

Tyndale Presbytery

Communion of Reformed Evangelical Churches

Minutes of Presbytery, October 7, 2014

Meeting at Lake Tahoe, Nevada

Presiding Minister: Pastor Eric Sauder

Secretary: Mr. Andrew Isker

Tuesday, October 7, 2014

9:00 a.m.: Pastor Eric Sauder of Christ the King Church, Springfield, MO, the Presiding Minister, welcomed the Presbyters.

9:01 a.m.: The Presiding Minister opened the meeting with prayer.

9:02 a.m.: Mr. Tim Bushong led the assembly singing Psalm 1 and Psalm 20, accompanied on the piano by Rev. Brian Nolder, (Mr. Bushong also led all subsequent singing with Mr. Nolder accompanying).

9:05 a.m.: An exhortation was given by The Presiding Minister concerning the growth of the Kingdom of God through suffering, particularly ministers suffering for the sake of the Kingdom and his people, and an encouragement to use even relatively minor suffering as a vehicle for gospel ministry.

Session One: Church Reports

9:20 a.m.: The meeting was officially called to order.

9:21 a.m.: The Presiding Minister called the roll of the member churches. The following member churches of Tyndale Presbytery were represented with delegates.

Christ Church of Livingston County, Howell, MI (2)

Pastor Dirk DeWinkle

Elder Greg Harmon

Christ Church Twin Cities, Minnetonka, MN (2)

Pastor Jeff Evans

Elder Arnie Abens

Christ Covenant Church of Chicago, IL (2)

Elder Leo Kou

Elder Dave Rapp

Christ the King Presbyterian Church, New Era, MI (1)

Pastor Jeff Swanson

Christ the King Church, Springfield, MO (2)

Pastor Eric Sauder

Elder Rob Davis

Christ the Redeemer, Pella, IA (2)

Pastor Brian Nolder

Elder Doug Roorda

Cornerstone Reformed Church, Carbondale, IL (1)

Pastor Burke Shade

Trinity Covenant Church, Wichita, KS (1)

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Elder Derek Hale
Trinity Evangelical Church, Larwill, IN (2)
Pastor Nate Harlan
Pastor Tim Bushong

No delegates were present from the following member churches:

Reformed Presbyterian Church, Tyumen, Russia
Providence Church, Caro, Michigan

A quorum was established.

9:23 a.m.: Recognition of visitors

Mr. Kou introduced Mr. Christopher Kou and Mr. Robert Crouse of Christ Covenant Church of Chicago, IL.

The Presiding Minister introduced Rev. George Vander Dussen of Redeemer Presbyterian Church, Elk Grove, CA.

9:24 a.m.: Establishment of the Agenda

The Presiding Minister asked delegates to include in their church reports one to two books that were most edifying to them in the past year.

Mr. Shade moved that a report on Roberto Cruz and Cornerstone's desire to plant a Hispanic church be added to the missions report section of the agenda.

Mr. Nolder asked to add a motion regarding missions and boards.

The changes were accepted and the agenda was established.

9:29 a.m.: Member Church Reports

9:40 a.m.: The Presiding Minister recognized a visitor: Pastor George Vander Dussen, Redeemer Presbyterian Church, Elk Grove, CA: formal greetings, fraternal relations, and encouragement from Covenant Presbyterian Church Denomination.

9:44 a.m.: Church reports resumed.

11:08 a.m.: Prayer for each church was offered by delegate sitting to the right of that church's delegation.

11:35 a.m.: Short recess.

11:41 a.m.: The candidate status of Covenant Christian Church, Greenville was discussed.

Recognition of Guests and Visiting Delegations

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Minister's and Mission's Reports

Minister's Reports

11:50 a.m.: Presbytery Presiding Minister Report

12:05 p.m.: The meeting recessed for lunch.

1:03 p.m.: The meeting reconvened with singing Psalm 21.

1:07 p.m.: The assembly read through the Council Presiding Minister's report and a discussion of proposed CREC logos was held.

1:18 p.m.: Mr. Roorda made a motion to petition Council to remove confidential material from public access to ensure confidential matters are discussed in a secure fashion in the appropriate manner. Mr. DeWinkle seconded the motion and the motion carried.

