SOUTHFIELD REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Where Christ is the center of it all

January 12, 2023

Dear Fathers and Brethren:

The Southfield RPC Session hereby transmits the attached complaint to presbytery. We welcome presbytery's involvement in this case, and have postponed the trial until after the spring meeting. If further comment is needed regarding the substance of the complaint, we are happy to share additional details at the meeting. However, in order to protect the complainant's public reputation, we would prefer to share these details either in executive session or to a committee/commission appointed by the court to adjudicate this matter.

The SRPC Session Elder Jon Hughes (clerk) Elder John Kim Pastor Adam Kuehner (moderator)

Gary V. Allison 4848 Fairway Ridge South West Bloomfield, MI 48323

January 3, 2022

Dear Session of Southfield Reformed Presbyterian Church,

I hereby complain to the Presbytery within 30 days against Session's December 8, 2022 decision. I humbly submit the enclosed complaint with grounds to the Moderator and Clerk of Session (The Book of Discipline II.4.3).

In accord with the Directory for Church Government Chapter 8, Section 11, I humbly submit to the Session this complaint addressed to the Presbytery against the Session, and I request the Session transfer this complaint to the Presbytery.

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With brotherly love, Gary V. Allison

To Adam M. Kuehner, Clerk of Great Lakes Gulf Presbytery of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America:

And now, this thirtieth day of December A.D. 2022, comes Gary V. Allison and complains against the action of the Session of Southfield Reformed Presbyterian Church on December 8, 2022, to issue an accusation of sin and schedule a trial for Saturday, January 21, 2023.

In bringing this complaint I affirm that I believe that the Session has erred and that this error is serious; that I have tried to understand the Session's point of view; that I have seriously examined, in prayer before the Lord, my willingness to be in subjection to my brothers in Christ; and that I have made a serious effort to correct the error short of entering a complaint.

In support of this complaint I set forth the following grounds:

- 1. The charge alleges five ways that I have sinned against God but does not state one specific instance and the "time, place and circumstances of its commission" as required in The Book of Discipline II.2.1. In addition, both Form 21 and Form 22 (H-20 and 21) require that a charge or accusation of sin give specific instance and the date on which a person has sinned against God.
- 2. The evidence for the alleged charge is a list of family members and one ruling elder who are not witnesses of the things alleged. One family member requested to testify is not a Christian and has lived elsewhere for many years with little contact. None of the witnesses listed has followed Matthew 18:15–17 and personally brought these allegations to me as our Lord requires and which is the "orderly manner for dealing with sin in His church" (The Book of Discipline, I.1.2 and I.2.1–4).
- 3. These allegations are based on false things my wife says in her sinful opposition to my patient and loving guidance and direction for daily living, including family worship, eating as a family, financial stewardship, education of our children, and entertainment, but the Session has not investigated the allegations as required in The Book of Discipline I.3.2. If the Session properly investigated these allegations, it would find that she has been disregarding and violating the moral law as it is taught in Scripture and by the church and as I have lovingly brought to her attention (The Book of Discipline I.1.6). Leviticus 19:15; Deuteronomy 1:16–17, 16:18–20; Psalm 45:6–7; Proverbs 24:23–26; John 7:24; I Timothy 3:15; Hebrews 1:8–9. Larger Catechism #144–145.
- 4. The Session has brought a charge based on false statements from my wife, "who manifests malice" toward me consistently, both privately and openly in the presence of our children, which The Book of Discipline II.1.2 forbids.
- 5. The Session has instituted formal process without evidence being presented that the means of reconciliation referred to in The Book of Discipline section 1, chapter 2 have been tried as required in The Book of Discipline II.1.1.
- 6. The Session has instituted formal judicial process without "evidence sufficient to warrant a trial" and without determining that "Christ's rule (Matt. 18:15–16) has been followed," both of which are required in The Book of Discipline II.2.2.

7. Requiring family members to testify against the head of the family concerning matters of which they have no knowledge, is not right and will harm the family instead of strengthening it, which can only be done by addressing the actual sins, which the Session has ignored.

I humbly ask the Presbytery to annul or reverse the action of the Session of Southfield Reformed Presbyterian Church on December 8, 2022, to issue an accusation of sin and schedule a trial without following the requirements of the Bible, our confessional standards, and The Book of Discipline.

Cary V. Allison , Complainant

Date: December 30, 2022