



MINUTES
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
Presbyterian Church in Ireland

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LONDONDERRY, 2013

MINUTES
OF THE
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
General Assembly
OF THE
Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Held at Londonderry, June, 2013

FIRST SESSION

Monday, 3rd June, 2013

7.00 pm

Within The Millenium Forum

The Right Rev Dr Roy A Patton, Moderator of the General Assembly, led in public worship and addressed those present before constituting the Assembly with prayer.

The Clerk announced that the names of 616 ministers being ex officio members and 457 elders on whose behalf commissions had been received, had been entered on the Roll of the Assembly, together with 47 Assembly Elders, Conveners and nominees of the Business Board. In addition 225 people in various categories, not members of the court, have been invited to sit and deliberate, 14 of whom are from other Churches.

The following Ministers and Ruling Elders were present at the Annual Meeting:—

LONDONDERRY ASSEMBLY

1. ARDS PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
Dr. R. Sterritt .....	.....	Greenwell St., N'ards
Dr. W.P. Addley .....	.....	Theological Professor
W.T. Cordner .....	.....	First Bangor
Dr. D.J. Watt .....	.....	Clerk
Dr. D.R. Purce	I. Kinnaird	Groomspout
Dr. R.A. Russell .....	.....	Ballywalter
Dr. S.N. Williams	+Mrs. J. Mann	Theological Professor
R.J. Montgomery	Miss P. Hassard	Trinity, Bangor
T.W.D. Johnston	G. Nesbitt	Hamilton Rd., Bangor
Dr. R.A. Patton	A. Vance	Ballygilbert
S.A. Little	J. Cole	Shore Street, Donaghadee
C.W. Megaw	Mrs. A. Murray	Helen's Bay
J. Campbell	R. Whiteford	First Newtownards
Helen S. Boyd .....	.....	Millisle & Ballycopeland
D.M. Spratt .....	.....	First Bangor Assoc.
C.J.C. McMullen	Dr. M. Bennett	West Church, Bangor
W.G. Cameron	W. Taylor	Glastry
-do-	L. Finlay	Kirkcubbin
J.M. Wade	T. Kennedy	Portavogie
Dr. W.J.A. Sleith	R. Martin	Regent St., Newtownards
J.H. Flaherty	Miss M. Startin	Millisle & Ballycopeland
P.C. Lyle	Ms. M. Smyth	Ballyholme
A.M. Bates	W. Moore	Scрабо
A.W. Carson	N. Fitzsimmons	Strean, Newtownards
R.J. Stevenson .....	.....	Carrowdore & Ballyfrenis
G.J. Kennedy .....	.....	Ballygrainey
.....	A. Warden	Ballyblack
D.W. Leach	+A. Dalzell	Hamilton Road Assoc.
M. Catney .....	.....	St. Andrew's, Bangor
C.G. Anderson	J. Gibson	First Donaghadee
.....	Ms. A. Lang	First Bangor
.....	K. Hughes	Cloughy

2. ARMAGH PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
Dr. J. Thompson .....	.....	The Mall, Armagh
T.A. Moore .....	.....	Hill Street, Lurgan
J. Gordon .....	.....	Second Keady
-do-	H. Mitchell	Drumhillery
C.G. Harris	T.D. Sandford	Ahorey
-do-	N.H. Cully	Clare
Dr. J.S. Carson	J. McKittrick	First Portadown
A.D. Davidson	Mrs. S. Somerville	First Armagh
Christina U.R. Bradley	T.J. Smart	Armagh
Road, Portadown		

R.I.A. Allely .....	.....	Craigavon; Vinecash
T.A. McNeely	O. Milligan	Richhill
D.J. Hutchinson	D. Riddell	Moy
-do- .....	.....	Benburb
N.J. McCullough	K. Belshaw	Hill Street, Lurgan
P.D. Thompson .....	.....	Waringstown
S.D. Finlay .....	.....	Druminnis
-do- .....	.....	Redrock
P.L. McKelvey	J. MacQueen	Loughgall
-do-	N. Cornett	Tartaraghan
B. Reid .....	.....	Caledon
-do- .....	.....	Minterburn
.....	T. Geary	Armaghbrague
Dr. M. McClenahan	H. Dunwoody	Lislooney
-do-	G. Diffin	Knappagh

3. BALLYMENA PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
W.J.A. Armstrong .....	.....	Second Broughshane
Dr. J.M. Finlay .....	.....	Harryville, Ballymena
Dr. R.I. Birney .....	.....	High Kirk, Ballymena
D. Knowles .....	.....	Grange with Craigmore
J.J. Andrews	J. Lamont	Ballee
W.F. Dickey .....	.....	First Broughshane
A.A.P. Baxter	W. Bristow	First Portglenone
A.L. Kirk	W. Graham	First Ahoghill
J.A. Beattie	C. Ross	Second Broughshane
D.J. Kane	E. McConnell	West Church, B'mena
W.B. Boyd	R. Carson	Kells
-do-	*D. McConnell	Esskylane
.....	E. Douglas	Cunningham Memorial
W. Sinclair .....	.....	First Ballymena
N.A.L. Cameron	Ms. A. Taylor	High Kirk, Ballymena
M.J.R. Neilly	J. Ballentine	Buckna
R.M. Murray	A. Greer	Connor
J.C. Simms	F. Kyle	Rasharkin
.....	L. Cromie	Brookside, Ahoghill
C.K. McDowell .....	.....	Killymurriss
D.B. McCorry	T. Kerr	Ballyloughan
M.D. McNeely .....	.....	Ballykeel
W.E. Chestnutt	J. Suitters	Harryville, Ballymena
D.C. Millar	I. Johnston	Grange with Craigmore
N.G. Mulholland	T. Moorehead	Glenwherry
B.A. Smyth	H. Hamill	Trinity, Ahoghill
R.H. Houston	+Dr. S. Paul	High Kirk, Assoc.
.....	R. Dickey	Third Portglenone
.....	R. Keys	Wellington, Ballymena
.....	*T. Montgomery	Cairnalbana

4. NORTH BELFAST PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
R. Allen .....	.....	Rathcoole
Dr. J. Dunlop .....	.....	Rosemary
Dr. J.P. Taylor .....	.....	Theological Principal
T.V. Patterson .....	.....	Immanuel
J.N. Seawright	Ms. T. Coffey	Abbey, Monkstown
.....	R. Dalzell	Woodvale
R.S. Hetherington	+H. Orr	Director of Min. Studies
.....	D. Keaveney	Rathcoole
J.R. Dickinson	R. Manson	Carnmoney
T.C. Morrison	D. Crowe	Eglinton
D.W. Brice	B. Marshall	Glengormley
Dr. T.N. Hamilton	Mrs. A. Henderson	Ballysillan
I.D. Neish	G. Weatherall	Abbot's Cross
W.A. Abernethy .....	.....	Sinclair Seamen's
S. Elizabeth Hughes	J. Newell	Whitehouse
J.S.B. Drennan .....	.....	Crumlin Road
Margaret L. Johnston .....	.....	Fortwilliam Park
P.G. McCrea	W. Bennett	Rosemary
Dr. Lesley E. Carroll	Miss M. Torrens	Fortwilliam & Macrory
R.N. Agnew .....	.....	West Kirk
B. McMillen	W. McCreedy	Ballygomartin
D.H. Thompson	+T. McWatters	BMI Mission Dev. Officer
.....	G. McCrory	Seaview
.....	E. Beck	Immanuel
Cheryl A. Meban .....	.....	Chaplain
U.U. J'stown & Belfast	.....	.....
A.V. Stewart	E. Kerrs	Whiteabbey
.....	D. McConkey	Alexandra
N.S.R. Lockhart	M. Lutton	Ballyhenry
D.J. McIlwaine .....	.....	Newington
D.F. Leal .....	.....	Cliftonville Road (Church Plant)
D. Clawson	R.A. Thompson	West Kirk

5. SOUTH BELFAST PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
Dr. D.C. Irwin .....	.....	McCracken Memorial
Dr. K.N.E. Newell .....	.....	Fitzroy Avenue
Dr. D.J. McKelvey	Mrs. H. McKelvey	Fisherwick
W.P.H. Erskine .....	.....	Windsor
W.J. Orr .....	.....	Newtownbreda
.....	+Miss J.P. Gamble	Restoration Ministries
Dr. I. Hart	W. Elliott	Gt. Victoria Street
Dr. W.I. Hull .....	.....	Ulsterville
M.S. Gault .....	.....	Cooke Centenary
A.R. Bill	D. Henderson	Saintfield Road

.....	Miss E. McClean	Townsend Street
Dr. R.M. Crooks .....	.....	Belvoir
Dr. W.G. Campbell	+B. Milligan	Theological Professor
.....	Ms. P. Drummond.....	Fitzroy Avenue
T.J. Wilson.....	.....	Kilmakee
.....	+D. McCleery.....	Taughmonagh (Ch. Ext.)
J.R. Burnett .....	.....	Lowe Memorial (Finaghy)
J.A. Peacock.....	.....	Youth Link NI
A.T. Wimberly.....	Mrs. A. Kernohan	McCracken Memorial
.....	S. Gilbert	Ballycairn
.....	+Mrs. R. Wilson	QUB Chaplain, Dean of
.....	.....	Residence, Derryvolgie
G.R. Connor	A. McMullan	Dunmurry
Anne E. Tolland	Mrs. C. Pollock.....	Newtownbreda

6. EAST BELFAST PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
J.M. Maddock .....	.....	Carryduff
R.D. Drysdale.....	.....	Belmont
Dr. J.R. Savage .....	.....	Stormont
Dr. I.A. McKay .....	.....	Dundonald
Dr. H.A. Dunlop.....	.....	Knock
W. McKeown .....	.....	Ravenhill
.....	J. Dowd.....	Orangefield
Joan Scott.....	.....	Missionary
J.N.I. McNeely	J. Campbell.....	First Holywood
P.P. Campbell	J. Erskine	Belmont
.....	Miss E. Warnock	St. Andrew's
.....	+J. Cardoo	Chaplain Marie Curie
F.P. Sellar.....	J. McKibbin.....	Bloomfield
W.S. Marrs	+M. Hampton	B.M.O. Secretary
A.C. Rankin	Mrs. R. Hunter.....	Stormont
.....	T.D. Mahood	Cregagh
M.R. Burnside	W. Moore	Castlereagh
.....	J. Black	High Street, Holywood
S.P. Moore	Miss H. Gowdy	Gilnahirk
D.T. Moore .....	.....	Knock
R.J. Beggs	Mrs. L. Wray	McQuiston Mem.
J.R. Lambe	Ms. M. Grayson.....	Mountpottinger
W.M. Brown.....	T. McCullough	Granshaw
D. Rankin .....	.....	Strand
.....	S. Harbinson	Dundonald
.....	J. Dempster	Westbourne
C. Burcombe	Miss I. Scott.....	Mersey Street
P.G. McDowell.....	.....	Garnerville
C. Ebbinghaus	P. Gilpin.....	Kirkpatrick Mem.
R.S.J. McIlhatton .....	.....	Christ Church, Dundonald
B.J. Walker	+Ms. L. Gould	Knock Assoc.
G. Fowles	J. Patterson	Ravenhill
.....	H. Mornin.....	Tullycarnet

7. CARRICKFERGUS PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
D. Armstrong.....	.....	Greenisland
W.J. Johnstone.....	.....	Craig Hill
T.J. Stothers.....	.....	Greenisland
R.J.A. Bell.....	M. Fisher.....	Ballyclare
T.D. Gribben.....	+N. Carmichael.....	Deputy Clerk
.....	R. Kennedy.....	Woodburn
T.R. Graham.....	Ms. R. McFarland.....	Joymount
Dr. C.D. McClure.....	Mrs. B. Moore.....	First Larne
Gabrielle A.J. Farquhar.....	M. Farquhar.....	Ballycarry
.....	B. Clenaghan.....	Craig Hill
G.W.M. Glasgow.....	R. Beedham.....	Gardenmore
R.I. Carton.....	.....	Whitehead
J.W.D. Rogers.....	R. Wallace.....	Ballynure
J.E. McDowell.....	.....	Ballylinney
Heather M. Rendell.....	.....	Chaplain to Forces
T.N. Bingham.....	W. Workman.....	Magheramore
-do-.....	.....	Raloo
.....	J. Robinson.....	Cairncastle
.....	R. Downie.....	Downshire, Carrickfergus
.....	R. Nelson.....	First Islandmagee

8. COLERAINE & LIMAVADY PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
Dr. W.W. Porter.....	.....	Moneydig
Dr. D.H. Allen.....	.....	New Row, Coleraine
Dr. J. Frazer.....	.....	Ballywillan
V. Whyte.....	.....	Macosquin
J. Clarke.....	.....	Balteagh; Bovevagh
A.McM. Kerr.....	.....	Aghadowey; Crossgar
S.J. Millar.....	.....	Hazelbank
Dr. D. Clarke.....	.....	Terrace Row, Coleraine
N. Ward.....	.....	Banagher
.....	D. McClure.....	Ballywatt
T.S. Lindsay.....	.....	First Garvagh
D.S. Irwin.....	.....	Drumachose; Derramore
J.A. McCaughan.....	Dr. K. Moles.....	First Dunboe
T.J. McCormick.....	N. McQuillan.....	First Kilrea
-do-.....	J. Gilmore.....	Boveedy
.....	A. Warke.....	Portrush
T.P. Fleming.....	J.A. Cassells.....	First Coleraine
R. Kelly.....	F. Smyth.....	Main St., Garvagh
-do-.....	.....	Killaig
R.S. McMullan.....	G. McClay.....	New Row, Coleraine
M. Goudy.....	.....	Macosquin
Dr. C. Glass.....	.....	Dungiven
-do-.....	J. Donaghy.....	Largy

T.D. Allen.....	R. Kyle	Ballyrashane
Dr. R.A. Kane.....	.....	Aghadowey
-do-.....	.....	Crossgar
A.W.T. Brown	J. Cairns	Terrace Row, Coleraine
Dr. S.D.H. Williamson	A. Mark	Ballywillan
T.J. Lavery	N. Lyttle.....	Portstewart
A.T.F. Johnston	Ms. R.M. Ramsey.....	Hazelbank
C.J. Aitcheson	H. Andrews.....	Castlerock
J.G. Jones .....	.....	Second Limavady
-do-.....	P. McGregor	Myroe
R.D. Gregg	R. Taylor.....	Burnside
S.A. McCracken.....	R. Gault	Drumachose
-do-.....	J. Pudney	Derramore
.....	I. Cameron	Second Dunboe
.....	A. Crowe	Ringsend
M.E. Donald.....	D. Torrens	First Garvagh
A. McConnell.....	O. Murphy	First Limavady
-do-.....	.....	Magilligan
.....	I. Montgomery.....	Banagher
.....	J.A. McAleese	Moneydig

9. DERRY & DONEGAL PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
S.J. Gray.....	.....	Faughanvale; Gortnessy
J.M. Cathcart .....	.....	Waterside; Fahan
J. Fell.....	.....	Ebrington; Inch
J. Lamont.....	.....	Carrigart; Dunfanaghy
D. Hillen.....	R. McNeely	Magheramason
G.P. Young.....	.....	Moville
-do-.....	.....	Greenbank
J.K. McCormick.....	.....	Second Derry
.....	.....	(Strand & Buncrana); Burt
S.J. Hanna	W. McClay.....	Glendermott
Dr. R.L. Craig.....	A. Kydd	Kilfennan
Dr. D. Latimer.....	D. Lee	First Derry & Claremont
-do-.....	.....	Monreagh
Dr. S.R. Jones.....	T. Allen	Donemana
Dr. B. Brown	G. Hunter	Raphoe & Ballindrait
Dr. T.R. Buick	G. Barr	Carlisle Road
-do-.....	.....	Crossroads
J.L. Blair.....	.....	Faughanvale
A.J.A. Rosborough.....	R. Mitchell.....	Ballyarnett
-do-.....	F. Long.....	Knowhead
S.J. Richmond	Ms. P. Perry	Donegal
.....	A. Wilson.....	Ebrington
K.A. Jones.....	Dr. C. Hamilton.....	Waterside
-do-.....	J. Lamberton.....	Fahan
A.C. Wilson.....	Miss A. Neill	Ballykelly
Amanda Best	D. Borland	Ramelton
-do-.....	.....	Kilmacrennan
D.M. Shaw	W. Watson.....	Strabane
N.D. Craig.....	C. McElhinney	Ray

-do-	Mrs. R. McClean	Newtowncunningham
C.M. Wilson	M. McKean.....	Ballylennon
-do-	I. Tinney	St. Johnston
M.F. Russell	S. Clyde	Leckpatrick
.....	E. Borland.....	Fannet
.....	J. Buchanan	Milford
C. McKibbin .....	.....	Donoughmore
-do- .....	.....	Carnone
-do- .....	.....	Convoy
T.J. Bruce	A. Speer.....	Letterkenny
-do- .....	.....	Trenta
M.W.J. Mckeown	+D. McClay.....	Kilfennan Assistant
.....	R. Henderson	Stranorlar
.....	Ms. J. Buchanan	Carrigart
.....	Mrs. E. Montgomery	Dunfanaghy
.....	Ms. B. Smith.....	Malin
.....	J. Buchanan	Burt
.....	J. McFarland.....	Upper Cumber

10. DOWN PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
R.G. Johnston.....	.....	First Saintfield
T.W. Gordon.....	.....	First Comber
R.McM. Mackay	R. Courtenay.....	Second Comber
A.S. Smyth	M. Patterson	Carryduff
B.A. Small.....	W.C.D. Morrow	Raffrey
D. Stanfield	+N. Jackson	Youth Link NI
Mairisine Stanfield	G. Bleakley	First Ballynahinch
Dr. B.C.G. Black	J. Hanna.....	Ballygowan
D.J. Hyndman .....	.....	Spa
-do- .....	.....	Magherahamlet
R.I. Abraham .....	.....	Lissara
M.M. Stewart	F. Johnston.....	Clough
-do- .....	.....	Seaforde
.....	Mrs. A. Gilmore	First Killyleagh
.....	B. McConnell	Edengrove
Lesley-Ann Wilson	+D. Milligan.....	First Comber, Assoc.