1:28 p.m.: Mr. Abens thanked God in prayer for Rev. Phelps' service as CREC Council Presiding Minister.

1:29 p.m.: The location of CREC Council in 2017 was discussed.

Mission Reports

1:34 p.m.: Mr. Roorda gave a report on the Slavic Reformation Society (SRS).

1:53 p.m.: Mr. Davis thanked God in prayer and asked His blessing for the work of the men of the SRS.

1:55 p.m.: Mr. Shade gave a report on Roberto Cruz, a planter of Hispanic churches.

2:04 p.m.: Mr. Rapp prayed for Roberto Cruz, Mr. Shade, and Cornerstone Reformed Church's ministry to the Hispanic community of Carbondale.

Other Business

Old Business:

2:06 p.m.: Mr. Nolder presented a report on Tyndale West Family Camp.

New Business

2:15 p.m.: Consideration of an Overture on Child Sexual Abuse (from the session of Christ the Redeemer Church, Pella, IA).

2:45 p.m.: Mr. Nolder made a motion as follows, "Tyndale Presbytery urges the Council to form a committee to study the issue of appropriate policies and guidelines regarding child protection

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in our churches, including child sexual abuse, child physical abuse, and abortion. (An example to consider is attached).” Mr. DeWinkle seconded the motion and the motion carried.

3:07 p.m.: Mr. Nolder made a motion that the attachment be the PCA General Assembly Overture on Child Protection of 2014. Seconded by Mr. Bushong and the motion carried.

3:08 p.m.: Mr. Roorda made a motion that Tyndale Presbytery direct their Presiding Minister to deliver the overture to other presbyteries’ Presiding Ministers for the respective presbyteries to study. Mr. Shade seconded. The motion carried.

3:21 p.m.: Brief recess.

3:27 p.m.: A proposed Overture to Council Regarding Several Questions on the Written Exam for Ordination (from the session of Trinity Evangelical Church, Larwill, IN, see text of overture below) was considered.

4:30 p.m.: Mr. Nolder made a motion that the Overture be tabled until the meeting of Tyndale Presbytery 2015 with provision on the agenda for debate on limited atonement and regeneration. Mr. Shade seconded the motion. The motion failed.

4:41 p.m.: Mr. DeWinkle made a motion to call the previous motion to question. Mr. Abens seconded the motion. Mr. Harlan, Mr. Swanson, and Mr. Bushong abstained. The call to question passes.

4:43 p.m.: A vocal vote on the original motion was given. Mr. Roorda called for a roll call.

Ayes:

Tim Bushong

Nate Harlan

Nays:

Derek Hale

Doug Roorda

Rob Davis

David Rapp

Leo Kou

Burke Shade

Jeff Evans

Arnie Abens

Greg Harmon

Dirk DeWinkle

Abstentions:

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Jeff Swanson

Brian Nolder

The motion failed.

4:46 p.m.: Mr. Nolder made the following motion:

“Whereas, our confederation of churches endeavors to be faithful in being obedient to our Lord’s Great Commission of discipling the nations, and

Whereas, most CREC congregations are not of sufficient size to send their own missionaries, Therefore, Tyndale Presbytery requests the 2014 Council to form a study committee to consider how our churches can better work together to support home and foreign missionaries.” Mr. Shade seconded the motion. The motion carried. Mr. Rapp and Mr. Harmon abstained.

5:10 p.m.: Mr. Abens made a motion to establish a committee of three volunteers to determine how the churches in Tyndale Presbytery can better help one another engage in foreign and home missions. Mr. Nolder seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5:12 p.m.: Council Motions were discussed.

5:40 p.m.: Mr. Evans made a motion to hold the 2015 stated meeting of Tyndale Presbytery at Cornerstone Reformed Church, Carbondale, IL on September 28-29th, 2015. Mr. Roorda seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5:43 p.m. Mr. Shade made a motion that Mr. Evans draft a letter thanking Rev. Stoos, Church of the King, Sacramento, and Calvin Presbytery. Mr. Abens seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5:45 p.m.: Presbytery adjourned with the singing Psalm 47. Mr. Abens closed the meeting with prayer.