

Tyndale Presbytery

Communion of Reformed Evangelical Churches

Minutes of Presbytery, September 25, 2018
Meeting at Christ the King Church, Springfield, Missouri

Presiding Minister: Mr. Rob Davis

Secretary: Mr. Doug Peterson

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

- 9:00 a.m.: Pastor Jeremy Sexton of Christ the King Church welcomed delegates and guests.
- 9:02 a.m.: Mr. Sexton opened the meeting with prayer.
- 9:02 a.m.: Mr. Hale led in singing *All Peoples Clap Your Hands for Joy*.
- 9:05 a.m.: Mr. Harlan gave an exhortation – God’s Generosity is Necessary.
- 9:20 a.m.: The Presiding Minister called the meeting to order.
- 9:21 a.m.: The Presiding Minister made available a summary of Robert’s Rules of Order.
- 9:21 a.m.: The Presiding Minister passed around a sheet for corrections to church and presbyter contact information.
- 9:25 a.m.: The Presiding Minister called the role of member churches.

The following member churches of Tyndale Presbytery were represented with delegates:

Christ Church of Livingston County, Howell, MI (1)

Elder Greg Harmon

Christ Church Twin Cities, Excelsior, MN (2)

Pastor Jeff Evans

Elder Joost Nixon

Christ Covenant Church of Chicago, Rolling Meadows, IL (2)

Pastor Jon Herr

Elder Dave Rapp

Christ the King Church, Springfield, MO (2)

Pastor Jeremy Sexton

Elder James Bramer

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

Pastor Jeff Swanson

Christ the Redeemer Church, Pella, IA (2)

Pastor Michael Shover

Elder Kevin McGinnis

Cornerstone Reformed Church, Carbondale, IL (2)

Pastor Bill Smith

Elder Nathan Brunaugh

Providence Church, Caro, MI (1)

Elder Phil Burch

Reformed Presbyterian Church, Tyumen, Russia (1)
Pastor Ravil Kunakaev
Trinity Covenant Church, Wichita, KS (1)
Pastor Derek Hale
Trinity Evangelical Church, Larwill, IN (1)
Pastor Nate Harlan

All churches were represented and a quorum was established.

9:30 a.m.: The Presiding Minister presented the following proposed changes to the published agenda. The changes were adopted with no objections.

1. Under Old Business.
 - Remove: Same Sex Marriage Committee.
 - Remove: Constitutional Review Committee.
 - Remove: Court Protocols Committee.
 - Add review of Memorial on Abortion to end of committee report list as #6.
2. Under Place and Date of Next Meetings.
 - Reverse the order of scheduling the next meetings so that the scheduling of the fall meeting is #1 and scheduling of the winter/spring meeting is #2.

9:32 a.m.: Recognition of Guests and Visiting Delegations.

- Delegation from Exodus Church in Wichita – Pastor Kyle Lammott, Elder Jamie Stinemetz, Associate Pastor Zach Ritz.
- Mr. Rod Goodemote from Stanton, IA.
- Mrs. Colleen Harlan Trinity Evangelical Church, Larwill, IN.
- Mrs. Kelle Swanson Christ the King Presbyterian Church, New Era, MI.
- Deacon Joshua Luper from Trinity Covenant Church, Wichita, KS.
- Elder Carl Lantz from Christ the Redeemer Church, Pella, IA.
- Elder Leo Kou from Christ Covenant Church of Chicago, Rolling Meadows, IL.
- Elder Arnie Abens from Christ Church Twin Cities, Excelsior, MN.
- Deacon Joe Martinez from Christ Church of Livingston County, Howell, MI.
- Mr. Jacob Hanby from Providence Church, Caro, MI.
- Pastor Jeffrey Meyers from Providence Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, MO.

9:35 a.m.: The Presiding Minister called for church reports to be given followed by prayer for each church.

Christ Church of Livingston County, Howell, MI

Mr. Harmon gave the report.

Mr. Harlan prayed.

Christ Church Twin Cities, Excelsior, MN

Mr. Evans gave the report.

Mr. Harmon prayed.

Christ Covenant Church of Chicago, Rolling Meadows, IL

Mr. Rapp gave the report.

Mr. Evans prayed.

Christ the King Church, Springfield, MO

Mr. Sexton gave the report.

Mr. Herr prayed.

Christ the King Presbyterian Church, New Era, MI

Mr. Swanson gave the report.