11. DROMORE PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
D. McConaghy .....	.....	Cargycreevy & Loughaghy
Dr. S. Hutchinson.....	.....	Clerk of Assembly
Dr. R.S. Tosh .....	.....	B.B.C.
D.C. Porter .....	.....	Second Dromara
J.I. Davey	Mrs. G. Davin.....	Hillsborough
D.B. Knox	S. Buchanan.....	Harmony Hill, Lambeg
G.B.S. Gibson .....	.....	Railway St. Lisburn
J. Brackenridge	P. Reid.....	First Lisburn

D.J. Bruce.....	+G Lindsay	B.M.I. Secretary
A.S. Thompson	B. Copes	First Dromara
D.H. Gilpin.....	B. Lyness	Moirá
.....	H. Gamble	First Dromore
R.A. McLernon	W. Gordon	Drumbo
.....	Ms. M. Ferguson	St. Columba's, Lisburn
W.J. Henry.....	B. Adams	Maze
-do.....	.....	Ballinderry
R.A. Liddle.....	P. Brown	Legacurry
R.D. Cameron .....	.....	Prison Chaplain
A.J. Thompson .....	.....	Elmwood
.....	A. McCullagh.....	Magheragall
K.W.J. Hanna .....	.....	Second Dromara
P. Jamieson.....	Miss L. Smyth	Hillhall
G. McFadden.....	.....	Drumlough
-do.....	.....	Anahilt
L.A. Patterson .....	.....	Cargycreevy
-do.....	I. McAuley	Loughaghery
A. Faulkner.....	K. Irvine	Sloan Street, Lisburn

12. DUBLIN & MUNSTER PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
A.V. Martin .....	.....	Abbey
R. Cobain.....	.....	Galway & Ballinasloe
G.D. Campbell	Mrs. I. Moore	St. Andrew's, Blackrock
-do.....	.....	Bray
Dr. T.W.J. Morrow .....	.....	Lucan
J.G. Faris.....	H. Moreland	Trinity, Cork
-do.....	.....	Aghada
Dr. Katherine P. Meyer.....	S. Smyrl.....	Christ Church, Sandymount
C. Mary Hunter	Ms. J. Cowle.....	Christ Church, Rathgar
Dr. K.D. McCrory .....	.....	Maynooth
Dr. S. Mawhinney	J. Thompson	Adelaide Road
A.J. Boal	D. Colvin	Abbey, Dublin
D.J. Montgomery	R. McCarter.....	Greystones
Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie .....	.....	Clontarf & Scots
S.J. Lockington	*Ms. J. Binnie.....	Corboy
-do.....	.....	Mullingar
C.W.P. Kennedy .....	.....	Dun Laoghaire
A. Carrol .....	.....	Donabate (Church Plant)
W. Montgomery .....	.....	Fermoy
-do.....	.....	Cahir
.....	Ms. M. McKenna	Howth & Malahide

13. IVEAGH PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
Dr. S.A. Matthews.....	.....	Bannside
Dr. I.J. Patterson.....	Dr. J. Kyle.....	Newcastle

W.A. Watson .....	.....	Scarva St., Banbridge
.....	W.A. Black	Tandragee
R.A. Moffett	I. Williams	Donacloney
G.E. Best .....	.....	Newmills
Patricia A. McBride	R. Cupples	Loughbrickland
-do	G. Moorehead	Scarva
D.S. Mackay .....	.....	Magherally
Dr. M.C.A. Gray	Dr. D. McLeod	Bannside
W.B. Martin .....	.....	Garvagh
-do	J. Potts	Anaghlonge
M.N. Davidson	Dr. J.A.J. Chestnutt	Drumgooland
-do	T. Redmond	Kilkinamurry
K. Nelson	A. Forson	Castlewellan
-do .....	.....	Leitrim
T.P. McCullough	*R. Fowler	Ballyronney
-do	D. Bingham	Drumlee
R. McKibbin	L. Toal	Glascar
-do .....	.....	Donaghmore
S.W. Hibbert .....	.....	Tullylish
-do .....	.....	Gilford
T.T. Boyd .....	.....	First Rathfriland

14. MONAGHAN PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
D. Nesbitt .....	.....	First Ballybay; Second Ballybay; Rockcorry; Drumkeen
Dr. R.B. Savage .....	.....	Kells; Ervey
.....	Dr. A. Hunter	Corranearry
.....	L. McKeague	Trinity, Bailieborough
N.S. Millen	R. Truesdale	Dundalk & Castlebellingham
-do .....	.....	Carlingford
G. Jean Mackarel	K. Fleming	Drumkeeran
-do .....	.....	Killeshandra
-do	Ms. D. Allison	Cavan
-do .....	.....	Bellasis
D. Reyes-Martin	R. Gillanders	Ballyalbaney
-do .....	.....	Glennan
T.D. Hagan	D. McElnea	Middletown
-do	R. Boyd	Clontibret
W.J.A. Buchanan	R. Hanna	First Ballybay
-do	Ms. J. Rowlands	Second Ballybay
-do	L. Forster	Rockcorry
-do	D. McCollom	Drumkeen
R.S. Agnew .....	.....	First Monaghan
-do .....	.....	Smithborough
Molly Deatherage .....	.....	Ballina
-do .....	.....	Killala
-do .....	.....	Ballymote
D.T.R. Edwards .....	.....	Drum
-do	R.A. Sharpe	Cootehill

-do-.....	.....	Kilmount
.....	Ms. D. Holmes-Greer.....	First Castleblayney
.....	T. McBirney.....	Frankford
.....	S. Crawford.....	Newbliss

15. NEWRY PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
D.C. Scott.....	.....	Cremore; Tyrone Ditches
S.A. Finlay.....	T. McConnell.....	Annalong
Dr. M.A. Barry.....	S. Bond.....	First Newry
B.A.H. Wilson.....	J. Copeland.....	Second N'hamilton
-do-.....	C. Feely.....	Creggan
S.S. Johnston.....	G. McCullough.....	Kilkeel
R.K. Graham.....	D. Smyth.....	Clarksbridge & First Newtownhamilton
-do-.....	*A. Smyth.....	Garmany's Grove
-do-.....	W. Dickson.....	McKelvey's Grove
J.K.A. McIntyre.....	.....	Bessbrook
-do-.....	.....	Tyrone's Ditches
B.D. Colvin.....	Dr. H. McDowell.....	Downshire Rd., Newry
.....	U. Wright.....	Ryans
D.J. Irvine.....	P. Johnston.....	First, Second Markethill
N.J.E. Reid.....	G. Hamilton.....	Tullyallen
-do-.....	M. Agnew.....	Mountnorris

16. OMAGH PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
A. O'Neill.....	.....	Fintona; B'nahatty & Creewan
J.L. Casement.....	.....	Sixmilecross
Dr. J.W. Lockington.....	.....	Clogherney
J.F. Murdoch.....	.....	First Omagh
J.T. Williamson.....	.....	Urney; Sion
N.R. McCormick.....	.....	Ballygawley; Ballyreagh
I.T. McKee.....	Dr. C. Givan.....	Aughnacloy
-do-.....	D. Allen.....	Ballymagrane
R. Herron.....	M. McKnight.....	Trinity, Omagh
-do-.....	R. Smyth.....	Gillygooley
W.D. Cupples.....	R. Wilson.....	Enniskillen
R.B. Thompson.....	E. Crawford.....	Badoney; Corrick
-do-.....	.....	Glenelly
C.F.D. Clements.....	H. McKee.....	Irvinestown
-do-.....	N. Baxter.....	Pettigo
-do-.....	J. Dunlop.....	Tempo
I. McClean.....	.....	Ballygawley; Ballyreagh
J.H. Hanson.....	.....	Dromore
-do-.....	.....	Drumquin

H.J. Honeyford	Mrs. D. Watt	Second Castlederg
-do .....	.....	Alt
J.A. Gordon	E. Boland	Fintona
-do .....	.....	Ballynahatty & Creevan
D.W. Reid	V. Magee	Ardstraw
-do	A. McKelvey	Douglas
R.A. Campbell	D. Boyd	Clogher
-do	R. Mulligan	Glenhoy
C.I. Dickson .....	.....	Cavanaleck
-do	J. McCrory	Aughtentaine
C.W.A. Jones .....	.....	Chaplain to the Forces
R.G. McElnea	W.J. Baxter	Newtownstewart
-do	A. Adams	Gortin
R.N. Orr	J.H.G. Porter	First Castlederg
-do	R. McKelvey	Killeter
N.R.A. Cooper .....	.....	Ballygawley
-do	T. McDaniel	Ballyreagh
P.J. Nelson	N. Hagan	First Omagh
J. Cowan	J.A. Colhoun	Mountjoy
-do	M. Surphlis	Drumlegagh
R.S.G. Beacom .....	.....	Lisbellaw
-do .....	.....	Lisnaskea
-do .....	.....	Maguiresbridge
-do	Ms. I. Anderson	N't'nbutler
.....	R. Kidd	Sixmilecross
.....	Miss R. Kerr	Clogherney
.....	D. Bates	Seskinore
.....	A. Kyle	Edenderry

17. ROUTE PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
J. Hume .....	.....	Dunluce
Dr. A.W.G. Brown .....	.....	Ballycastle
J.T. Magowan .....	.....	St. James's, Ballymoney
Dr. J.A. Thompson .....	.....	Dervock
D.I.J. McNie .....	.....	Trinity, Ballymoney
N. McClean .....	.....	First Kilraughts
D. Bannerman .....	.....	Toberkeigh
H.W. Mullan	B. Blair	Drumreagh
-do .....	.....	Dromore
S.T. Carson .....	.....	Dunluce
K.D.W. Crowe	L. Neill	Bushvale
H.S.W. Cubitt .....	.....	St. James's, Ballymoney
K. Henderson	D. Kerr	Ballyweaney
Dr. M. Jones .....	.....	Roseyards
Dr. P.B. Wilson	D. Harding	Bushmills
P. Turton .....	.....	Armoiy
-do .....	.....	Ramoan
J.P. Stanbridge .....	.....	Ballycastle
-do .....	.....	Croaghmore
R.M. Moody	B. McConaghy	Garryduff
-do .....	.....	Dunloy

P. Douglas .....	.....	Toberkeigh
G.J. Maclean .....	.....	First Ballymoney
A. Buick	R.A. McIlroy	Dunluce

18. TEMPLEPATRICK PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
W.D. Weir .....	.....	Killead; Loanends
Dr. S.J. Dixon .....	.....	First Antrim
Dr. W.D. Patton	J. Walker	Randalstown O.C.
B. Kennaway .....	.....	Crumlin
G. Moore .....	.....	Kilbride
.....	+J. McClurg	Theological Professor
R.L. Brown .....	.....	Second Randalstown
J.L. Tosh	T. Duncan	Second Donegore
J. Holmes	G. Patton	First Randalstown
-do- .....	.....	Duneane
D.J. Paul	D.S. Lewis	Crumlin
W.J. Murdock	C. Suffern	Killead
-do-	Mrs. M. Thompson	Loanends
.....	N. McQuillan	Muckamore
S. Simpson	Ms. G. McCullagh	First Donegore
J.P. Moxen	Mrs. I. Lutton	Greystone Road, Antrim
E.S. McDowell	C. Davis	First Ballyeaston
W.J.M. Parker	H. Latimer	First Antrim
R.C. Kerr	D. McMullan	Templepatrick
.....	Dr. R.M. McMillen	Second Ballyeaston
D.J. Steele	T. McCullough	Dundrod
K. Campbell	Mrs. A. Bowden	Kilbride
.....	I. Liddle	Lylehill

19. TYRONE PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
Dr. A.R. Rodgers .....	.....	Dungannon
D.S. Graham .....	.....	First Magherafelt
I.F. Smith .....	.....	Orritor & Claggan
Dr. J.I. Thompson	P. Ferguson	First Cookstown
J.W. Fleck .....	.....	Upper; Lower Clonaneese
T.J. Conway .....	.....	Culnady
-do-	I. Bolton	Swatragh
T.W.A. Greer	R. Maxwell	Molesworth, Cookstown
Dr. K.O. Patterson	G. Stewart	Castledawson
-do-	R. Boyce	Curran
J.J. Currie .....	.....	Union Road, M'felt
-do-	W. Badger	Lecumpher
J.A. Curry	H. Stewart	First Magherafelt
S.J.M. Lindsay	A. Moore	Pomeroy
-do-	L. McIvor	Sandholes
D.H. Brown	I. Burns	Castlecaulfield

-do-	I. Nelson	Eglis
W.G. Hamilton	S. Black	Orritor
-do-	S. Crooks	Claggan
J.E. Sloan	N. Bruce	Bellaghy
-do- .....	.....	Knockloughrim
G.W.D. Stewart	Miss N. Anderson	Maghera
D.S. Brownlow	R. Wilkins	Newmills
-do-	G. Morrow	Carland
J.D. Montgomery	J. Davison	First Moneymore
-do- .....	.....	Second Moneymore
J.M. Gracey	H. Bownes	Coagh
-do- .....	.....	Ballygoney
-do-	Mrs. F. Cousley	Saltersland
W.I. Ferris .....	.....	First Stewartstown
-do- .....	.....	Brigh
-do- .....	.....	Albany
J.A. Spence	I. Duff	Upper Clonaneese
-do- .....	.....	Lower Clonaneese
.....	*O. Gibson	Tobermore

CLERKS OF PRESBYTERY - CODE PAR. 97(h)(iii)

D. Cowan

C.W.L. Graham

S. Ferguson

ELDERS OF ASSEMBLY - CODE PAR. 97(i), 107(a)

Mrs. C. Barkley

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY - (CODE PAR. 127(2)(A))

Mrs. B. McLeod

D. Poynton

W.K. Duncan

A.J. Spence

R. Tweed

Mrs. E.A. Warden

Mrs. I. Younge

**CONVENERS AND SECRETARIES WHO ARE ELDERS –
CODE PAR. 97(h)(i)(ii)**

L. Conway

J. Hunter

A.J. Rankin

T. Finnegan

T.R. Reid

N. Eves

BUSINESS BOARD NOMINATIONS CODE PAR. 97(j)

E. Christie

H. Plester

G. McConkey

J. Livingstone

Miss M. Cromie

Miss D. Draffin

Dr. R. Hamilton

Mrs. C. Poynton

RETIRED MISSIONARIES WHO ARE ELDERS CODE PAR. 97(c)

Miss L. Wasson

MISSIONARIES AT HOME WHO ARE ELDERS CODE PAR. 97(c)

R. McCartney

MISSIONARIES AT HOME WHO ARE NOT ELDERS

Mrs. H. McCartney

**CONVENERS AND SECRETARIES WHO ARE NOT ELDERS–
CODE PAR. 97 (H)(i)(ii)**

C. Knox

Mrs. L. Skinner

Mrs. P. McCullagh

Miss L. Beatty

Miss B. McDade

DEACONESSES WHO ARE NOT ELDERS

Miss R. Irvine

Mrs. M. Purdy

Miss K. Spence

RETIRED DEACONESSES AND WOMEN WORKERS

Mrs. F. Martin

Miss P. Shirley

Miss S. Swindle

LICENTIATES

A.M. Boreland

R.J. Collins

S.D. Conkey

T.A. Conway

M.J.O. Currie

A. Ditty

M.W. Dodds

Mrs. F.M.A. Forbes

J.W. Frazer

Mrs. H.M. Freeburn

A.J. Galbraith

S.M. Hamilton

Mrs. C.E. Heron

K.H. Hibbert

N.J. Kane

E. Kirwan

G.I. Linton

T.J. McConaghie

W.D.S. McCullagh
S.W. Moore
P. Orr
G.J. Simpson
N.D.H. Stewart

E. McKenzie
S.A. Morrow
B.S. Preston
R.M.P. Simpson

S. McNie
G. Orr
M. Proctor
N.L. Smyth

MINISTERS UNDER CARE OF PRESBYTERY

D.R. Baker
C.I. McKnight

M.C. Cowan
S. Stewart

Dr. V. Dobbin
Dr. M.J. Welsh

SPUD DELEGATES

A. Downey
J. Currie
O. Wilson

Miss H. Forsythe
Miss L. Hutchinson

Miss L. Burtney
Miss H. MacCauley

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

ARDS PRESBYTERY

Mrs. E. Cobain

ARMAGH PRESBYTERY

Ms. L. McMullan

Mrs. E. McIlwaine

BALLYMENA PRESBYTERY

Mrs. W. Bristow

Mrs. L. Murray

Mrs. E. Wright

NORTH BELFAST PRESBYTERY

Mrs. M. Manson

SOUTH BELFAST PRESBYTERY

Miss M. Angus

Dr. J. Shannon

EAST BELFAST PRESBYTERY

Ms. R. McCullough

CARRICKFERGUS PRESBYTERY

Mrs. K. Fisher

Mrs. I. Wallace

Mrs. M. McDowell

COLERAINE AND LIMAVADY PRESBYTERY

Mrs. M. Conn

Mrs. V. Millar

Mrs. N. Nixon

DERRY AND DONEGAL PRESBYTERY

Mrs. C. Edwards

Mrs. J. Faulkner

DOWN PRESBYTERY

Miss Z. McAllister

DROMORE PRESBYTERY

Mrs. J. Browne

DUBLIN & MUNSTER PRESBYTERY

Mrs. H. Campbell

Miss E. Barnett

IVEAGH PRESBYTERY

Mrs. R. Macauley

ROUTE PRESBYTERY

Mrs. M. McClean

TEMPLEPATRICK PRESBYTERY

Mrs. J. Duncan

Mrs. M. Watt

PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH

ARDS PRESBYTERY

Miss R. Spratt

ARMAGH PRESBYTERY

A. Mitchell

Ms. T. Kirkland

C. Boyd

BALLYMENA PRESBYTERY

J. Boyd

Miss L. Rankin

EAST BELFAST PRESBYTERY

P. Brown

DERRY AND DONEGAL PRESBYTERY

A. Lamberton

Ms. A. Buick

DOWN PRESBYTERY

Ms. S. Bicker

NEWRY PRESBYTERY

D. Gordon

TYRONE PRESBYTERY

D. Clarke

P. Leonard

The Moderator welcomed, on behalf of the Assembly, the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of the City of Londonderry, representatives of sister Churches, of educational and community organisations, and other special guests present.

The Moderator, having expressed thanks for the help he had received during the past year of office, asked the Assembly to proceed to the election and appointment of a successor to him in office for the ensuing year.

The Clerk submitted the nominations of Presbyteries for the Moderatorship as follows:-

The Rev Robert Lyle Craig	17 nominations
The Rev John Robert Dickinson	2 nominations

On the motion of the Rev JR Dickinson, seconded by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, the Rev Dr RL Craig was unanimously called to the Chair, welcomed by the retiring Moderator and commended to God in prayer.

The Right Rev Dr RL Craig addressed the House.

The sederunt came to a close at 8.40 pm, the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

SECOND SESSION

Tuesday, 4th June, 2013

9.30am

The Assembly convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

**BUSINESS
BOARD**

The Report of the **BUSINESS BOARD** (Reports pp 1-8) was submitted by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, together with the following Supplementary Report:

The Church of Ireland General Synod (2013)

The Very Rev Dr Ivan J Patterson reports:

1. The Church of Ireland Synod met in Armagh from 9 to 11 May 2013 and saw the Right Rev R Clarke, Archbishop of Armagh chair, in a gracious and masterly manner, his first Synod meeting since becoming Archbishop last October. In his first Presidential address he challenged members to explore different approaches to local ministry especially in those areas of the Church of Ireland, where the parish system was “creaking”. He said: “Whereas there is no point in dismantling an existing system before we can know that any alternative is better, can we look intelligently at a more flexible, even two-track approach in an interim period?” Dr Clarke said that the Commission on Ministry and a number of Bishops were putting some “concentrated thought” into whether more flexible models of local ministry might be developed experimentally alongside traditional models in some places. Speaking later to the *Gazette*, Dr Clarke explained that the “constraint of the parochial system were not always

appropriate to the missional needs of the Church and that consequently more flexibility was required.” Archbishop Clarke reminded members that the purpose of the Church was “to receive the Gospel and to hand on the Gospel in the world” – a process in which he described the Church as “a delivery point for the Gospel of Jesus Christ”.

