

**Augustine Presbytery,
CREC Minutes for September 25, 2015
Courtyard Marriot – Newport News Airport
530 St. Johns Road, Newport News, VA**

Presiding Minister, Steve Hemmeke - hemmest@gmail.com, 757-810-3850 Presiding
Minister, Pro Tempore Gregg Strawbridge - gs175@mac.com, 717-682-7052

The meeting was called to Order and roll was taken

All Saints Church, Lancaster, PA, Gregg Strawbridge, George Kong
Christ Church, Cary, NC, Duane Garner
Christ Church of Morgantown, WV, Peter Jones, Bill Oldland
Christ Covenant Church, Copiague, NY, no delegate
Christ Presbyterian Church, Knoxville, TN, Mike Pasarilla
Oakwood Bible Church, Troy, NY, Jim DuJack
Christ Reformed Evangelical Church, Annapolis MD
CJ Bowen, Terry Brennan
Covenant Heritage Reformed Church, Newport News, VA
Steve Hemmeke (PM), Conrad Doskey (2 votes)
Holy Trinity Reformed Church, Concord, NC, Brian Phillips
Providence Church, Lynchburg, VA, Virgil Hurt, David Cooper
St Peter Presbyterian Church, Bristol, VA, Steve Murphy and Paul Levine
The King's Chapel, Brooklyn, NY, Tony Aguilar
Tri-City Covenant Church, Somersworth, NH, Paul Edgar, John Correia
Covenant Family Fellowship, Shippensburg, PA
Ray Barbeito, Myron Stoltzfus

Greeting & devotion by Presiding Minister Steve Hemmeke from James 1:19-20
Psalm singing was led by PM Hemmeke
Invocation was offered by Rev. Virgil Hurt

Church reports were given, with a brief time for questions and prayer after each, until 11a.m.

Blake Purcell updated the presbytery on the Slavic Reformation Society's recent activity.

- Blake asked that if 10 churches could give \$100 per month that would meet the immediate need for pastors.
- Blake also asked for presbytery support by sending one pastor per year travel to Russia and to bring pastors here.

Recognition of Guests and Visiting Delegations

Kyle Harris – Lynchburg church elder
Harold Guptill – Somersworth, NH church elder
Blake Purcell – SRS mission
Jared McNabb – Lancaster ministerial student, Westminster graduate

Augustine Presbytery Presiding Minister Hemmeke's Report was read

Motion 01 (Strawbridge/ Murphy): to accept PM Hemmeke's report

Motion 01: Passed

Presbytery committee of Ordination review for Tri-Cities, NH pastors

Chairman Gregg Strawbridge presented a brief report on progress.

Council reports

CREC Council Presiding Minister Douglas Wilson's Report

Motion 02 (Hurt/Strawbridge): To ask the PM to establish a committee to explore how CREC discipline cases (including appeals) should be documented and published.

Motion: Passed

Motion 03 (Strawbridge/Hurt): to ratify the second action in PM Wilson's report (CREC list serve exception/amendment to the BOP).

Motion: Failed

Motion 17 (Cooper/Edgar): to explain our failure to ratify this action:

[This was passed at the very end of our meeting, but is included here for convenience]

We would have been happy to approve the Council PM's second action, if it were worded informally as an exception, which is permitted in Article I of the Book of Procedures (P. 53 of Governing Documents). Since the action is worded in formal language and could be viewed as an amendment to governmental standards, it is prohibited in Article IV.C.9.a of the Constitution (P. 19 of Governing Documents), and we must disapprove it. While admission to an email list is a small thing, we do not want to establish the precedent of amending governmental standards outside of the constitutional procedure.

Motion 04 (Doskey/Cooper): to approve the first action in PM Wilson's report

Motion: Passed

Motion 05 (Hurt/Stultzfus): to approve the third action in PM Wilson's report, a statement in response to the Obergefell decision.

Motion: Passed

Motion 06 (Hurt/Aguilar): to approve the procedure to approve the CREC Logo

Motion: Passed

Each logo was voted on separately, up or down. The modified Jerusalem was voted down.