Mr. Sexton prayed.
Christ the Redeemer Church, Pella, IA
Mr. Shover gave the report.
Mr. Swanson prayed.
Cornerstone Reformed Church, Carbondale, IL
Mr. Smith gave the report.
Mr. Shover prayed.
Providence Church, Caro, MI
Mr. Burch gave the report.
Mr. Smith prayed.
Reformed Presbyterian Church, Tyumen, Russia
Mr. Kunakaev gave the report.
Mr. Burch Prayed
Trinity Covenant Church, Wichita, KS
Mr. Hale gave the report.
Mr. Nixon prayed.
Trinity Evangelical Church, Larwill, IN
Mr. Harlan gave the report.
Mr. Hale prayed.

12:10 p.m.: The Presiding Minister called a recess until 2:00 p.m. for lunch.

2:00 p.m.: Meeting reconvened.

Mr. Hale led in singing *God the Lord is Known in Judah*.

2:03 p.m.: The Presiding Minister presented the four motions from the Council Presiding Minister Report for vote.

2018/09/25:1 Motion: Approve PM Hurt's posting of his list serve guidelines.
Motion passed with no objections.

2018/09/25:2 Motion: Approve the appointment of Jack Phelps to form the CREC Court Guidelines Committee.
Motion passed with no objections.

2018/09/25:3 Motion: Approve PM Hurt's action to gather demographic information from the churches.
Motion passed with no objections.

2018/09/25:4 Motion: Approve PM Hurt's CREC Statement on Sexuality.
Motion passed with no objections.

2:21 p.m.: The Presiding Minister gave the annual report as Minister of the Presbytery presenting one motion for vote.

2018/09/25:5 Motion: Approve PM Davis's cancellation of the 2018 winter presbytery meeting.
Motion passed with no objections.

2:25 p.m.: Ordination Review Committee Report for Bill Smith and Cornerstone Reformed Church.

Mr. Rapp gave the Committee Report which had given Cornerstone Reformed Church the recommendation to move forward with the call of Pastor Bill Smith.

The Presiding Minister opened the floor for a brief examination.

2:40 p.m.: Mr. Nixon gave the mission report for Training Leaders International.

2:50 p.m.: Old Business.

The Presiding Minister opened the floor for comments to provide feedback to the Child Security Committee (Sexual Abuse Prevention) on their report.

Feedback: Other options and examples would be helpful. Our concern does need to be on the protection of children but we need to make sure we don't use their language, terms like microaggressions, which would allow them to frame the debate in their way. We need to be sure we do not bring in social justice language but rather use the biblical categories and language of true justice so that we are always arguing from Scripture.

The Presiding Minister opened the floor for comments to provide feedback to the Elder List Guideline Committee (List Serve Committee) on their report.

Feedback: The guidelines put out by the PM of Council and those of the committee need to be merged.

The Presiding Minister opened the floor for comments to provide feedback to the Memorial on Terrorism Revision Committee (Memorial E) on their report.

Feedback: As it stands the Memorial on Terrorism attempts to address more than one issue and raises many questions. Tyndale Presbytery recommends the following:

- That Council compose a Memorial regarding "just war." This Memorial should also entail statements regarding conscientious objection (no participation in an *unjust* war).
- Compose a separate Memorial on Terrorism that uses the Memorial on Just War as its basis.
- Compose a Memorial on Women in Combat that may stand alone as its own statement or be included in the memorial on Just War.

The Presiding Minister presented the motions from the Ordination Process Committee Report for vote.

2018/09/25:6 Motion: The Council Committee on Ordination Procedures moves to approve the proposed Constitutional change, amending Article IV.A.2.g. on "The Broader Assemblies" to read: "to evaluate men for ordination and recommend or not recommend candidates for ordination;"

Motion passed with no objections.

2018/09/25:7 Motion: The Council Committee on Ordination Procedures moves to approve the proposed Constitutional change, amending Article II.F. to read: "Any previously-unordained candidate for pastor, regardless of his level of formal education, will be examined before ordination (See Article IV.A.2.g). The candidate will be examined by a local session of elders with regard to his manner of life, knowledge of Scripture, and doctrinal understanding. The presbytery will also examine him and vote to determine whether the candidate is approved for ordination (Book of Procedures, Article XI)."

Motion passed with no objections but with the following feedback for the committee.

Feedback: Rephrase “local session of elders” so it is clear that it does not mean all elders must be local.