2. The agenda for the Synod was full and one major item, common to many Churches, was the problem of the solvency of the Clergy Pension Fund and the major changes needed. It was agreed that the current scheme should be closed on 31 May 2013 and both existing and new members enrolled in a Defined Contribution scheme on 1 June.

3. The Select Committee on Human Sexuality was criticized for not having a gay or lesbian person on it. The Dean of Leighlin, the Very Rev Tom Gordon, who said he felt like “the only gay in the village”, urged that the Committee should use its powers of co-option to have some gay people among its number. The Archbishop of Armagh pointed out that this process is one in which everyone must be prepared to learn from others and actually to change in some way. “Indeed”, he went on “no process of dialogue is really possible in the first place if people approach discussions with completely closed minds.”

4. The Synod continued to move to advance its communion relationship with the Methodist Church in Ireland by agreeing to process, next year, a Special Bill to allow for the interchangeability of ministry. Dialogue was also taking place with the Moravian Church regarding closer links.

5. A full agenda included items on Taxation and Development which sought to mitigate the loss to developing countries as a result of tax evasion and exploitation by foreign companies, balanced gender participation in Church bodies, how the Church should respond to the new challenges created by the recession and problems of rural isolation.

6. I was accompanied by Mr Eddie Megaw, Elder in First Armagh. We both received the warmest of welcome and enjoyed good fellowship and hospitality.

The Church of Scotland General Assembly (2013)

The Right Rev Dr Roy Patton reports:

1. The Church of Scotland General Assembly met from Saturday 18 May to Friday 24 May in The Assembly Hall, New College, Edinburgh. As is the usual custom not all Ministers attend nor are all Congregations represented each year. This year 706 Commissioners attended together with around 50 Delegates and visitors. This year one of my Chaplains, the Rev Dr Michael Barry, and Mr Alistair Vance, Clerk of Session in Ballygilbert accompanied me as Delegates together with our wives. We were well received and it was an enjoyable experience for me to return to New College where I had studied in the 1970’s.

2. The ‘Blue Book’ of reports was adorned with a photograph from Iona to commemorate the 1450th Anniversary of St Columba, one of many such anniversaries referred to during the week.

3. As a National Church there was more ceremony than we are used to in our Church. During the opening session on Saturday morning the Rt Rev Lorna Hood was installed as Moderator for the ensuing year. The Queen was represented by the Lord High Commissioner; Baron Selkirk of Douglas and a letter of greeting was received from Her Majesty and read to the Assembly. His Grace then addressed the Assembly in an inspiring speech noting among the anniversaries which occurred this year President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation coming into effect and the bicentenary of the birth of David Livingstone.

4. During the week three of Livingstone's grandchildren and the widow of a fourth were present and welcomed by the Moderator.

5. Then it was straight into business which lasted through the afternoon.

6. In the evening the out-going Moderator, the Very Rev Dr Albert Bogle gave a wide ranging and lengthy account of his year of office which was well illustrated. It was good to hear at length all that he accomplished and something which our Church might copy with profit.

7. The decisions to pay Commissioners expenses depending on their attendance ensured that each session was noticeably full but this might be because their generous expenses have now been linked to their recorded attendance at the sessions. The introduction of an electronic system made voting virtually instantaneous.

8. On Sunday the Moderator preached at St Giles which was a formal service with representatives from many aspects of society present in the Cathedral. As in past years Princes Street Gardens were well filled with an estimated 5-6000 people attending Heart and Soul which included congregational and organisational stalls and music and worship.

9. The various Councils reported during the week. Irish Presbyterians would feel at home with the structure of the reports and the innumerable resolutions. Among issues addressed was the deficit in the pension fund and the spiraling cost of funerals. In one of the best received speeches an Elder, Mr James Stuart, (at 92 the oldest Commissioner attending) spoke passionately against the tobacco trade and the increasing number of deaths it causes especially in developing countries.

10. The Church and Society Council has a wide brief and included a report on the issue of Israel and the occupation of Palestinian land. *The Inheritance of Abraham* report caused a furor among Jews and a revised version was subsequently submitted to the Assembly which accepted it.

11. The Ministries Council highlighted the lack of Ministers and the large number of vacancies in Scotland.

12. The upcoming referendum on Scottish independence was also debated and the Kirk was keen for the Scots to determine what kind of nation they want in the future, with the forums being planned during the next year. The Moderator ensured that the debate remained free of party politics and when one Commissioner stepped out of line he was so informed. The Kirk is also exploring constitutional issues surrounding independence and called for any constitution

to be placed before the people before they vote in the referendum. The possible coronation of the Monarch in Scotland as well as in England was raised.

13. Climate change was also debated under this Council and Congregations were encouraged to join the movement of Eco-congregations.

14. But what undoubtedly brought most attention to the Kirk was the debate from the Theological Forum on Same-sex Relationships and the Ministry. While this report cannot give a detailed summary of the debate, the full report is on the Church of Scotland website. Two positions were represented as the revisionist and traditionalist cases. The revisionist position would allow those in a civil partnership to be ordained while offering a conscience clause for those who felt unable to do so. The traditionalist position would not have permitted such appointments but would have accepted those appointed prior to 2009. A third option was to treat openly gay Ministers in the same way as heterosexual clergy.

15. However at the last minute the out-going Moderator, the Very Reverend Albert Bogle brought a fourth option to “affirm the Church’s historic and current doctrine and practice in relation to human sexuality, (but) nonetheless permit those Kirk Sessions who wish to depart from that doctrine and practice to do so”.

16. The debate was conducted with good grace and passionate speeches were made without rancour. The Moderator handled a difficult situation with good grace and ensured all sides a fair hearing. After a six hour debate Dr Bogle’s motion was finally accepted by a majority of the Assembly. This means that the traditionalist position holds, but Congregations will be able to choose themselves to have a Minister in a civil partnership if they wish to do so.

17. Legislation will be brought before next year’s General Assembly and if approved will be sent down to Presbyteries under the Barrier Act so that the final decision will not be ratified until 2015.

18. It was evident throughout the debate that there was a strong desire to maintain the unity of the Kirk. However it remains to be seen whether this will happen. There are some traditionalists who feel that the Kirk has departed from its historic biblical position, and that the agreed position is in fact little different from the revisionist proposal originally proposed.

19. Although a number of Commissioners remarked that this subject was not the most important issue before the Kirk, and a large cartoon poster outside a Church on Princes Street asked the same question, the length of time taken in debate and the amount of coverage given by both television and newspapers, some might think otherwise.

20. This was a full week of business and receptions and we found the Scottish welcome was what we have come to expect.

L’Eglise Protestante Unie de France

The Rev Dr Donald Watts reports:

1. It was a privilege to join with representatives of many other Churches in Europe and worldwide to celebrate the inauguration of a new united Protestant

Church in France. This took place in Lyon and was a coming together of the Reformed Church in France, with whom the Presbyterian Church in Ireland has had a long association, and the Lutheran Church in France.

2. The inauguration took place on Saturday, 11 May, with speeches from Church Leaders and the Minister for the Interior who has responsibility for religious groupings in France. It was interesting to hear his understanding of the separation of Church and State under the French Constitution. The government clearly welcomed the involvement of Churches and religious groups in the on-going debates on social issues.

3. On the Friday evening the large Church where the inauguration would be held the next day was filled for a prayer vigil, which lasted through the night. While delegates were free to come and go it was interesting that especially some of the younger people wanted to infuse the inauguration with prayer.

4. Another “additional” event was on the Saturday evening when delegates were invited to a new project in a deprived area on the outskirts of the town. Near the site was a makeshift village where open fires were burning to give the inhabitants some heat. Three town centre Churches had closed to provide the resources for this valuable mission which was clearly having an impact on the surrounding area.

5. The theme of mission was reflected in many of the celebrations, including riverside displays of the Church’s work. While the Protestant population is very small in France there were encouraging signs of vitality. We should pray that the united Church may have a real impact on the society where it is placed.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev GE Best and agreed:

Resolutions

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the recommended Order of Business be adopted.
3. That a grant of £28,000 be made from the Incidental Fund to the Arrangements Committee.
4. That the Business Board, with its associated working Committee, be appointed in accordance with Par 275 of the Code for the ensuing year beginning 15 March, 2013.

Presbyteries

The Report of the **Presbyteries** (Reports pp 9-14) was submitted by the Rev Dr DJ Watts.

One correction was noted, under the report of the Carrickfergus Presbytery, the name of the student listed ‘Mr Bobby Moore’ should in fact read ‘Mr Bobby Orr’.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben, and agreed:

Resolution

1. That the Report be received.

**SPUD YOUTH
ASSEMBLY**

The Report of the **SPUD YOUTH ASSEMBLY** (Reports pp 296-297) was submitted by Mr Andrew Downey and Miss Laura Hutcheson.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.

Resolution

**RECEPTION OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS & DELEGATES
– Supplementary Report:**

Delete: Presbyterian Church of South Sudan: Rev Peter Gai Lual, Rev John Yor Nyiker

Add: Religious Society of Friends: Ms Hilary Sidwell

The **Corresponding Members** were received from the Church of Scotland. These were the Right Rev Lorna Hood (in her absence), the Rev John Chalmers, the Rev Eleanor McMahon and Mr W Campbell McGregor.

**Corresponding
Members**

The Moderator welcomed the Corresponding Members. The Rev John Chalmers replied and conveyed greetings.

The Moderator welcomed the Rev Dr Michael Jagessar and the Rev Melanie Smith of the United Reformed Church of the United Kingdom; and the Rev Dafydd Andrew Jones of the Presbyterian Church of Wales. The Rev Dafydd Andrew Jones replied and conveyed greetings.

The Moderator welcomed the Rt Rev Ken Good and Mr Sam Harper, delegates from the Church of Ireland; Rev Ian D Henderson and Mr Hamilton Blain, delegates from the Methodist Church in Ireland; Pastor Corinna Diestelkamp from the Irish Council of Churches; and Ms Hilary Sidwell of the Religious Society of Friends. The Right Rev Ken Good replied and conveyed greetings.

The Moderator welcomed other delegates from: the Presbyterian Church USA: Rev Doug Baker; the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian, Synod of Blantyre: Rev Alex Maulana. The Rev Alex Maulana replied and conveyed greetings.

Intermission

Members of Assembly were joined by others in 1st Derry to participate in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, conducted by the Moderator. During worship the Memorial Roll of Ministers deceased was submitted by the Very Rev Dr WD Patton, and the Assembly paid their customary tribute.

The sederunt came to a close at 1.00 pm the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

THIRD SESSION

Tuesday, 4th June, 2013

2.00pm

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

GENERAL BOARD The Report of the **GENERAL BOARD** (Reports pp 15-96) was submitted by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, along with the following Supplementary Report:

Memorial Record

The Very Rev Dr W Donald Patton reports:

The Rev Thomas Alexander Noble Parker, BA, Minister Emeritus of Maze Congregation in the Presbytery of Dromore, Co Down, died on 5 April 2013 in the 98th year of his age and the 73rd year of his ministry. He was born on 16 January 1916 to Alexander Parker, who farmed at Tullygay, Letterkenny, County Donegal, and his wife Sarah, née Barnett. Mr Parker, the youngest of four children, was raised in the Congregation of Trinity, Letterkenny, and educated at Barkhall National School. Responding to the call of God to the ordained ministry he studied at Magee University College, Londonderry, and Trinity College, Dublin, where he obtained his BA degree in 1937 and won a year's scholarship to Princeton Theological Seminary, New Jersey, USA. He completed his divinity training at the Assembly's College, Belfast, which he entered in 1938. Following his studies, he was licensed by the Presbytery of Derry on 28 May 1939, and served as Assistant in the Congregation of Crescent Church, Belfast. He was ordained and installed as Minister of Maze on 17 September 1940 and remained there until his retirement from full-time ministry on 31 October 1981. He was supported throughout his years of ministry by his wife Anne who came from Stranraer, Scotland, and whom he married in the Old Parish Church on 12 July 1949. They rejoiced in the births of their three children, John, Mary, and William who was severely handicapped and who died in 2009. Sadly Mrs Parker died in 1992.

In addition to his preaching and pastoral ministry in this rural parish among the people whom he loved and came to know well, his gifts and energies were also engaged in ministry beyond his Congregation in a number of significant ways. He was chaplain to the RAF at Long Kesh from 1942 to 1948, ministering to American and Canadian squadrons, as well as those from the UK. He was appointed as the General Assembly's Religious Education Organiser in day schools in 1947. This role recognised the Church's historic interest in the provision of secular education of the young. Ministers were encouraged to visit the schools within their parishes, to build good relations with staff, pupils and parents, and to encourage the teaching of religion, in particular of the Christian faith. On his retirement from that post in 1973, the General Assembly extended to him "their thanks for the invaluable service he has rendered to the Church and education over the past twenty five years." He was Chaplain to Lissue Children's Hospital from 1950 to 1989.

In 1970 he was appointed as the Presbyterian Chaplain at HM Prison Maze. The ‘Troubles’ were at their height, security within the Prison was intense, and the challenges of ‘the blanket protest’ (1976) along with ‘the dirty protest’ (1978) and the hunger strikes (1980/81) lay ahead. Throughout this time, Mr Parker, together with his chaplaincy colleagues, ministered to inmates and staff alike, in fulfilment of the word of Christ who said “I was sick and in prison-and you visited me.... Inasmuch as you have done it to one of the least of these my brothers you have done it unto me”. He offered the hope of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Sunday Services, weekly Bible studies and in one-to-one consultations. He was a founder member of the Prison Chaplain’s Association. He retired as Chaplain in 1981.

His words, spoken at his final service on 31 October 1981 in Maze as Minister, are a fitting tribute and witness to one who was long spared and has now entered his eternal rest – “Preaching Christ and the truth of his Resurrection I came among you 41 years ago. Preaching Christ and the Truth of His Resurrection with even more assured conviction this morning I take leave of you”.

In that faith we give thanks for his ministry, commit his family to the comforts of Almighty God and assure them of our sympathy and prayers.

The Rev Joseph Edgar Paisley Boyd, BA, Minister Emeritus of Terrace Row Congregation, Coleraine, in the Presbytery of Coleraine, Co Antrim, died on 16 April 2013 in the 99th year of his age and the 74th of his ministry. He was born at Belfast on 1 September 1914 to James A Boyd, a Commercial Traveller, and his wife Wilhemina, née Dalzell. He attended the Congregation of Oldpark under the ministry of the Rev William McCoach, and was educated at Belfast Royal Academy. A keen sportsman, he won medals for athletics and played rugby for BRA’s 1st 15.

While attending CSSM meetings at Portstewart in his teenage years he responded to the call to make Christ his Saviour. He went to the Queen’s University, Belfast, in 1933, from which he graduated BA in 1936. Being persuaded of the call of God he prepared for ordained ministry at the Assembly’s College, Belfast, 1936 to 1938, with a gap year at Princeton Theological Seminary, New Jersey, USA, 1937 to 1938. He was licensed by the Presbytery of Belfast on 25 May 1939, and served as Assistant in the Congregation of Cooke Centenary, Belfast.

Called to the Congregation of Harryville, Ballymena, he was ordained and installed there as Minister by the Presbytery of Ballymena, on 20 March 1940. To quote from the history of that Congregation – ‘Mr. Boyd provided wise and capable leadership, both to the Congregation and in the community, at a difficult time in the nation’s history. His warmth of personality and untiring zeal ensured that the Congregation prospered spiritually and materially and produced ‘fruit that would remain’. Many who were nurtured in the faith at that time were to make a significant contribution to the spiritual life and work of the Church in years to come. While in Belfast he met Lavinia (Vena) Hemphill Townley. Love blossomed and they were married in Berry Street Presbyterian Church in September 1940. Three children were born to the marriage, Alexandra (Sandra), Edgar Adrian, and Janice.

On 9 September 1954 he was installed as Minister in Terrace Row, Coleraine. To his people he brought a pastor’s heart, praying for them faithfully

and moving among them as a constant friend and support. He challenged his people with the claims of the Gospel of Jesus as Lord and Saviour and taught them how to serve and to follow Christ. In the wider community he served as Chairman of the Boards of Governors of both Coleraine High School for Girls and Coleraine Secondary School, and also as Chairman of the Butcher Housing Association, 1980-1992, now Oaklee Housing. The esteem in which he was held resulted in the Housing Association scheme at Carryduff being named as "Edgar Boyd Court". Mr Boyd also served the wider Church through his membership of various Boards and Committees, being Convener of the Presbyterian Residential Trust 1972 – 1980. A keen supporter of the Christian Endeavour Movement he promoted their aims and ideals in the publication *Four Christian Endeavour Ideals*.

He retired in 1979, continuing to enjoy his lifelong interests of fishing, golf and woodwork, and encouraging the Minister and people of the Congregation of Ballylinney, in which he and his wife, settled. We give thanks to God for the ministry of this 'good and faithful servant' of whom his family can be proud and whom we commend to the comforts of Almighty God.

The Rev William Desmond Bailie, MA, BD, Ph.D, DD, FRHS, Minister Emeritus of Kilmore Congregation in the Presbytery of Down, Co Down, died on 9 May 2013, in the 93rd year of his age and the 61st year of his ministry. He was born on 30 October 1920 at Belfast to John Bailie, a Building Contractor, and his wife Ellen, née Dougan. The family attended McQuiston Memorial Presbyterian Church, East Belfast, where Desmond received his spiritual education, later serving as a Sunday School teacher and as a Boys Brigade Officer in the junior section then called the Lifeboys. He was a keen athlete in his youth being one of the members of the Willowfield Temperance Harriers team which won the Irish junior cross country championship. On leaving school he worked for a time in the family business but convinced of his call to ordained Christian ministry he embarked on a pathway of academic preparation entering Magee University College, Londonderry, in 1943, and graduating from Trinity College, Dublin, BA, (1st class honours) in 1947. He completed his studies at the Assembly's College, Belfast, and the Queen's University from which he obtained his BD in 1950, specialising in Church History. Following theological training he was licensed by the Presbytery of Belfast on 17 July 1949, and served as Assistant in the Congregation of Cooke Centenary, Belfast, whose Minister was the Rev John Monteith Barkley, later Professor of Ecclesiastical History in the Assembly's College. Prof Barkley encouraged Mr Bailie in his further study of history and supervised his thesis on 'Christian Initiation' for which he was awarded the degree of PhD in 1959 by the Queen's University. Called by the Congregation of Eglish he was ordained and installed there as Minister on 12 November 1952 by the Presbytery of Tyrone. The following year he married Eleanor Snowden, the daughter of the Clerk of Session in McQuiston Memorial who had been a fellow officer in the BB. Later, a daughter, Rosemary, was born to them. Mrs Bailie played her part in the life and work of the Congregations in which they served over the years and was for a time the Assistant Editor of the Presbyterian Woman's magazine, *Woman's Work*. Ten happy years were spent among the people of Eglish until 1962 when they moved to Kilmore where Dr Bailie was installed as Minister by the Presbytery of Down on 12 April. With his

encouragement the Congregation built a new Church hall early in his ministry. Dr Bailie served as Moderator of the Down Presbytery and acted as its Clerk for a period. In the wider Church he was involved in the Board and Committee work of the General Assembly and was a delegate to a number of conferences of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches beginning with Frankfurt in 1964.