Motions 07-10

Tri-Leaf 34 points (winner)

Chalice 44 points

Blue Tri-Leaf 48 points

Motion 11

With 21 delegates, an average of these (for purposes of tallying with other presbyteries) would be:

Tri-Leaf – 1.62

Chalice – 2.10

Blue Tri-Leaf – 2.29

CREC Commission on Missions report – Csaba Leidenfrost, chairman

Gregg Strawbridge presented the report and asked that we get behind several immediate opportunities.

Motion 12 (Stoltzfus/Murphy): to receive and note that the report was appreciated.

Motion 12: Passed

CREC Committee on Same Sex Mirage – Jeff Evans, chairman

Motion 13 (Strawbridge/Jones): that Augustine Presbytery request CREC Presiding Minister Douglas Wilson convene an ad hoc meeting of Council for the purpose of amending the CREC constitution to address the issues of gender, sexuality and marriage in light of the current same-sex “marriage” controversy and the Obergefell ruling.”

Motion 13: Passed

Church planting network – Virgil Hurt

Virgil presented the church planting report and discussed the concept. If you have thoughts and additional input, please contact Virgil.

Presbytery Ministers/Elders Spring Retreat, report on 2015 given by Steve Hemmeke

Augustine Presbytery Family Camp Summer, report on 2015 given by David Cooper

GenNXT Camp – Duane Garner

Duane reported on the “GenNXT Christian Student Camp” for ages 13-19 on June 13-19, 2016 in Blacksburg Virginia, and handed out brochures.

Review of ordained minister list (see article 12 of CREC BOP).

Italics = without call. Are there any oversights or corrections to this list?

Changes from 2014: Added Barbeito, Clark, Correia, Guptill, Stoltzfus.

Removed Barfield and Dewey.

Tony Aguilar

Ray Barbeito

Jason Biette

CJ Bowen

Josiah Clark

John Correia

Jim DuJack

Duane Garner

Troy Greene

Harold Guptill

Wayne Hays

Steve Hemmeke

Virgil Hurt

Peter Jones

Glen Knecht

Steve Murphy

Michael Pasarilla

Brian Penney

Brian Phillips

Gregg Strawbridge

Myron Stoltzfus

Laurence Windham

Motion 14 (Jones/Hurt): to establish a voluntary pulpit exchange Sunday among Augustine Presbytery churches, whereby participating ministers preach in another participating church of the presbytery on the same Sunday.

Rationale: increased fellowship within the presbytery: pastors get to know the people of other congregations, and the churches get to know other pastors better. Pastors get more exposure to other worship services, churches to other preachers. Pastors observing other church cultures can evaluate their own congregational life better.

Execution: once per quarter (or every 6 months?) every occurrence of a fifth Sunday in a month, participating ministers will travel to another church, stay in the minister's vacant home perhaps (since he is off at another church), and preach and fellowship with the saints at that church. A pastor's travel expenses would be handled by their own church. A modest honorarium of \$200 would be expected. Outgoing PM Hemmeke is willing to start and organize it for at least the first year.

Motion 14: Passed

Election of new Presiding Minister for Augustine Presbytery

Term from close of this meeting until end of 2018 presbytery meeting.

Nominated: Duane Garner, Conrad Doskey

Vote: Duane Garner won the paper ballot election 13 – 7. (Motion 15)

Election of new Presiding Minister Pro Tempore for Augustine Presbytery

Term from close of this meeting until 2018 presbytery meeting.

Nominated: Peter Jones.

Nominations from the Floor: Conrad Doskey

Vote: Peter Jones won the paper ballot election 11 – 8. (Motion 16)

Motion 17 was passed: explanation of denying ratification of Council PM Wilson's second action.
See above.

Good of the order (procedural clean-up, recognitions, thanks, prayer requests)

Peter Jones thanked PM Steve Hemmeke for all his efforts.

PM Hemmeke thanked Paul Thompson (Lancaster deacon) for his work as clerk.

Motion 18 (Hurt/Jones): for all churches to send Steve a monetary thanksgiving.

Motion 18 passed.

Gregg Strawbridge thanked Covenant Heritage Reformed Church for hosting this meeting.

Closing prayer was offered by newly elected Presiding Minister, Duane Garner.