   Peter J. Puliafiti
   William O. Slack II
   Stanford M. Sutton, Jr.
   Douglas A. Watson
   George W. Bancroft
   Leonard F. Chanoux
   Harvie M. Conn
   Ivan R. Davis
   Glen P. Evans
   George S. Kostas
   LeRoy B. Oliver
   Frederick G. Reber
   Albert W. Steever, Jr.
   Joseph P. Trombetta
   Geoffrey L. Willour
   Michael W. Bobick
   George S. Christian
   David B. Cummings
   Martin L. Dawson
   Ross W. Graham
   Robert L. Marshall
   Ronald E. Pearce
   James W. Reber
   Alan D. Strange
   Harry W. Warner
   James A. Zozzaro
Sixty-Fifth General Assembly

D. **Licentiates**
   1. Licensures: None
   2. Licentiates received
      N. E. Barry Hofstetter, 22 February 97, from Presbytery of Philadelphia
      Claude A. Taylor III, 22 October 97, from Presbytery of New York and New England
   3. Licentiates removed
      Geoffrey L. Willour, 31 May 97, ordained
   4. Roll of licentiates
      N. E. Barry Hofstetter
      Claude A. Taylor III

VI  **PRESBYTERY OF NEW YORK AND NEW ENGLAND**

A. **General Information**
   1. Membership: 43 Ministers, 89 Ruling Elders
   2. Stated meetings: April and October
   4. Moderator: Robert W. Eckardt, term expires October 98

B. **Churches and Mission Works**
   1. Number of congregations
      20 churches and 4 unorganized mission works
   2. Changes in congregations
      Church of the Servant, Williston, VT, 1 March 97, dissolved
      New Life, So. Hadley, MA, 14 October 97, dissolved
   3. Mission works
      Parent church
      Merrymeeting Bay, Second Parish OPC, Portland, ME
      Topsham, ME
      Jaffrey OPC, Jaffrey, NH The regional church
      Amoskeag, Manchester, NH The regional church
      Hope, Syracuse, NY The regional church

C. **Ministers**
   1. Ordinations
      Stephen A. Migotsky, 21 November 97
   2. Ministers received
      Allen C. Tomlinson, 21 Sept. 97, from Covenant Presbytery (RPCGA)
      Daniel L. Korzep, 24 October 97, from Heartland Presbytery (PCA)
   3. Ministers removed: None
   4. Ministers installed
      William B. Kessler, 5 January 97, missionary evangelist to Eritrea
      Gregory E. Reynolds, 10 January 97, RHM (to NH)
      Allen C. Tomlinson, 21 September 97, w/o OPC pastoral charge (First Congregational Church, Merrimack, NH)
      Daniel L. Korzep, 24 October 97, pastor of Merrimack Valley OPC, No. Andover, MA
      William B. Kessler, 26 October 97, pastor of Community OPC, Newtown, CT
      Stephen A. Migotsky, 21 November 97, organizing pastor of Jaffrey OPC, Jaffrey, NH
   5. Pastoral relationships dissolved: None
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6. Roll of ministers

David G. Barker
Gordon H. Cook, Jr.
Stephen D. Doe
Charles H. Ellis
Richard R. Gerber
John R. Hilbelink
William B. Kessler
Gary B. Magur
Stephen A. Migotsky
Robert S. Rienstra
William Shishko
Dennis W. Smith, Jr.
John D. Van Meerbeke
Charles M. Wingard
James W. Campbell
William I. Crawford
Harold L. Dorman
Jonathan B. Falk
Burton L. Goddard
Gregory A. Hills
Daniel L. Korzep
Gerald P. Malcus
Daniel G. Osborne
Roger A. Ramsey
Laurence C. Sibley, Jr.
Robert H. Tanzie
Laurence W. Veinott
Kenneth M. Campbell
Richard M. Dickenson
Robert W. Eckardt
Samuel N. Folta
William J. Gorrell
Karl A. Hubenthal
Samuel T. Logan, Jr.
John W. Mallin III
John H. Skilton
Allen C. Tomlinson
Neil H. Williams

1. Licensures
David E. Chilton, 26 April 97
Vincent J. Tauriello, 13 October 97

2. Licentiates received: None

3. Licentiates removed:
Claude A. Taylor III, 22 October 97, dismissed to Presbytery of NJ
Stephen A. Migotsky, 21 November 97, ordained

4. Roll of licentiates:
David E. Chilton
Vincent J. Tauriello

VII PRESBYTERY OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

A. General Information
1. Membership: 16 Ministers, 37 Ruling Elders
2. Stated meetings: third Friday and Saturday of March
   fourth Friday and Saturday of September
3. Stated Clerk: Richard C. Miller, term expires March 99
4. Moderator: Scott Cox, term expires March 99

B. Churches and Mission Works
1. Number of congregations
   12 churches and 2 unorganized mission works
2. Changes in congregations: None
3. Mission works
   Parent church
   Covenant, Eureka, CA
   Covenant, Salinas, CA
   The regional church
   The regional church

C. Ministers
1. Ordinations
   Donald T. Owsley, 18 April 97
2. Ministers received
   Calvin R. Malcor, 1 August 97, from Presbytery of the Northwest
3. Ministers removed: None
4. Ministers installed
Donald T. Owsley, 18 April 97, evangelist, Salinas, CA  
Calvin R. Malcor, 1 August 97, associate pastor of Covenant OPC, San Jose, CA

5. Pastoral relationships dissolved: None 
6. Roll of ministers 
   Martin R. Ban 
   Andrew M. Elam 
   Richard M. Lewis 
   Charles A. McIlhenny 
   Donald T. Owsley 
   John Vroegindewey
   P. Shaun Bryant 
   Carl E. Erickson 
   Calvin D. Keller 
   Richard C. Miller 
   Andrew J. Preston 
   subsequent pastors

D. Licentiates
1. Licenures: None
2. Licentiates received: None
3. Licentiates removed
   Donald T. Owsley, 18 April 97, ordained

VIII PRESBYTERY OF THE NORTHWEST 
A. General Information
1. Membership: 26 Ministers, 65 Ruling Elders
2. Stated meetings: fourth Friday and Saturday of April 
   fourth Friday and Saturday of September
4. Moderator: Larry D. Conard, term expires 9/98

B. Churches and Mission Works
1. Number of congregations
   15 churches and 2 unorganized mission works
2. Changes in congregations
   Cornerstone, Missoula, MT, changed name to Garden City OPC
3. Mission works
   Parent church
   Covenant, Kennewick, WA  The regional church
   Sovereign Grace Covenant, Oak Harbor, WA The regional church

