

MINISTRY COUNCIL	3
JUDICIARY	6
THEOLOGY AND SOCIAL CONCERNS/UNIFICATION TASK FORCE REPORT ONE	8
THEOLOGY AND SOCIAL CONCERNS/UNIFICATION TASK FORCE REPORT TWO	9
CHILDREN’S HOME/HIGHER ED	10
STEWARDSHIP/ELECTED OFFICERS/OUR UNITED OUTREACH	13
CHAPLAINS/HISTORICAL FOUNDATION	19
MINUTES	21

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY COUNCIL

I. REFERRAL

Referral to this committee was the Report of the Ministry Council.

II. PERSONS OF COUNSEL

Appearing before this committee were: Mrs. Edith Old, Director of Ministries; Reverend Mike Wilkinson, Representative from Ministry Council; and Reverend Milton Ortiz, Missions Ministry Team Leader.

III. CONSIDERATION OF REFERRAL

A. REPORT OF THE MINISTRY COUNCIL

We commend the Ministry Council for all of its hard work and make the following recommendations. The Committee in discussion would like to additionally thank all front-line workers and those who sacrificed time, energy, and efforts in the midst of the pandemic.

RECOMMENDATION 1: That Recommendation 1 of the Report of the Ministry Council, “that all Denominational Center staff (General Assembly Office; Board of Stewardship, Foundation and Benefits; Historical Foundation; and the Ministry Council) be recognized and commended for the faithful ministry they carried on during the COVID-19 pandemic,” be adopted.

B. AFFIRMATION OF FAITH AND COMMITMENT TO WITNESS FOR CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIANS

The Committee received the subject affirmation of faith and commitment to witness and fully concur in its form and content. We encourage all judicatories to take this to heart and distribute the affirmation to congregations and ministers.

We believe God’s mighty act of reconciling love is accomplished in Jesus Christ, the divine Son who became flesh to be the means by which the sins of the world are forgiven.

We believe that Jesus Christ willingly suffered sin and death for every person. We believe that on the third day after being crucified, Christ was raised from the dead, appeared to many disciples, afterward ascending to God, and makes intercessions for all persons.

We believe the Holy Spirit works through the scriptures, the sacraments, the corporate worship of the covenant community, the witness of believers in word and deed, and in ways beyond human understanding. We believe the Holy Spirit moves on the hearts of sinners, convincing them of their sins and their need for salvation, and inclining them to repentance and faith toward God.

We believe the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, being nurtured, and sustained by worship, by proclamation and study of the word, and by the celebration of the sacraments, is commissioned to witness to all persons who have not received Christ as Lord and Savior.

We believe that God gives to the human family a variety of gifts, including gifts to each person for which each has a responsibility. We believe that God desires that each of us engage in the mutual sharing of these gifts so that all may be enriched.

We believe that all who are united to Christ by faith are also united to one another in love. In this communion we are to share the grace of Christ with one another, to bear one another’s burdens, and to reach out to all other persons.

Therefore, we promise and commit ourselves to share the love of God in Jesus Christ by telling others the good news of Jesus and by helping those who suffer and are oppressed.

We promise and commit ourselves to live out our faith at home and in the world by creatively using our gifts, skills, and energies in every relationship.

We promise and commit ourselves to care for people outside the church because they are created in God’s image and because Jesus Christ gave His life for all of us.

We promise and commit ourselves to share the good news of Jesus Christ so that others will come to believe in Him and want to become a part of God’s covenant family, and we will do all we can to welcome new believers as our brothers and sisters.

(The Confession of Faith for Cumberland Presbyterians sections 3.07, 3.09, 4.02, 5.10, 5.28, and 6.12.
The Catechism for Cumberland Presbyterians questions 78-81).

RECOMMENDATION 2: That Recommendation 2 of the Report of the Ministry Council, “That the 190th General Assembly adopt the Affirmation of Faith and Commitment to Witness for Cumberland Presbyterians and encourage all presbyteries to incorporate it in their 2021 fall presbytery meeting worship service or devotion and encourage their congregations to include it into their worship service on Worldwide Communion Sunday October 3, 2021,” be adopted.

C. CRITICAL SITUATION RESPONSE TEAM

The Committee supports the development of critical incident responses teams within the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The committee believed it was important to be consistent with the name of team across the report and going forward, therefore:

RECOMMENDATION 3: That Recommendation 3 of the Report of the Ministry Council, “that the 190th General Assembly encourage each presbytery to form a critical incident response team to include strategies, contingency plans and persons tasked to coordinate risk assessment, management, and communications related to crises that may occur within the bounds of their presbytery,” be denied.

RECOMMENDATION 4: That the 190th General Assembly encourage each presbytery to form a critical situation response team (CSRT) to include strategies, contingency plans and persons tasked to coordinate risk assessment, management, and communications related to crises that may occur within the bounds of their presbytery.

The committee believes it is important to be intentional about the distribution of resources and information for presbyteries regarding recommendation 4 therefore:

RECOMMENDATION 5: That the 190th General Assembly instruct the Ministry Council to distribute the Example of Critical Situation Response Team to the Stated Clerks of each presbytery and guide implementation of Recommendation 4.

Respectfully submitted,
The Ministry Council Committee

FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES

Example of Critical Situation Response Team (CRST)

To know what the correct responses should be in a situation it is important to have a short list of organizational objectives. These objectives help an organization define areas in which it needs to make plans.

Objectives:

1. Mitigate and manage critical events that could seriously diminish the capacity of presbyteries/churches to carry out their work.
2. Provide training (risk assessments and contingency planning), expertise, and communication portals to planning teams of sponsored events. Presbyterian CSRT could implement training (risk assessments and contingency planning), expertise, and communication portals for localized future crisis response.

Action Plan for Objective #1:

1. Determine who will be on the presbytery/church CSRT.
2. Conduct risk assessment for the organization and events as a CSRT.
3. Develop contingency plans for events and if needed develop policies.
 - a. Contingency plans: How a presbytery/church responds in a critical situation.
 - b. Policies: Rules that explain what the CRST will and will not do.
4. Develop a communication portal.
5. Should a critical situation arise at an event, the CSRT will respond.