Dr Bailie's enduring memorial is in his many writings on historical subjects especially related to Irish Presbyterianism. His *The Six Mile Water Revival of 1625* is recognised as the authoritative work on that phenomenon. He was awarded the Paul Memorial Prize of Assembly's College for it in 1955, and it was published in 1976, again in 1984 and 1996. Several of his essays were published in his honour as *Radicals and Revivals* (2006) by the Presbyterian Historical Society Ireland, which he served as Secretary and then Chairman for many years. He took an active interest in the local history of County Down, writing on Sir George Rawdon founder of the town of Ballinahinch, and accounts of several Presbyterian Congregations in the county. His knowledge of Presbyterian clergymen associated with the 1798 rebellion is seen in his 'Presbyterian clergymen and the County Down rebellion of 1798' in *1798 Rebellion in County Down* edited by Myrtle Hill, Bryan Turner and Kenneth Dawson (1998). The *History of Congregations in the Presbyterian Church in Ireland* (1982) owes a great deal to his knowledge and enthusiasm for the project. A fuller list of his publications can be found in the tribute paid him by the Very Rev Professor RFG Holmes in *Radicals and Revivals*.

Dr Bailie's contribution to the life, work and history of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland was recognised with the award of the Degree of Doctor of Divinity (*honoris causa*) by the Presbyterian Theological Faculty Ireland in 1977. In 1981 he became a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society. He retired to Saintfield on 12 April 1986 to be near his daughter Rosemary and her family, but without his wife who died in 1985 after a period of illness. To Rosemary, husband Daryl and their sons Nicholas and Graeme we express our sympathy and prayers as we give thanks to God for the life and work of their loved one and our colleague, Desmond Bailie.

Financial Crisis Panel

1. The Panel met and noted that as the five PMS directors mentioned in the report had entered into undertakings with DETI disqualification proceedings had been withdrawn. The long period of stress undergone by these directors was recognised with concern.
2. It was also noted that while much of the savers' money has been returned through the rescue package, the pain and anguish caused by the collapse of the Society is still deeply felt by many. Lessons have been and will continue to be learned by all involved, including the Church. The panel will continue to reflect on any further action or advice which may help to ensure nothing of this kind may happen again.

Appointment of Principal

1. In appointing a Principal with executive responsibility to Union College the Board of Christian Training intend that the Principal should be a

member of the Presbyterian Theological Faculty, Ireland. To make this clear an Overture is appended to amend Code Par 118(3).

Moderator's Advisory Committee

1. The Moderator's Advisory Committee is aware of concerns expressed in some Presbyteries about the extent to which those ordained to Church leadership are free to express views which differ from the teaching of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland on certain issues which are important, but have not been identified as central to the doctrinal position of the Church. The Committee needs time to further consider the complex issues involved.

DONALD J WATTS

Church and Society Committee

1. In recent weeks the Committee has seen an increase in both the quantity and the breadth of its work, and this pattern seems likely to continue for the foreseeable future, with very considerable challenges for the resourcing of the Committee's remit to represent the General Assembly in matters between the Church and Government authorities and in other matters of public interest.

2. A significant meeting was held at the end of March with representatives of the rural and farming community just as the scale of the losses due to the heavy snowfall were beginning to become clear. A good deal of follow-through is expected from that meeting in the coming months.

3. Worthwhile meetings have also been held with the Parades' Commission and the Progressive Unionist Party, and the Committee was briefed with other Churches and Para-Church groups on some of the possible legal implications for Northern Ireland of the same sex marriage Bill for England and Wales as it goes through its various legislative stages in Westminster.

4. In addition there is a steady stream of informal invitations and opportunities for members of the Committee to engage with civic and political opinion. These are immensely valuable for a better understanding of the complexities and opportunities that changes in public policy bring with them.

5. In May there was a major announcement by OFMDFM on the future of community relations work in Northern Ireland. The publication of an overall Cohesion, Sharing and Integration strategy seems to have been set aside, with the emphasis now moving to a new policy called "Together: Building a United Community", with three main components of the programme being good relations, good citizenship and steps into work. Further comment on this will be made at the Assembly.

6. The Co-Convener wrote again in April to MLAs just prior to the second debate this session on same sex marriage in the NI Assembly. In that letter he called *'for a clear rollback from this single track campaign to a gracious, informed and highly respectful discussion, both politically and with wider society on the proper role of the state in the shaping of close interpersonal relationships.'* There is some recent evidence that this theme is being picked up politically, as there is a whole host of interconnected issues that have already surfaced or will do so very soon. These range from pressure to lower the age of consent through

to euthanasia and the need to opt **out** of organ donation rather than, as at present, the need to opt in.

7. On the same day as the General Assembly gets under way on Monday 3rd June, the House of Lords is debating the Equal Marriage Bill sent to it by the Commons. The Co-Convener has written to 22 members of the House of Lords, stating again the key points made in the original letter to MLAs in September of last year (included as an appendix on p52 of the Reports), whilst adding the following:

Since then we have become even more concerned on two main fronts:

(a) The lack of parliamentary time and interest in the Commons to give due consideration to the concept of 'reasonable accommodation' for public servants and others, who, on the basis of conscience and/or faith, cannot accept the proposed changes in the law, and whose very employment positions are under significant threat if the Bill proceeds.

(b) The almost total absence of any gracious, informed and highly respectful discussion, both politically and with wider society on the proper role of the state in the shaping of close interpersonal relationships. We are deeply unhappy about the direction of travel suggested by this proposed legislation, not only for family law, but also for issues such as euthanasia and the lowering of the age of consent. We think that it is unacceptable to discuss these issues as if each is in a silo by itself, without careful and wide ranging debate about the underlying values we wish to see embedded in our national life, and promoted by our legislators.

9. The Committee would re-iterate its view in the Reports that there are very significant challenges in building capacity and expertise in the Church to deal with matters such as these, that are often very complex, that go across the boundaries of PCI's existing structures of Boards and Committees, and often have quite short public consultation times. Many of these issues affect individuals and families very directly, and it very important that PCI at every level (including that of the local Congregation) thinks Biblically and deeply about them, as well as grappling with the plethora of views in wider society on such issues. It is important to state again that unless the whole Church sees itself as being an integral part of the wider and changing society, the work of the Church and Society Committee can only have limited effect in the shaping of the public policies that affect every citizen. Perhaps the greatest challenge of all is to be every bit as clear on what the Church is for, as on what the Church is against, and to be able to explain those convictions in terms that are as compelling and persuasive as possible in an increasingly sceptical and secularised society.

T NORMAN HAMILTON, ALAN J BOAL

Structures Review Panel

Since the report was written further consideration has been given to the responsibilities of Council Secretaries. It is recommended that:

a. The Clerk of Assembly and General Secretary facilitates the General Council and the Council for Church and Society.

b. A Deputy Clerk should act as Secretary to the Council for Training in Ministry and support the Clerk in all his responsibilities.

c. Four other Council Secretaries should be appointed, one to each of the other Councils.

Apart from the Clerk and General Secretary, whose salary scale has already been clarified as Executive Scale 7, all other posts should be individually evaluated when the Job Descriptions and Personnel Specifications have been agreed.

DONALD J WATTS

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev Prof JP Taylor and agreed:

Resolutions

1. That the Report be received.

Moved as an amendment by the Very Rev Dr TJ Morrow, seconded by the Rev DJ McKelvey and agreed (with 284 voting for and 215 voting against):

1. That the report be received, apart from the section regarding baptism which be referred back to the Doctrine Committee.

On being put to the House, the substantive motion was declared passed.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev Prof JP Taylor and agreed:

Appointments

2. That the Rev TD Gribben be appointed Clerk-Designate of the General Assembly.

The Rev TD Gribben was duly informed by the Moderator of his election and, having signed the following documents, he was declared appointed.

SUBSCRIPTION in terms of the General Assembly's Formula:

I believe the Westminster Confession of Faith, as described in the Code, Chapter I, paragraphs 12-14, to be founded on and agreeable to the Word of God, and as such I subscribe it as the Confession of my faith.

TREVOR D GRIBBEN

Attested by DONALD J WATTS

Clerk of Assembly

4th June 2013

The DECLARATION:

I, Trevor D Gribben, having been chosen as Clerk-Designate of the General Assembly do hereby promise that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office to which I have been appointed; and will carefully preserve and, when required by this Court, restore the records and other documents now intrusted to my care.

TREVOR D GRIBBEN

Attested by DONALD J WATTS

Clerk of Assembly

4th June 2013

The Moderator, leading in prayer, commended the Rev TD Gribben to the care and guidance of God.

The Moderator, on behalf of the Assembly, instructed that the Rev TD Gribben be made a member of the appropriate Courts of the Church.

The Rev TD Gribben thanked the Moderator and members of Assembly.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev Prof JP Taylor and agreed:

3. That the General Assembly appoint the following as a reference group to be available for support to and consultation by the Clerk of the General Assembly: Moderator, Previous Moderator, Convener of the General Council (if appointed).

4. That the Clerk-Designate be permitted to attend all Board and Committees on the same basis as the Clerk.

5. That the Very Rev Dr JS Carson be appointed Principal of Union Theological College.

The Very Rev Dr JS Carson was duly informed by the Moderator of his election and, having signed the Westminster Confession of Faith, he was declared appointed.

SUBSCRIPTION in terms of the General Assembly's Formula:

I believe the Westminster Confession of Faith, as described in the Code, Chapter I, paragraphs 12-14, to be founded on and agreeable to the Word of God, and as such I subscribe it as the Confession of my faith.

J STAFFORD CARSON

Attested by DONALD J WATTS

Clerk of Assembly

4th June 2013

The Moderator, leading in prayer, commended the Rev JS Carson to the care and guidance of God.

The Very Rev Dr JS Carson thanked the Moderator and members of Assembly.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev Prof JP Taylor and agreed:

6. That the General Assembly commend the Doctrine Committee report on the Support of Ministers. **Doctrine**

Intermission

The Report of the **GENERAL BOARD** (Reports pp 15-96) – debate continued.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Very Rev Dr TN Hamilton, OBE and agreed:

Church and Society

7. That General Assembly encourage the Church and Society Committee to initiate a consultative process with Presbyteries in the Republic of Ireland to explore ways of raising the profile of PCI in the public square.

8. That the General Assembly note with approval the initiatives being reported in the Church and Society report.

9. That the resignation of the Rev AJ Boal as co-convenor of the Church and Society Committee be accepted; that he be thanked for his services and that authority be given to the General Board to appoint a Co-Convenor in his place.

Structures Review

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Very Rev Dr HA Dunlop and agreed:

10. That the General Assembly recognise the centrality of the three key concepts for any structural change: Accountability, Engagement and Communication.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Very Rev Dr HA Dunlop:

That the General Assembly adopt the proposed Council structure from 2014 and authorise the General Board to agree detailed remits and working structures for each Council.

Moved as an amendment by the Rev WJ Henry, seconded by the Rev Andrew Thompson and agreed (by 190 votes to 119):

11. That the General Assembly does not adopt the proposed Council structure from 2014 and authorises the General Board to work out the details of legislative change and staffing implications and send this material together with the report of the Structures Panel to Presbyteries for comment by 31st March 2014.

On being put to the House the substantive motion was declared passed.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Very Rev Dr HA Dunlop and agreed:

12. That in the light of the Structures report the remit of the Consultations Panel be widened to consider how best Presbyteries may usefully engage with Congregations and Councils.

13. That in the light of the Structures report the Business Board be instructed to consider ways in which the business of the Assembly may allow for greater engagement and accountability and report to the next Assembly.

Global Concerns

14. That the General Assembly commend the resource “... *and you welcomed me*” and encourage its use by Congregations.

15. That the General Assembly recognise the Gospel imperative of peacebuilding and call upon all Presbyterians to genuinely, intentionally and prayerfully promote Good Relations; seek the welfare of our divided communities and actively work for a shared society.

16. That the General Assembly approve the following grants from the Incidental Fund:

Vuleka Trust (South Africa)	£750
Diakonia Council of Churches (South Africa)	£750

Embrace (NI)	£1,000
Churches' Asylum Network (ROI)	£500
Total	£3,000

17. The General Assembly approve the following grants from the Incidental Fund for the Environment Panel:

PCI membership fees of Eco-Congregation Ireland	£500
Delegates attendance at environmental Conference	£600
Panel Expenses	£500
Total	£1,600

Moved by the Very Rev Dr JW Lockington, seconded by the Rev NJ McCullough: Church Relations

That the General Assembly view with dismay the deliverance approved by the recent General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in response to the Report of the Theological Commission and, while recognising it is not likely to be acted upon until 2015, places on record its great concern.

Proposed by the Very Dr John Dunlop, seconded by the Rev Robert Herron:

That the House pass from the question.

On being put to the House, the proposal was declared lost.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr JW Lockington, seconded by the Rev NJ McCullough and agreed:

18. That the General Assembly affirm our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Church of Scotland and give thanks that they have publicly confirmed their commitment to the biblical understanding of human sexuality, yet note with concern the deliverance approved by the recent General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in response to the Report of the Theological Commission and, while recognising it is not likely to be acted upon until 2015, place on record their commitment to pray for the Church of Scotland.

Business lapsed on Standing Orders (see page 47)

The sederunt came to a close at 6:07 p.m., the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

FOURTH SESSION

Wednesday, 5th June 2013

9.30 a.m.

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

The Report of the **BOARD OF MISSION IN IRELAND** (Reports pp 145-165) was submitted by the Rev Christoph Ebbinghaus.

**BOARD OF
MISSION IN
IRELAND**

Moved by the Rev Christoph Ebbinghaus, seconded by the Rev DJ Bruce and agreed:

- Resolutions** 1. That the Report be received.
- Strategy for Mission** 2. That the General Assembly encourage the BMI in its reflection upon the challenges of mission in urban situations, and in particular in its discussions with the Union Commission in seeking to secure sustainable models for resourcing Presbyterian mission in our cities.
- Research and Resources** 3. That the General Assembly note the BMI Bible engagement resource for non-book readers being produced during 2013, and commend it to the Church.
4. That the General Assembly welcome the resource entitled *Threshold: A Place of Transformation* and encourage Congregations to use the material in considering the ‘Fit for Purpose’ theme during 2013/14.
5. That the General Assembly note the work of the Panel on the Revision of the Book of Public Worship including the proposed amended versions of Paragraphs 10-14 and Paragraph 212 of the Code contained in Appendix B of this report, and that these draft amendments be sent down to Presbyteries for consideration and response to the Panel Convener by 31 December 2013, and that a final report with any necessary overtures be brought to the General Assembly in 2014.

General

6. That the General Assembly commend *ReachOut* magazine to all Congregations, and encourage its wide circulation as a stimulus to missional thinking and action.
7. That the General Assembly encourage Congregations to set aside one Sunday in the year to celebrate our rich access to Scripture and, in this regard, commend the online resources of the Bible Societies in Ireland to Ministers and Kirk Sessions.
8. That the Board of Mission in Ireland with its associated working committees for the ensuing year be appointed in accordance with Par 280 of the Code as follows:

BOARD OF MISSION IN IRELAND

Rev Christoph Ebbinghaus, Convener

Rev DJ Bruce, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator, Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Representatives of Social Witness, Education, Christian Training, Youth and Children’s Ministry and Mission Overseas Boards, and Union Commission; two Deaconess representatives, CMF Representative.
- (b) Revs SA Little, GJ Kennedy; Mrs Debra Anderson — Revs TAMcNeely, AD Davidson; Miss Janice Allen — Revs MD McNeely, JG Johnston; Mrs Joy Carson — Revs ID Neish, David Clawson; Mrs Margaret Myers — Revs Dr RM Crooks, Ivan Steen; Mrs Jean Gwyn Patton — Revs FP Sellar, Danny Rankin; Mrs Lorraine Rankin — Rev RI Carton; Alan Doole, Mrs J McClure — Revs TJ McCormick, Raymond Kelly; Mrs Nan Nixon — Revs Stephen Richmond, TJ Bruce; Mrs

Olive Boreland — Revs DJ Hyndman, SA Woodburn; Ms Jean Shields — Rev WJ Todd; James McDowell, Mrs Vera Mawhinney — Revs SJ Lockington, Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie, William Montgomery — Revs DJM Boyle, MN Davidson; Mrs B Cheney — Revs Molly Deatherage, NS Millen; Uel Gamble — Revs WT Bingham, AD Mullan; Mrs Ruth Johnston — Revs IT McKee, RG McElnea; Mrs Y Mulligan — Revs Peter Douglas, HW Mullan; Mrs Jacqueline Turton — Revs Karen Campbell, George Moore; Mrs Joan Simpson — Revs DH Brown, JJ Currie; Mrs Alison Spence.

- (p) President, Home Vice President and General Secretary of PW; Mrs Pat Martin, Mrs Elma Leeburn, Mrs Elaine Crockett, Mrs Pauline Irvine, Mrs Margaret Grayson.

A. STRATEGY FOR MISSION COMMITTEE

Rev BD Colvin, Convener

Rev DJ Bruce, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener and Secretary, Committee Convener, PW Central President, PW Home Vice-President, Convener and Secretary of BMI Communications Committee, Mission Development Officer (Ireland), BMI Support Officer, Nightlight Panel Convener, Convener BMI Personnel Committee.
- (x) Revs RSJ McIlhatton, Daniel Reyes-Martin, JE McDowell, Mark McKeown; Seamus Burke, Mrs Valerie Tweedie.
- (y) Revs SJ Lockington, Ivan Steen, AD Davidson, Molly Deatherage, MD McNeely, MN Davidson, TJ Bruce.

B. RESEARCH AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Rev CWP Kennedy, Convener

Rev DH Thompson, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener and Secretary, Committee Convener and Secretary, Convener of Training and Resources Committee (BCT), Christian Training Development Officer (BCT), Communications Officer (BMI), Prof Practical Theology, Divine Healing Agent, one representative of Youth & Children's Ministry, Mission Overseas Board, Committee Secretary.
- (x) Revs S Richmond, Dr RB Savage, DJ Hyndman, JSB Drennan, Ben Walker, Colin Dickson.
- (y) Revs David Clawson, SA Little, FP Sellar, Dr RM Crooks, GJ Kennedy; Mrs Ruth Johnston.

C. CHURCH ARCHITECTURE COMMITTEE

TR Reid, Convener

Miss L Beatty, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener and Secretary,

Conveners of BMI Property Committee, Finance Committee, Committee Convener and Secretary.

- (x) Brian Knox, Kenneth Fleming, William Watt.
- (y) Rev George Moore; Uel Gamble, Mrs Joan Simpson.

