

Minutes of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery (RPCNA) Annual Spring Meeting – March 3-5, 2016

Time: Thursday, March 3, 2:00 p.m. to Saturday, March 5, at 12:00 noon

Place: Bloomington Reformed Presbyterian Church,
302 East First Street, Bloomington, IN 47401.
Phone: 812- 339-1922.

FIRST SESSION – Thursday March 3, 2016 (2:00 – 5:30pm)

Call to Order

The moderator, Mr. LeFebvre, called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m. at the above address. Presbytery sang Psalm 131A.

Mr. LeFebvre read Mark 14:1-11, prayed for God’s blessing, and preached from the text on the great contrast between faith and unbelief.

He then constituted the court in prayer.

The presbytery sang Psalm 86A.

Calling of the Roll

The assistant clerk, Mr. Kuehner, called the roll and confirmed that a quorum was present.

It was moved, seconded, and passed that elders without certificates who are representatives of their sessions be seated.

It was moved, seconded, and passed that elders present who are not delegates be made consultative members of the court.

Recorded attendance for each session of the meeting is as follows:

1. Thursday Afternoon
2. Thursday Evening
3. Friday Morning
4. Friday Afternoon
5. Friday Evening
6. Saturday Morning

CONGREGATION	DELEGATE	1	2	3	4	5	6
Belle Center	Phil Pockras TE	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Larry Bump RE	E	E	E	E	E	E
Bloomington	Rich Holdeman TE	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Adam Niess TE	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Ken de Jong RE	X	X	X			X
	Wes Archer RE	X	X	X	X	X	X
Christ Church	Michael Lefebvre TE	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Jason O’Neill RE	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Sean Bird RE (Alt.)						
	Duane Judd RE (Alt.)						
	Dale Koons RE (Alt.)						
Columbus	Andy McCracken TE	X	X	X	X	X	X
	George Gregory TE	E	X	X	X	X	X
	Gary McNamee RE	X	X	X	X	X	X
Elkhart	No TE						

CONGREGATION	DELEGATE	1	2	3	4	5	6
First RP Durham	Kent Butterfield TE	X	X	X	X	X	X
First RP G.R.	Dick Bonner RE	E	X	X	X	X	X
Hetherton	Ray Morton TE	E	E	E	E	E	E
Immanuel (W. Laf.)	Jared Olivetti TE	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Ben Larson RE	X	X	X	X	X	X
	David Carr RE			X	X	X	X
Kokomo	Shawn Anderson TE	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lafayette	Keith Evans TE	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Jack Rhoda RE	X	X	X	X	X	X
Marion	Jason Camery TE	X	X	X	X	E	E
Orlando	H.P. McCracken TE	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Jonathan Schaefer RE	X	X	X	X	X	X
Second Indianapolis	Rich Johnston TE	X	X	X	X	X	X
	James Faris TE	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Rich. Blankenship RE	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Don. Cassell RE (Alt.)						
Selma	N/A						
Southfield	Adam Kuehner TE	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Jon Hughes RE	X	X	X	X	X	X
Southside Indian.	David Whitla TE	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Stan McKenzie TE	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Erich Baum RE	X	X	X	X	X	
	Chris Eddy RE	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Bob Burchfield RE (Alt.)						X
Southwest Ohio RP	Dick Knodel TE	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Gregory Damerow RE	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sparta	Daniel Hemken TE	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Jim McMahan RE	X	X	X	X	X	X
Westminster	Stephen Rhoda	X	X	X	X	X	X
Pageland Mission	Ian Wise TE	E	E	E	E	E	E
Terre Haute Mission	Bill Roberts TE	X	X	X	X	X	X
Active w/o Pastorate	Keith Magill TE	X	X	X	X	X	X
Active w/o Pastorate	Frank Smith TE	E	E	X	X	X	E
Retired Minister	Robert Morrow TE	X	X	X	X	X	X

NOTES:

X = Present

E = Excused Absence

Blank = Not Sighted and/or No Response to Roll Call.

Recorded voting for each student exam is as follows.

