

## Committee on Fraternal Relations

### Standing Committee Report 38<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

The Standing Committee on Fraternal Relations convened at 3:22 p.m. on Thursday, June 21, 2018 and met once. Chairman *RE* Murat Tanyel opened the meeting with prayer.

#### A. Business Referred to Committee:

1. **Recommendation GA38-17**
2. **Minutes** of the Permanent Committee

#### B. Recommendation GA38-17:

1. The Committee on Fraternal Relations recommends that the 38<sup>th</sup> General Assembly give the Committee authority to appoint EPC representatives to engage with groups where participation of the Stated Clerk is not necessary **be adopted**.
2. That the **Minutes** of the Permanent Committee dated September 18, 2017 and April 4, 2018 be approved with minor notations. These are marked in the attached copy of the minutes **be adopted with minor changes**.

#### C. Additional Recommendations from the Standing Committee:

1. Per *Rules for Assembly* 9-6, the Committee voted to place the following eligible recommendation(s) on an omnibus consent motion:
  - **Recommendation GA38-17**
  - **Minutes** of the Permanent Committee
2. **The Standing Committee on Fraternal Relations** recommends that the 38th General Assembly give the Permanent Committee authority to develop a fraternal relationship with the Presbyterian Church in Ireland and the Presbyterian Church of Ghana.

Rationale: The Standing Committee recognizes and appreciates the hard work of the Permanent Committee. Additionally, we realize that this recommendation puts pressure upon the Permanent Committee, National Leadership Team, and General Assembly Staff where there are limited resources (time, personnel, and budget). However, it is the belief of the Standing Committee that these sorts of requests should be responded to quickly in an effort to collaborate for the Gospel of Jesus. It is the opinion of the Standing Committee that the process of establishing and maintaining fraternal relationships should be streamlined and adapted to the current digital era.

The Standing Committee feels that these fraternal relationships can be easily developed through some underutilized resources currently at our disposal. First, digital means of communication can be utilized, rather than sending delegates in person. Second, Recommendation GA38-17 will make such contact simpler. Third

and most importantly, the Standing Committee knows persons who could be very helpful in naturally developing relationships with these denominations:

*TE* Bob James (Central South, Highland Heights Presbyterian Church, Memphis) travels annually and participates in collaborative ministry with the Presbyterian Church of Ghana. Additionally, *TE* Tim Foster (Central South, Highland Heights Presbyterian Church, Memphis) would be happy to assist in this process.

*TE* Stephanie Black (working with Serge in Dublin, Ireland) lives in Ireland and attends a PCI congregation.

The Standing Committee heard reports from representatives of various fraternal relationships and guests. The Standing Committee commends the members of the Permanent Committee on Fraternal Relations for their good work during the past year.

*RE* Brandon Queen closed the meeting with prayer.

*Signature Page for Standing Committee on Fraternal Relations Report*

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_, Chairman  
RE Murat Tanyel

\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk  
TE Jason D. Wood