Intermission

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The Report of **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** (Reports pp 166-170) was submitted by Mrs Elizabeth Moffett and Mrs Lisa Skinner.

Moved by the Rev CA Meban, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.

Resolution

BOARD OF SOCIAL WITNESS

The Report of the **BOARD OF SOCIAL WITNESS** (Reports pp 171-187) was submitted by Mr Lindsay Conway, OBE, along with the following Supplementary Report:

The Older People Services Committee of the Board of Social Witness discussed the on-going developments within the care of Older People at their meeting in Londonderry on 1 May. The Committee acknowledges that a review of services is necessary and that “Transforming Your Care” is a good framework document to both motivate and enable change within Older People Services and all programmes of care. The range of the Review is far-reaching and impacts on all ages and all services provided by Health and Social Services.

The Committee agreed that a letter should be sent to the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety, Edwin Poots MLA, to highlight the following:

- Their concern relating to the recent developments with regard to the closure of statutory-run Residential and Nursing Homes;
- That the issue had become a “political football”;
- That the statement had succeeded in creating a high level of anxiety within the elderly community and that of their families;
- That Residential Care is a vital option in the overall care of Older People;
- Concern that the Minister and Civil Servants were manipulating the facts;
- That Residential Care was being stigmatized;
- That the Committee agree and would support the development of a range of care options for Older People;
- That care at home must be resourced and that accommodation must be suitable for a “Home Care” package;
- That the Minister was informed that the Presbyterian Church has a long history in offering services to older people. (see Appendix)

The Minister has now halted the current process and has apologised for any hurt or offence that may have been taken following his statement announcing

the closure of a number of homes. A recent Transforming Your Care Update outlined the way forward for a further consultation, a process that will include the voluntary and community sector.

A further letter to the Minister on 23 May welcomed the further review and the proposed Integration Care Partnerships.

APPENDIX

2 May 2013

Edwin Poots
Minister for Health, Social Services and Public Safety
Room C5.10
Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
Belfast BT4 3SQ

Dear Minister

The Presbyterian Board of Social Witness wishes to place on record our concern that the recent statements regarding the future of statutory residential care for the elderly have become a “political football” and have succeeded in creating a high level of anxiety within the elderly community and that of their families.

Residential care is a vital option in the overall care of Older People, not needed by everyone in this age group, but essential for a percentage of those who are assessed as needing this level of care. It is so easy at times of reviews and consultations to make the words fit the argument, but in recent days the multiple statements have raised major issues within the whole sector; and in recent years your Department has referred to Residential Care as Institutional Care, placing a stigma on a service that strives to be caring and a home from home for all who come through the doors of any residential or nursing home.

The Board of Social Witness provides a range of care for Older People, offering over 250 bed spaces. We play an important role in the life of the communities we serve, in some instances we have done for over 60 years. We want to play our full role in the future care of this growing group of older people.

Minister, it is essential that a range of care options are retained for this growing valued section of our community. Northern Ireland can lead the way in providing a comprehensive service for older people – the balance of care at home, supported housing, respite care, residential and nursing care!

We would extend an invitation for you to visit us and to see at first hand the work that we do, assuring you that we will respond to all consultations and make every attempt to address the numerous challenges that are ahead of us all as we deliver our services.

Yours sincerely

REV BOBBY LIDDLE
Convener

LINDSAY CONWAY
Director of Social Service

CORRECTIONS:

Report p 176 par 8(e): The Rev Graham Stockdale is assisting the Rev Rodney Cameron at Maghaberry.

Report p 176 par 10(a): Delete: Mr Cameron visits Magilligan once a month to assist with consultations there.

Resolutions

Moved by Mr Lindsay Conway, OBE, seconded by the Rev RA Liddle, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly, in view of the announcement of a further review of the future of statutory residential care for the elderly, call upon the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to ensure that a full range of options are available, that Home Care packages are both realistic and adequately resourced and that the proposed consultation will involve residents, families, carers and all community-based groups, including the Churches.
3. That the General Assembly encourage all Congregations to participate in the forthcoming Carers Audit and recognise the vital role of Carers in our Church and community life.
4. That the General Assembly welcome the publication of the Bamford Review – Action Plan 2012-2015 – “Delivering the Bamford Vision” and calls on the Northern Ireland Assembly to adequately resource and fund its implementation.

Business lapsed on Standing Orders (see page 59)

The House agreed to use the abbreviated timings for the afternoon sederunt.

The Assembly engaged in worship conducted by the Moderator and others. The Moderator invited the Rev John Hanna to address the Assembly.

The sederunt came to a close at 1.10 p.m. the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

FIFTH SESSION

Wednesday, 5th June 2013

2.00 p.m.

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

**BOARD OF
MISSION
OVERSEAS**

The Report of the **BOARD OF MISSION OVERSEAS** (Reports pp 124-144) was submitted by the Rev CA Meban.

Overseas Mission personnel were presented to the Assembly by Miss Helen Johnston (Overseas Personnel Officer) and the Moderator led in prayer.

Moved by the Rev CA Meban, seconded by the Rev WS Marrs, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly reaffirm its vision, purpose, values and priorities for global mission, as set out in paragraph one, of the report above, and its expectation that these principles should fully inform PCI's future global mission strategy.
3. That the General Assembly give thanks to God for PCI's partnering with Churches, united missions and institutions, and for the PCI mission personnel welcomed to serve alongside them, and ask BMO to set up an ad hoc committee to develop a co-ordinated strategy for future partnership and personnel engagement, reporting to the General Assembly in 2014.
4. That the General Assembly acknowledge the guidelines on peace-building as one of its strategic priorities in outreach and affirm its continued commitment to encourage and assist PCI's partners in this prophetic kingdom work.
5. That the General Assembly give thanks for the gift of all who come from partner Churches to study and serve in Ireland and for their role in challenging PCI members to lift their horizons and seek to hear the prophetic voice of God.
6. That the General Assembly give thanks for the continuing and generous support of individuals and Congregations for the annual public witness to the gospel which is the World Development Appeal.
7. That the General Assembly wholeheartedly support the "*Enough Food for Everyone – IF*" campaign; urge the Irish and UK governments, in this significant year for them both, to take public action in the areas highlighted by the campaign; and encourage members of the Church to continue to pray for the leaders of the Irish and UK governments and to work prayerfully and persistently for a world in which there is enough food for everyone, so that God's abundant life is known to all.
8. That the General Assembly consider the work of global mission involvement essential to the health and wellbeing of local congregational and presbyterial life.
9. That the resignation of the Rev SJ Richmond as Convener of the Outreach Ministries Committee be accepted; that he be thanked for his services and that the Rev DJ Steele be appointed in his place.
10. That the resignation of the Rev Prof WG Campbell as Convener of the Leadership Development Committee be accepted; that he be thanked for his services and that Miss Marie Kane be appointed in his place.
11. That the resignation of the Rev Dr MJ Welsh as Convener of the Mission Involvement Committee be accepted; that he be thanked for his services and that Mr Maurice McNicholl be appointed in his place.
12. That the Board of Mission Overseas, with its associated working Committees, be appointed for the ensuing year in accordance with Par 279 of the Code as follows:

Resolutions

BOARD OF MISSION OVERSEAS

Rev Cheryl Meban, Convener

Rev WS Marrs, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Convener and Secretary of the Board; Representative of Church Relations, Board of Mission in Ireland, Board of Youth and Children's Ministry, Personnel Officer (Overseas), Finance Officer (Overseas).
- (b) Revs NW McAuley, Dr WJP Bailie; Mrs OE Byers — Revs DR Byers, PL McKelvey; Mrs Joan Thompson — Rev JA Beattie; J Petrie, Mrs Joan Hamill — Revs DJ McIlwaine, JR Dickinson; Mrs Renee Gifford — Revs Prof WG Campbell, Robert Love; Dr Joan McQuoid — Rev Joan Scott; Mrs Ruth Campbell, Miss Leonora Wasson — John McKay, Miss R Kelso, Miss Marie Kane — Revs Dr Clive Glass, TP Fleming; Mrs Margaret Conn — Revs Colin McKibbin, Stanley Stewart; Mrs Ruth Dale — Revs Dr AF Nel, Lesley-Ann Wilson; _____
Rev RD Cameron; I Murdock, Mrs Elma Leeburn — Revs JG Faris, Dr KP Meyer; Heather Moore — Rev JL Rutherford; Robert Cupples, Mrs Helen Mateer — Rev Daniel Reyes-Martin; Eric Latimer, Mrs Isobel Davidson — Revs BAH Wilson, RK Graham; Mrs Grace McCullough — Revs JH Hanson, CI Dickson; Mrs Rosemary Honeyford — Revs RW Gaston, KDW Crowe; Miss DE McCaughan — Rev DJ Steele; HH Meekin, Mrs Jean Duncan — Rev JA Curry; Dr Maureen Stevenson, Mrs Shirley Walker.
- (p) President, Overseas Vice President and General Secretary of PW; Mrs Mary Cargill, Mrs Pamela McManus, Mrs Jean Farlow, Mrs Edith Holmes, Mrs Edna McIlwaine.

A. LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Miss Marie Kane, Convener

Mrs Pamela McCullagh, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener and Secretary, Committee Convener; Mission Development Officer (Overseas), Mission Training Officer; Personnel Officer (Overseas); Rev Dr WG Campbell.
- (x) Revs BAH Wilson, NSR Lockhart, Stephen McCracken, David Stanfield; Mrs Isobel McAuley, Tony McGall.
- (y) Revs Dr Clive Glass, JH Hanson, Daniel Reyes-Martin; Mrs Grace McCullough, Mrs Shirley Walker, Mrs Ruth Campbell.

B. MISSION INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

Maurice McNicholl, Convener

CN Eves, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener and Secretary, Committee Convener, Mission Development Officer (Overseas),

Mission Training Officer, Personnel Officer (Overseas); Rev Dr Mark Welsh.

- (x) Rev DH Thompson; Mrs Elizabeth Moffett, Mrs Brenda Kerr, John Doherty, Mrs Jean Gibson, Mrs Sandra Stokes.
- (y) Revs PL McKelvey, Dr WJP Bailie; HH Meekin, Mrs OE Byers, Mrs Edith Holmes, Mrs Joan Hamill.

C. OUTREACH MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

Rev DJ Steele, Convener

Rev WS Marrs, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener and Secretary, Committee Convener, Mission Development Officer (Overseas), Convener of World Development; Rev SJ Richmond.
- (x) Revs NE Dorrans, Stanley Stewart; Mrs Valerie Tweedie, Joe Campbell, Ivan Murdock, Mrs Heather Clements.
- (y) Revs CI Dickson, TP Fleming, Colin McKibbin; Mrs Jean Farlow, Mrs Edna McIlwaine, Dr Maureen Stevenson.

D. WORLD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Rev KP Meyer, Convener

Rev WS Marrs, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener and Secretary, Committee Convener, Mission Development Officer (Overseas), Church Relations representative, Convener of Outreach Ministries Committee.
- (x) Revs Dr Samuel Hutchinson, Steve Stockman; Ms Helen Lindsay, Mrs Moyra Stirling, Mrs Fiona Forbes, Ralph Sheppard.
- (y) Revs Joan Scott, Dr AF Nel, Robert Love, Lesley-Ann Wilson; Miss Leonora Wasson, Miss DE McCaughan.

The Moderator received Ministers recently licensed and those recently retired, who were presented respectively by the Rev RS Hetherington, Director of Ministerial Studies, and the Rev Noble McNeely, Convener of the Board of Christian Training. The Moderator led in prayer.

The Report of the **BOARD OF CHRISTIAN TRAINING** (Reports pp 201-222) was submitted by the Rev Noble McNeely.

**BOARD OF
CHRISTIAN
TRAINING**

Moved by the Rev Noble McNeely, seconded by the Rev RS Hetherington, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the following candidates, their nomination having been sustained by the Board of Christian Training, be accepted as students for the Ordained Ministry, and placed under the care of their Presbyteries:

Resolutions

Name	Congregation	Presbytery
Jonathan Boyd	Kells	Ballymena
Ian Cahoon	Craigy Hill	Carrickfergus
Edwin Frazer	The Mall	Armagh
Andrew Gill	Adelaide Road	Dublin & Munster
Stuart Hawthorne	Woodlands	Carrickfergus
Craig Jackson	Hill St, Lurgan	Armagh
Ben Johnston	McQuiston Memorial	East Belfast
Craig Lynn	First Bangor	Ards
Alan Marsh	West Church, Bangor	Ards
John Martin	Richview	South Belfast
Alan McQuade	Orangefield	East Belfast
Jonathan Newell	Whitehouse	North Belfast
Richard Patton	High Kirk	Ballymena
Joanne Smith	Lucan	Dublin & Munster
Seth Wright	Fisherwick	South Belfast

3. That the revised scheme relating to the Pre-Application Process and the Application Process for the Ordained Ministry, the Assessment of Ministry Candidates and the Licentiate Course (as outlined in Appendix 2) be approved.

4. That the General Assembly commend to Ministers and Kirk Sessions the resources and training courses offered through the Board of Christian Training (as outlined in Appendix 3).

5. That the plans of the Panel on Leadership to develop further training opportunities for Elders (as outlined in Appendix 4) be welcomed and encouraged.

6. That the General Assembly commend the Handling the Word, Accredited Preacher and Auxiliary Ministry courses to the Church and confirm their oversight by the Board of Christian Training through the Committee for Training and Resources.

7. That the assessment for the Ministerial Development Programme be the equivalent of 0.25p per £ of stipend (total of £27,000).

8. That the assessment for the Students' Bursary Fund be the equivalent of 4.00p per £ of stipend (total of £425,000).

9. That the Board of Christian Training, together with the appropriate working Committees, be appointed for the ensuing year in accordance with Par 285 of the Code, as follows:

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN TRAINING

Rev JNI McNeely, Convener

Rev TD Gribben, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Board Convener and Secretary; Members of Faculty; 2 student representatives; Christian Training Development Officer.

- (b) Revs Dr WJP Bailie, Robert Stirling — Revs Dr JS Carson, NJ McCullough — Revs JG Johnston, AAP Baxter — Revs NSR Lockhart, SE Hughes — Revs CH Deering, TJ Wilson — Revs RD Maxwell, Colin Burcombe — Revs RJ McCullough, LJ Addis — Revs RS McMullan, JA Noble — Revs Dr RL Craig, MF Russell — Revs Dr AF Nel, BA Small — Rev JG Trueman; W Gordon — Revs Dr KD McCrory, DJ Montgomery — Revs Dr IJ Patterson, WA Watson — Rev Daniel Reyes-Martin; Eric Latimer — Revs BAH Wilson, RK Graham — Revs WD Cupples, DW Reid — Revs William Harkness, HSW Cubitt — Rev Dr WD Patton; Joseph Smyth — Rev JE Sloan; Graeme Orr.
- (g) Revs Karen Campbell, Janice Browne, Mairisine Stanfield, DH Thompson, Amanda Best; Mrs Isabel McAuley; Joe Campbell.

A. COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL STUDIES AND DEVELOPMENT

Rev Dr WJM Parker, Convener

Director of Ministerial Studies, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator, Clerk and Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Principal UTC, Students' Bursary Fund Convener, Director of Ministerial Studies, Professor of Practical Theology, Christian Training Development Officer.
- (x) Revs William Sinclair, Stephen Simpson, RL Brown, Andrew Faulkner; Miss Anne Taylor, Mrs Rosemary Dunlop.
- (y) Revs Dr IJ Patterson, Dr WJP Bailie, Colin Burcombe, WD Cupples, NJ McCullough, DJ Montgomery.

B. COMMITTEE FOR TRAINING AND RESOURCES

Rev NJ McCullough, Convener

Christian Training Development Officer, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator, Clerk and Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Convener of Ministerial Studies and Development Committee, Professor of Practical Theology, Christian Training and Development Officer; Director of Ministerial Studies.
- (x) Revs AR Bill, Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie, David Johnston, Stephen McCracken; Roy Thompson, Ossie McAuley.
- (y) Revs WD Cupples, NSR Lockhart, Dr AF Nel, BAH Wilson, Dr RL Craig, Daniel Reyes-Martin.

C. UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Very Rev Dr Alastair Dunlop, Convener

Deputy Clerk, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Convener and Secretary of the

Board of Christian Training, Principal of Union Theological College, Convener of Ministerial Studies and Development Committee, one member of Faculty (on annual rotation), Convener of the Union Theological College Management Committee.

- (x) Revs Dr Philip Wilson, SP Moore, David Leach; Dr Lena Morrow, Robert Martin, Desmond Fulton, Trevor Bradford, Mrs Evelyn Shaw and a Trustee Nomination.

Intermission

**BOARD OF
YOUTH AND
CHILDREN'S
MINISTRY**

The Report of the **BOARD OF YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY** (Reports pp 188-200) was submitted by the Rev JP Moxen and Miss Barbara McDade.

Moved by the Rev JP Moxen, seconded by the Rev Darren McCorrison, and agreed:

Resolutions

1. That the Report be received.
2. That a grant of £9,931 be paid from the Incidental Fund to Youth Link: NI.
3. That the General Assembly approve the Youth and Children's Project 'Places of Hope' to support the work of Rainbow House in Thailand, and to provide resources for the new Church in Mullingar.
4. That the General Assembly recognise the 125 years' service of the Boys' Brigade in Ireland, give thanks to those who serve in this mission work of the Church, and pray for God's blessing on the leaders and the boys.
5. That the resignation of the Rev John Flaherty as Convener of the Ministry Opportunities Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that the Rev Richard Houston be appointed in his place.
6. That the Ministry Opportunities Committee be renamed as the Discipleship Committee.
7. That the Board of Youth and Children's Ministry, with its associated working committees for the ensuing year, be appointed as follows:

BOARD OF YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Rev JP Moxen, Convener

Miss B McDade, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Acting Director of Youth and Children's Ministry, Conveners of Research and Resources (BMI), Training and Resources (BCT) Committees, Full-time University Chaplains.
- (b) Revs RJ Montgomery, DW Leach — Rev PD Thompson; Graham Doherty — Rev WJA Moody; Jonathan Boyd — Rev EJ Hyndman;

Miss Deborah McKelvey — Rev GR Connor; Johnny Bell — Andrew McCann, Miss Laura Hutcheson — RJ Collins, Stuart Hawthorne — Revs JA Kirkpatrick, CJ Aitcheson — Rev DM Shaw; Andy Lamberton — Stanley McFarland, Scott Moore — Rev Gareth McFadden; M Glenn — Revs Andy Carroll, MRJ Anderson — Revs Raymond McKibbin, TP McCullough, — Charles Mills, Richard Carleton — Rev AD Mullan; Ronald Annett, — Rev NRA Cooper; C Busby — Revs RM Moody, Peter Turton — Jonathan Alexander, RWH Hill — Revs JM Gracey, JD Montgomery.