C. Ministers
1. Ordinations: None 
2. Ministers received
   Stephen R. Hart, 26 April 97, from Presbytery of the Dakotas, enrolled 
   as a minister without call 
   David W. Inks, 15 June 97, from Rocky Mountain Presbytery (PCA)
3. Ministers removed
   Harold L. Baurer, 25 April 97, by divestiture (F/G XXVI.3.a) 
   Calvin R. Malcor, 1 August 97, dismissed to Presbytery of No. Calif. 
   Russell D. Piper, 15 November 97, dismissed to Presbytery of Philadelphi

4. Ministers installed
   David W. Inks, 15 June 97, pastor of Faith OPC, Anchorage, AK
5. Pastoral relationships dissolved: None
6. Roll of ministers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thomas G. Albaugh</td>
<td>Randall A. Bergquist</td>
<td>Glenn T. Black</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larry D. Conard</td>
<td>Daniel Dillard</td>
<td>Carl A. P. Durham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albert G. Edwards III</td>
<td>Stephen R. Hart</td>
<td>David W. Inks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harold S. Kellam</td>
<td>John W. Mahaffy</td>
<td>Ronald J. McKenzie</td>
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<td>Richard A. Miller</td>
<td>Jay Milojevich</td>
<td>Patrick H. Morison</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alfred J. Poirier</td>
<td>Jack L. Smith</td>
<td>John R. Spain</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Y. Uomoto</td>
<td>Murray Uomoto</td>
<td>Earl Vanderhoff</td>
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<td>Samuel van Houte</td>
<td>Robert Van Kooten</td>
<td>Richard J. Venema</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Peter Vosteen</td>
<td>Eugene Williams</td>
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</tbody>
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D. Licentiates

1. Licensures
   - Marc Renkema, 26 September 97
   - Donald Collett, 27 September 97

2. Licentiates received: None

3. Licentiates removed
   - John Karas, 26 April 97, no reason reported
   - The name of Steve Booth was removed. He was previously listed in error.

4. Roll of licentiates
   - Donald Collett
   - Andrew Johnson
   - Marc Renkema
   - Patrick Spencer

IX PRESBYTERY OF OHIO

A. General Information

1. Membership: 22 Ministers, 60 Ruling Elders
2. Stated meetings: first Friday and Saturday of April
                      third Friday and Saturday of October
3. Stated Clerk: Everett C. DeVelde, term expires October 99
4. Moderator: Larry E. Wilson, term expires October 98

B. Churches and Mission Works

1. Number of congregations
   - 13 churches and 2 unorganized mission works
2. Changes in congregations
   - Faith, Indiana, PA, 2 May 97, organized as a new and separate church
   - Covenant, Mansfield, OH, 21 November 97, organized as a new and separate church
   - Christ, Washington, PA, 31 August 97, mission work terminated
3. Mission works
   - Parent church
   - Covenant, Dayton (Vandalia), OH
   - Redeemer OPC, Dayton, OH
   - Providence, Pickerington, OH
   - Grace OPC, Columbus, OH

C. Ministers

1. Ordinations: None
2. Ministers received
   - H. Jeffrey Lawson, 20 June 97, from Presbytery of Philadelphia
   - Gerald C. Dodds, 19 September 97, from Great Lakes Presbytery (PCA)
3. Ministers removed
Douglas J. Smith, 24 October 97, demitted

4. Ministers installed
Douglas W. Snyder, 2 May 97, pastor of Faith OPC, Indiana, PA
Everett C. DeVelde, 20 June 97, teacher, Trinity OPC, Franklin, PA
H. Jeffrey Lawson, 20 June 97, pastor of Trinity OPC, Franklin, PA
Gerald C. Dodds, 19 September 97, pastor of Covenant OPC, Grove City, PA
Lawrence B. Oldaker, 21 November 97, pastor of Covenant OPC, Mansfield, OH

5. Pastoral relationships dissolved
Everett C. DeVelde, 20 June 97, pastor of Trinity OPC, Franklin, PA

6. Roll of ministers
Marvin O. Bowman  Mark R. Brown  Charles G. Dennison
Everett C. DeVelde, Jr.  Gerald C. Dodds  Leo A. Frailey
Michael F. Frangipane  Theodore Hard  L. Charles Jackson
Joseph Keller  R. Daniel Knox  Stewart E. Lauer
H. Jeffrey Lawson  Allen P. Moran  Lawrence B. Oldaker
Danny E. Olinger  Luis A. Orteza  Lawrence Semel
Douglas W. Snyder  Bryan J. Weaver  John W. Wilson
Larry E. Wilson

D. Licentiates
1. Licensures
   Robert L. Broline, Jr., 18 July 97
2. Licentiates received: None
3. Licentiates removed: None
4. Roll of licentiates
   Robert L. Broline, Jr.

X PRESBYTERY OF PHILADELPHIA

A. General Information
1. Membership: 52 Ministers, 108 Ruling Elders
2. Stated meetings: first Saturday of February
   first Saturday of May
   third Saturday of September
   third Friday evening and Saturday of Nov.
3. Stated Clerk: Robert P. Harting, Jr., term expires Sept. 98
4. Moderator: Donald J. Duff, term expires September 98

B. Churches and Mission Works
1. Number of congregations
   24 churches and 2 unorganized mission works
2. Changes in congregations: None
3. Mission works
   Parent church
   Christ Community, The regional church
   Bethlehem, PA
   Good News Chapel, Perkasie, PA

C. Ministers
1. Ordinations
   Bruce P. Jarvis, 23 May 97
2. Ministers received
Appendix

Michael A. Obel, 12 October 97, from Mid-America Presbytery (PCA)
R. Heber McIlwaine, 15 November 97, from Presbytery of the South
Russell D. Piper, 15 November 97, from Presbytery of the Northwest
Benjamin Alvira, 19 Dec. 97, from Presby. Southwest Florida (PCA)

3. Ministers removed
James D. Day, 1 February 97, erased (renounced jurisdiction of the OPC by declaring himself independent)
H. Jeffrey Lawson, 20 June 97, dismissed to Presbytery of Ohio
Albert W. Steever, Jr., 19 October 97, dismissed to Presbytery of NJ
Lester R. Bachman, 5 November 97, deceased

