

Tyndale Presbytery

Communion of Reformed Evangelical Churches

Minutes of Presbytery, September 22, 2020

Meeting at Trinity Covenant Church, Wichita, KS

Presiding Minister: Mr. Rob Davis

Secretary: Mr. Bobby Kazanski

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

I. Welcome and Exhortation

9:06 a.m.: Mr Hale of Trinity Covenant Church welcomed delegates and guests

9:08 a.m.: The Presiding Minister gave the invocation

9:10 a.m.: Mr. Hale led singing *Psalm 128*

9:13 a.m.: Mr. Smith exhorted delegates and guests on taking dominion of the physical self to the glory of God.

II. Call To Order

9:22 a.m.: The Presiding Minister called the meeting to order.

9:23 a.m.: The Presiding Minister passed around a copy of presbyter contact information for corrections.

9:23 a.m.: The Presiding Minister called the role of member churches.

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

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

Pastor Steve Hemmeke

Elder Greg Harmon

Christ Church Twin Cities, Excelsior, MN (1)

Elder Arnie Abens

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

Pastor Jon Herr

Elder Leo Kou

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 (1)
Pastor Michael Shover
Cornerstone Reformed Church, Carbondale, IL (2)
Pastor Bill Smith
Elder Nathan Brunaugh
Providence Church, Caro, MI (2)
Pastor Jacob Hanby
Elder Phil Burch
Reformed Presbyterian Church, Tyumen, Russia (0)
Elder Kirill Turbin (via Zoom)
Trinity Covenant Church, Wichita, KS (2)
Pastor Derek Hale
Elder Jeff Luttrell
Trinity Evangelical Church, Larwill, IN (1)
Pastor Nate Harlan

10 of the 11 churches were represented with voting delegates and a quorum was established. Reformed Presbyterian Church, Tyumen, Russia was represented via Zoom but (per Const. Art. V.C) could not make motions or vote.

9:25 a.m.: The Presiding Minister Recommended the following changes to the agenda:

Add the following items under V.A, "Council Matters":

1. Review and provide feedback on the Memorial on Terrorism.
2. Consider and provide feedback on the motion from PMoC Hurt regarding Stated Meeting Attendance
3. Review and provide feedback on the proposals for PMoC and PMoP compensation
4. Review and provide feedback on the proposal to change "Memorials" to "Position Papers and Other Resources"

The agenda was accepted as modified with no objections.

9:27 a.m.: The Presiding Minister recognized the following guests:

Bobby Kazanski (Pastoral Intern, Christ the King Church, MO)
Joshua Luper (Deacon, Trinity Covenant Church, KS)

III. Member Church Reports

9:27 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. Hemmeke gave the report.

Mr. Harlan prayed.

Christ Church Twin Cities, Excelsior, MN

Mr. Abens gave the report.

Mr. Hemmeke prayed.

Christ Covenant Church of Chicago, Rolling Meadows, IL

Mr. Herr gave the report.

Mr. Abens 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.

10:35 The Presiding Minister called for a 10-minute break

10:46 a.m.: The presiding minister called the meeting to reconvene

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. Hanby gave the report.

Mr. Brunaugh prayed

Reformed Presbyterian Church, Tyumen, Russia

Mr. Turbin gave the report.

Mr. Hanby prayed

Trinity Covenant Church, Wichita, KS

Mr. Hale gave the report.

Mr. Turbin prayed
Trinity Evangelical Church, Larwill, IN
Mr. Harlan gave the report.
Mr. Hale prayed

12:18 p.m. The Presiding Minister called a recess until 1:50 for lunch

2:00 p.m.: Reconvened, Mr. Hale led singing *Psalm 2*

IV. **Committee, Minister's and Mission Reports**

2:03 p.m.: The Council Presiding Minister's report was received with no items requiring ratification by the Presbytery.

2:05 p.m.: Mr. Herr asked if there was discussion at council surrounding the public letter sent by PmoC.

Presiding minister answered in the negative.

2:07p.m.: Presbytery Presiding Minister's report was received and the Presiding Minister called for votes on the motion in the report.

