

The Great Lakes-Gulf  
Presbytery (RPCNA)  
Synod Meeting of Presbytery  
Official Minutes (Sent 6-18-19)

**CLERK**

Rev. Adam Kuehner  
ak@streetsermon.org  
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**ASST. CLERK**

Elder Dale Koons  
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**TIME & PLACE**

**Time:** Tuesday June 11 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

**Place:** Geneva College Campus (Merriman)  
(Beaver Falls, PA)

**SCHEDULE**

**Synod Lunch Break** (12:15 - 1:45p)

**Presbytery Business** (2:00 - 3:15p)

**Synod Reconvenes** (3:30 - 5:20p)

The Great Lakes/Gulf Presbytery met on the campus of Geneva College on Tuesday June 11 at 2:00 p.m. to conduct business during the Joint Synod of the RPCNA and ARP.

**1. CALL TO ORDER / PRAYER OF CONSTITUTION**

The moderator, Mr. Mann, called the court to order at 2:04 p.m. with the singing of Psalm 100D, and constituted the court in prayer.

**2. ROLL CALL (Mr. Koons)**

Mr. Koons called the roll and indicated that a quorum was present.

**3. CLERK'S REPORT**

Mr. Kuehner presented an oral clerk's report, and the moderator indicated two additional items for the agenda.

- It was moved, seconded, and passed to adopt the proposed agenda as amended.
- It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the report.

**4. COMMITTEE ON REVISING DIRECTORY FOR CHURCH GOVERNMENT D-22**

Mr. Kuehner presented an oral report on behalf of the Committee on Revising Directory for Church Government D-22, indicating that the committee plans to bring a recommendation to the Spring 2020 meeting in Elkhart.

- It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the report.

**5. INTERNET MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Keith Evans presented an oral report on behalf of the Internet Maintenance Committee, indicating that Mr. Zachary Blackwood will soon begin updating the presbytery website.

- It was moved, seconded, and passed to receive the report.

**6. CANDIDATES & CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Church History Exam (Mr. Zach Smith)**

Mr. Olivetti invited Mr. Zach Smith forward to receive his Church History Exam from Mr. Whitla, after which he answered questions from Mr. Whitla and from the floor.

- Comments were received from the floor and the exam was unanimously sustained.

**Exegesis Paper (Mr. Zach Smith)**

Mr. McCollum presented a report on behalf of the Committee to Review Mr. Smith's Exegesis Paper, after which the paper was sustained by voice vote without audible dissent.

**Licensure to Receive a Call (Mr. Zach Smith)**

Mr. Smith affirmed the licensure queries, after which his licensure to receive a call was unanimously sustained by a roll call vote, and he signed the query book.

- Mr. Hart called upon God's name in prayer, licensing Mr. Smith to receive a call in the name and by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, Zion's only King and Head, after which Mr. Faris issued a charge to Mr. Smith regarding the privileges and responsibilities of licensure.
- Mr. Mann presented Mr. Smith with a missionary call from the RP Global Mission Board, after which he indicated his acceptance of the call.

**Exegesis Paper (Mr. Gary McNamee)**

Mr. Hart presented a report on behalf of the Committee to Review Mr. McNamee's Exegesis Paper, after which the paper was sustained by a voice vote without audible dissent.

**Licensure to Receive a Call (Mr. Gary McNamee)**

Mr. McNamee affirmed the licensure queries, after which his licensure to receive a call was unanimously sustained by a roll call vote, and he signed the query book.

- Mr. Andy McCracken called upon God's name in prayer, licensing Mr. McNamee to receive a call in the name and by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, Zion's only King and Head, after which he issued a charge to Mr. McNamee regarding the privileges and responsibilities of licensure.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the Candidates and Credentials Committee Report.

**7. REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO COUNSEL REV. STAN MCKENZIE AND THE SOUTHSIDE SESSION**

Mr. LeFebvre presented an oral report on behalf of the Committee to Counsel Rev. Stan McKenzie and the Southside Session, after which it was moved, seconded, and passed to dismiss the committee with thanks.

- It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the report.

**8. MOTION TO EXTEND THE TIME**

It was moved, seconded, and passed to extend the time five minutes.

**9. AD INTERIM COMMISSION (ORAL) REPORT**

Mr. LeFebvre addressed the court on behalf of the Ad Interim Commission, indicating that the Christ Church session, which presently serves on the Ad Interim Commission, is in the process of potentially purchasing a building and would like additional oversight from the presbytery.

- It was moved, seconded, and passed that the moderator appoint a three-man commission to review a building purchase request of the Christ Church R.P. congregation, if that congregation desires to make a purchase.
- The moderator appointed the following men to serve on this commission: Mr. David Mauser, Mr. Keith Magill (chairman), and Mr. Ed Schisler.

