

**PROCEEDINGS****BONCLARKEN, FLAT ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA****Synod Week Activities**

An opening praise and testimonies service was held in the Bonclarken Chapel at 7:00 P.M. on Sunday Evening.

At each morning during the meeting of General Synod C.E. Linderman led devotions and a Psalm sing.

The clerks of the Presbyteries held a breakfast meeting on Tuesday Morning.

Erskine Theological Seminary hosted a luncheon on Tuesday.

The Woman's Synodical Union held an informal drop-in on Tuesday from 2:30 until 4:00 P.M. at Synodical Hall.

A Minister's Wives' Fellowship was held Wednesday at 10:00 A.M. with Sarah Ellen Carson as speaker.

**Monday, June 7, 1999****7:30 P.M.**

The "Orientation for New Delegates," was held at 2:00 P.M. in the Jean White Conference Room of Founder's Hall.

The Men's Chorus for Synod practice was held at 4:30 P.M. in the chapel.

The 195th annual meeting of the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church officially began with the opening worship service and the celebration of the Sacrament of The Lord's Supper in the new Youth Activity Building at 7:30 P.M.

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Prelude

\*Call To Worship ..... Bible Song 301

\*The Prayer of Constitution of the General Synod .... Rev. W. A. Frazier

\*Psalm ..... Bible Song 280

Men's Chorus      *And Can It Be? & Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*

Memorial Service

    The Listing of Deceased Elders..... Mr. James S. Kidd

    The Prayer of Thanksgiving and Petition..... Mr. Robert Oates

\*Psalm ..... (Back of Book) Bible Song 26

\*Scripture Reading ..... Rev. G. W. Letchworth

Sermon ..... Rev. G. W. Letchworth

    The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

    Rev. Robert E. Patrick, III and Rev. G. W. Letchworth, Jr.

\*Psalm ..... Bible Song 242

\*Apostle's Creed

The Invitation to the Lord's Table

    The Prayer of Confession and Consecration

    The Distribution of the Bread and Cup

    The Prayer of Praise and Thanksgiving

\*Hymn ..... 473

\* Benediction

Postlude

(See **Appendix** for the tributes and the list of deceased Elders.)

**Tuesday, June 8, 1999  
8:30 A.M.**

The opening worship was led by L.C. Draffin.

Special music was provided by Synod's Men's Chorus.

Moderator J. M. Dickson reminded the delegates that the entire meeting of the General Synod is the worship of God.

Mr. Dickson introduced Ken Hoffman, Chairman of the Bonclarken Board, who spoke words of welcome to the delegates and visitors to Bonclarken on behalf of the Board and Bonclarken Director, J. T. Brice. Eleanor Richardson, the Bonclarken Director of Development, was introduced to the Synod by Mr. Hoffman as a part of his welcome.

J. M. Bell led the Synod in prayer.

The roll was constituted by the Principal Clerk (See **Appendix** for the Official Roll of Synod).

The Retiring Moderator's Address was given by J. M. Dickson.

Retiring Moderator Dickson presented Moderator-Elect Dwight L. Pearson to the Synod. Joe McElwee, Elder Representative from the Chester Church, escorted Mr. Pearson to the podium. Mr. Dickson placed the Moderator's Shield around Mr. Pearson's neck and made brief remarks. Retiring Vice-Moderator G. W. Letchworth led in prayer. Moderator Pearson presented the Retiring Moderator's Bible to Mr. Dickson and called the attention of the Synod to the flowers placed in the sanctuary by Mr. Dickson in honor of Mrs. Dickson on their fifty-second wedding anniversary.

Moderator Pearson spoke to the Synod on the status of Vice-Moderator Brice. He introduced his family to the Synod, having Mrs. Pearson and members of the Chester Church to stand.

Moderator Pearson presented his Moderator's Challenge to the Synod.

**MODERATOR'S CHALLENGE  
GOD FOCUSED, CHRIST CENTERED,  
HOLY SPIRIT DRIVEN**

Colossians 2:6,7

Psalms 42/43—selected verses

**First of all:**

Thanks to Almighty God for His love and His goodness and for choosing me to serve Him.

Thanks to God for Jesus Christ who is both my Savior and my Lord.

Thanks to God for Holy Spirit who enables and sustains and who is enabling me even now, and Thanks to God for the Church and the opportunity we all have to serve.

Thank you for the opportunity to be able to stand in this time and in this place. Thank you for the opportunity to serve. At the beginning, I request your prayers as I seek to honor God in my life and through this work, as I seek to follow Christ, and yearn for the indwelling and enabling Holy Spirit to bathe this work each day with His guidance and power.

It is my prayer for each of us during this the last meeting of our General Synod in this century and as we plan for the first decade of the new millennium that everything we do will be God focused, Christ centered, and Holy Spirit driven.

On May 31, 1999, at 7:15 A.M. a group of men from the Chester Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church gathered for prayer and as we prayed, one of the men prayed for this meeting of the General Synod. This Ruling Elder prayed to Almighty God that our meeting would be peaceful, productive and God focused. The words of that prayer, added to the thoughts in the beaker of my mind, will be the substance of this challenge.

The theme verse for the proposed Emphasis for 2000 is taken from Col 2:6-7 NIV: *So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.* And the theme is ROOTED AND GROWING IN CHRIST. As this theme was developed it was and is our hope that we think not only about —What Got us Here—but what sustains, what strengthens, what enables us to go forth daily in the service of the living God. We longed to challenge each congregation to look back and give thanks for how *The line have fallen unto us in pleasant places*, to know how we are rooted in Christ in the faith. However, as we lifted up certain reasons to praise God for the past, we wanted to encourage growth in Christ.

The challenge is that we in our meeting during these days and throughout our lives above all else be God focused, Christ centered and Holy Spirit driven.

### **GOD FOCUSED:**

(Prov 29:18 KJV) *Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.*

Jesus taught in the beatitudes *Happy are those whose greatest desire is to do what God requires.*TEV

Is it our greatest desire to do what God requires? Is it our greatest desire to honor God in and through our lives? Is your life focused on God?

In Psalm 42—the Psalmist talks of the deer thirsting for the water brook and relating that in the same way his heart—all of his being thirst for the living God. In Psalm 43—the Psalmist calls God—*My exceeding joy.*

Are our lives so focused on God that we thirst for Him and that He is our exceeding joy?

My wife and I enjoy canoeing and one of the things we have learned is that when you are going down a river, you keep your eyes focused on where

you want to go. We have a Nikon camera. The camera has an automatic focus mode that at times has difficulty focusing on an object when there are too many things around. Our lives are often out of focus when we do not focus on God.

May it be our aim and goal throughout the remainder of our lives to stay GOD FOCUSED.

### **CHRIST CENTERED:**

Most of us know what it means to be in debt, in business, or in love. We understand those things.

*As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him.* Col. 2:6

It is one thing to give Christ a place in your life. It is another thing to give Christ a position in your life. But the ultimate stance for us is to give Christ both prominence and preeminence.

Let's each examine our own lives:

What about—personal life—daily habits—family life—attitude toward our neighbors—social life—ministry—Church work—Presbytery work—what about your desires for this Synod? ARE ALL OF THESE/ CAN YOU SAY THAT IN EVERYTHING YOU SEEK TO GIVE CHRIST PREEMINENCE? Is Christ the most dominant thing in your life? I will have to confess that the devil knows where I am and sometimes I seek to dethrone Christ and enthrone self. I pray for God's forgiveness and seek redirection.

When others look at you and me do they see Jesus Christ? Do they see Jesus Christ because we have given Him preeminence and prominence? Do they simply see you and me because we have chosen to give Christ only a place or a position in our lives?

Christ prayed *Not my will but thine be done*

*Father forgive them for they know not what they do.*

*Father, into Thy hands I commit my spirit.*

### **HOLY SPIRIT DRIVEN:**

Often in our lives and in our work we get involved in activities and we wave a banner for this or that, we push and promote a cause such as ONA, BONCLARKEN, WORLD WITNESS, ETS, RTS, ARP, PCA, NIV, NASV, NKJV, KJV, a certain individuals writings,—all good and commendable—and arguable causes.

Is the Holy Spirit in control, are we being driven by Holy Spirit or do we seek to control and suppress by our own power and our own spirit, is it our control we seek?

By the power of the Holy Spirit let us rise to the level of our greatest potential for God.

Let us be Holy Sprit driven and creative.

Dr. Army Daniel—a Cumberland Presbyterian elder and past Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Bethel College—wrote the following challenge to the new president of Bethel:

The man who follows the crowd, will usually get no further than the crowd. The man who walks alone is likely to find himself in places no man has ever gone before. Please know, however, creativity in living is not without its attendant difficulties, for peculiarity breeds contempt. And the unfortunate thing about being ahead of your time is that when people finally realize you were right, they say it was “obvious” all along. All of us have two choices in life; you can dissolve into the mainstream, or you can be distinct. To be distinct, you must be different. To be different, you must strive to be what no one else but you can be.

Therefore, as we move into the year 2000—may we truly strive to be what no one else but us can be because we have made the commitment to be:

GOD FOCUSED  
CHRIST CENTERED  
HOLY SPIRIT DRIVEN.

Mr. Pearson presented the program for the 1999 meeting. Following a 2/3 vote of the Synod to allow the standing rules of the Synod to be set aside so the proposed program might be considered, the program was adopted.

Mr. Pearson made introductions of Guests to the Synod.

**Special Guests:** Donald Taws, Orthodox Presbyterian Church; Milton Eng, Professor at Erskine Theological Seminary; J. Marty Cope, Organist; John Lutz, Technician.

**Pages:** Mr. John Wages, Second Presbytery; and Mr. Greg Conover, First Presbytery.

**Ministers Who Have Been Received or Ordained Since the Last Meeting of Synod:** Wilfred Bellamy, Ph.D., Pastor Thomson Church, Second Presbytery; Charles Clendinen, Mission Developer, Redeemer, Catawba Presbytery; Steven P. Cavallaro, Pastor, Good Shepherd Church, Florida Presbytery; Paul Doriani, Mission Developer, Mint Hill Mission, First Presbytery; Benjamin Dowling, III, Pastor Bethel, Camden, Tennessee-Alabama Presbytery; Wyatt H. Folds, Jr., Executive Minister, Shepherd Road Church, Florida Presbytery; Donald L. Holloway, Pastor, Faith Church, Second Presbytery; Robert L. Hunter, Pastor, Gilead Church, First Presbytery; Michael Keifman, Pastor, Johnson Creek Church, Virginia Presbytery; Michael Leach, Mission Developer, Stone Mountain, GA, Second Presbytery; John Lewellen (Pending), Pastor Trinity Chapel, First Presbytery; Kyle Locke, Associate Pastor, Oconee Church, Second Presbytery; H. Paul Matthews, Pastor, New Windsor and Piney Creek Churches, Northeast Presbytery; Phillip McCoy, Pastor, Linden Church, First Presbytery; Lionel Morgan, Pastor, Chalmers Memorial Church, First Presbytery; Michael Payne,

Professor, Florida Presbytery; David L. Poole, Pastor, Frostproof Church, Florida Presbytery; Hyon K. "Paul" Shin, Pastor of the Young Nak Church, Second Presbytery; L. Charles Stoker, Pastor Rowan Church, Catawba Presbytery; Stuart Dean Turbeville, Pastor, Reformation Church, First Presbytery; Juan Carlos Unda (Pending), Mission Developer, Hendersonville Hispanic Mission, First Presbytery; Brian C. Whitaker, Chaplain, First Presbytery; Steve Woods, Pastor, Hopewell Church, Mississippi Valley Presbytery;

Following announcements, General Synod recessed for a Coffee Break.

Synod reconvened.

W. C. Lauderdale presided over Synod's recognition of those Ministers, Non-Ordained Employees and Missionaries who retired since the last meeting of the General Synod:

<b>Retired Minister</b>	<b>Retired Missionaries</b>	<b>Retired Lay Employee</b>
Barker, James C.	None	None
Campbell, William*		
Canfield, R. Marion		
Ellis, David R.		
White, J. Rogers		

\*Transferred to ARP Church as Retired Minister

Chaplain Tom Chadwick, Associate Director of the Presbyterian Council on Chaplains and Military Personnel was introduced to the Synod. Following his presentation, Chaplain Chadwick made a special presentation to Moderator Pearson.

W. B. Evans chaired the Fraternal Delegate session on behalf of the Inter-Church Relations Committee.

Ruling Elder James D. Walters, Jr., spoke for the Presbyterian Church in America.

The Rev. Mr. Ron Potter spoke for the Reformed Church in the United States.

Mr. Pearson continued introductions to the Synod.

**New Missions and/or Congregations Which Have Joined the ARP Family Since the Last Meeting of Synod:** Redeemer Mission, Surfside Beach, SC; Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, Wilmington, NC; Mint Hill Mission, Charlotte, NC; Reformation Church, Hendersonville, NC; Trinity Presbyterian Church, Raleigh, NC; Church of the Cross, Troy, MO; Covenant Reformed, Heber Springs, AR; Gumtree Presbyterian Church, Tupelo, MS; Helena Presbyterian Church, Helena, MS; Lifeline Community Church, Gibsonia, PA; Thomson Presbyterian Church; Stone Moun-

tain Mission; Stone Mountain, GA.

**Seminary and Special Students Under Care of Presbytery.** Those present were asked to come forward. (See Directory for complete list.)

Moderator Pearson appointed his Moderator's Committees and issued the call for the reports of the Boards for reference to the Moderator's Committees.

Item #10 of the Executive Board report was referred to the Moderator's Committee on Memorials.

A communication from the Northeast Presbytery was referred to the Moderator's Committee on the Executive Board.

A motion carried as follows:

That matters which have come to the attention of Synod officers with regard to a particular situation in our Tennessee-Alabama Presbytery be referred to the Ecclesiastical Commission on Judiciary Affairs for study and report to a subsequent session of this 195th General Synod.

R. B. Elliott, III, spoke to the Synod concerning the Synod's Prayer room and prayer times for the Synod.

R. T. Ruble spoke to the Synod with regard to his assignment concerning the new history, 1951-2001 encouraging immediate participation by everyone.

The presentation of the **Recommended Allocation of Synod's Unrestricted Funds** was made by Monte Campbell. The Allocation was adopted.

### **RECOMMENDED ALLOCATION OF SYNOD'S UNRESTRICTED INCOME FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2000**

In accordance with the procedure adopted by the 1997 General Synod, the recommended allocations are based on the pledged and/or anticipated unrestricted receipts for calendar year 1999. In the event that the actual pledges and/or anticipated receipts for calendar year 2000 exceed the budgeted amount for calendar year 2000, the program agencies of the General Synod (Bonclarken, Christian Education (Covenant Discipleship), Erskine, Outreach North America, and Publications) will be invited to present requests for additional funding for the period July—December 2000. The Board of Stewardship will review the requests and submit its recommendation to the General Synod.

Commendations are warranted to both the churches and the agencies of the General Synod. The churches are to be commended for increasing the dollar amount of their pledges by @8.25% over



1998. The agencies are to be commended for once again presenting realistic, yet comprehensive projections of their financial needs for calendar year 2000.

The Board of Stewardship has reviewed the budgets of the agencies of Synod and commends the budgets presented. We remind the members of the Court that budgets should be reviewed in Moderator Committees and/or when reports are considered by the Court, as the budgets reflect the programs and ministries of particular boards and committees.

The recommended allocation of funds by the Board of Stewardship is reflected in **column 5** of the attached. Other information presented:

**Columns 2—3** are shown for comparative purposes.

**Column 4** reflects the amounts requested by Synod's Boards and Committees.

**Column 5** reflects the recommendations of the Board of Stewardship.

**Column 6** reflects the recommended amounts as a percentage of the total funds recommended for allocation.

The recommended allocations reflect the following resources:

100% of Anticipated Commitments	
from Churches in 1999	\$ 2,463,453
5% of Market Value of ARP	
Foundation Endowment	24,034
Estimated Interest for Allocation	<u>6,703</u>
Total Resources for Allocation	\$ 2,494,190

The anticipated resources are sufficient to meet the expressed needs of all boards and agencies, and, except for the Committee on Inter-Church Relations (funding request included funding for a conference which has not yet been approved by the General Synod) and the Committee on Worship (funding request included funding for a feasibility study for a new Psalter, which will be funded from the Jean White Fund if approved) all committee requests were met. Funding for committees will be available for activities of committees which have been approved by the General Synod.

In determining the recommended allocations, the Board of Stewardship considered the approved and existing commitments, reserves, and resources each agency will have available from other sources. The primary approach was to provide the **lesser** of the requested amount or the same percentage of expected funds as was budgeted for 1999.

It should be noted that the obligations incurred by the **Commission/Committees, Executive Board of Synod, and Board of Stewardship** are paid and no reserves are carried forward. No reserves are carried forward from allocations made to **Annuities & Relief and ARP Foundation**.

The recommended allocation to Bonclarken includes \$26,160 which was requested by Bonclarken to be set aside "in a restricted account for the

specific purpose of addressing some “depreciation’ needs.” These funds will be used to address needs which will impact the cost basis of a facility.

On behalf of all the boards and committees thank you!

### **RECOMMENDED ALLOCATION OF SYNOD’S UNRESTRICTED INCOME**

AGENCY	1999		2000		
	Approved	%	Requested	Recommend	%
Administrative Services	\$ 159,440	6.99%	\$ 162,175	\$ 162,175	6.50%
Annuities & Relief	\$ 6,012	0.26%	\$ 6,192	\$ 6,192	0.25%
ARP Center Facility	\$ 10,000	0.44%	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	0.40%
ARP Foundation	\$ 30,904	1.35%	\$ 30,462	\$ 30,462	1.22%
Executive Board	\$ 99,235	4.35%	\$ 100,828	\$ 100,828	4.04%
Stewardship & Con.	\$ 26,118	1.14%	\$ 24,587	\$ 33,049	1.33%
Commission & Committees					
Ecclesiastical Com.	\$ —	0.00%	\$ —	\$ —	0.00%
Historical Concerns	\$ 10,346	0.45%	\$ 10,364	\$ 10,364	0.42%
Inter-Church Relations	\$ 12,162	0.53%	\$ 17,118	\$ 15,000	0.60%
Lay Ministry	\$ 13,885	0.61%	\$ 15,800	\$ 15,800	0.63%
Minister & His Work	\$ 7,550	0.33%	\$ 8,040	\$ 8,040	0.32%
Nominations	\$ 3,041	0.13%	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	0.14%
Theological & Social Con.	\$ 1,418	0.06%	\$ 1,418	\$ 1,418	0.06%
Worship	\$ <u>13,627</u>	<u>0.60%</u>	\$ <u>19,225</u>	\$ <u>16,225</u>	<u>0.65%</u>
Sub-Total for Non-Program	\$ <u>393,738</u>	<u>17.25%</u>	\$ <u>409,709</u>	\$ <u>413,053</u>	<u>16.56%</u>
Bonclarken	\$ 110,227	4.83%	\$ 130,800	\$ 130,800	5.24%
Christian Education	\$ 161,837	7.09%	\$ 178,871	\$ 178,871	7.17%
Dunlap	\$ —	0.00%	\$ —	\$ —	0.00%
Erskine	\$ 471,267	20.65%	\$ 508,000	\$ 508,000	20.37%
Erskine Student Union	\$ 500	0.02%	\$ 500	\$ 500	0.02%
ONA Operations	\$ 533,590	23.38%	\$ 555,094	\$ 583,623	23.40%
ONA Revitalization	\$ 6,000	0.26%	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	0.24%
Publications	\$ 81,282	3.56%	\$ 83,720	\$ 83,720	3.36%
World Witness	\$ <u>524,099</u>	<u>22.96%</u>	\$ <u>570,000</u>	\$ <u>589,623</u>	<u>23.64%</u>
Program Sub-Total	\$ <u>1,888,802</u>	<u>82.75%</u>	\$ <u>2,032,985</u>	\$ <u>2,081,137</u>	<u>83.44%</u>
<b>TOTALS</b>	\$ <u>2,282,540</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	\$ <u>2,442,694</u>	\$ <u>2,494,190</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

The Report of the **Committee on Historical Concerns** was presented and adopted.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON HISTORICAL CONCERNS

### Preservation of Church Records

The Department of Church History (Montreat, NC) serves as the official repository for the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. The General Synod makes an annual contribution to support this work. Congregations and individuals have the opportunity of membership in the Presbyterian Historical Society. Sustaining membership is \$10.00 per year (members receive a quarterly newsletter). An active sustaining membership is \$15.00 and in addition to the quarterly newsletter, there is a quarterly *Journal of Presbyterian History*. Interested persons may write to: Department of History, P. O. Box 849, Montreat, NC 28757.

Records deposited at Montreat may be placed there physically or may be microfilmed and the microfilmed records placed there. Both the Committee on Historical Concerns and the Department of History encourage the use of microfilming. A list of state archives was included in the 1994 Report to Synod and information from several states is on file with the Committee on Historical Concerns at the ARP Center. The use of these state agencies will, in all probability, provide the least expensive means of microfilming. The following suggestions are offered to better facilitate the receiving, inventorying, and storing of ARP materials sent to Montreat:

- That material be sent one time per year.
- That the materials sent be on acid free paper and in acid free file folders.
- That all materials sent be accompanied with a complete inventory, and a copy of the inventory be kept by the agency sending the materials.

The Erskine College Library also maintains selected ARP historical materials, principally General Synod and Presbytery minutes; church and family histories, anniversary materials and other memorabilia; ARP Publications, with a complete record since 1884. If you know of or have copies of publications prior to that date please contact the Committee on Historical Concerns.

### Church History

Associate Reformed Presbyterians have a rich heritage that is often overlooked by new congregations and missions. In an effort to more fully incorporate these new congregations and missions—to better utilize the resources available—the Committee has requested and the Executive Board has agreed to provide a *Set of Six* to each new congregation and mission, to be presented by the Presbytery. Presbytery Clerks should send written requests to the ARP Center, indicating the name of the church and

date of presentation.

Reverend William Roberts serves as Historian and is active in encouraging churches and individuals to preserve their histories.

The Historian continues his efforts to build the Historical Concerns Endowment Fund. This fund was established to help the Committee develop and maintain a constant program of historical preservation. Contributions or inquiries may be sent to:

Historical Concerns Endowment  
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Center  
One Cleveland Street, Suite 110  
Greenville, SC 29601-3696

### **Bicentennial Celebration—2003**

In our role as the catalyst for the celebration of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church's Bicentennial, the following goals have been set: The celebration shall be to glorify God, promote the denomination, spark enthusiasm within our members, include each congregation and agency of the denomination in the celebration, and promote unity and interest throughout the denomination.

Programs which are in the process of development for the celebration include:

1. **Inspirational Prayer Calendar.** A publication covering one year-January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003. Each day will have a Scripture citation from which a daily inspirational (message) would be written, a daily prayer focus and a daily prayer. Also, This Day in ARP History—a "short" list of important dates in ARP History. It is the goal of the Committee that an author from each congregation—as well as others from agencies, boards, commissions, ministers, and missionaries, active and retired, be secured. Copies of the calendar will be made available to individuals.
2. **Denominational-Wide Communion.** Encouraging all congregations to participate in a denominational-wide communion service on the first Sunday in May 2003, or the closest Sunday to May 9, 2003. (Synod will be requested to set the specific date.) Possibly extending this to a month of special worship services and programs emphasizing ARP history and traditions, ARP mission for the next century, local congregation celebrations, etc.
3. **Bicentennial Memorial.** A permanent memorial celebrating the Bicentennial of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church to be erected at Bonclarken.
4. **ARP History Update.** An updating of the History for the ARP Church from 1953 through 2003. This is to be a separate volume complementary to the ARP history through 1953.

There will be other programs developed for this celebration.

**Administrative**

Officers elected for the period July 1, 1999-June 30, 2000:

Chairman: Louis Evans

Secretary: Ed Hogan

**Recommendations**

1. That the Proposed Budget for 2000 be approved:

	1999	2000
Receipts		
General Synod Allocation	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,398
Historical Concerns Endowment	\$ 404	\$ 404
Historical Concerns		
Endowment Additions	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total Receipts	\$ <u>10,404</u>	\$ <u>10,802</u>
Disbursements		
Curator of ARP Material,		
Erskine	\$ 300	\$ 300
Historian Honorarium	\$ 500	\$ 500
Committee Expenses & Travel	\$ 2,139 *	\$ 2,500 *
General Office Expenses	\$ 263	\$ 300
Department of Church History,		
Montreat	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
Historical Concerns		
Endowment Transfer	\$ 202	\$ 202
Millennium & Bicenten.		
Celebrations	\$ <u>5,000</u> **	\$ <u>5,000</u> **
Total Disbursements	\$ <u>10,404</u>	\$ <u>10,802</u>

\* Increased committee expenses for the planning for the celebration. Most of the increase is anticipated in the expenses of correspondence, postage, and copying.

\*\* This is a new item for the years 1999 through 2003 for financial support of the Bicentennial Celebration. Synod has approved that any funds not expended during a specific year be “rolled over” and allowed to accumulate. Note—The Committee is requesting five thousand dollars each year, 1999 through 2003, a total of five years and \$25,000.00.

2. That the Committee continue to develop and implement plans for the Bicentennial Celebration—2003 and that the agencies, boards, committees, churches and missions, ministers and missionaries be encouraged to give assistance in the planning, production, and implementation of the programs.

Respectfully Submitted,  
J. Louis Evans, Chairman

The Report of the **Committee on Lay Ministry** was presented and adopted.

### **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LAY MINISTRY**

The Lay Ministry Committee continues to work with the laymen of the ARP Church on several fronts.

The Cornerstone Conference for young adults was held at Bonclarken in March. The Rev. Kenny Crosswhite, a PCA minister and pastor of an unaffiliated congregation in Columbia, SC, was the speaker. His theme was "The Christian Counter-Culture." Rachel Turner is coordinator for this conference.

A Layman's Workshop for the churches in Eastern North Carolina was held in May at the Fuller Memorial Church in Durham, NC. The committee provided a grant to assist the presbytery with this conference. Funds are available to assist presbyteries or individual congregations in sponsoring similar events for laymen at the local level. Application can be made through Tom Patterson (P. O. Box 1283, Mooresville, NC 28115-1283; 704-663-2611; arphighroad@earthlink.net).

Bonclarken will be the site for the annual Laity in Action Conference on July 9 & 10. Dr. Mark E. Ross, Associate Pastor at First Church, Columbia, SC, will be the speaker. He will deliver 5 messages on the theme "The Church in God's Plan." His messages will come from the book of Ephesians. This is a family event, and a children's program and child-care are part of the conference. We hope to add a segment for teenagers this year. The Alliance of Loyal Laity and the Lay Ministry Committee continue to co-sponsor this conference. Posters, registration forms, and bulletin inserts have been sent to the churches. Please make the information available to your people.

Two awards are given by the Committee each year and presented at the Laity in Action Conference. The Barnabas Award is given to a congregation which has provided encouragement to others and has exhibited faithfulness in the areas of leadership and service. The Chalmers Memorial ARP Church in Charlotte, NC, and the Christ Church, Bradenton, FL, received this award for 1998. Chalmers Memorial had suffered a division about 2 years ago and was having attendance in the single digit figures. The future seemed bleak, and it appeared the church would close its doors. The presbytery placed the congregation under the oversight of its Church Extension Committee. A pastor was found, and renewal took place. In 1998, it received 73 new members, and attendance peaked at 138. The Christ Church is a new mission congregation which has exploded with growth in just a short period of time. Attendance averages over 200 on Sunday mornings. Just recently the mission was organized as a particular church. The Onesimus Award is given to individuals who show themselves

slaves for Christ and the Gospel. Norma Columbus was the recipient of this award last year. Mrs. Columbus is a member of the Brighton, TN, ARP Church. She has organized and implemented a Vacation Bible School for handicapped children for a number of years in addition to her involvement in many other activities in the local church and community.

The Rev. R. J. Gore, Dean of Erskine Theological Seminary, Due West, SC, will be the Worship Leader for the 1999 Family Bible Conference which will be held at Bonclarken on July 26-30. The Rev. Jim Hatch, former ARP minister and on staff at Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis, MO, will be the Bible Study Leader. Marty Cope will be in charge of music.

We continue to put together Work Teams to go to congregations and agencies which have specific needs and seek to meet those needs. Mrs. Sue Hines (392 Gilbert Road, Statesville, NC 28677; 704-873-8900) coordinates the Work Trips for laymen. Those requesting assistance are responsible for meals, lodging, and supplies. The volunteers provide their own transportation and bring their own work tools. Several requests are before us: 1. replacing the roof on the Tunnel Road Church in Asheville, NC, 2. replacing the roof on the fellowship hall at the Calvary Church, Kannapolis, NC, and 3. helping with the construction, and landscaping, at the Statesville Korean Church, Statesville, NC. Please announce to your laymen these opportunities and have them contact Mrs. Hines if they wish to participate.

Officers for 1999-2000 are:

Mr. Charles Ferguson, Chairman

Mr. John Gaston, Vice Chairman

Mr. John Mathis, Secretary

Tom Patterson continues to serve as Director of Lay Ministry.

### **Recommendations**

1. That the Rev. Steve Hardy be appointed as Director and the Rev. Benjamin Dowling, III, as Assistant Director of the 2000 Family Bible Conference.
2. That the retreat and conference ministries be given proper promotion within each congregation.
3. That opportunities to prepare and equip lay people for effective Christian service and opportunities to involve laymen in ministries be provided through the local congregations and also through the work teams provided through this committee.
4. That sessions call on their people to pray daily for the work and ministry of the local congregation, the presbyteries, and the General Synod and challenge the laymen to have a systematic study of the Scripture and also to set aside a time for daily devotions.
5. That sessions be encouraged to designate one Sunday in the month of October as a day to celebrate and emphasize the role of laymen in the church.

6. That the Special Committee to Study Conferences, having concluded its work, be dissolved.

7. That the Budget for 2000 be approved as follows:

Cornerstone Conference	\$ 1,500
Family Bible Conference	\$ 4,500
Laity in Action Conference	\$ 2,000
Local Laity Workshops/Seminars	\$ 2,000
Director of Lay Ministry	\$ 3,500
Cooperative Work with A.L.L.	\$ 3,000
Committee Expense	<u>\$ 2,000</u>
Total	\$18,500

Respectfully submitted,  
Teddy Ray, Chairman

The Report of the **Committee on Inter-Church Relations** was presented.

Recommendation one was adopted

Recommendation two was adopted.

Recommendation three was adopted.

An amendment to recommendation four carried, "That paragraph 2 of number 2 of the committee recommendation concerning the subject of Fraternal Relations include as a number (4), 'Intercommunion under the oversight of the local Session, ie, fellowship at the table of the Lord.'"

Recommendation four was adopted as amended.

Recommendation five was adopted.

## **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTER-CHURCH RELATIONS**

The Committee met on January 27, 1999 at the ARP Center in Greenville, SC. The Committee was assisted in its deliberations by Mr. John Mariner, of World Witness, who reported on the ARP Synods of Mexico and Pakistan.

### **Ecumenical Organizations**

1. **International Conference of Reformed Churches.** As authorized by the 190<sup>th</sup> General Synod, the Committee has in recent years pursued membership in the ICRC. The ARP was received as a member by the ICRC at its October 1997 meeting in Seoul, Korea. The ICRC currently consists of 21 denominations, with a combined membership of almost half a million.

The ARP's ICRC membership assessment comes to \$3,269 per year. The Committee decided to send the projected amount budgeted by the 1998 General Synod this year (\$1,300), and to achieve full compliance in the future.



Because of our membership in ICRC there have been and will continue to be short-term preaching and teaching opportunities for APR pastors, especially in the Third World. The Chairman of the Committee will make such opportunities known to the ARP community via the Internet.

2. **National Association of Evangelicals.** The Committee has continued to study the question of membership in the NAE for a number of years. More recently, the EPC has urged the ARP to consider joining the NAE. The Chairman has requested further information from the NAE headquarters, and the Committee hopes to arrive at a definite recommendation regarding membership at its next stated meeting.
3. **North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council.** Membership in NAPARC currently includes (in addition to the ARPC) the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRC), The Korean-American Presbyterian Church (KAPC), the Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC), the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), the Reformed Church in the United States (RCUS), and the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America (RPCNA). The NAPARC "basis of fellowship" is defined as "full commitment to the Bible in its entirety as the Word of God written, without error in all its parts and to its teaching as set forth in the Heidelberg Catechism, the Belgic Confession, the Canons of Dordt, the Westminster Confession of Faith, and the Westminster Larger and Shorter Catechisms."

NAPARC met in Sioux Falls, South Dakota on November 17-18, 1997, and was hosted by the RCUS. The ARP delegation consisted of the Rev. Greg Slater and Dr. William Evans. The ARP report was presented by Dr. Evans.

Below is a summary of events and substantive decisions by NAPARC '98 that are of particular relevance to the General Synod.

- A. The Secretary reported that the required two-thirds of the member church synods or assemblies had voted to sustain the membership suspension of the Christian Reformed Church. This means that the CRC continues for the time being as a member of NAPARC, but has had its voting privileges suspended.
- B. Considerable interest was expressed in reaching out to the non-English speaking Presbyterian and Reformed churches in North America. The Mexican Presbyterian churches, including the PAR Synod of Mexico, will be invited to send observer delegations to next year's meeting. In addition, the Council approved an idea presented by the ARP delegation to utilize the balance of funds left over from the Westminster Assembly Commemoration Conference to fund an effort toward the provision of Reformed theological materials in the Spanish language. A

NAPARC committee convened by Dr. Evans is investigating this matter and will report to the 1999 meeting of the Council.