4. Ministers installed
William C. Krispin, 16 May 97, pastor of Pilgrim OPC, Phila., PA
Bruce P. Jarvis, 23 May 97, pastor of New Life OPC, Easton, PA
Michael A. Obel, 12 October 97, associate pastor of Gwynedd Valley OPC, Gwynedd, PA
Benjamin Alvira, 19 December 97, evangelist for the regional church

5. Pastoral relationships dissolved
Jack D. Kinneer, 4 May 97, pastor of New Life OPC, Easton, PA

6. Roll of ministers
Benjamin Alvira, John F. Bettler, Paul N. Browne
S. Edd Cathey, Bruce A. Coie, George R. Cottenden
Richard C. Craven, Calvin K. Cummings, Jr., Wilson L. Cummings
Donald J. Duff, W. Scott Emery, F. Clarke Evans
Thomas A. Foh, Clinton S. Foraker, Arthur J. Fox
Richard B. Gaffin, Jr., John P. Galbraith, Theodore J. Georgian
Jonathan C. Gibbs, A. LeRoy Greer, Edward N. Gross
Robert P. Harting, Mark W. Holler, Bruce P. Jarvis
Joel C. Kershner, Jack D. Kinneer, Robert D. Knudsen
William C. Krispin, Arthur W. Kuschke, William Laverty
Robert W. A. Letham, Richard S. MacLaren, R. Heber McIlwaine
Harold A. McKenzie, Stephen O. Meidahl, Steven F. Miller
Robert A. Minnig, George F. Morton, Michael A. Obel
David J. O’Leary, John K. Pedersen, Russell D. Piper
Jeffery A. Sheely, Moises Silva, Benjamin J. Snodgrass
Young J. Son, Bernard J. Stonehouse, Barry A. Traver
A. Craig Troxel, Brian T. Wingard, Douglas C. Winward, Jr.

Tim W. Young

D. Licentiates

1. Licensures
Novel Kim, 3 May 97
Bruce P. Jarvis, 10 May 97

2. Licentiates received: None

3. Licentiates removed
Barry Hofstetter, 22 February 97, dismissed to Presbytery of NJ
Bruce P. Jarvis, 23 May 97, ordained

4. Roll of licentiates
Douglas E. Bond, Walter D. Copeland, Jesse R. Cowell
Michael A. Johnson, Novel Kim, John F. A. Kramer
Mark Malyj, Michael J. Matossian, Richard C. Nestel
XI  PRESBYTERY OF THE SOUTH

A.  General Information
1. Membership: 24 Ministers, 59 Ruling Elders
2. Stated meetings: third Friday and Saturday after Easter
   fourth Friday and Saturday of October
3. Stated Clerk: Robert Y. Eckardt, term expires October 99
4. Moderator: Stephen Chong, term expires October 98

B.  Churches and Mission Works
1. Number of congregations
   13 churches and 5 unorganized mission works
2. Changes in congregations
   Sandy Springs, Maryville, TN, 24 January 97, organized as a new and
   separate church
3. Mission works
   La Roca Eterna, Hialeah, FL
   Keys Chapel, Key West, FL
   Hope, Saint Cloud, FL
   Covenant Community, Columbia, TN
   Cornerstone, Hixson (Chattanooga), TN
   Parent church
   Sharon OPC, Hialeah, FL
   The regional church
   Lake Sherwood OPC, Orlando, FL
   The regional church

C.  Ministers
1. Ordinations: None
2. Ministers received
   Robert Y. Eckardt, 31 August 97, from Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic
3. Ministers removed
   Ralph W. English, 13 April 97, dismissed to Presbytery of the Dakotas
   R. Heber McIlwaine, 15 November 97, dismissed to Presbytery of
   Philadelphia
4. Ministers installed
   Robert Y. Eckardt, 31 August 97, evangelist of the Presbytery serving in
   Chattanooga, TN
5. Pastoral relationships dissolved: None
6. Roll of ministers
   Robert A. Berry  Jeffrey K. Boer  Thomas Champness, Jr.
   Allen D. Curry  William D. Dennison  Sidney D. Dyer
   Robert Y. Eckardt  Ted F. Gray  Robert D. Haehl
   William M. Hobbs  Hendrick Krabbendam  A. Boyd Miller IV
   Larry G. Mininger  Donald M. Parker  Chad C. Sadorf
   Jack W. Sawyer  Jon D. Smith  Mark T. Smith
   Arthur J. Steltzer  T. Jeffrey Taylor  Harold E. Thomas
   John H. Thompson, Jr.  Jose Vera  William V. Welzien

D.  Licentiates
1. Licensors
   John D. McGowen, 13 April 97
   Mario Cera, 24 October 97
2. Licentiates received: None
3. Licentiates removed
   Robert D. McCurley, 26 April 97, dismissed to Presbytery of the Mid-
   Atlantic
4. Roll of licentiates
   Mario Cera
   Russell J. Hamilton
   John D. McGowen

XII PRESBYTERY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
A. General Information
   1. Membership: 37 Ministers, 79 Ruling Elders
   2. Stated meetings: first Friday and Saturday of February
      first Friday and Saturday of May
      third Friday and Saturday of October
   3. Stated Clerk: Robert M. Coie, term expires December 98
B. Churches and Mission Works
   1. Number of congregations: 15 churches and 9 unorganized mission works
   2. Changes in congregations:
      Sovereign Grace, Ramona, CA, 18 May 97, received into OPC (from status as a CRC chapel) and organized as a particular church
      Redeemer Chapel, Encino, CA, 24 May 97, new location (was Van Nuys)
      Redeemer Chapel, Encino, CA, 24 May 97, new oversight - PSC (was Calvary OPC)
      Providence Chapel) Temecula, CA, 18 October 97, recognized as a mission work
      Grace Chapel, Costa Mesa, CA, 7 December 97, new location (was Huntington Beach)
   3. Mission works:
      Grace, Costa Mesa, CA Parent church
      Theophilus, Diamond Bar, CA Bayview OPC, Chula Vista, CA
      Redeemer Chapel, Encino Garden Grove OPC, Garden Grove, CA
      (San Fernando Valley), CA The regional church
      Redeeming Grace, Garden Grove OPC, Garden Grove, CA
      Laguna Hills, CA
      Iglesia Evangelica Reformada, Garden Grove OPC, Garden Grove, CA
      Los Angeles, CA
      Grace, Riverside, CA Calvary OPC, La Mirada, CA
      Church of the Living Lord, Garden Grove OPC, Garden Grove, CA
      Santa Ana, CA
      Covenant Grace, Santa Maria, CA Calvary OPC, La Mirada, CA
      Providence, Temecula, CA Harvest OPC, Vista, CA
C. Ministers
   1. Ordinations: None
   2. Ministers received:
      Steven M. Baugh, 2 March 97, from South Coast Presbytery (PCA)
      Bruce M. Brawdy, 18 May 97, from Classis California South (CRC)
      Kenneth L. Gentry, Jr., 7 December 97, from Calvary Presby. (PCA)
   3. Ministers removed
James R. Megchelsen, 24 October 97, dismissed to Presbytery of the Midwest