**10. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Mr. Anderson shared the good news that Mr. Adam Novinger, a former pastoral intern at Sycamore RPC who recently came under a censure of suspension, is now back in church and in need of ongoing prayer for full restoration.

**11. READING OF THE MINUTES**

Mr. Kuehner read the minutes from the current business session.

- It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes as amended.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved, seconded, and passed to adjourn the meeting, after which Mr. Faris adjourned the court in prayer at 3:23 p.m.

Meeting of Presbytery  
2019 Synod  
June 11-14, 2019  
Beaver Falls, PA

Church	First Last Name	Status	Church Represented	Attendance, Session One, June 11, 2:00-3:45	Zach Smith Church History	Zach Smith License to Preach	Gary McNamee License to Preach
Bell Center RPC	Phillip Pockras		*	Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Bloomington RPC	Richard Holdeman	EXCUSED	*	EXCUSED	EXCUSED	EXCUSED	EXCUSED
Bloomington RPC	Philip McCollum			Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Christ Church RP	Michael LeFebvre		*	Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Christ Church RP	Dale Koons			Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Columbus RPC	Andrew McCracken		*	Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Columbus RPC	Gary McNamee			Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Columbus RPC	Ed Schisler			Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
First RPC Durham	Kent Butterfield		*	Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Elkhart RPC	Wade Mann		*	Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
First RPC, Grand Rapids	Craig Scott		*	Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Hetherton RPC	Ray Morton		*	Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Immanuel RPC, West Lafayette	Jared Olivetti		*	Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Immanuel RPC, West Lafayette	Nate Pfeiffer			Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Immanuel RPC, West Lafayette	Keith Magill			Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Lafayette RPC	Adam Niess		*	Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Marion RPC							
Orlando RPC	H.P. McCracken		*	Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Second RPC, Indianapolis	James Faris		*	Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Second RPC, Indianapolis	Joel Hart			Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Selma RPC	Averette Woodson		*	Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Southfield RPC	Adam Kuehner		*	Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Southfield RPC	Jon Hughes			Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Southside RPC, Indianapolis	David Hanson		*	Present	EXCUSED	EXCUSED	EXCUSED
Southside RPC, Indianapolis	Steve sturm			Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Southwest Ohio RPC	Dick Knodel, Jr.		*	Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Southwest Ohio RPC	Tim Vincze			Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Southwest Ohio RPC	Steve Work			Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Sparta RPC							
Sycamore RPC, Kokomo	Shawn Anderson		*	Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Sycamore RPC, Kokomo	Robert McKissick			Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Westminster							
	Keith Evans			Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
	David Whitla			Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
	Ian Wise			Present	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
TOTALS			18	32	31	31	31

Candidates & Credentials Committee  
 2019 Summer (synod) meeting of Great Lakes/Gulf Presbytery

Recommendations

1. That student exams and votes be conducted according to the schedule outlined below.
2. That our report be received.

Serving for Christ,

James Faris (2020)	Rich Holdeman (2020)
Adam Niess (2021)	Michael LeFebvre (2022)
Jon Hughes (2022)	Jonathan Schaefer (2021)
	Jared Olivetti, (2020)

(This is the first time in many, many years that Dr. Roy Blackwood’s name hasn’t been attached to one of our reports. We have finally given him leave from this committee with gratitude in our hearts for his example of raising up laborers for Jesus’ kingdom.)

Student	Exam / Votes	Time*	Examiner
Zach Smith	Church History	20/10/5	David Whitla
	Exegesis paper	---	Philip McCollum Wade Mann
	Licensure to Receive a Call		
Gary McNamee	Exegesis paper	---	Keith Evans Joel Hart

\*Duration - The first number is the allotted time for the examiner’s question, the second is for questions from the presbytery and the third is for discussion by the presbytery about the exam prior to voting.

Notes on future meetings & exams:

- RPGM has proposed a tentative date for September 27 for Zach Smith’s ordination, should he pass his exams. Given that date, we are hoping presbytery would approve the following:
  - That we would have a meeting of the full presbytery on the day of Steve Rhoda’s installation and the congregation’s organization in Terre Haute. This would be the logical time for Zach Smith’s ordination exams. We would also likely have other exams to schedule at this point.

- That we would have another meeting of the full presbytery for Zach Smith's ordination. This would give us another opportunity to schedule needed upcoming exams.

**Committee to Review Mr. Zachary Smith's Exegesis Paper on Psalm 60  
For Great Lakes/Gulf Presbytery Meeting at Synod, June, 2019**

We have used the criteria from Presbytery's Student Handbook to make the following observations and criticisms of Mr. Smith's paper.

*The paper should be not more than 40 pages (not including title page, appendices and bibliography), in a 12-point font with standard margins.*

Mr. Smith fulfilled these criteria: the paper excluding title page, appendices and bibliography was 26 pages in length and in a 12-point font.