- C. Other matters: Dues for NAPARC membership were set at \$300.00 per member denomination. As incoming Chairman of the Committee, the Rev. Robert Cara will replace Dr. Evans on the NAPARC Interim Committee. The 1999 meeting of NAPARC will be hosted by the ARP at Bonclarken Assembly, November 16-17, 1999. The Committee has already begun preparations for hosting this event.
4. **World Presbyterian and Reformed Fellowship.** The Committee continues to study the invitation of the PCA to join with them in the WPRF.

#### **Churches in Fraternal Relationship**

In addition to our sister synods in Mexico and Pakistan, the General Synod currently maintains fraternal relations with the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, the Reformed Church in America, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, and the NAPARC member churches. Listed below are developments relating to some of these churches.

1. **Evangelical Presbyterian Church.** The 188<sup>th</sup> General Synod adopted "A Covenant of Cooperation" with the EPC, in which both churches pledged to "labor together in love to advance the work of Christ in both our common and separate ministries, seeking to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." At the same time, this "Covenant" also recognized that "some differences exist between us in our understanding of certain issues concerning God's will for His church," and it affirmed that "our common labors shall not compromise the consciences of either church," and that "the integrity of each church concerning its standards and policies must be maintained and respected."

The Rev. Allen Church served as the 1998 ARP fraternal delegate to the General Assembly of the EPC.

A meeting was held between representatives of the EPC and the ARP on November 19, 1998. Representing the EPC were Dr. Edward Davis (Stated Clerk), Dr. Paul Heidebrecht (former Chairman of the EPC Inter-Church Relations Committee), and Dr. W. Graham Smith (current Chairman of the EPC Inter-Church Relations Committee), while the ARP representation consisted of Dr. Doug Jones (Synod Coordinator), Dr. William Evans (Chairman of the Inter-Church Relations Committee), Dr. James Corbitt (Director of Outreach North America), and Dr. R. J. Gore (Dean of Erskine Theological Seminary). The discussions were cordial and positive, and a desire was expressed to move forward in areas of cooperation in keeping with the 1991

“Covenant of Cooperation.” The EPC and ARP continue to cooperate in jointly sponsoring a church-planter Assessment Center. In addition, Mr. Jim Rimmel, a former moderator of the EPC, currently serves on the Erskine Board of Trustees. Also, discussions are underway regarding joint EPC-ARP sponsorship of a conference to be held at Erskine Theological Seminary in 2000 or 2001 tentatively entitled “The Reformed Churches in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.”

2. **The Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America.** The RPCNA, with its roots in the Scottish Covenanter tradition, shares a similar heritage with the ARP. The denomination supports Geneva College in Beaver Falls, PA and Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Pittsburgh, PA. The ARP fraternal delegate to the 1998 Synod, held at Geneva College in Beaver Falls, PA, was the Rev. Wayne Frazier, who reports that the ARP is held in high esteem by the RPCNA as a sister church sharing a similar heritage.

1998 marked the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the denomination and the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Geneva College. Geneva College is embarking on a \$28 million expansion project, including the remodeling of dormitories, updating and expanding the science building, and building a new performing arts building for music and drama.

On the inter-church relations front, the RPCNA Synod voted to confirm the vote of NAPARC suspending the membership of the CRC from that organization. It also voted to suspend fraternal relations with the CRC until the year 2001, at which point Synod may decide to lift the suspension, extend the suspension, or proceed with the final termination of fraternal relations.

3. **The Christian Reformed Church.** The ARPC was represented by Dr. William Evans at the 1998 meeting of Synod of the Christian Reformed Church, meeting at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, MI.

The Synod appointed a committee to begin preparations for the review of policies regarding women in church office that is scheduled for the Synod of 2000. Current policies allows for the ordination of women elders and deacons in all CRC churches, and the ordination of female ministers in classes which vote to declare “inoperative” the word “male” in the Church Order.

Synod established new categories of church membership--baptized member, confessing member, and inactive member. Churches will not have to count inactive members when calculating their per capita ministry share contributions.

On the inter-church relations front, the Synod voted to allow CRC churches to enter into “union church” relationships with congregations from other denominations in ecclesiastical fellowship with the CRC.

4. **The Presbyterian Church in America.** The 1998 PCA General Assembly met in St. Louis, MO. The ARP fraternal delegate was Dr. John L. Carson, President of Erskine College and Seminary.

Founded in 1973, the PCA has grown to almost 300,000 members. The Moderator for 1998-99 is the Rev. Kennedy Smartt, a founding pastor of the denomination. In other leadership changes, Dr. L. Roy Taylor was elected to serve as Stated Clerk, replacing the retiring Dr. Paul Gilchrist.

A major issue at the 1998 General Assembly was the interpretation of the “days of creation” in Genesis 1. The Assembly voted that New Jersey Presbytery acted within its rights when it adopted a statement which allows latitude for pastors in their understanding of the length of creative days. Also, the Assembly voted to establish an advisory committee to study the creation accounts in Genesis, and particularly the length of the days of creation.

The Assembly voted to approve the suspension of the Christian Reformed Church from NAPARC (the Assembly voted to sever fraternal relations with the CRC several years earlier).

Upon the recommendation of Dr. Carson, and in light of the considerable potential for interaction between the two denominations on the local level, the Inter-Church Relations Committee has voted to recommend to the General Synod that fraternal delegates be exchanged with the PCA on a yearly basis.

5. **The Reformed Church in the United States.** Though the RCUS was recently admitted to NAPARC, its rules of procedure mandate that fraternal relationships be established individually by its Synod. Thus, while the ARP regards itself as in “fraternal relations” with all the NAPARC churches, the RCUS does not regard itself as having a formal relationship with the ARP.

Dr. Milton Fisher served as the ARP representative to the 1998 meeting of the RCUS Synod, and he reported a warm reception. Last year, the Committee responded to a series of questions from the RCUS Inter-Church Committee, and the Committee expects that further contacts will take place, and that the possibility of establishing fraternal relations will be explored.

#### **Study of Fraternal Relations**

The Inter-Church Relations Committee has for several years studied questions relating to the scope and significance of “fraternal relations” and ecclesiastical fellowship with other churches. Such a study was deemed necessary because of certain awkwardness resulting from the current policies and because of continuing uncertainties about what “fraternal relations” entails in a practical sense beyond the exchange of fraternal delegates. Two years ago a subcommittee consisting of the Rev. Steven

Manley, Dr. Milton Fisher, Dr. E. S. Whitesides, Dr. Douglas O. Jones, and Dr. William Evans was established, and it presented a series of proposals to the full Committee last year. The Committee recommended certain changes in policy to the General Synod of 1998, and that General Synod in turn referred the proposals back to the Committee for further study. The Committee now presents the following proposals to the General Synod for its consideration and action.

1. That membership in ecumenical organizations such as NAPARC be delinked from the issue of fraternal relations.

The rationale for this action is: (A) our policy of maintaining blanket fraternal relations with all NAPARC churches (*Manual of Authorities and Duties*, Committee on Inter-Church Relations, Duties, 3) is not reciprocated in all instances; (B) fraternal relationships are more appropriately established on their own merits; and (C) our ecumenical partners deserve to be dealt with on a more individual basis.

2. That two levels of ecumenical relationship be established in place of the current category of "fraternal relations." The first of these categories shall be "Fraternal Fellowship." This relationship of Fraternal Fellowship is reserved for churches: (A) which are other branches of the ARP Church outside of the United States, recognized by our General Synod, including the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church in Mexico; the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church in Pakistan; and other Associate Reformed Presbyterian Churches which may be formed in the future; (B) which are Reformed as to confession (i.e., churches that adhere to the Westminster Confession and Catechisms, and/or the Heidelberg Catechism, the Belgic Confession, and the Canons of the Synod of Dort), polity, and liturgy, as determined not only by their formal standards, but also by their actual practice. This relationships is understood to involve the following: (1) exchange of fraternal delegates at major assemblies; (2) occasional pulpit fellowship under the oversight of presbytery (where the ministers in question would satisfy the ordination requirements of the ARP Church); (3) intercommunion under the oversight of the local session [i.e., fellowship at the table of the Lord]; (4) joint action in areas of common responsibility; (5) communication on major issues of joint concern; (6) the exercise of mutual concern and admonition with a view to promoting the fundamentals of Christian unity.

The second category shall be one of "Fraternal Correspondence." This relationship involves correspondence and, where appropriate: (1) the exchange of official representatives at major assemblies; (2) joint action in areas of common concern; and (3) consultation on issues of joint concern.

3. (A) That relationships of “Fraternal Fellowship” be maintained with the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Pakistan, the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Mexico, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, the Presbyterian Church in America, the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, the Christian Reformed Church in North America, and the Korean-American Presbyterian Church. The Committee further recommends that fraternal delegates be exchanged with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Church in America on a yearly basis.
- (B) That relationships of “Fraternal Correspondence” be maintained with the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., the Reformed Church in America, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America.

The rationale for this action is: (1) we wish to maintain rather than cut off relations with these churches, and (2) this classification better describes and reflects the actual status of these relationships as they have evolved in recent years.

4. That the *Manual of Authorities and Duties* be amended to reflect these changes. The following language is suggested: Under “Duties,” replace the current #3 and #4 with the following:
  3. To maintain relationships of Fraternal Fellowship with the denominations approved by the General Synod. This relationship of Fraternal Fellowship is appropriate for churches: (A) which are other branches of the ARP Church outside of the United States, recognized by our General Synod, including the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church in Mexico; the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church in Pakistan; and other Associate Reformed Presbyterian Churches which may be formed in the future (NOTE: Relationships which involve a channeling of financial or people resources in programs overseas are the responsibility of the Board of World Witness.); (B) which are Reformed as to confession (i.e., churches that adhere to the Westminster Confession and Catechisms, and/or the Heidelberg Catechism, the Belgic Confession, and the Canons of the Synod of Dordt), polity, and liturgy, as determined not only by their formal standards, but also by their actual practice. This relationships is understood to involve: (1) exchange of fraternal delegates at major assemblies; (2) occasional pulpit fellowship under the oversight of presbytery (where the ministers in question would satisfy the ordination requirements of the ARP Church); (3) intercommunion under the oversight of the local session [i.e., fellowship at the table of the Lord]; (4) joint action in areas of common responsibility; (5) communica-

tion on major issues of joint concern; (6) the exercise of mutual concern and admonition with a view to promoting the fundamentals of Christian unity. (NOTE: Denominations approved are the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Pakistan, the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Mexico, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church [fraternal delegates exchanged on an annual basis], the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, the Presbyterian Church in America [fraternal delegates exchanged on an annual basis], the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, the Christian Reformed Church in North America, and the Korean-American Presbyterian Church.)

4. To maintain relationships of Fraternal Correspondence with the denominations approved by the General Synod. This relationship involves correspondence and, where appropriate: (1) the exchange of official representatives at major assemblies; (2) joint action in areas of common concern; and (3) consultation on issues of joint concern. (NOTE: Denominations approved are the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., the Reformed Church in America, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America.) **[Amended]**
5. That our ecumenical partners be informed and consulted with regard to these changes.

**Fraternal Delegates/Representatives to be Sent in 1999**

NAPARC—The Rev. Robert Cara, at-large delegate  
 Evangelical Presbyterian Church—Dr. John L. Carson  
 Orthodox Presbyterian Church—The Rev. Ray Lanning  
 Presbyterian Church in America—Dr. William B. Evans  
 United Reformed Churches—The Rev. Ray B. Lanning

**Fraternal Delegates/Representatives to be Invited in 1999**

Christian Reformed Church in North America  
 Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
 Korean-American Presbyterian Church  
 Presbyterian Church in America  
 Reformed Church in the United States  
 Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America

**Letters of Greeting Sent**

ARP Synod of Pakistan  
 PAR Synod of Mexico  
 Cumberland Presbyterian Church  
 Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America  
 Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.  
 Reformed Church in America

### Officers for 1999-2000

Chairman--The Rev. Robert Cara

Vice Chairman--The Rev. Jack Whytock

Secretary--The Rev. Steven Manley

### Proposed Budget for 2000

General Office Expense	\$	150
Committee Travel		4,800
General Synod Fraternal Delegates		5,000
Hosting Fraternal Delegates		600
NAPARC Dues		300
ICRC Dues		3,268
Conference Expenses		<u>3,000</u>
Total		\$17,118

### Recommendations

1. That the proposed committee budget for 2000 be approved.
2. That the fraternal delegates listed above be approved.
3. That fraternal delegates be exchanged with the Presbyterian Church of America on a yearly basis, and that the *Manual of Authorities and Duties* be amended accordingly.
4. That the proposals regarding the establishment of relationships of Fraternal Fellowship and Fraternal Correspondence be approved, together with the proposed changes to the *Manual of Authorities and Duties*. [**Amended**]
5. That all other actions of the Committee, as herein reported, be affirmed.

Respectfully submitted

William B. Evans, Chairman

Following announcements, the court adjourned for lunch with the Benediction and Blessing by S. D. Turbeville.

### Tuesday, June 8, 1999

1:45 P.M.

The Dedication of the Youth Activity Building was held.

The Moderator's Committees met at their designated locations during the afternoon beginning at 2:30 P.M.

### Tuesday, June 8, 1999

7:00 P.M.

The worship service was led by J. S. Kimmons.

Special music was provided by Synod's Men's Chorus.

Mrs. Wilfred (Ann) Aheron, President of the Woman's Synodical



Union, was introduced to the Synod by the Moderator. Mrs. Aheron presented her report of the President of the W.S.U. to the General Synod.

### **WSU PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS**

**Ann Aheron**

Mr. Moderator and Friends,

The theme of our Woman's Synodical Meeting to be held at my home church, Ebenezer, in Rock Hill, is *Change, Grow, Share.*, and our Theme verse is Acts 26:20b "I preached that they should repent (changed heart) and turn to God (where we grow) and prove their repentance by their deeds (or share with others)." Within our work this theme has had a double significance.

The Bible Study this year is *We Believe and Teach* by Revs. E. Gettys and William Alexander with Conversational Responses by Rev. John Ball. Many of you Pastors have probably used this book in training classes for your Elders and Deacons. The book we are using has a new look as of last summer. The ARP Center did not have enough copies for our women to use as a study book, so they reprinted it with a new cover and an added section titled "Conversational Responses" which the women have found very helpful. Usually our women study a book of the Bible—alternating an Old Testament and New Testament book. So this topical study of what we believe has been one change. We have had a lot of positive feedback about this choice for study. The women have really appreciated studying about what we as a denomination believe, and where we stand on important, basic beliefs. Many of our women have been members of reformed churches all their lives and appreciate the reminders, but many women have come into our denomination from other church backgrounds and are hearing for the first time some of this basic, foundational information.

We are seeing a deeper level of commitment among our women. As we see growth taking place, the growth is evident in that some of our Women of the Church groups have had women who were inactive return as well as new members join. The growth is evident also in that a couple of churches have reorganized their Women of the Church and there have been several new WOCs organized.

We are pleased about this growth, but we realize the ultimate result must be that we choose to glorify God through our obedience to life the life He wants us to live. This means we accept His command to share the insights He has revealed to us so others may know Him. We have learned that inner change leads to fruitful action, and fruitful action is obedience to His leading. Our prayer for our women is that as God, through the work of the Holy Spirit changes our hearts, we will grow in knowledge and wisdom of Him and that we will share that knowledge with others.

Change has been evident in other ways throughout your Woman's Synodical Union. Last year when we held our Annual Meeting in Florida, we voted to change our operational year from the calendar year to a September-August year which will begin in 2000; we voted to change our representation on Synod's Boards and Committees to full terms instead of only two year terms, as has been done for many years, and we voted to change our Annual Meeting from the first Friday and Saturday in October to the Monday prior to the Family Bible Conference. Therefore, our last October meeting will be this year in Rock Hill. The vote approving these changes means that the WSU Executive Board has the year of 1999 to redo our 110 page Handbook to reflect the September to August year and communicate to the local Women of the Church organizations what we hope will result in a smooth transition. We solicit your prayers as we continue making plans for the Workshops during the Family Bible Conference in July addressing these changes and answering their questions and concerns about the transition.

One other change we are undertaking is redecorating Synodical Hall. The women had this building built in the late 1960s and this is the first major redecorating undertaken. The Bonclarken Board has been very supportive and helpful in paying for some of the updating, such as refinishing the hardwood floors. The redecorating will continue through the summer and we believe all who use Synodical Hall will appreciate these improvements.

Now that I have let you know what is going on in the work of the Woman's Synodical Union, I would like to share what God has been doing in my life. First of all, I am still in awe that He would even choose to reveal Himself to me. And not only that, but He allows me to be involved with His work. Isn't that great! What an awesome God we serve! What a privilege the women of this denomination have afforded me to allow me to serve as their President. God has allowed me to be involved in His work through the avenue of the Women of the Church and I have been blessed beyond measure.

Last year shortly after Synod I wrote to you Pastors to seek out women in your churches God was using in His ministry. The results of your response to that letter has been the basis for most of my articles in *The ARP* this year. These stories have been challenging and encouraging to me and all who have taken time to read them. Thank you for your participation in that endeavor.

In January as we began to implement the changes we voted on at our Annual Meeting, I was taken aback by all the details that needed to be attended to. But God knew beforehand who and what would need to be done and He had provided just the right people to be on the WSU Executive Board—computer literate people, proofreaders, editors, etc. to rewrite our

Handbook; those with vision who could provide an organized plan for implementing the change from a calendar year to one beginning in September and a Committee of Past Presidents who have worked in the past to lay the groundwork for where we are today. And isn't it amazing that 42 years ago God knew I would need a supportive husband and family, and as all of you in leadership know, that is a necessity. I have been blessed with both—a supportive husband and family, and I thank God for them. God most of all provided me with a team of Prayer Warriors who have prayed, some of them daily, not only for me, but for the woman's work in general. God has shown us His faithfulness, His power, His encouragement and His sovereignty during this transition year. And I have seen His timing is perfect. He is never late. God gave me the theme verse for our WSU Annual Meeting last night, knowing I wanted to be able to share it with you. God has stretched me wa-ay beyond my comfort level, and I can attest to the fact that He is a promise keeping God. He has kept the promise I continue to claim in I Thessalonians 5:24, "The one who calls you is faithful and He will do it." Over and over God has done what could have never been accomplished without His doing it. Your encouragement and support have been much appreciated and I urge you to keep our work in general and specifically our meetings during the Family Bible Conference and in October on your prayer list. May God continue to richly bless this Denomination as we faithfully and obediently serve Him.

The Report of the **Committee on the Minister and His Work** was presented and all recommendations were adopted.

### **REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINISTER AND HIS WORK**

The membership of the Committee on Minister and His Work encompasses the Chairman of each presbytery's committee/commission, the Director of Outreach North America, and the Director of Field Work at Erskine Theological Seminary. The Coordinator of Synod, Moderator and Moderator-Elect of Synod, and the Director of Administrative Service serve as advisory members. The Committee meets on an annual basis to share information and, working cooperatively, to develop resources and procedures to enhance the ministry of the Church. The Committee also serves as the coordinating agency for its cooperative efforts with the Presbyterian Council on Chaplains and Military Personnel. This report reflects the major areas of concern.

#### **Assistance to Ministers and Churches**

Chapter X.E.1 of the *Form of Government* clearly prescribes for the authority of presbytery in effecting calls for its ministers. The *Form of*

*Government* does not, however, prescribe the manner in which this requirement will be carried out. It is, therefore, incumbent on every presbyter and denominational official to ensure that our individual efforts do not violate either the letter or the intent of this provision in the *Form of Government*. Our individual efforts must always complement this presbytery responsibility.

The General Synod, through this Committee on the Minister and His Work, has sought to develop programs to assist the minister and/or candidate, the search committee, and the presbytery. Forms for the minister/candidate and for the church have been developed and the Committee on Minister and His Work has oversight of the program to secure and maintain these forms. The Office of Administrative Services, ARP Center, maintains and administers the forms in accordance with procedures approved by the Committee:

- a. Access to data forms is restricted and forms are released in accordance with the instructions indicated thereon.
- b. Specific data forms are released only to the chairperson or secretary of a search committee or to the chairman of a Presbytery Committee/Commission on Minister and His Work.
- c. At the request of a search committee, and in those circumstances where the church has completed a “church profile,” matching data forms will be released.
- d. When a data form is released to a church the presbytery chairman is notified.
- e. In those circumstances where a minister has requested or indicated a desire to have his data form submitted in the absence of a specific request or data match, the data form is submitted to the chairman of each presbytery Committee on Minister and His Work to be submitted to churches at the discretion of the presbytery chairman.

At the time of this report, there are 50 ministers currently serving in the pastoral ministry of the church who do not have a data form on file. All ministers are encouraged to have a data form on file, and to update the form on a periodic basis.

Churches are reminded of the opportunity to complete and utilize the “Church Profile” when they are seeking a pastor.

The following is provided as information (generally reflecting activities from April-March):

Data Forms Requested by Churches/Pulpit Committees	108
Data Forms Mailed to Pulpit Committees	101
Data Forms Requested (no forms available)	9
Data Forms Requested (not mailed at request of individuals)	7
Requested (not sent due to fact just relocated)	1
Data Forms Distributed at the Request of the Individual	7

Requests for Updated Forms	24
Requests by Non-ARP's to Secure Forms to Complete	39
Seminary Students' Data Forms Distributed	26
Church Profiles Distributed to Vacant Churches	10
Church Profiles Completed by Vacant Churches	2

### Orientation Program for New Ministers

With the assistance of the office of Administrative Services, the Committee has been compiling data on the makeup of the ministers in the denomination. This data confirms what many have concluded—there has been a dramatic change in the ministerial membership, as reflected in the following (Data compiled March 15, 1999):

	Number Ordained	% ARP	Erskine Graduate	%
Minister on Roll 1/1/1970	140	128 91.43%	102	72.86%
Ministerial Changes Since 1/1/1970				
Ordained and on Current Roll	164	164	72	
Ordained and Transferred	39	39	18	
Ordained and Removed From Roll	37	37	14	
Ordained and Died	4	4	2	
Received and on Current Roll	122		4	
Received and Transferred	25		0	
Received and Removed From Roll	17		1	
Received and Died	4	—	0	
Total Ministers in ARP Church				
On and After 1/1/1970	552	372 67.39%	213	38.59%
Ministerial Losses Since 1/1/1970				
Lost by Death	(61)	(57)	(43)	
Lost by Transfer	(88)	(57)	(22)	
Lost by Removal from Roll	(61)	43	(32)	
Ministers on Roll of				
Presbytery 3/26/1999	342	215 62.87%	116	33.92%

The diversity represented by the current ministers presents new opportunities and new challenges. The diversity in training and preparation (over 25 different ordaining bodies and 50 or more seminaries) insures new understandings and approaches to ministry. This diversity has been important as we have moved from our traditional ministry fields. Diversity has, however, made it more difficult to maintain unity in our understanding of the particular mission and ministry of Associate Reformed Presbyterians.

The orientation program introduced three years ago is designed to help build inter-personal relationships among new ministers and to build relationships between ministers and those who are engaged in the minis-

tries of the denomination. We continue to urge ministers to make every effort to attend an orientation program. We encourage presbyteries to insist on this.

The orientation program has been opened to elders and deacons of our churches. Churches are expected to pay transportation costs and attendance is on a space-available basis.

### **Screening of Candidates for the Ministry, Student Evaluations**

Since 1970, 15.16% of the ministers ordained by our presbyteries have been removed from the ministerial rolls of our presbyteries. 10.12% of the ministers received by transfer have been removed. We have no statistical data on the number of students who failed to complete their seminary training, but the number has been significant. During the same period, we have lost 15.98% of the ministers ordained to other denominations and 14.88% of the ministers received were subsequently transferred to other denominations.

Recognizing that cultural and societal changes may play an important part in these losses, the Committee, nevertheless, believes that stewardship compels us to be more diligent in screening and evaluating those who seek to become ministers in our denomination. The Committee seeks to assist the presbyteries in the following manner:

- a. Presbyteries have been urged by the Committee and by the General Synod to develop a plan for each seminary student and non-ARP minister desiring to transfer into the denomination to be assessed at a Christian Counseling Center approved by the presbytery. Some presbyteries report that this matter is in the development stage. The Committee suggests that presbyteries budget funding for the assessment of its students. Churches desiring to issue a call to non-ARP ministers could be asked or expected to cover those costs.
- b. Uniform Written Exams are prepared and updated under the auspices of the Committee. Copies of the exam may be secured from the Office of Administrative Services. Presbyteries are encouraged to use these or similar exams as a tool in determining the qualifications for ordination. An updated exam is expected to be available in the Fall.
- c. A procedure was presented and approved by the 1998 General Synod to assist non-ARP ministers and/or candidates who desire a call in the ARP Church. The proper application of this suggested procedure (see 1998 *Minutes of Synod*, p.22) will help determine the qualifications of prospective ministers before a church becomes committed to a candidate who might have difficulty in being approved by the presbytery.

### **Consideration of Associate Reformed Presbyterian Ministers and Students**

For many years this Committee has recommended, and the General Synod has approved, a recommendation to the churches that preference be given to Associate Reformed Presbyterian ministers when considering a call. At least one presbytery requires its churches to exhaust consideration of ARP ministers prior to considering non-ARPs.

In 1970 the General Synod had 144 churches and 139 ministers. Today, there are 252 churches and 341 ministers. There are many ministers without a call who have demonstrated their qualifications for ministry by virtue of their ordination and continuing membership in the presbytery (it is recognized and understood that not every minister is suited for every pastoral position). The Committee feels that their commitment to this, the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, is deserving of consideration when a church is seeking a pastor.

In like manner, the General Synod has encouraged those churches with the financial resources to do so to consider employing ARP Seminary students in the summer. The opportunity for meaningful, practical experience is an investment in the future.

### **Presbyterian Council on Chaplains and Military Personnel**

Your Committee has the responsibility to keep the General Synod informed of the work of our military and institutional chaplains. The Presbyterian Council on Chaplains and Military Personnel is our endorsing agency for military chaplains and staff members and it provides pastoral care and guidance for those chaplains. A report on the work of the Council during the past year is on file at the ARP Center. Representatives on the Council are Ronald Beard (as Stated Clerk), Randall T. Ruble, Ralph Gore, and Troy L. Pritt. Randall Ruble's term is expiring but in the interest of continuity he has been asked to serve another three-year term.

The following are serving as chaplains at the time of this report:

Military:	LT Thomas Braithwaite, CHC, USN CAPT Paul Burns, CH, USA CAPT Lawrence E. Hamrick, CH, USA CDR C. Stephen Rimmer, CHC, USN LCDR David M. Schwabauer, CHC, USN LT Michael E. Yarman, USA
Institutional:	Chaplain Jay West (College/Seminary) Rev. James A. Ryan, Jr., Chaplain, VA Medical Center

In the past funding for the work of the Presbyterian Council has been underwritten primarily by the PCUSA. The General Synod has contributed only a small percentage of the cost. It has been brought to our

attention that the administrative cost per chaplain (this does not include the cost of the Office of Presbyterian Council) is in the range of \$1,500-\$1,700. For budget year 2001, the Committee will ask the Board of Stewardship to increase the allocation to allow us to cover those administrative costs. The recommended allocation for 2000 reflects a 5% increase over the 1999 approved funding.

### **Miscellaneous Items**

a. **Prior Ordination:** The 1997 General Synod referred back to the Committee the matter of "prior ordination." Study on this matter has not been completed but the Committee is evaluating the proposed policy of Second Presbytery. The Committee welcomes information related to this matter. Material may be addressed to the Committee at the ARP Center, One Cleveland Street, Greenville, SC 29601.

b. **Officers for 1998-1999** are as follows:

Chairman: Reverend Neely Gaston

Vice-Chairman: Reverend Ray A. King

Secretary: Reverend David Galletta

c. **Meeting dates for 2000:** The Committee will meet in conjunction with the Whitesides/Robinson Lectures, Erskine Theological Seminary.

### **Recommendations**

1. That congregations be encouraged to continue to employ ARP seminary students for the summer months.
2. That presbyteries encourage its ministers and seminary students to keep updated data forms on file at the ARP Center.
3. That presbyteries continue to encourage Pulpit Committees to give preference to ARP ministers and students.
4. That presbyteries continue to review and update their procedures for informing its ministers and churches of the services of its Committee/Commission on Minister and His Work.
5. That each presbytery be strongly urged to develop a plan for each seminary student and each non-ARP minister desiring to transfer into the denomination to be assessed at a Christian Counseling Center approved by the presbytery.
6. That the Committee's study on "prior ordination" be continued for report to the 2000 General Synod.
7. That appreciation be expressed to the Presbyterian Council for the work it does on behalf of chaplains and military personnel and that all our chaplains be remembered in prayer.
8. That The Reverend Randall T. Ruble be re-elected to the Presbyterian Council for a term which expires in 2002.
9. That the 2000 budget be adopted as follows:



	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>
Committee Travel & Meeting Expenses	\$1,225	\$1,292
General Office	375	500
Presbyterian Council	<u>5,950</u>	<u>6,248</u>
	\$7,550	\$8,040

10. That all other actions of the Committee as reported herein be affirmed.

Respectfully Submitted,  
H. Neely Gaston, Chairman

The Report of the **Committee on Theological and Social Concerns** was presented. A motion was made to refer the report back to the committee. The motion carried.

The Report of the **Committee on Worship** was presented  
 Recommendation #1 was adopted  
 Recommendation #2 was adopted  
 Recommendation #3 was adopted  
 Recommendation #4 was adopted  
 Recommendation #5 was adopted  
 Recommendation #6 was adopted  
 Recommendation #7 was adopted  
 Recommendation #8 was adopted

### **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON WORSHIP**

One of the responsibilities of the Committee on Worship is selecting projects for the proper use of the Jean McFall White Fund for the “preservation, recording, distribution, education in and establishment of psalm-singing.” One such project the Committee is beginning to explore is the feasibility of the denomination producing its own distinctive Psalter/Hymnal. A committee recommendation to Synod asks for approval to begin a feasibility study to ascertain costs, time needed, demand, etc. While this would be an ambitious project, the Committee feels that such a book would not only be practical and appealing to a broad constituency, but would also provide a degree of unity that is presently lacking from church to church. The Committee would welcome input on any interest local congregations would have in such a book, should it become available. In the meantime. the Worship Committee has authorized a reprinting of 2,000 *Bible Songs* books for those who wish to purchase this denominational standard.

As reported previously, the Worship Committee has also produced a video resource of both the heritage and present forms of Psalm-singing in Christian worship. These videos are available for purchase through the ARP Center for a nominal fee.

One other project the Jean McFall White Fund is helping to accomplish

is a Psalm Festival with the legendary Hal Hopson, which will be held in conjunction with the 1999 Bonclarken Music Conference. Planning and conducting a music conference is one of the annual responsibilities of this committee. The 1998 Bonclarken Music Conference was the largest ever with 552 registered singers, plus staff, all benefiting from a week of worship and learning together. Thanks to conference director Linda Miller and her staff for a worthwhile and meaningful conference. The 1999 Bonclarken Music Conference is planned for July 11-17 with the theme: "Sing To The Lord: A Celebration of Psalms." In regard to the annual music conference, the committee encourages local churches with missionary families home on furlough to fund their participation in the music conference when and where appropriate.

During 1997, the Committee compiled a brief annotated bibliography on worship designed to be helpful to pastors and local church worship committees, as well as choir directors and other church musicians. Please see pages 665-667 of the 1997 *Minutes of Synod* for this information.

Please be aware that the Worship Committee also reviews hymnals and other books of praise for recommendation to the General Synod for use in the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. The following have been **approved by the General Synod:** *Bible Songs*, *The Hymnbook*, *Rejoice in the Lord*, *Trinity Hymnal* (1961), *Trinity Hymnal* (1990), and the *Psalter Hymnal of the Christian Reformed Church*. The following books are **no longer in print:** *The Psalter Hymnal*, *The Psalter*, *Songs for Christ*, and *Young People's Praise*.

The Committee will gladly review any books of praise submitted by local church sessions, and has prepared brief descriptions of Hymnals and Psalters on the approved list as well as other books that have been submitted to the Committee which are not approved. Those helpful descriptions are appended to this report.

The following checklist may be helpful to local sessions and worship committees that find themselves with the task of evaluating a new hymnal:

1. Do the main themes represented in the collection reinforce the theological distinctives of the denomination or oppose them? Does the theology inherent in most hymns ring true the Biblical perspective of the ARPC?
2. Is there appropriate balance:
  - a. between the focus on God and the focus on human experience
  - b. between focus on personal piety and communal responsibility
  - c. between old and new
  - d. between traditional and contemporary
3. Does the collection include those hymns and other entries which are important to the history and heritage of the denomination?

4. Does the hymnal provide abundant resources for appropriate celebration of the sacraments, all holidays and seasons, and weddings and funerals?
5. Does the hymnal include at least the following indexes:
  - a. First line titles
  - b. Tune titles
  - c. Topic/subject
  - d. Scriptural allusions
  - e. Metrical
  - f. Composers/sources
  - g. Authors/sources
6. Is the collection well-ordered and easy to read?
7. Does the hymnal include a varied and engaging collection of service music, with various responses, communion music, etc.?
8. Which translation of the Bible is used in readings and responses?
9. Are the aids to worship adequate and appropriate to perceived needs?

#### **Recommendations**

1. That the 2000 budget for the Committee on Worship be approved.
2. That the General Synod approve a feasibility study by the Committee on Worship, concerning the production and publication of a new denominational Psalter/Hymnal. (With the understanding that this preliminary study will be funded by the Jean McFall White Fund in the amount of \$3,000).
3. That congregations be encouraged to use books of praise from the list of those approved by the General Synod, and be aware that the Committee on Worship will be pleased to evaluate other books of praise or welcome any ideas of input regarding worship within the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church.
4. That pastors and sessions encourage families to have family worship and include the music ministry of their church in prayer, as well as utilize the prayer guide which appears in each issue of *The Associate Reformed Presbyterian*.
5. That pastors and sessions encourage participation in the Bonclarken Music Conference, and that churches consider paying the expenses of their ministry staff to attend the conference.
6. That local churches consider planning area workshops on music and worship, utilizing the Committee on Worship as a resource, if needed.
7. That congregations continue to be made aware of our rich heritage of Psalm-singing in the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church.

