Stated ClerkReport to the 41st General Assembly



Jeff Jeremiah
Stated Clerk

As I've reflected across my service as Stated Clerk since 2006, I'm increasingly convinced that the genius of our Presbyterian system is found in the word "with." In our churches, presbyteries, and General Assembly, leaders (Teaching and Ruling Elders) work with each other. It's a collaborative, collegial dynamic that makes our system so effective. I've observed and enjoyed this over and over in the last fifteen years. There are so many I've had the pleasure to work with during that time!

I have to list all the Moderators because I'd hate to leave anyone out; their influence and friendship have meant so much to me. There's Bill Meyers, Paul Heidebrecht, Bill Vogler, Allen Roes, Nate Atwood, Rob Liddon, Doug Klein, Ken Roberts, Bill Dudley, Gordon Miller, Mike Moses, Scott Griffin, Dean Weaver, Tom Werner, Case Thorp, Glenn Meyers, and now Brad Strait.

Members of the Committee on Administration and National Leadership Team who stand out in my gratitude include John Adamson, Alan Smith, Stretch DePuy, Nancy Duff, Leigh Swanson, Luder Whitlock, Jeff Chadwick, Gwynn Blair, and Mike Gibson.

In the General Assembly office, I've been blessed beyond measure to have served with Assistant Stated Clerks Ed McCallum and Jerry Iamurri. Stepping up to the challenge of supporting a remote working boss, "excellence" is the only word to describe Della Cullins and Marti Ratcliff in their roles as Executive Assistants to me. I do not believe it would have been remotely possible to relocate the office from Livonia, MI to Orlando, FL had it not been

for Chief Operating Officer Phil VanValkenburg. His project management expertise was on full display as we successfully made this move. World Outreach Directors Jeff Chadwick, George Carey, and Phil Linton brought distinctive strengths and leadership to EPC WO as each advanced the global mission of the EPC. Director of Communications Brian Smith has been a good friend and wise counsel on all communication matters. He was invaluable to our efforts to keep you in the loop during the Andrew Brunson ordeal. By the way, with my departure Brian is now #1 in seniority in the office. For the excellence of his work, Pat Coelho has been promoted from Director of Finance to Chief Financial Officer. Bart Francescone has brought experience and expertise to Benefit Resources, Inc. like we've never had before. During our annual meeting I've had the pleasure of working with Carol Templin and then Zenaida Bermudez. They've been "behind the scenes" but have been absolutely essential to our business meetings being organized well and running smoothly. I know there are many more deserving of my recognition and thanks, but I will conclude with Paul's words, "In all my prayers for all of you I always pray with joy because of our partnership in the gospel" (Philippians 1:3-4).

Responding to COVID-19 (continued)

The staff in the Office of the General Assembly did an outstanding job continuing to respond to questions, concerns, and problems raised by churches and presbyteries as the COVID-19 shutdown dragged on. "How can I help?" has been the hallmark of our staff during this time. Working remotely almost exclusively from April 2020 to March 2021, the Office of the General Assembly served in the following ways:

Presbytery meetings – led by Brian Smith, Director of Communications, the office gave guidance and technical support to our presbyteries as they convened virtual meetings this spring. Presbyteries are urged to revise their bylaws to provide for virtual meetings.

Local churches – Brian Smith helped many churches convene virtual congregational meetings. Led by Pat Coelho, Chief Financial Officer, the finance department of the office provided online giving services for 37 churches to help them through the shutdown. Led by Benefit Resources, Inc. Executive Director Bart Francescone, EPC benefits has maintained its high standard of service to medical and retirement plan participants.

As Dean, Jerry, and I have engaged with pastors, we became aware that many are struggling with what has been dubbed, "Pastor Separation Syndrome." It's produced by the absence of a personal touch in ministry amid the COVID-19 shutdown. It's caused by separation from staff, officers, and church members. In addition to this, there's the challenge pastors have faced in this highly politicized time. One friend said, "Jeff, I don't remember that class in seminary, "How to lead your church during a pandemic." I'm very grateful to know that with National Leadership Team and Benefit Resources, Inc. support, Dean Weaver is working to convene gatherings that will focus on restoring the health of our pastors, church planters, and global workers this fall.