7. Roll Call Vote: Venkatesh Gopalakrishnan – Theology II (Keith Evans)

8. Roll Call Vote: Venkatesh Gopalakrishnan – Pastoral/Evangelistic Gifts (Rich Holdeman)

9. Roll Call Vote: Venkatesh Gopalakrishnan – Church History Exam (David Whitla)

10. Roll Call Vote: Venkatesh Gopalakrishnan – Licensure to Receive a Call

CONGREG.	DELEGATE	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Southfield	Adam Kuehner TE	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
	Jon Hughes RE	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Southside Indian.	David Whitla TE	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
	Stan McKenzie TE	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S			S	S
	Erich Baum RE	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S			S	S
	Chris Eddy RE	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
	Bob Burchfield RE (Alt.)														
Southwest Ohio RP	Dick Knodel TE	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
	Gregory Damerow RE	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Sparta	Daniel Hemken TE	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
	Jim McMahan RE	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Westminster	Stephen Rhoda	S	S	S	S	S	A	S	S	S	S	S		S	S
Pageland Mission	Ian Wise TE	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Terre Haute Mission	Bill Roberts TE	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		S	S
Active w/o Pastorate	Keith Magill TE	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		A		S	S
Active w/o Pastorate	Frank Smith TE	E	E	E	E	E	S	S	S				S		S
Retired Minister	Robert Morrow TE	S		S	S	X	X	S	S	S	A	A	S	S	S

NOTES:

S = Sustained

NS = Not Sustained

A = Abstention

E = Excused Absence

Blank = No Response to Roll Call

Introduction of First-Time Delegates

Mr. Knodel introduced SWORP ruling elder Gregory Damerow.

Mr. LeFebvre introduced Christ Church RP ruling elder Jason O'Neill.

Clerk's Report

The clerk's report is as follows.

**Report of the Clerk of Presbytery
To the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America
March 3-5, 2016**

The clerk respectfully reports that he has carried out the assignments given to him, as far as possible. I have circulated the Minutes of the February and June meetings. However since the New Year many pastoral and family matters have had to have priority. During the past year, I have responded to a number of communications either myself or referred to the appropriate person.

I have prepared the agenda for this meeting. I hope it is complete but there is opportunity for additions or corrections when the agenda is getting approved. There have been requests for certain reports to be on the agenda at a particular time because of the attendance of those involved in that report. I have tried as best to accommodate those requests.

I have several items to bring before the Court:

- a. I received a communication from the Bloomington Session (Paper 2016-1) concerning an additional item to be added to the Queries of Ordination, etc., and I have a recommendation below.
- b. Robert McCracken resigned during the year as the Presbytery representative on the Synod's Finance Committee.
- c. I have also been asked to bring before Presbytery the matter of how to certify to the Synod the elders who are not in pastorates.
- d. I am not standing for election as Clerk this year. Presbytery will need to appoint a new Clerk.

I was asked to inquire about what to do with the Northminster Session Minutes book and other records. I inquired with Ralph Joseph who is one dealing with the R. P. Archives. He gave me four possibilities:

- a. Send the records to the Seminary for copying and storage at the Seminary;
- b. Send the records to the Seminary for scanning and return the records to the Presbytery;
- c. The R P Archives can copy the records to disc and send disc and books back to Presbytery.
- d. The main interest for R P Archives is the preservation of the records. Scanning and storing the electronic records is their task although they also keep original records.

I pray the Lord will bless in this meeting and that all that is done will be to the glory of the King and Head of the church.

Respectfully submitted,
Raymond E. Morton, Clerk

Recommendations:

1. That the parliamentarians for this meeting be [Mr. Pockras and Mr. Hughes].
2. That the Nominating Committee determine the congregations to be visited this year.
3. That the Paper 16-01 be referred to the Judicial Committee.
4. That the Presbytery refer to the Nominating Committee the appointment of a new representative to Synod's Financial Committee.
5. That the matter of Certifying Teaching Elder delegates to the Synod meetings be referred to a committee of 3 members, to be appointed by the Moderator and to report to this meeting of Presbytery.
6. That Presbytery decide the matter concerning the keeping of the Northminster records.
7. That the proposed agenda for this meeting be accepted or amended.
8. That the Clerk's Report be received.

