Women's Resource Council Report to the 40th General Assembly



Sharon Beekmann Chairman

Summary of Work, 2019-2020:

- 1. The WRC has increased participation of EPC women on social media to 645 on its Facebook page.
- 2. The WRC planned the closure of the ministry due to low participation on the resource page of the EPC website.
- 3. The WRC planned events for the 40th General Assembly.

Recommendations to the 2020 General Assembly:

Recommendation 40-34: The WRC recommends that the Women's Resource Council permanent committee close and delete all relevant sections of Rules for Assembly; having presbyteries facilitate women's ministry for local churches.

Work of the Committee in 2019-2020:

The Women's Resource Council (WRC) administers the EPC women's ministry *The Well*. It was organized in 2015 for the purpose of offering print resources to women in local churches on the EPC website and hosting social media on Facebook and a blog. Unfortunately, EPC women have not utilized these resources as hoped. For example, in one month the average traffic to *The Well* was .05% of 48,000 total hits on the EPC website.

The NLT and the WRC have concluded that women's ministries are more effective and viable when led and conducted by individual presbyteries and local churches instead of a national council. Presbyteries are in a position to know more about the needs of local churches and can assist with hosting Facebook pages for women and sharing resources for individual and small group studies, retreats, and conferences.

Currently the WRC has closed *The Well* blog. Facebook will continue through the summer.

The WRC is an EPC permanent committee, which means that closing the ministry must be voted on at the General Assembly. Following GA and after all final expenses have been paid, the National Leadership Team will divide remaining WRC dollars in reserve among the presbyteries to be used for women's ministry in their various churches.

Recommendations to the 2020 General Assembly:

Recommendation 40-34:

The Women's Resource Council recommends that the General Assembly close the permanent committee and delete all relevant sections of *Rules for Assembly;* having presbyteries facilitate women's ministry for local churches.

Committee Members:

TE Sharon Beekmann (Chairman), Presbytery of the West RE Lynn Burdge, Presbytery of the Central South RE Rebecca Duvall, Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Becky Malancon, Presbytery of the Gulf South Kathleen Marcy, Presbytery of the Rivers and Lakes Kim Sinclair, Presbytery of the Midwest

Committee Meeting Dates:

January 13-14, 2020—Orlando, Florida March 8, 2020—Video Conference April 19, 2020—Video Conference

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Beekmann, Chairman

September 2020