Executive Transition

The National Leadership Team and its predecessor, the Committee on Administration, has distinguished itself by its strategic "look out on the horizon" perspective. In 2018 it realized

that a major change in the executive leadership of the EPC was coming with the retirement of Chief Operating Officer Phil VanValkenburg in 2019 and the retirements of Director of World Outreach Phil Linton and me in 2021. It began to escrow funds to cover the potential costs of these transitions. With the departure of the COO, the NLT gave permission for existing staff to take on the COO responsibilities for a six-month trial period. When it was clear that existing staff could cover these duties, the NLT decided to not fill this vacancy.

For World Outreach, the NLT concluded that an evaluation of this important ministry would be timely before the search for Phil's successor began. This evaluation was done in 2019-2020. Last fall the search committee for this position was appointed. In May we celebrated the announcement that Gabriel de Guia had been named to succeed Phil.

The NLT took a different approach to my transition. It concluded that a good overlap between me and my successor was necessary for the smoothest transition possible. It asked the 39th General Assembly in 2019 to approve the search committee chaired by TE Bill Dudley. Dean Weaver was announced in the spring of 2020 and elected by the 40th General Assembly in September 2020 as the fourth Stated Clerk. With his election and resignation as pastor of Memorial Park effective December 31, 2020, the Personnel Committee of the NLT (co-chaired by RE Chris Danusiar and RE Rosemary Lukens), focused its attention on the transition from me to Dean. Given his extensive experience with executive transitions, former Moderator Scott Griffin was asked to offer his expertise and wisdom and to consult with Dean and me. By December, a written plan was created and approved by the NLT. I am very grateful for all that Scott, Chris, Rosemary, and Dean invested in this transition. During our "overlap," Dean has been incredibly affirming and gracious as he's stepped into his new role. I am encouraged and confident that the Lord has His man in place to do His work in the years ahead. The future is bright for the EPC!

Per Member Asking appreciation

During the financial uncertainties that accompanied the COVID-19 shutdown, no less than 247 of our 638 churches (38.7%) distinguished themselves in 2020 for their faithful and outstanding support for Per Member Asking (PMA). The following churches contributed 100% (or more) of their PMA to support the mission and vision of the EPC. Because of their leadership, our expectations for giving in FY21 were exceeded in a way we thought unimaginable when we approved the FY21 budget in September 2020. I am disappointed to report that 172 churches (27%) did not contribute to PMA in the last year. PMA is the active membership of the local church multiplied by \$23.

Presbytery of the Alleghenies

Amazing Grace Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Bay Presbyterian Church
Bethany Presbyterian Church
Bethel Evangelical Presbyterian Church
E

Brighton Presbyterian Church Covenant Presbyterian Church Covenant Presbyterian Church CUP Evangelical Presbyterian Church Highland Heights, OH

Bay Village, OH Mercer, PA Enon Valley, PA Rochester, NY Ligonier, PA Sharon, PA Beaver Falls, PA

First Presbyterian Church of Bentleyville Bentleyville, PA Hanover Presbyterian Church Clinton, PA Harmony Evangelical Presbyterian Church Harrisville, PA Hickory United Evangelical Presbyterian Church Hickory, PA Leicester Evangelical Presbyterian Church Leicester, NY Mansfield First Presbyterian Church Mansfield, OH Middle Sandy Evangelical Presbyterian Church Homeworth, OH Mill Creek Evangelical Presbyterian Church Hookstown, PA Mountville Presbyterian Church Portersville, PA Mt Olivet Presbyterian Church Aliquippa, PA Mt. Lebanon Evangelical Presbyterian Church Pittsburgh, PA Mt. Pleasant Church Aliquippa, PA Muddy Creek Presbyterian Church Butler, PA North Park EPC Wexford, PA Petrolia Presbyterian Church Petrolia. PA Shiloh Presbyterian Church St. Marys, PA Starkdale Presbyterian Church Wintersville, OH Tabernacle Evangelical Presbyterian Church Austintown, OH Presbyterian Church of Portersville Portersville, PA Unionville Presbyterian Church Butler, PA Windy Gap Presbyterian Church West Finley, PA

Presbytery of the Central South

Central Presbyterian Church Huntsville, AL Covenant Presbyterian Church Columbus, MS First Evangelical Presbyterian Church Anna. IL First Presbyterian Church Opelika, AL First Presbyterian Church Tallassee, AL First Presbyterian Church West Point, MS First Presbyterian Church Corinth, MS First Presbyterian Church West Memphis, AR First Presbyterian Church Greenfield, TN Second Presbyterian Church Memphis, TN Sylvania Presbyterian Church Ward. AR Tunica Presbyterian Church Tunica. MS Woodland Presbyterian Church Memphis, TN