8. That every church continue to be aware of the provisions in the United States Copyright Law regarding the reproduction of copyrighted music and materials.

Respectfully submitted,  
J. Barry Dagenhart, Chairman

### Worship Committee Budget

	1999 Expenditures	2000 Budget
<b>Proposed</b>		
Worship Committee		
Feasibility Study for		
Psalter/Hymnal—White Fund	\$ 0	\$ 3,000
Committee Travel/Room		
& Board	2,100	2,100
Telephone/Postage	0	250
Committee Meeting Expenses	300	100
Lord's Day Alliance	350	350
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,750</b>	<b>\$ 5,800</b>
Bonclarken Music Conference		
Clinicians, Accompanists, &		
All other staff	\$ 11,075	\$ 12,525
Recreation/Craft supplies/		
Night activities	2,200	2,200
Staff Travel	4,000	4,100
Staff food/lodging	10,260	9,800
Music for Conference	4,500	4,500
Cassettes. CD's		
(taping of concert)	1,200	500
Printing and Mailing,		
Telephone	2,100	2,300
Tuning/T-shirts/additional		
conference expenses	5,300	5,300
Bonclarken Service Fee	22,500	24,750
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 63,135</b>	<b>\$ 65,975</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>		
Worship Committee	2,750	5,800
Bonclarken Music Conf.	<u>63,135</u>	<u>65,975</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 65,885</b>	<b>\$ 71,775</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Gifts, Conf. Registrations	\$ 52,258	\$ 52,550
Jean McFall White Fund		3,000
Synod Supplement	<u>13,627</u>	<u>16,225</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 65,885</b>	<b>\$ 71,775</b>

### **Descriptions of Hymnals and Psalters Approved Books**

*Bible Songs* — Published in 1930 by the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. Originally designed to be a supplement to the church's *Psalter*, it contains a selection of metrical Psalms set largely to music in a gospel-hymn style. It is the only Psalter still in print by the ARP church. *Bible Songs* contains settings of all 150 Psalms, either in part or in entirety.

*Trinity Hymnal* — Published in 1961 by Great Commission Publications in association with the Orthodox Presbyterian Church. This hymnal contains 662 traditional hymn and Psalm settings, a collection of 67 additional gospel-styled songs for "informal occasions," a selection of musical responses, and the complete *Westminster Shorter Catechism* and *Confession of Faith*. It is strong in its inclusion of hymns from throughout the ages of the church, especially the Reformation.

*Trinity Hymnal, Revised Edition* — Published in 1990 by Great Commission Publications in association with the Orthodox Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Church of America. This is a reworking of the original *Trinity Hymnal* including the addition of a number of newer hymns and less formal songs. The structure, emphases and elements remain basically the same.

*The Hymnbook* — Published in 1955 by five Presbyterian-Reformed denominations, including the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. This is a standard collection of traditional hymns with a strong emphasis on Psalter selections and Psalm paraphrases. While this hymnal has a good selection of varied hymns, an adequate section on service music, and a fine series of indexes, it naturally will not include any of the vast amount of hymnody made available since 1955.

*Rejoice in the Lord* — Published in 1985 by Eerdmans Publishing Company in association with the Reformed Church in America. Edited by Erik Routley and containing many of his tunes and arrangements, this collection focuses primarily on material from the reformation and the modern day. It includes many new texts and tunes. The hymnal is subtitled *A Hymn Companion to the Scriptures* and contains a Psalter with 63 entries and 561 other hymns organized thematically around the persons of the Trinity. The hymnal has no service music section

*Psalter Hymnal* — Published in 1987 by CRC Publications in association with the Christian Reformed Church. This is one of the finest Psalters currently available in the English language. The collection begins with a single setting for each Psalm, the texts of which are largely new efforts. Next follow 86 Bible Songs taken from the whole scope of scripture, using both traditional and contemporary musical settings. The hymn portion contains 384 traditional hymns, spirituals, and contemporary

choruses. This collection is especially rich in traditional Psalter tunes. A Doctrinal Standards section contains the *Belgic Confession*, *Heidelberg Catechism*, and the *Canons of Dort*.

### **Non-Approved Books**

*The Celebration Hymnal: Songs and Hymns for Worship* — Published in 1997 by Word Music/Integrity Music. The non-denominational hymnal is basically a compilation of praise and worship choruses, which have achieved “classic” status and old Pietistic revival hymns from the 1920’s through the 1950’s. A minimal collection of traditional hymnody is also included. Its primary strengths include a considerable emphasis on the holiness of God and numerous “Worship Sequences” which provide brief spoken liturgies couples with a pre-arranged medley of related hymns and choruses. Among its weaknesses are minimal emphasis on the sacraments and other rites of the church, the exclusion of most of the newer hymns which are elsewhere becoming standards, scant us of sung Psalmody, and only minor emphasis on such major attributes of God as His Sovereignty and Grace. In general, the collection focuses on hymns of personal feeling and human experience to the exclusion of hymns focusing on our inter-relatedness in Christ and our resulting responsibilities.

*Hymns, Psalms, and Spiritual Songs* — Published in 1990 by Westminster/John Knox Press in association with the Presbyterian Church, USA. This work contains 605 settings of Psalms and hymns representing a mix of traditional hymns, gospel songs, a sizable collection of newly written texts set to both new and familiar music, and a separate Psalter section of 98 highly varied Psalm settings. Included are many new hymns dealing with theological issues not usually addressed in a hymnal. Notable also is the variety of musical and textual styles available in one book.

*The Hymnal for Worship and Celebration* — Published in 1986 by Word Music independently of any denomination. This hymnal contains 600 hymns and gospel songs with a strong emphasis on revival hymns and modern praise choruses. Frequently a number of hymns are connected by accompanimental interludes so that they may be sung together as a medley, if desired. The hymnal is interspersed with 23 “Brief Services” providing short liturgies and scripture passages on varied themes. Missing from this collection is any specifically Reformed theological focus, the majority of our traditional Psalter tunes and texts, and Psalm paraphrases in general. Twenty-six Psalms are included in an index for unison (not responsive) readings.

*The Worshipping Church: a Hymnal* — Published by Hope Publishing Company in 1990 independently of any denomination. For congregations seeking a hymnal containing the best of the more recent scripture songs and praise choruses from the “Worship and Praise” movement, this is the

best resource for Reformed churches. The 903 selections include over forty such choruses, a sizable representation of traditional hymnody, and a fine sampling of recently composed hymns rapidly gaining inter-denominational favor. Of special interest is the "Psalms and Canticles" section included in the main body of the hymnal, containing 36 entries and offering various styles of Psalm singing. Still other Psalm-based hymns are included elsewhere in the hymnal.

*The Book of Psalms for Singing* — Published in 1973 by Crown and Covenant Publishers and the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America, this has been a popular option for those seeking a traditional psalms-only collection. Four-part musical settings are provided for each psalm, with a second musical option provided for many entries. From Calvin's time on, the challenge in producing a metrical Psalter has always been to paraphrase the psalm in such a way that the poetry is of high quality poetry that is easily understood. The collection suffers from awkward word orders and antiquated language which may tend to confuse or alienate modern worshippers.

*Trinity Psalter: Words Only Edition* — The Words-Only Psalter (no musical settings are included) is taken from the popular *Book of Psalms for Singing*. (See above.) Its purpose is to provide a complete Psalter that is smaller in size and less expensive than the full-sized psalter from which it is taken. Accordingly, each psalm is included with only one setting, with the appropriate meter inscribed below. One appropriate tune is suggested, but the music is not included. The chief value of this collection is in its reduced size, designed to fit in pew racks along with a traditional hymnal. Further, as a paperback book, it is considerably less expensive. Another nice feature is the introductory information about how to sing metrical psalms. See above for an evaluation of the psalm settings themselves.

*Great Hymns of the Faith*, Compiled and Edited by John W. Peterson, Singspiration Music Publishers, 1968— This hymnal, published in 1968, is at an age when most denominational hymnbooks would be scheduled for replacement. Considering all the new music which has been made available for congregational singing during the last thirty years, churches would be ill advised to purchase a hymnal which includes none of these resources. Coming from an independent publisher which largely services churches which are outside the Reformed family, this hymnal is not particularly strong in reinforcing Reformed doctrines, the attributes of God, divine initiation and grace, or use of the Psalms. It focuses, rather, on the subjects of personal testimony, making it, perhaps, better suited for special times of revival. However, most up to date hymnals will also provide a fine selection of such hymns.

The Report of the **Moderator's Committee on The Executive**

**Board** was presented. The recommendations referred to in these Minutes are from the Board report unless otherwise referenced.

Recommendation #1 was adopted

Recommendation #2 was presented. An amendment was offered and carried.

That recommendation #2 be adopted with the exception that the Virginia and Northeast geographical areas remain the same boundaries as adopted in 1987.

The amended recommendation carried.

Recommendation #3 was adopted

Recommendation #4 was adopted

Recommendation #5 was adopted

Recommendation #6 was adopted

Recommendation #7 was adopted

Recommendation #8 was presented and defeated. The following recommendation of the Moderator's Committee was adopted:

That the General Synod authorize a special offering in the churches for the Crisis in Kosov and that funds be dispersed through World Witness.

Recommendation #9 was not adopted

Recommendation #10 was previously referred to the Moderator's Committee on Memorials.

Recommendation #11 was not adopted

Recommendation #12 was adopted.

## **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF SYNOD**

The Executive Board of Synod is the agency of the General Synod empowered to carry out the work of the General Synod in the interim period between meetings of the General Synod. It provides oversight of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Center Facility, the Office of Administrative Services, the promotional work of the General Synod, and the Coordinator of the General Synod. It is responsible for presenting to the General Synod organizational and administrative changes to enhance the capability of the General Synod to fulfill its primary responsibility for "the initiation, planning, organization and administration of programs designed to enable it to carry out the mission of God in Christ's Church by word and deed in the General Synod and also in the local congregation, the Presbytery and the whole world." (*Form of Government*, Chapter XIII.B.1). Voting membership includes the current officers of the General Synod (Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Moderator-Elect, Vice-Moderator Elect, Prin-



cial Clerk, and Treasurer), the immediate past five moderators, one ruling or teaching elder from each presbytery, and the Chairman of the Board of Stewardship. Non-voting advisory membership includes the Coordinator, Historian, Parliamentarian, President of WSU, and Chairmen and Chief Administrative Officers of the boards of the General Synod.

The Executive Board met on two occasions since the last meeting of the General Synod. This report reflects the actions and activities of the Executive Board and presents recommendations for the consideration of the court.

### **Acts on Behalf of the General Synod**

The Executive Board has been granted the authority and duty to act on behalf of the General Synod in emergency situations. These are situations which, in the opinion of the Executive Board, cannot wait until the next stated meeting of the General Synod but which do not warrant a called meeting of the General Synod. There were no acts on behalf of the General Synod since the last meeting of the General Synod.

### **Referrals and Communications**

- A. **Missionary Home in Columbia, SC.** World Witness asked the Executive Board to act on behalf of Synod to approve a limited fund raising campaign for missionary housing in the Columbia, SC, area. While declining to act on behalf of the General Synod, the Executive Board concurred in the desire to purchase a home in Columbia, SC, area for the use of missionaries on furlough. The Executive Board conveyed to World Witness that its action did not include approval of any general solicitation. By separate motion, the Executive Board asked the Board of Stewardship to define the term "general solicitation."
- B. **Civil Action.** On January 5, 1999, a "Complaint for Declaratory Judgment and Motion for Temporary Restraining Order" was filed in the Circuit Court of Sumter County, Alabama. The General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, a South Carolina Unincorporated Corporation was one of the three named defendants. The Principal Clerk and other officers of the General Synod received a Summons dated January 5, 1999, which required a written answer to the complaint within 30 days.

The General Synod has assigned to the Principal Clerk of Synod the duty "To receive and send all official communications on behalf of the General Synod." (*Manual of Authorities and Duties*, Principal Clerk of the General Synod, duty # 2). The Principal Clerk responded to the Summons on February 2, 1999. At the time of this report the matter is still before the Circuit Court.

In the past the General Synod has depended on "pro bono" legal

assistance when matters of this nature arise. It is the opinion of the Executive Board that we may need to retain a Synod attorney to assist the officers of the General Synod in carrying out their responsibilities. Accordingly, the Executive Board has appointed a task force to explore this need. Additionally, the task force has been asked to develop guidelines for identifying and handling of official communications. The task force will report to the Executive Board at its next meeting.

The Moderator and Coordinator are to be commended for their pastoral approach to the many issues which now confront our growing denomination.

- C. **Presbytery Geographical Areas and Recommended Changes to Form of Government.** These items were referred to the presbyteries “for study and comment to the Executive Board; for the Executive Board to resubmit recommendation..with changes if so determined to the 195<sup>th</sup> meeting of the General Synod.” (1998 *Minutes of Synod*, p. 62.) Presbyteries were asked to respond prior to the Spring meeting of the Executive Board. Only one Presbytery submitted any response prior to the meeting. The recommendation concerning Presbytery Geographical Areas is based on that response.

#### **Committee Responsibilities**

The Executive Board has four standing committees:

- A. **Committee on Administration:** This committee oversees the work of Administrative Services. Administrative Services provides management of the ARP Center Facility and accounting and general administrative support services for all agencies of Synod, except for Erskine, Bonclarken, and World Witness. Staff members are Ed Hogan, Leland Beaudrot, Beth Willis, Louise Raby, and Donna Wentz. Administrative Services serves as the administrative offices for Annuities and Relief, ARP Foundation, Dunlap, Executive Board, and Stewardship. The committee meets prior to each meeting of the Executive Board. The Principal Clerk serves as chairman and the membership includes the Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Moderator-Elect, Treasurer, and Chairman of the Board of Stewardship. The Coordinator and Administrative Officer serve as advisory members. The committee is responsible for preparing the budgets for Administrative Services, the Center Facility, and the Executive Board.

The Center Facility operates as a separate entity for funding purposes. Funding comes from allocations from the General Synod, rents from tenants (ARP and non-ARP), and occasional, unsolicited grants. Two grants during the past year have enabled significant improvements at the Center. A grant from the First Gastonia Church is being used to refurbish the common areas of the Center Facility and

a grant from the Greenville Church has been used to improve the landscaping around the Center. These gifts are greatly appreciated.

Administrative Services continues to be an active participant in helping churches and agencies develop web-sites and in linking those sites for a more effective presentation to the denomination. Church leaders and members are encouraged to visit the web at **<http://WWW.arpsynod.org>**. Expect to be pleasantly surprised!

The proposed 2000 budgets for the Center Facility, Administrative Services, and the Executive Board are attached.

- B. **Committee to Plan Emphases:** This committee is chaired by the Moderator-Elect and membership includes the Vice-President of the Woman's Synodical Union and representatives from each presbytery in alternating years. The committee prepares the emphases for the ensuing calendar year. The "Emphases for 2000" was adopted for recommendation to the General Synod.
- C. **Committee to Plan Synod's Program:** This committee is chaired by the Moderator-Elect and he chooses a committee to assist him in planning for the meeting of Synod. The Executive Board approved the tentative program and authorized the Moderator and Moderator-Elect to make changes as might be necessary prior to presentation to the General Synod. The preliminary program is distributed with the unofficial reports.
- D. **Committee on Oversight of Coordinator:** Committee members are the Moderator, Moderator-Elect, and the two immediate past moderators. The immediate past moderator serves as chairman. The committee meets with the Coordinator prior to each meeting of the Executive Board and reports to the Executive Board.

The committee has identified two priorities for the Coordinator for the coming year: (1) To continue work on communication and cooperation between the boards and agencies of Synod and (2) to continue work on information and publicity which can be available from the ARP denomination.

The committee notes with appreciation the Coordinator's "skills, and his quiet, effective methods of dealing with problems. We have been impressed with his visionary capabilities."

The committee has recommended to the Executive Board:

- (1) That the Executive Board continue Doug Jones as Coordinator until July 2000.
- (2) That a committee from the Executive Board, composed of the Moderator, the Moderator-Elect, and the past five moderators be appointed to study the position of Coordinator and to report to the Executive Board no later than the Spring meeting in the year 2000.

- (3) That each Board and Committee send their minutes to former moderators as long as they are members of the Executive Board.
- (4) That the Position Description for the Coordinator be amended in K.2. by adding “or A.R.P. Presbytery” following A.R.P. Church.

#### Miscellaneous Items

- A. **Disaster Relief.** The 1994 General Synod established guidelines for responding to the immediate needs of a disaster (1994 *Minutes of Synod*, pp 742-743). Two events have been brought before the Executive Board since the last meeting of the General Synod:
- a. **Hurricane Mitch, Central America Relief.** The Executive Board authorized \$5,000 from the General Synod to be administered by the World Relief Committee of the Christian Reformed Church. Administrative Services was asked to notify ARP Churches of the opportunity to participate in the project. To date, ARP Churches have contributed \$43,300.08.
  - b. **The Crisis in Kosovo.** The Executive Board is recommending that there be a special offering authorized to allow and encourage ARP Churches to respond to the needs in Kosovo. The Treasurer was authorized to receive funds sent prior to the special offering and to send the funds to World Relief, P. O. Box WRC, Wheaton, IL 60189.
- B. **Change in Meeting Date for the General Synod.** The following motion was adopted for referral to the General Synod:
- “Whereas, the church year ends December 31<sup>st</sup> and the denomination’s ministry is reported on at the following meeting of the General Synod, and,
- Whereas, the meeting times of the General Synod has changed;
- prior to:
- 1917, Synod met in November;
  - 1919—1929, Synod met in early May;
  - 1929—1945, Synod met in April;
  - 1945—1949, Synod met in late May;
  - 1950—present, Synod meets in June
- Whereas, the majority of the meetings are held at Bonclarken where the facilities are climate controlled and permanent staff is in place; and,
- Whereas, Bonclarken has developed and has challenges and opportunities to expand its ministries; and,
- Whereas, we are expected to be good stewards of the time, talents, and treasures which God has provided;
- Resolved, that the annual meeting of the General Synod convene the first Monday after the third Lord’s Day beginning

in May 2000.”

- C. **Transfer of Pacific Presbytery Churches to Northeast Presbytery.** At the time of the Executive Board meeting it was noted that the General Synod, on the establishment of Pacific Presbytery, had granted the Kwang-Myung Church and the Korean Bethel Church permission to remain in Pacific Presbytery until June 1999. The Executive Board is recommending that all ARP Churches within the bounds of Northeast Presbytery become members of Northeast Presbytery as of July 1, 1999. (NOTE: Following the meeting of the Executive Board Northeast Presbytery approved a memorial requesting a two-year extension.)
- D. **Presence of Moderator, Moderator-Elect, and Coordinator During Executive Session.** With the exception of the Board of Trustees of Erskine College, where the Moderator is an ex-officio member, the Moderator, Moderator-Elect, and the Coordinator serve as advisory members of the boards and standing committees of the General Synod. Neither the *Rules of Procedure*, *Rules of Order*, or the *Form of Government* give any guidance for their status during Executive Session of a board or committee. The Executive Board believes that the presence of these leaders during such sessions will be advantageous to the Church and is so recommending. This recommendation, if passed, would not change the voting status on boards or committees.
- E. **Meeting Dates:** The following meeting dates have been set: November 12, 1999 and November 10, 2000. The Spring 2000 meeting date is to be determined.

The Board has expressed its appreciation to retiring members Harry Schutte (former moderator on completion of his seven years of association with the Executive Board), W. C. Lauderdale (First Presbytery), and R. C. Grier (Second Presbytery). The Board acknowledges and expresses its appreciation to Moderator Jim Dickson for his leadership and spiritual direction during the past year.

### Recommendations

1. That the proposed changes to the *Form of Government*, Chapter XIII, as presented to the 1998 General Synod, be adopted (See 1998 *Minutes of Synod*, pp 80–83). (Note: The proposed changes are being attached to this report for reference purposes.)
2. That the proposed geographical areas, as presented in the “General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church Presbytery Geographical Areas” be amended as follows and adopted as amended (See 1998 *Minutes of Synod*, pp. 79-80) (Note: The proposed boundaries as recommended to the 1998 General Synod are attached to this report for reference):

**Northeast Presbytery**—Constituted January 1, 1987, it was formed by the division of Virginia. It now includes the provinces of Canada, including and east of the province of Ontario; the states of Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont; **and** those counties in Virginia to the east and north of the boundary formed by the western boundaries of Fauquier and Loudoun Counties and the Rappahannock River; ~~and Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan Counties of West Virginia.~~

**Virginia Presbytery**—Constituted in 1854. It includes the state of Virginia, except for those counties to the east and north of the boundary formed by the western boundaries of Fauquier and Loudoun Counties and the Rappahannock River; and the state of West Virginia ~~with the exception of Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan Counties.~~

**[Amended]**

3. That the proposed budgets for Administrative Services, ARP Center Facility, and Executive Board of Synod be approved.
4. That the “Emphases for 2000” be adopted.
5. That the Coordinator be commended for his service and that his contract be continued through June 30, 2000.
6. That the “Position Description” of the Coordinator, as set forth in the *Manual of Authorities and Duties*, item K.2 be amended to read:  
“K.2. A member of an ARP Church or **ARP Presbytery**, or willing to become a member in all good faith, and one who affirms the Standards of the ARP Church.”
7. That each Board and Standing Committee include the immediate past five moderators on their mailing list for minutes of meetings.
8. That the General Synod authorize a special offering in the churches for the crisis in Kosovo and that funds be dispersed through World Relief. **[Not Adopted]**
9. That the *Rules of Procedure*, item 1, sentence 1, be amended to read:  
“1. The General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church shall meet annually on the **first Second Monday of June after the third Lord’s day in May** at 7:30 P.M.”

That this change be made effective for the Meeting of Synod 2000.

**[Not Adopted]**

10. That all ARP churches within the bounds of Northeast Presbytery become members of the Northeast Presbytery as of July 1, 1999. **[Referred to Moderator’s Committee on Memorials]**
11. That the Moderator, Moderator-Elect, and Coordinator be included as members during executive session of boards, committees, and com-

missions of the General Synod. **[Not Adopted]**

12. That all other actions of the Executive Board as reported herein be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,  
J. M. Dickson, Moderator  
C. R. Beard, Principal Clerk

### **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUDGET PROJECTIONS**

	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Current Fund Receipts		
Denominational Ministry Funds	\$ 159,440.00	\$ 162,175
Allocation of Reserve		\$ 9,828
Miscellaneous Sales & Services		\$ 3,840
Operating Fund Interest	\$ 1,965.55	\$ 1,966
Sub-Total	<u>\$ 161,405.55</u>	<u>\$ 177,809</u>
Agency Support		
Annuities & Relief	\$ 56,382.87	\$ 61,970
ARP Foundation	\$ 2,550.00	\$ 2,550
W. H. Dunlap Fund	\$ 5,050.00	\$ 5,050
Other Agencies	\$ 500.00	\$ 500
Sub-Total	<u>\$ 64,482.87</u>	<u>\$ 70,070</u>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<u>\$ 225,888.42</u>	<u>\$ 247,878</u>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Director		
Salary	\$ 55,852.57	\$ 57,528
Retirement	\$ 4,747.47	\$ 4,890
Insurance	\$ 6,990.12	\$ 7,340
Employer Tax	<u>\$ 4,272.72</u>	<u>\$ 4,401</u>
<b>Director</b>	<u>\$ 71,862.88</u>	<u>\$ 74,159</u>
Assistant to Director		
Salary	\$ 24,269.23	\$ 24,997
Housing Allowance	\$ 7,638.48	\$ 7,868
Social Security Allowance	\$ 1,295.17	\$ 1,334
Retirement	\$ 2,822.24	\$ 2,794
Insurance	<u>\$ 6,861.02</u>	<u>\$ 7,204</u>
<b>Assistant to Director</b>	<u>\$ 42,886.14</u>	<u>\$ 44,197</u>
<b>Support Staff</b>		
Support Staff Sub-Total	<u>\$ 72,719.84</u>	<u>\$ 93,100</u>
<b>Staff &amp; Program</b>		
Workman's Compensation	\$ 867.93	\$ 1,147
Director Travel & Expenses	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000
Staff Travel & Expenses	\$ 311.00	\$ 311
Organiz. and Professional Dues	\$ 250.00	\$ 250

Contingency	\$	<u>1,784.64</u>	\$	<u>1,274</u>
Staff & Program	\$	<u>4,213.57</u>	\$	<u>3,982</u>
<b>Equipment</b>				
Copier Lease	\$	6,684.00	\$	6,684
Other Lease	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,000
Equipment Purchase	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000
Equipment Maintenance	\$	<u>2,000.00</u>	\$	<u>2,000</u>
Equipment	\$	<u>14,684.00</u>	\$	<u>14,684</u>
General Office	\$	<u>19,522.00</u>	\$	<u>19,522</u>
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	\$	<u>225,888.42</u>	\$	<u>249,643</u>
Income Over (Under) Expenditures	\$	0.00	\$	(1,765)
Reserve Allocated	\$	.00	\$	(9,828)
Beginning Unencumbered Reserve	\$	49,138.63	\$	49,139
Ending Fund Reserve	\$	49,138.63	\$	37,546

### ARP CENTER FACILITY BUDGET PROJECTIONS

		1999		2000
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
<b>Allocations &amp; Interest</b>				
Denomin. Ministry Allocation	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,000.00
General Synod Interest Allocation	\$	<u>513.59</u>	\$	<u>284.76</u>
Allocations & Interest	\$	<u>10,513.59</u>	\$	<u>10,284.76</u>
Miscellaneous Receipts	\$	<u>45.00</u>	\$	<u>45.00</u>
<b>Rent</b>				
CE, Ch. Ext., Publications	\$	14,486.96	\$	14,486.96
Erksine	\$	2,356.92	\$	2,356.92
World Witness	\$	9,567.48	\$	9,567.48
Non-Synod Tenants	\$	<u>19,659.88</u>	\$	<u>19,659.88</u>
Rent	\$	<u>46,071.24</u>	\$	<u>46,071.24</u>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	\$	<u>56,629.83</u>	\$	<u>56,401.00</u>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>				
<b>Staff and General Office</b>				
Miscellaneous Expendable Supplies	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00
General Office	\$	500.00	\$	500.00
Contingency	\$	844.74	\$	844.74
Equipment Maintenance	\$	<u>300.00</u>	\$	<u>300.00</u>
Staff and General Office	\$	<u>2,644.74</u>	\$	<u>2,644.74</u>
<b>Facility Management</b>				
Insurance	\$	2,100.00	\$	2,100.00
Renovation, Repairs	\$	6,750.00	\$	6,910.69
Miscellaneous	\$	<u>6,910.69</u>	\$	<u>0.00</u>
Facility Management	\$	<u>15,760.69</u>	\$	<u>9,010.69</u>
<b>Facility Maintenance</b>				
Garbage Pickup	\$	675.00	\$	675.00
Ground Maintenance	\$	2,150.00	\$	1,800.00



Heating & Air Conditioning	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Janitorial	\$ 14,400.00	\$ 14,400.00
Non-Contract Labor	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Pest Control	\$ 220.00	\$ 220.00
Facility Maintenance	\$ <u>21,945.00</u>	\$ <u>21,595.00</u>
<b>Utilities</b>		
Electricity	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Gas	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Water & Sewer	\$ <u>3,000.00</u>	\$ <u>3,000.00</u>
Utilities	\$ <u>22,000.00</u>	\$ <u>22,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	\$ <u>62,350.43</u>	\$ <u>55,250.43</u>
Receipts Over		
(Under) Budget	\$ (5,720.60)	\$ 1,150.57
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ <u>12,839.63</u>	\$ <u>7,119.03</u>
Ending Fund Balance	\$ <u>7,119.03</u>	\$ <u>8,269.60</u>
Land Value	\$ <u>89,000.00</u>	\$ <u>89,000.00</u>

**EXECUTIVE BOARD OF SYNOD**

<b>RECEIPTS</b>	1999 Budget	2000
Current Fund Receipts		
Denominational Ministry Funds	\$ 99,235.00	\$ 100,828.00
Miscellaneous for Current Operations		
Synod Meeting Registrations/ Activity Fee	\$ <u>1,800.00</u>	\$ <u>1,800.00</u>
Current Fund Receipts	\$ <u>101,035.00</u>	\$ <u>102,628.00</u>
Revolving Book Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Moderator Special Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	\$ <u>101,035.00</u>	\$ <u>102,628.00</u>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
General Synod Officers		
Moderator of Synod	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 4,000.00
Moderator-Elect of Synod	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,500.00
Principal Clerk	\$ 3,978.00	\$ 4,175.00
Treasurer of Synod	\$ 3,675.00	\$ 3,675.00
Vice Moderator	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Vice-Moderator-Elect	\$ <u>500.00</u>	\$ <u>500.00</u>
General Synod Officers	\$ <u>15,403.00</u>	\$ <u>15,350.00</u>
<b>Board</b>		
General Office	\$ 1,489.00	\$ 1,500.00
Executive Board Travel & Meeting	\$ 5,350.00	\$ 5,250.00
Orientation to Synod's Work	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Emphasis Com. Travel & Expenses	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
Contingency	\$ <u>1,150.00</u>	\$ <u>(1,275.00)</u>
Board	\$ <u>16,489.00</u>	\$ <u>13,975.00</u>
Coordinator Fees	\$ 44,000.00	\$ 44,000.00
Coordinator Reimbursed Expenses	\$ <u>6,000.00</u>	\$ <u>6,000.00</u>

<b>Coordinator</b>	\$	<u>50,000.00</u>	\$	<u>50,000.00</u>
Minutes of Synod	\$	12,223.00	\$	12,223.00
Plan Book	\$	<u>3,080.00</u>	\$	<u>3,080.00</u>
<b>Publications</b>	\$	<u>15,303.00</u>	\$	<u>15,303.00</u>
Meeting of the General Synod	\$	<u>3,840.00</u>	\$	<u>8,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	\$	101,035.00	\$	102,628.00
Receipts Over (Under)				
Expenditures	\$	<u>0.00</u>	\$	<u>0.00</u>

### **Proposed Emphasis for 2000**

#### **THEME FOR 2000—ROOTED AND GROWING IN CHRIST**

**Theme verse:** *As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.* Colossians 2: 6,7 NASV

#### **JANUARY—ROOTED AND GROWING IN THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

**Verse:** *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.* Ephesians 1: 3 NASV

**Rooted:** Our Reformed forefathers recognized that the primary task of the church is worship by making the answer to Question 1 of the Westminster Shorter Catechism “Man’s chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.”

**Growing:** Let your worship be a Christ - centered personal response to God that glorifies and enjoys Him today.

Psalms 84: 2, 92: 1, 100, 150

Colossians 1: 17-18

Revelation 5: 11-12, and 14: 7

#### **FEBRUARY—ROOTED AND GROWING IN OUR SALVATION IN CHRIST**

**Verse:** *And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved.* Acts 4: 12 NASV

**Rooted:** The ARP Church is rooted in the Scriptural truth that the only way to God is through Jesus Christ.

**Growing:** We live in a day when many people regard all religious belief as being a personal choice and don’t believe in only one way to God. We need boldly to affirm and announce the Biblical truth of Acts 4: 12 to those who are lost today.

Proverbs 14: 12

John 10: 1-10; 14: 6

### **MARCH—ROOTED AND GROWING IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**Verse:** *In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation —having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God’s own possession, to the praise of His glory.* Ephesians 1: 13, 14 NASV

**Rooted:** The essence of our salvation is that the Spirit of God comes to dwell in our hearts, sealing us as God’s own possession. The Holy Spirit, being the third person of the Trinity, unites us to the Father for all eternity.

**Growing:** Being united to the Father, as His children, our lives need to reflect His holiness and the joys that come from knowing and serving Him.

Psalm 16: 11

Romans 8: 14-17; 14: 17

I Peter 1: 14-16

### **APRIL—ROOTED AND GROWING IN THE RESURRECTION**

**Verse:** *And raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places, in Christ Jesus.* Ephesians 2: 6 NASV

**Rooted:** Only Christianity has a risen, living Saviour who has conquered death. The founders of all other religions are still dead in their graves. The risen Christ appeared to many witnesses as proof of His victory over death.

**Growing:** The resurrection power of Christ is ours today. We are presently alive and raised up with Christ. So let us think and act after the manner of Christ.

Colossians 3: 1-3

I Corinthians 15

### **MAY—ROOTED AND GROWING AS THE CHURCH**

**Verse:** *Upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades shall not over power it.* Matthew 16: 18 NASV

**Rooted:** The ARP Church is rooted in the Scriptural and historical affirmation that Jesus Christ is King and Head of His church.

**Growing:** Through our local congregations let us exalt the Lord Jesus as we proclaim Him as the Christ, the Son of the living God.

Ephesians 4: 1-7 & 11-16

Ephesians 5: 25b—27

Colossians 1: 17-18

### **JUNE—ROOTED AND GROWING IN THE WORD OF GOD**

**Verse:** *For you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and abiding word of God.*

*For all flesh is like grass, and all its glory like the flowers of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls off, but the Word of the Lord abides forever.* I Peter 1: 23-25

**Rooted:** The ARP Church affirms that the infallible, authoritative Word of God is the doctrine that must guide the life of the church.

**Growing:** The people of God must teach and model the life of Christ as revealed in the Word of God which is our only perfect rule of faith and practice.

Isaiah 40: 6-8

Romans 10: 17

II Timothy 3: 14-17

### **JULY—ROOTED AND GROWING IN THE OBSERVANCE OF THE LORD'S DAY**

**Verse:** *You shall surely observe My sabbaths; for this is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the Lord who sanctifies you.* Exodus 31: 13 NASV

**Rooted:** In recognition of Jesus' Resurrection on the first day of the week, ARP's have always observed Sunday as our Sabbath.