2018/09/25:8 Motion: The Council Committee on Ordination Procedures moves to approve the proposed addition of Book of Procedures, XII.8 (add section 8) “CREC-Approved Ministers Serving Out of Bounds” - “For the purpose of ministerial accountability, promoting more broadly the views of the CREC, building up churches in the Biblical and Reformed faith, and for faithfully growing our communion, presbyteries may receive and recognize ministers serving out of the bounds of CREC congregations. Ordained ministers serving outside the CREC wishing to have their ordination recognized and received by a CREC presbytery shall be sponsored and recommended by a CREC member church. Such ministers shall be examined by a CREC presbytery regarding ordination status, ecclesiastical call, confessional stance, and doctrinal and pastoral matters. Upon a majority vote from presbytery, the minister may be recognized as a minister serving out of bounds (and thus placed the presiding minister’s list of ministers within the presbytery, XII.1). The minister serving out of bounds may be seated at presbytery, make motions, serve on committees, give reports, but may not vote. Ordinarily, the ecclesiastical body in which a minister out of bounds serves shall begin the process of forming "fraternal relations," with the regional presbytery. A minister out of bounds may have this recognition revoked by a two-thirds vote of presbytery.”

Motion passed with no objections.

2018/09/25:9 Motion: The Council Committee on Ordination Procedures moves to approve the proposed revision of Book of Procedures, Article XI. “Ordination in the CREC” (see the revision below).

Motion passed with no objections.

2018/09/25:10 Motion: The Council Committee on Ordination Procedures moves to approve the proposed revision of Book of Procedures, Appendix B. “Ministerial Examination Documents” (see the revision below)

Motion passed with no objections.

The Presiding Minister opened the floor for comments to provide feedback to the Social Media Committee on their report.

Feedback: A consultant should be used to properly put our content on social media so that we are shrewd and effective in our use of it. We do not want to invite unnecessary trolling or inadvertently create social media problems that could distract us from our ministries.

The Presiding Minister opened the floor for comments to provide feedback to the Memorial on Abortion Committee on their report.

Feedback: Several of the proof texts would more properly apply to covenant children. The phrase “without exception God defends the weak and powerless” is overreaching and needs to be clarified. Some organizations supporting pro-life are explicitly non-Christian we would not be committed to supporting them. For instance, some pro-life organizations openly endorse pro-same sex marriage candidates for office so long as they are pro-life.

4:40 p.m.: New Business.

The Presiding Minister asked for nominations for delegates to Council.

Mr. Evans nominated the current Presiding Minister and Presiding Minister *Pro Tempore* as delegates to Council. The nominations were seconded by Mr. Herr. The delegates were elected with no opposing votes.

The Presiding Minister asked for nominations for alternate delegates to Council.

Mr. Evans nominated Mr. Sexton as the first alternate delegate to Council. Mr. Sexton was elected with no opposing votes.

Mr. Evans nominated Mr. Nixon as the second alternate delegate to Council. Mr. Nixon was elected with no opposing votes.

The Presiding Minister presented the following motion from the meeting agenda.

2018/09/25:11 Motion: Authorize PM Davis to migrate the Tyndale Presbytery website into the Council website system.

Motion passed with no objections.

The Presiding Minister opened the floor for motions to schedule the fall meeting of presbytery.

2018/09/25:12 Motion: Mr. Smith moved the adoption of a motion, which after amendment was as follows, "Cornerstone Reformed Church will host the 2019 fall presbytery meeting on September 23rd and 24th. Mr. Herr seconded.

Motion passed with no objections.

The Presiding Minister opened the floor for discussion regarding the scheduling of a spring presbytery meeting.

2018/09/25:13 Motion: Mr. Rapp moved to hold the spring 2019 meeting of Tyndale Presbytery in Chicago. Mr. Smith seconded.

Motion passed with no objections.

2018/09/25:14 Motion: Mr. Smith moved for the Presiding Minister to work with the session of Christ Covenant Church of Chicago to schedule the date for the 2019 spring meeting. Mr. Hale seconded.

Motion passed with no objections.

4:55 p.m.: Mr. Burch moved to adjourn. Mr. Brunaugh seconded.
Motion passed with no objections.

Mr. Hale led in singing *O, 'Twas a Joyful Sound to Hear*.

5:00 p.m.: The Presiding Minister adjourned the meeting with prayer.

Doug Peterson, Secretary

Rob Davis, Presiding Minister