

Meeting of the Wycliffe Presbytery
All Saints Presbyterian Church, Fort Worth, TX
August 11, 2015

9:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by Presiding Minister (PM) Jeff Niell. Member churches were represented by Pastor Todd Davis, Pastor John Barach, Pastor Steve Wilkins, Pastor Pat Hurd, Elder Gil Shivers, Pastor Randy Booth, Elder Lee Hill, Elder David Alders, Pastor Joe Rosales, Pastor Jeff Niell and Pastor Oleg Volkov.

Pastor Davis offered an invocation, followed by an exhortation by Pastor Barach.

PM Niell presented an overview of the meeting agenda and asked visitors to stand and introduce themselves.

10:00 a.m.

Following a break for refreshments and fellowship, pastors of member churches and mission churches gave reports.

Pastor Booth offered and Elder Shivers seconded a motion that, subject to the approval of the session of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of St. Petersburg, Russia, and contingent upon its willingness to be the sponsoring church, Wycliffe Presbytery grant candidate status to the Evangelical Reformed Church of Kazan, Tatarstan, Russia. The motion passed unanimously.

The assembled men broke into several groups to pray for one another and the churches of the Presbytery.

The meeting recessed for lunch at approximately noon.

A video produced by Pastor Volkov concerning the work of the CREC in Russia and Central Asia was presented. Pastor Volkov spoke briefly concerning his work as pastor and missionary.

Bound copies of the CREC Governing Documents and Confessional Statements were distributed.

Following an ordination exam of Philip Bozarth, Pastor Davis, chairman of – and on behalf of – the committee charged with examining Mr. Bozarth for the office of Teaching Elder recommended his ordination to the congregation of Grace Covenant Church, of Fontaine, AR.

Pastor Josh Anderson, of Colleyville PCA, greeted the presbytery.

PM Niell presented four logos for the presbytery's consideration. The votes of the presbyters were averaged, and the results were as follows:

Blue Tri-Leaf	1.7, voted #1
Shield/Chalice	2.2, voted #2
Cross Tri-Leaf	2.4, voted #3
Modified Jerusalem Cross	3.7, voted #4

PM Niell presented a report of his activities as Presiding Minister. Pastor Booth offered and Pastor Wilkins seconded a motion to commend Pastor Jeff Niell for his service to the presbytery. The motion passed unanimously.

PM Niell read an exhortation from Pastor Jack Phelps.

PM Niell delivered a recommendation concerning the same sex marriage controversy and also handed out the document from the Alliance Defending Freedom, *Protecting Your Ministry*.

Elder Shivers nominated Pastor Todd Davis for the office of Presiding Minister. No further nominations were forthcoming, and Pastor Davis was elected unanimously.

Pastor Booth nominated Pastor Steve Wilkins as Assistant Presiding Minister. No further nominations were forthcoming, and Pastor Wilkins was elected unanimously.

Elder Shivers nominated Pastors Todd Davis and Jeff Niell as delegates to Counsel and Pastor John Barach as alternate delegate to Counsel. No further nominations were made and Pastors Davis, Niell and Barach were elected unanimously to the positions for which they were nominated.

Pastor Booth offered and Pastor Barach seconded a motion that the Presbytery confirm Presiding Minister Wilson's recommended language concerning the status of retired ministers' membership on the CREC email list serve. The motion passed unanimously.

Elder Shivers offered and Pastor Wilkins seconded a motion that the Presbytery confirm Presiding Minister of Counsel (PMoC) Wilson's response to the U.S. Supreme Court's Obergefell Decision. The motion passed unanimously.

Regarding PMoC Wilson's request for feedback concerning the publication/distribution of official records of disciplinary cases and whether to appoint a committee to propose a recommended protocol, the Presbytery took no formal action. However, the following points arose from the discussion:

(1) The situation could be remedied, without the formation of a committee, by publishing only the record of formal actions taken in a disciplinary/appellate proceeding with all references to or summaries of the discussions/debates of the proceedings being redacted.

(2) Alternatively, it would seem worthwhile to appoint a committee to recommend a protocol or template for disseminating the results of disciplinary cases throughout the CREC. It was assumed that some disciplinary proceedings may need to be made public in some form or forum (at least, perhaps, to the PMs of the various presbyteries).

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:45 p.m.