Action Plan for Objective #2:

1. CSRT will provide training for presbytery/church.
 - a. Conduct risk assessments.
 - b. Develop contingency plan.
2. Develop a communication portal and guidance on how it can be used.
3. Develop a data bank of relevant information, including contacts, that the presbytery/church CSRT will need.
4. The presbytery/church CSRT will manage critical situations related to their respective organization and within their purview.

Delimitations:

1. The emergency and police services are the primary responders in an emergency, not the CSRT.
2. The CSRT is not responsible for all critical situations. The CSRT is responsible for those situations in which it has contingency plans or an understanding/agreement with other CSRTs.

Where to Begin:

1. Meet and do a risk assessment to determine potential crisis/es.
2. Make a list of sponsored events/activities.
3. Start to build a framework for appropriate persons to access and build upon.

Some of that will include:

 - Cancellation/postponement of events due to crisis.
 - Parameters of off-site/on-site crisis protocols.
 - Determining what is/is not a crisis.
 - Who determines that something is/is not a crisis?

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

I. REFERRALS

Referrals to this committee are as follows: The Report of the Permanent Committee on Judiciary and The Report of the Joint Committee on Amendments.

II. PERSONS OF COUNSEL

Appearing before the committee were: Reverend Michael Sharpe, Stated Clerk; Reverend Geoff Knight, representative of the Permanent Judiciary Committee; Mrs. Debra Shanks, Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Midwest; and Reverend Milton Ortiz, team leader of the Missions Ministry Team.

III. CONSIDERATION OF REFERRALS

A. REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON AMENDMENTS

The referrals to the Joint Committee from 189th General Assembly were edited and presented for adoption in the following recommendations:

RECOMMENDATION 1: That Recommendation 1 of the Report of the Joint Committee on Amendments, that, Constitution 3.071 be amended to read:

“The following persons shall be seated by a judicatory as advisory members with full privilege of speaking to any issue before the judicatory, but no vote:

- a. In sessions, assistant and associate pastors approved and installed by the presbytery,
- b. In middle judicatories, elected officers of the judicatory, (for example, stated clerk, engrossing clerk, and treasurer), and official representatives from the judicatory’s standing committees or boards,” be adopted.

RECOMMENDATION 2: That Recommendation 2 of the Report of the Joint Committee on Amendments, that, Constitution 3.072 be amended to read:

“The following persons may, with the approval of the judicatory, be seated as advisory members of the judicatory upon their introduction by the moderator:

- a. In middle judicatories, visiting ordained Cumberland Presbyterian ministers and elders.
- b. Elected youth advisory delegates.
- c. Representatives from higher judicatories.
- d. Visiting ministers or leaders from other denominations with which the judicatory is in partnership.
- e. Any other person whose presence would, in the judgment of the judicatory, serve the mission and ministry of the judicatory,” be adopted.

Official Comment to 3.07: Except for persons who are designated as advisory members by right, persons whose presence would assist the judicatory in the accomplishment of its work can always be seated as advisory members and granted permission to speak to the judicatory by a majority vote or common consent.

If adopted each recommendation will go to presbyteries for final adoption and approval.

B. REPORT OF THE PERMANENT JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

1. PROPOSED REVISION TO CONSTITUTION

This section is covered by recommendations 1 and 2 above.

2. REVIEW OF SYNOD MINUTES

The Committee spoke with Persons of Council and noted that the items under review of Synod Minutes have been addressed satisfactorily. A representative from the Judiciary Committee made the editorial change to delete bullet point 3 under the Synod of the Midwest.

After consultation with the Representative of the Permanent Judiciary Committee, the committee recommends the following:

RECOMMENDATION 3: That the second bullet point of the report regarding the Synod of the Midwest that states “The minutes did reflect that due to the failed attempt of Synod of the Midwest to review missing records of ordination from North Central Presbytery, the Committee considers the adoption of the Synod’s policy to revoke ordinations if presbyterial records are not received by the Synod an illegal action and would recommend that a proper response would be to contact the Presbyterial Committee on Ministry (or equivalent committee) and request a joint meeting with the Synod in an attempt to rectify the situation,” be referred back to the Permanent Judiciary Committee and recommend that they should meet with the Stated Clerk, Synod of the Midwest, in an effort to reconcile miscommunications requested in this section of the report.

3. GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVES, JOINT COMMITTEE ON AMENDMENTS, AND ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee concurs with the remaining report.

Respectfully submitted,
The Judiciary Committee

REPORT NUMBER ONE OF THE COMMITTEE ON THEOLOGY AND SOCIAL CONCERNS/ UNIFICATION TASK FORCE

I. REFERRAL

Referrals to this committee are as follows: The Report of the Unified Committee on Theology and Social Concerns, The Report of the Unification Task Force and a Resolution presented to the 190th General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

II. PERSONS OF COUNSEL

Appearing before this committee were: Reverend Lisa Scott, representative, of Unified Committee on Theology and Social Concerns; and Reverend Steve Mosley, representative, of the Unification Task Force.

III. CONSIDERATION OF REFERRALS

A. UNIFICATION TASK FORCE

The committee considered the report and wishes to commend the task force members for their hard work and many hours spent these last years on unification with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America. After consultation with the representative of the Unification Task Force, the committee makes the following recommendations:

RECOMMENDATION 1: That Recommendation 1 of the Report of the Unification Task Force, “that the Unification Task Force be dissolved, and that the two General Assemblies elect an Implementation Task Force, to be made up of six members, three members of each former denomination, at least one of whom served on the UTF, plus the stated clerks of the two churches as ex-officio members (eight members total)”, be denied.

RECOMMENDATION 2: That Recommendation 2 of the Report of the Unification Task Force, “that the Unification Task Force be dissolved,” be adopted.

RECOMMENDATION 3: That Recommendation 3 of the Report of the Unification Task Force, “that CPC and CPCA Presbyteries and Synods be encouraged to seek out opportunities for developing union churches and presbyteries that would relate to both denominations,” be adopted.

RECOMMENDATION 4: That Recommendation 4 of the Report of the Unification Task Force, “that the CPC and CPCA General Assemblies elect a new Joint Committee on Multi-cultural Ministries to be composed of four members of each denomination, encouraging the General Assemblies to include adults of all age groups, especially younger adults, to be supported by the General Assembly offices of both denominations,” be adopted contingent upon approval by CPCA.