4. Ministers installed:
   Steven M. Baugh, 2 March 97, teacher, Westminster Theological Seminary in CA
   Bruce M. Brawdy, 18 May 97, pastor of Sovereign Grace OPC, Ramona, CA
   Gary F. Findley, 29 June 97, evangelist, Arizona State Dept. of Corrections
   Kenneth L. Gentry, Jr., 7 December 97, associate pastor of Bayview OPC, Chula Vista, CA

5. Pastoral relationships dissolved
   Gary F. Findley, 11 May 97, pastor of Prescott OPC, Prescott, AZ
   James R. Megchelsen, 30 September 97, associate pastor of New Life OPC, San Diego, CA

6. Roll of ministers
   H. Wilson Albright
   Steven M. Baugh
   Thomas M. Cooper
   L. Anthony Curto
   Jay E. Fluck
   Kenneth L. Gentry, Jr.
   Rollin P. Keller
   Kenneth J. Meilahn
   Robert E. Nicholas
   Donald M. Poundstone
   Mark A. Schroeder
   Robert B. Strimple
   Andrew E. Wikholm
   Josue I. Balderas
   Bruce M. Brawdy
   Henry W. Coray
   Michael D. Dengerink
   Nicholas T. S. Ganas
   William A. Hard
   Stephen A. Larson
   George C. Miladin
   Daniel H. Overduin
   Dwight H. Poundstone
   George C. Scipione
   Roger Wagner
   William J. Baldwin II
   Wayne A. Buchtel
   David A. Crum
   Gary F. Findley
   John W. Garrisi
   Douglas P. Harley
   Charles Y. Lee
   Mark C. Mueller
   Alan R. Pontier
   Timothy J. Power
   Michael D. Stingley
   William E. Warren

D. Licentiates
   1. Licensures
      Michael S. Voytek, 8 February 97
      Richard T. Zuelch, 2 May 97
      Charles K. Perkins, 18 October 97
   2. Licentiates received: None
   3. Licentiates removed
      Robert A. Stark, 7 February 97, removed membership from the regional church
      Michael S. Voytek, 5 October 97, dismissed to RCUS to accept a pastoral call
   4. Roll of licentiates
      C. Lee Irons
      Charles K. Perkins
      Richard T. Zuelch

XIII PRESBYTERY OF THE SOUTHWEST
A. General Information
   1. Membership: 16 Ministers, 34 Ruling Elders
   2. Stated meetings: March and September
3. Stated Clerk: Michael D. Pasarilla, term expires March 98
4. Moderator: James W. Van Dam, term expires March 98

B. Churches and Mission Works
1. Number of congregations
   10 churches and 1 unorganized mission work
2. Changes in congregations
   Westminster, Bartlesville, OK, 1 Jan. 97, became part of the Regional Church of the Central US
   Westminster, Wichita Falls, TX, 19 September 97, designated as a mission work
   Redeemer, Denton, TX, 26 September 97, organized as a new and separate church
3. Mission work
   Parent church
   Westminster, Wichita Falls, TX
   The regional church

C. Ministers
1. Ordinations: None
2. Ministers received
   William D. Lipford, 26 Sept. 97, from North Texas Presbytery (PCA)
3. Ministers removed
   Richard A. Shaw, 1 January 97, to the newly formed Presbytery of the Central US
4. Ministers installed
   William D. Lipford, 26 Sept. 97, pastor of Redeemer OPC, Denton, TX
5. Pastoral relationships dissolved: None
6. Roll of ministers
   David T. Brack
   Roger L. Gibbons
   Glenn D. Jerrell
   William D. Lipford
   Michael D. Pasarilla
   Christopher H. Wisdom
   Gary W. Davenport
   James T. Hoekstra
   John H. Johnson, Jr.
   Neil J. Lodge
   Jack J. Peterson
   William H. Doerfel
   John R. Hunt, Jr.
   Chester H. Lanious
   K. Scott Oliphint
   Arthur G. Riffel

D. Licentiates
1. Licensures
   Bradford C. Mercer, 19 September 97
2. Licentiates received: None
3. Licentiates removed: None
4. Roll of licentiates
   Bradford C. Mercer
### RECAPITULATION OF MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

**1938-1997**

*As of December 31, 1997*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th><em>Ministers</em></th>
<th>Communicant Members</th>
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*Ministers were included in Total Membership beginning December 31, 1972. Total membership figures given above for all years have been adjusted to include ministers; they will differ, therefore, from the figures that appear in the Minutes of the General Assembly for years prior to 1973.*

**Total membership in each year was revised in the following year’s Statistician’s report, and the revised figures are shown above. Figures for communicant members and baptized children prior to 1984 were not revised, so their totals differ slightly from revised total memberships.*
APPORPTIONMENT OF COMMISSIONERS
TO THE 66th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

In accordance with the *Standing Rules of the General Assembly*, Chapter I, commissioners to the Sixty-Sixth General Assembly (1999) are apportioned as follows:

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<td>Totals</td>
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<td><strong>92</strong></td>
<td><strong>60</strong></td>
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STANDING COMMITTEES OF
THE ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

Class of 2001  Alan D. Strange
Class of 2000  John W. Mallin III
Class of 1999  Stuart R. Jones
Alternate    Christopher H. Wisdom

CHAPLAINS

Class of 2001  Robert B. Needham
Class of 2000  William E. Warren
Class of 1999  Christopher H. Wisdom

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Class of 2001  Ministers: George C. Miladin, Alan D. Strange, Larry E. Wilson
               Ruling Elders: James S. Gidley, Ph.D.*, John R. Muether*
Class of 2000  Ministers: Douglas B. Clawson, Douglas A. Felch,
               G. I. Williamson*
               Ruling Elders: David Winslow, Jr.*, Larry A. Woiwode, Litt.D.
Class of 1999  Ministers: Allen D. Curry, Ed.D., John P. Galbraith*,
               William Shishko*
               Ruling Elders: F. Kingsley Elder, Jr., Ph.D.,
               Paul S. MacDonald, (President)
General Secretary: The Rev. Thomas E. Tyson

