



EPC

A Global Movement of Evangelical Presbyterian Churches

COMMITTEE REPORT

Ministerial Vocation Committee

Report to the 40th General Assembly



Brad Strait
Chairman

Summary of Work, 2019-2020:

1. **With Ministerial Committees**, MVC worked alongside the gathered Chairs of presbytery Ministerial and Candidates Committees to (a) solve common issues that have been arising in presbyteries, and (b) build relationships across our presbytery committees.
2. **With Ministerial Well-being**, MVC helped with the needs of several EPC pastors or EPC churches requiring intervention, guidance, counseling, coaching, or help in crisis situations.
3. **With Exams**, MVC reviewed and reorganized all ordination exams to an online format, and (with Theology Committee) rewrote some of the exams to be clearer and more precise. This process is continuing.
4. **With Resources**, MVC modernized and edited the *EPC Leadership Training Guide*, *The EPC Book of Order*, and the *MC Procedure Manual*, and created IT resource platforms for Candidate and Ministerial Committees for sharing of information.
5. **TE Candidates**: MVC interviewed nine CEEP candidates (Candidates Educational Equivalency Program) for ordination and made appropriate recommendations to their local presbyteries.
6. **With Transitions**: MVC reviewed and managed several Transitional Pastor situations and worked on improving communications with several Pastoral Search Firms.

Recommendations to the 2020 General Assembly:

None

Work of the Committee in 2019-2020:

The Ministerial Vocation Committee operates like a Ministerial Committee at a denominational level. Our call from the General Assembly is ongoing strengthening of presbyteries in their review and approval of Teaching Elders while helping standardize the incoming TE Process through review, testing, and the Extraordinary Candidates review process. This year we continued to prepare, oversee, and empower the Ministerial Committees of each presbytery. We have continued our oversight and reworking of many of the support documents and resources of the EPC. We have continued to serve as a denominational clearing house and safety net for churches facing struggles or problems, for specific pastoral guidance and ministerial issues, and as a connecting point for outside support agencies and organizations who seek to come alongside us. We remain thankful for all those who help us and serve alongside us in the Presbytery Ministerial and Candidates Committees in the EPC, and the staff of the Office of the General Assembly.

Recommendations to the 2020 General Assembly:

None

Committee Members:

TE Brad Strait (Chairman), Presbytery of the West
RE Caroline Tromble, Presbytery of the River and Lakes
RE Frank Rotella, Presbytery of the East
RE Neal McAtee, Presbytery of the Central South
RE Phil Stump, Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic
TE Fred Lian, Presbytery of the West

Committee Meeting Dates:

September 10-12, 2019—Orlando, Florida
October 16, 2019—Video Conference
October 29, 2019—Video Conference
November 11, 2019—Video Conference
November 21, 2019—Video Conference
January 30, 2020—Video Conference
March 20-12, 2020—Orlando, Florida

Respectfully submitted,



Brad Strait

September 2020