- (g) Rev Amanda Best; Mrs C Murray, Mrs J Craig, Mrs S Campbell, Mrs G Ditty, Mrs C McQuigg, G MacLean, A Brown, Miss S Moore, Mrs Alison Fleming, Ms Jocelyn Brown, Mrs Thia Dickie, Mrs S McKane, Mrs G Brownlow, Mrs L Dowey, Convener and Secretary of SPUD.

A. TRAINING COMMITTEE

Rev Darran McCorrison, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Acting Director of Youth and Children's Ministry, Youth Development Officer, Children's Development Officer, Young Adults' Development Officer, 2 SPUD Representatives.
- (x) Mrs Michelle Purdy, Miss Nicola Morrison, Mrs G McCormick, Neil Harrison, Michael Wylie.
- (y) Revs GR Connor, Gareth McFadden, JA Kirkpatrick; Scott Moore, Miss L Hutcheson.

B. RESEARCH AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Ms Lynda Gould, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Acting Director of Youth and Children's Ministry, 2 SPUD Representatives.
- (x) Mrs Sonia Mawhinney, Chris Hunter, Philip Scott, Matt McCracken.
- (y) Revs EJ Hyndman, RJ Montgomery; Stuart Hawthorne, Jonathan Boyd.

C. MINISTRY RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Rev DS Brownlow, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Acting Director of Youth and Children's Ministry, Children's Development Officer, Youth Development Officer, Young Adults' Development Officer, 2 SPUD Representatives.
- (x) Mrs Nicola Clarke, Ms Ruth Stronge, Miss Nicky Bradley, Pete Waugh, Jim McDowell.
- (y) Revs DM Shaw, Peter Turton, David Leach, PD Thompson; Jonathan Bell.

D. DISCIPLESHIP COMMITTEE

Rev Richard Houston, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Acting Director of Youth and Children's Ministry, Representative Board of Mission Overseas and Board of Mission in Ireland, Young Adults' Development Officer, 2 SPUD Representatives, Rev JH Flaherty.
- (x) Rev JA Curry; Mrs G Montgomery, Miss Ruth Spratt, Mrs L Robinson, Andrew Downey, Richard Houston.
- (y) Revs JM Gracey, JD Montgomery, AD Mullan, Andy Carroll; Jonathan Alexander, Andy Lamberton.

E. MINISTRY EVENTS COMMITTEE

Rev AJ Thompson, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Acting Director of Youth and Children's Ministry, 2 SPUD Representatives.
- (x) Mrs Sharon Karayiannis, Mrs Nikki Gillan, Mark Moorhead, Aaron Ditty, David Penney.
- (y) Revs NRA Cooper, MRJ Anderson; RWH Hill, Johnny Bell, Ross Collins.

**UNITED
APPEAL
BOARD**

The Report of the **UNITED APPEAL BOARD** (Reports pp 280-286) was submitted by the Rev RIA Allely.

Moved by the Rev RIA Allely, seconded by the Very Rev Dr John Dunlop, and agreed:

Resolutions

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the United Appeal for 2014 be as set out in the Schedules (III) and (IV).
3. That the General Assembly encourage all Congregations to make use of the available promotional materials.
4. That the General Assembly designate the first Sunday in March as United Appeal for Mission Sunday.
5. That the United Appeal Board for the ensuing year be appointed in accordance with Par 287 of the Code as follows:

UNITED APPEAL BOARD

Rev RIA Allely, Convener

The Clerk, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Board Convener.

- (b) Alexander Dalzell — AG Sleator — Rev NAL Cameron — Mrs Sadie McCullough — Rev AR Bill — Martin Hampton — R Nelson — Rev TJ Lavery — Rev AC Wilson — William Keown — James McDowell — Rev CM Hunter — Richard Fleming — J Bole — Rev DJ Temple — N Morrison — Rev KDW Crowe — Mrs Laura Martin — Rev Dr JJ Thompson.
- (g) Revs Dr John Dunlop, DJ Irvine; Miss DE McCaughan, Douglas Crowe, Raymond Adams, WK Belshaw, Peter McGimpsey, David McCleery.

GENERAL BOARD – debate resumed (see page 33)

The following Additional Report and Resolution of the **GENERAL BOARD** was submitted by the Rev Dr DJ Watts:

GENERAL BOARD (cont'd)

It has always been the intention of the Board of Christian Training that the Principal of Union College should be the chair of both the Faculty of the College and of The Presbyterian Theological Faculty, Ireland.

The Faculty of the College consists of “the Principal and the Professors of the College for the time being and such other person or persons as the General Assembly on the proposal of the Faculty shall appoint”. (Union Theological College of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Act 1978). However, the Presbyterian Theological Faculty Ireland, as specified by the “Charter authorising the Faculty of the Colleges of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland to grant degrees,” consists only of professors. While the Overture anent Par 118(3) of the Code (Supplementary Reports p N), if approved, will bring the Code into line with the intention of the College Management Committee, the General Assembly’s Solicitor now believes that further steps may need to be taken to recognise the provisions of the Act and Charter, or even possibly to consider changes to them. Rather than bring rushed legislation to this Assembly, the General Board, with the permission of the Business Board, recommends that a Commission be appointed under The Code Par 126 to act with Assembly powers on this matter.

RESOLUTION 37(a)

That a Commission be appointed as outlined in the Supplementary Report consisting of: Moderator, Clerk, Clerk-Designate, V Rev Dr HA Dunlop; Rev JNI McNeely.

DJ WATTS

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev Prof JP Taylor and agreed:

19. That the General Assembly note the intention of the Moderator’s Advisory Committee to initiate discussions on human sexuality.

Moderator’s Advisory

20. That the Moderator’s Advisory Committee, in the light of questions related to issues of human sexuality, is instructed to consider further any implications for leadership in the Church.

21. That the General Assembly provide a grant of £1,500 for the Conciliation Service in 2013 and authorise the General Board to provide a realistic budget for training, development and promotion of conciliation in 2014.

22. That the General Assembly instruct the Structures Review Panel, or other appropriate body, to consider the co-ordination and promotion of conciliation in any review of staffing responsibilities.

23. That the Conciliation Report, especially the recommendations for Presbyteries, be sent to Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions for consideration and comment, to be returned to the Clerk of Assembly by 31 December, 2013.

24. That the Clerk of the General Assembly be instructed to consider ways in which The Code could affirm conciliation as an early step in the resolution of disputes and report to the next Assembly, with Code changes if appropriate.

25. That the Union Commission be instructed to consider the Conciliation Report, especially the sections on the vacancy process and calling a minister, and report with recommendations to the next Assembly.

26. That the General Assembly encourage the Board of Christian Training to continue to consider ways to promote an ethos of conciliation during ministerial and elder training-development.

Pastoral Care

27. That the General Assembly encourage each Presbytery to recognise and support the person whose role it is to care pastorally for its Manse families.

Church Relations

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Very Rev Dr HA Dunlop and agreed:

28. That the General Assembly appoint the following to:

ICC Executive – Revs John Brackenridge, Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie, Trevor Gribben.

Irish Inter-Church Committee – Revs Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie; Trevor Gribben.

29. That the following grants (approx.) be made:

Irish Council of Churches	£20,000
Irish Inter-Church Meeting	£11,000
World Communion of Reformed Churches	£13,000
Conference of European Churches	£5,500
Conference of European Churches (Assembly)	£2,000
Community of Protestant Churches	£1,250

Reception of Ministers and Licentiates

30. That the General Assembly adopt the recommendations of the Reception of Ministers and Licentiates Committee on Ministers and Licentiates without charge.

31. That the General Assembly approve the changes in interview procedure and eligible age for call contained in the report of the Committee on the Reception of Ministers and Licentiates.

Elders

32. That the resignation of the Very Rev Dr JM Finlay as Convener of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Elders' Terms be accepted; that he be thanked for his services and the Rev Dr RB Savage appointed in his place.

33. That the General Assembly direct Presbyteries, Kirk Sessions and Congregational Committees to address the challenge contained within the “Grace of Giving” initiative. **Grace of Giving**

34. That the General Assembly recommend the Diocese of Liverpool’s “Giving in Grace” programme as a comprehensive resource and requests congregations to consider making use of it or some similar programme.

35. That the General Assembly recommend that the issue of Christian Giving be raised during vacancies by the Union Commission and Vacancy Commissions and routinely as a part of the regular consultation process.

36. That the General Assembly authorise the Committee to produce a clear, accessible, imaginative and challenging leaflet for every member of the church on the theme of “The Grace of Giving” expressing gratitude and thanks with an accompanying message from the Moderator and that it be a charge on the Incidental Fund.

37. That the following budgets be authorised to be paid from the Incidental Fund: **General**

General Work of the Board	£12,000
Church and Society (general)	£2,000
Pastoral Care Panel	£500
Priorities Committee	£10,000
Good Relations Panel	£2,000
Churches Legislation Advisory	£2,400

38. That the General Assembly transfer the pension commitment of the Board of Christian Training in respect of retired ministers who served as Assembly Professors to the Retired Ministers Fund.

39. That the General Assembly request the General Assembly’s Trustees to positively consider the request for a significant grant towards the schemes of repair of stonework at Union Theological College.

40. That a Commission be appointed as outlined in the Supplementary Report consisting of: Moderator, Clerk, Clerk-Designate, V Rev Dr HA Dunlop; Rev JNI McNeely.

41. That a grant of £17,750 be paid from the Incidental Fund to the Presbyterian Historical Society.

42. That the General Board with its associated working Committees for the ensuing year, be appointed in accordance with Par 272 of the Code as follows:

GENERAL BOARD

The Clerk, Convener

(a) Moderator, Clerk of Assembly, preceding three Moderators and former Clerks of Assembly, Assembly Conveners and Secretaries of Commissions and Boards.

(b) Revs Dr RA Russell, Dr WP Addley; Alan Boyd, Peter Davison —

Revs James Gordon, CG Harris; G Russell, JG MacQueen — Revs JJ Andrews, RM Murray; J Lamont, H Kenneway — Revs TC Morrison, DW Brice; HA Groves, Tommy McWatters — CWL Graham; Rev WJ Orr; Mrs R Wilson, O McAuley — DC Cowan; Rev AC Rankin; John McKibbin, Sam Miskelly — Revs TJ Stothers, RJ Gilkinson; R Kennedy, Brian Clenaghan — Revs WI Hunter, RD Gregg; Cecil Lynn, George McIntyre — Revs Dr TR Buick, Dr David Latimer; Mrs Ruby Millar, David Amour — Revs Dr BCG Black, MM Stewart; John Hanna, William McCall — Revs JI Davey, Paul Jamieson; M Noble, Miss Evelyn Whyte — Stuart Ferguson; Rev Andy Carroll; AW Finlay — Revs Dr IJ Patterson, RA Moffett; JB McClean, Dr Denis McLeod — Revs SG Anketell, GJ Mackarel; David Russell, Charles Mills — Revs SA Finlay, WT Bingham; James Chestnutt, Dr Helen McDowell — Revs Robert Herron, PJ Nelson; N Baxter, TR Reid — Revs Noel McClean, Dr JA Thompson; Victor McLean, — Revs WJ Murdock, Brian Kennaway; Mrs Adrienne Bowden, George Lynn — Revs TJ Conway, AS Thompson; Orr Gibson, WGN Johnston.

- (g) Revs Dr RI Birney, DH Thompson, Dr JW Lockington, Dr RB Savage, RA McLernon; Mrs Caroline Hawthorne, Mrs Deborah Webster, Mrs Sarah Harding, Mrs Avril Heenan, Mrs Pauline Kennedy, Miss Muriel Cromie, Ms Laura Kelly, Mervyn McCullagh, Graeme Thompson.

A. CHURCH AND SOCIETY COMMITTEE

Revs Dr TN Hamilton; _____, Co-Conveners

- (a) The Moderator, preceding Moderator, Clerk, former Clerks, and Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Moderator-Designate, Global Concerns Convener, Church and Society Conveners, Press and Media Secretary, Rev AJ Boal.
- (x) Revs John Brackenridge, AC Wilson, JA Kirkpatrick; Edgar Jardine, Miss Elizabeth McCaffrey.
- (y) Revs WT Bingham, Brian Kennaway, RM Murray; HA Groves, DC Cowan.

B. GLOBAL CONCERNS

Rev Dr AF Nel, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Committee Convener, Conveners of Environment, Building Good Relations, Race Relations Panels, Representative of Board of Mission Overseas, Church Relations.
- (y) Revs Dr WP Addley, Dr RA Russell; Alan Boyd.

C. CHURCH RELATIONS

Rev L Kennedy-Ritchie, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Committee Convener, Prof of Systematic Theology, Representative of Youth and Children's Ministry,

Board of Mission in Ireland, Board of Mission Overseas and Global Concerns.

- (x) Revs TJ Wilson, DB Knox, Simon Henning.
- (y) Revs JJ Andrews, Dr RA Russell; Stuart Ferguson.

D. DOCTRINE COMMITTEE

Principal, UTC, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, General Assembly's Theological Professors.
- (x) Revs SD Finlay, Dr Michael McClenahan; R Thompson, Dr TD Alexander, Dr Cynthia Brown, Miss D Ford.
- (y) Revs Robert Herron, GJ Mackarel, Dr RA Russell, SA Finlay, AJ Boal, RA Moffett.

E. PRIORITIES COMMITTEE

The Clerk, Convener

- (a) The Moderator, Clerk, Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Board Secretaries.
- (x) Conveners of: Union Commission; Mission Overseas, Mission in Ireland; Social Witness; Youth and Children's Ministry; Christian Training; Finance and Personnel; United Appeal Boards.
- (y) Revs Dr RA Russell, RA Moffett, PJ Nelson; Mrs Adrienne Bowden, Mrs Rosemary Wilson, DC Cowan, CWL Graham, Stuart Ferguson.

F. MODERATOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Clerk, Convener

- (a) The Moderator, preceding three Moderators, Clerk, former Clerks, Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Press and Media Secretary.
- (x) Rev DR Baker; Mrs Lisa Skinner, Mrs Cherry Poynton, Lindsay Conway, Joe Campbell.
- (y) Revs JJ Andrews, TJ Conway, SG Anketell; Mrs Adrienne Bowden, Mrs Ruby Millar.

G. RECEPTION OF MINISTERS AND LICENTIATES COMMITTEE

Rev Dr IJ Patterson, Convener

- (a) The Moderator, Clerk, Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Committee Convener, Convener of Board of Christian Training, Convener and Director of Ministerial Studies, Convener Church Relations, Principal UTC, Secretary of Board of Mission in Ireland.
- (x) Revs KWJ Hanna, TN Bingham, PA McBride, Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie; David McMullan, Miss Anne Taylor.
- (y) Revs SA Finlay, WJ Murdock, TC Morrison; Mrs Adrienne Bowden, Alan Boyd, Stuart Ferguson.

The sederunt came to a close at 6.05 pm, the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

On Wednesday evening, 5th June 2013, at 8.00 p.m., an Evening Celebration was held in the Millennium Forum led by the Moderator.

SIXTH SESSION

Thursday, 6th June 2013

9.30am

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

**BOARD OF
FINANCE AND
PERSONNEL**

The Report of the **BOARD OF FINANCE AND PERSONNEL** (Reports pp 231-279) was submitted by Mr John Hunter, CB, together with the following supplementary report:

1. A summary of the financial returns for 2013 received from Presbyteries is shown in the appended table.

2. The Pensions and Assessments Committee received from the Templepatrick Presbytery confirmation that permission had been granted to the Rev John Holmes (First Randalstown and Duneane) to retire on 31 October 2013. The Committee granted permission to the Rev John Irvine Davey (Hillsborough) under Par 223(3) leave to retire on or after his 64th birthday on 11 April 2014 and a resolution is appended.

3. The Board wishes to report that at the time the Summary of the Statistical Returns from Congregations was prepared for the General Assembly (Reports pages 248 to 256) nine Congregations had not submitted a return. These have subsequently been received.

4. Representative of the Board of Finance and Personnel met with representative of the Charity Commission (CCNI) on 20 May 2013 to consider issues arising for the Church from the implementations of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. Discussions included:

- (a) consideration of what bodies should be the Charity Trustees for the General Assembly, Presbyteries and individual Congregations;
- (b) eligibility of individuals to serve as Charity Trustees and how potential conflicts of interest might be addressed;
- (c) confirmation that the Code would be acceptable as the constitution for registration purposes and;
- (d) registration timescales and reporting arrangements.

5. As some of the issues arising are beyond the remit of the Board, it is proposed that a Panel under the General Board be established to consider relevant issues and report to the General Assembly in 2014. Subject to confirmation

from CCNI this would allow for an “en-block” registration in the second half of 2014. CCNI have indicated that there will be a period of consultation on the accounting and reporting requirements later this year. The Board wish to thank CCNI for accommodating this meeting and for helpful advice and guidance on the registration process.

6. At present there is one charity registration for Congregations in the Republic of Ireland. Consistent with the approach being adopted in Northern Ireland each Congregation will be required to obtain its own registration. In anticipation of the implementation of the Charities Act 2009 and the setting up of a Charity Commission in the Republic, preliminary correspondence has been exchanged with the Revenue Commissions regarding the registration process. Information will be issued to Congregations in due course.

7. The Boards wishes to acknowledge the valuable contribution made by the Rev David Porter, Convener of the Pensions and Assessment Committee. Mr Porter took over the Convenership in June 2011 but for personal reason has decided to stand down. He approached his role with commitment and enthusiasm and his wide knowledge of Church affairs has served the Committee well. The Board is pleased that Mr Basil McCorrison has indicated a willingness to take over as Committee Convener.