2:07p.m.: **2020/09/22:1 Motion:** The Presiding Minister moved to ratify decision to cancel mid-year meeting scheduled for March 16, 2020. Seconded, **CARRIED 16-0-0.**

V. **Other Business**

2:07p.m.: The Presiding Minister called for review feedback on the Memorial on Terrorism.

Summary of feedback: No changes or revisions were suggested.

2:08p.m.: **2020/09/22:2 Motion:** The Presiding Minister moved that Presbytery recommend the Memorial on Terrorism should stand as is. Seconded, **CARRIED 15-0-1**

2:09p.m.: The Presiding Minister called for feedback on the motion from PMoC Hurt regarding stated meeting attendance.

Summary of feedback: Language of the motion is either too vague or too strict.

2:13p.m.: **2020/09/22:3 Motion:** The Presiding Minister moved that Presbytery provide feedback and modifications to PMoC Hurt's motion to Council for consideration. Seconded, **CARRIED 11-5-0**

- 2:14p.m.: The Presiding Minister called for volunteers to provide feedback regarding PMoC Hurt's motion to Council for consideration.
Mr. Hemmeke, Mr. Swanson, and Mr. Hale volunteered
- 2:18p.m.: **Point of Parliamentary Inquiry:** Mr. Shover made a point of parliamentary inquiry as to whether Mr. Hale is eligible to provide feedback for Presbytery, given the potential departure of Trinity Covenant Church from Tyndale Presbytery.
The point was well taken by the Presiding Minister.
Mr. Sexton volunteered to take Mr. Hale's slot, and was approved by the Presiding Minister.
- 2:19p.m.: The Presiding Minister called for feedback on the proposals for PMoC and PMoP compensation.
- 2:19p.m.: **Point of Information:** Mr. Herr asked if the proposals would be adopted in 2021.
The Presiding Minister answered in the affirmative
Summary of feedback: Presbyters were divided as to whether compensation to PMoC and PMoP should be voluntary or mandatory, and questioned whether PM compensation would be subject to federal and state tax laws.
- 2:30p.m.: The Presiding Minister called for volunteers to provide feedback to Council for consideration.
Mr. Smith and Mr. Abens volunteered
Mr. Kou and Mr. Abens suggested churches set aside money for Council meeting expenses.
Mr. Kou volunteered to provide feedback.
- 2:36p.m.: The Presiding Minister called for feedback on the proposal to change "Memorials" to "Position Papers and Other Resources"
Point of Information: Mr. Smith asked what "weight" position papers would have relative to current memorials.
The Presiding Minister answered that prospective and member churches would not be required to subscribe to position papers, or note any exceptions or reservations, while they are required to do so for the current memorials.
Summary of feedback: The Presbyters noted that subscription to the substance of the current Memorials provides unity and a potential guard

against unsuitable churches joining the denomination. They debated the legal merits and protections of memorials, position papers, and church constitutions.

3:01p.m.: **2020/09/22:4 Motion:** Mr. Hemmeke moved that Tyndale Presbytery recommend no changes to the use and text of the current Book of Memorials. Seconded, **CARRIED 13-1-2**

3:02p.m.: **2020/09/22:5 Motion:** Mr. Hale moved that Tyndale Presbytery grant Trinity Covenant Church's request to be allowed to move to Wycliffe Presbytery. Seconded.

3:02p.m.: **Point of Information:** Mr. Hemmeke asked if there were any factor other than geography motivating the request.

Mr. Hale answered in the negative.

3:07p.m.: **Point of Information:** Mr. Herr asked if the proposed move would affect which Presbytery future churches belong to.

The Presiding Minister noted that the constitution allowed Presbyteries to have overlapping geographic locations.

3:08p.m.: The Presiding Minister called for a vote on the motion regarding Trinity Covenant Church's request. The motion **CARRIED 14-0-2**

3:09p.m.: Mr. Hemmeke asked when the move is effective.

The Presiding Minister answered that, if the move is approved by Wycliffe Presbytery, a date will be set at that time.

3:10p.m.: Mr. Abens to lead a discussion on Best Practices, outlining the process of selecting 1-2 (proactive) topics and discussing them at Presbytery and mid-year meeting. He suggested adopting this format would improve the attendance and quality of the mid-year meeting.