*Member of Subcommittee on Ministerial Training

COORDINATION

Class of 2001  Minister: Ivan J. DeMaster
               Ruling Elder: Bruce A. Stahl
Class of 2000  Minister: Stephen L. Phillips
               Ruling Elder: Russell W. Copeland, Jr.
Class of 1999  Minister: Donald M. Poundstone
               Ruling Elder: Louis C. LaBriola
Representative, Christian Education: Douglas A. Felch
Thomas E. Tyson, Gen. Sec., ex officio
Representative, Foreign Missions: John D. Williams
Mark T. Bube, Gen. Sec., ex officio
Representative, Home Missions and Church Extension: Garret A. Hoogerhyde
Ross W. Graham, Gen. Sec., ex officio
Director of Finance and Planned Giving: David E. Haney
DATE, PLACE AND TRAVEL

Class of 2001  John F. A. Kramer
Class of 2000  Steven T. Vanderhill
Class of 1999  David E. Haney

DIACONAL MINISTRIES

Class of 2001  Minister: Donald J. Duff;
Ruling Elder: Frode M. Jensen
Class of 2000  Minister: Leonard J. Coppes, Th.D.
Deacons: Roy Ingelse, Robert J. Wright, Jr.
Class of 1999  Minister: David W. King (Chairman)
Ruling Elder: P. Lee House

ECUMENICITY AND INTERCHURCH RELATIONS

Class of 2001  Richard A. Barker, Donald A. Brinks, Richard B. Gaffin, Jr., Th.D.
Class of 2000  Mark T. Bube, John R. Hilbelink, G. I. Williamson
Class of 1999  John P. Galbraith, Robert B. Needham, Jack J. Peterson (Chairman)

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Class of 2001  Ministers: Gary W. Davenport, Donald J. Duff, John W. Mahaffy
Ruling Elders: Luke E. Brown, John D. Williams
Class of 2000  Ministers: George R. Cottenden, Hendrik Krabbendam, Th.D., Jack J. Peterson
Ruling Elders: Herbert R. Muether, Ph.D., R. Arthur Thompson
Ruling Elders: John S. Deliyannides, John O. Kinnaird

General Secretary: Mr. Mark T. Bube
HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION

Class of 2001  Ministers:  Mark R. Brown, George W. Knight, III, Th.D., Gerald S. Taylor  
Ruling Elders:  Robert L. Ayres, Robert A. Kramm  
Class of 2000  Ministers:  Richard R. Gerber, John R. Hilbelink (President), Lawrence Semel,  
Ruling Elders:  Richard A. Barker, Garret A. Hoogerhyde  
Class of 1999  Ministers:  Randall A. Bergquist, David J. O'Leary, William E. Warren  
Ruling Elders:  Jack H. Julien, D.D.S., Steven T. Vanderhill  

General Secretary:  The Rev. Ross W. Graham

PENSIONS

Class of 2001  Ministers:  Douglas A. Watson, William E. Warren  
Ruling Elder:  Robert M. Meeker  
Class of 2000  Minister:  William Laverty  
Ruling Elders:  Jerry Drake, Roger W. Huibregtse (President)  
Class of 1999  Minister:  Gary W. Davenport  
Ruling Elders:  Garret A. Hoogerhyde, David E. Haney  

TRUSTEES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Class of 2001  Minister:  Martin L. Dawson, (President)  
Ruling Elder:  Howard A. Porter  
Class of 2000  Minister:  Samuel H. Bacon  
Ruling Elder:  Richard A. Barker  
Class of 1999  Minister:  Arthur W. Kuschke, Jr.  
Ruling Elder:  Willard E. Neel
SPECIAL COMMITTEES OF THE SIXTY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE ON ADDRESSES AND DISPLAYS AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Mark T. Bube, Donald J. Duff, Ross W. Graham, Thomas E. Tyson

COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SIXTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Kenneth A. Smith (Convener)
Donald F. Stanton, William J. Vermeulen

HISTORIAN

Charles G. Dennison

COMMITTEE FOR THE HISTORIAN

John S. Deliyannides, Charles G. Dennison,
Danny E. Olinger, Douglas J. Smith, David K. Thompson

COMMITTEE ON REVISIONS TO THE DIRECTORY FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP

George R. Cottenden (Chairman), John P. Galbraith,
Robert D. Knudsen, Ph.D., Moises Silva, Bernard J. Stonehouse
John O. Kinnaird (Alternate)

COMMITTEE ON WOMEN IN THE MILITARY AND IN COMBAT

George W. Knight, III
Robert B. Needham
Christopher H. Wisdom
<table>
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<tr>
<th>GA</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>MODERATOR</th>
<th>PLACE OF ASSEMBLY</th>
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<td>4th</td>
<td>1938</td>
<td>R. B. Kuiper</td>
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<td>1939</td>
<td>Everett C. DeVelde</td>
<td>Glenside, Pa.</td>
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<td>1940</td>
<td>Paul Woolley</td>
<td>Cincinnati, Ohio</td>
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<td>9th</td>
<td>1942</td>
<td>John P. Clelland</td>
<td>Rochester, N.Y.</td>
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<td>10th</td>
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<td>Oscar Holkeboer</td>
<td>Willow Grove, Pa.</td>
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<td>John P. Galbraith</td>
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<td>1948</td>
<td>Edward L. Kellogg</td>
<td>Wildwood, N.J.</td>
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<td>16th</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>Dwight H. Poundstone</td>
<td>Los Angeles, Cal.</td>
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<td>Lawrence R. Eyres</td>
<td>Glenside, Pa.</td>
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<td>1952</td>
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<td>1956</td>
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<td>1957</td>
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<td>1975</td>
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<td>Name</td>
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<td>1988</td>
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<td>1989</td>
<td>Donald J. Duff</td>
<td>Beaver Falls, Pa.</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>Theodore J. Georgian</td>
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<td>1993</td>
<td>Donald M. Poundstone</td>
<td>Beaver Falls, Pa.</td>
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<td>61st</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Steven F. Miller</td>
<td>Harvey Cedars, N.J.</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>David Winslow</td>
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<td>64th</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>John W. Mahaffy</td>
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<td>Leslie W. Sloat</td>
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<td>4th</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
STATED CLERKS OF PRESbyteries

CENTRAL UNITED STATES
The Rev. LeRoy E. Miller
5635 Salt Valley View
Lincoln, NE 48512-1143

