

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON
*EVANGELISM AND
HIGHER EDUCATION*

09

*PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
216TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY (2004)*

[The full text of the items referred to this committee may be found in the Reports to the General Assembly under tab 09.]

*Moderator: Jeanne McIver
Vice Moderator: William Teng*

There are recommendations contained in this report that will be moved as part of a consent agenda. Such items are marked with an asterisk (“*”) and are so indicated in the Table of Contents below.

There are recommendations contained in this report that have financial implications and are indicated with a “\$” sign next to the item. The details of the financial implication are provided with the item in the context of the report, and are so indicated in the Table of Contents below.

Table of Contents

Item 09-01 p. 1	Item 09-07p. 3 * \$	Item 09-13 p. 5 \$
Item 09-02 p. 2	Item 09-08p. 3 \$	Item 09-14 p. 5
Item 09-03 p. 2 *	Item 09-09p. 3	Item 09-15 p. 4
Item 09-04 p. 2 *	Item 09-10p. 4 *	
Item 09-05 p. 2 *	Item 09-11p. 5 *	
Item 09-06 p. 3 *	Item 09-12p. 5 \$	

The Assembly Committee on Evangelism and Higher Education recommends that the 216th General Assembly (2004) approve the following recommendations:

Immigrant Fellowships

**Item 09-01. On Amending G-9.0503 Regarding Voice and Vote for Immigrant Fellowships—
From the Presbytery of Des Moines. *ACC +OGA +ACREC**

That the recommendation be approved with amendment:[Text to be deleted is shown with a strike-through with brackets; text to be added or inserted in shown with an underline and with brackets.]

June 29, 2004, 8:47 PM

“a. For immigrant fellowships the presbytery may, if it determines that its strategy for mission with that constituency requires it, grant [designated leader(s) of] a fellowship voice and vote in the meetings of presbytery on an annual basis.”

Vote: 42/3/1

Item 09-02. On Amending G-9.0503 Regarding Recognizing Leaders of Immigrant Fellowships as Elders—From the Presbytery of Des Moines. *ACC +OGA +ACREC

That the recommendation be approved with amendment: [Text to be deleted is shown with a strike-through with brackets; text to be added or inserted in shown with an underline and with brackets.]

*“**(b) For immigrant fellowships with roots in the Reformed tradition, if the presbytery determines (1) that its strategy for mission with that constituency requires it and (2) that the chosen lay leadership of the immigrant fellowship is equivalent to elders and session, then the presbytery or its administrative commission may recognize that status as equivalent and proceed to ~~ordain~~ [recognize] those leaders as elders. In making this determination the presbytery shall be guided by written criteria developed by the presbytery. These criteria shall be based upon the description of the nature of ordained office found in G-6.0100 and G-6.0300.”***

Vote: 41/4/1

Transfers/Unions

***Item 09-03. On Uniting Churches in Philip, South Dakota to Form a Union Church, the United Church of Philip—From the Presbytery of South Dakota.**

That the recommendation be approved.

Vote: 46/0/0

***Item 09-04. On Transferring the Korean Presbyterian Church of Staten Island from the Presbytery of New York City to the Eastern Korean Presbytery—From the Presbytery of New York City.**

That the recommendation be approved.

Vote: 47/0/0

***Item 09-05. On Approving the Transfer of Trinity Presbyterian Church, Fairfield, Ohio, from the Presbytery of Miami to the Presbytery of Cincinnati—From the Synod of the Covenant.**

That the recommendation be approved.

Vote: 45/0/1

Evangelism

Item 09-06. *Alpha—From a Reformed Perspective.

1. That recommendation 1 be approved.

Vote: 44/2/0

2. That recommendation 2 be approved.

Vote: 45/1/0

*** \$ Item 09-07. On Encouraging National, Presbytery, and Synod Leaders to Foster Evangelism—From the Presbytery of the Trinity. +OGA +ACREC**

That the recommendation be approved.

Vote: 41/3/2

[Financial Implications: 2004: \$4,250; (Per Capita-OGA)]

\$ Item 09-08. On Undertaking the Publication of a Mission Magazine that Would use the Powerful Voice of American Youth—From the Presbytery of Huntingdon. +GAC

That the recommendation be referred to the General Assembly Council with comment:

Comment: We ask that the General Assembly Council seriously address the need for a youth-oriented publication that is both copy and Web-based form containing the elements found in Item 09-08 and seek funding for such a venture.

We ask that the General Assembly Council report on this matter to the 217th General Assembly (2006).

We thank the Presbytery of Huntingdon for bringing this matter to our attention and commend the youth of our denomination for seeking this publication.