The Presiding Minister called for a vote as to how many Presbyters would attend mid-year with best practices format. **RESULT: 11-0-4 WOULD ATTEND WITH BEST PRACTICES FORMAT**

3:24p.m.: The Presiding Minister asked for discussion on Mr. Smith's nomination for Presiding Minister of Presbytery.

Mr. Kou asked for an outline of the time commitment and duties of the Presiding Minister.

The Presiding Minister gave a general outline and noted that the time requirements are variable depending on Presbytery needs.

Mr. Kou asked Mr. Smith if he has the required time to fulfil the required duties.

Mr. Smith answered in the affirmative, noting that his Elders and others provide enough help for him to fulfil the outlined obligations.

3:29p.m.: **Point of Parliamentary Inquiry:** Mr. Hale asked if Trinity Covenant Church delegates are eligible to vote on Mr. Smith's nomination.

The Presiding Minister answered in the affirmative.

3:30p.m.: **2020/09/22:6 Motion:** The Presiding minister called for a vote on Mr. Smith's nomination for Presiding Minister. Seconded, **CARRIED 15-0-1**

3:31p.m.: The Presiding Minister asked for discussion on Mr. Hemmeke's nomination as Presiding Minister *Pro Tem*.

Mr. Harlan asked if Mr. Hemmeke is willing to fulfil duties of Presiding Minister *Pro Tem*.

Mr. Hemmeke answered in affirmative

The Presiding Minister outlined the Presiding Minister *Pro Tem* duties for the Presbyters.

3:35p.m.: **2020/09/22:7 Motion:** The Presiding Minister called for a vote on Mr. Hemmeke's nomination for Presiding Minister *Pro Tem*. Seconded, **CARRIED 15-0-1**

3:38p.m.: Mr. Abens suggested letting counsel delegates appoint their own alternates

The Presiding Minister noted that counsel delegates and alternates must be elected.

3:37p.m.: **2020/09/22:8 Motion:** The Presiding Minister called for a vote on Mr. Smith and Mr. Hemmeke's nomination as Council delegates. Seconded, **CARRIED 14-0-2**

3:38p.m.: Mr. Smith nominated Mr. Davis as 1st Alternate Council Delegate

The Presiding Minister asked if there was discussion needed on his nomination.

The Presbyters answered in the negative

3:39p.m.: **2020/09/22:9 Motion:** The Presiding minister called for a vote on Mr. Davis' nomination as 1st Alternate Council Delegate. Seconded, **CARRIED 16-0-0**

3:40p.m.: Mr. Sexton nominated Mr. Herr as 2nd Alternate Council Delegate

The Presiding Minister asked if there was discussion needed on his nomination.

The Presbyters answered in the negative

3:40p.m.: **2020/09/22:10 Motion:** The Presiding Minister called for a vote on Mr. Herr's nomination for 2nd Alternate Council Delegate. Seconded, **CARRIED 15-0-1**

3:41p.m. **2020/09/22:11 Motion:** Mr. Smith moved that the Winter/Spring meeting be held at Carbondale at date TBD. Seconded,
The Presiding Minister asked if there was discussion needed on the motion.

The Presbyters answered in the negative.

Mr. Smith asked Mr. Kou if government restrictions could affect Christ Covenant Church's ability to host Council in 2021.

Mr. Kou answered that it is a potential problem, but that Christ Covenant Church would likely be able to host Council.

The Presiding Minister called for a vote on the motion. The motion **CARRIED 16-0-0**

3:47p.m.: **2020/09/22:13 Motion:** Mr. Hemmeke moved Presbytery acknowledge the Presiding Minister's service and Trinity Covenant Church's hospitality by thanks. Seconded, **CARRIED 16-0-0**

The Presbyters thanked Mr. Davis for his service as Presiding Minister.

VI. Adjourn

3:49p.m.: **2020/09/22:14 Motion:** Mr. Hale moved to adjourn. Seconded, **CARRIED 16-0-0**

3:50p.m.: The Presiding Minister adjourned the meeting with prayer.

3:51p.m.: Mr. Hale led in singing *Psalm 100*

Bobby Kazanski, Secretary

Rob Davis, Presiding Minister