



Recommendations for Continuation of Commissions: Commission on Biblical Gender Equality

BASIC RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Board recommends to the delegates of the 136th Covenant Annual Meeting that the term of service for the Commission on Biblical Gender Equality (BGE) be extended for an additional five years.

RATIONALE

The BGE Commission was inactive for two years in a time of transition from the chair and in the midst of COVID. The commission has reorganized and reexamined their focus and has been moving forward with goals and objectives.

GOALS OF THE COMMISSION

Ongoing goals for the next five years include: The Commission on Biblical Gender Equality exists within the church as a voice and advocate for continued progress in this story. The commission exists to educate people in biblical gender equality; to advocate for justice in the structure of the church regarding gender; to equip the church to articulate the truth about biblical gender equality; and to advocate for the modeling of women in ministry and leadership in all possible venues within the church.

For the next year, we will focus on the following:

- Amplifying the voices of women in the Covenant, especially our BIPOC sisters.

- Collaborating with ACCW, FFW, and the Ministerium to further develop projects and resources that encourage egalitarian values within the Covenant.
- Collaborating with Covenant conference superintendents and staffs to promote and expand egalitarian resources and support for the women serving in these contexts and establish goals fitting for each conference.
- Collaborating with Covenant executive ministers to evaluate existing structures within the Covenant to determine if they are equitable and reflect the denomination's commitment to egalitarian theology, polity, and praxis.

COMPOSITION

The Biblical Gender Equality Commission consists of the following people: Mary Peterson, Nilwona Nowlin, Julia Styles, Alicia Guldborg Reese, Deb Auger (North Park Theological Seminary representative), Janet George, and Matt George.

SPONSORING DEPARTMENT

Develop Leaders (Marti Burger)

FREQUENCY OF MEETING

The BGE Commission meets monthly with the ACCW to partner together with goals and objectives for both ministries.