**Growing:** Following biblical precept and examples let our observance of the Lord's Day include both the worship of God and rest. Particularly in this day of secularism it is important that God's people recognize His grace and wisdom in establishing the Sabbath.

Exodus 20: 8-11

Mark 16: 9

Luke 4: 16

Acts 17: 1-2; 20: 7

### **AUGUST—ROOTED AND GROWING IN LOVE**

**Verse:** *Jesus answered, "The foremost is, 'HEAR, O ISRAEL! THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD; AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.' The second is, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' There is no other commandment greater than these."* Mark 12:29-31 NASV

**Rooted:** As ARP's we recognize that except for God's eternal and undeserved love for us we have no hope.

**Growing:** Because of God's greatest gift of love, His only begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, we must respond in love for God and others.

Deuteronomy 6: 4-5

Mark 12: 29-31

John 3: 16; 13: 34-35

I Corinthians 13

Galatians 5: 22

I John 4: 7-21

**SEPTEMBER—ROOTED AND GROWING IN OUR KNOWLEDGE OF CHRIST**

**Verse:** *I thank my God always concerning you, for the grace of God which was given you in Christ Jesus, that in everything you were enriched in Him, in all speech and all knowledge.* I Corinthians 1: 4-5 NASV

**Rooted:** From the time our ARP forefathers had only their KJV Bibles, Confession of Faith and Form of Government, to the present day of many translations and computer programs, we have always emphasized the need to rightly divide the Word of truth.

**Growing:** Because we believe that Christian Education involves everything we can do to lead individuals into a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, we encourage the study of God's Word by all age groups.

Deuteronomy 6; 11: 18ff

Proverbs 9: 10; 22: 6

II Timothy 1: 5-7

**OCTOBER—ROOTED AND GROWING IN FAITH**

**Verse:** *If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all.* Isaiah 7:9b NIV

**Rooted:** The Westminster Confession of Faith teaches that the grace of faith, whereby we are enabled to believe to the saving of our souls, is the work of the Spirit of Christ in our hearts.

**Growing:** The Word of God challenges us to be totally committed to our Heavenly Father and the Lordship of Christ; as we strive to meet this challenge we learn to trust God completely in all things.

Genesis 15: 6

Habakkuk 2: 4

Romans 1: 17; 3: 21-30; 5: 1

Hebrews 11

**NOVEMBER—ROOTED AND GROWING IN CHRISTIAN SERVICE**

**Verse:** *“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”* Matthew 28: 19-20 NASV

**Rooted:** Our forefathers believed and taught us that if Christ lives in us that He would also live through us.

**Growing:** Every new day provides new opportunities for us to follow the example of Christ who came not to be ministered unto but to minister.

Jonah

Isaiah 42: 6-7

Matthew 20: 28; 25: 31-40

John 13: 3-5

**DECEMBER—ROOTED AND GROWING IN OUR RECOGNITION OF THE KINGSHIP OF OUR TRIUNE GOD**

**Verse:** *Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.* I Timothy 1: 17 NASV

**Rooted:** Our heritage as a denomination rests upon the doctrine of the sovereignty of God.

**Growing:** After 2,000 years of Christianity we realize more and more that God is King and that He is the sole ground of our confidence for the new Millennium and for all time to come.

Psalms 24: 7-10; 99: 1-2

Isaiah 40: 28

Matthew 2: 1-2

Luke 2: 10-11

Hebrews 13: 8

Revelation 1: 17-18; 5: 13; 19: 6

**GENERAL SYNOD OF THE ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**PRESBYTERY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS**

In extenuating circumstances, the General Synod may assign a church to a Presbytery regardless of the established geographical areas. Except for those circumstances the geographical areas are as follows:

**Catawba Presbytery**—Constituted in 1919 by the division of First Presbytery. It now includes all of the state of South Carolina, except for the western counties of Abbeville, Aiken, Allendale, Anderson, Barnwell, Edgefield, Greenville, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Newberry, Oconee, Pickens, Saluda, Spartanburg, and Union.

**First Presbytery**—Constituted in October 1800, it was formed by the division of the Associate Reformed Presbytery of the Carolinas and Georgia. It now includes the state of North Carolina.

**Florida Presbytery**—Constituted October 16, 1963 by the division of Second Presbytery. It now includes the state of Florida.

**Mississippi Valley Presbytery**—Constituted in 1931 when the Memphis and Louisville Presbyteries merged. It now includes the states of Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, and the western part of the state of Tennessee west of the Tennessee River,

**Northeast Presbytery**—Constituted January 1, 1987, it was formed

by the division of Virginia Presbytery. It now includes the provinces of Canada including and east of the province of Ontario; the states of Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont; those counties in Virginia to the east and north of the boundary formed by the western boundaries of Fauquier and Loudoun Counties and the Rappahannock River; and Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan Counties of West Virginia. **[Not Adopted]**

**Pacific Presbytery**—Constituted July 10, 1997 when the General Synod entered into a covenant relationship with certain ministers and congregations of the independent U.S. Presbytery to establish the Pacific Presbytery. It includes the states of California, Oregon, and Washington.

**Second Presbytery**—Constituted in October 1800, it was formed by the division of the Associate Reformed Presbytery of the Carolinas and Georgia. It now includes the state of Georgia and the Western South Carolina counties of Abbeville, Aiken, Allendale, Anderson, Barnwell, Edgefield, Greenville, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Newberry, Oconee, Pickens, Saluda, Spartanburg, and Union.

**Tennessee-Alabama Presbytery**—Constituted in 1937, it now includes the state of Alabama and the eastern two-thirds of the state of Tennessee east of the Tennessee River.

**Virginia Presbytery**—Constituted in 1854. It includes the state of Virginia, except for those counties to the east and north of the boundary formed by the western boundaries of Fauquier and Loudoun Counties and the Rappahannock River; and the state of West Virginia with the exception of Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan Counties. **[Not Adopted]**

## **RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO *FORM OF GOVERNMENT***

**That Chapter XIII.B.2.d. be amended in its entirety to read:**

“d. To organize, receive, divide, unite, transfer, dismiss, and dissolve Presbyteries in keeping with the advancement of the Church.”

- (1) An organized presbytery, or a group of individual congregations, located outside the geographical areas of existing Associate Reformed Presbyterian presbyteries desiring to be received as a presbytery and which meets the following requirements shall petition the General Synod, giving full assurance that this is the desire of all ministers and congregations to be received:
  - (a) Any group desiring to be received by the General Synod as a presbytery must meet the requirements of the *Form of Government*, Chapter XII.C.1, i.e., the Presbytery must

have at least two (2) ordained teaching elders and at least five (5) organized congregations.

- (b) At least five (5) of these congregations must be located outside the geographical bounds of an existing Associate Reformed Presbyterian presbytery.
- (c) Congregations that do not belong to an Associate Reformed Presbyterian presbytery must agree to accept the Standards of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, to be subject to the courts of the Church, and to work cooperatively with other congregations toward the purity and unity of the Church. To this end, the members, at a duly constituted congregational meeting, shall be required to enter into covenant by answering affirmatively the following question, either by voice, by uplifted hand or by standing:

“Do you, in reliance on God’s grace, solemnly promise and covenant that you will walk together as a congregation according to the Constitution and Standards of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, working toward the purity and unity of the Church?”

- (2) Congregations that belong to an Associate Reformed Presbyterian presbytery which desire to be a part of the petitioning group must give notice in writing to their presbytery of their intent. Such notice must be accompanied by a request for transfer to the new presbytery when and if it is established.
- (3) The following procedures shall be followed on receipt of a formal request for admission:
  - (a) Petitions shall be directed or referred to the Principal Clerk who shall:
    1. Provide the group a copy of the requirements necessary for reception.
    2. Provide the group a copy of the procedures to be followed.
    3. Inform the group that if they are connected to another denomination, that they must provide a copy of the letter informing their governing body that they intend to correspond with the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. If the group has no denominational affiliation, they shall be requested to provide written certification of that status.



4. In those circumstances where other denominations are involved, inform the governing body of the other denomination that the General Synod is responding to the petition.
  5. Once the preceding four requirements have been met, refer the petition to the Executive Board of the General Synod.
- (b) The Executive Board of the General Synod, acting on behalf of the General Synod, shall appoint a commission to meet with representatives of the inquiring group. The commission shall look carefully into the motives and intentions of each minister and each congregation, shall assure itself that the ministers and members of the congregations understand the privileges and the responsibilities that accompany their request, and shall be fully satisfied that God is leading the ministers and congregations to become a presbytery of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. The commission
1. shall have the authority to meet with each petitioning congregation to ask and answer questions;
  2. must examine each petitioning minister according to the provisions of the Form of Government, Chapter X.G.2.; and
  3. shall report its findings and actions and submit appropriate recommendations to the Executive Board.
- (c) Recommendation for the reception or establishment of such a presbytery, to include its geographical area, shall be presented by the Executive Board of Synod to the General Synod at its next regular or called meeting.
- (4) If the presbytery contains congregations that are located within the geographical areas of an existing Associate Reformed Presbyterian presbytery, such congregations shall be allowed to remain with the presbytery for a maximum of two (2) years, during which time they shall be expected to transfer to the presbytery within whose geographical area they are located. If such a transfer is not requested, or if no waiver is granted by the General Synod, the transfer will automatically take place at the expiration of the two (2) years.
- (5) Whenever a new presbytery is established, or an existing presbytery is received by the General Synod, a special service of recognition and reception shall be held, either during a

meeting of the General Synod or during a meeting of the presbytery. If held during a meeting of the presbytery, the General Synod shall be represented by the Moderator and/or a duly appointed commission of the General Synod.”

**That Chapter XIII,B.2, sub-sections “e” through “p” be changed to “f” through “q” and that Chapter XIII,B.2.e be added:**

- “e. To communicate with individual congregations which are outside the geographical areas of existing Associate Reformed Presbyterian presbyteries. Requests from such congregations to be received into the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church shall be handled in the same manner as outlined in *Form of Government*, Chapter XIII.B.2.d.(2)(a) and Chapter XIII.B.2.d.(2)(b) above. When all requirements have been met, the Executive Board may request an existing Associate Reformed Presbyterian presbytery to consider receiving the petitioning congregation, with the understanding that such reception shall not be final until the General Synod has granted a waiver to the geographical area rule as found in the *Form of Government*, Chapter XII.A and Chapter XII.C.1. A congregation so received shall be expected to become a part of an Associate Reformed Presbyterian presbytery organized in its geographical area at a later date.”

The promotional program of **Erskine College and Seminary** was chaired by J. W. Carson, President.

As Synod considered a motion to adjourn, a motion carried that Synod’s greetings be sent to Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Edwards from the 195th meeting of the General Synod.

Synod adjourned with the Benediction by W.A. Bellamy.

### **Wednesday, June 9, 1999 8:30 A.M.**

The worship service was led by R. J. Gore.

Special music was provided by Synod’s Men’s Chorus.

The Report of the **Moderator’s Committee on Memorials** was presented, recommending the adoption of all memorials.

Memorial #1 from Northeast Presbytery was adopted.

Memorial #2 from Northeast Presbytery was adopted.

A motion carried that the Standards of the A.R.P. Church be translated into Spanish.

A motion carried that Synod request the Executive Board to produce a Korean translation of the *Form of Government*, the *Book of Discipline*, and the *Book of Worship*.

The Moderator ruled that Recommendation #10 from the Report of the Executive Board of Synod had been accomplished by the adoption of the memorial from Northeast Presbytery.

Memorial #3 from Second Presbytery was adopted.

**Memorial  
From Northeast Presbytery**

WHEREAS, Northeast Presbytery, ARPC, includes constituent congregations both in the United States of America and the Dominion of Canada, and;

WHEREAS, congregations of Northeast Presbytery located in the Dominion of Canada are presently limited in their ability to receive financial assistance and to make financial contributions to the Presbytery and the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, due to the lack of an official tax-exempt status with Revenue Canada, and;

WHEREAS, attempts by Canadian congregations of Northeast Presbytery to resolve these limitations through official registration with Revenue Canada have not been successful due to particular provisions of Dominion of Canada law;

THEREFORE, Northeast Presbytery, ARPC, hereby **memorializes** the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbytery Church, to direct the Administrative Offices of the General Synod to prepare, submit and fulfill the necessary requirements of Revenue Canada, to properly register the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, and all subordinate bodies (i.e., ARPC Presbyteries and Congregations), and be officially recognized and designated by the Dominion of Canada as a tax-exempt religious entity, with full privileges to receive and transmit financial gifts between Canadian ARP congregations, and individuals, congregations, presbyteries and the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, all located in the United States of America.

Adopted by Northeast Presbytery,

April 16, 1999

G. J. Gerard, Principal Clerk

**Memorial  
From Northeast Presbytery**

WHEREAS, the 193rd General Synod (1997) did receive and establish the Pacific Presbytery, consisting primarily of Korean-speaking ministers and congregations; and,

WHEREAS, the Pacific Presbytery did and continues to have constituent congregations within the geographic boundaries of Northeast Presbytery; and,

WHEREAS, the 193rd General Synod set a date of "Until June 1999" for

Pacific Presbytery congregations within the boundaries of Northeast Presbytery to become part of Northeast Presbytery; and,

WHEREAS, Northeast Presbytery has made diligent efforts to encourage Pacific Presbytery congregations within the boundaries of Northeast Presbytery to become part of Northeast Presbytery, with varied results due to many reasons, such as cultural differences, expectations, timeliness and communication difficulties; and,

WHEREAS, Northeast Presbytery desires to comply with the directives of the General Synod, and does welcome all ministers and congregations of Pacific Presbytery within the boundaries of Northeast Presbytery to become part of Northeast Presbytery; and,

WHEREAS, Northeast Presbytery has identified some directives and expectations which cannot be fulfilled in a timely manner;

THEREFORE, Northeast Presbytery, hereby **memorializes** the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church to grant an extension of two years, through June 2001, for congregations of Pacific Presbytery within the boundaries of Northeast Presbytery to become part of Northeast Presbytery; and

FURTHER, Northeast Presbytery, hereby **memorializes** the General Synod to grant permission for Northeast Presbytery and Pacific Presbytery to work cooperatively, under special, mutually agreeable guidelines, to establish and receive additional Korean-speaking ministers and congregations within the boundaries of Northeast Presbytery.

Adopted by Northeast Presbytery,

April 16, 1999

G. J. Gerard, Principal Clerk

### **Memorial From Second Presbytery**

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of Second Presbytery that some congregations and agencies of the denomination may not be paying their annual, contracted monies into the General Synod's Retirement Plan, and

WHEREAS, this failure to pay their contractual obligations may be having an adverse impact upon the incomes of all present and future retirees of the denominations;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that Second Presbytery memorialize the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church to instruct the Board of Annuities and Relief

- (1) to determine which congregations and agencies of the denomination, if any, may be delinquent in their payments into the Retirement Plan,
- (2) to review all present and future policies and procedures involving the Retirement Plan, and, at the next meeting of the General

Synod,

- (3) to report its findings, and
- (4) to make recommendations with the view to correcting any present and future inequities.

This memorial was presented to and adopted by Second Presbytery in session at the Young Memorial ARP Church, Anderson, South Carolina, March 9, 1999.

Adopted by Second Presbytery,  
March 9, 1999  
J. L. Evans, Stated Clerk

Synod was led in prayer by J. R. Fee.

The promotional program of **Outreach North America** was presented by H. N. Morris, Chairman of the Board.

General Synod recessed for a Coffee Break.

Synod reconvened for a session of business.

The Report of the **Moderator's Committee on Publications** was presented. The recommendations referred to in these Minutes are from the Board report unless otherwise referenced.

Recommendation #1 was adopted.

Recommendation #2 was adopted.

Recommendation #3 was adopted.

Recommendation #4 was adopted.

The following recommendation of the Moderator's Committee on Publications was adopted:

That the Board of Publications, the Editor Ben Johnston and staff of the ARP Magazine be commended for their excellent service to Jesus Christ in Christian publications.

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF PUBLICATIONS

During the past year the Board of Publications continued to publish *The ARP*, the denomination's monthly magazine. It distributed news weekly through the ARP News Update recordings accessed through the ARP Center's 800 telephone line, and also through the General Synod's web page on the Internet. It assisted other agencies of the General Synod in various aspects of communication.

The Board met at the ARP Center September 18, 1998, and March 19, 1999, to consider and act upon the work committed to it by the Synod.

Martin Printing Co. of Easley, S.C., continues to print *The ARP* under contract. Current circulation for the magazine is down slightly from a year ago. The May 1999 issue was mailed to 6,012 subscribers, compared to 6,096 a year earlier.

The Board approved keeping individual subscription rates for *The ARP*

unchanged for 1999 (\$15 a year, \$28 for two years, \$39 for three years). This basic rate is unchanged since 1990.

Churches can give their new members an introductory one-year subscription for \$12. The Board again expressed appreciation to the Board of Stewardship for continuing to offer to purchase first-year subscriptions for new members of ARP mission congregations.

The Church Club Plan for subscriptions continues at \$12 a year, if 90 per cent of a church's family units (as reported in the statistical tables in the appendix of the current Minutes of Synod) subscribe; or \$13 a year, if 75 per cent of the families subscribe. This plan is designed to encourage all members of a church to keep abreast of the news and to become well acquainted with the concerns of the ARP Church and its presbyteries, agencies and institutions.

As is customary, a major subscription program in the churches will be undertaken in October and November. Most subscriptions are on a calendar-year basis.

Last year the Board sent a survey to 130 pastors or clerks of Session seeking their opinions about the magazine. Of the 95 survey responses, overall 70 per cent were entirely favorable. Of the 28 surveys that had at least one negative response, the most common themes were that the articles in *The ARP* were not pertinent to many in their congregation, that it had too much emphasis on the Woman's Synodical Union and that articles needed to be more intellectually and theologically challenging. Five respondents said that at times the magazine contains objectionable theology, and four said they do not find the magazine edifying or helpful and therefore they do not promote it. Actually, there is concern that there are at least 30 churches or missions with zero or no more than two subscribers. The Board is seeking ways to deal positively with this concern.

Editorially, the magazine has made several changes during the past year which it is hoped will be viewed as improvements. A classified advertising section is being tested. The magazine is being produced with a wrap cover of glossy stock, allowing for crisper photographs and graphics on the cover.

In this last year of the 1900s, Dr. Lowry Ware is writing a series of feature articles about the life, trends and defining moments of the ARP Church in this century. This spring a new series of articles, titled "Ways We Worship," examines the variety and unity to be found in our churches as our denomination expands past traditional boundaries. The creation of a column or page directed toward youth workers and children's teachers is under study.

The magazine continues to serve the Woman's Synodical Union by publishing columns from its president and departmental chairmen as well as statistical information. This year for a second year the Board will act as

agent for the distribution of WSU study books.

The Board has completed the work of suspending publication of the theological journal *Faith and Practice*. Subscribers have been offered reimbursement for unfulfilled subscriptions. At present no opportunity for restarting this publication has appeared feasible.

A committee has been appointed to review the Board's Policy Manual and at the fall 1999 meeting recommend possible changes.

The Board approved plans to move its offices into a part of the quarters being vacated by the Board of Christian Education which is moving to the upper floor of the ARP Center.

Officers elected to serve July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2000 are: Rev. Andrew K. Putnam, Chairman; Mrs. Debbie Schwencer, Vice Chairman, and Mrs. Lori Lawing, Secretary.

Appreciation was expressed to Dr. Clyde T. McCants and Rev. David Els, retiring Board members, for their services.

The Board's next meeting is scheduled Sept. 16 and 17 at Bonclarken.

### Recommendations

1. That Synod continue to designate the second Sunday of October each year as ARP Magazine Sunday, and that in the weeks to follow special emphasis be given in churches to obtaining subscriptions to *The ARP* for the year 2000.
2. That all churches consider the advantages and benefits of participating in the Church Club Plan for subscriptions to the denominational magazine.
3. That each Session appoint an agent to promote and handle subscriptions to *The ARP*, if it has not already done so.
4. That all other Board actions reported herein be sustained.

Rev. Andrew K. Putnam, Chairman

### BOARD OF PUBLICATIONS BUDGET

	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>
	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
<b>Income:</b>		
Denom. Min. Fund	\$ 81,282	\$ 83,720
<i>The ARP</i>		
Subscriptions	76,543	80,000
Interest on deferred subs	2,306	2,250
Advertising	8,755	8,000
WSU Unrestricted	3,000	3,000
WSU study book distribution	9,500	9,500
Agency support	1,200	1,300
Miscellaneous receipts	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,385</u>
	\$ 184,086	\$ 189,155

**Expenditures:**

Board travel and expense	\$	4,158	\$	4,253
Editor				
Salary		54,218		55,844
Retirement		4,609		4,747
Insurance		7,286		7,505
Employer tax (Social Security)		4,148		4,272
Editorial Assistant				
Salary		23,922		24,674
Tax-deferred annuity		2,033		2,060
Insurance		2,931		3,019
Employer tax (Social Security)		1,986		2,045
Clerical help		887		914
Internship		3,600		
Workman's Compensation		462		559
Staff travel and expenses		4,244		4,371
Office expenses		6,546		5,397
Rent		2,833		3,493
Promotion		1,030		1,061
WSU study books		8,500		8,500
<i>Faith and Practice</i>		800		
<i>The ARP</i>				
Printing and publishing		40,150		41,355
Labels and postage		12,731		13,113
Materials and supplies		1,697		1,748
Photography expenses		849		874
ARP News Update		1,034		1,061
Contingency		<u>1,030</u>		<u>1,061</u>
	\$	191,684	\$	191,926
Excess income over <under> disbursements		<7,598>		<2,771>
Operating Reserve beginning of year		15,547		7,949
Operating Reserve end of year		7,949		5,178

The Report of the **Moderator's Committee on Stewardship** was presented. The recommendations referred to in these Minutes are from the Board report unless otherwise referenced.

Recommendation #1 was adopted.

Recommendation #2 was adopted.

Recommendation #3 was adopted.

Recommendation #4 was adopted.



Recommendation #5 was adopted.

Recommendation #6 was adopted.

Recommendation #7 was adopted.

Recommendation #8 was adopted.

Recommendation #9 was adopted.

The following recommendation of the Moderator's Committee on Stewardship was adopted:

That we commend the Board of Stewardship for their faithful work and all churches who have contributed to the financial support of our Denominational Ministry Fund.

### **REPORT OF BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP**

"But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything come from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.. O Lord our God, as for all this abundance that we have provided for building you a temple for your Holy Name, it comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you.." (1 Chron. 29:14,16)

Lord, keep us ever mindful that we are stewards —and that we are to honor you with all that you have entrusted to us.

The Board of Stewardship expresses its most sincere appreciation to individuals, the Woman's Synodical Union, churches, and agencies for their financial stewardship. We rejoice in our partnership as we seek to witness and minister "in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

The Board met on two occasions since the last meeting of the General Synod. Activities of the Board are reported for your review and action.

#### **Audit**

The audit for the year ending December 31, 1998, was conducted by the independent auditing firm of Millen and Millard. The scope of the audit included the books of the Treasurer of the Synod, the ARP Foundation's custodial funds, the ARP Foundation's gift annuity funds, and Outreach North America's revolving loan funds. A copy of the audit has been presented to each member of the Board of Stewardship, distributed to each agency of the General Synod, placed on file at the ARP Center, and submitted with the official report to Synod.

The audit shows that General Synod's operating fund balance increased by \$48,453, as compared to \$96,031 in 1997. The fund balance at 12/31/98 was \$223,398. This equals approximately 9.15% of the anticipated funds

to be allocated in 1999. Synod, by its previous action, has directed an operating reserve of not less than 6 1/2% of the anticipated funds for allocation. The Synod is reminded that commitments which would reduce the operating reserve below the prescribed level must be referred to the Board of Stewardship for study and recommendation. (See *Rules of Order*, Section VIII (F).)

### **Budget of Allocated Funds**

**For 1999:** At the time of this report, twenty-eight (28) churches/missions have not confirmed their dollar pledge for 1999 (as compared to seventy-seven (77) at this time last year). The inclusion of pledge information on the Annual Statistical Report has helped reduce the number of churches not reporting. We emphasize again the extreme difficulty in making commitments to the agencies without knowing the commitments from the churches.

The procedure adopted by the 1997 General Synod (page 622, *1997 Minutes of Synod*) allows the Board of Stewardship to consider additional funding requests if the expected resources exceed the budgeted amount. Requests were received from Bonclarken, Christian Education, Erskine College, and World Witness. The Board has attempted to meet pressing needs which would not otherwise be met and which would not necessitate future funding. The recommended additional allocations are reflected in the Board's recommendations.

**For 2000:** The Board anticipates sufficient funding to meet the requested funding for all boards and agencies of the Synod. Additionally, reduced funding requirements for the non-program agencies permitted an increased funding level for Outreach North America and World Witness.

The procedure referenced above provides that the actual commitments for the current year (1999) will be used as the basis for projecting allocations for the following year (2000). The Board has based its recommended allocations on anticipated resources of \$2,494,190. The recommended allocations are reported in the "Recommended Allocation of Synod's Unrestricted Income for Calendar Year 2000." The program agencies of Synod (Bonclarken, Christian Education (Covenant Discipleship), Erskine, Outreach North America, Publications, and World Witness) are reminded that if actual pledges (which are expected by February 1, 2000) exceed the amount recommended for allocation, the Board of Stewardship will consider proposals for additional funding for the period July-December 2000. Recommendations for additional allocations, if any, will be made to the General Synod.

In presenting its request for funding for the year 2000, each board which wants funding from the Denominational Ministry Fund is requested (and expected) to present a line-item budget and to identify those expenditures

which are

- Essential for day-to-day operations (salaries, services, ministries).
- Required by the General Synod (programs, ministries, projects).
- “Must have” items.
- Dreams. Good ideas, but not absolutely essential.

Committees are expected to provide the Board of Stewardship with a statement indicating anticipated expenditures and justification for any unusual expenditures.

### **Denominational Ministry Funds**

Churches are encouraged to reach toward the goal of giving an amount equal to 20% of the last published General Fund receipts (i.e., for 2000 the goal will be 20% of the 1998 General Fund receipts) **OR** if unable to give 20% to increase their percentage level of giving by one (1) percentage point above the previous year until the 20% level is achieved.

For 1998 sixty-two (62) churches (as compared to 66 in 1997) achieved the Denominational Ministry Fund goal. **However**, based on the pledges for 1999 the number which will meet the goal has increased to seventy-nine (79). We believe that this increase is a direct result of presbytery involvement in the process.

We express particular appreciation to the following churches which met the Denominational Ministry Fund goal for 1998:

#### **Churches Meeting or Exceeding the 20% Goal:**

<b>Church</b>	<b>Presbytery</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>Presbytery</b>
Bartow	Florida	Bethel	Tennessee-Alabama
Brighton	Miss. Valley	Camden	Tennessee-Alabama
Cross Com.	First	Doraville	Second
Due West	Second	Elk Shoals	First
Johnston*	Second	Lake Placid	Florida
Lake Wales	Florida	Lancaster First	Catawba
Lauderdale	Virginia	Louisville	Second
New Sterling	First	Ora	Second
Pinecrest	First	Prosperity, TN	Tenn.-Alabama
Providence	Second	Rock Hill First	Catawba
Salem	Miss. Valley	Sherwood Forest	Catawba
Smyrna	Catawba	Unity	Catawba
Wildhurst	Virginia	White Oak	Catawba
White Oak*	Second		

Churches which have not yet reached 20% Goal but increased percentage giving by at least one (1) percentage point:

<b>Church</b>	<b>Presbytery</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>Presbytery</b>
Bethany	Miss. Valley	Bethlehem	Second
Broad Creek	Virginia	Burlington First	First
Christ	Florida	Clover	Catawba
Coddle Creek	First	Craig Ave. Tab.	First
Devenger Road	Second	Ebenezer	Second
Fairlea	Virginia	Faith, Wildwood	Florida
Havana	Miss. Valley	Hickory Springs	Miss. Valley
Highlands	Second	Hopewell	Catawba
Kirkridge	Northeast	Lakeside Fellow.	First
Church	Presbytery	Church	Presbytery
Lemira	Catawba	Maupin Avenue	First
Neely's Creek	Catawba	Newberry	Second
New Lebanon	Virginia	New Windsor	Northeast
Oconee	Second	Piney Creek	Northeast
Pleasant Hill	Florida	Pottsville	Miss. Valley
Pressly Memorial	Second	Pressly Memorial	Tenn-Ala
Providence	First	Providence	Miss. Valley
Sharon	Mis. Valley	Tirzah	Catawba
Trinity	Second		

\* As a percentage of last reported General Fund Receipts

A synopsis of giving for 1998 is included as information. The churches in Canada are reported as one entity:

### For 1998

	Total	20%	1%	% Inc.	% Same	% Dec.	Not Giving	\$ Inc	\$ Same	\$ Dec.
Catawba	43	6	5	8	0	18	6	17	7	13
First	55	4	7	12	1	19	12	29	9	5
Florida	21	3	3	5	0	6	4	11	3	3
MV	20	2	5	5	0	6	2	10	3	5
Northeast	13	0	3	2	1	5	2	4	2	5
Pacific	14	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0
Second	40	7	8	6	0	8	11	14	10	5
TA	18	3	1	2	0	5	7	4	1	6
Virginia	11	2	3	3	0	3	0	7	2	2
Total	235	27	35	43	2	70	58	96	37	44

Giving for 1999, as reflected by the pledges and/or contributions received to date, is reflected below. Presbyteries should be concerned that thirty-three (33) churches/missions have not reported their intentions for 1999 **and** fifteen (15) churches have either indicated that they will not give or did not indicate a pledge on the Annual Statistical Report.

	For 1999										
	Total	20%	1%	% Inc	% Same	% Dec	No Report	Not Giving	\$ Inc	\$ Same	\$ Dec
Catawba	43	7	15	3	0	16	0	2	29	8	4
First	57	6	14	14	0	20	1	2	37	16	1
Florida	21	2	5	6	0	5	3	0	13	2	3
MV	23	1	3	4	0	10	3	2	10	1	7
Northeast	14	1	1	11	0	0	0	1	6	0	7
Pacific	14	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0
Second	42	8	6	5	0	11	6	6	17	6	7
TA	18	2	3	2	0	3	6	2	5	0	5
Virginia	11	2	3	3	0	3	0	0	5	1	5
Total	243	29	50	48	0	68	33	15	122	34	39

The Board will continue in its efforts to more directly involve the presbyteries in developing financial resources for denominational ministry.

The Administrative Officer will provide each presbytery, prior to its Fall meeting date, a report on the giving of each church. The report will include for each church in the presbytery, data on

- the previous year's goal, commitments paid, and percentage giving level
- the current year goal, pledge, and percentage giving level
- the goal for the ensuing year, based on the last reported General Fund receipts.

Presbyteries are encouraged to continue to counsel churches which are unwilling to meet the goal for giving through the Denominational Ministry Fund. There continues to be a need to develop a consciousness of the connectional nature of Associate Reformed Presbyterian churches.

### **Educational Resources**

*Stewardship Packets* were again distributed to each church, with sufficient copies for each active member of the Session and Diaconate. The Stewardship packets will again be distributed on or before September 1. Pastors/Clerks are encouraged to make sure that these materials are distributed to each member of the Session and to all members of the Diaconate. If the church has a newsletter or bulletin, information included

in the packet could be shared with the membership.

The Board distributed a booklet on tithing during the past year and will provide review copies of the brochure *The Grace of Giving* prepared by the Christian Stewardship Association.

*In Touch With Paul, A Study In Biblical Stewardship* by Jay Younts, elder in the Harrison Bridge Road Church, has been completed and is now in the final stage of production. This is a twelve-lesson course in Biblical stewardship, adaptable for local use. A brochure based on *A Concise Statement on Biblical Stewardship* adopted by the 1997 General Synod will be included with the study, and will be available for wider distribution.

As a part of its ongoing efforts to promote the Biblical teachings on tithing and stewardship, the Board has authorized a pilot program to be conducted in the Charlotte area this fall.

The orientation program for ministers and professional employees beginning service in the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church offers one of the best opportunities for education and inclusion. Presbyteries are again urged to make participation mandatory and to schedule attendance at the time the minister is received or ordained by presbytery. The program has been opened to other church leaders, **with the local church paying transportation costs.**

### Special Offerings

The results of the Special Offerings for the past four years are reported as information. These figures reflect only those funds received through the Treasurer of Synod. Funds sent directly to Bonclarken, Erskine, or World Witness are not reflected.

	1995	1996	1997	1998
Easter Offering				
ARP Foundation	\$ 10,596	\$ 9,759	\$ 10,473	\$ 11,163
Bonclarken	15,141	14,652	17,264	18,229
Christian Education	11,176	10,639	11,810	12,154
Erskine College	15,654	14,626	16,115	16,603
World Witness	29,818	29,394	32,357	31,195
Sub-Total	\$ 82,385	\$ 79,070	\$ 88,019	\$ 89,344
Thanksgiving Offering				
Erskine Seminary	\$ 11,958	\$ 11,484	\$ 11,044	\$ 11,983
American Bible Society	6,969	8,893	8,559	10,070
Outreach North America	21,829	21,147	20,093	24,180
Christmas Benevolent Fund	47,309	48,805	43,956	56,559
Sub-Total	\$ 88,065	\$ 90,329	\$ 417	
	<u>83,652</u>	<u>102,792</u>		
Total Offering	\$ 170,450	\$ 169,399	\$ 171,671	\$ 192,136

These special offerings are critically important to the agencies and opportunity should be given in each church for members to participate.

Agencies should continue to be sensitive to the timing of appeals which might adversely impact these two offerings.

