



THE ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Rev. Hank L. Belfield STATED CLERK | statedclerk@opc.org

September 7, 2021

To the Ministers, Sessions, and Presbyteries of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church
VIA EMAIL ATTACHMENT

Dear Fathers and Brothers in Christ,

The following is important information of which all ministers, sessions, and presbyteries should be aware.

ABOUT FINANCIAL REQUESTS FROM GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR 2022

Here is a summary of the various per-communicant requests made or suggested to the churches which was adopted by the 87th (2021) General Assembly for the ministries and operational needs of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church in 2022:

Worldwide Outreach = \$196*
Diaconal Ministries, General Fund = \$30
Ministerial Care = \$20.00
The General Assembly Operation Fund = \$22
The General Assembly Travel Fund = \$12

** This per-communicant member figure is the Stated Clerk's calculation based on the statistician's report of total communicant membership in the OPC, year ending 2020. It is not a figure adopted by the General Assembly. The amount for WWO for 2022 adopted by the General Assembly is \$4,575,300.00.*

This information, along with directions on how and where to send these funds, may also be found on the General Assembly page of OPC.org located under the item link entitled "Summary of requests for giving made by the 87th (2021) General Assembly to Orthodox Presbyterian Churches for 2022." The link URL is <https://www.opc.org/GA/GArequests2022.pdf>.

ABOUT THE NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The 88th General Assembly is scheduled to be held on the campus of Eastern University, 1300 Eagle Road, St. Davids, Pennsylvania 19087, beginning with a worship service at 7 P.M. on Wednesday, June 8, 2022, and concluding no later than noon on Tuesday, June 14, 2022.

HOW AND WHEN PRESBYTERIES ARE TO CERTIFY COMMISSIONERS TO THE 88th GA

The 87th General Assembly voted to remind presbyteries to notify the Stated Clerk of names, addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of commissioners to the 88th General Assembly by March 1 (per Standing Rule X.2.h.3), and that when making air travel arrangements commissioners must arrive and depart within the announced time frame or discuss their travel arrangements with a member of the Committee on Arrangements before booking their flight.

So, by way of reminder, please notify the Stated Clerk and the Committee on Arrangements of the full names (including middle initial), mailing addresses, phone numbers, and e-mails of commissioners no later than **March 1, 2022**.

Please send all contact information on your presbytery's commissioners to the following:

The Orthodox Presbyterian Church
The Rev. Hank L. Belfield, Stated Clerk
607 North Easton Rd., Building E
Willow Grove, PA 19090-2539
E-mail: statedclerk@opc.org

The Committee on Arrangements
Mr. David T. Mahaffy, Chairman
426 W. Pleasant Place
Coupeville, WA 98239
E-mail: davidmahaffy@gmail.com

ABOUT THE DEADLINE FOR RECEIVING APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE 88th (2022) GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Per GA Standing Rules V.13, appeals and complaints, together with the basic relevant records and papers, are to be in the hands of the Stated Clerk in quadruplicate or in a digital form acceptable to the Stated Clerk, eight weeks prior to the Assembly, that is, no later than **April 13, 2022**.

CONCERNING FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM CANADIAN CONGREGATIONS

The 86th (2019) General Assembly determined to encourage Canadian congregations, should they have funds for use in support of missions or Christian education, to consult with the Committee on Coordination in order to determine the best method of supporting the church's proclamation of the gospel beyond the Canadian border. Particularly until there may be one or more OPC presbyteries in Canada, it seemed wise to that Assembly to recommend that the mechanisms for such use will have to be developed on an ad hoc basis and that the Committee on Coordination is best situated to offer that assistance. This encouragement to Canadian congregations remains in effect.

ABOUT THE OPC'S EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

Please remember that under no circumstances should any congregation or agency of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church use the OPC's Employer Identification Number (EIN) or Tax Identification Number (TIN) in its dealings with the Internal Revenue Service regarding payrolls, social security taxes, withheld Federal income taxes, etc. These reference numbers are exclusively for the use of the Trustees of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church in maintaining the denomination's tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. If advice to the contrary is received concerning the use of either of these numbers, please do nothing before contacting the Stated Clerk.

PROVIDING ADDRESS AND STATUS CHANGES OF MINISTERS AND CHURCHES

Please keep me, as the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, informed when ministers are received or dismissed, when new ministers are ordained and installed, and when churches and mission works are organized or started. Please consider making **November 1, 2021**, a special deadline to send me this kind of information so there is enough time to include it in the *2022 OPC Directory* which it goes to print in mid-November. If you fail to meet this suggested deadline, I cannot guarantee the information will be included in the publication for 2022.

ABOUT MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR 2021

Because the 87th General Assembly met a month later than usual this year and because there was an exceptional amount of follow-up correspondence to be written on the many appeals and complaints which came before the Assembly due to its postponement resulting from the COVID pandemic, the printed *Minutes of the Eighty-seventh General Assembly* will not be available before most of the presbyteries hold their fall meeting. My hope is to have the printed minutes sent out in mid to late October; however, an electronic copy of the minutes will be emailed to the stated clerks of the presbyteries no later than September 15 to ensure each presbytery has access to the information for their fall stated meetings. Thank you for your patience with me in getting this project completed. I hope to do better next year when there is not so much correspondence work to be done following the Assembly.

May God bless your labors for His kingdom during the coming year.

Sincerely in Christ,



Hank L. Belfield
Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of
The Orthodox Presbyterian Church