Presbytery of the East

Argyle Presbyterian Church Argyle, NY Ashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church Voorhees, NJ Bethlehem Steltz Reformed Church Glen Rock, PA Christ Presbyterian Church Springfield, MA Deerfield Presbyterian Church Deerfield St., NJ Fairview Evangelical Presbyterian Church Glenmoore, PA **Grace Covenant** Exton, PA Huntingdon Valley Presbyterian Church Huntingdon Valley, PA Little Britain Presbyterian Church
Oreland Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Presbyterian Church of Kennett Square
Princetown Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Silver Lake Christian Community Church
Upper Octorara Presbyterian Church
Peach Bottom, PA
Kennett Square, PA
Duanesburg, NY
Brackney, PA
Parkesburg, PA

Presbytery of Florida and the Caribbean

Community Presbyterian Church
Covenant Presbyterian Church
Faith Evangelical Presbyterian Church
GracePoint Plant City

Clewiston, FL
Tallahassee, FL
Brooksville, FL
Plant City, FL

Presbytery of the Great Plains

Avery Presbyterian Church Bellevue, NE Bathgate Presbyterian Church Cavalier, ND Colonial Presbyterian Church Kansas City, MO Cornerstone Presbyterian Church Leawood, KS Eastminster Presbyterian Church Wichita, KS Faith United Presbyterian Church Brandon, SD First Presbyterian Church Siloam Springs, AR First Presbyterian Church Clay Center, KS Grace Evangelical Presbyterian Church Lawrence, KS Idana Presbyterian Church Clay Center, KS Kirk of the Hills Tulsa, OK New Hope Evangelical Presbyterian Church Blue Rapids, KS

Turner County Evangelical Presbyterian Church Davis, SD

Presbytery of the Gulf South

Christ Presbyterian Church Daphne, AL City of Refuge Church Houston, TX **Cornerstone EPC** Katy, TX Covenant Evangelical Presbyterian Church Lake Jackson, TX Covenant Presbyterian Church Monroe, LA Edna Presbyterian Church Edna, TX Faith Church Brownsville Brownsville, TX First Presbyterian Church Mexia, TX First Presbyterian Church Baton Rouge, LA First Presbyterian Church Ocean Springs, MS First Presbyterian Church of Port Gibson Port Gibson, MS **Grace Chapel Madison EPC** Madison, MS Grace Presbyterian Church Alexandria, LA

Memorial Presbyterian Church

Minden Presbyterian Church

Osyka Presbyterian Church

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Gulfport, MS

Woodland Presbyterian Church Yokena Presbyterian Church New Orleans, LA Vicksburg, MS

Presbytery of Mid-America

Big Creek Presbyterian Church Hannibal, MO Brookdale Presbyterian Church St. Joseph, MO Central West End Church Saint Louis, MO City Church St. Louis, MO EPiC Evangelical Presbyterians in Christ Church Troy, MO Faith Presbyterian Church Perryville, MO **Greentree Community Church** Kirkwood, MO Providence Presbyterian Church Bowling Green, MO

Sutter Presbyterian Church Bridgeton, MO

Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic

Bethlehem Presbyterian Church

Bishopville Presbyterian Church

Bouldin Memorial Presbyterian Church

Buffalo Presbyterian Church

Creensboro NG

Buffalo Presbyterian Church

Creensboro NG

Buffalo Presbyterian Church

Creensboro NG

Buffalo Presbyterian Church

Buffalo Presbyterian Church Greensboro, NC
Centre Presbyterian Church Mooresville, NC
Christ Community Church - Montreat NC

Christ Community Church - Montreat Montreat, NC
Christ Fellowship Church Southern Pines, NC

Christ the King Community Church
Concord Presbyterian Church
Elon Presbyterian Church
Madison Heights, VA

Englewood Presbyterian Church Rocky Mount, NC

Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Elkton Elkton, VA Fellowship of Christ Cary, NC

Fellowship of Christ Cary, NC
First Presbyterian Church Martinsburg, WV

Forest Hills EPC Wilson, NC

Galatia Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Galatia Presbyterian Church
Fayetteville, NC
Cardon Momenial Presbyterian Church
Charlette, NC

