



Christ Church reformed presbyterian

www.ccrp.church • Phone. 317-456-2551

Mailing address: P. O. Box 34182, Indianapolis, IN 46234

Meeting location: 5075 N. Raceway Road, Indianapolis, IN 46234

May 28, 2022

Dear Fathers and Brothers,

The CCRP Session is thankful for the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery's support over recent years. In October 2021, Presbytery appointed a Reconciliation Committee to pursue reconciliation between the Session and two households. Then, in March 2022, Presbytery appointed a two-man shepherding committee to provide continued counsel and guidance. There has been good fruit borne out of the work of both committees. The Session has confessed sin and mistakes in shepherding, asked for forgiveness from the congregation, and has committed to new courses of action in its care for the congregation.

After the conclusion of its work, the Reconciliation Committee counseled the congregation, *"...there is no reason why the entire congregation should not be united and reconciled. It has been a very difficult two years for everyone associated with CCRPC and it is now time to put the past behind and move on in love, peace, and unity as the congregation seeks to serve Christ."*

However, interactions in recent weeks with the members involved have confirmed that we have reached an impasse over the affirmation and acceptance of the Reconciliation Committee's recommendations, the members' level of trust and confidence in the Session, and, in turn, our ability to shepherd these members (and potentially other members) in unity at CCRP.

We believe further outside assistance is necessary because the Session is too much a party to this conflict. Furthermore, factors such as operating without a local teaching elder, the recent resignation of one ruling elder, health limitations, and work constraints limit the Session's ability to maintain the ministry while also addressing this conflict. Finally, the nature of the work extends beyond the remit of the current Shepherding Committee, and the availability of our Interim Moderator (both of which have contributed time generously and without complaint).

We would like to call on our brethren for assistance in this time of great difficulty for the congregation. This is an urgent matter. We have reached an inflection point in the life of the congregation, and the next steps may determine the future existence of the congregation, and/or whether the Session can continue to serve. We ask that Presbytery appoint a judicial commission to take original jurisdiction of the issues of conflict between the CCRP Session and members, visit the congregation, and to make formal binding recommendations regarding the situation. CCRP will reimburse the Presbytery for all expenses incurred by this commission.

Recommendation:

That Presbytery to appoint a judicial commission to take original jurisdiction of the issues of conflict between the CCRP Session and members, and to make formal binding recommendations regarding the situation.

In Christ,

The CCRP Session



Joel Hart, Interim Moderator



Jason O'Neill, Clerk