The agencies, committees, and members of the Church are reminded of the action of the General Synod of 1990, to wit:

“...there be no general solicitation unless prior approval is granted by the General Synod, or in an emergency, by the Executive Board.” (Copied from *Minutes of Synod*, June 11-14, 1990, page 373.)

The Executive Board has asked the Board of Stewardship to more clearly define the meaning of “general solicitation” and this will be addressed at the next meeting of the Board.

### **Administrative Information**

**Meeting Dates for 1999—2000:** The 1998 General Synod asked the Board of Stewardship to schedule its Spring meeting date earlier in the year so that the Boards could adjust the budgets presented to Synod to reflect the anticipated allocations. The earlier meeting date makes it more difficult for the Board to meet its responsibilities:

- Completion of the General Synod Audit is difficult prior to the middle of April.
- Although there is a February 1 submission date for Annual Statistical Reports, many reports are not received on time (twenty-eight reports are missing as of the date of this report).
- A number of Boards do not meet until mid April.

The Board requests the General Synod to allow the Board to set its Spring meeting date to better facilitate its responsibilities.

The following meeting dates have been set:

- September 13-14, 1999, 1:00 P.M., Erskine
- Spring Meeting of Board to be determined
- September 11-12, 2000, 1:00 P.M., Bonclarken

**Officers:** The following have been elected to serve for the period July 1, 1999—June 30, 2000:

- Chairman: Monterey Campbell
- Vice Chairman: W. Herman Lesslie
- Secretary: James Ryan, Jr.

Mr. Guy H. (Chip) Smith, III, serves as Treasurer and Mr. Ed Hogan serves as the Board’s Administrative Officer.

**By-law Change:** As approved by the 1998 General Synod, the By-laws have been amended to reduce the number of at-large members and to add the chairman of each presbytery Committee on Finance/Stewardship as an ex-officio member.

**Retiring Members:** The Board expresses its appreciation to retiring members Robert Barnhill (Elder, First Gastonia) and Jack Hicklin (Elder,

First Rock Hill).

### **Recommendations**

1. That presbyteries which have not already done so establish procedures to ensure that all ministers beginning ministry in the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church attend the General Synod orientation within the first year of ministry in the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church.
2. That the following additional allocations from expected 1999 Denominational Ministry Funds be approved:
  - a. To Bonclarken, \$100,000 to be applied to the debt on the multi-purpose building, to be allocated to Bonclarken in monthly payments July–December 1999. (Note: It is expected by the Board of Stewardship that the savings in interest realized by this grant will be used to further reduce the principal amount of the loan.)
  - b. To Erskine College, \$50,000 as a salary supplement for faculty and staff, to be allocated in December 1999.
  - c. To World Witness, \$ 10,000 for the church based alcoholic recovery program in Russia, to be allocated as needed July-December 1999.
3. That the Board of Stewardship be granted authority to revise allocations for 2000, if necessary, following the receipt of pledges for 2000 and the 1999 year-end report.
4. That boards and committees requesting allocations from the General Synod for budget year 2001 submit their requests by March 31, 2000, following procedures outlined by the Board of Stewardship.
5. That each church, in determining its level of giving through the Denominational Ministry Fund:
  - a. have a Session meeting (joint meeting with Diaconate if appropriate) at the beginning of the budgeting process to review the Report of the Board of Stewardship and other material presented from the Board of Stewardship and
  - b. commit to continuing to increase their level of giving in order to attain Synod's established Denominational Ministry Fund goal.
6. That the Easter and Thanksgiving Offerings be continued for 2000.
7. That the General Synod Audit be accepted and filed at the ARP Center to be available for review.
8. That the Budget for the Board of Stewardship be approved.
9. That all other actions, as reported herein, be sustained.

Respectfully,  
Monterey Campbell, Chairman



**Budget  
Board of Stewardship**

	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
Synod Supplement	\$ 26,118	\$ 33,048
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Board and Travel Expenses	\$ 6,150	7,500
General Office Expenses	1,000	750
Promotion and Publicity	3,356	3,500
Director and Officer Liability Ins.	6,750	6,787
General Synod Audit	5,145	5,250
Reserve for ARP Subscriptions*	2,000	1,000
General Synod Contingency	1,717	8,261
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$ 26,118</b>	<b>\$ 33,048</b>

\*Included to provide a one-year free subscription to *The Associate Reformed Presbyterian* for new families in a mission church.

The Report of the **Moderator's Committee on World Witness** was presented. The recommendations referred to in these Minutes are from the Board report unless otherwise referenced.

- Recommendation #1 was adopted.
- Recommendation #2 was adopted.
- Recommendation #3 was adopted.
- Recommendation #4 was adopted.
- Recommendation #5 was adopted.
- Recommendation #6 was adopted.
- Recommendation #7 was adopted.
- Recommendation #8 was adopted.
- Recommendation #9 was adopted.

The following recommendations of the Moderator's Committee were adopted:

That all pastors and congregations be made aware of the needs mentioned in items 7 & 8 and be encouraged to pray earnestly that these needs be met. (The needs mentioned in item 9 were added and Synod paused in its deliberations for a season of special prayer.)

That heartfelt appreciation of Synod be extended to the Board of World Witness, the Executive Director, and his staff for all of their vision and support of this world-wide ministry.

MINISTRY TOTAL	21,000	21,000	503,860	4,800	529,660
ITEM	1999 BASIC	BASIC BUDGET	DIRECT SUPPORT	ANTICI- PATED SPECIALS	TOTAL5.
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES					
A. BOARD OF DIRECTORS					
1. Board Travel & Meetings	18,000	18,000		0	18,000
B. ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL					
1. Salary and Benefits	283,200	291,935			291,935
		NOTE: Includes 3 % Increase for all Salaries			
2. Staff Travel	14,000	14,000		0	14,000
C. OFFICE EXPENSE					
1. Postage	16,000	16,000		0	16,000
2. Rent	9,600	9,600		0	9,600
3. Telephone	14,000	16,000		0	16,000
4. Office Supplies	30,000	30,000		0	30,000
5. Furniture and Equip.	15,000	15,000		0	15,000
6. Printing	20,000	5,000		0	5,000
7. Development Counsel	15,000	10,000		0	10,000
8. Maintenance Contracts, Affiliations	15,000	15,000		0	15,000
9. Accounting Expenses	1,500	1,500		0	1,500
10. Annual Audit	9,800	9,800		0	9,800
11. Contingency	5,000	10,000		0	10,000
BOARD & ADMININ- STRATION TOTAL	466,100	461,835	0	0	461,835

The Report of the **Moderator's Committee on Annuities and Relief** was presented. The recommendations referred to in these Minutes are from the Board report unless otherwise referenced.

- Recommendation #1 was adopted.
- Recommendation #2 was adopted.
- Recommendation #3 was adopted.
- Recommendation #4 was adopted.
- Recommendation #5 was adopted.
- Recommendation #6 was adopted.
- Recommendation #7 was adopted.
- Recommendation #8 was adopted.
- Recommendation #9 was adopted.
- Recommendation #10 was adopted.
- Recommendation #11 was adopted.

The following recommendation of the Moderator's Committee on Annuities and Relief was adopted:

That the Board of Annuities and Relief be commended for their efforts to prepare ARP employees and ministers for retirement and their protection through the insurance program.

### **REPORT OF BOARD OF ANNUITIES AND RELIEF**

"This 'helping hand' has always come just when it is greatly needed, and to God I give the praise. I live with the constant assurance that He will never leave nor forsake me, and that He knows what things I need and somehow, they are always provided, and my faith and trust are in Him." *Widow of Minister.*

"I want to express my appreciation to the "powers that be" for the last four and half years of my life as part of the ARP Synod's benevolence. I am grateful. You don't know what it means to me to share in the goodness of the church because of the service rendered by my good husband. He was a great man, and came along before preachers made good salaries. (I recently found his call to.. for a salary of \$3,000 a year.) My sincerest appreciation to the ARP Synod." *Wife of Retired Minister.*

"Our generous church friends are faithful in giving, and I, among many, am grateful for their thoughtfulness." *Retired Missionary.*

The Board of Annuities and Relief ("Board") is the conduit for the ministry of the churches in the areas of insurance, retirement, and benevolence. The Board expresses its gratitude for the privilege of service. We covet your continued prayers and earnestly invite and encourage both churches and individuals to supplement the Board's efforts in this ministry of caring.

The Board met on two occasions since the last meeting of the General Synod and we share with you our activities and plans.

#### **Audit and Financial Statements**

The independent certified public accounting firm of Millen and Millard audit the financial activities of the Board. The auditor's report for the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Retirement Plan has been issued to each member of the Board and is submitted with the official report of the Board to the General Synod. It is also available for review at the ARP Center, Greenville, SC. The other financial activities of the Board are included in the General Synod Audit.

#### **Benevolence and Communications**

##### **Christmas Benevolent Ministry**

This ministry is extended, generally, to those individuals who

- have qualified to receive a retirement benefit from the ARP Retirement Plan or are receiving a disability benefit payment under the General Synod's disability program; **and**
- were actively employed in the denomination immediately prior to retirement or disability; **and**
- have served a minimum of five years' active service in the denomination; **or**
- are surviving spouses of those whom had become eligible.

The Christmas Benevolent Fund Guidelines were amended last year to exclude from participation those ministers who have transferred their ministerial relationship to another denomination. The Board has approved changes to:

- include in the eligible category ARP Ministers who retire from Erskine
- allow, with the unanimous consent of the Board, the inclusion of retired ARP ministers who fail to meet the eligibility criteria
- exclude from participation any ARP minister who is under censure by his presbytery
- give first priority to the continuation of the quarterly benefit to those widows receiving a benefit from the Widow Benefit Fund

This ministry is funded with gifts received through the Thanksgiving Offering, the J. C. Lott Endowment, the Christmas Benevolent Fund Endowment, and interest earned on funds held for distribution. A total of \$70,137 was available for distribution during the December 98—November 99 period, as compared to \$57,430 approved in the preceding period.

Each Fall the Board contacts all eligible participants to see if they wish to participate and inform them that unless they notify the Board to exclude them, they will be included. Those who feel that they qualify on a need basis are asked to submit financial information.

The first priority for distribution will be to continue the distributions from the Widow Benefit Fund and then to meet the needs of those who demonstrate financial need and whose personal family assets are less than \$50,000 (\$70,000 if the individual or family does not own a residence). "Need" is defined as the difference between total family income and 200% of the Government Subsistence Level. The income of all family members residing in the household is included in total family income. There is a maximum monthly benefit of \$500.

The balance of available resources is distributed to those who are willing to receive a gift after the needs of others have been met. At the time the 1998-1999 distribution was approved, there were eighty-eight eligible family units (compared to 83 in the prior period) and seventy-eight families participated (compared to fifty-eight in the prior period). Eight of those family units are participating on the basis of need (compared to seven in the prior period).

Pastors and clerks of those churches where eligible participants attend or have membership are encouraged to help the Board in this ministry by encouraging those who might have financial need to make application for assistance. A copy of the correspondence sent to eligible participants and a directory of eligible participants are mailed annually to each church.

### **Widow's Benefit Fund**

This wasting trust (principal and interest used) is now providing six widows with an average monthly benefit of \$ 250. Funded in 1978 by an anonymous donor, the funds are invested by the ARP Foundation, Inc. and are audited as a part of the annual audit of the General Synod. The Market Value of the fund at December 31, 1998, was \$17,241, while the present value of future benefits is approximately \$79,865. The average age of the six participants at 12/31/98 was 90.17, with the youngest being 78 and the oldest being 102. The Board is aware of the potential for exhausting the Widow's Benefit Fund and has established policy to ensure that these widows will continue to receive support.

### **Helen W. Carson Widow Assistance Fund**

The income from the Helen W. Carson Fund is to be used to provide financial support for the widows of deceased ministers of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church who have dependent, unmarried children who are full-time elementary, secondary, college or graduate students and who are between the ages of 16 and 25. Widows with dependent children between the ages of sixteen (16) and twenty-five (25) will be informed of this policy immediately following the death of a minister. A portion of any unused income, equal to the Consumer Price Index, is added to the corpus of the fund, with the balance of the unused income added to the Widow Benefit Fund so long as funds are needed in that fund.

### **Communications**

On an annual basis the Board provides each minister with a "minister's guide" for income tax. Ministers are also reminded to request and *Earnings and Benefit Estimate Statement* for the Social Security Administration by completing Form SSA-7004-SM.

The Board has approved the development of a financial seminar for ARP ministers. Plans are being made for a pilot program in the Gastonia area in September. The seminar will be held on two Thursday evenings and the cost will be \$60 per couple. A minimum of twenty-five couples will be necessary to make the seminar financially feasible. Additional material will be available during Synod registration. If this seminar is successful other regional seminars will be scheduled.

### **Insurance**

The goal of the Board in the area of insurance is to provide meaningful security at a cost that the churches and agencies of Synod can afford.

All full-time (employed for a minimum of 30 hours per week) employees of churches and agencies of the General Synod (including presbytery agencies) are eligible (**Note:** World Witness has a separate group insurance program for missionaries and staff employees and Erskine College has a separate Long Term Disability program). Except for previously approved exceptions, all employees become eligible on the date of employment and must enroll within the first 30 days of employment to avoid late-applicant penalties. Coverage includes medical, dental, life (employee and dependent), accidental death, and long term disability.

Dental, life, accidental death, and long term disability are fully insured programs and premiums are determined by the insurance carrier. Medical, which includes the drug prescription program, is **self-insured**, except that reinsurance is purchased to cover the following contingencies:

- individual claims which exceed \$50,000 during the policy year
- claims which exceed 115% of the expected aggregate claims during the policy year

Premiums for medical are determined by our usage. When a claim is paid, payment comes from the premiums paid. High claims will result in higher premiums. Individual participants, therefore, are encouraged to monitor their claims closely to assure that the charges submitted are justified and accurate, and to be active participants in determining their health care and drug prescriptions (if the physician does not prescribe generic drugs, ask about their availability and advisability).

The premiums for medical and dental were increased by @5% for 1999. The increase would have been significantly higher had it not been for the claim reserve. Claims for the first eight months of the current policy year (August 1998—March 1999) are running significantly above the expected level. Projected costs for the year 2000 will be submitted to the churches as soon as possible after the August 1, 1999, renewal date.

Some of the changes under consideration at this time last year were either not possible or financially feasible:

a. **Dental insurance after retirement:** Due to the significant premium increase (negotiated to 34%) it was determined that it would not be financially feasible to extend dental insurance to retirees at this time.

b. **Office Visit Co-payment:** The Board had anticipated enacting an office visit co-pay to cover all costs to a primary care physician (generally understood to be OBGYN, Internal Medicine, Family Practitioners), subject to a co-payment (no more than \$25) for each visit and limited to a maximum amount per visit (probably in the \$250-\$500 range). This change in coverage was to have been coordinated with an increase in the annual deductible from the present \$250 to \$500, while retaining the out-of-pocket maximum to be paid by the participant (\$1,000 after deductible, \$2,000 per family). Due to the fact that not all of our participants have availability to

a preferred provider, it was impossible for the carrier to administer such a program.

Coverage for immunizations is being changed to cover all immunizations through age 6, to be paid at 100% and not subject to the deductible. No other changes in coverage are being considered at this time.

The Board expresses appreciation to the participants for their patience and cooperation as we have endured the transition from **Provident to HealthSource to CIGNA**. Hopefully, all the negatives associated with these buy-outs are behind us and, hopefully, we will begin to be the beneficiaries of the expanded availability of preferred physicians and facilities. The Board will seek bids from other carriers in evaluating the August renewal terms from CIGNA.

Churches are reminded that unless they are withholding the premiums for the Long Term Disability (LTD) program, the premium cost for the LTD insurance should be added to the W-2 as taxable income. The LTD charge is shown as a separate charge on the billed premiums. This will allow the disability benefit payment to be a non-taxable benefit to the disabled employee.

### **Retirement**

The Associate Reformed Presbyterian Retirement Plan is a qualified, non-contributory, defined benefit plan. The Plan covers full-time employees (i.e., those whose customary employment is for more than an aggregate of 1,000 hours in a calendar year) who are

- salaried, ordained ARP ministers serving in the pastoral ministry of the Church under the provisions of a Call approved by a Presbytery of the Church, or
- career missionaries appointed by World Witness, or
- salaried employees of the Synod or Synod Agency serving in a supervisory capacity.

Employees of Erskine College and Erskine Theological Seminary are not included in the Plan as they have a separate retirement plan.

Participants may retire as early as age 60, with the Normal Retirement Age being 65. Participants who are at least age 64 and who have at least 25 years of Credited Service may retire at age 64 without an actuarially reduced benefit. The Normal Form of Retirement is an annual benefit equal to 2.8% of total career Earnings paid on a monthly basis for the lifetime of the Participant. If there is a Spouse at the time of retirement, and unless the Spouse will consent in writing to another form of benefit, the benefit paid to the retiring Participant will be actuarially reduced to insure that the surviving Spouse will have a guaranteed lifetime benefit equal to one-half the benefit received by the retired Participant following the death of the retired Participant. The benefit is taxable, but for ordained Participants, the benefit is designated as a housing allowance and is non-taxable to the extent that it is used for that purpose.

The Retirement Committee of the Board of Annuities and Relief serves as Administrator of the Plan.

### **Retirement Plan Trust**

SunTrust Bank, Atlanta, serves as Trustee of the Plan and its affiliate, TRUSCO Capital Management, handles investments. BT Alex. Brown serves as an investment consultant to provide performance measurement and monitoring and to assist the Retirement Committee in developing and maintaining investment guidelines. Compensation for the investment consultant is through directed trades. The Board meets with representatives of SunTrust Bank and TRUSCO Capital Management twice each year.

The General Synod funds the Plan, primarily from contributions made from churches and agencies of the General Synod. The General Synod, on recommendation of the Board, establishes contribution guidelines to ensure adequate funds. The current guidelines ask that churches and agencies that have an employee participating in the Plan contribute 8.5% of the Participant's Earnings. All funds received for this purpose, except for direct expenses for Plan maintenance are transferred to the Trustee for investment.

Congregations and presbyteries are reminded of the change in the *Form of Government* (Chapter X,E,11) which now requires a call to have provision for the church to make contributions to the General Synod in support of the ARP Retirement Plan.

Assets of the Plan, on a market basis, totaled \$26,092,777 as compared to \$22,140,069 at December 31, 1997. At March 31, 1999, the market value of the fund was approximately \$26,536,833. The portfolio composition at March 31, 1999: 61.3% in equities; 37.2% in fixed income; 1.5% in cash equivalents. The Time Weighted Rate of Return for periods ending March 31, 1999: 1 year 10.8%; 3 year average is 16.8%; and the 10 year average is 14.3%.

### **Plan Changes and Qualification**

The Associate Reformed Presbyterian Retirement Plan has a favorable determination from the Internal Revenue Service. The Plan will have to be amended to comply with certain federal laws that become effective after 1998. These changes deal primarily with nondiscrimination requirements. The Board is consulting with its actuaries and plan attorney to draft the necessary amendments. The General Synod has granted the Board permission to make changes required to meet the requirements of the law. The Plan will again have to be submitted for qualification.

The Board is recommending several Plan changes and again asks permission to draft the Plan language necessary to effect such changes. These proposed changes will be subject to testing by the Plan Actuary.

The following changes are proposed:



- a. Amendment to define pastoral ministry (Note: This was directed by the 1998 General Synod: That Article I(6), EMPLOYEE, first sentence, be amended to read:  
 “(6) EMPLOYEE: A salaried, ordained minister of the Church who is serving in a pastoral ministry of the Church **under the provisions of a Call approved by a Presbytery of the Church, ..**”
- b. Amendment to define Call: This will be required in light of the preceding change and will be inserted in ARTICLE I, Definitions: “CALL: The process for establishing an Employee relationship with a salaried, ordained minister of the Church serving in a pastoral ministry of the Church.”
- c. Amendment to definition of “Termination of Employment” to give lay participant employees the same benefit as minister employees (the full text of Article III (3) is shown for reference with changes indicated in bold or strike-through):  
 “(3) TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT: Employment shall be deemed to terminate if the consecutive one year periods in which no Credited Service is accumulated exceeds the number of years of Credited Service, or, if earlier, in the event of:
- (a) Resignation of a lay Employee who has not attained eligibility for a retirement benefit as defined in Article IV(1); or
  - (b) transfer to another denomination of an ordained minister; or
  - (c) a voluntary withdrawal from the office of minister of an ordained minister; or
  - (d) ~~the involuntary severance of the employment relationship of a Participant who has not attained eligibility for a retirement benefit as defined in Article IV(1) and who, in the absence of an involuntary severance of the employment relationship would not attain eligibility for a retirement benefit as defined in Article IV(1) prior to Termination of Employment because of the failure to accumulate an additional Year of Service, provided, however, that employment shall not be terminated during any period (not to exceed one year) that an Employee is absent from work:~~
    - (v) By reason of pregnancy of the Employee;
    - (vi) by reason of birth of a child of the Employee;
    - (vii) by reason of placement of a child with the Employee in connection with the adoption of such child by the individual; or
    - (viii) by reason of caring for such child over a period beginning immediately following such birth or placement.”

- d. Amendment to allow a Participant with a Spouse to elect an annuity payable monthly to the retired Participant during his lifetime. The “Normal Form of Retirement Income For Participant With Spouse” is defined in ARTICLE VII (2) as a retirement benefit adjusted actuarially from the annuity payable monthly to the retired participant during his lifetime, with a retirement benefit to continue to the annuitant’s surviving Spouse after the death of the retired Participant at the rate of 50% of the adjusted retirement benefit. With the written (and notarized) consent of the Participant’s Spouse, the Participant may elect an actuarially equivalent options set forth in the Plan:
- A joint and survivor annuity in a reduced amount, payable to the retired Participant during his lifetime, and to continue after the retired Participant’s death to the designated contingent annuitant (which could be someone other than the Participant’s Spouse) during the lifetime of such person after the death of the retired Participant at the full continuation rate, or at the three-quarters, two-thirds, or one-half rate (according to the election made by the Participant at the time of retirement.)
  - A reduced annuity payable during the lifetime of the retired Participant and guaranteed to continue to the retired Participant or, after the Participant’s death, to a designated beneficiary for a period not to exceed the life expectancy of the Participant as of the date of commencement of benefits. If the retired Participant lives longer than his or her life expectancy there would be no benefit to the designated beneficiary. If neither the retired Participant nor the designated Participant survive the life expectancy period, the commuted value of the payments for the remainder of such period would be paid to the estate of the last to die.

The Plan, as interpreted by the Retirement Committee and the Plan Attorney does not allow a Participant with a Spouse, even with the consent of the Spouse, to elect an annuity that has not been actuarially reduced and payable only during the lifetime of the retired Participant. The following amendment would allow such an election. If approved, **the Board urges extreme caution in its election. Such an election precludes any benefit to a surviving spouse.** The Board recommends that the following provision be added as ARTICLE VII (3) (c): “(c) An annuity payable monthly to the retired Participant during his lifetime.”

#### **Qualified Domestic Relations Order (QDRO)**

A QDRO is a judgment that sets aside a benefit to an Alternate Payee

under a qualified employee pension plan. Article VIII (11) of the Plan Text authorizes payments if required under a QDRO. The Board has adopted procedures for handling of domestic relations orders that purport to be a QDRO and all QDRO's will be reviewed by the Plan Attorney before any payments are made. The Board Secretary (Director of Administrative Services) has been directed to suggest to the parties involved in such litigation to submit a draft of their proposed domestic relations order prior to submitting it to the court for judgment.

### **Actuarial Valuation and Plan Changes**

The next tri-annual valuation of the ARP Retirement Plan will be conducted for the Plan year beginning January 1, 2000. The purpose of the valuation is to:

- determine the minimum annual contribution necessary to fund present and future benefits
- compare actual plan experience with that expected on the basis of the actuarial assumptions used for valuation purposes so that adjustments can be made in a timely and orderly fashion
- monitor the plan's emerging liabilities in relation to its assets and provide information required pursuant to standards set forth by the Financial Accounting Standards Board
- determine what benefit increases, if any, can be provided.

### **Changes in Retirement Plan Participation**

The following changes for the period January 1, 1998-December 31, 1998 are reported for historical purposes:

- a. Active Participant and/or widow of deceased Participant retired: Mrs. R. B. (Suzanne) Elliott (5/1/98); W. Y. Koh (2/1/98); C. T. McCants (5/1/98); C. A. Reed (2/1/98).
- b. Terminated Participant retired: P. A. Cambell (4/1/96); David Rodriguez-Enriquez (2/1/98)
- c. Retired Participant and/or widow of deceased Participant drawing benefits from the Retirement Plan lost by death: P. G. Covone (4/6/98); F. Ethelda Hanna (12/24/97); W. P. Grier (7/22/98); Mrs. H. M. (Nobie) Pearson (12/7/98); Mrs. M. R. (Agnes) Plaxco (12/30/98); H. E. Pressly (10/13/98).
- d. Active Participant lost by death: None.
- e. Inactive Participant lost by death: None
- f. New Participants: Charles W. Bradley (11/9/98), Mary Suzanne Brawley (8/1/98), Herschel N. Carlson (8/16/98), Steven P. Cavallaro (11/15/98), Percival C. Coleman (5/1/98), Julia M. Doudoukjian (8/1/98), Teresa Lynn Harms (2/1/98), Donald L. Holloway (10/4/98), Jackie F. Lowery (12/1/98), James L. MacLeod (7/1/98), Gentry F. McColm (1/18/98), Timothy G. Melton (1/2/98), Alistair M. G. Mitchell (9/1/98), Holly E. Moore (8/6/98), Douglas J. Peterson (7/13/97); David M.

- Satterfield (10/26/97). Randall H. Sheetz (8/3/97), Walter D. Shepard (11/15/97), L. Charles Stoker (11/1/98), Stuart Dean Turbeville (10/13/98), Robert D. Turner (3/22/98), Donis Haley Watkins (10/20/97), James F. Wittke (12/1/98).
- g. Participant reinstated to active participation or had prior Credited Service and Credited Earnings restored as continuous:
  - h. Active Participants accumulating Credited Service as an employee of Erskine or as a Military Chaplain: R. W. Bell; T. E. Braithwaite; L. P. Burns; J. L. Carson; L. E. Hamrick, Jr.; R. A. King; C. S. Rimmer; D. M. Schwabauer; J. T. West; M. E. Yarman
  - i. Participants not accumulating Credited Service and employment shall be deemed to terminate if the Participant retires, is removed or transferred from Roll of Presbytery, or fails to accumulate an additional Year of Service by the end of the calendar year indicated (benefit will be determined by Plan Text at date of termination): B. J. Bauman (2002); D. E. Brisben (2000); C. E. Cheatham\*; M. F. Doss (2000); M. A. Hunnemann (2013), J. E. Kennedy, III (2000); L. P. Kennerly (2001); J. B. Lewis (2008); J. A. Loughner (2007); S. D. Manley (2001); W. G. McClain (2003); R. A. Mill (2007); K. F. Muldoon (2000); B. F. Sanders (2007); D. P. Smith (2002); J. E. Taylor (2000); R. Washington (2001).  
\*Termination for failure to accumulate an additional Year of Service not applicable.
  - j. Participants who terminated employment or have previously terminated employment and have qualified for a vested benefit (benefit was determined by Plan Text at date of termination): R. W. Ackerman; R. P. Agnew; C. S. Alexander; R. E. Ashmore; W. F. Blakely; J. R. Blevins; D. M. Boggs; T. M. Campbell; M. D. Chesser; W. A. Church; D. L. Clubb; M. D. Connor; G. W. Curry; T. N. DeHart; B. E. DeWitt; R. W. Dickson; C. W. Echols; L. A. Erwin; J. H. Farrar; G. J. Gerard; T. D. Gorden; R. J. Hamilton; D. B. Harding; R. F. Ingram; E. S. Irby; K. E. Jacobs; T. L. Jones; K. F. Koehler; ; D. W. Matthews; R. F. McAndrew; O. N. McCarter; B. McLendon; K. J. McMullen; R. S. Miles, Jr.; T. M. Oates; T. L. Owens; J. S. Price; D. R. Robinson; W. T. Sherer, III; R. D. Sherrill; H. L. Smith; J. W. Stodghill; C. A. Stuck; G. J. Syms; A. L. Toth; C. D. Trimmier; J. A. Turner; W. H. Tyson; J. R. Wade; D. L. Wakeland; W. T. Warren, Jr.; J. R. White; R. A. White; J. M. Williams; J. R. Wolff; J. R. Wright; R. J. Yelverton.
  - k. Widow who has qualified for a vested benefit deferred to the retirement date of the deceased Participant: None.
  - l. Participant who has prior Credited Service and Credited Earnings which will be recognized as continuous on completing five (5) years of

continuous service: None.

- m. Former Participant removed from participation in the Plan without qualifying to retain a vested benefit: G. G. Cotton.
- n. At December 31, 1998, eighty-eight participants were receiving benefits from the ARP Retirement Plan on a monthly basis, amounting to \$569,638 benefits on an annualized basis: J. E. Adams; L. M. Allison; J. S. Banks; J. F. Beard; R. E. Beckham; J. M. Bell, Sr.; Mrs. W. H. (Floy) Blair\*; E. L. Bland; R. A. Bodey\*\*; J. H. Boyce; W. J. Boyd\*\*; R. D. Bradham\*\*; C. D. Brearley; A. C. Bridges; P. A. Campbell\*\*; Mrs. J. A. (Grace) Cannon\*\*\*; J. Coad, Jr.; Mrs. P. G. (Imogene) Covone\*; Florence Craig; F. H. Crisco; D. E. Dagenhart; Mrs. L. L. (Betty) Dattler\*\*\*; Mrs. W. R. (Emma R.) Echols\*; C. E. Edwards; Mrs. R. B. (Suzanne) Elliott\*; W. N. Falls; J. R. Fee; Mrs. A. A. (Frieda) Fischer\*; W. H. Forsyth; Mrs. W. P. (Mary) Grier\*; Mrs. M. W. (Wilma M.) Griffith\*; J. F. Heinsohn; Mrs. J. B. (Mary) Hendrick\*; Mrs. R. E. (Judith) Herrmann\*; Mrs. G. F. (Bertha) Johnson\*; D. O. Jones; G. C. Knecht\*\*\*\*; W. Y. Koh; Mrs. V. F. (Jean B.) Latham\*; W. C. Lauderdale; R. B. Leaptrott, Jr.\*\*; W. A. Macaulay\*\*; H. S. Mace; Mrs. R. B. (Gladys) Marshburn\*; K. D. McArthur; C. T. McCants; Mrs. J. H. (Helen) McFerrin\*; C. D. Medlin\*\*; Mrs. R. S. (Harriet) Miles\*\*\*; C. L. Mitchell; W. F. Mitchell\*\*\*\*; K. F. Morris; T. G. Morris; B. E. Murdock; F. J. Musselman\*\*; J. A. Nguyen; Mrs. B. R. (Lenore) Nowak\*\*\*; Mrs. G. R. (Mabel) Oates\*; Mrs. H. E. (Sara) Pressly\*; J. E. Pressly; Sarah H. Pressly; Mrs. W. L. (Elizabeth C.) Pressly\*; Mrs. P. E. (Donna) Price\*; J. H. Ragsdale; W. O. Ragsdale; C. A. Reed; L. L. Richardson\*\*; Mrs. A. L. (Margie) Roberts\*; David Rodriguez-Enrriquez\*\*; Mrs. A. A. (Katherine) Rogers\*; O. J. Rundus\*\*; H. T. Schutte; R. E. Sherer; Mrs. P. L. (Margaret E.) Sherrill\*; Mrs. Bertha I. Allan-Smith\*; J. C. Smith; Mrs. J. P. (Mary) Steele\*; J. T. Stephenson\*\*; W. B. Sutherland; J. R. Thompson\*\*; W. M. Wardlaw; Mrs. H. C. (Addie Jane) White\*; R. A. Whitesides; Mrs. R. M. (Elizabeth) Wilson\*; T. L. Wilson; E. R. Young.
- \* As widow of deceased Participant, the J&S Option having been selected or automatic as to those who died after 9/3/91.
- \*\* As Participant who had transferred to another denomination or terminated employment with a vested benefit. Benefit determined by Plan Text at time of transfer or termination.
- \*\*\* As widow of Participant who had transferred to another denomination. Benefit determined by Plan Text at time of transfer or termination.
- \*\*\*\* As Participant who retired and has transferred to another denomination.
- o. The following persons may be eligible for Retirement Plan par-

ticipation at year's end, but enrollment procedures had not been completed (\* Churches making contributions): **Catawba:** Charles D Clendinen (Redeemer\*), Frank N. Kik (Carolina Covenant). **First:** Hyo Sung Cho (Calvary Korean), Song Choi (Statesville Korean), Warren C. Harvey (Ambassador\*), Robert L. Hunter (Gilead\*), Philip R. McCoy (Linden\*). **Florida:** M. O. Bolhofner (Park Springs\*), John J. Kim (Hope Korean), David L. Poole (Frostproof\*), A. C. Williams (Bartow\*). **Mississippi Valley:** None. **Northeast:** David Els (Trinity), Donald E. Ewell (Atonement\*), Joseph J. Kim (Kwang-Myung), J. vanEyck (Riverside). **Pacific:** Chong Hun Byun (Korean Bethel), Hui Chun Chang (Korean ARPC), Hoo Yon Cho (Western), Shadrach K. Chung (Vineyard Mission), Young Hwa Chung (Antioch), Chang Young Kim (Young Saeng), Kun Hoi Kim (New World Mok Yong), Soo Bong Kim (Agape), Daniel S. Lim (Holy Grace), Eui Chi Lim (Oxford), Kwan W. Lim (The Korean Gospel), Ji Young Myung (Denver Choong Hyun), Joseph L. Paek (Young Saeng), In Duk Park (Denver Antioch). **Second:** Samuel. W. Kim (Myung Sung), Kyle J. Locke (Oconee\*). **Tennessee-Alabama:** Benjamin W. Dowling (Bethel-Camden-Prosperity\*), S. Michael Howell (Christ Church), M. Murphy (York), R. C. Sproll, Jr. (St. Peter). **Virginia:** None. **General Synod Agency:** None.