The Rev. Richard C. Miller
8 Doris Dr.
Novato, CA 94947

CONNECTICUT AND SO. NEW YORK
Mr. Joseph Yankura
45 Alexander St.
Babylon, NY 11702

Mr. Patrick H. Morison
23 Pleasant View Dr.
Kalispell, MT 59901-7756

DAKOTAS
The Rev. Edward A. Eppinger
RR 1, Box 490
Bancroft, SD 57353

The Rev. Franklin C. DeVelde
RD 1, Box 336
Franklin, PA 16323

MID-ATLANTIC
Dr. Leonard E. Miller
4310 Puller Dr.
Kensington, MD 20895-4048

The Rev. Robert P. Harting, Jr.
202 North Broad St.
Middletown, DE 19709

MIDWEST
The Rev. Timothy L. Bero
928 N. Drake Rd.
Kalamazoo, MI 49006

The Rev. Robert Y. Eckardt
107 Gilmore Lane,
Hixson, TN 37343

NEW JERSEY
Mr. Richard A. Barker
639 Shadowlawn Drive
Westfield, NJ 07090-3557

Mr. Robert M. Coie
PO Box 4258
Cerritos, CA 90703-4258

NEW YORK & NEW ENGLAND
The Rev. Stephen L. Phillips
42 Beresford Road
Rochester, NY 14610

The Rev. William H. Doerfel
1116 Westminster Terrace
Norman, OK 73072-6308

NORTHWEST

OHIO

PHILADELPHIA

SOUTH

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

SOUTHWEST
Appendix

CLERKS OF SESSION
(revised to 09-09-98)

REGIONAL CHURCH OF THE CENTRAL UNITED STATES

KANSAS
Caney, OPC - Robert L. Ayres, Rt. 1, Box 190-D, 67333-9801
Overland Park, Park Woods - John Sawyer, P.O. Box 13210, 66282-3210

NEBRASKA
Lincoln, Faith - Allen Gewecke, 2850 Washington, 68502

OKLAHOMA
Bartlesville, Westminster - Jerold W. Barnett, 4101 SE Lakeview Dr., 74006

REGIONAL CHURCH OF CONNECTICUT
AND SOUTHERN NEW YORK

CONNECTICUT
Hamden, Westminster - Frank Emley, 79 Squire Lane, 06518
Newtown, Community - Frank Emley, 79 Squire Lane, 06518

NEW YORK
Franklin Square, OPC - Joseph Yankura, 45 Alexander St., Babylon, 11702
Mount Vernon, Westchester - Donald S. Swanson, 247 Lincoln Ave., New Rochelle, 10801
Staten Island, Hope - Don Ratcliffe, 149 Kelvin Ave., 10306

REGIONAL CHURCH OF THE DAKOTAS

COLORADO
Denver, Providence - Kenneth Faurot, Box 655, 4485 Picuitus, Indian Hills, 80454
Thornton, Immanuel - Richard D. Travis, 2032 Iola St., Aurora, 80010

NORTH DAKOTA
Carson, Bethel - Stephen Sturlaugson, 5645 73rd St. SW, 58529

SOUTH DAKOTA
Bancroft, Murdock Memorial - Rodney L. Perry, 42321-204th St., 57353-5610
Bridgewater, Trinity - Calvin D. Hofer, PO Box 146, 57319
Hamill, Westminster - Miles Dejong, HCR 81, Box 50, Kennebec, SD 57544
Volga, Calvary - Clarence Hettinga, 20990 458th Ave., 57071
Winner, OPC - Cleo Watzel, Route 1, Box 63, 57580

REGIONAL CHURCH OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

MARYLAND
Baltimore, First - L. Fred Baum, Jr., 425 Haslett Rd., Joppa, 21085-4229
Bowie, Trinity Reformed - The Rev. Gerald S. Taylor, 12705 Chesney Ln., 20715
Burtonsville, Covenant - Dr. Lawrence Johnson, 12516 O'Fallon St., Silver Spring, 20904-1653
Columbia, Columbia - Craig S. Duncan, 7159 Fountain Rock Way, 21046
Frederick, New Hope - Spencer Higgins, 11117 Putman Rd., Thurmont, 21788
Laytonsville, Puritan - Robert M. Lucas, PO Box 212, 484 Holiday St., Odenton, 21113-1915
Silver Spring, Knox - Newman deHaas, 913 Loxford Terrace, Silver Spring, 20901-1126

NORTH CAROLINA
Lenoir, Providence - c/o Tom Lindley, 520 Lower Creek Rd., 28645
Matthews, Orthodox Presbyterian - Doug Clark, 720 Madres Ln, Charlotte, 28211
Mills River, Christ Presbyterian - Burton S. Mullins, Jr., 72 Paisley Circle, Pisgah Forest, 28768
Raleigh, Pilgrim - Douglas M. Withington, 302 Pearson St., Apex, 27602

VIRGINIA
Dayton, Berea - Michael Diercks, 314 Dry River Rd., Bridgewater, 22812
Meadowview, Providence - Patrick McCune, 11391 Balsam Dr., Meadowview, 24361
Leesburg, Bethel - George Harinec, 2117 Mager Dr., Herndon, 20170
Lynchburg, Grace - Richard A. Kochendarfer, 1127 Granite St., Bedford, 24523
Manassas, Dayspring - Donald H. Potter, 268 Glen Ave. SW, Vienna, 22180-6211
Roanoke, Garst Mill - James E. Horner, 3822 Chesterton St., SW, 24018-1806
Sterling, Sterling - The Rev. Edwin C. Urban, 202 Stratford Place, S.W., Leesburg 20175-3846
Vienna, Grace - John S. Logan, 1012 N. Potomac, Arlington, 22205

REGIONAL CHURCH OF THE MIDWEST

ILLINOIS
Hanover Park, Grace - Glen Grevengoed, 35 West Crystal, Lombard, 60148
New Lenox, New Covenant - Keith Cannon, 2301 Vogel Rd., Evansville, IN 47711-4871
Palos Heights, Covenant - Fred Huizinga, 13056 S. 70th Ct., Palos Heights, 60463
Springfield, Covenant Reformed - Artie Marshall, 14 Lucerne Dr., 62707
Westchester, Westminster - Tom Martens, 318 Assembly Dr., Wheaton, Bethel - William Miner, 2385 Barkridge Court, Lisle, 60532

