

1 **REPORT OF THE THEOLOGICAL EXAMINING COMMITTEE**
2 **TO THE FORTY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**
3 **OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**
4 **June 2020**

6 **I. Introduction to the Committee’s Work**

8 **A. Purpose and Scope of Examinations**

9 According to our *Book of Church Order*, Teaching Elders should seek office “out of a
10 sincere desire to promote the glory of God in the Gospel of his Son.” In this same spirit,
11 the Theological Examining Committee (comprising 3 Teaching Elders, 3 Ruling Elders,
12 and 2 alternates) serves the General Assembly by ensuring that candidates for positions
13 of influence in our denomination are both gifted for and committed to promoting the
14 glory of God by promoting the biblical gospel of Jesus Christ. Our task according to
15 *The Book of Church Order*, chapter 4, section 1.14, is to examine “all first and second
16 level administrative officers of committees, boards, and agencies, and those acting
17 temporarily in these positions who are being recommended for first time employment.”
18

19 **B. Nature of Examinations**

20 The examinations we administer resemble those for the ordination of Teaching Elders
21 in the PCA, covering the following areas: Christian experience, theology, the
22 sacraments, church government and the *BCO*, Bible content, church history, and the
23 history of the PCA. Our standard procedure is to administer a written examination
24 covering theological views, followed by an intensive oral examination, which entails
25 not only views but knowledge in these areas.
26

27 **II. Summary of the Committee’s Work**

29 In the past year, the committee has conducted one examination.

31 On February 25, 2020, the committee examined TE Ed Dunnington, nominee for President,
32 PCA Retirement & Benefits, Inc (RBI). All areas of TE Dunnington’s exam were sustained
33 and unanimously approved by the committee.
34

35 The committee reviewed the nominee’s written statements of personal differences with the
36 Westminster Standards, included below, and, per *RAO* 8-3 and 16.3.e.5, deemed their
37 differences to be more than semantic, but “not out of accord with any fundamental of our
38 system of doctrine” (*BCO* 21-4).
39

40 LC #109 — “I am unclear what it looks like to, “make any representation of
41 God...inwardly in our mind,” What does that look like?”
42

43 LC #117 — “I am unclear what it looks like to sanctify the day, “by a holy
44 resting all the day, not only from such works as are at all times sinful, but even
45 from such worldly employments and recreations as are on other days unlawful.”
46

47 Respectfully submitted,
48 RE Richard Leino, Chairman

RE Hans Madueme, Secretary