SUMMARY OF PRESBYTERY RETURNS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

£stg unless indicated

	Assessment	INCOME		EXPENDITURE				TOTAL EXPENDITURE	SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	CLOSING BALANCE		
		OPENING BALANCE	Congre- gations	Other	TOTAL INCOME	Presbytery Clerk	Other Staff				Insurance	Other
1	Ard	22,557	17,447	42	17,489	(9,823)	(6,082)	(214)	(3,041)	(19,170)	(1,681)	20,876
2	Armagh	3,794	10,216	539	10,755	(8,500)	(599)	(207)	(1,099)	(10,405)	350	4,144
3	Ballymena	17,129	15,465	11,812	27,277	(11,125)	(2,000)	(207)	(21,480)	(34,812)	(7,535)	9,594
4	Belfast North	11,075	13,573	1,469	15,042	(10,716)	(3,522)	(306)	(4,142)	(18,686)	(3,644)	7,431
5	Belfast South	10,253	15,266	4,950	20,216	(7,990)	(4,908)	(207)	(4,754)	(17,859)	2,357	12,610
6	Belfast East	145,669	22,631	5,562	28,193	(7,649)	(4,092)	(207)	(17,621)	(29,569)	(1,376)	144,293
7	Carrickfergus	12,003	10,394	483	10,877	(9,449)	(556)	(127)	(3,014)	(13,146)	(2,269)	9,734
8	Coleraine & Limavady	36,864	15,051	0	15,051	(10,017)	(860)	(207)	(1,402)	(12,486)	2,565	39,429
9	Derry & Donegal	26,109	12,751	17,319	30,070	(4,799)	(897)	(207)	(23,133)	(29,036)	1,034	27,143
10	Down	30,382	7,447	63	7,510	(6,188)	(1,000)	(206)	(1,416)	(8,810)	(1,300)	29,082
11	Dromore	2,042	12,805	0	12,805	(10,236)	(1,600)	(207)	(596)	(12,639)	166	2,208
12	€ Dublin & Munster	55,413	20,028	22,112	42,140	(8,433)	(25,506)	(646)	(16,398)	(50,983)	(8,843)	46,570
13	Iveagh	11,308	13,212	1,319	14,531	(10,927)	(450)	(207)	(3,386)	(14,970)	(439)	10,869
14	€ Monaghan	60,675	5,620	21,467	27,087	(2,050)	(2,875)	(403)	(24,034)	(29,362)	(2,275)	58,400
15	Newry	2,387	9,039	573	9,612	(7,109)	(300)	(127)	(1,254)	(8,790)	822	3,209
16	Omagh	13,126	10,396	513	10,909	(7,170)	(1,799)	(207)	(1,525)	(10,701)	208	13,334
17	Route	167,794	11,489	6,768	18,257	(8,856)	0	(207)	(8,246)	(47,309)	(29,052)	138,742
18	Templepatrick	9,496	18,407	2,424	20,831	(8,020)	(430)	(272)	(6,551)	(15,273)	5,558	15,054
19	Tyrone	622	9,667	624	10,291	(7,392)	(1,000)	(313)	(1,465)	(10,170)	121	743
	Sterling	522,610	225,256	54,460	279,716	(145,966)	(30,105)	(3,635)	(134,125)	(313,831)	(34,115)	488,495
	Euro	116,088	25,648	43,579	69,227	(10,483)	(28,381)	(1,049)	(40,432)	(80,345)	(11,118)	104,970

Moved by Mr John Hunter, CB, seconded by the Rev DC Porter, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the overall rate of assessment on Congregations for 2013 based on Congregations assessable income for 2011 be:

Resolutions

Assessment Band	Assessable Income (£)		Assessment Rate
	From	To	
1	0	65,000	14.00%
2	65,000	130,000	10.50%
3	130,000	195,000	7.00%
4	195,000	260,000	3.50%
5	260,000	and above	0.00%

and that amounts collected be allocated to the various assessment funds based on the following budgeted collected amounts:

	2013
Central Ministry Fund	£2,532,000
Retired Ministers Fund	£155,000
Widows of Ministers Fund	£410,000
Prolonged Disability Fund	£28,000
Incidental Fund	£519,000
Ministerial Development Fund	£27,000
Church House External Work	£370,000
Sick Supply Fund	£26,000
Students Bursary Fund	<u>£425,000</u>
TOTAL	<u>£4,492,000</u>

3. That the rate of assessment for the PCI Pension (2009) Fund for 2013 be 27.5% of stipend.

4. That in the light of the report of the Doctrine Committee, the Board of Finance and Personnel requests the permission of the Assembly to withdraw the report of the Tyrone Memorial Review Panel for further consideration and examination and to report with recommendations to the 2014 General Assembly.

5. That under the provisions of the Code Par 556(3) the Rev GBS Gibson (Railway Street, Lisburn) be given permission to retire on or after his 64th birthday, on 31 October 2013.

6. That under the provisions of the Code Par 556(3) the Very Rev Dr IJ Patterson (Newcastle) be given permission to retire on or after his 64th birthday, on 15 July 2013.

7. That under the provisions of the Code Par 223(3) the Rev John Irvine Davey (Hillsborough) is given permission to retire on or after his 64th birthday, on 11 April 2014.

8. That the General Assembly agree that a Panel under the General Board be established to consider issues arising out of the implementation of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

9. That the resignation of the Rev David Porter as Convener of the Pensions and Assessments Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that Mr Basil McCorrison be appointed in his place.

10. That the Board of Finance and Personnel, with its associated working Committees for the ensuing year, be appointed in accordance with Par 286 of the Code as follows:

BOARD OF FINANCE AND PERSONNEL

John Hunter, Convener

Clive Knox, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Financial Secretary, Convener of Union Commission.
- (b) Rev TWD Johnston; Alexander Dalzell — Rev Barry Reid; WK Belshaw — Rev Dr DA Murphy; Lyle Cubitt — David McConkey, Roy Eakin — Rev Dr WI Hull; RD Guiller — JD McKibbin, Martin Hampton — Mrs A Barron, Ronnie Nelson — Rev Dr David Clarke; Basil McCorrison — Rev RA Mulholland; Stewart Ramsey — Norman Jackson, Desmond Milligan — Rev John Brackenridge; R McCullagh — Alan Foster, Stuart Ferguson — Rev Dr MCA Gray; Leslie White — Rev RS Agnew; Allan McAdoo — Rev DJ Irvine; John Peacock — N Baxter, E Stevenson — Rev Dr PB Wilson; Robert McKane — TJ Livingstone, Alex Chestnutt — Nigel Kane, Kenneth Sharkey.

A. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, LEGAL AND IT

Robert McCullagh, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Financial Secretary.
- (x) RD Guiler, Alan Meban, Robert McKane.
- (y) Revs. Dr WI Hull; Martin Hampton, Stewart Ramsey.

B. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Robert Campton, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Board Convener, Committee Convener, Head of Personnel, Financial Secretary.
- (x) Ian Moore, Len Murray, John Francey.
- (y) Revs Dr PB Wilson, Dr WI Hull; Desmond Milligan.

C. PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Rev RA McLernon; Convener

Jonathan Kelly, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener and Secretary, Financial Secretary.
- (x) JDD O'Neill, John Francey.
- (y) Rev Dr David Clarke; Ronnie Nelson, Basil McCorrison.

D. PENSIONS AND ASSESSMENTS COMMITTEE

Basil McCorrison, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Financial Secretary, Rev DC Porter.
- (x) Revs R McIlhatton, DJ Irvine; Brian Topping, Clarence Scott.
- (y) Rev TWD Johnston; Ronnie Nelson, Alex Chestnutt, Leslie White, Roy Eakin.

The Report of the **TRUSTEES** (Reports pp 288-292) was submitted by Mr DA Crowe, together with the following supplementary report:

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

In order to implement the changes to Trustee governance all existing Trustees were contacted. Those who have decided not to continue are warmly thanked for their commitment in the past. The following Trustees have chosen to resign as the changes are implemented – Revs RJA Bell, WPH Erskine, Dr RJT McMullan, DS Graham; J Millar, OBE; J Suitters, WC Henderson, A Speer, K Gillanders, G McCullagh.

It should be noted with appreciation that Mr John Millar OBE and Mr George McCullagh also served very faithfully on the Executive Committee for many years.

It is also recommended that the Rev TD Gribben be appointed as a Trustee of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. An appropriate resolution is appended.

Moved by Mr DA Crowe, seconded by the Rev WJ Orr, OBE, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the recommendation regarding the Mrs AM Davidson Trust be adopted.
3. That the recommendation regarding the Sir Wm V McCleery Trust be adopted.
4. That the recommendation regarding the Miss Irene Scott Trust be adopted.
5. That the recommendation regarding the Miss Ida Mary McGeown Trust be adopted.
6. That the recommendation regarding the Victor Morrow Trust be adopted.

Resolutions

7. That the General Assembly agree to a single governing Trustee body, as outlined, and approve the revised Bye Laws.

8. That in accordance with the Will of the late John Getty the following be constituted as the Committee for the “direction and management of the application” of the income from the Getty Bequest:

Very Revs Dr D Clarke, Dr S Hutchinson; Revs Dr DJ Watts, TD Gribben; Sir Bruce Robinson, N Bennett, D Crowe, AT Ross.

9. That the General Assembly note with thanks and appreciation the names of those who have resigned as Trustees and especially note those who contributed faithfully as members of the Executive Committee.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW TRUSTEE

Moved by Mr DA Crowe, seconded by the Rev WJ Orr, OBE, and agreed:

That the Rev Trevor David Gribben be, and is hereby nominated and appointed by the General Assembly as a Trustee of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland in room of the Rev DS Graham, resigned, and of the due appointment of the Rev Trevor David Gribben as a said Trustee attestation is made by the signature of the Moderator of the General Assembly and of the Clerk of the General Assembly in accordance with the provisions of the Irish Presbyterian Church Act, 1871.

ROBERT L CRAIG

Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

DONALD J WATTS

Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

6th June 2013

The **Overtures anent Pars 97(h); 286(2); Appendix 15 of the Code** (Reports pp 292-295) were submitted by the Rev WJ Orr, OBE.

Moved by Rev WJ Orr, OBE, seconded by DA Crowe, and agreed:

Overtures

1. That the overture anent Par 97(h) of the Code be received and placed on the books.

2. That the overture anent Par 97(h) of the Code be made an Interim Act.

Moved by the Rev WJ Orr, OBE, seconded by DA Crowe, and agreed: That the overtures anent Pars 286(2) and Appendix 15 of the Code be received and that, under Par 111 of the Code, they be made the rule of the Church.

COMMISSION OF TRUSTS

The Report of the **COMMISSION ON TRUSTS** (Reports p 287) was submitted by Mr AJ Rankin.

Moved by Mr AJ Rankin, seconded by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, and agreed:

Resolutions

1. That the Report be received.

2. That the General Assembly authorise the Commission on Trusts to review its role and function and report to the next Assembly.

3. That the Commission on Trusts for the ensuing year be appointed in accordance with Par 130 of the Code as follows:-

COMMISSION ON TRUSTS

A.J. Rankin, Convener

Moderator, Clerk, Convener; Revs Dr David Clarke, Dr Samuel Hutchinson, WJ Orr, Robert Cobain, TD Gribben; Messrs AT Ross, Douglas Crowe, Norman Bennett, Leslie McKeague.

BOARD OF SOCIAL WITNESS – debate resumed (see page 38)

BOARD OF
SOCIAL
WITNESS
(cont'd)

Moved by Mr Lindsay Conway, OBE, seconded by the Rev RA Liddle and agreed:

5. That the Assembly recognise that Health Care Chaplaincy is under considerable threat and support the Board of Social Witness as it addresses the issues.

6. That the General Assembly commend all Congregations, Boards and Projects for responding to the hardships experienced as a result of Welfare Reform.

Additional Resolution:

7. That the General Assembly request the Board of Social Witness, in conjunction with SPUD, to organise an appropriate event to raise awareness of the issues outlined in Paragraph 12 (Reports, p 174) and Resolution 3 of the Board Report.

8. That the Board of Social Witness, with its associated working Committees for the ensuing year, be appointed with Par 281 of the Code as follows:

SOCIAL WITNESS BOARD

Rev RA Liddle, Convener

L Conway, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener and Secretary, Residential Services Manager.
- (b) Revs CJC McMullen, Dr WJA Sleith; _____ — Revs WJI Thompson, PL McKelvey; Mrs Sadie Somerville — Revs DJ Kane, DB McCorrison; Mrs Phyllis Linton — Revs Dr Norman Hamilton, Samuel Newell; Miss Doreen Draffin — Revs BR Hughes, AE Tolland, _____ — Mrs Margaret Cromie, Don Harley, Mrs Sylvia

McCracken — Revs David Chapman, GAJ Farquhar; Mrs Kay Fisher — Rev Dr RA Kane; Mrs Lorna Livingston, Miss Helen Lowry — Revs Amanda Best, PE Linkens, KA Jones — Rev _____; Barry Redhead, Mrs Joan Telford — Miss J McKee, Brian Magowan, Mrs A Magowan — Revs SW Rea; Ms Elizabeth Nicholson, _____ — Rev Kenneth Nelson; Mrs Ruby Hamilton, Mrs Sharon Henry — Rev WJA Buchanan; Mrs Joyce Blackburn, Wilfred Carleton — Rev NJE Reid; RE McWilliams, Mrs Esther Barry — Rev RB Thompson; Mrs EM Patterson, Miss IM Anderson — Revs Dr Mark Jones, JP Stanbridge; Mrs Michele McClean — Rev ES McDowell; JH McClurg, Mrs Jane Robinson — Revs SJM Lindsay, Dr AR Rodgers; Mrs Eva Russell.

- (p) President, Home Vice President and General Secretary of PW; Ms Jean Annette, Mrs Evelyn Coleman, Mrs Lynda Stothers, Dr Jean Shannon, Mrs Anne Thompson.

A. SPECIALIST MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

Very Rev Dr WD Patton, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Director of Social Service, Convener Kinghan Church, Chaplains, Forces, Student Services Committees.
- (x) Miss Muriel Cromie, Mrs Carol Houston, Mrs Sadie McCullough.
- (y) Revs SJM Lindsay, David Chapman; Mrs Kay Fisher.

B. OLDER PEOPLE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Rev JN Seawright, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Director of Social Service, Residential Services Manager.
- (x) Local Support Committee Representatives.
- (y) Revs Amanda Best, NJE Reid; Mrs Sadie Somerville, Mrs Evelyn Coleman, Mrs Caroline Hawthorne, Mrs Lynda Stothers, Ms Elizabeth Nicholson, Mrs Esther Barry.

C. FAMILY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Rev Anne Tolland, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Director of Social Service, Conveners Learning Disability; Disability, Health and Wellbeing, Addiction Services, PCI Family Holiday; Residential Services Manager.
- (x) Miss Joyce McKee, Mrs Margaret McGuigan, Mrs Sylvia McCracken.
- (y) Rev GAJ Farquhar; Miss Doreen Draffin, Don Harley.

D. ADULT SERVICES COMMITTEE

Rev CW Megaw, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Director of Social Service, Conveners Carlisle House and Thompson House, Residential Services Manager.
- (x) Rev Terry Laverty; Harry Minion, John Luke.
- (y) Revs PE Linkens, Dr Mark Jones; Mrs Andrea Magowan.

Intermission

The Report of the **BOARD OF EDUCATION** (Reports pp 223-230) was submitted by the Rev Dr CD McClure.

**BOARD OF
EDUCATION**

Moved by the Rev Dr CD McClure, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly welcome the continuing cooperation with Scripture Union in the production of *Back to School with God 2013 "Dig Down Deep"* materials and encourage all Congregations to use this resource as a valuable means of encouraging Christians engaged in education and in supporting their local school/s.
3. That the General Assembly express thanks to those who fulfill demanding responsibilities in the oversight of the small but significant number of National Schools in the Republic of Ireland under Presbyterian Patronage, especially in this time of severe financial restraints and rationalisation.
4. That the General Assembly, noting with concern the recent cuts in the funding available for secondary education in the Republic of Ireland and the disproportionate effect such cuts have had on many Secondary Schools under Protestant management, call upon the Government to ensure that ongoing policy protects minority rights within the State and secures the future of Secondary Schools with a Protestant ethos.
5. That the General Assembly thank those who represent the Presbyterian Church in fulfilling statutory responsibilities in Northern Ireland in schools, Education and Library Boards and the Transferor Representatives' Council, and acknowledge the exceptional demands being made on the time, energy, wisdom, fortitude and forbearance of those who serve in this way.
6. That the Board of Education be appointed in accordance with Par 284 of the Code as follows:

Resolutions

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Rev Dr Colin McClure, Convener

Rev TD Gribben, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator, Clerk and Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Principal UTC, Full-time University Chaplains, Transferors' Representatives on Area Boards, Directors of Primary & Secondary Education in the Republic of Ireland.
- (b) Revs WG Cameron, RJ Montgomery — Revs DJ Hutchinson, DS Henry — Rev WE Chestnutt; I Hutchinson — Rev Brian McMillen; William McDowell — Prof F Boal, CWL Graham — Miss Joan Williams, Mrs Hilary Gourley — Mrs N Johnstone, Richard Wallace — Rev ME Donald; Mrs Jennifer Campbell — Alan Rowan, Mrs Christine Edwards — Rev TW Gordon; Gary McCreery — J Wilkinson, AJ Cochrane — Ross McCarter, Mrs Eleanor Petrie — Rev MN Davidson; M Patton — Rev TD Hagan; Ronnie Gillanders — Revs MB Wilson, NJE Reid — Rev RA Campbell; T McDaniel — Rev DIJ McNie; Mrs SE Cusick — Mrs IK Nesbitt, DMCC Humphries — Rev IF Smith; Ms Nancy Anderson.
- (g) Revs Stanley Stewart, James Rogers; John Shivers, Mrs M Robinson, Dr M Hollinger, Mrs J Bell, Miss Barbara McDade, Uel McCrea.

**GENERAL
BOARD
ADDITIONAL**

Moved as a licensed additional resolution by the Very Rev Dr JW Lockington, seconded by the Very Rev Dr IJ Patterson:

That the General Assembly instruct the General Board to draw up a job description for the post of Deputy Clerk and take all other necessary steps to present a nomination to the General Assembly of 2014.

Moved as an amendment by the Very Rev Dr David Clarke, seconded by the Rev JR Dickinson, and agreed:

39a. That the General Assembly instruct the General Board to take all necessary steps to provide appropriate assistance for the Clerk-Designate, including if appropriate bringing a nomination for Deputy Clerk to the General Assembly of 2014, and at any rate to report to the next Assembly.

On being put to the House, the substantive motion was declared passed.

The Assembly engaged in worship conducted by the Moderator and others. The Moderator invited the Rev Philip McKelvey to address the Assembly.

The sederunt came to a close at 1.10 p.m., the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

SEVENTH SESSION

Thursday, 6th June, 2013

2.00pm

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

The Report of the **UNION COMMISSION** (Reports pp 101-123), was submitted by the Rev WJ Henry, together with the following Supplementary Report:

**UNION
COMMISSION**

1. Overture to amend Par 82(4) of the Code (ref. Use of a Manse as security for loans)

The issue of whether a Manse could be used as security for a loan was raised with the Commission. Currently the law of the Church prohibits the disposal of a Manse, or indeed the temporary letting of a Manse, without a congregation first obtaining the permission of both Presbytery and Union Commission. The relevant clause in Par 82(4) of the Code currently reads:

“No manse, glebe, or manse farm, shall be let or sold, nor its proceeds used for any purpose, without the consent of Presbytery and of the Union Commission having been first obtained.”

The Commission concluded that, as the use of a Manse as security for a loan meant that it could potentially be lost to the Congregation, it was consistent with the current provisions of the Code that the permission of both Presbytery and Union Commission should be required before a Manse could be used in this way. An overture anent Par 82(4) to effect this change is transmitted to the Assembly (see Reports p 123), which if accepted would not prohibit a Congregation using their Manse as security for a loan but would require the appropriate approvals to be sought.

2. Eligibility of Licentiate Assistants

The issue of the eligibility of Licentiate Assistants being considered as candidates for a vacancy in the congregation in which they are currently serving as an assistant was raised with the Commission. The Commission noted that the position is generally accepted that an assistant should not be called as minister of the congregation in which they assist. However, the Code reflects the position where there would not have been an assistant in a congregation of fewer than 350 families (formerly 500 families). Hence the provision of Par 193(2)(a) (the section referring to congregations having 350 or more families), making explicit the fact that assistants are not eligible to be called as the minister of the congregation in which they serve has not been included in Par 193(1) (the section referring to congregations having less than 350 families).