IOWA
Des Moines, Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church, - Jerry Hilton, 701 41st St., West Des Moines, 50265
Cedar Falls, Covenant Presbyterian Church, - Harold Roskamp, 1917 Sunnyside, 50613

MICHIGAN
Farmington Hills, Oakland Hills - Richard Wagner, 215 Milford Meadows Dr., Milford, 48381
Appendix

Gowen, Spencer Mills - David Raith, 11111 Podunk Rd., Greenville, 48838
Grand Rapids, Harvest - Dean Ter Haar, 3000 Woodside Ave. SE, 49508
Grand Rapids, Mill Creek -
Holt, Grace OPC - Earl Zetterholm, 4344 Hulett Rd., Okemos, 48864
Kalamazoo, Community - Henry Mejeur, 4821 Weston, 49006
Kentwood, Meadow Springs - The Rev. Roger W. Schmurr, 4100 Weymouth Dr.,
SE, 49508
Metamora, Pilgrim - Bill Winter, 2255 Deer Creek Trail, 48455
Rockford, Rockford Springs Community - Tauno Williams, 16601 Meyers Lake
Ave., Sand Lake, 49343

ONTARIO, CANADA
St. Thomas, Orthodox Reformed - James vant Voort, Box 2, Iona Station, N0L 1P0

WISCONSIN
Appleton, Apple Valley - Richard Irwin, 1028 Southfield Dr., Menasha, 54952-9457
Cedar Grove, Calvary - David Heuver, 10 Van Altena Ave., 53013
Janesville, Christ - David King, 3625 Sky View Dr., 53546
Menomonee Falls, Falls - John Williams, 7029 Grand Parkway Wauwatosa,
53213
Morgan Siding, Old Stockbridge - Virgil Murphy, N8769 Murphy Rd., Bowler,
54416
Oostburg, Bethel - Curtiss J. Nyenhuis, 320 S. 6th St., Box 700251, 53070
Sheboygan, Grace - Donald Schlernitzanen, 6625 Hartlaub Lake Rd.,
Manitowoc, 54220
Zoar, Menominee - Harry Shawano, PO Box 254, Neopit, 54150

REGIONAL CHURCH OF NEW JERSEY

NEW JERSEY
Bellmawr, Immanuel - David F. Swanson, 74 Lynn Ave., Woodbury, 08096
Bridgeton, Calvary - Robert Mixner, 63 Harmony Rd., 08302
Cherry Hill, OPC - Albert Salmon, 19 E. Harris Ave., Moorestown, NJ 08057
Fair Lawn, Grace - Robert A. Reith, 40 N. 17th St., Prospect Park, 07508
Glasboro, Providence - Bruce Robbins, 49 Evergreen Ave., Pitman, 08071-1120
Hackettstown, Church of the Covenant - Edward O. Lewis, 150 Hope Road,
Blairstown, 07825-9737
Phillipsburg, Calvary Community - Ed Kauffman, 2006 Hay Terrace, Easton, PA
18042
Phillipsburg, River of Life - Thomas E. Notaro, 83 Miller St., 08865
Pittsgrove, Faith - Kevin L. Parks, 66 S. Miller Ave., Penns Grove, 08069
Ringoes, Calvary of Amwell - Jesse J. Denton, Jr., PO Box 380, 08551
Stratford, OPC - Bruce Stahl, 64 Dunhill Dr., Voorhees, 08043
Trenton, Grace - Charles L. Maack, 204 Hillcrest Ave., 08618
Vineland, Covenant -Michael J. Flitcraft, 1976 N. East Ave. 277, 08360
W. Collingswood, Immanuel - Joseph R. Wyatt, II, 422 North 40th St., Camden,
08110
Westfield, Grace - Richard A. Barker, 639 Shadowlawn Dr., 07090
Whippany, Emmanuel - Robert A. Freeman, Llewellyn Park, 07052-5402
Wildwood, Calvary - Thomas A. Jorgensen, 136 W. Lavender Rd., 08260

REGIONAL CHURCH OF NEW YORK AND NEW ENGLAND

MAINE
Bangor, Pilgrim - Paul S. MacDonald, RFD 1, Box 1477, Carmel 04419-9703
Portland, Second Parish - Stephen A. MacDonald, Ph.D., 85 South St., Gorham, 04038
Rockport, Lakeview - Richard Abbott, RR#1, Box 2434, Windsor, 04363
Skowhegan, OPC - Fremont A. Moody, RFD 4, Box 8860, 04976

MASSACHUSETTS
Boston, Peace - Joe Chapa, 4 Freedom Cir., Hanscom AFB, 01731
Fall River, Grace - Rodney D. Titcomb, 24 North Court, Tiverton, RI, 02878-4724
Ipswich, First - Robert Joss, Ph.D., 60 High St., 01938
North Andover, Merrimack Valley Community - John W. Coskery, Jr, 32 Kendrickts Ct., Amesbury, 01913-3715
West Barnstable, Presbyterian of Cape Cod - Fred I. Buhler, 3 Farmedge La., Harwich, 02645-3109

NEW YORK
Amsterdam, Covenant - R. Alfred Hanna, 42 Austin St., 12010
Lisbon, OPC - Harley Lowry, 8820 County Rt. 27, 13658
Rochester, Covenant - Carl N. Schaufele, 60 Evergreen Dr., 14624
Rochester, Memorial - David L. Terpstra, 1285 York St., Lima, 14485
Schenectady, Calvary - Arthur L. Comstock, 11 Berwyn St., 12304-4402
Syracuse, Hope - The Rev. Gerald P. Malkus, 4568 Broad Rd., 13215

VERMONT
Barre, Covenant - Stephen D. Doe, 18 Spring St., 05641-4429

REGIONAL CHURCH OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

CALIFORNIA
Antioch, Delta Oaks - Martin R. Ban, 2092 Springbrook Ct., Oakley, 94561
Berkeley, Covenant - David L. Neilands, 1601 Cedar St., 94703
Hanford, New Hope - James A. Stryd, 8314 15th. Ave., 93230
Modesto, Grace - Richard Nielson, 3324 John Lee Lane, 95350
Novato, Trinity - Jeffrey A. Hibbitts, 75 Hickox Rd., 94947
San Francisco, First - J. Scott Cox, 2445 Lincoln Way, 94122
San Jose, Covenant - James Huizinga, 5935 Hosta Lane, 95124
Santa Cruz, Living Hope - Joseph L. Hanna, 85 Blake Ave., Corralitos, 95076
Sonora, Oak Hill Presbyterian - Jerry Hayenga, PO Box 4743, 95370-1743
South San Francisco, New Covenant - Dennis J. Fullalove, 427 Heathcliff Dr., Pacifica, 94044
Sunnyvale, First - Arnold E. Larson, 2949 Jessie Court, San Jose, 95124
NEVADA
Battle Mountain, Grace - Bradley Kelley, 447 S. Humboldt St., 89820