RECOMMENDATION 5: That Recommendation 5 of the Report of the Unification Task Force, “that \$12,000 from the allocation that had been given to the UTF be allocated to this new Joint Committee on Multi-cultural Ministries for its first year of work,” be adopted.

RECOMMENDATION 6: That Recommendation 6 of the Report of the Unification Task Force, “that the General Assembly offices of the CPCA and CPC be charged to study the desirability and feasibility of periodic concurrent meetings of our two General Assemblies so that we can continue to work and worship together as Cumberland Presbyterians. We request that a joint report be made to both Assemblies in 2022,” be adopted.

Respectfully Submitted,
Committee on Theological and Social Concerns/Unification Task Force

REPORT NUMBER TWO OF THE COMMITTEE ON THEOLOGY AND SOCIAL CONCERNS/ UNIFICATION TASK FORCE

I. REFERRAL

Referrals to this committee are as follows: The Report of the Unified Committee on Theology and Social Concerns, The Report of the Unification Task Force and a Resolution presented to the 190th General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

II. PERSONS OF COUNSEL

Appearing before this committee were: Reverend Lisa Scott, representative, of Theology and Social Concerns; and Reverend Steve Mosley, representative, of the Unification Task Force.

III. CONSIDERATION OF REFERRALS

A. REPORT OF THE UNIFIED COMMITTEE ON THEOLOGY AND SOCIAL CONCERNS

The committee considered the report and the resolution and wishes to commend the committee for their diligent work and many hours spent these last three years on developing a position statement on the issues of human sexuality. After consultation with the representative of the Unified Committee on Theology and Social Concerns, the committee makes the following recommendations:

RECOMMENDATION 1: That Recommendation 1 of the Unified Committee on Theology and Social Concerns, “that the General Assembly adopt the statement of human sexuality,” be denied.

RECOMMENDATION 2: That General Assembly affirm what the Confession of Faith states on human sexuality, with specific regard to section 1.11 that states: “Among all forms of life, only human beings are created in God’s own image. In the sight of God, male and female are created equal and complementary. To reflect the divine image is to worship, love and serve God.”

RECOMMENDATION 3: That a Statement of Opposition to Oppression based on Sexual Identity: “We affirm the Confession of Faith and its definition of human sexuality. Echoing the Holy Scripture, the Confession declares that humans are created in the image of God, so we believe that there is no place in any form in our church or in our world for hate, denigration, unkind confrontation, and/or physical violence perpetrated on anyone, or oppression of any person based on their gender or sexual expression.” Be affirmed and referred to the Permanent Unified Committee on Theology and Social Concerns for development of resources.

At the close of the committee meeting prayer was offered for Hong Kong presbytery.

Respectfully Submitted,
Committee on Theological and Social Concerns/Unification Task Force

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN’S HOME AND HIGHER EDUCATION

I. REFERRALS

Referrals to this committee are as follows: The Report of the MTS Evaluation Committee, The Report of the Board of Trustees of Memphis Theological Seminary, The Report of the Board of Trustees of Bethel University, and the Board of Trustees of the Cumberland Presbyterian Children’s Home,

II. PERSONS OF COUNSEL

Appearing before this committee were: Reverend Jody Hill, President of Memphis Theological Seminary; Reverend Kip Rush, Moderator of the Board of Trustees of Memphis Theological Seminary; Reverend Wes Johnson, member of the Board of Trustees of Memphis Theological Seminary; Reverend Larry Blakeburn, member of the MTS Evaluation Committee; Reverend Michael Qualls, Director of the Program of Alternate Studies; Dr. Walter Butler, President of Bethel University; Mr. Bill Dobbins, member of the Board of Trustees at Bethel University; Mrs. Courtney Banatoski, President & CEO of the Cumberland Presbyterian Children’s Home; and Mrs. Jaime Blanton, Chief Advancement Officer of the Cumberland Presbyterian Children’s Home and visitor, Mrs. Nancy Johnson.

III. CONSIDERATION OF REFERRALS

A. THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHILDREN’S HOME

Upon receiving the report and hearing discussion from representatives from CPCH, the committee commends the Cumberland Presbyterian Children’s Home and staff for their continued work in the care, support and transformation of lives of children and families in all walks of life. Their work to enrich the lives of children and families in crisis situations deserves our continued prayers and financial support.

B. THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BETHEL UNIVERSITY

Upon receiving the report and hearing discussion from representatives from Bethel University, the committee commends the professionalism and dedication to higher education provided by Bethel University. Their continued vision and forethought have shown their dedication to keep programs and services relevant to today’s societal educational needs.

RECOMMENDATION 1: That Recommendation 1 of the Report of the Board of Trustees of Bethel University, “that the General Assembly share Bethel University’s Mission and ask Presbyteries worldwide to support the university in its prayers, financial offerings and in recommending students,” be adopted.

C. THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF MEMPHIS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

God has blessed Memphis Theological Seminary over the course of its history with faithful Cumberland Presbyterians who give generously to see future Cumberland Presbyterian leaders receive a quality education. It is vital to the future of MTS that General Assembly, synods, presbyteries, churches, and members continue to pray for and financially contribute to continue the vital ministry it is doing. MTS has now opened a pathway for PAS courses to be considered, on a case-by-case basis, for partial transfer credit (up to 17 hours possible) for anyone who wishes to pursue the MDiv Degree at MTS. Their first such transfer was recently processed. Interested students or PAS graduates are encouraged to contact the MTS Registrar for evaluation. The PAS office can assist with this process.

Upon receiving the report and conducting discussion with MTS officials, the committee submits the following recommendations:

RECOMMENDATION 2: That Recommendation 1 of the Report of the Board of Trustees of Memphis Theological Seminary, “that we call on all Cumberland Presbyterians to pray that God will continue to call men and women to the office of ministry, and that they will be well prepared through our educational institutions to lead growing and vibrant congregations in the ministry of Jesus Christ to the world,” be adopted.

RECOMMENDATION 3: That Recommendation 2 of the Report of the Board of Trustees of Memphis Theological Seminary, “that we call on Cumberland Presbyterians to offer a prayer of thanksgiving that MTS’s accreditation has been reaffirmed by both of its accrediting bodies with no stipulations,” be adopted.