- p. Lump-Sum Settlements were made with the following former Participants who had qualified for a vested benefit with a present value of less than \$3,500: None.

### Miscellaneous

#### Ministers Opting Out of Social Security

The insurance and retirement programs of the General Synod assume the presence of benefits provided by Social Security (retirement, disability, survivor benefits) and Medicare (Parts A and B). The absence of these benefits will create extreme hardship for individuals and families unless individuals who opt out of Social Security provide for such benefits with private programs. The Board will include in its annual report information which, hopefully, will assist newly ordained ministers in making an informed decision.

Internal Revenue Code section 1402(e) makes it possible for a minister to be exempted from coverage under the Social Security system if the minister files an exemption application (Form 4361) certifying that **“I am conscientiously opposed to, or because of my religious principles I am opposed to, the acceptance (for services I performed as a minister..) of any public insurance that makes payments in the event of death, disability, old age, or retirement, or that makes payments toward the cost of, or provides services for, medical care.”**

The exemption filing deadline is the due date of the federal tax return for the second year in which a minister has net earnings as a minister of \$400 or more. The application for exemption must inform “the ordaining body of the church..that he is opposed” prior to the time the exemption application is filed. The apparent purpose for this required notification is to offer the ordaining body (presbytery) and the denomination an opportunity to appropriately counsel applicants regarding the impact of such a decision.

The General Synod has previously taken the position that there is nothing in the Standards of the Church which would support the “religious principles test.” Accordingly, denominational benefit programs have been structured to anticipate the benefits provided by the Social Security system as follows:

- Long Term Disability benefits;
- Survivor Income benefit for surviving children;
- Medicare and Medicaid benefits;
- Post retirement medical benefits (those not covered by Medicare may not continue the General Synod medical insurance beyond retirement); and
- Retirement benefits to supplement benefits from the ARP Retirement Plan (benevolent programs will not be used to replace foregone benefits.)

The Board will communicate with Students under the care of a presbytery to provide information which will assist in this important decision. Presbyteries are encouraged to counsel with students and newly ordained ministers concerning the criteria for decision making.

### **Delinquent Payments**

A procedure for handling delinquent payments to the group insurance program and delinquent contributions to the ARP Retirement Plan has been adopted by the Board.

- 1 month—Church Treasurer is notified
- 2 months—Participant and Clerk of Session are notified via certified mail. In the case of group insurance: The notice will include a notice of termination (retroactive to the date last premium was paid) if there is no response in 30 days and if the participant is a minister the Chairman of the Presbytery Committee/Commission on Minister and His Work will be notified.
- 3 month—In the case of group insurance: Proceed with termination of coverage. In the case of Retirement Plan contributions: Notify the Chairman of the Presbytery Committee/Commission on Minister and His Work and ask the committee or commission to address the situation.

### **Budget for 2000**

The Board's Operating Budget for 2000 was submitted to the Board of Stewardship and is attached to this report. The Board does not carry forward unused funds which are allocated from the Denominational Ministry Fund.

### **Policy Book Change**

The Policy Book, Section 1.A. was amended to designate one of the twelve members appointed by the General Synod as a person chosen by the Woman's Synodical Union.

### **Officers for 1999—2000**

Chairman: James W. Todd

Vice-Chairman: Bob Ramsey

Secretary: Ed Hogan

Treasurer: Synod Treasurer, Guy H. (Chip) Smith, III

### **Meeting Dates**

November 4-5, 1999, 3:30 PM, Bonclarken

April 17-18, 2000, Bonclarken

November 2-3, 2000, 3:30 PM, Bonclarken

The Board has expressed its appreciation to retiring member Randy Rushton of the Coddle Creek Church.

### **Recommendations**

1. That the Christmas Benevolent Fund Offering be continued and that it be taken in the Thanksgiving Season.
2. That through the adoption of this recommendation, pastors (or clerk where there is no pastor) be encouraged to be attentive to the special needs of and seek to assist the Board of Annuities and Relief in its ministry to retired employees and widows of former employees.
3. That the changes in the Christmas Benevolent Fund Guidelines as outlined in the report be approved.
4. That the plan for financial seminars for ARP ministers be endorsed.
5. That presbyteries be diligent in requiring all Calls to meet the provisions of the Form of Government, Chapter X,E,11, i.e., provision for the church to make contributions to the General Synod for the ARP Retirement Plan.
6. That churches and presbyteries be diligent and consistent in differentiating between insurance benefits provided for ministers, compensation and allowances paid to the minister, and contributions made to the General Synod for funding of a retirement plan.
7. That the Retirement Committee of the Board of Annuities and Relief be commissioned to approve the language for amendments to the ARP Retirement Plan Text as outlined in the report:
  - a. Article I(6), EMPLOYEE.



- b. Article I, CALL.
  - c. Article III (3), TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT.
  - d. Article VII (2), OPTIONAL FORMS OF RETIREMENT INCOME.
8. That each Presbytery Committee/Commission on Minister and His Work review its procedures for responding to declarations of intent to opt out of Social Security.
  9. That the proposed budget for 2000 be approved.
  10. That the changes to the Policy Book of the Board of Annuities and Relief as reported herein be approved.
  11. That all other actions of the Board, as reported herein, be affirmed.

Respectfully submitted  
Board of Annuities and Relief

### BOARD OF ANNUITIES AND RELIEF BUDGET PROJECTIONS

	1999 Budget	2000
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Current Fund Unrestricted		
General Synod Allocation	\$ 6,012	\$ 6,192
Undesignated Receipts	\$ 798	\$ 800
Current Fund Unrestricted	\$ 6,810	\$ 6,992
Christmas Benevolent Fund		
Special Offering	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Other	\$ 5,100	\$ 5,100
Christmas Benevolent Fund	\$ 55,100	\$ 55,100
Group Insurance for		
Premiums/Reserve		
Current Premiums	\$ 1,758,692	\$ 1,758,692
Claim Reserve Income Transfer	\$ 56,634	\$ 57,785
Group Insurance for		
Premiums/Reserve	\$ 1,815,326	\$ 1,816,477
Widow Benefit Fund	\$ 17,828	\$ 17,828
ARP Retirement Plan	\$ 638,826	\$ 638,826
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$ 2,533,890</b>	<b>\$ 2,535,223</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Staff & General Office		
General Office & Program	\$ 3,098	\$ 3,280
Board Travel & Meeting	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Contingency	\$ 712	\$ 712
Administrative Support	\$ 56,634	\$ 57,785
General Office	\$ 63,444	\$ 64,778

Benevolence			
Christmas Benevolent Fund	\$	55,100	\$ 55,100
Widow Benefit Fund	\$	<u>17,828</u>	\$ <u>17,828</u>
Benevolence	\$	<u>72,928</u>	\$ <u>72,928</u>
Group Insurance Miscellaneous	\$	<u>1,758,692</u>	\$ <u>1,758,692</u>
ARP Retirement Plan			
Audit	\$	1,224	\$ 1,224
Actuarial Fees	\$	500	\$ 500
Transfer to Trustee	\$	636,852	\$ 636,852
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$	<u>250</u>	\$ <u>250</u>
ARP Retirement Plan	\$	<u>638,826</u>	\$ <u>638,826</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$	<u>2,533,890</u>	\$ <u>2,535,223</u>

The Report of the **Moderator's Committee on ARP Foundation** was presented. The recommendations referred to in these Minutes are from the Board report unless otherwise referenced.

Recommendation #1 was adopted.

Recommendation #2 was adopted.

Recommendation #3 was adopted.

Recommendation #4 was adopted.

### **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATION, INC.**

The Associate Reformed Presbyterian Foundation Directors met on two occasions since the last meeting of the General Synod. These meetings were used as a time to review and evaluate the work of its administrators, consultants, and investment managers; to evaluate the effectiveness of established programs; and to provide leadership and vision to the work ahead. The Directors express thanksgiving for these opportunities of service.

#### **Board Leadership**

Officers serving for the period July 1, 1998–June 30, 1999 were Mr. Harold Snider, Chair; Mr. Chandler McNair, Vice-Chair; and Mr. James Kidd, Secretary. Mr. Guy H Smith, III, Synod Treasurer, serves as Treasurer; Mr. W. A. Deaton serves as Executive Director; and Mr. Ed Hogan serves as the Administrative Officer. Officers for the July 1, 1999–June 30, 2000 term are Mr. Chandler McNair, Chair, Mr. James B. Pierce, Vice-Chair and Chair-Elect, and Mr. Harold Snider, Secretary. The Board acknowledges with gratitude the faithful service of retiring members Jim Kidd and Rodney Shands.

### **Development**

We express our thanksgiving and gratitude to God for the continued generosity and stewardship of His people. Since the last meeting of the General Synod two additional Gift Annuities were added. Investments for the deferred gift programs totaled \$1,223,191 at 12/31/98.

Deferred gift programs provide income to designated recipients during their lifetime with the remainder interests of the gifts distributed to designated charities. The Foundation has a gift annuity fund and will receive and manage annuities for any agency or church of the denomination. If the Foundation is a named beneficiary there is no administrative charge. If not, there is an annual fee of 1.5% of the market value of that portion of the annuity which is not designated for the Foundation.

The Foundation serves as trustee for seven (7) charitable remainder trusts. Including the ARP Foundation, there are twelve (12) ARP entities as designated beneficiaries.

Cornerstone Management Inc., Atlanta, GA, serves as consultant and investment manager for these deferred gift programs.

The Foundation welcomes the opportunity to serve as the planned-giving resource for boards, presbyteries, churches and other entities of the denomination. Mr. William A. Deaton, Executive Director, continues to provide leadership and is available to assist individuals in the establishment of deferred gift programs.

### **Ministry**

In addition to its assistance to individuals in establishing deferred gift programs, the Foundation welcomes the opportunity of conducting stewardship seminars in churches. Four seminars have been conducted since the last meeting of Synod. Interested churches should contact Mr. William A. Deaton for details and scheduling.

The Foundation continues to pledge 5% of the value of its endowment, on an annual basis, for distribution to the agencies of the General Synod through the Denominational Ministry Fund. The contribution for 1999 will be \$25,144.

The Foundation has a goal of increasing the endowment by 5% a year. In 1998 the fund balance increased by 5.51%, with 28% of the increase coming from donations by Directors of the Foundation. The Directors continue to be active in increasing the Endowment.

### **Investment Management**

The Foundation welcomes the opportunity to serve as the investment advisor for boards, presbyteries, churches, and other entities of the denomination. The General Synod strives, in its appointments to the Foundation, to choose some individuals who have special training, interests, expertise, and abilities in financial management.

The Investment Committee of the Foundation meets with the investment managers and the investment consultant at the annual meeting of the Foundation in October, and quarterly otherwise. Members of the Investment Committee receive quarterly reports from the investment manager and the investment consultant.

At 12-31-1998, there are five (5) actively managed accounts under the Foundation umbrella, with over \$8.75 million invested. PaineWebber P.R.I.M.E. Asset Consulting serves the Foundation as an independent consultant. PaineWeber monitors the investment performances of the investment managers; assists in the selection of investment managers, if changes are warranted; assists in the important asset allocation decisions; and assists the Foundation in its efforts to provide sound investment vehicles to suit the varied needs of churches and agencies.

Wedge Capital Management of Charlotte, NC, serves as the investment manager for four of the funds and the performance of those funds is reported below. It is to be noted that Wedge is a value oriented manager and the returns during this period have been dominated by large cap growth stocks. The Comparative Indexes used for measurement are the S&P 500 and the Lehman Brothers Aggregate Bond. It should be noted that for the 1 year period only 15% of all equity managers matched the index and for the period 5/97 to 12/98 only 12 % matched the index. The "objective" is an expected average return over a five-year period.

Fund	Objective	Inception	Asset Mix	1 Yr	Return		
					Index	Inception	Index
Foundation	10.00%	6/30/97	60/40	10.90%	20.98%	12.54%	20.26%
Dunlap	9.00%	6/30/97	50/50	10.40%	18.99%	12.14%	18.63%
Balanced Fund	9.00%	6/30/97	50/50	8.93%	18.99%	11.40%	18.63%
World Witness*	10.00%	6/30/97	60/40	10.79%	20.98%	12.25%	20.26%

\* Asset allocation has been changed to 70% equity and 30% non-equity.

The Outreach North America Endowment funds were transferred for investment during the last quarter of 1998 and no performance figures are available. TRUSCO Capital Management, a subsidiary of SunTrust Bank, Atlanta, was chosen investment manager by the Campaign Steering Committee. The fund will be invested in a 50/50 balanced fund with an expected average return of 9% over a five-year period.

Churches, presbyteries, and General Synod agencies may invest funds in the Custodian Balanced Fund (see attached description). There are no fees paid to the Foundation and the annual investment/consultant fees are @1.15%. Churches or agencies which have endowment-type funds for investment should contact the Administrative Officer at the ARP Center. The actual return (after fees) for the Custodian Balanced Fund during 1998, on a market to market basis, for funds which had no additions or

withdrawals during the calendar year, was 10.12% as compared to 15.22% in 1997. **Past performance does not necessarily predict future results.**

**Special Endowment Fund.** The establishment of the Special Endowment Fund was reported last year. The fund, established by Logan V. Pratt, Sr., a founding director of the ARP Foundation and past member, was placed in the Custodian Balanced Fund at the request of Mr. Pratt. All gifts and realized gains and losses on investments will be treated as the corpus of the fund and only the net income from investments will be distributed. In the event that the Foundation should cease to exist, the assets will be distributed to the following six agencies on an equal basis: Bonclarken, Christian Education, Due West Retirement Center, Erskine College, Outreach North America, and World Witness. Additional gifts of \$15,117.35 were added to the Fund in 1998, with an additional \$ 1,763.73 in realized gains added. The principal balance of the Fund at 12/31/1998 was \$ 22,258.15 The net accumulated income of \$422.57 at 12/31/1998 has been distributed in accordance with the terms of the fund. The fund is open for additional contributions. We again express our appreciation to Mr. Pratt.

**Audit.** The funds under the investment umbrella of the ARP Foundation are audited as a part of the General Synod audit. A copy of the audit is given to the Chairman of the Board and is available for review at the ARP Center.

### **Recommendations**

1. That presbyteries, churches, agencies, boards, and other entities of the denomination consider making use of the resources and services offered by the Foundation.
2. That the Foundation's participation in the annual Special Offering be continued.
3. That the proposed budget for 2000 be approved.
4. That the activities of the Board, as reported herein, be sustained.

Respectfully,  
Board of Directors, ARP Foundation, Inc.  
Harold E. Snider, Chair  
Ed Hogan, Administrative Officer

### **Associate Reformed Presbyterian Foundation, Inc. Description of Funds**

**Associate Reformed Presbyterian Foundation:** Assets of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Foundation with income and principal to be used as determined by the Board of Directors of the Foundation. Up to 60% of the Fund may be invested in equities for long-term growth. The invested fund balance at 31 December 1998 was \$480,685.

**Widow's Benefit Fund:** A wasting trust (income and principal to be spent) to provide lifetime benefits to certain widows. Investment will be at the direction of the Board of Directors of the Foundation. Fund balance at 31 December 1997 reported on a market basis was \$17,241 as compared to \$32,302 at the end of 1997. Six (6) widows receive an average benefit of \$250 per month.

**William H. Dunlap Orphanage Fund:** Assets of the Board of Trustees of the William H. Dunlap Orphanage with disposition as directed by the Dunlap Board of Trustees. Up to 50% of the Fund may be invested in equities. Fund balance at 31 December 1998 reported on a market basis was \$1,436,609.

**Custodian Balanced Fund:** Assets of the General Synod, its agencies and churches to be used, both principal and income, as determined by the owner of the assets. Up to 50% of the Fund may be invested in equities. Fund balance at 31 December 1998 reported on a market basis was \$5,139,630 as compared to \$4,764,402 at 12/31/97. Additional contributions were \$147,801. Thirty-seven (37) separate funds participate in this fund on a market unit basis. The unit value at the beginning of the month is used for additions or withdrawals during the month. Funds added during the month begin to participate in the fund at the beginning of the following month.

**World Witness:** Disposition of the funds and investment guidelines are established by World Witness, the Board of Foreign Missions. Accounting is provided by Synod's Administrative Services. Up to 70% of the Fund may be invested in equities. Fund balance at 31 December 1998 reported on a market basis was \$762,671 as compared to \$559,949 at the end of 1997.

**ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN  
FOUNDATION, INC.  
BUDGET**

	1999	2000
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Donations and Gifts	\$ 5,065	\$ 5,131
Special Offering	\$ 12,000	\$ 13,000
Endowment Fund Transfers	\$ 24,034	\$ 25,236
Synod Allocation	\$ 30,904	\$ 30,462
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$ 72,003</b>	<b>\$ 73,829</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Board		
Denominational Min. Con.*	\$ 25,144	\$ 25,725
Board Travel & Meeting	\$ 3,750	\$ 3,937
General Office	\$ 500	\$ 500
Administrative Support	\$ 2,550	\$ 2,550
<b>Board Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$ 31,944</b>	<b>\$ 32,712</b>

Development		
Promotion & Publicity		
Advertisement	\$ 3,300	\$ 3,300
Materials	\$ 3,300	\$ 3,300
Preparation & Mailing	\$ 780	\$ 780
Director		
Salary	\$ 8,550	\$ 8,806
Employer Tax	\$ 655	674
Travel & Expenses	\$ 4,920	\$ 5,068
Contract Services	\$ 1,849	\$ 2,384
Reserve for		
Stewardship Seminars	\$ <u>5,000</u>	\$ <u>3,600</u>
Development Sub-Total	\$ <u>28,354</u>	\$ <u>27,912</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ <u>60,298</u>	\$ <u>60,624</u>
CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	\$ <u>11,705</u>	\$ <u>13,205</u>

\*Contributions will be 5% of the Beginning Market Value of the Foundation Endowment.

NOTE: This reflects Current Operations only.

The Report of the **Moderator's Committee on Bonclarken** was presented. The recommendations referred to in these Minutes are from the Board report unless otherwise referenced.

Recommendation #1 was adopted.

Recommendation #2 was adopted.

Recommendation #3 was adopted.

The Recommendation of the Moderator's Committee to communicate, at this meeting of Synod, the financial obligations that are impressed upon them related to the Youth Activity Building was adopted. The information concerning the financial debt was shared with the Synod and a motion carried that the financial information be included in the Minutes.

#### YOUTH ACTIVITY BUILDING FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Total Cost of Project	\$ 2,200,000
(Construction of building, roads, bridge utilities, design and furnishings)	
Funds collected from donations	<u>1,000,000</u>
Current Mortgage	\$ <u>1,200,000</u>

**Payment Schedule**

Monthly Scheduled Payments	\$	75,850
5 payments at 15,170 for Jan-May, 1999		
Future payments		
June 2000 thru Dec. 2005		
91 @ 15,170	\$	1,380,470
( \$9100 Principal & \$6070 interest)		
Total expected payments through		
December 2005	\$	1,456,320
Balloon Payment (Jan. 2006)	\$	400,000

Current Interest Rate 6.25%

Variable rate based on international rate

Libar rate plus 1.75% with a cap of 7.25%.

This financial information is not part of the operating budget because we operate under the fund based accounting system, as required of a non-profit organization.

We expect to retire this debt from gifts by individuals and organizations as the Lord leads them to give. We have a staff person dedicated to this effort.

As a denomination of 35,000 people, this debt could be retired if each member donated \$34.

The recommendation of the Moderator's Committee to express our prayers and concerns for the recovery of Jim Brice from his recent surgery was adopted.

**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BONCLARKEN**

On behalf of the Bonclarken Board of Trustees, I wish to report, by and through the Grace of God, that Bonclarken has completed another successful year of service for Christian ministry, education, recreation, and fellowship for individuals, agencies, and institutions of our denomination.

The activities at Bonclarken continue to grow as we strive to serve the Lord which is demonstrated by the ever increasing numbers of groups and individuals participating in the programs and activities at Bonclarken. Special thanks is extended to those individuals, families, groups, agencies and organizations who continue to use the facilities and support Bonclarken in so many special ways.

Our new, 19,000 square foot, youth facility is now completed and is already being used. This is a dream come true for many, thanks to J. Edward Cox's efforts and dedicated service to Bonclarken youth facilities planning and development. The new youth residential cottage is also



under construction and should be completed and ready for use in late spring or early summer. Also the new paved access road and culvert to the new Youth Facility is expected to be completed for use and provide much better access to the facility by late spring. Thanks to Mike Bunce of First Rock Hill ARP Church and Bob Eckley of Pinecrest ARP Church for the landscaping around the facility. As part of our long range goals, other areas on the Bonclarken grounds have been beautified with flowers and natural landscaping thanks to the effort of many workers during the annual Bonclarken Volunteer Work Week in April.

These improvements and the efforts of the Board of Christian Education and others have greatly expanded the number and type of activities at Bonclarken. It has made scheduling more difficult and harder for us to accommodate all the groups who wish to use the facilities. We wish to express our appreciation to the Board and Staff of Christian Education and others who use our facilities for being patient and accommodating as we make necessary adjustments in event's schedules and strive to meet everyone's needs. An effort is being made to expand the calendar with around-the-year programs and activities so that more people can be accommodated. These improvements have greatly improved Bonclarken's ability to fulfill our goals to better serve the Lord in the Christian Ministry of Synod, its Presbyteries and our church congregations and its members.

Our Executive Director, Jim Brice, has the full support of the Board of Trustees in his effort to make improvements in our service to all guests utilizing our facilities. The board held a special planning retreat in August, during which short and long range goals were developed and adopted by the board. I wish to report that through the efforts of the Executive Director and the Bonclarken staff, most of those goals have been accomplished. For example, improvement has been made with the employment of new staff in key positions and a full reorganization, along with in house training, development of an annual fund (Mountain Club), a planned giving program, and the establishment of an Advisory Board to assist our Director of Development, Ms. Eleanor Richardson, in our fund raising efforts. For our success in this area, we extend our thanks to Ms. Richardson and those people who have agreed to serve. Special thanks to Dr. and Mrs. Wayne Brady and Ann and Mack Robinson as honorary co-chair couples for the "Mountain Club."

As Bonclarken activity grows, our cost of operation increases proportionally. In addition to our operating cost we now have a debt to pay on funds borrowed to construct the Youth Facility. Please prayerfully consider continuing your support and help us retire this (\$1 million) debt. We extend sincere thanks to all who support Bonclarken by their prayers, gifts and/or volunteer labor. You all have given generously in the past year, for that we are extremely thankful to God's working through you for generous

giving. May God's blessings be with each of you.

The Board and Staff of Bonclarken thank all who support this holy place, a place where the Good News abounds and the Great Commission is accomplished.

### Recommendations

1. That the General Synod continue to support Bonclarken through the allocation of Synod's funds and through the annual special offering.
2. That the General Synod accept and approve the summary financial, budget and statistical reports attached hereto. A complete and detailed Audit Report is available upon request.
3. That the General Synod encourage all presbyteries and churches to more fully utilize the Bonclarken facilities for church retreats, officer and teacher training and any other group needs.

Respectfully submitted,  
E. Kenneth Hoffman, Chairman,  
Board of Trustees

### PROPOSED BUDGET — BOARD OF BONCLARKEN

	1999 Budget	2000 Proposed
Operating Revenue		
Rentals	\$1,091,000	\$1,157,000
Canteen/Gift Shop	50,000	52,000
Homeowners	70,000	70,000
Programs & Camps	<u>65,000</u>	<u>75,000</u>
Total Operating Revenue	\$1,276,000	\$1,354,000
Non-Operating Revenue		
Contributions	<u>\$ 184,000</u>	<u>\$ 200,000</u>
Total Revenue	\$1,460,000	\$1,554,000
Operating Expenses		
P/R & Benefits	\$ 759,000	\$ 789,000
Cost of Sales	147,000	155,000
Administration	90,000	95,000
Maintenance	55,000	55,000
Food Service	27,000	28,000
Camps	43,000	47,000
Utilities	135,000	145,000
Insurance	42,000	45,000
Other	42,000	45,000
Depreciation	<u>120,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>
Total Operating Expenses	\$1,460,000	\$1,554,000
Profit/(Loss)	\$ -0-	\$ -0-

Executive Director's Salary \$ 57,210 plus Retirement and Insurance package.

Synod adjourned for lunch with the Blessing and Benediction by M. F. Doss.

**Wednesday, June 9, 1999  
1:15 P.M.**

The worship service was led by D. M. Rockness.  
Special music was provided by Synod's Men's Chorus.  
Synod's Focus Groups met at 2:30 P.M.

**Wednesday, June 9, 1999  
7:00 P.M.**

The opening worship was led by P. F. vanDalen.  
Special music was provided by Synod's Men's Chorus.  
The evening business session began with the reopening of matters concerning the 2000 meeting of the General Synod.  
A motion carried that the General Synod of 2003 meet at Erskine College, Due West, S.C.  
A motion carried that the 196th meeting of the General Synod be held at Bonclarcken, beginning on June 5, 2000.  
A motion carried as follows:

At a time at your discretion this evening, I move that we change the agenda and proceed with the election of the Moderator.

The report of the **Ecclesiastical Commission on Judiciary Affairs** was presented.

Recommendation #1 was adopted  
Recommendation #2 was adopted  
Recommendation #3 was adopted  
Recommendation #4 was presented, amended to change the word "regularly" to the word "quarterly," and adopted.  
Recommendation #5 was adopted  
Recommendation #6 was adopted

**REPORT OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSION ON  
JUDICIARY AFFAIRS**

The Ecclesiastical Commission on Judiciary Affairs was called at the request of its Convenor, the Rev. James A. Hunt. The Commission met on June 8-9, 1999 for the purpose of reviewing matters regarding the York, Alabama Church. The meeting was opened with a season of prayer.

The Rev. Bill Fleming was elected as Chairman, Mr. David Smith as Vice Chairman, and Rev. Alan Morrow as Secretary. The Commission began by reviewing various documents relating to the case, clarifying its

specific responsibilities, and hearing testimony from several principal parties in the conflict.

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Commission's meeting was:

- 1) To focus on the Complaint to Synod made by Mssrs. Aubrey Green, Warren Grant, and Everette Cobb, members of York Presbyterian Church, dated December 10, 1998. This complaint was in regard to alleged irregularities in the procedures of Tennessee-Alabama Presbytery meeting of November 19, 1998. The substance of that meeting was to hear the report of the Ecclesiastical Commission appointed by Presbytery on September 20-21, 1998 and to act thereon.
- 2) To consider the larger situation of the York, Alabama Church.

### **AUTHORITY**

The Ecclesiastical Commission on Judiciary Affairs derives its authority from the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. The Commission recognizes the *Standards of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church* and the Word of God as its only relevant authority. The civil actions pending in this case are not germane to the work of the Commission.

#### **1. Irregularities in the meeting of November 19, 1998.**

- a. The Commission found that the motion from the Presbytery Ecclesiastical Commission was improperly dismissed (cf *Robert's Rules of Order*, 1970 edition, section 32c). It was withdrawn after debate had been opened. Parliamentary procedure requires that once a motion becomes property of the court, once it has been moved and presented to the assembly, it may only be withdrawn with consent of the assembly. A portion of recommendations of the Commission were subsequently voted on and defeated.
- b. The Commission found that the disciplinary charges brought against two individuals who were not members of the court were not proper according to the *Book of Discipline*, III.1, 5 (p. 232). *Original jurisdiction over church members, including non-communing members, and over elders and deacons as officers, is vested in the session of the congregation to which they belong. Jurisdiction over members and ministers remains in the proper church court until the person involved comes under the jurisdiction of another church body.* This should be noted even though the charges were later withdrawn. A Session has the authority to discipline regular church members while a Presbytery has original jurisdiction to discipline a minister. Higher courts have appellate jurisdiction but may not initiate discipline unless a

lower court is incapable of action.

The records of Tennessee-Alabama Presbytery reveal a significant lack of completeness (cf Roberts' Rules, chapter 15, section 47; *Form of Government*, XII, B. 3. 8, p. 210).

The current Moderator of the Tennessee-Alabama Presbytery is chief counsel for the Presbytery. We deem this to be a conflict of interests.

## **2. The Larger Situation of the York, Alabama Church**

The Commission regards the following facts and allegations to be extremely serious. The Commission believes that both sides in this dispute may well have committed offenses serious enough to warrant official censure. Particularly disturbing are the following facts and allegations:

It is a fact that there is a deep polarization in Tennessee-Alabama Presbytery regarding this issue.

It is a fact that the Trustees of the corporation of the church sought to remove the pastor without following the *Standards of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church*, in disregard of the authority of the congregation, Session, and Presbytery.

It is also a fact that the property of the church (telephone, P.O. Box) was used by the minister to support an organization promoting a controversial political agenda.

It is a fact that regular stated session meetings have not been held for several months.

It is a fact that financial disclosure by both sides are not forthcoming. Furthermore, the following allegations have come to our attention:

- a. The pastor of the church may have violated his ordination vows to *preserve the peace, purity, and prosperity of the church*.
- b. Both sides in this dispute may have practiced shunning of members with whom they had disagreements.
- c. Both sides may have been guilty of improper management of the congregation's funds.

The Commission believes that these allegations need to be investigated by Tennessee-Alabama Presbytery which has original jurisdiction. We would call attention to the Book of Discipline, particularly chapters 2-5.

The Commission believes, furthermore, that the purpose of church discipline is reconciliation, not punishment.

The Commission stands ready to offer assistance in this process in any way that it can to see this matter to a satisfactory conclusion.

### **Recommendations**

1. In light of the seriousness of the offenses, we recommend that Synod direct Tennessee-Alabama Presbytery to investigate these facts and alleged offenses and institute due process (cf *Book of Discipline*, V. A. 4)

2. We recommend that Synod direct Tennessee-Alabama Presbytery to seek legal counsel that is free of the conflict of interest.
3. We recommend that Synod direct Tennessee-Alabama Presbytery to conduct all future voting by secret ballot on all issues relating to the York, Alabama Presbyterian Church.
4. We recommend that Synod direct Tennessee-Alabama Presbytery to report regularly to the Chairman of the Ecclesiastical Commission on Judiciary Affairs as to their progress. [**Amended**]
5. We recommend that Synod direct Tennessee-Alabama Presbytery to keep full and accurate records according to the *Form of Government* and *Roberts' Rules of Order*.
6. We recommend the approval of this report as a whole.

A special season of prayer was held for the York Presbyterian Church, the Tennessee-Alabama Presbytery, and the Ecclesiastical Commission on Judiciary Affairs of the General Synod.

A motion carried that the members of the Judicial Commission scheduled to retire following Synod be continued in their service until such time as the Tennessee Alabama Presbytery matter is concluded.

The promotional program of World Witness was presented by John Mariner, Director.

The floor was opened for nominations for Moderator of General Synod.

H. N. Morris nominated C. H. Carlisle. L. C. Draffin seconded the nomination. The Synod elected Mr. Carlisle by acclamation. Moderator-Elect Carlisle was escorted to the podium by Mr. Draffin, who then led the Synod in prayer. Mr. Carlisle addressed the Synod.

W. B. Evans was nominated by Moderator-Elect Carlisle as Vice-Moderator-Elect. Mr. Evans was elected by acclamation, and joined the Moderator-Elect at the podium, where he addressed the Synod.

Synod adjourned with the Benediction by J. J. Diaz.

**Thursday, June 10, 1999**

**8:30 A.M.**

The opening worship was led by C. R. Beard.

Special music was provided by Synod's Men's Chorus.

The Report of the **Moderator's Committee on Christian Education** was presented. The recommendations referred to are from the Board report unless otherwise referenced.

Recommendation #1 was adopted.

Recommendation #2 was adopted.

Recommendation #3 was adopted.

Recommendation #4 was adopted.

Recommendation #5 was adopted.

Recommendation #6 was adopted.

The recommendation of the Moderator's Committee was adopted:

That Synod commend the Director, Staff, and Board of Covenant Discipleship (Christian Education) for their work during the previous year and for moving forward the concept of "Covenant Discipleship" in the ARP Church.

## **REPORT OF COVENANT DISCIPLESHIP THE EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY OF THE ASSOCIATE RE- FORMED PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD**

### **Introduction**

The Board of Covenant Discipleship is an agency of the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church which serves by presenting the Gospel and nurturing Christian Discipleship based upon a reformed understanding of the scripture with a continuing challenge to develop a biblical world and life view.

Covenant Discipleship under the authority of the General Synod seeks to:

1. Teach and train leaders.
2. Reach students with the Gospel and disciple them based upon a reformed understanding.
3. Minister to the specific spiritual needs of the mentally and physically handicapped.
4. Minister to families and senior adults through conferences and retreats.
5. Provide resources that emphasize a consistent biblical worldview.

"These words which I command you shall be upon your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise." Deuteronomy 6:6-7

The Board ministers in relation to the Presbyteries and congregations and in cooperation with the other boards and committees of the Synod. This annual report is a summary of the major ministry activities of the Board of Covenant Discipleship for the year 1998 and includes a budget and other recommendations for Synod's approval.

### **Board Ministries**

The Board of Covenant Discipleship held two meetings this past year (September 22-23, 1998; February 17-18, 1998).

The Board has spent a great deal of time in prayer and planning in order to enhance the teaching ministry of the denomination.

The following officers served during the 1998 year: Charles Steele, Chairman; Carole Ellis, Vice-chairman; Gary Jones, Secretary.

The meeting dates for next year were established by the Board: September 21-22, 1999; February 22-23, 2000.

