



## Recommendations for Continuation of Commissions: Commission on Covenant History

### BASIC RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Board recommends to the delegates of the 136th Covenant Annual Meeting that the term of service for the Commission on Covenant History be extended for an additional five years.

### RATIONALE

Since being established in 1935, the Commission on Covenant History has served the Evangelical Covenant Church providing guidance and assistance to programs and policies related to the collection, preservation, maintenance, and interpretation of historical records of the denomination. This work has changed over the years and has included publishing and translation projects, public events and programming, and coordinating and advising the work of the Covenant Archives based at North Park University.

### GOALS OF THE COMMISSION

The Commission plans to continue work on core tasks including fostering public engagement with historical materials, developing resources and best practices that equip local churches to preserve and share their stories, and supporting the mission priorities of the Evangelical Covenant Church. The Commission will foster and encourage public engagement with the historical records of the Evangelical Covenant Church as it has done through the “Friends of Covenant History” group, receptions at Midwinter, and public lectures. The Commission will help develop resources and best practices pertaining to the historical records of local churches and the wider denomination, particularly focusing on the acquisitions of church records and the development of narratives from under-represented groups. The Commission hopes to finalize Spanish translations of two key documents— “A Guide to

Archives for Local Covenant Churches” and “A Guide to Collecting Oral History for Local Covenant Churches”—with the goal of equipping all local churches to preserve and share their story with the wider Covenant community. Finally, the Commission will continually seek ways to engage the diversity of the church and support the mission priorities of the denomination through the collection, preservation, maintenance, and interpretation of historical records of the Evangelical Covenant Church.

## **COMPOSITION**

### Members

- Philip J. Anderson, Professor Emeritus of Church History, North Park Theological Seminary (Hovland, Minnesota)
- Tomas Sanabria, Pastor at Iglesia del Pacto Albany Park (Chicago, IL)
- Tom Kelly, Retired Covenant Missionary (Chicago, IL) [recently inactive]
- Mark Safstrom, Assistant Professor of Scandinavian Studies at Augustana College (Chicago, IL)
- Katherine (Kat) Hampson, Pastor at Highrock Brookline (Brookline, MA)
- Anders Johnson, Member North Park Covenant Church (Chicago, IL)

### Advisory Members

- Andy Meyer, Director, F.M. Johnson Archives and Special Collections
- Linda Sladkey, Managing Editor of Content and Curriculum, Evangelical Covenant Church
- Hauna Ondrey, Associate Professor of Church History at North Park Theological Seminary

### Ex-officio Members

- Jennifer McIntyre, Executive Director of Marketing and Communications
- John Wenrich, President, Evangelical Covenant Church

## **SPONSORING DEPARTMENT**

Department of Marketing and Communications, Evangelical Covenant Church

## **FREQUENCY OF MEETING**

Commission meets at least twice yearly, usually quarterly