The General Assembly Evaluation Committee requested a strategic plan for how the seminary envisions more aggressively reducing or eliminating the loan on its property. The Evaluation Committee also requested a plan for reducing the seminary’s dependence upon the \$1 million line of credit loan used for operation purposes. To address these financial concerns, the seminary has a long-term strategic plan known as the Memphis Theological Seminary 2019-2023 Institutional Strategic Plan, and a short-term strategic planning process known as the 2021 Strategic Planning Process of the P & E (Planning & Evaluation Committee). On June 4, 2018, the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) asked Memphis Theological Seminary (MTS) for a report by November 1, 2019, regarding the development of a coherent and comprehensive institutional strategic plan that focused on key priorities linked to specific strategies for how the school’s major challenges would be addressed.

RECOMMENDATION 4: That Recommendation 3 of the Report of the Board of Trustees of Memphis Theological Seminary, “that the General Assembly approve the MTS Trustees’ desire to explore the possibility of selling some or all of the MTS campus property. This recommendation is part of the seminary’s strategic planning process led by the MTS Planning and Evaluation Committee. Selling some or all of the campus property has the potential for significantly reducing or eliminating MTS’s \$2.3 million property debt, and the seminary’s dependence upon their \$1 million line of credit loan for operational purposes,” be denied.

Upon discussion and agreement with the Committee and MTS, we the committee:

RECOMMENDATION 5: That the General Assembly approve the Memphis Theological Seminary Trustees’ desire to sell some or all of the MTS rental properties and/or vacant lots. This recommendation is part of the seminary’s strategic planning process led by the MTS planning and evaluation committee. Selling some or all of the rental properties and/ or vacant lots has the potential for significantly reducing or eliminating MTS’s \$2.3 million property debt, and the seminary’s dependence upon their \$1 million line of credit loan for operational purposes.

RECOMMENDATION 6: That Recommendation 4 of the Report of the Board of Trustees of Memphis Theological Seminary, “that the third Sunday in August, (August 15, 2021 and August 21, 2022) be included in the General Assembly Calendar as Seminary/PAS Sunday, and that the General Assembly encourage all churches to share information about MTS and PAS and receive a special offering on that day, or on a more convenient day of the session’s choosing,” be adopted.

D. THE REPORT OF THE MTS EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The Evaluation Committee has conducted an extensive evaluation and is confident in the findings. They commend the President and Board in their diligence in seeking God’s will.

RECOMMENDATION 7: That Recommendation 1 of the Report of the MTS Evaluation Committee, “that MTS, as a component of its short and long-term strategic plan, develop procedures to address the communication and relationship needs identified in this report,” be adopted.

RECOMMENDATION 8: That Recommendation 2 of the Report of the MTS Evaluation Committee, “that Presbyteries affirm the importance of section 6.34 of the Constitution which states:

“No licentiate shall be ordained who has not completed a degree in a graduate school of theology approved by the presbytery. Exceptions may be made only of persons possessing suitable gifts and abilities for a fruitful ministry, but who, because of reasons considered valid in the judgment of the presbytery, cannot be expected to complete the regular course of study in a graduate school of theology. In such cases a licentiate shall not be ordained until he or she has satisfactorily completed under the direction of the presbytery a two-year program of alternate studies approved by the General Assembly,” be adopted.

RECOMMENDATION 9: That Recommendation 3 of the Report of the MTS Evaluation Committee, “that believing we have fulfilled the directives of General Assembly, we recommend the dissolution of the MTS Evaluation Committee,” be adopted.

After hearing discussion and reports from the various boards and committees, the committee recommends:

RECOMMENDATION 10: That the general assembly direct the Memphis Theological Seminary Board of Trustees commission a feasibility study focusing on the long-term financial health of Memphis Theological Seminary.

Respectfully submitted,
The Committee on Children's Home/Higher Education

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STEWARDSHIP/ELECTED OFFICERS/OUO

I. REFERRALS

Referrals to this committee are as follows: The Report of the Moderator; The Report of the Stated Clerk; The Report of the Board of Stewardship, Foundation and Benefits; The Report of the Our United Outreach Committee; The Report of the Place of Meeting Committee; The 2020 Line Item Budgets Submitted by General Assembly Agencies, The 2021 Line Item Budgets Submitted by General Assembly Agencies and the Memorial from Grace Presbytery regarding the translation of General Assembly business.

II. PERSONS OF COUNSEL

Appearing before this committee were: Reverend Robert Heflin, Executive Secretary, Reverend Alan Butler, Coordinator of Benefits, and Board Representative, Reverend Gary Tubb (Board of Stewardship); Reverend Cliff Hudson, Director and representative Robin Wills (Our United Outreach Committee); Reverend Michael Sharpe, Stated Clerk; and Reverend Shelia O'Mara, Moderator of the 189th General Assembly. We wish to express our appreciation to the persons of counsel for their presentation.

III. CONSIDERATION OF REFERRALS

A. REPORT OF THE MODERATOR

The Committee met with Moderator Sheila O'Mara and reviewed the report and its recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION 1: That Recommendation 1 of the Report of the Moderator, "that the 190th General Assembly approve an annual day of prayer and fasting on Ash Wednesday for the global Cumberland Presbyterian Church," be adopted.

RECOMMENDATION 2: That Recommendation 2 of the Report of the Moderator, "that the 190th General Assembly task the Ministry Council to develop a strategic plan that includes a mission statement, vision statement, guiding principles and goals for the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and report back to the 192nd General Assembly," be denied.

The Committee offers a substitute recommendation that expands the tasking to additional agencies rather to the Ministry Council alone.

RECOMMENDATION 3: That the 190th General Assembly task the Ministry Council, General Assembly office, Board of Stewardship, and the Historical Foundation (and other relevant entities) to develop a strategic plan that includes a mission statement, vision statement, guiding principles and goals for the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and report back to the 192nd General Assembly. This team is to be convened by the Stated Clerk in the Fall of 2021.

RECOMMENDATION 4: That Recommendation 3 of the Report of the Moderator, "that the 190th General Assembly change its bylaws to reflect a bi-annual meeting of General Assembly," be denied.

RECOMMENDATION 5: That Recommendation 4 of the Report of the Moderator, "that the 190th General Assembly change its bylaws to state that the term of the Moderator and Vice Moderator will be for a 2-year tenure," be denied.

RECOMMENDATION 6: That Recommendations 3 and 4 of the Report of the Moderator be referred to the Office of the General Assembly for study and feasibility along with other changes currently under exploration, regarding the meeting format/ model for future General Assembly meetings.