Horizon Conference attendance 241; Quest Conference attendance 257  
Camp Joy 3 full sessions—111 campers and 113 counselors and staff;  
Bonsenior Conference attendance 54 conferees and staff. Camp Soar for the physically handicapped was held during the weeks of Horizon nad Quest. There were 3 campers at Horizon and 9 campers at Quest. Student Missions (co-sponsored with World Witness) Trip to Wales with 23 participants. Appalachian Mission—209 ARP young people and adults from 20 churches conducted Vacation Bible Schools in 10 locations in the states of Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia ministering to more than 500 children.

### **Other C.E. Sponsored Programs**

Bible Mastery Month was observed in 38 of our congregations. Catechism Recitations: The Children's Catechism—33 recitations; Westminster Shorter Catechism—12 recitations. Church School Enrollment 15,937.

### **Use of Curriculum Materials**

a. Vacation Bible Schools: Ninety-nine churches reported holding Bible Schools in 1998 with a total enrollment of 7825. Sixty-four had schools for youth and children only; twenty had schools for the entire family. Fifty-seven provided nurseries. Some schools reported using more than one type of material. **Materials used:** Augsburg—2; Bible—9; Bible Way—2; Cook—13; Concordia—2; Gospel Light—21; Great Commissions—13; Scripture Press—2; Standard—12; Ventures—2; Other—24; Own—10.

b. Church School: In the Children's and Youth Divisions, the most popular material is David C. Cook, while in the Adult Division, *The Associate Reformed Presbyterian Adult Quarterly* is the most widely used. Listed below are the breakdown of materials used. Consider these figures in light of the fact that 157 churches reported and that some churches used more than one curriculum in a given department.

<b>Literature</b>	<b>Preschool</b>	<b>Elementary</b>	<b>Youth</b>	<b>Adult</b>
ARP	—	—	7	107
CRC	25	27	15	
Cook	48	55	37	24
Bible	15	19	24	45
Great Commission	21	24	27	1
Scripture Press	5	5	4	1
Standard	8	6	8	12
Gospel Light	7	7	7	
PCUSA	2	3	2	3
Other	6	7	25	39
Own	4	6	12	18



**Recommendations**

1. That the booklet “Bible Basics For Children: K-5” be adopted
2. That the booklet “A Short Catechism For Young Children” not be published any longer and that “The Children’s Catechism for Families and Sabbath Schools” be revised to include components from the “Catechism for Young Children” and renamed “Catechism Beginnings.”
3. That the name of the Office of Christian Education be changed to **Covenant Discipleship**: *“The Educational Ministry of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Synod.”*
4. That Covenant Discipleship sponsor a college weekend in the fall of 1999.
5. That the Report and actions of the Board of Covenant Discipleship be adopted.
6. That the budget for 2000 be approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charles Steele, Chairman

**BUDGET – BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

	1999 Proposed Budget	2000 Requested Budget
<b>Operational—Income Sources</b>		
General Synod Allocation	\$ 164,973	\$ 174,871
Honorariums, Travel & Gifts	18,352	17,976
WSU	14,000	15,000
Special Offering	12,000	12,600
<b>Total Operational Income</b>	<b>\$ 209,325</b>	<b>\$ 220,447</b>
<b>Ministries—Income Sources</b>		
Adult Quarterly/Publications	39,900	41,895
<b>Conferences:</b>		
Summer Missions	40,000	40,000
Bonsenior	11,550	12,128
Regional Servant Leadership		
Conf.	0	0
Horizon	46,200	48,500
Student Missions	0	0
Quest	58,800	61,740
Camp Joy	67,200	70,560
<b>TOTAL MIN. INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 263,650</b>	<b>\$ 274,823</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 472,975</b>	<b>\$ 495,280</b>

**Operational Expenses**

## Administration—Compensation

Executive Director	\$	65,793	\$	67,767
Director for Student Ministries		51,084		52,409
Director Children's Ministries		34,615		35,653
Administrative Assistant		30,755		31,741
Clerical (Part-Time)		1,236		1,310
Summer Intern 10 wks full time		5,400		5,670
<b>Sub-Total Compensation</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>188,883</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>194,550</b>

**Administration—Office Operation**

## Staff Expenses

Workman's Compensation		1,037		1,088
Expenses: Travel/Continuing Education				
Executive Director		5,250		5,513
Director Youth Ministry		3,150		3,308
Director Children's Ministry		3,150		3,308
Office expenses & supplies		18,795		19,735
Board Expenses		10,500		11,025
<b>Sub-Total Operation</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>41,882</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>43,970</b>

**Administration**

## —Promotional

		<u>5,775</u>		<u>6,064</u>
<b>Total Office &amp; Salaries</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>236,540</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>244,584</b>

**Ministries and Publications—Expenses**

## Publications:

Adult Quarterly-Regular Print		14,000		14,000
Adult Quarterly-Teachers' Guide		1,500		1,500
Adult Quarterly-Large Print		2,800		2,800
AQ Office Expense		1,300		1,400
AQ Editor		10,153		11,087
Other Publications		<u>2,400</u>		<u>2,400</u>
<b>Sub-Total for Publications</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>32,153</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>33,187</b>

## Conferences:

Summer Missions		32,445		34,067
Bonsenior		11,025		11,576
Regional Servant Leadership Conf.		8,000		8,400
Christian Educator's Conference		263		276
Horizon		44,352		46,570
Student Missions		3,000		3,000
Quest		51,791		54,381
Camp Joy		<u>67,200</u>		<u>70,560</u>
<b>Sub-Total Conferences</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>218,076</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>228,830</b>

**TOTAL EXPENSES—  
MINISTRIES &**

<b>PUBLICATIONS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>250,229</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>262,017</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>486,769</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>506,601</b>

The Report of the **Moderator's Committee on Outreach North America** was presented. The recommendations referred to are from the Board report unless otherwise referenced.

Recommendations #1-#7 were adopted.

The recommendation of the Moderator's Committee was adopted:

That thankful appreciation be expressed to Mr. Hal Morris, outgoing chairman of the Board of Outreach North America, for his faithful and diligent service of the last 10 years.

**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF OUTREACH NORTH  
AMERICA  
CHANGED LIVES, CHANGING LIVES**

The year 1998 has been historic for Outreach North America. Some exciting new things are happening that may well impact our denomination's growth as we enter the new millennium. It has also been a year that has been heavily involved in our "**Changed Lives, Changing Lives into the 21st Century**" campaign. This report will summarize the activities of the Board during 1998.

**I. The Capital Fund Campaign**

The "Changed Lives, Changing Lives" campaign was conducted throughout Synod in March and April. The Board wishes to thank those involved in the Steering Committee, Presbytery committees and in local churches in conducting the campaign to raise \$3,000,000 in the next three years. We believe that this goal would be easily obtainable if we would average a commitment of the cost of a soft drink per week per active member over a three year period.

Dr. Charles Carlisle, our campaign chairman, will give a brief report at Synod as to the status of the campaign as of that date. We have been greatly encouraged by the support of our churches to the campaign. To date, 75% of our churches have participated in the campaign. There are other churches who have told us they will be participating. We are saddened, however, that 15 of our churches have informed the office that they will not participate in this campaign.

**II. National Strategy**

For the last two years, Synod has endorsed the Board's desire to pursue a national strategy that will include the creation of new presbyteries. The Board is going to appoint a special committee to present a detailed strategy

to the Board. This committee will deal with issues such as location, procedures, financing, timing and personnel .

It is our desire to pursue a strategy of planting several churches in an area in order to create a new presbytery. One prime area that has interested the Board is the Dallas-Fort Worth area and some preliminary demographic work has been done there. Other possible sites are also being investigated.

We look forward to the day when the ARP Church is truly a national church. We believe that the Lord is moving us to expand our vision for outreach as we enter the 21st century

### III. Interested Inquiries

We continue to receive inquiries from interested churches and groups about the ARP church. In the last year we have sent materials to the following towns.

Rye, NH	Raleigh, NC	Hendersonville, NC
Pascagoula, MS	North Kansas City, MO	Lawrence, KS
Forrest City, AR	Charlotte, MI	Wilmington, NC
Henderson, NC	Tupelo, MS	Bowling Green, KY
Traverse City, MI	Grand Rapids, MI	Missoula, MT
Sandy, UT	Corpus Christie, TX	

Several of the churches who have talked to us have decided to become part of the ARP Church. We praise God for these new churches.

### IV. Fifty by 2000

In 1988, Synod adopted the following recommendation from the Board; **“That the General Synod accept the challenge of establishing 50 new churches by the year 2000 and commend this to our Presbyteries”** (1988 *Minutes of Synod*, page 612). We are happy to announce that this goal has been achieved.

As of this date, 63 new churches have been added to the rolls of our Presbyteries since 1988. Churches coming into the denomination accounted for 34 of the 63. Mission that were organized into churches accounted for 29 of the 63. We expect that by the end of 1999 there will be several other mission churches will be organized into particular congregations.

We praise God for answered prayers that have seen this wonderful increase in the ARP Church. The 1998 minutes reported 177 churches and missions, we now have 226 churches and missions.

The ARP Church is one of the few North American denominations that is growing. In the period from 1985 to 1995 the combined membership of all Protestant Churches in the United States has declined by 9.5%. Since 1988, our active membership has increased by 7.5%. While hardly spectacular growth it is encouraging especially in view of the national trends.

## **V. Assimilation of Churches and Missions into the ARP Church**

The Board is seeking to facilitate assimilation of new churches and missions into the denomination. We want all new churches to become active supporters of the ministries of our denomination. How that can be accomplished is a challenge that the Board will seek to address.

One issue was giving to the denomination. Last year, the Board added a requirement to the Policy Book that requires all missions receiving support from Synod to budget at least 5% of their income to the Denominational Ministries Fund of Synod. The Board believes that any mission receiving funding from the denomination should be willing to financially support the work of the denomination.

There are other issues besides financial support. Issues such as a philosophy of ministry, appropriate outreach, worship style, theological emphasis and attitudes toward Christians of other traditions can cause conflict. A special committee is being formed to develop guidelines for church planters, core groups and new churches that will help in their assimilation into the denomination.

## **VI. Revitalization Programs**

The sixth revitalization program is in its early stages for Florida Presbytery. A number of churches are conducting the Congregational Survey. Upon completion of the surveys, the churches will decide if they want to be part of the revitalization program.

The leaders for the workshops and cluster meetings have been secured and our plans are to begin the actual workshops and cluster meetings in the fall of 1999. The formal parts of the program will continue through the spring of 1999.

## **VI. Recruiting and Training of Church Planters**

The church in North America is in trouble. The dismal decline in membership and attendance continues. The result is our countries are in trouble for "as goes the church, so goes the nation". God is judging the church and the post Christian state of the culture reflects that judgment.

Ingrown churches are the rule, rather than the exception. Over 87% of the churches in North America are plateaued or declining. The continued planting of new churches is essential if we are to reach this society.

The future of the ARP Church will also be dependent upon the planting of new churches. If that is so, it is essential to recruit those men who have the gifts to be church planters. They are hard to find. The office of Outreach North America is now recruiting potential church planters from seminaries. We send them to our assessment center to see if they have the gifts that might predict success as a church planter.

We also seek to train those who are church planters. We send them to

special classes on church planting and to week long “boot camps” on church planting. We also seek to help them by church planter and wives retreats each year. We need the prayers of our people that the Lord would raise up men to be church planters.

### **VIII. Status Report on the Work**

In 1998, four new missions were started. The Rev. Zan Churchwell began a work in High Point, NC and the Rev. Charles Clendinen went on the field in Surfside Beach, SC. Two new ethnic works were started. The Rev. Juan Carlos Unda in Hendersonville, NC, is pastoring a Hispanic mission and the Rev. Chan E. Jeon is pastoring a Korean mission in Lawrenceville, GA.

The following 18 missions received financial support from Synod during some or all of 1998.

#### **Catawba Presbytery**

Carolina Fellowship, Lexington, SC - Rev. Donnie Bowker

Iglesia Biblica, Columbia, SC - Rev. J. J. Diaz

Redeemer, Surfside Beach, SC - Rev. Charles Clendinen

#### **First Presbytery**

Ambassador, Apex, NC - Rev. Warren Harvey

Christ, Pinehurst, NC - Rev. Don Jordan

CornerStone, Pineville, NC - Rev. Morrie Lawing

Cross Community, High Point, NC - Rev. Zan Churchwell

Hendersonville Hispanic, Hendersonville, NC - Rev. Juan Unda

Statesville Korean, Statesville, NC - Rev. Song Choi

Westminster, Albermarle, NC - Rev. Lee Shelnut

#### **Florida Presbytery**

Christ, Bradenton, FL - Rev. Bryan Jurkowski

Faith, Wildwood, FL - Rev. Ross Dornbush

#### **Northeast Presbytery**

Covenant Reformed, Halifax, Nova Scotia - Rev. John Shearouse

Reformed Family Fellowship, Toronto - Rev. Mitchell Persaud

Riverside, Cambridge, Ontario - Rev. John van Eyk

#### **Second Presbytery**

Christ Harvest, Mauldin, SC - Rev. Jim Loughner

Lawrenceville Korean, Lawrenceville, GA - Rev. Chan Jeon

Redeemer, Moore, SC - Rev. Bill Slattery

The proposed budget for 1999 and 2000 is attached

Officers for 1999-2000 are

Chairman - Dr. Jay Adams

Secretary - Mr. Lee Hess

### **Recommendations**

1. That Synod encourage churches and individuals to prayerfully and

- financially support the “Changed Lives, Changing Lives” capital campaign and that individuals and churches who have yet to support this campaign be urged to prayerfully reconsider their decision.
2. That Synod encourage Presbyteries to recommend that their students of theology prayerfully consider a possible call to church planting.
  3. That Synod encourage Erksine Seminary to increase their emphasis on the challenges and joys of church planting that more students might give this serious consideration.
  4. That churches be encouraged to promote presentations by Outreach North America that their congregations may better appreciate the challenges and opportunities that the Lord has given us as ARPs.
  5. That churches be encouraged to promote subscriptions to the quarterly newsletter, *OUTREACH*, that our congregations may become aware of what the Lord is doing to reach the unchurched through our mission churches.
  6. That the proposed budget be approved.
  7. That the report of the Board of Outreach North America be approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Harold Morris, Chairman

### **OUTREACH NORTH AMERICA Budget**

	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Denominational Min. Allocation		
Allocated for Admin. & Deve.	\$ 267,364	\$ 263,735
Allocated for Church & Mission	\$ 266,226	\$ 319,888
Manse Loan Fund		
Investment Interest	\$ 9,486	\$ 9,866
Operating Fund Interest	\$ 8,761	\$ 10,402
Mattie B. Ellis Fund Interest	\$ 740	\$ 770
Permanent Funds of Synod	\$ 7,273	\$ 7,564
Special Offering	\$ 25,055	\$ 25,055
WSU Unrestricted	\$ 31,500	\$ 31,500
Direct Support and Specials	\$ 9,939	\$ 9,939
Mission & Training		
Hillcrest Fund	\$ 6,801	\$ 7,073
Mission to Mountain Fund	\$ 3,736	\$ —
Ralph Grigsby Fund	\$ 1,495	\$ 1,555
St. Andrew Church Fund	\$ <u>5,684</u>	\$ <u>5,912</u>
Unrestricted Sub-Total	\$ <u>644,062</u>	\$ <u>693,258</u>
Revitalization		
GS Allocation	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000

Church Contributions & Payments	\$	<u>12,000</u>	\$	<u>12,000</u>
Revitalization Sub-Total	\$	<u>18,000</u>	\$	<u>18,000</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$	<u>662,062</u>	\$	<u>711,258</u>

**DISBURSEMENTS ADMINISTRATIVE****Director of Outreach North America**

Salary & TDA	\$	40,877	\$	42,104
Housing	\$	14,853	\$	15,298
Retirement	\$	4,737	\$	4,879
Insurance	\$	6,939	\$	6,948
Social Security Equity Allowance	\$	<u>2,035</u>	\$	<u>2,097</u>
Director Sub-Total	\$	<u>69,441</u>	\$	<u>71,326</u>

**Assistant to Director**

Salary & TDA	\$	19,055	\$	39,253
Housing	\$	7,500	\$	15,450
Retirement	\$	1,620	\$	4,650
Insurance	\$	3,365	\$	6,933
Employer Tax	\$	<u>906</u>	\$	<u>1,867</u>
Assistant to Director Sub-Total	\$	<u>32,446</u>	\$	<u>68,153</u>

Administrative Support	\$	<u>40,305</u>	\$	<u>41,514</u>
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Staff Expenses	\$	<u>15,473</u>	\$	<u>15,487</u>
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**General Office and Board**

General Office	\$	15,000	\$	15,450
Rent	\$	7,577	\$	7,577
Board Travel & Meeting	\$	12,639	\$	13,019
Promotion and Publicity				
Outreach	\$	5,805	\$	5,805
Other	\$	<u>15,000</u>	\$	<u>15,000</u>
General Office & Board Sub-Total	\$	<u>56,021</u>	\$	<u>56,851</u>

Administrative Sub-Total	\$	<u>213,686</u>	\$	<u>253,330</u>
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**PROGRAM & MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT****Mission Development**

Assessment Center	\$	12,000	\$	12,360
Demographic Consultant	\$	5,500	\$	5,665
Multi-Cultural Consultant	\$	6,000	\$	6,180
Mission Developers Retreat	\$	12,500	\$	12,875
Mission Developers Training	\$	22,500	\$	23,175
Mission Development Coordinator Supplements				
Catawba Presbytery	\$	18,000	\$	18,000
Florida Presbytery	\$	18,000	\$	18,000
Second Presbytery	\$	<u>10,000</u>	\$	<u>10,000</u>



Mission Development Sub-Total	\$ 104,500	\$ 106,255
Intern Program	\$ <u>80,000</u>	\$ <u>80,000</u>
Development Sub-Total	\$ <u>184,500</u>	\$ <u>186,255</u>
<b>Church &amp; Mission</b>		
Evangelism	\$ <u>10,000</u>	\$ <u>10,000</u>
<b>Multi-Cultural Ministries (Maximum 12/8/4)</b>		
Iglesia Biblica (Columbia, SC)	\$ 12,000	\$ 10,000
Hendersonville Hispanic (3/1/98)	\$ 8,333	\$ 4,333
Atlanta Korean (3/1/98)	\$ 4,200	\$ —
New Work (Years 1 - 3)	\$ <u>12,000</u>	\$ <u>20,000</u>
Multi-Cultural Min.s Sub-Total	\$ <u>36,533</u>	\$ <u>34,333</u>
<b>New Church Development (30/20/10)</b>		
Wildwood (Fla)	\$ 3,333	\$ —
Christ Church, Pinehurst (7/1/97)	\$ 7,200	\$ 7,200
New Works	\$ <u>30,000</u>	\$ <u>50,000</u>
Special Ministry Sub-Total	\$ <u>40,533</u>	\$ <u>57,200</u>
<b>New Church Plants</b>		
Catawba Presbytery		
Carolina Fellowship (7/1/97)***	\$ 30,000	\$ —
Redeemer (10/1/98)***	\$ 56,250	\$ 36,250
First Presbytery		
Ambassador (Apex)(9/1/97)***	\$ 34,167	\$ 5,000
CornerStone (6/1/97)*	\$ 4,444	\$ —
Cross Community (1/1/98)***	\$ 42,500	\$ 15,000
Florida Presbytery		
North Tampa-New Work (9/1/99)***	\$ 25,000	\$ 55,417
Mississippi Valley Presbytery		
Northeast Presbytery		
Second Presbytery		
Stone Mountain, Ga. (2/1/99)	\$ 52,917	\$ 44,583
Tennessee-Alabama Presbytery		
Virginia Presbytery		
New Work #1 ***		
New Work #1	\$	\$ 57,500
New Work #2	\$ <u>                    </u>	\$ <u>57,500</u>
Mission Supplement Sub-Total	\$ <u>245,278</u>	\$ <u>271,250</u>
Church & Mission Sub-Total	\$ <u>332,344</u>	\$ <u>372,783</u>
Program and Ministry Sub-Total	\$ <u>516,844</u>	\$ <u>559,038</u>
<b>Revitalization</b>	\$ <u>18,000</u>	\$ <u>18,000</u>
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	\$ <u>748,530</u>	\$ <u>830,368</u>
Receipts Over (Under)		
Disbursements	\$ <u>(86,468)</u>	\$ <u>(119,109)</u>

\*3 mos at \$4,000; 12 mos. at \$5,000; 12 mos. at \$2,500, 9 mos. at \$888.89 LESS any advances.

\*\*12 mos at \$5,000; 12 mos. at \$2,500; 12 mos. at \$1,666.67.

\*\*\*6 mos at \$5,000; 12 mos. at \$4,583.33; 12 mos. at \$2,500.

The Report of the **Moderator's Committee on Dunlap** was presented. The recommendations referred to are from the Board report unless otherwise referenced.

Recommendations #1-#4 were adopted.

The report as a whole was approved.

The recommendation of the Moderator's Committee was adopted:

We recommend that the trustees be commended for their good work.

### **REPORT OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES WILLIAM H. DUNLAP ORPHANAGE, INC.**

Radio personality Paul Harvey's "now, for the rest of the story" serves as a proper introduction to this annual report of the Dunlap Trustees to the General Synod. Dr. Lowry Ware, retired Erskine College history professor, in his article in the May 1999 issue of *The Associate Reformed Presbyterian*, tells us of the denomination's past efforts in tending to the fatherless. This report will share with you what we are doing today and our direction for the future.

The Dunlap Trustees met on two occasions since the last meeting of Synod, November 4-5, 1998, at Bonclarken and April 21, 1999, by telephone conference. Minutes of the meetings have been filed at the ARP Center and will be forwarded to the Chairman of the Moderator's Committee on Dunlap.

#### **Ministries**

As a denomination we no longer have "our" home to care for orphaned children, we support several Christian homes which are providing comprehensive care of children who have been deprived of normal parental care.

Resources for these ministries are provided by

- The endowment established when the Dunlap Home closed. These funds are invested under the auspices of the ARP Foundation in a balanced fund with a targeted allocation of 50% equity and 50% non-equity. The Trustees budgets expenditures of approximately 6% of the market value of the fund on an annual basis. The fund has a long-term, total return objective to average 9% per year.
- Trusts and restricted endowments which have Dunlap as a beneficiary. Currently Dunlap is a beneficiary of the B. J. Wade Trust, the Ola B. Hunter Trust, and the Permanent Funds of Synod.

The Dunlap ministry does not receive any current funding from the General Synod and does not participate in any special offerings of the General Synod. The ministry would willingly receive and would participate in the development of any testamentary or deferred gift instruments.

Due diligence in the exercise of their fiduciary responsibilities is inseparable from the Trustees charge by the Church to be its arm in tending to the fatherless. On an annual basis the trustees evaluate grant proposals to determine the homes to receive financial support. Each organization wishing to make application has been provided with a "General Policy and Instructions for Applicants" and "Policy Guidelines for the Board of Trustees of William H. Dunlap Orphanage." A Trustee is assigned to each applicant to facilitate understanding and evaluation. Each Trustee is expected to carefully review each proposal in light of these two documents.

These grant proposals must include:

- a narrative statement that describes how the organization is providing "comprehensive physical, educational, emotional, and spiritual care in a Christian environment;"
- names and address of other contributing organizations;
- a line-item budget identifying both income and expenses;
- IRS determination letter (all ministries must be tax-exempt or governed by a tax-exempt organization); and
- audited financial statement, or in the absence of an audited financial statement, a copy of the financial report submitted to the Board of Directors.

Funding for current operations generally is limited to five years and is offered on a declining basis. However, the Trustees are continuing to explore the advisability and possibility of establishing long-term relationships with certain Christian homes which meet the Dunlap criteria and which are "providing comprehensive physical, educational, emotional, and spiritual care." A task force has been appointed for that purpose. The development of such relationships would allow churches to become more directly involved in these ministries.

The Dunlap Trustees have asked sessions and presbyteries to assist in identifying organizations which might need the financial assistance available through the Dunlap Fund. We express thanks to those who have responded. Interested organizations should be encouraged to contact:

William H. Dunlap Fund  
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Center  
1 Cleveland St., Suite 110  
Greenville SC 29601-3696

In 1999 financial support is being provided to the following (the amount of support is reflected in the budget attached to this report): **Presbyterian**

**Home**, 150 Linden Ave., Lynchburg, VA 24503-2099 (804-384-3138), has existed since 1903 “to provide a ministry of healing and nurturing to individuals and their families... [to] meet the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual needs of children, youth, adults and families.” Our nominal financial support opens these services to the churches in Virginia Presbytery. **Shiphrah Ministries’ Extended Care Home**, P. O. Box 824, Belton, SC 29627 (864-338-4673), is an outgrowth of Shiphrah Ministries and became operational in 1996. This ministry provides a Christian environment to meet the needs of young girls who are at high-risk for teenage pregnancies. The program is based on a minimal one-year residential program to a maximum stay ending when a young girl is 18 years old. It is designed to allow the young girl to develop personal relationships based on trust and honesty. The extended care facility has been given the name “Dunlap Home” in memory of Anne Belle Dunlap McDaniel **The Potter’s House Girls Home**, 140 Dunty Road, Lake Placid, Florida 33852 (941-699-1685), can house up to thirty-two children, offering shelter for homeless and abused children and unwed pregnant girls. Its purpose is to share Christian love and principles in a loving and accepting environment. This ministry is an outgrowth of the Alpha-Omega Crisis Center Ministry which Dunlap has supported in the past. A challenge grant has been approved to help the home maintain its accreditation. **The Children’s Home Society of Florida**, 1260 S. Golfview Avenue, Bartow, FL 33830 (941-519-3906) was first funded in 1997. Funds are provided for the Hansen Center emergency center for children who “have been victims of abuse and/or neglect and there are no appropriate family members with whom they are able to live at the present time.” **Roxie Anna Collins Children’s Home Ministry**, Highway 188, P. O. Box 745, Seneca, SC 29678 (864-882-0893), is a non-denominational, Christian family group home, and is funded through private contributions. The home is expanding its ministry by the addition of two new residential homes and a Family Center. The Family and Community Outreach Center will provide a place to conduct counseling, general educational opportunities for the children and families, and three independent living quarters for parents in transition and/or young adults who are preparing to leave the Collins Home. Several of the children attended the Spring beach retreat as guests of Covenant Discipleship. **Palmer Home for Children**, P. O. Box 746, Columbus, MS 39703-0746, 601-328-5704, is “a Christian home for children who have nowhere else to turn.” Established in 1895, it is chartered under the laws of the State of Mississippi and is governed by an independent, self-perpetuating Board of Directors. Two-thirds of the board members must be members in good standing of a Presbyterian Church (five Presbyterian denominations are represented by the current Board.) Currently the home has seven cottages, each capable of housing 10 children.

**Nam Kids Ministry**, % Chaplain Donald Hannah, Route 1, Box 1340, Magnolia, DE 19962. Chaplain Hannah is an Air Force Officer with a ministry to orphaned Vietnamese children. **Children's Homes or Orphanages in South Korea:** A grant of \$10,000 was made for distribution to orphanages/children's homes in South Korea, to be administered by the Western Presbyterian Church, Pacific Presbytery. Five homes, serving @ 184 orphaned boys and girls have been identified in the Dae Jon City area of South Korea.

A one-time grant of \$5,000 was given to assist children's homes or orphanages impacted by Hurricane Mitch in Central America. These funds were administered through the Christian Reformed Church World Relief Committee.

The Board continues to provide financial assistance for orphans attending Erskine College. The Board has reviewed with Erskine the need for financial assistance for orphans and has found a continuing need. Funding has been set at \$20,000 per year and will be reviewed periodically.

In addition to the Erskine Dunlap Scholarship program, the Board has a scholarship program for Associate Reformed Presbyterian orphans who are unable to attend Erskine College. Interested parties should contact the Board at the ARP Center address.

The Board reiterates its willingness to work cooperatively with other arms of the Church. The Board does not want to use its funds for substitute financing for existing ministries, but is willing to explore the development of new ministries which will meet the needs of orphaned children which are not now being met.

### **Administrative Activities**

**Amendment to By-laws:** The following change to Article IV - Board of Trustees, was amended to accommodate changes in the WSU by-laws;

"1. The corporation shall be governed by a Board of Trustees consisting of twelve members elected by the General Synod **with one person selected by the Woman's Synodical Union and** with each Presbytery represented by a person selected by the Presbytery, ~~plus a Woman's Synodical Union Representative (Family Living Chairman)..~~"

"2. The term of office of the appointed members shall be six years, with terms of service normally beginning July 1 of the year appointed. The term of office of ~~the representative from the Woman's Synodical Union and~~ advisory members shall coincide with the terms of office to which elected or appointed.."

**Budget for 2000.** The budget for 2000 was approved and is based on using 6% of the projected beginning year fund balance. The Trustees call to the attention of the General Synod that no denominational ministry funds are requested from the General Synod.

**Meeting Dates for 1999 - 2000:** November 3-4, 1999, 3:00 P.M., Bonclarken; March 22, 2000, 11:00 A.M. (EST), Telephone Conference Call; and November 1-2, 2000, 3:00 P.M., Bonclarken.

**Officers for July 1, 1999—June 30, 2000:**

Chairman: William B. Everett

Vice-Chairman: Darrell A. Peer

Secretary: Tom Patterson (Pending nomination for a full term)

Treasurer: Guy H. Smith, III.

Ed Hogan serves as the Administrative Officer and administrative support is provided by the Office of Administrative Services.

The Board expresses its sincere appreciation to retiring members Leland Beaudrot and Tom Patterson for their participation and leadership.

**Recommendations and Requests**

1. We encourage each session to help the William H. Dunlap Trustees identify homes which provide comprehensive physical, educational, emotional, and spiritual care in a Christian environment for children.
2. That the change to the by-laws, as reported herein, be approved.
3. That all other actions of the Board, as reported herein, be sustained.
4. That the Budget for 2000 be approved.

**WILLIAM H. DUNLAP FUND**

**Budget**

	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Investment Proceeds	\$ 129,295	\$ 133,220
Trust Accounts		
Permanent Funds of Synod	1,231	1,256
B. J. Wade Estate	38,822	40,618
Ola B. Hunter Trust	3,316	3,383
Kennedy Annuity (Corpus)	484	484
Denominational Ministry Funds	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b><u>\$ 174,148</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 178,960</u></b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Administration		
Board Travel & Meeting	\$ 3,183	\$ 3,247
Legal Services, Trustee Fees	17,096	17,615
Administrative Support	5,000	5,000
General Office		<u>50,610</u>
<b>Sub-Total for Administration</b>	<b><u>\$ 25,779</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 26,371</u></b>
Ministry		\$ 107,699
• Collins Home	15,000	

• Palmer Home	10,000	
• Shiphrah Extended Care	10,000	
• Alpha Omega Potter House Project	18,000	
• Alpha Omega Potter House	10,000	
• Presbyterian Home	1,000	
• Children’s Home Society of Fla.	4,000	
• Vietnamese Children Ministry	1,000	
• Korean Orphanages/Homes	10,000	
• Erskine Scholarships		20,000
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 124,779</b>	<b>\$ 134,070</b>
<b>Reserve for Ministry</b>	<b>\$ 49,369</b>	<b>\$ 44,891</b>

The Report of the **Moderator’s Committee on Erskine** was presented. The recommendations referred to are from the Board report unless otherwise referenced.

Recommendations #1-#7 were adopted.

The following resolution offered by the Moderator’s Committee on Erskine, was adopted:

That the General Synod express its heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Dr. James W. Gettys on his retirement as Vice-President and Academic Dean of Erskine College after eleven years of faithful and dedicated service; that we express our gratitude to God for his Christian commitment and his dedication to the purposes and ideals of Christian higher education; that we thank God for his continuing service to Erskine College as he returns to the Erskine History Department; that the General Synod rise in appreciation to him; and that this action of Synod be communicated to Dr. Gettys by the Principal Clerk.

## REPORT OF ERSKINE COLLEGE

Fathers and Brethren:

Although humbled and intimidated by the daunting task of assuming leadership of Erskine College and Seminary, God’s grace has been abundant and sufficient. Capable and faithful servants of Christ at Erskine have supported me and a positive spirit has prevailed among every constituency—students, faculty, administration, parents, church, alumni and friends.

**Mission Driven:** “Christian commitment and excellence in learning” is Erskine’s historic mission—*scientia cum moribus conjuncta*. Since coming to office last June, I have presented my vision message—*Why a*

*Christian Liberal Arts Education?*—in over 50 churches, 6 private schools, and a number of civic clubs. Renewed focus upon this mission has been well received and Erskine is cautiously optimistic about the future.

**Business Plan for Enrollment Management:** Extensive efforts have been made by every department to increase enrollment. A Business Plan for Enrollment Management designed to bring prospective students to Quality Events at Erskine has been designed and implementation has begun. Events such as the Great Erskine Lock-In under the leadership of Chaplain Jay West drew over 200 high school juniors and seniors to campus for a weekend of Christian music, challenging messages, and zany recreation. Other events which attracted high school students and youth groups to campus were the Staley Lectures by Dr. William Edgar, Apologetics Professor at Westminster Theological Seminary, and the Stukes Lectures by Dr. Mark Mathabane, author of *Kaffir Boy* and *Love in Black & White*.

**Alumni/Family Weekend and Inauguration, April 24, 1999:** Revered College and Seminary Professor Dr. Bill Kuykendall, who came to teach at Erskine my freshman year, gave an excellent and fitting address to Erskine family and friends at my inauguration as 13th President.