REGIONAL CHURCH OF THE NORTHWEST

ALASKA
Anchorage, Faith - William E. March, 3517 Sailboard Cir., 99516
Wasilla, New Life - The Rev. Thomas G. Albaugh, PO Box 873741, 99687

IDAHO
Boise, Sovereign Redeemer OPC - James B. Roberts, 2301 N. 21 St., 83702

MONTANA
Billings, Rocky Mtn. Community - Dr. Gene Holden, 4306 Pine Cove Rd., 59106
Kalispell, Faith Covenant - The Rev. Patrick H. Morison, 23 Pleasant View Dr., 59901
Missoula, Cornerstone - The Rev. Ronald J. McKenzie, 2345 S. 7th. West, 59801

OREGON
Bend, Grace Community - The Rev. Daniel J. Dillard, 171 SE Windance Ct., 97702
Eugene, Oak Hill - Douglas Moorehead, 1460 Flintridge, 97401
Grants Pass, Faith - Frode Jensen, 1355 Ferry Rd., 97526
Medford, Trinity - David A. Van Den Berg, 2544 Samoan Way, 97504
Newberg, Trinity - William R. Elder, 29730 SW Brown Rd., Wilsonville, 97070
Portland, First - Gerrit Schouten, 30700 NE Lampert Rd., Troutdale, 97060

WASHINGTON
Bothell, Trinity OPC - The Rev. Earl Vanderhoff, 14805 116th Place NE, Kirkland, 98034
Kent, Emmanuel OPC - The Rev. Randall A. Bergquist, 10426 SE 206th Pl., 98031
Lynnwood, OPC - Rev. Richard A. Miller, 7505 221st. Place, #1 SW, Edmonds, 98026
Oak Harbor, Sovereign Grace - The Rev. Robert C. Van Kooten, 1150 N. Paul Ave., 98277

REGIONAL CHURCH OF OHIO

OHO
Columbus, Grace - Timothy McClymonds, 254 Broad Meadows Blvd., 43214
Dayton, Redeemer - T. Andrew Demana, 838 Twin Oaks Dr., 45431
Mansfield, Covenant - Jon Burton, 675 Brae Burn, 44906
Pataskala, Jersey Reformed Presbyterian - Robert L. Shaffer 337 Mink St., SW, 43062

PENNSYLVANIA
Edinburg, Nashua - James T. Cover, RD 1, Evergreen Rd., Pulaski, 16143
Franklin, Trinity OPC - Robert Murley, 511 West 6th St., Oil City, 16301
Grove City, Covenant - Jack Kendall, 430 Summit Street, 16127
Harrisville, Calvary - William H. Kiester, 2434 W. Sunbury Rd., Boyers, 16020
Hollidaysburg, Westminster - Donald B. Shumaker, 2314 - 11th Ave., Altoona, PA 16601
Pittsburgh, Covenant - Daniel M. O’Roark, 3913 Princess Court, Murrysville, 15668
Sewickley, Grace - Jonathan Stark, 1117 Hiland Ave., Coraopolis, 15108-1919

WEST VIRGINIA
Morgantown, Reformation - Joseph Camp, 325 Watts St., 26505

REGIONAL CHURCH OF PHILADELPHIA

DELAWARE
Middletown, Grace - Terry L. Wiley, Box 391, 19709
Wilmington, Emmanuel - Peyton H. Gardner, 3341 Morningside Rd., Devon, Wilmington, 19810

PENNSYLVANIA
Allentown, Living Hope - Tim W. Young, 816 Chestnut St., Emmaus, 18049
Doylestown, Covenant - Bruce McMordie, 105 Chelsea Court, Perkasie, 18944
Easton, New Life - Wayne E. McCoy, 2319 Kirkland Circle, Bethlehem, 18017
Fawn Grove, Faith - William Harold Brown, RD 3, Box 70, Delta, 17314
Gettysburg, Living Hope -Theodore R. Hise, 122 Park Hts. Blvd., Hanover, PA 17331
Glenside, Calvary -David S. Burkett, 627 Stoney Way, Norristown, PA 19403-4219
Gwynedd, Gwynedd Valley - David E. Haney, 1074 Wynnwood Ave., Abington, 19001
Hanover, Grace - Willaim Finch, 5320 Wendy Rd., Syksville, MD 21784
Hatboro, Trinity - F. Thomas Sanderson, 785 Wallace Dr., Warminster, 18974
Lampeter, New Life - David Mueller, 714 South West End Ave., Lancaster, 17603
Lansdowne, Knox - Robert H. English, 116 W. Hillcrest Ave., Havertown, 19083
Mansfield, Grace Fellowship - Joel Kershner, 21 Elmira St., 16933
Middletown, Calvary - Christian Walmer II, 1051 Princeton Dr.,
Hummelstown. PA 17036
Oxford, Bethany - John Kinnaird, 420 Fremont Rd., Nottingham, 19362
Philadelphia, Emmanuel Chapel - Willaim Cicco, 1127 South Broad St.,
Philadelphia, PA 19147
Philadelphia, Grace - William Brasch, 1412 Parkside Dr., Havertown, 19083
Philadelphia (Germantown), Grace Fellowship - Benjamin J. Snodgrass, 6135
Germantown Ave., Apt. #1, 19144
Philadelphia (Roxborough), Pilgrim - Ralph T. Angstadt, 4542 Manayunk Ave.,
19128
Phoenixville, Trinity - The Rev. Mark W. Holler, 110 S. Main St., 19460
Reading, Covenant - John Sallade, 36 Lawndale Rd., Wyomissing, 19610
Tannersville, Pocono - Richard Casares, 61 Spruce Cir., Tobyhanna, 18466
Williamsport, New Life - Joseph W. Smith, III, 2001 Round Top Rd.,
Montoursville, 17754
REGIONAL CHURCH OF THE SOUTH

FLORIDA
Hialeah, Sharon - John Q. Bishop, 8640 NW 11 St., Pembroke Pines, 33024
Lake Worth, Fellowship - Dr. John S. Deliyannides, 4931 NW 49th Ave., Coconut Creek, 33073-4902
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