After discussion of the election of a new moderator and the immediate change of leadership and the resulting unpreparedness of the incoming Moderator, the committee offers the following recommendation:

RECOMMENDATION 7: That the General Assembly office review the process of transition of Moderator as to moving the time of election and/or installation of the new moderator to later in the week and consider other ways of improving the transition.

B. THE REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK

The Committee met with Reverend Michael Sharpe, Stated Clerk and discussed his report and recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION 8: That Recommendation 1 of the Report of the Stated Clerk, “that the 190th General Assembly commend Reverend Vernon Sansom for his dedicated service as Engrossing Clerk, from 2012 – 2021,” be adopted.

RECOMMENDATION 9: That Recommendation 2 of the Report of the Stated Clerk, “that the 190th General Assembly declare that the Constitutional Amendments have been approved,” be adopted.

RECOMMENDATION 10: That Recommendation 3 of the Report of the Stated Clerk, “that the 190th General Assembly approve the following dates for the 2021-2022 Church Calendar,

CHURCH CALENDAR 2021-2022

July-2021

4 Outdoor Ministries Sunday
10 Program of Alternate Studies Graduation
10-24 PAS Summer Extension School, Bethel, McKenzie, Tennessee
17 Children’s Fest/Middle Schooler’s Event, McKenzie, Tennessee
24-27 presbyterian Youth Triennium, Indianapolis, Indiana

August-2021

1-Sept 30 Christian Education Season
7 Bethel University Commencement
15 Seminary/PAS Sunday
22 MTS Fall Semester Begins
23 Bethel University Fall Semester Begins

September-2021

12 Senior Adult Sunday
19 Christian Service Recognition Sunday
19 International Day of Prayer and Action for Human Habitat

October-2021

Church Paper Month
Clergy Appreciation Month
Domestic Violence Awareness Month
3 Worldwide Communion Sunday
12 A Day at the Park
17 Native American Sunday
20 Pastor Appreciation Sunday

November-2021

Any Sunday Loaves and Fishes Program
1 All Saints Day
4-6 Symposium
5 World Community Day (Church Women United)
7 Bethel University Sunday
7 Stewardship Sunday
14 Day of Prayer for People with Aids and Other Life-Threatening Illnesses

21 Bible Sunday
21 Loaves and Fishes Offering
28-Dec 24 Advent in Church and Home

December-2021

Any Sunday Gift to the King Offering
4 Bethel University Commencement
19 Gift to the King Offering
24 Christmas Eve
25 Christmas Day

January-2022

6 Epiphany
10-11 Stated Clerks' Conference
9 Human Trafficking Awareness Day
10 BU Spring Semester Begins
15 Deadline for receipt of 2020 Our United Outreach Contributions
23 Family Sunday
24 MTS Classes Begin

February-2022

Black History Month
1 Annual congregational reports due in General Assembly office
6 Denomination Day
6 Historical Foundation Offering
13 Souper Bowl Sunday
13 Our United Outreach Sunday
20 Youth Sunday

March-2022

Women's History Month (USA)
2 Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent
2-April 17 Lent to Easter
4 World Day of Prayer (CWU)
27-31 National Farm Workers Awareness Week

April-2022

10 Palm/Passion Sunday
14 Maundy Thursday
15 Good Friday
17 Earth Day
17 Easter

May-2022

5 National Day of Prayer
7 Bethel University Commencement
14 MTS Closing Convocation & Graduation
29 Memorial Day Offering for Military Chaplains & Personnel for USA churches

June-2022

5 Pentecost
5 World Missions Sunday
12-17 General Assembly, Albuquerque, New Mexico
14-16 CPWM Convention, Albuquerque, New Mexico
26-July 1 Cumberland Presbyterian Youth Conference, Bethel University, McKenzie, Tennessee", be adopted.

C. THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP, FOUNDATION, AND BENEFITS

The Committee met with Reverend Robert Heflin, Reverend Gary Tubb and Reverend Alan Butler. The report was reviewed and received.

D. THE REPORT OF THE OUR UNITED OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The Committee met with the Reverend Cliff Hudson and Ms. Robin Wills. Reverend Hudson explained importance and function of OOU to the committee. The committee encourages all presbyteries to become more knowledgeable about OOU and its critical function in our denomination. The Report of the Our United Outreach Committee was accepted but the recommendation was denied.

RECOMMENDATION 11: That Recommendation 1 of the Report of the Our United Outreach Committee, “that General Assembly adopt the following Our United Outreach allocations for 2022:

The allocation is to be as follows:	\$2,500,000.00	
Development Coordinator Office and OOU Committee		92,044.00
Unification Task Force		35,000.00
Sub-total	127,044.00	
(Amount to be allocated)	2,372,956.00	
Ministry Council	\$ 1,186,478.00	50%
Bethel University	118,648.00	5%
Children’s Home	71,189.00	3%
Stewardship	142,377.00	6%
General Assembly Office	189,836.00	8%
Memphis Theological Seminary/ Program of Alternate Studies	166,107.00	7%
Historical Foundation	71,189.00	3%
Shared Services	379,672.00	15.9%
Contingency	11,865.00	.5%
(Next four items total 1.5%)		
Comm. on Chaplains	13,787.00	.581%
Judiciary Committee	13,004.00	.548%
Theology/Social Concerns	4,841.00	.204%
Nominating Committee	3,987.00	.168%
	2,372,956.00	

Our United Outreach Goal \$2,500,000.00,” be denied.

The Committee felt it was appropriate to remove the guaranteed designations related to the Unification Task Force (UTF) and allow use by the proposed Multi-cultural Committee discussed in the Report of the Unification Task Force, Recommendation 5, page 136.

RECOMMENDATION 12: That the General Assembly remove the guaranteed designation for the Unification Task Force allocation for 2022 and that General Assembly Corporate Board be authorized to adjust the allocation amount designated for UTF, pending actions of both the Cumberland Presbyterian Church General Assembly and Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America General Assembly regarding any future funding needs (e.g. proposed new multi-culture committee).

RECOMMENDATION 13: That the General Assembly Corporate Board also be authorized to re-allocate any remaining balance of Unification Task Force funds for possible GA expenses due to impact of COVID-19 (e.g. lower attendance, cancellation of CPCA GA concurrent meeting, reduced staffing/ meeting and meal function demand.)