**College Commencement and Baccalaureate Service, May 15, 1999:** The eyes of the region were on tiny Due West as Elizabeth Dole, former head of the Red Cross and a Presidential hopeful, delivered our commencement address. Earlier that morning Dr. David Chadwick, Senior Pastor of Forest Hills Church (EPC) in Charlotte, NC, was our baccalaureate preacher. Honorary degrees were awarded to Dr. Randy Ruble, Mr. Hugh Dale, and Mrs. Dole. **College Commencement and Baccalaureate Service, May 17, 1998:** The commencement speaker was Mr. Nicholas Sparks, author from New Bern, NC, and the baccalaureate preacher was The Rev. Dr. Dwight L. Pearson, pastor of the Chester Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, Chester, SC. Honorary degrees were awarded to The Rev. William F. Mitchell and Jane Blakely Jennings, M.D.

**Board of Trustee Leadership, 1998-99:** Mr. William B. Patrick, Jr., Chairman; The Rev. Douglas W. Petersen, Vice Chairman; Dr. Sanita S. Frazier, Secretary.

**Cabinet Leadership:** After over a decade of leadership as Vice President and Dean of the College which has taken Erskine to BA1 national status academically, Dr. James W. Gettys has resigned in order to return to the classroom and a Search Committee has been appointed consisting of Dr. Henry Hollingsworth (Chair), Dr. Bright Lowry, and The Rev. Doug Petersen. Ms. Jean Pinson has assumed the office of Chief Financial Officer. Lee Logan is Vice President for Development and Facilities Management. Mr. Monty Wooley continues as Vice President for Student Services and Athletics. Dr. Steve Sniteman is Vice President for



Enrollment Management and Technology. Dr. Jay West is Chaplain. Dr. R. J. Gore is Vice President and Dean of the Seminary

**Erskine Theological Seminary's New Personnel:** Dr. R. J. Gore's selection as Vice President and Dean of the Seminary has met with a favorable response from students, faculty and the church. A man of commitment, energy and vision, Dr. Gore works unceasingly to discover and implement new ways for Erskine Seminary to serve Christ and His Kingdom. With the addition of Drs. Steve Lowe (Michigan State), Milton Eng (Drew), Jimmy Agan (Aberdeen), and Don Fairbairn (Cambridge), Erskine is rapidly becoming one of the most credentialed seminaries in the Southeast. More importantly, Dr. Gore and each new professor share an unshakable commitment to Scripture and a passion for ministry.

A copy of the 1998-1999 Erskine College Catalog (Exhibit A), 1998-2000 Erskine Seminary Catalog (Exhibit B), 1998 Audit (Exhibit C), and the Request to the Board of Stewardship (Exhibit D) are submitted with the official report.

#### ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

- The E. B. Kennedy Scholars selected during the January Finals Competition are Mr. Nathan Carrington, Charlotte, NC, and Miss Blaire Oakley, Conyers, GA.
- The following full-time faculty were hired for the 1998-99 academic year: Mr. Toby Harkins, Instructor in Physical Education and Athletic Trainer; Dr. Kimberly A. Opperman, Assistant Professor of Chemistry; Dr. Kim L. Renas, Visiting Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choraleers; Mr. Jerry Shadbolt, Instructor in Physical Education and Athletic Trainer. Dr. Tracy Kramer has been hired as Associate Professor of Business and Economics for the 1999-2000 academic year.
- The Winter Term travel course to Israel, led by Dr. Bill Evans, Assistant Professor of Bible and Religion, was very successful. The group visited many sites.
- Mr. Chris Perrin, a senior, studied in Washington, DC, this past fall as part of an American Studies Program which is sponsored by the Coalition of Christian Colleges and Universities.
- Miss Kim Gaymon, a junior and E. B. Kennedy scholar from Macon, GA, and Mr. Lucas Hollar, a junior from Summerville, SC, are spending the 1999 spring term studying at Tandem Institute in Madrid, Spain.
- Ms. Marilyn Dudley-Rowley, Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology, will be spending four months in isolation in Russia as part of her research on problems associated with the social isolation of polar and space exploration.

- Dr. John G. Brawley, Jr., Professor of Music, and Dr. James W. Gettys, Vice President and Dean of the College, were honored in convocation on March 11. Dr. Brawley was recognized as the Harriet Pressly Smith Caldwell Professor of Music and Dr. Gettys was recognized as the McDonald-Boswell Professor of History.
- Dr. Bill Crenshaw's play, *The Forest Speaks*, was performed at the Guilliard Auditorium in Charleston on December 31, 1998.
- Mr. John Kennerly has been promoted to Director of McCain Library.
- The Daniel-Moultrie Science Center was dedicated January 30, 1999, and classes were held in the facility for the first time on February 2, 1999. This magnificent building houses the departments of biology, chemistry and physics, and psychology and sociology. In addition to these disciplines, many other departments benefit from the facility by holding classes in its classrooms, auditorium and seminar rooms. The Daniel-Moultrie Science Center contains two mentoring networked classrooms, fully interactive computer laboratories/classrooms. The building has over 350 connections to the college's Intranet and from there to the Internet.

#### **BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

- Erskine will end FY1998-99 with its operating budget in the black for the eighth consecutive year. This continues to be a top priority of the Board of Trustees and the administration.
- Erskine College spends over 35% of its educational and general expenditures on scholarships. Additional scholarship dollars will continue to be needed to compete for students in today's marketplace.
- The adopted FY1999-2000 operating budget is based on 465 students (430 boarding) in the College, 145 M.Div. students in the Seminary, and 28 D.Min. students in the Seminary. This is 15 college students more than budgeted for FY1998-99.
- College tuition/fees/room/board increased from \$19,590 to \$19,998. This represents a 2% increase.
- Seminary fees increased to \$205/sh for the Masters programs and remain at \$225/sh for the D.Min. program.
- For FY1999-2000, we will have approximately \$653,149 in scholarship income and will expend \$3,274,895 in college scholarships. This difference of \$2.62 million is the unfunded portion of our scholarship program.
- The FY1999-2000 budget provides funds for a 2% salary increase for faculty and staff, which became effective January 1, 1999.

#### **CHAPLAIN**

- Thanks be to our Lord for the blessings that He has bestowed upon

- Erskine College and Seminary during the recent year.
- Jamie Cheshire, Doraville, GA, and Paul Patrick, White Oak, SC, served as interns in the Chaplain's Office during the 1998-99 year which opened new doors for the College and Seminary to work cooperatively. Erskine Seminary will provide the Chaplain's Office four-to-five intern positions in 1999-2000 in order to assist in the coordination and facilitation of campus ministry. This cooperative work will be a great blessing for the Chaplain's Office and for the interns as they grow with and lead the College students. The interns will work in the following areas: Missions, The Great Erskine Lock-In, Chapel and Worship, and small group Bible studies.
  - Living Hope is stabilized, yet it is time to revise. Living Hope will be revised this summer with the hope of developing a new video series geared especially for college students. The Living Hope Process has been concentrated into three semesters from four.
  - Approximately fifteen to twenty students will be sent to China this year to teach conversational English and North American culture at Camp China. Three to five students will be in Mongolia. Garrison Taylor is completing his one-year teaching fellowship and will return home soon. Kelly Moffatt, an Erskine graduate, continues to renew her yearly contract in Viet Nam. Erskine will send the largest number of students from any CCCU school with ELIC this year. ELIC continues to acknowledge our students for their spiritual and relational maturity.
  - The Erskine Mission Society began this year with 30-40 students interested in sharing their experiences with each other on a regular basis. The society meets bi-weekly and is molded to the needs of students.
  - We have three students interested in being nominated for the one-year China Teaching Fellowship to teach for the English Language Institute in China during the 2000-2001 academic year.
  - Jamie Cheshire is working with Young Life and has developed an Urban Ministry program during the winter term with the Parker Street Project in Lakeland, FL, as well as a spring break short term mission trip. Three students spent their winter term at the Parker Street Project and six students served during spring break.
  - The Chaplain's Office in cooperation with World Witness is in the initial stage of developing spring break mission trips to Wales, Berlin, Russia and the Bahamas.
  - "The Great Erskine Lock- In" was held November 20-22, 1998. Those in attendance numbered approximately 450. Silers Bald provided the music and Keith Anderson the messages. Plans are in the making for the next Lock-In on November 19-21, 1999. Silers Bald will be here to

- provide the music.
- “Coffee Talk” is a new academic discussion group for professors and students to dialogue over theological and ethical issues.
  - The Erskine College Conference and Retreat Team taught small groups and led recreation in many Presbytery retreats this year as well as assisting with The Great Erskine Lock-In . This team will be teaching the small groups during the Presbytery Retreats held at Bonclarken for Junior and Senior High students again next year.
  - The Erskine Admissions Office is working cooperatively with the Chaplain’s Office in order to send admissions personnel to the summer conferences.
  - The R.I.O.T. (Reaching In and Out Together) Bible studies continued this year. Students were able to choose several topics such as: Lady in Waiting, Galatians, Ephesians, Living the Life of Christ, and Hebrews. The studies were taught in a variety of places which were mainly in the homes of the faculty, staff, and administration.
  - The Pause for Prayer service on Wednesday mornings continues to be a fruitful time for faculty, staff, and administration.
  - The maintenance devotional, also held on Wednesday mornings, continues to be an uplifting time of prayer and fellowship.
  - The Chaplain’s Office continues to offer counseling services in the office and residence on a regular basis.
  - A campus ministry fair was held in Chapel in order to inform the student body of the opportunities that exist on campus to become involved in a variety of ministries.
  - The Chapel services continue to be well attended with a variety of guests including, Ken Medema, Peculiar People, Mark Cable, Dr. William Edgar and others.
  - The devotional library for small group Bible studies continues to grow in number and use. The desire is to collect multiple copies so that students may have available resources to check out.
  - The Chaplain continues to speak at retreats, conferences, seminars, and churches on a regular basis.

#### **DEVELOPMENT AND FACILITIES MANAGEMENT**

##### **Capital Construction Project**

- The Daniel•Moultrie Science Center was completed in January 1999 and dedicated January 30, 1999. This was a \$7.5 million project that is within \$400,000 of being completely funded. The two-story, 46,000 square foot attractive facility with over 100 rooms will provide excellent science education facilities for many years to come. Special thanks are due to many donors and volunteer leaders who worked tirelessly on this project lead by Mr. Robert L. Moultrie, Dr. James P.

Pressly and Mr. James P. Ashburn. A \$3 million endowment for the building has been set with \$2 million needed to complete the goal.

- Preliminary plans and fund-raising strategies are currently being developed for the next capital campaign emphasis. Increasing our endowment fund, renovation of selected facilities, and specialized endowment support for academic and athletic programs are among the areas to be studied carefully.

### **Development**

- The College and Seminary have been fortunate to receive many contributions since the last meeting of the General Synod. Beginning July 1, 1998, funds totaling \$4,189,177.00 have been donated to the various fund-raising campaigns of the institution. These gifts have come at an excellent time and more donations are needed if the institution is to continue to grow in its ability to provide a quality program.
- The Trustees have taken action to establish the following special programs and restricted personal or estate gifts:
  - Bolt-Squires Scholarship Fund
  - Reverend J. Allen Derrick Scholarship Fund
  - Hugh Henry Gift Annuity
  - Julia V. and W. Wates Keller Scholarship Fund
  - Estate of Frances Ethelda Hanna
  - Estate of Ruth Baird
  - Gift from the late Buck Mickel
  - Mary Deck Jenkins Patrick Scholarship Fund
  - Dr. Wofford E. Baldwin Library Enrichment Fund
  - Randall Tucker Ruble Scholarship Fund
  - Dr. and Mrs. John Roddey Edwards Scholarship Fund
  - Nola Peters Blanton Scholarship Fund
  - Celia Latimer Gasque Scholarship Fund
  - C. B. Ware Family of Due West Scholarship Fund
  - Estate of Carey J. Finley
  - Estate of Irwin Grier Linton
  - Myers Insurance Ownership Transfer

### **Alumni Office**

- Under the leadership of an active fifteen member Alumni Board, in addition to the annual fund co-chairs, the Alumni Association has had a great year. As of March 29, 1999, the Living Endowment has received over \$382,161.00 in pledge/gifts from 2,853 givers with some of these as first time donors or not having donated in a number of years. New programs such as South Carolina license plates, charge cards, and faculty and staff appreciation dinners funded by the Alumni Board have been innovative programs of interest.

- The chapter meetings have been successful with more social activities (tour and group travel) generating good support. The on-line community program in sending and receiving alumni news over the internet has grown tremendously over the past year.
- Alumni Day - April 24, 1999
- Leadership Weekend - June 4-5, 1999
- Work Week - June 14-18, 1999
- Erskine College Open Golf Tournament - June 22, 1999
- Alumni Association Tour - September 21-October 5, 2000
- Alumni trip to Charleston, South Carolina - August 28-29, 1999

### **Public Relations**

- With the enhanced emphasis on marketing, publications and other promotional materials of the institution have been upgraded greatly with more impressive quality materials.
- The use of the EC Netnews has grown with over 300 people receiving information daily on Erskine College events.

### **Facilities**

- A number of facility improvements have been undertaken in the past year. The renovation of the former president's house into a guest house, landscaping improvements, renovation of the canteen and Watkins Student Center and Seminary renovations have enhanced the appearance and function of the campus. The parking lot behind the dining hall has been doubled to accommodate more parking resulting from the opening of the science center.
- Staff training will be highlighted this year in order to better manage and provide service for the over 30,000 visitors on campus.

## **ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **Enrollment Management**

- We are optimistic that we will recruit an excellent freshman class for the 1999-2000 school year. Currently, SAT scores and other measures of academic merit are extremely positive. In addition, applications are ahead of the last three years. The increase in application is an extremely positive sign as the decrease in applications has been one of the major reasons for the low enrollments. Financial aid concerns for prospective students remain a difficult issue; however, Becky Pressley, Director of Financial Aid, is working hard to apportion financial aid in the fairest, most productive manner. Mrs. Pressley has also developed a detailed analysis of our financial aid awards, which has greatly enhanced our ability to target various groups that we would like to secure.
- There are several new initiatives that Jeff Craft has developed that offer a great deal of promise. The Admissions Office has emphasized

recruiting in Christian schools and other private schools. With the help of Dr. Carson, who has spoken at numerous schools, we feel that there is a promising future for Erskine in this area. The Admissions staff has also targeted new areas in the Northeast; specifically Christian College fairs, in an effort to go outside the traditional recruiting areas.

- The advertisement in Campus Life (a Christian College magazine), has resulted in Erskine receiving over 480 inquires from prospective students (primarily juniors), from all over the United States.
- Web applications continue to be strong. We feel that within a couple of years, the electronic application process will completely replace the paper method as more and more students are choosing to apply on-line. We were well advised to move toward this application routing.
- We are working on a Web-based program for EBK applications. The Stuart family has been extremely cooperative and has greatly assisted us in moving forward in this endeavor. We expect EBK applications to substantially increase as the Web application process makes it easier for students to apply for the scholarship.
- We continue to receive positive feedback from our marketing campaign. However, our success comes with a downside. We have been informed that other colleges are looking into copying our initiatives. As a result of the competitive nature of college advertising, we must continue to move forward.
- Dr. Carson has implemented a campus-wide business enrollment plan that involves every academic department. His plan of seeking new ways to bring prospective students to campus is the most positive development in enrollment management that the college has implemented since I have been on campus. With his continuing leadership in this area, the future for Erskine College is extremely bright.

### **Technology**

- Erskine has implemented a working partnership with EduTek Corporation and with Gateway Computers to assist our move toward a laptop campus. We have obtained an agreement that allows current and prospective students to purchase Toshiba or Gateway laptops with preinstalled software and hardware that will function in the classroom without the difficulty of configuration transition. Due to the three year warranty and very aggressive pricing, we believe we are moving into an era where students are able to bring an affordable computer to class that will integrate their needs with the needs of the college. We further believe this move will, in the future, supplant the requirement for the college to support the number of computer laboratories currently in existence. In addition, we are very pleased that we have been able to work out the computer buy/lease agreement

without *requiring* the entire student body to purchase a laptop.

- We continue to make progress in implementing the administrative software package (CAMS) even though the transition has been difficult for everyone. The complexity of integrating every department on campus with one module being dependent on another has necessitated continual software updates. These updates have routinely caused extensive work slowdowns in various areas. It appears however that the updates are becoming more stable and less frequent. The Seminary has now begun their conversion process. We expect the total conversion to take about six months. The decision to delay Seminary implementation until the College sorted through many of the initial problems has greatly benefited the Seminary and should result in the Seminary completing their transition without experiencing many problems that the College has undergone.

### STUDENT SERVICES AND ATHLETICS

#### Personnel

- Mr. Stacey Palmore was appointed Grier Resident Director in Fall 1998.
- Mr. Bryan Rush was appointed Resident Director in Kennedy Dorm for Fall 1998.
- Mr. Lee Duffie continues to serve as Resident Director in Pressly.
- Ms. Beth Ashley was appointed Robinson Resident Director and Student Activities Director in Fall 1998.
- Ms. Ruth Burton continues to serve as Resident Director in Carnegie.
- Mrs. Becca Lewis continues to serve as Resident Director in Bonner.
- Mr. Monty Wooley, Dr. Robyn Agnew and Mrs. Penny Thomas continue to serve as Student Deans.
- Dr. Jay West continues to serve as the Erskine Chaplain.
- Mrs. Sandra Hagan continues to serve as Administrative Assistant in Student Services.
- Mrs. Jean Jackson continues to serve in a part-time position in the Career Orientation and Networking Office.

#### Programs

- An extensive orientation program (including CPR/First Aid certification, leadership training, risk behavior identification, etc.) was conducted for Student Life Assistants and Resident Directors in August 1998. President Carson spoke on principles of Biblical Discipline from Matthew, Chapter 18, in order to give the Student Services Personnel a Biblical perspective on discipline and the Christian manner in which to approach different discipline situations. Chaplain Jay West presented a workshop on relational dynamics and a method in which to incorporate a Christian witness within the framework of the Student



Life.

- A five-day Freshman Orientation (including computer, library, and study skill instruction, alcohol/other drug education and service opportunities) was conducted in August 1998 for 137 Erskine freshmen.
- Ms. Ashley organized and promoted 30 mini-sessions during Winter Term and the sessions were taught by students, staff and community members. Included were Basic Car Mechanics, Budgeting, Interior Design, Planning A Wedding and Breadmaking.
- A workshop was conducted in October for all faculty and staff student organization advisors.

#### **Student Elections/Appointments**

- Jeremy Crisp, a rising senior from Starr, SC, was elected President of the Student Government Association.
- Student Life Assistant interviews resulted in the appointment of nine new female SLAs and eight new male SLAs.

#### **Spring Events**

- The annual Erskine/Lander Education Fair was held Thursday, March 11, on the Erskine campus. Seventy-seven recruiters from 54 school districts participated.
- Family Day was held Saturday, April 24. The Parent Advisory Council conducted a silent auction as its primary annual fund-raiser.
- The third annual Leadership Day was held in April and will provide newly elected student organization leaders with leadership training opportunities.
- Spring Fling, sponsored by the Erskine Entertainment Board, was held April 30-May 1 and will include outdoor musical performances, cookouts and games on the mall.

#### **Athletics**

- The men's cross country team brought Erskine her second CVAC Championship and the women's cross country team placed second.
- Kevin Nichols will replace Dan Masserelli as head baseball coach.
- A search is presently underway for a head men's basketball coach.
- Junior basketball player Valerie Warren was named to the 1st All Conference team.
- Margot Richards was named CVAC Freshman of the Year in Women's Basketball.

#### **Public Safety**

- No incidents of violent crime have been reported on our campus this year.
- A few cases of forced entry into campus buildings have been reported.
- Several cases of vandalism to cars and buildings have been reported.
- An administrative goal continues to be to increase public safety

coverage time on campus to 24 hours per day/seven days per week.

### **Recommendations**

The following requests and recommendations are offered by the Board of Trustees.

1. That the General Synod accept the gratitude of Erskine faculty and staff for the \$50,000 additional funds given by the Board of Stewardship to provide a 1% Christmas bonus in 1998—a lean year in which no raises had been granted.
2. That the General Synod thank God for His sustaining mercy during the past year and pray continually that Erskine may “grow in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.”
3. That the General Synod grant the following requests for funds:

**Operating Budget Request:** College/Seminary request for a total of **\$483,000** in operating funds for 2000. These funds will be used as unrestricted funds for current fund operations and scholarship support.

**Special Appropriation for Chaplain:** In 1988, the General Synod adopted the Report of the Committee of Moderators which called for the employment of a full-time Chaplain at Erskine College and Seminary. The report called for the General Synod to provide **\$25,000** annually toward the cost of this position with Erskine paying the remainder of the salary plus all salary increases. The amount from the General Synod should be considered as over and above the normal appropriation for the College.

**Associate Reformed Presbyterian Student Union:** The Board of Trustees again requests financial support of **\$500** to assist the important work of our denomination’s Student Union.

4. That the General Synod designate special days when the work of Erskine College and Seminary may be presented before the congregations of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church and receive—in conjunction with other Synod agencies—a special offering. I am extremely grateful that not one pastor or session refused my request to present my vision message to a congregation, but I recognize that additional presentations of Erskine’s work by others is essential for awareness of our mission and work to flourish.
5. That the General Synod encourage local churches to use their bulletins, newsletters, and other means to publicize events at Erskine College and Seminary.
6. That the General Synod ask presbyteries and presbyterials to invite representatives from the College and Seminary to participate in youth conferences, retreats, and/or special events; as well as challenge presbyteries to schedule an on-campus Erskine day for their church

members, especially their youth.

7. That the General Synod remind ministers and their staffs to inform high school students about the College's Quality Events plus other spiritual and education opportunities, and to encourage all who desire to be equipped for ministry to inquire about the wide variety of educational opportunities at the Seminary.

Yours in Christ,

John L. Carson, President

## **REPORT OF ERSKINE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

Fathers and Brethren:

- We at Erskine Seminary have been blessed by God with a good year. As the report below shows, God has given us the privilege of serving Him in many exciting ways this year. We are especially thankful to the A.R.P. churches for your financial support, your prayers, your students, and your kind words of encouragement. We are committed to continuing to serve the A.R.P. Church.
- Permanent teaching faculty for the year included Bible professors Milton Eng, William Kuykendall and Loyd Melton; Theology and History professors R.J. Gore, Merwyn Johnson, and Ray King; and Ministry professors Robby Bell, Robert Glick, Jack Heinsohn, Steve Lowe, Mary-Ruth Marshall, and Luonne Rouse. Part-time faculty were John Blumenstein, Stephen Clyborne, Bill Evans, Tom Guerry, Robert Hall, Dale Johnson, Keith Richardson, Mark Ross, Allan Story, Earl Troglin, and Doug White.
- Dr. Steve Lowe was appointed as Visiting Professor of Christian Education and Dr. Milton Eng was appointed Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies in the Fall of 1998.
- Dr. R. J. Gore was elected Vice President and Dean of the Seminary in July by the Board of Trustees. In August, Dr. Loyd Melton was appointed Associate Dean with responsibilities over the Doctor of Ministry program and continuing education.
- Faculty members continue to teach and preach in A.R.P. churches throughout the denomination as well as churches in the other denominations represented here. Faculty members regularly lead worship services, conduct sermons and training sessions, and lead Bible studies in churches across the country.
- Fifty-seven students graduated in May 1998, the largest number ever. Thirty-three students were Master of Divinity, eight were M.A. in Christian Education, one was a Dual Degree, two were Certificates in Theological Studies, and 13 were Doctor of Ministry. The Commencement speaker was Bishop John Adams of the AME Church.
- Fall enrollment was a record with 381 students; there were 355

students in the spring. During the previous year, **421** different students were enrolled at one time or another. More than twenty different denominations are represented including 11 international students. Dr. Betty Berrios, a retired Erskine language professor, continues to give of her time and energy in working with the international students.

- Erskine Seminary continues its D.Min. program at Fort Jackson at the U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School.
- Curriculum revision continues at the Seminary as we have instituted our new M.A. in Theological Studies, M.A. in Pastoral Ministry, and Master of Church Music. New course offerings in the D.Min. program provide work in the areas of cross-cultural ministries and church planting/revitalization.
- The Association of Theological Schools and The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools have granted approval for Erskine Seminary to offer Distance Education courses. Currently, seven courses are available for distance learning.
- We have requested ATS approval for the Master of Theology degree and are preparing a petition for a proposed M.A. in Counseling Ministry.
- The annual Missions speaker was Bill Krispin. Other program participants included The Rev. Scott Moore, Mr. John Mariner, and The Rev. John Cook.
- The Ford Lecturer on Small Churches was The Rev. Dan Page, Mission Developer from the SC Southern Baptist Association.
- The Whitesides preacher was Dr. Jay Adams, retired ARP minister. The Whitesides Pastor's Institute was established in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Major V. Whitesides, lay leaders of the First A.R.P. Church of Gastonia, NC.
- The Robinson Lecturer was The Rev. Mr. Norman Shepherd, former professor of Systematic Theology at Westminster Theological Seminary and now retired CRC minister. This lecture series honors the memory of Richard Lee Robinson, former Dean of the Seminary by bringing to campus world-famous scholars to discuss important issues of the day.
- Erskine Seminary continues to break new ground in terms of technology, providing laptop computers for all full-time faculty, plus Epson Presentors or Mobile Audio/Video Units for classroom use. In terms of marketing efforts, new brochures have been printed and our Director of Admissions made presentations at nine colleges or universities, seven Baptist Associations, and two conventions for Christian Educators.

Respectfully submitted,

R. J. Gore, Jr.

Vice President and Dean

A motion carried that the Parliamentarian confer with the Ecclesiastical Commission on Judiciary Affairs to recommend to the General Synod (at a future meeting) such changes to *Rules of Procedure, Rules of Order* and *Manual Of Authorities and Duties* as to simplify and clarify the rules governing the meeting of Synod.

Synod was led in prayer by J. M. Bell.

The report of the Committee on Nominations was presented and adopted.

### **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS**

The Committee on Nominations met on February 9, 1999 to consider the vacant positions on the boards and committees of the General Synod. The committee reviewed the information forms of all persons whose names were submitted to the Committee.

The Committee expresses its thanks to all persons who allowed their names to be submitted to the Committee for consideration for their willingness to serve. The Committee thanks all persons, sessions, board and committees who submitted the names of persons for consideration. The Committee appreciates the efforts of those persons and sessions who do submit nominees. We would encourage more sessions and individuals to submit names to the Committee.

The Committee presents the following nominees for service on Boards, Committees, the Ecclesiastical Commission on Judiciary Affairs, and as officers or representatives of the General Synod. All nominees were approved unanimously through a process of open discussion and consensus-building. The terms of service will begin July 1, 1998, and will expire June 30 of the year indicated. All nominees have indicated a willingness to serve if elected.

#### **Board of Annuities and Relief**

2000 — Michael Cruce (Young Memorial) (Replacing Devrin Avant)

2004— Beth Smith (Ebenezer, NC) (WSU)

2005— Paul Bell (Due West), David Yawn (Coddle Creek)

#### **Board of Directors of A.R.P. Foundation, Inc.**

2000 — Timothy A. Erskine (Replacing W. Elliott Sheorn)

2005— Jeff Whitmore (Fayetteville) (T), Rodney Shands (New Albany) (M)

#### **Board of Trustees of Bonclarken**

2001— Lucy Patrick (Greenwood) (WSU)

2005— Dallas Hemp (Old Providence), James Wiseman (Newberry), Bill Ratchford (Christ Community)

#### **Board of Covenant Discipleship (Christian Education)**

2001— Dail Hovey (Huntersville) (WSU)

2005— Charles Steele

**Board of Trustees, Erskine College**

2002— E. Kate Stewart (Ebenezer, MS) (WSU)

2005— J. Allen Derrick, John Kimmons, Mary Lou Whitesides Pearson (First Gastonia), William J. Ranson (Non-ARP), Crosland Stuart (Non-ARP)

**Outreach North America, The Board of Church Extension**

2000— Penny Thornton (Sherwood Forest) (WSU)

2005— Wayne A. Frazier

**Board of Publications**

2003— Barbara Cheatham (WSU)

2005— Dr. Joung Sook Nahm (Young Saeng), John van Eyk

**Board of Stewardship**

2005— Grier Westbrook (Edgemoor), Ed Carson (Pisgah)

**Board of Trustees, Wm. H. Dunlap Orphanage, Inc.**

2002— Mrs. Nancy Gaston (Pinecrest) (WSU)

2005— Tom Patterson (Coddle Creek), Michael Rogers (Arsenal Hill) (C)

**World Witness, the Board of Foreign Missions**

2000— Jennie Williams (Neely's Creek) (WSU)

2001— Kevin Muldoon (To replace Jack Booth)

2002— Neal Mathias (To replace Curtis J. Young)

2003— E. R. Young (Replacing John C. Dorr)

2005— David Rockness, Dr. Maurice Canaday, Sr. (Gastonia First)

**Ecclesiastical Commission on Judiciary Affairs**

2003— J. Edward Cox (Doraville), Hal Morris (Lake Placid), Warren Wardlaw

**Committee on Historical Concerns**

2002— Sandra Miller (WSU)

2005— Ray B. Lanning

**Committee on Inter-Church Relations**

2002— John H. Dawson (Replacing Allen Church)

2005— Frank Van Dalen, Mrs. Nancy Corbitt (Devenger Road) (WSU)

**Committee on Lay Ministry**

2003— M.W. Chappell (Bethel, SC), Mrs. Leigh Ann Weber (Christ Community), Mrs. Eula Oates (Rock Hill First) (WSU)

**Committee on Theological and Social Concerns**

2000— Erskine Theological Seminary Representative: W. H. F. "Bill" Kuykendall

2003— Herschel Carlson, Ellen McLaughlin (Back Creek) (WSU)

**Committee on Worship**

2000— David Els (Replacing Kathleen Dorr)

2003— Larry Wyatt (First Columbia), Mrs. Sabrina Ferguson (Greenville), Mrs. Robin Rowell (Lancaster First) (WSU)

**Officers of Synod:**

2003—Bill Clerk—W. Ed Kirkpatrick

The following Presbytery appointees are reported as information:

**Board of Covenant Discipleship (Christian Education)**

2000— Gary L. Jones (S), Michael Howell (T), Ronald L. Pritts (V), Robert Whittet (N)

2001— Richard Lewis (C), Brian Phipps (FL), Theodore Y. Kim (P), William B. Everett (M), Greg Hamer (F)

**Executive Board of Synod**

2000— Charles Edgar (T), Wayne Ogden (V)

2001— Wayne Stanchfield (M), Christopher Bortz (N)

2002— Guy H. Smith, Jr. (C), Paul Nunn (FL), Eui C. Lim (P)

2003— Rob Roy McGregor (S), David Sides (F)

**Outreach North America, The Board of Church Extension**

2000— Steve Hardy (M), Charles Bradley (T)

2001— Edgar W. “Eddie” Williams, Jr. (C), James F. Wittke (FL), Hae S. Kim (P), John T. West, IV (S), M. Stevens Ulmer (V)

2002— Walter P. Fleming (F), Alan Avera (N)

**Board of Stewardship**

2002— J. Michael Lineberger (F), Thomas Shoger (FL), \_\_\_\_\_(M), C. Biddle Foster(N), \_\_\_\_\_(P),  
Tim Erskine (S), \_\_\_\_\_(T), Zeb C. Williams (V)

**William H. Dunlap Orphanage, Inc.**

2000— Paul K. Shannon (T)

2001— William B. Everett (M)

2002— J. Ray Starr (F), Barry Wells (N)

2003— Darrell Peer (FL), David J. Vickery (S)

2004— Zeb C. Williams (V), William Kim (P)

2005— Michael Rogers (C)

**Committee on Minister and His Work**

2000— David Galletta (N), Robert Gordon (V), Robert P. Brawley (F), Troy L. Pritt (M), Calvin W. Todd (T)

2001— Ray A. King (C), H. Neely Gaston (S), W. L. Barron (FL), Shadrach K. Chung (P)

**Committee on Nominations**

2000— Robert J. Cara (F), James Klukow (FL), G. J. Gerard (N), Peter Waid (S), Fred T. Hartin (T), Mrs. Cecil Young (WSU)

2001— Dwight L. Pearson (C), Kwan W. Lim (P), H. Max Bolin (V)

2002— David T. Griffin (M)

Officers for the Committee July 1, 1999–June 30, 2000 are: H. Max Bolin, Chairman; Peter A. Waid, Vice-Chairman; and David Griffin, Secretary.

The Nominations packets will be mailed in September. The deadline for submission of nominees will be January 14, 2000. The Committee will meet February 7, 2000, at the ARP Center, Greenville, SC.

**Recommendations**

1. That those persons listed in this report be approved for service in the positions indicated.
2. That each person or group desiring to submit a nomination review carefully the "Guidelines For The Committee on Nominations" found in the *Manual of Authorities and Duties*, to be sure the nominee meets the standards established by Synod.
3. That each Session, Pastor, Board and Committee make a greater effort to identify qualified persons who are willing to serve on the various Boards and Committees of Synod, and to submit the names of these individuals to the Committee On Nominations.
4. That the General Synod authorize \$3,500 for Committee expenses in 2000.

Respectfully submitted,  
H. Max Bolin, Chairman

A motion carried the Minutes be adopted without reading, and that the final roll call be waived.

A motion carried that Moderator Pearson be commended for his leadership of the 195th meeting of the General Synod. The court rose in appreciation, and applauded.

The Moderator expressed his appreciation to all those who contributed to the meeting of the 195th session.

The motion to adjourn prevailed.

The Synod sang the song of Christian Unity, Psalm 133.

The Scriptural Benediction was pronounced by Moderator Pearson.

Respectfully Submitted,  
D. L. Pearson, Moderator  
J. W. Brice, Vice-Moderator  
C. R. Beard, Principal Clerk  
C.F. Edgar, Reading Clerk  
W, E. Kirkpatrick, Bill Clerk  
J. D. Cook, Assistant Clerk  
A. K. Putnam, Parliamentarian