



**EPC**

*A Global Movement of Evangelical Presbyterian Churches*

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Presbytery Review Committee**  
Report to the 40<sup>th</sup> General Assembly



Helen Franssell  
*Chairman*

**Summary of Work, 2019-2020:**

1. The committee provided structure, order, and continuity in reviewing the minutes of the presbyteries.
2. The minutes of each of the EPC's 14 presbyteries were reviewed by two committee members, with findings reviewed by the committee as a whole.
3. The report was finalized for presentation at the 40<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.

**Recommendations to the 2020 General Assembly:**

1. **Recommendation 40-39:** That the Assembly approve the Minutes of Presbyteries with Exceptions Requiring Responses by December 31, 2020.
2. **Recommendation 40-40:** That the Assembly approve the Responses of the Presbyteries to Exceptions approved at the 39<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.

## **Work of the Committee in 2019-2020:**

Presbytery Review Committee members RE George King, RE Diane Manon, RE Cecil Matthews, TE Gary O'Keefe, and TE Helen Franssell convened this year's work in a virtual meeting with the support and direction of Executive Assistant Zenaida Bermudez and Assistant Stated Clerk Jerry Iamurri. Hard copies of minutes had been received, and a meeting schedule for the review of the findings of each pair of readers was established. Soft copies of preliminary findings were shared between readers and GA staff prior to each meeting. The committee as a whole met again electronically to compile and review the final report. Each meeting was opened and closed with prayer and warm fellowship.

Each committee member brought certain strengths, so that the combination of their work contributed to a thorough and accurate report. The committee thanks outgoing committee members REs Manon and Matthews for their committed service, and Executive Assistant Bermudez and Assistant Stated Clerk Iamurri for their patience and skill in bringing order and accuracy to the committee's work.

## **Recommendations to the 2020 General Assembly:**

### **Recommendation 40-39:**

That the Assembly approve the Minutes of the Presbyteries with the following exceptions requiring responses by December 31, 2020, general advice, and commendations.

#### **A. Central South**

##### Exception(s):

There is no listing of the primary responsibilities for Assistant Pastors being approved for Ordination: Josh Yates, Brandon Terry, and Brett Wynne. 106th p.823, 106,23. G. 10-6 p.23.

#### **B. Florida and the Caribbean**

##### Exception(s):

a. The 9th Called Meeting p. 799-807:

- i. The purpose of the meeting was not explicitly stated, and various items of business were addressed. Per G. 19-5, no business other than that for which the meeting was called may be addressed.
- ii. It is not recorded whether the proper procedures of G. 19-5 B, p. 50 were followed, such as the meeting having been called by at least 2 TEs and 4 REs of 2 or more congregations, with at least 10 days' notice having been given.
- iii. Detailed description of discussion in Executive Session should not be included in the minutes of presbytery; only actions should be reported.

b. No reference is made to Session minutes being reviewed as required by G. 2-4 A, B.

#### **C. Mid-Atlantic**

##### Exception(s):

There is no reference in the minutes to Session Records having been reviewed annually per G. 18-4 C.

**D. Midwest**

Exception(s):

Ministerial Committee report seemed to indicate that the committee dismissed a church to independence. G.5-10 says the Presbytery must dismiss a church. 166th; 166-9, p. 76. G. 5-10.

**E. Pacific Northwest**

Exception(s):

Examination of Joshua Hurd. 5th p. 124 5-15 Fails to indicate any response about the Westminster Confession. If he had no exceptions, it should be stated in the Minutes. G.12-4.

**F. Southeast**

Exception(s):

Associate Roll should be separated out from the Retired Active TE's. 106th p. 5 106-02, 107th p. 5 107-0303, 108th p.5 108-02. G. 19-2B.

**G. West**

Exception(s):

Re: the authorization of the Ministerial Committee to serve as an Administrative Commission to dismiss churches to dissolution or independence, the Book of Order reference in the minutes – G.21-2D.2.f – doesn't exist in the 2019 – 2020 issue of Book of Order. There is no provision to dissolve or dismiss churches under 21-2.D.2.e, which discusses authorization of the Ministerial Committee as an ongoing Administrative Commission. 116th, Page 12-224, item G. G. 5-9, G. 5-10, G.21-2.D.2.e.

**Recommendation 40-40:**

That the Assembly approve the responses of the Presbyteries (Attachments PRC-A through PRC-N)

- A. Alleghenies ([See Attachment PRC-A](#))
- B. Central South ([See Attachment PRC-B](#))
- C. East ([See Attachment PRC-C](#))
- D. Florida and the Caribbean ([See Attachment PRC-D](#))
- E. Great Plains ([See Attachment PRC-E](#))
- F. Gulf South ([See Attachment PRC-F](#))
- G. Mid-America ([See Attachment PRC-G](#))
- H. Mid-Atlantic ([See Attachment PRC-H](#))
- I. Pacific Northwest ([See Attachment PRC-I](#))
- J. Pacific Southwest ([See Attachment PRC-J](#))
- K. Southeast ([See Attachment PRC-K](#))
- L. West ([See Attachment PRC-L](#))
- M. Midwest Unsatisfactory responses to 3.f. and 3.h. ([See Attachment PRC-M](#))
- N. Rivers and Lakes; hard to determine if responses were acceptable because PRC original comments were not included. ([Attachment PRC- N](#))

**Committee Members:**

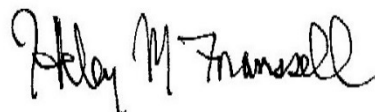
TE Helen Franssell (Chairman), Presbytery of the East  
RE Diane Manon, Presbytery of the Midwest  
RE Cecil Matthews, Presbytery of the West  
RE George King, Presbytery of the Gulf South  
TE Gary O'Keefe, Presbytery of the Midwest

**Committee Meeting Dates:**

The PRC met in a series of video conferences from March 16 through April 20, 2020, to review the minutes of the presbyteries for the past reporting year (2019).

[Click here for Minutes of the Presbytery Review Committee](#)

Respectfully submitted,



Helen Franssell, Chairman

September 2020