RECOMMENDATION 14: That General Assembly adopt the following Our United Outreach allocation for 2022:

The allocation is to be as follows: \$2,500,000.00

Development Coordinator Office and OOU Committee	92,044.00	
Sub-total	92,044.00	
	(Amount to be allocated) 2,407,956.00	
Ministry Council	\$ 1,186,478.00	50%
Bethel University	118,648.00	5%
Children's Home	71,189.00	3%
Stewardship	142,377.00	6%
General Assembly Office	189,836.00	8%
Memphis Theological Seminary/Program of Alternate Studies	166,107.00	7%
(Proposed Multi-Cultural Committee	12,000.00	.5%)
<i>(*Contingent upon approval of this new committee by both CPC and CPA as recommended in the UTF report.)</i>		
Historical Foundation	71,189.00	3%
(Shared Services	379,672.00	15.4%)
Contingency	11,865.00	.5%
(Next four items total 1.5%)		
Comm. on Chaplains	13,787.00	.581%
Judiciary Committee	13,004.00	.548%
Theology/Social Concerns	4,841.00	.204%
Nominating Committee	3,987.00	.168%
	2,407,956.00	
2022 Our United Outreach Goal	\$2,500,000.00	

E. THE REPORT OF THE PLACE OF MEETING

The Report of the Place of Meeting was received and accepted.

F. 2020 & 2021 LINE ITEM BUDGETS SUBMITTED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENCIES

The budgets were reviewed and accepted

G. MEMORIAL FROM GRACE PRESBYTERY REGARDING THE TRANSLATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY BUSINESS FOR OUR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING CP BROTHERS AND SISTERS.

The Committee discussed the Memorial from Grace Presbytery and in consultation with the Stated Clerk it was felt this memorial requires further study and review.

RECOMMENDATION 15: The Memorial from Grace Presbytery which states:

WHEREAS the Cumberland Presbyterian Church is a global church, and;

WHEREAS each year the Cumberland Presbyterian Church meets to discuss the business of the denomination, and;

WHEREAS delegates are duly elected by the Presbyteries to represent the interests of each geographic grouping of churches, and;

WHEREAS with the globalization of the church has increased diversity of thought as well as diversity in leadership, and;

WHEREAS the pace of the meeting of General Assembly does not always allow time for verbal translation of reports and/or discussion into the native languages of our non-English speaking delegates, placing them at a disadvantage;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Cumberland Presbyterian Church produce reports to be acted upon at the annual General Assembly in the native languages of all the elected delegates.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the officers of the General Assembly maintain and ensure an environment of fair hearing of all business that is transacted on the floor of General Assembly so that all seated members of the body be given the opportunity to understand the issues at hand via printed reports in their native language as well as sufficient time given for the verbal translation of business being read or discussed on the floor of General Assembly into the native languages of those attending the judicatory meeting so that the duly elected delegates are able to comprehend and understand the business at hand.

I certify that this is a true copy of the memorial adopted by Grace Presbytery on October 18, 2019.
Signed Jessie Dunnaway, Stated Clerk,” be denied.

RECOMMENDATION 16: That the Memorial be referred to the Office of General Assembly for study and feasibility along with other changes currently under exploration, regarding the meeting format/ model for future General Assembly meetings.

Respectfully submitted,
The Stewardship/Elected Officers/OUO Committee

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CHAPLAINS/HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

I. REFERRALS

Referrals to this committee are as follows: The Report of the Board of Trustees of the Historical Foundation and The Report of the Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel.

II. PERSONS OF COUNSEL

Appearing before this committee were: Ms. Susan Knight Gore, Archivist, Historical Foundation; Ashley Lindsey, Historical Foundation Board Representative; Navy Chaplain Lyman M. Smith (CAPT, CHC, USN), Director of the Presbyterian Council for Chaplains and Military Personnel, and Mr. Tommy Craig, representative, General Assembly Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel.

III. CONSIDERATION OF REFERRALS

A. REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON MILITARY CHAPLAINS AND PERSONNEL

The Chaplains/Historical Foundation Committee recognizes this has been a very trying time to be a chaplain. We appreciate Chaplain Smith meeting with this committee and the insights he shared regarding the ministry opportunities being laid before the chaplaincy.

As with previous presentations to the committee, Chaplain Lyman Smith shared the great need our service communities have for people to answer the call to the chaplaincy. There are many opportunities to serve, and unlike some times in the past there are more resources dedicated to training and supporting for those endorsed to serve as chaplains. The need for dedicated spiritual guidance is being recognized on a broader scale. Many of the federal agencies within the USA are incorporating endorsed chaplains in the field. We encourage those called to ministry to consider the chaplaincy as it benefits their pastoral calling and financial resources may be available to help complete training.

1. SUPPORT OF THE PCCMP

This committee recognizes the authority of the presbytery at the local level and presents the following recommendations:

RECOMMENDATION 1: That Recommendation 1 of the Report of the Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel, “that each USA Cumberland Presbyterian Church provide an opportunity for their congregations to receive an offering on the last Sunday of May, or another special day, to support our ministry through the PFC,” be denied.

RECOMMENDATION 2: That presbyteries encourage each USA Cumberland Presbyterian Church to provide an opportunity for their congregations to receive an offering on the last Sunday of May, or another special day, to support our ministry through the PFC.

RECOMMENDATION 3: That Recommendation 2 of the Report of the Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel, “that individual congregations of both the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America encourage their individual churches and members to designate special days through the year to engage in prayer to hold up the chaplains and their families in the service to which they have been endorsed,” be denied.

RECOMMENDATION 4: That presbyteries encourage their individual churches and members to designate special days through the year to engage in prayer to hold up the chaplains and their families in the service to which they have been endorsed.

RECOMMENDATION 5: That Recommendation 3 of the Report of the Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel, “that the 190th General Assembly change its bylaws in Article 10.01.03 and 10.08 to rename the Commission to Commission on Federal Chaplaincies,” be adopted.

B. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

The Chaplains/Historical Foundation Committee recognizes the unending task of archiving our vital church history. We are very appreciative of the dedication and passion Mrs. Susan Knight Gore and Ms. Ashley Lindsey have for this ministry. Preservation of our collective history for future generations is often a less than glorious and underappreciated calling.