Vote: 42/4/0

[Original Financial Implications: 2006: \$706,588 (Mission-Unrestricted)]

[Committee Action: 2006: \$0]

Item 09-09. On Taking Decisive Action to Recover from the Decline in Membership and Development of Ministry and Mission--From the Presbytery of Mackinac.

That the recommendation be approved with amendments: [Text to be deleted is shown with a strike-through with brackets; text to be added or inserted in shown with an underline and with brackets.]

“1. That the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) take decisive action to initiate decisions that will lead to ~~[the PC(USA)’s recovery from its decline in membership]~~ [growth] and development of ministry and mission.

June 29, 2004, 8:47 PM

“2. That the General Assembly, synods, presbyteries, and congregations reaffirm [as its first priority, ~~the fulfillment of~~] the goal of [~~recovery~~] [growth] of membership and development of ministry and mission of this church.

“3. That the whole church embrace, fund, and implement the goals of the mission initiative JOINING HEARTS AND HANDS-A Campaign to Renew the Church for Mission as the initial initiative to [~~reover~~] [growth in] membership and develop ministry and mission of this church.

“4. That the PC (USA) mobilize itself with continued and fervent prayer for the Holy Spirit to be poured out on our church for increase.”

Vote: 43/0/0

Item 09-15. On Directing NMD to Develop a Plan for Resourcing and Funding Evangelism with Racial Ethnic Persons and Persons of Limited Economic Resources—From the Presbytery of Miami. +ACREC

That the recommendation be approved with amendment and comment:

Amendment: [Text to be deleted is shown with a strike-through with brackets; text to be added or inserted in shown with an underline and with brackets.]

“The 216th General Assembly (2004) to direct the National Ministries Division to develop a comprehensive plan for [~~resourcing~~] [accessing resources] and [~~for~~] funding evangelism with racial ethnic persons and persons of limited economic resources, including but not limited to coordination between Racial Ethnic Ministries and Evangelism and Church Development for funding and resources.”

Comment: The challenge of the implementation of the racial/immigrant church growth strategy must never be considered as a program of racial ministries program area, or as coming from the racial ethnic church, rather from the while church that sees itself under a mandate to be an inclusive church.

Vote: 43/0/0

Education

*** Item 09-10. List of Colleges and Secondary Schools.**

That the recommendation be approved.

Vote: 46/0/0

***Item 09-11. On Supporting the Association of Presbyterian Schools (APS)—From the Presbytery of Mississippi. +ACSWP**

That the recommendation be approved.

Vote: 43/3/0

\$ Item 09-12. On Recognizing Bloomfield College as a Racial Ethnic College Related to the PC(USA)—From the Presbytery of Newark. Concurrence: Presbytery of New Brunswick. +GAC

That the recommendation be referred to the General Assembly Council, National Ministries Division (NMD), with comment:

Comment: That the NMD (1) consider the special circumstances of Bloomfield College as an historic institution in the Synod of the Northeast; and (2) consider ways in which Bloomfield College might be admitted to a list of racial-ethnic colleges in a way that would not diminish the funding to other institutions.

Vote: 43/3/0

[Original Financial Implications: 2005: \$290,870; 2006: \$290,870 (Mission Budget-Restricted)]

[Committee Action: 2005: \$0; 2006: \$0]

\$ Item 09-13. On Improved Education for African American and Other Students Placed At-Risk for an Excellent Education—From the Presbytery of National Capital. +GAC +ACREC

1. That Recommendation 1. be approved with comment.

Comment: The National Ministries Division consider using the Pentecost Offering for youth and young adults at risk for some funding.

2. That Recommendations 2. through 10. be referred to the General Assembly Council, National Ministries Division, so that a feasible plan can be developed to address the central concerns of this overture; with a report being made to the 217th General Assembly (2006).

Vote: 45/0/0

[Original Financial Implications: 2005: \$150,412; 2006: \$88,059; 2007: \$97,865; 2008: \$373,290 (Mission-Unrestricted/Restricted)]

[Committee Action: 2005: \$0; 2006: \$0; 2007: \$0; 2008: \$0]

Other

Item 09-14. On Recognizing Ms. Dianne Davis and Constructores Para Cristo for Their Christian Ministry in Mexico—From the Presbytery of New Harmony. +GAC

That the recommendation be disapproved with comment:

Comment: The General Assembly recognizes the legitimacy of the needs being addressed and encourages the discipleship and witness of Presbyterians in ministering to that need. Thousands of Presbyterians are following the leadership of the Lord in mission and their efforts are bearing great fruit. It is commendable that presbyteries are celebrating this fact.

Vote: 44/1/1