*The paper should include an analysis of the historical context, dating and authorship of the passage.*

Mr. Smith's paper covered the historical context, dating and the authorship of the psalm to our satisfaction.

*The paper should include the student's own translation of the text, word studies of key terms and a verse by verse analysis of the text shows the student's understanding of the morphology, idioms, metaphors, play on words, key ideas in the text, etc.*

Mr. Smith included a verse by verse translation of the text which demonstrated an understanding of the text. There was some discussion of the morphology, idioms, metaphors, play on words, key ideas in the text, although he could have done so more consistently and thoroughly throughout the Psalm to give a more complete in-depth study of the Psalm. It would have been helpful for him to develop more clearly and fully the theological sections entitled "Covenantal Developments" and "Nature of God." Also, giving reasons for selecting the rendering "scepter" rather than "lawgiver" in verse 7 would have been useful, since he placed such an emphasis on this in his interpretation and application.

*The paper should provide some kind of outline, diagramming, structural analysis, and/or literary analysis that demonstrates the overall flow of the text and makes explicit the key theme (or themes) of the passage.*

Mr. Smith's paper included a satisfactory literary analysis of the psalm. Although not required, it would have been helpful if he had included a diagram of the structure of the Psalm and an exegetical outline of the passage. This may also have helped to strengthen his homiletical outline.

*The paper should include a meditation, sermon outline, statement of propositions with development, or other summary of the work that shows the student's ability to apply the fruits of exegesis to the edification of the church.*

Mr. Smith's paper does include a comprehensive sermon outline. However, the outline could have followed the text more closely. We believe it would be more meaningful to the congregation if the headings included more application.

*Footnotes should be used rather than endnotes. Footnotes should be in a widely accepted standard format (e.g., Chicago style, SBL, Turabian, etc.) Proper credit is to be given for all quotations.*

Mr. Smith fulfilled these requirements, although it was noted that he used only 4-5 commentaries on the Psalms in researching his paper, and that a more extensive bibliography would have been beneficial.

Generally, the paper was good and fulfilled the criteria set down by Presbytery. We were blessed by the application of Christ's Mediatorial Kingship and its implications for believers. Mr. Smith proved he could handle the text. He demonstrated understanding and was able to make appropriate application of the text. While Mr. Smith could have gone into more detail so as to make it a more thorough research paper, we believe it satisfies the requirements for this exam. We recommend that the exegesis paper be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

Wade Mann and Philip McCollum

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## REVIEW OF GARY MCNAMEE'S EXEGESIS PAPER ON 1 CORINTHIANS 3:16-17

Review Submitted to the  
2019 GLG Presbytery,  
Synod Meeting

May 29, 2019  
Father's and Brothers,

Respectfully submitted,  
Keith Evans & Joel Hart

Mr. McNamee has obviously put forth significant work in analyzing 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, and has demonstrated a sufficient grasp of the text itself, the text's relationship to the larger context, and the text's place in the argument of the book as a whole. His work with textual variants, in particular, is commendable and he has adequately demonstrated his familiarity with the Greek text. Additionally, Gary articulates a helpful Biblical Theology of temple and the presence of God with His people, which only adds richness to the interpretation of the text. Furthermore, the treatment of literary devices and word usage provided useful insight into the text's emphasis.

A few notable recommendations for improvement:

- 1) Mr. McNamee's paper is at times disjointed and can be found to be repetitive. While he develops themes, sets them aside, and returns to develop them further at later points in the work, he occasionally puts his reader in the uncertain position of wondering where they are in the argument and where they are headed.
- 2) For an exegesis paper, there is significant analysis of texts outside of 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, while further engagement with the target passage would still have proven fruitful.
- 3) Perhaps the most noteworthy concern is the lack of citations, especially early on in Gary's paper. The most notable illustration being Gary's assertion that there are three letters penned by the Apostle to the Corinthians (page 5), which is a rather contested point. Though the present reviewers agree with his assertion, footnote support is needed at that juncture.

The above concerns withstanding, it is nevertheless our **recommendation** that Gary McNamee's Exegesis Paper on 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 be sustained by Presbytery.

**Rationale:** Gary meets all of the student handbook requirements for an exegesis paper, which include: not more than 40 pages, analysis of context/dating/authorship, textual analysis/variants, translation/key terms/literary analysis, outline/diagramming/structural analysis (more on this requirement could be present, though Gary's work is certainly passable), theological analysis, sermon outline (a more fully developed outline is desirable, but the requirement has been met), and footnotes (see concern above). Mr. McNamee has provided the GLG Presbytery with an exegesis paper which meets our requirements, and in quite a number of places demonstrates real strengths.

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