1. SUPPORT OF THE HISTORICAL FOUNDATION
Regarding Section III, A5, Denomination Day Offering.

The committee felt there needs to be an understanding of the scope and cost of digitizing historical records.

RECOMMENDATION 6: That the Historical Foundation obtain budgetary estimates for the conversion of fragile and deteriorating analogue media to digital formats in order that it might be preserved. This estimate is to be presented to the 191st general assembly.

Respectively submitted,
The Chaplains/Historical Foundation Committee

**The
 Proceedings
 of the**

**ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-NINTH
 GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

of the

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

session held in

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY
June 27 - July 2, 2021

At Louisville, Kentucky and within the facilities of the Galt House Hotel, there the twenty-seventh day of June in the year of our Lord, two thousand twenty-one, at the appointed hour of two o'clock in the afternoon, minister and elder commissioners from the various presbyteries, youth advisory delegates and visitors assembled.

FIRST DAY – MONDAY – JUNE 28, 2021

The day began with orientation for commissioners and youth advisory delegates at 9:30 a.m. led by Stated Clerk Michael Sharpe. Following the orientation, the youth advisory delegates were dismissed to meet with Reverend Nathan Wheeler, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry. The chairs and co-chairs of the General Assembly committees met with acting engrossing clerks, Reverend Lisa A. Scott and Mr. Tommy Craig, for further orientation. Engrossing clerk, Reverend Vernon Samson was unable to attend General Assembly.

THE ASSEMBLY IS CONSTITUTED

The Moderator, the Reverend Sheila O'Mara, called the assembly to order at 2:03 p.m. She made preliminary announcements for Commissioners to move to the round tables, and that due to the Zoom meeting for international participants there would be no livestreaming of General Assembly meetings this year. She asked that cell phones be silenced and that attendance cards be turned in to the Stated Clerk's table. She also appointed the parliamentarian, Reverend Geoff Knight of the Judiciary Committee.

WELCOME, PASTOR HOSTS, LOCAL OFFICIALS

The Moderator asked pastor hosts Reverend Drew Hayes, Reverend Rodney Harris and Reverend Iwao Satoh, Cumberland Presbytery, to come forward to bring greetings to the Assembly. Pastor Hayes brought opening greetings and then asked Pastor Host Rodney Harris to introduce, Mayor Greg Fischer of Louisville, Kentucky. Mayor Fischer brought greetings on behalf of the city to those assembled and told of highlights to the city.

Elder John Talbott, Presbytery del Cristo, prayed the constituting prayer.

THE ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

On motion, the program was adopted.

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

The Reverend Kenny Morgan, Hope Presbytery, presented the Report of the Credentials Committee. There were forty-six (46) ministers, thirty-eight (38) elders, making a total of eighty-four (84) commissioners present at 2:00 p.m. There were nineteen (19) youth advisory delegates present. On motion the report was concurred in, marked appendix "A" and filed.

ELECTION OF THE MODERATOR

Moderator Reverend Sheila O'Mara expressed thanks to the General Assembly, and for those who have supported her during her tenure as Moderator in 2019 and 2020. She then opened the floor for nominations for the office of Moderator of the one hundred ninetieth General Assembly. The following nominations, previously endorsed by their presbytery were presented: Reverend Terra Sisco, Red River Presbytery, nominated the Reverend Duawn Mearns, Red River Presbytery. The Reverend Henry Jenkins, Arkansas Presbytery, nominated the Reverend Alan Meinzer, Arkansas Presbytery.

The Moderator asked if there were further nominations. None were made. The Moderator declared that nominations cease, and the body proceeded to hear the nomination speeches. The Reverend Steve Mosley, Arkansas Presbytery, gave the nominating speech in favor of the Reverend Mearns. Reverend Mosley was not a member of the General Assembly, therefore consent was granted by the body for him to speak. The Reverend Chris Anderson, Arkansas Presbytery, spoke in favor of the Reverend Meinzer. Reverend Anderson was not a member of the General Assembly, therefore consent was granted by the body for him to speak.

The Moderator invited Reverend Duawn Mearns to come forward to make remarks. She then invited Reverend Alan Meinzer.

Moderator O'Mara informed the delegates that it was time to cast their ballots for Moderator of the one hundred ninetieth General Assembly. The Engrossing Clerk and members of the Credentials Committee collected the ballots. The Credentials Committee and the Stated Clerk exited the assembly hall to count the ballots.

While the ballots were being counted, the Moderator asked Captain, Chaplain, US Navy, Retired Lyman Smith, Director of Presbyterian Federal Chaplaincies to bring greetings and remarks. Director Smith spoke of the range of federal chaplain ministries that are under the oversight of the Presbyterian federal chaplaincies. He mentioned the Cumberland Presbyterian chaplains engaged in ministry in varied settings: federal prisons (David McBeth); Veterans Health Administration (VHA) (Lisa A. Scott and David Lefavor) and National Association of VA Chaplains (David Lefavor), and military chaplains Jason Logan (Army Reserve), Glen Turner (USN) and John Phelps (USN). He called attention to the unique opportunities that chaplaincies provide in sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with those who might never enter a church. He thanked the General Assembly for its support of chaplains.

Reverend Kenny Morgan, Hope Presbytery, reported the results of the election of the Moderator: thirty-eight (38) votes cast for Reverend Alan Meinzer and forty-two (42) votes for Reverend Duawn Mearns. Moderator O'Mara declared the Reverend Duawn Mearns, moderator of the one hundred ninetieth General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Retiring Moderator Sheila O'Mara placed the moderator's cross on Reverend Mearns and presented him the gavel.

Moderator Mearns called for a five-minute recess.

RETURN TO BUSINESS AFTER RECESS

Moderator Mearns called the General Assembly back from recess at 2:30 p.m.

ELECTION OF THE VICE MODERATOR

Moderator Mearns opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Moderator. The Reverend Henry Jenkins, Arkansas Presbytery, nominated Reverend Alan Meinzer for Vice Moderator of the one hundred ninetieth General Assembly. On motion, nominations ceased, and the Reverend Alan Meinzer was elected Vice Moderator of the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Stated Clerk announced there are communications.