The Commission agreed that an appropriate overture to rectify this situation should be submitted to the 2013 General Assembly (see below).

3. Policy regarding vacancies in light of numbers of available ministers

Following an update from the Deputy Clerk, when it was noted that over the next number of years the number of Assistants unable to obtain a call was likely to increase, the Commission at its May meeting agreed the following:

- a. That when a congregation or linkage can fund the full cost of a Minister (and demonstrate that this can be sustained going into the future), and when there is clear missional intent, and when the needs of neighbouring congregations do not dictate otherwise, the Commission should actively consider issuing leave to call, even for smaller congregations or linkages.
- b. That with regard to Associate Ministers, leave to call should no longer be restricted on the basis of the size of a congregation, though congregations would continue to be expected to fund all costs of such posts, except in certain missional situations where the Commission could set the congregation's contribution to stipend at a rate lower than Ministerial Minimum.
- c. That the Allocation Committee should examine the Commission's procedures for dealing with vacancies, especially when leave to call is initially declined, with the aim of minimising unnecessary delays.

Overture OVERTURE TRANSMITTED - Anent Par 193(1)(a)(ii) of the Code

It is hereby overtured to the General Assembly to enact that in Par 193(1)(a)(ii) of the Code the word "satisfactorily." be deleted and the words "satisfactorily, provided that they have not been serving in the congregation immediately prior to or at any time during the vacancy." be substituted in its place.

Moved by the Rev WJ Henry, seconded by the Rev PG McCrea and agreed:

Resolutions

1. That the Report be received.
2. That CMF be authorized to pay inadequate expenses grants towards expenses incurred by Ministers, up to a limit of NI £6,650 or RI €10,000, within the terms of res 3, p 70 General Assembly Minutes, 1988.
3. That the guidelines on Deferred Linkages be noted.
4. That the guidelines for Presbyteries on the Appointment of APPs be noted.
5. That the Union Commission be appointed for the ensuing year in accordance with Par 128 of the Code as follows:

COMMISSION ON UNION OF CONGREGATIONS

Rev WJ Henry, Convener

Rev EP Gamble, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator, Clerk, Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Commission Convener and Secretary, Board of Mission in Ireland Secretary, Strategy

for Mission Convener, Representative of Central Ministry Fund.

- (b) Rev Dr DR Purce; Miss Pearl Hassard — Rev RIA Allely; James Whittle — Rev Desmond Knowles; Dr S Paul — Rev CJ Gamble; Roy Thompson — Rev RJ Greer; Brian Milligan — Rev William McKeown; Robert Tinney — Rev Dr CA Grant; Norman Carmichael — Rev JG Jones; Colin Beck — Rev Dr Brian Brown; Eric Christie — Rev RI Abraham; Norman Jackson — Rev Dr WTJ Richardson; Dr C Reid — Rev JG Faris; Stuart Ferguson — Rev TJ Hagan; Henry Plester — Rev TD Hagan; George McConkey — Revs RK Graham; WJ McKee — Rev CFD Clements; JB Wilson — Rev Denis Bannerman; David Smyth — Rev John Holmes; TJ Livingstone — Rev GWD Stewart; Dr Harold McNeill.
- (c) Revs Dr JW Lockington, Dr SDH Williamson, JH McIntyre, AE Tolland, AD Davidson, PG McCrea; John Stanage.

The **Overture anent Par 128(1) of the Code** (Reports p 123) was submitted by the Rev TD Gribben. **Overtures**

Moved by the Rev TD Gribben, seconded by the Rev WJ Henry, and agreed: That the overture anent Par 128(1) of the Code, having lain on the books for one year, be enacted as the law of the Church.

The **Overture anent Par 82(4) of the Code** (Reports p 123) was submitted by the Rev TD Gribben.

Moved by the Rev TD Gribben, seconded by the Rev WJ Henry, and agreed:

1. That the overture anent Par 82(4) of the Code be received and placed on the books.
2. That the overture anent Par 82(4) of the Code be made an Interim Act.

The **Overture anent Par 274(8) of the Code** (Reports p 123) was submitted by the Rev TD Gribben.

Moved by the Rev TD Gribben, seconded by the Rev WJ Henry and agreed: That the overture anent Par 274(8) of the Code be received and that, under Par 111 of the Code, it be made the rule of the Church.

The **Overture anent Par 193(1)(a)(ii) of the Code** (as above) was submitted by the Rev TD Gribben.

Moved by the Rev TD Gribben, seconded by the Rev WJ Henry and agreed: That the overture anent Par 193 (1)(a)(ii) of the Code be received and that, under Par 111 of the Code, it be made the rule of the Church.

Intermission

In Private

JUDICIAL COMMISSION The Report of the **JUDICIAL COMMISSION** (Reports pp 97-99, together with the Judicial Commission Confidential Report) was submitted by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, together with the following Supplementary Report:

Under the current provisions of The Code, Par 224, an elder may be removed from office in the congregation where a Presbytery has concluded that the usefulness of a minister has been seriously impaired by the conduct of that elder. The Judicial Commission has been concerned that it must be shown the ministers usefulness has been impaired in order to remove an elder from office. An overture is now being brought to enable a Presbytery, acting under The Code Par 161, to remove an elder from office in the congregation.

The Judicial Commission also wishes to encourage Presbyteries, when appropriate, to initiate a hearing under The Code Par 224 rather than always refer such matters to the Judicial Commission. This provides for the possibility of appeal but in the past was discouraged as there is no provision for a special allowance if a minister is loosed from his/her charge by the Presbytery. An overture is brought to enable a Presbytery to hear the matter and then refer the provision of a special arrangement to the Judicial Commission.

During the year the Judicial Commission was consulted about the qualifications for voting but did not propose any change.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev Dr DJ McKelvey, and agreed:

Resolutions 1. That the Report be received.

Moved as a licensed additional resolution by the Rev ML Johnston, seconded by the Rev JT Williamson:

That the General Assembly refer to the appropriate Board the setting of a Minimum level of contribution to the Stipend or Weekly Freewill Offering as a condition for voters qualified under Par. 175 of the Code and report back to the 2014 General Assembly.

On being put to the House, the resolution was declared lost.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev Dr DJ McKelvey, and agreed:

2. That the General Assembly express thanks to those who have served on the Judicial Commission for the past five years, especially the Chairman, Mr Mervyn Morrow QC, that the Commission be discharged and the following appointed in accordance with Par 127 of the Code:

JUDICIAL COMMISSION

Rev Dr DJ McKelvey, Convener

The Clerk, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly.
- (b) Mrs EA Warden — Rev SD Finlay — Rev WB Boyd — Rev Dr JP Taylor — Rev Dr DJ McKelvey — AJ Spence — Robin Tweed — Rev TJ McCormick — Rev Dr SR Jones — Rev Dr BCG Black — Rev John Brackenridge — Rev Dr KD McCrory — Rev Dr SA Matthews — Rev NS Millen — Rev Dr MA Barry — WK Duncan — Rev Denis Bannerman — Rev Brian Kennaway — Rev TWA Greer.
- (c) Revs Dr Samuel Hutchinson, GAJ Farquhar, Mairisine Stanfield, TD Gribben, David Clarke; Grahame Loughlin, Denis Poynton, Mrs Patricia Gray, Mrs Elizabeth McLeod, Mrs Irene Younge.

The Report of the **SPECIAL COMMISSION** (Reports p 100) was submitted by the Rev Dr DJ Watts.

**SPECIAL
COMMISSION**

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben, and agreed:

- 1. That the Report be received.
- 2. That the following be appointed a Special Commission (Judicial) in accordance with Par 127 of the Code:

Resolutions**SPECIAL (JUDICIAL) COMMISSION**

Rev Dr DJ McKelvey, Convener

The Clerk, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly.
- (c) Revs Dr DJ McKelvey, GAJ Farquhar, TD Gribben, WB Boyd, Mairisine Stanfield; Mrs EA Warden, Mrs Irene Younge, Ken Duncan, Denis Poynton, Robin Tweed.

The Report of the **NOMINATION COMMISSION** (Reports p 100) was submitted by the Rev Dr DJ Watts.

**NOMINATION
COMMISSION**

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben, and agreed:

- 1. That the Report be received.
- 2. That the following be appointed an Application Commission, as in the Minutes, 2012, p 68, for the ensuing year:

Resolutions

APPLICATION COMMISSION

The Clerk, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly.
- (c) Revs Prof JP Taylor, JNI McNeely, TD Gribben, R Hetherington, Mairisine Stanfield; Mrs EA Warden.

Overtures The following **Overtures anent Pars 161(1) and 224(2)(b) of the Code** were submitted by the Rev Dr DJ Watts:

Anent Par 161(1) of the Code

It is hereby overtured to the General Assembly to enact that in Par 161(1) of the Code the word “or” be deleted at sub-paragraph (e) and the following added:

(f) conclude that a ruling elder may have placed himself in a position where it is impossible for him satisfactorily to discharge his duties as a ruling elder, Presbytery may following further enquiry remove such elder from office in the congregation; or” and retitle (f) as (g).

Anent Par 224(2)(b) of the Code

It is hereby overtured to the General Assembly to enact that in Par 224(2) (b) of the Code, after the words “vacant; or” the words “loose the minister from his charge and refer the matter to the Judicial Commission to enable the Judicial Commission to fix a retiring allowance, if any, according to the rules for the time being of the General Assembly, or to fix an allowance for a temporary period; or” be added.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben, and agreed:

That the overtures anent Pars 161(1) and 224(2)(b) of the Code be received and that, under Par 111 of the Code, they be made the rule of the Church.

In Public

BUSINESS BOARD The final report of the **BUSINESS BOARD** was submitted by the Clerk, the Rev Dr DJ Watts, as follows:

The Business Board met twice during the Assembly to license additional business.

- Resolutions**
1. That the Report be received.
 2. That the following corresponding members be appointed:

To the Church of Scotland 2014

The Right Rev. Dr. Rob Craig

The Rev. John Hanna
Elder – to be confirmed

3. That the delegates to the Presbyterian Church of Wales 2014, the General Synod of the Church of Ireland 2014 and the Methodist Conference 2014 be appointed by the Business Board.
4. That the Clerk be given authority to make corrections to the Daily Minutes as and when required.
5. That the next General Assembly be held in Belfast on Monday, 2 June, 2014.

CLOSE OF ASSEMBLY

The Moderator conducted a closing act of worship and thanked: the Clerk of Assembly and the Deputy Clerk; his Chaplains; Mrs Joyce Anderson, Mrs Jenny McClure and Miss Alicia Cotter of the General Secretary's Office; James McCormick and his team from Creative Production – Ed Connolly and Rebecca McConnell; Mr Stephen Lynas and the media; all the Assembly Buildings staff, especially Harry Orr, Steve McMurray, Colin Foreman and David Barr; the Rev Gordon Best (Arrangements Convener) and Maureen Patterson and Fiona Watts (Hospitality Secretaries); Paul Mason and the Millennium Forum Staff for technicians, stewards, and catering personnel; the Derry and Donegal Presbytery and especially the Rev Dr Robert Buick, Clerk of Presbytery, and the local organising committee; the organist, Terry Smith, and musicians; the stewards of the Derry and Donegal Presbytery, members of the Arrangements Committee and timekeepers.

Thereafter he declared the Assembly to be dissolved and convened the next Stated General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland to meet in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, on Monday 2nd June, 2014.

The Moderator pronounced the Benediction.

The sederunt came to a close at 4.45 pm.

Attested by
DONALD J WATTS
Clerk of Assembly

CHANGES IN THE CODE 2013

ASSEMBLY BUILDINGS,
BELFAST, BT1 6DW
AUGUST, 2013

The following changes have been made in the 1997 edition of the Code, which should be corrected accordingly.

Donald J. Watts
Clerk of Assembly

Par 82(4)

In Par 82(4) delete the words “let or sold” and substitute the words “let, sold or provided as security”. (I.A. 2013)

Par 97(h)(iv)

In Par 97(h)(iv) delete the words “Executive Committee” and substitute the word “Trustees”. (I.A. 2013)

Par 128(1)

In Par 128(1) the Convener of the Pensions and Assessments Committee (Board of Finance and Personnel) be added to the membership of the Union Commission and that the term “Strategy for Mission Convener” be substituted for the term “the Convener of the Home and Irish Mission Committee”. (I.A. 2012, confirmed 2013)

Par 161(1)

In Par 161(1) delete the word “or” at sub-paragraph (e) and substitute the following:

(f) conclude that a ruling elder may have placed himself in a position where it is impossible for him satisfactorily to discharge his duties as a ruling elder, Presbytery may following further enquiry remove such elder from office in the congregation; or” and retitle (f) as (g). (2013)

Par 193(1)(a)(ii)

In Par 193(1)(a)(ii) delete the word “satisfactorily.” and substitute the words “satisfactorily, provided that they have not been serving in the congregation immediately prior to or at any time during the vacancy.” (2013)

Par 286(2)(a)

In Par 286(2)(a) delete the words “Executive Committee of the”. (2013)

Par 274(8)

In Par 274(8) delete the word “involved,” and substitute the words “involved and except when Par 274(5)(c)(v) or Par 318(3)(d) is applicable,”. (2013)

Anent Par 224(2)(b) of the Code

In Par 224(2)(b) after the words “vacant; or” add the words “loose the minister from his charge and refer the matter to the Judicial Commission to enable the Judicial Commission to fix a retiring allowance, if any, according to the rules for the time being of the General Assembly, or to fix an allowance for a temporary period; or”. (2013)

Appendix 15 of the Code

Delete Appendix 15 of the Code and substitute the following:

15. ASSEMBLY TRUSTEES — BYE-LAWS

Framed by the Trustees of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, pursuant to the provisions of the Irish Presbyterian Church Acts, 1871 and 1901, (“the Acts”) and approved by the General Assembly at its annual meeting in Londonderry on 6th June 2013.

1. Definitions

In these Bye-Laws “the Trustees” means the Trustees of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland and the Executive Committee referred to in the 1871 Act

“the General Assembly” means the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

“the Clerk” means the Clerk of the General Assembly

“the Secretary” means the Secretary for the time being of the Trustees

“Individual Trustee” means the Clerk of the General Assembly or a person appointed by the General Assembly in accordance with the Acts and “Individual Trustees” shall be construed accordingly.

2. Meetings

In each calendar year, the Trustees shall hold at least four meetings, one of which shall be designated as the annual general meeting.

3. Calling of Meetings

All meetings of the Trustees shall be called either by circular signed by the Secretary or by email from the Secretary, either on his own motion or on receiving a requisition signed by three or more Individual Trustees, and sent or posted at least seven days before the day of meeting.

4. Quorum

The quorum for a meeting shall be five Individual Trustees and, if such a number be present, the resolutions passed and matters and things transacted and done by the majority of those present shall be as valid and effectual as if the same were passed, transacted or done by all the Individual Trustees for the time being. In case a quorum be not present, those present may form an ad hoc committee for the transaction of any urgent business and report for confirmation of their actions to the next meeting of the Trustees.

5. Chairman

At each annual general meeting of the Trustees a chairman shall be elected to serve until the next annual general meeting who, in division, shall have only a casting vote. If the chairman is not present at a meeting those Trustees present shall elect a chairman for that meeting who, in a division, shall have only a casting vote.

6. Minutes

The Trustees shall keep an accurate record of their meetings and such records shall be open to inspection by any person or persons appointed by the General Assembly.

7. Annual Accounts

The Trustees shall at their annual general meeting examine and consider the report and statement of accounts for the preceding year, made up to the 31st day of December inclusive submitted to them by the Secretary, giving all the particulars which may be required to exhibit the true financial condition of the Trustees. Following approval, the report and statement of account shall forthwith be signed by three Individual Trustees, duly audited by the auditors appointed by the General Assembly and lodged with the Clerk to be laid before the next annual meeting of the General Assembly.

8. Number of Individual Trustees

There shall be sixteen Individual Trustees including the Clerk who shall be an Individual Trustee ex-officio while Clerk. Subject to the death, resignation or removal of an Individual Trustee between annual meetings of the General Assembly, at any one time, five Individual Trustees, in addition to the Clerk, shall be ministers of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. Each Individual Trustee, other than the Clerk, shall serve for five years from the date of his appointment but shall be eligible for re-election for one further term of five years.

9. Death, Resignation or Removal of an Individual Trustee

In the event of the death, resignation or removal of an Individual Trustee, other than the Clerk, the General Assembly shall appoint a replacement Individual Trustee who shall serve for five years from the date of appointment but shall be eligible for re-election for one further term of five years.

10. Appointment and Dismissal of Staff

The Trustees may appoint or dismiss an agent or the Secretary or any staff upon such terms as they may think necessary and fit. The Trustees shall transact their business at Assembly Buildings, 2-10 Fisherwick Place, Belfast, BT1 6DW or such other place, as the Trustees from time to time deem appropriate.

11. Appointment of Bankers

The Trustees shall, from time to time appoint some company or companies to be the Trustees' bankers; and all moneys received by the Trustees or the Secretary for or on account of the Trustees shall be as soon as reasonably possible deposited in the appropriate account.

12. Authorisation of Payments

All cheques shall be signed, and other payments by any means shall be approved, by two authorised signatories from a list of authorised persons approved from time to time by the Trustees.

13. Use of Trustees' Seal

The seal of the Trustees shall be carefully preserved and used under the direction of the Trustees; and every document to which the seal is attached must at the time of sealing be witnessed either by an Individual Trustee and the Secretary, or by two Individual Trustees.

14. Trustees' Records

The Trustees shall have full records kept of all receipts, payments and transactions connected with their trust funds or the management thereof, and these records shall be open to inspection by any Individual Trustee or any person or persons appointed by the General Assembly.

15. Receipts

The receipt in writing of the Secretary, or his authorised representative, for any moneys paid, and for any stocks, funds, shares or securities transferred by virtue of the Acts, or of these Bye-Laws, or in execution of any of the trusts or powers thereof, shall effectually discharge the person or persons paying or transferring the same therefrom.

16. Reports on Investments and Transactions

A report upon investments and transactions undertaken or matters before the Trustees shall be presented to each meeting of the Trustees as required.

17. Auditors

The General Assembly's Auditors of Accounts for the time being, or any auditors specially appointed by the General Assembly for the purpose, shall examine and audit the accounts of the Trustees.

18. Investments

Any moneys vested in or which may become vested in the Trustees may be invested in any investments they think fit as if they had all the powers of a sole beneficial owner absolutely entitled and whether or not they are investments authorised by the general law for the investment of trust funds and whether or not investments already authorised by the Acts and the Presbyterian Church Investment Fund Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1965 provided always:-

18.1 No investment to be made in any undertakings (whether business or otherwise) which are engaged in activities which are regarded as contrary to the interests of the General Assembly.

18.2 All investments shall be reviewed by the Trustees who shall arrange for regular reports to be received from appropriately qualified advisers.

18.3 The Trustees are empowered to transpose investments and from time to time to determine the proportions of the capital to be invested in the various sectors of the market.

19. Clause Headings

The clause headings are included for reference only and shall not affect the interpretation of these Bye-Laws. (2013)