Garden Memorial Presbyterian Church Charlotte, NC
Grove Presbyterian Church EPC Dunn, NC

Hendersonville Presbyterian Church Hendersonville, NC

Hope Church Raleigh Raleigh, NC

Kershaw Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Kershaw, SC

Lighthouse Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Mooresville NC

Lighthouse Evangelical Presbyterian Church Mooresville, NC Mebane Presbyterian Church Mebane, NC Memorial Presbyterian Church Greensboro, NC

Midway Evangelical Presbyterian Church

New Zion, SC

New Cut Presbyterian Church

Longarton SC

New Cut Presbyterian Church

New Hope Community Church

Overbrook Presbyterian Church

Caffney, SC

Caffney, SC

Caffney, SC

Caffney, SC

Peace Church Durham, NC
Princeton Presbyterian Church Princeton, WV

Riceville Valley Community Church Ridgecrest Presbyterian Church

Roseann Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Rourk Presbyterian Church Siler Presbyterian Church

Trinity Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Troy Presbyterian Church Valley Hope Church

Walkers Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Walkersville Presbyterian Church

Wayside Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Presbytery of the Midwest

Attica Evangelical Presbyterian Church Cedarville United Presbyterian Church College Corner Presbyterian Church

Community Evangelical Presbyterian Church Cornerstone Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Covenant Church

Covenant Presbyterian Church of Tecumseh

Evangelical Community Church

Faith Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Faith Presbyterian Church

Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church

First Evangelical Presbyterian Church First Evangelical Presbyterian Church

First Presbyterian Church First Presbyterian Church First Presbyterian Church

First Presbyterian Church of Bucyrus First Presbyterian Church of Hillsdale

Gateway Church

Kirkmont Presbyterian Church

Lake City Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Lebanon Presbyterian Church Living Hope Evangelical Church

North Oaks Church

Oakhill Presbyterian Church

Olivet EPC

Peace Presbyterian Church Russellville Presbyterian Church Southport Presbyterian Church

Stonebridge EP Church

Westminster Church of Port Huron

Wheat Ridge Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Asheville, NC Locust, NC Hurley, VA

Rockingham, NC Wesley Chapel, NC

Florence, SC Trov. NC

Black Mountain, NC

Pamplin, VA Waxhaw, NC Sanford, NC Bluefield, WV

Attica, IN Cedarville, OH College Corner, OH

Owosso, MI Brighton, MI West Lafayette, IN Tecumseh, MI

Cincinnati, OH Rochester Hills, MI West Lafayette, IN

South Lyon, MI Kokomo, IN Battle Creek, MI Greenville, OH Ossian, IN

Paulding, OH Bucyrus, OH Hillsdale, MI Findlay, OH

Beavercreek, OH Lake City, MI Lebanon, OH Grosse Pointe, MI Clarkston, MI Grand Rapids, MI

Evansville, IN Flint, MI

Russellville, OH Indianapolis, IN Perrysburg, OH Port Huron, MI Seaman, OH

Presbytery of the Pacific Northwest

Alder Presbyterian Church Eatonville, WA Bickleton Evangelical Community Church Bickleton, WA Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church Gig Harbor, WA Christ Presbyterian Church Boise, ID Community Church of Ephrata Ephrata, WA Community Presbyterian Church of Omak Omak, WA Evangelical Valley Presbyterian Church Hazelton, ID **Evergreen Church** Graham. WA First Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Oregon City, OR First Presbyterian Church of Fairbanks Fairbanks, AK Grace Evangelical Presbyterian Church Gig Harbor, WA Living Waters Evangelical Presbyterian Church Wendell, ID Logos Presbyterian Church Seattle, WA McCloud Community Church McCloud, CA Merrill Presbyterian Church Merrill, OR New Hope Evangelical Presbyterian Church Burney, CA New Hope Presbyterian Church Kent. WA Oakville Presbyterian Church Shedd, OR Okanogan Evangelical Presbyterian Church Okanogan, WA Parkdale Community Church Parkdale, OR Parkway Presbyterian Church Tacoma. WA Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church Klamath Falls, OR Roslyn Presbyterian Church Roslyn, WA Saddlerock Evangelical Presbyterian Church Wenatchee, WA Sequim Community Church Sequim, WA Sterry Memorial Presbyterian Church Parma, ID Wabash Church Auburn, WA Woodland Presbyterian Church Woodland, WA

Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest

Centerville Presbyterian Church Fremont, CA Community Presbyterian Church of Danville Danville, CA **Covenant Community Church** Vacaville, CA Easton Presbyterian Church Fresno, CA First Armenian Presbyterian Church Fresno, CA First Presbyterian Church Hanford, CA First Presbyterian Church of Bakersfield Bakersfield, CA Kingman Presbyterian Church Kingman, AZ Sierra Presbyterian Church Nevada City, CA Woodlake Presbyterian Church Woodlake, CA

Presbytery of the Rivers and Lakes

Aplington Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Bethel Presbyterian Church
Buffalo Prairie Presbyterian Church
Reading, MN
Reynolds, IL

Christ Alone Church Green Bay, WI Faith Evangelical Presbyterian Church Crivitz, WI First Evangelical Presbyterian Church Cedar Grove, WI First Presbyterian Church Waukegan, IL First Presbyterian Church Hillsboro, IL First Presbyterian Church of Mora Mora, MN First Presbyterian Evangelical Church Montezuma, IA First United Presbyterian Church Moline, IL Highview Evangelical Presbyterian Church Dousman, WI **Hogarty Community Church** Aniwa, WI Kishwaukee Community EPC Stillman Valley, IL Riverside Evangelical Church Sartell, MN Romine Prairie Presbyterian Church Kell, IL United Presbyterian Church of Amberg Amberg, WI Wabash Presbyterian Church at Orio Allendale, IL

Presbytery of the Southeast

Bethany Presbyterian Church Kingsport, TN Buck Hill Presbyterian Church Newland, NC Covenant Presbyterian Church Rome, GA First Presbyterian Church Stanton, KY Murphy Presbyterian Church EPC Murphy, NC New Hope EPC Kingsport, TN Signal Mountain Presbyterian Church Signal Mountain, TN Trion Evangelical Presbyterian Church Trion. GA Hixson, TN Valleybrook Presbyterian Church

Presbytery of the West

Cherry Hills Community Church Highlands Ranch, CO **Christ Covenant Church** Leoti, KS Stapleton, NE Cornerstone Church of Stapleton **Cornerstone Community Church** Aurora, CO Cornerstone Community Church of Greeley Greelev, CO Faith Evangelical Church CO Loveland, CO First Presbyterian Church of Hagerman Hagerman, NM Good Shepherd Evangelical Presbyterian Church Ajo, AZ Mountain Road Church Fruit Heights, UT

Respectfully submitted,

Huy Germal V Jeremiah

June 2021

Click here for the 2020 Annual Church Report Click here for the 2020-2021 Descending Overture 20-A Ballot and Totals Overview

Churches Received, Dissolved, or Dismissed, May 2020-May 2021

Churches Received:

Presbytery	of the	Central	South

Church	City	State	Received	From
Covenant Family Church	Memphis	TN	8/1/2020	Church Plant

Presbytery of the East

Church	City	State	Received	From
Resurrection Clinton Hill	Brooklyn	NY	11/1/2020	Church Plant
Resurrection Sheepshead Bay	Brooklyn	NY	11/1/2020	Church Plant
Resurrection Williamsburg	Brooklyn	NY	11/1/2020	Church Plant

Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic

Church	City	State	Received	From
Hopewell Presbyterian Church	Florence	SC	10/18/2020	PC(USA)

Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest

Church	City	State	Received	From
Wintersburg Presbyterian Church	Santa Ana	CA	10/9/2020	ECO

Churches Dissolved or Dismissed:

Presbytery of the Alleghenies

Church	City	State	Received	Dismissed/Dissolved
Connellsville Presbyterian Church	Connellsville	PA	5/23/2015	2/7/2021

Presbytery of the Central South

Church	City	State	Received	Dismissed/Dissolved
First Presbyterian Church of New Madrid	Florence	SC	5/23/2012	7/15/2020

Presbytery of Florida and the Caribbean

Church	City	State	Received	Dismissed/Dissolved
Cornerstone Bible Church	St. Petersburg	FL	5/20/2007	12/31/2020

Presbytery of the Midwest

Church	City	State	Received	Dismissed/Dissolved
Peace Church	Middleville	MI	11/14/2014	7/15/2020

Presbytery of the West

Church	City	State	Received	Dismissed/Dissolved
Celebration Community Church	Denver	CO	8/24/2003	3/26/2021