CORRECTIONS TO PRELIMINARY MINUTES

Corrections to the preliminary minutes were provided to the Commissioners prior to the start of business. It was noted that Elder Ralph Baggett's name appeared under two committee assignments. He is assigned to the Higher Education/Children's Home Committee and not to the Chaplains/Historical Foundation Committee.

INTRODUCTION OF BOARD/AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

Bethel University	Walter Butler/Bill Dobbins
Commission on Chaplains	Tommy Craig/Lyman Smith
Children's Home	Courtney Banatoski/Jaime Blanton
Historical Foundation	Susan Knight Gore/Lisa Oliver
Judiciary	Geoff Knight
Memphis Theological Seminary	Jody Hill/Kip Rush
Memphis Theological Seminary Evaluation Committee	Larry Blakeburn
Ministry Council	Edith Old/Mike Wilkinson
Our United Outreach	Cliff Hudson/Robin Wills
Stewardship	Robert Heflin/Gary Tubb
Theology and Social Concerns	Lisa Scott
Unification Task Force	Steve Mosley

PRESENTATION BY STATED CLERK

The Stated Clerk, Michael Sharpe, invited the retiring Moderator, the Reverend Shelia O'Mara to the podium and presented her with a replica of the Moderator's cross and a gavel representing the one used in the one hundred eighty-ninth General Assembly. Reverend O'Mara thanked the assembly for allowing her to serve as moderator.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS AND REFERRALS TO COMMITTEES

The Stated Clerk, Michael Sharpe announced that the referrals to committees are as listed in the Preliminary Minutes with the addition of the Memorial from Grace Presbytery regarding the translation of General Assembly business for our non-English speaking brothers and sisters. The Memorial was handed out to all delegates and on motion it was referred to Stewardship, Elected Officials and Our United Outreach Committee.

Reverend Joy Warren, Murfreesboro Presbytery, presented a Resolution regarding the resources pertaining to the LGBTQIA+ community. On motion the Resolution was referred to the Select Committee on Theology and Social Concerns.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3:43 p.m. recess was declared by Moderator Mearns until Thursday Morning at 9:30 a.m. Committees met briefly following the adjournment to organize.

RECEPTION

Following the business meeting, a reception to honor the past Moderator, the Reverend Sheila O'Mara; the newly elected Moderator, the Reverend Duawn Mearns; the newly elected Vice-Moderator, the Reverend Alan Meinzer; the past President of the Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry, Judi Truitt; and the President Judy Miller-McGee of the Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry was held in Ballroom B. Moderator Mearns's family were in attendance: wife, Honey and daughters, Anna, Sara and Emma.

THE EVENING PROGRAM

The General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Convention of Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry and visitors met at 7:00 p.m. at the Galt House Hotel for a Worship/Communion Service under the direction of General Assembly Worship Director Reverend Neal Wilkinson, Missouri Presbytery, who served as Worship Leader. The Music Director was Mrs. Faye Delashmit, Cumberland Presbytery. The Pianist was Kathy Tabor of Cumberland Presbytery. Acolytes were Benjamin Wells, Murfreesboro Presbytery and Ava Jacks, Grace Presbytery. Following the prelude, "You Raised Me Up," Youth Advisory Delegates Ava Bolin, Red River Presbytery, Chase Laxson, Missouri Presbytery, Jackson Martin, Grace Presbytery and Natalia Rodriguez, Trinity Presbytery, read the scripture, Isaiah 40:1-25.

Opening music, "At the Name of Jesus," was shared by the host presbytery ensemble: Reverend Steve and Faye Delashmit; Reverend Rodney Harris; Patricia Butler; Reverend Steve and Paula Louder; Diana Clark; Carla Embry and Mrs. Kathy Tabor, pianist. The call to worship was provided by Mrs. Judi Truitt, Women's Ministry Convention President. Hymns for congregational singing included "Let It Rise," "Rise Up O Church of God," "Make Me a Servant," and "I Am Thine O Lord." The Memorial Roll was read of the Ministers who have died during 2019 and 2020.

Special music, "Let the Church Rise," was provided by the host presbytery ensemble. Youth Advisory Delegates, Chase Laxson, Jackson Martin and Natalia Rodriguez, returned to the platform to read Isaiah 40:26-31. Reverend Shelia O'Mara, past moderator of the General Assembly, Presbytery del Cristo, preached the sermon, "Rise Up" based on Scripture Isaiah 40:31.

Reverend O'Mara officiated the installation of Moderator Duawn Mearns, asking him the questions adapted from the Confession of Faith on installation of pastors. She asked the following questions:

- To the Moderator

Are you willing to assume the responsibilities as moderator of this General Assembly?

Do you believe that in taking upon you these responsibilities you are influenced by a sincere desire to promote the glory of God and the good of the church?

Do you solemnly covenant that, in reliance upon the grace of God, you will endeavor faithfully to fulfill the responsibilities of moderator to this General Assembly, as God gives you wisdom and strength?

He answered in the affirmative.

She then asked the General Assembly its question:

- To the General Assembly? Do you, as members of the General Assembly, accept Reverend Duawn Mearns as Moderator, chosen by God through the voice of this body, to guide us in the way of Jesus Christ? The question was also answered in the affirmative.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion was served by co-celebrants Reverend Neal Wilkinson, and Reverend Shelia O'Mara. During communion Mrs. Faye Delashmit sang, "Communion Song." Moderator Duawn Mearns gave the benediction.

SECOND DAY – TUESDAY – JUNE 29, 2021

The General Assembly began its day with devotions in respective committees. Forty-five (45) ministers, thirty-nine (39) elders and nineteen (19) Youth Advisory Delegates were in attendance in committees.

THE EVENING PROGRAM

At 8:30 p.m., Commissioners and visitors participated in a Reception Honoring Women in Ministry in Ballroom B. The reception was hosted by Memphis Theological Seminary/the Program of Alternate Studies, the Ministry Council's Pastoral Development Team and Ministry Council's Missions Ministry Team. Each sponsor had a representative share words of appreciation for all women in ministry and the ordained clergy who were present in the ballroom. Attendees enjoyed fellowship, refreshments, and wonderful door prizes.

THIRD DAY – WEDNESDAY – JUNE 30, 2021**THROUGH NOON**

The General Assembly began its day with devotions in respective committees. Thirty-nine (39) ministers, thirty-six (36) elders and eighteen (18) Youth Advisory Delegates were in attendance in committees.