

Stated Clerk-elect
Report to the 41st General Assembly



Dean Weaver
Stated Clerk-elect

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” —Joshua 1:9

Although I was privileged to serve as the Moderator of our 37th General Assembly, I knew in January of this year when I began service as your Stated Clerk-elect that I was now in territory where I had never been before. Humbled to be chosen to follow Jeff Jeremiah who has served us so faithfully for these past 15 years, I am also deeply grateful to have had these past 6 months of transition to learn from and serve alongside of my friend and my brother Jeff.

These past 6 months have been a tremendous “learning curve” for me as I grew in familiarity of our Office of the General Assembly, our staff, and ministries. By sitting in on and participating in all the EPC’s committees and teams, I have come to an increasingly greater appreciation for all the Lord is doing in and through our beloved denomination. From pastors, elders, and congregations to presbyteries and GA committees, to the very ends of the earth...God is active and moving to restore His Church.

Some of my activities during this period include:

- Evaluating and revamping our OGA Employee Manual (policies and procedures).
- Realigning some of our OGA staff to better fit their gifts and our needs.
- Becoming Head of Staff on March 1st and beginning to listen and learn from my new “direct reports.”
- Working with the GA Nominating Committee to learn our process and assisting them in the all-important, Holy Spirit driven process of populating all our GA committees and teams.

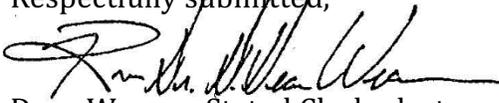
- Working with our National Leadership team to set a course for what comes next in the EPC in alignment with our mission, vision, and values.
- Learning from Jeff in all areas of the Stated Clerk's job, including preparation for this year's General Assembly.
- Serving on the World Outreach Executive Director Search Committee.
- Giving leadership to several new/renewed initiatives related to our strategic priorities.

Two of the of the initiatives I have been working on include a Pastor/Spouse Retreat(s) and the Timothy Russell Memorial Scholarship. To supplement and support what many of our presbyteries are doing to care for our Teaching Elders and their families coming out of this unprecedented year of quarantine, the OGA will be sponsoring two retreats: one at Seven Springs Mountain Resort in Champion PA on October 19-22, 2021, and the other at the Canterbury Conference Center in Oviedo FL (near Orlando) on February 15-17, 2022. Both retreats are entitled "Moving Out of the COVID Wilderness" based on guidance and teaching from Psalm 13 as led by Bishop Jim Hobby and his wife, Rev. Shari Hobby, of the Anglican Church of North America (ACNA). The other initiative flows from the work of the EPC's 7:9 Task Force in honor of one of our founding team members, Rev. Tim Russell of Second Presbyterian Church in Memphis who contracted COVID-19 last year and subsequently celebrated his homegoing to be with the Lord. In partnership with RTS Orlando, First Presbyterian Church of Orlando, Second Presbyterian Church of Memphis, and the EPC's Office of the General Assembly, we will be offering a full tuition/full housing scholarship to one person of color each year, including internships at FPCO and the OGA. Tim's deep love for his Savior and a Reformed theological education make this tribute a natural for us!

As we look to the future, we can expect to see the Lord at work in each of our congregations and presbyteries as we live into our mission and the strategic priorities that inform that mission. Expect to hear more about intentional church planting, evangelism training, and revitalization as we reach those in our 1, 3, and 5-mile radius of our congregations; more strategic directives in the development of effective biblical leaders; and finally, a renewed expression of what it means for us to be a truly global movement of Presbyterian, Reformed, Evangelical, and Missional congregations.

When Joshua led Israel into uncharted territory, he was commanded to not be afraid, because the Lord who had promised them the land, had also promised them His presence. I am humbled and honored to serve you in this new calling and I am excited to see all that the Lord will do as we place our trust in Him and follow where He leads. Wherever God guides, He provides!

Respectfully submitted,



Dean Weaver, Stated Clerk-elect

June 2021