The assistant clerk, Mr. Kuehner, presented the clerk's report, in the absence of the existing clerk, Mr. Morton. [This included the nominations of Mr. Pockras and Mr. Hughes as parliamentarians.]

Recommendations 1-4 were passed.

Recommendation 5 was referred to the nominating committee.

Recommendation 6 was ruled out of order by the court.

Recommendation 7 was passed as amended to include the Selma Committee Report.

It was moved, seconded, and passed that a three man committee be appointed by the new moderator to evaluate the Global Mission Board's call to Mr. Venkatesh Gopalakrishnan and to report back to presbytery by the end of this meeting with a recommendation. Recommendation 8 was passed.

Note: Recommendation 3 addresses a paper submitted by the Bloomington RPC session. This Paper (16-01) is as follows.

PAPER 16-01

Request to Presbytery:

Recommendation: The Bloomington session requests the presbytery to petition synod for a change to the 'Queries for Ordination, Installation, and Licensure'. Namely we request that vow #6 from 'The Covenant of Baptism' be added to the 'Queries for Ordination, Installation, and Licensure' as Query 10.

Grounds.

Vow 6 in the Covenant of Baptism echoes vow 7 of the Covenant of Communicant Membership, and our experience in administering these vows with our members has shown the crucial role of these final vows in our understanding and taking of the vows. It is a suitable and meaningful capstone to the vows, both in contributing to our understanding of how we take the vows, but also places them in the context of our overall vision of the end of the church and all of our interaction in it.

Since two of the sets of queries end with this language, its lack in the case of the Queries for Ordination, Installation, and Licensure is noticeable. Adding the final language to the Queries brings them in line with the other two sets, and is a fitting capstone to the Queries for Ordination, Installation, and Licensure.

Election of the Officers of the Court

H.P. McCracken was nominated to succeed Mr. LeFebvre as moderator.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to close the nominations, after which Mr. McCracken was elected by the court.

Mr. Kuehner was nominated to succeed Mr. Morton as clerk, and Mr. Hemken to succeed Mr. Kuehner as assistant clerk.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to close the nominations, after which Mr. Kuehner and Mr. Hemken were elected by the court.

Mr. H.P. McCracken took the chair.

Call for Papers and Minute Books

Mr. Kuehner issued a call for papers.

Paper 16-02 was received from Mr. Magill.

Mr. Kuehner called for session minute books to be submitted for review by the court.

Memorials of Teaching and/or Ruling Elders

The memorial for Pastor Robert A. Henning is as follows.

Memorial for Pastor Robert A. Henning

Robert Henning was born at Southfield Michigan in 1921 to George and Jane Todd Henning. Very early in life, Bob submitted his life to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and

ever afterward dedicated his life to Christ's service. He graduated High School in 1939 and went on to Geneva College, completing his A.B. degree there in 1944. After attending Geneva College, Bob enrolled in seminary training at the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Pittsburgh, PA, completing his work in 1946. He took his first pastorate in Hetherton, MI after which he desired to serve the Lord in missions overseas, undergoing training in mission work and linguistics. However, on at least two occasions when Bob was preparing to head overseas, the Lord surprisingly shut that door to him, and totally beyond his control, his plans were cancelled. Rather, the Lord had a domestic ministry in mind for Bob, leading him next to Los Angeles, then to New York City, and then to Eastvale, PA. He also served as Pastor in Oakdale, IL and finally in Winchester, KS, where, with strong community consciousness, he also served as Mayor.

Throughout each of these pastorates, Bob maintained a love for missions and though God kept him at home in the states, still, it was His design to use Bob's passion to promote missions across the denomination. This passion was utilized when he was called to serve on the Foreign Missions Board of the Reformed Presbyterian Church and then elected to become the Executive Secretary of the Board. He held that important office for over 30 years, during which time he was able on several occasions to visit and encourage missionaries on the field. In retirement, Bob moved to Columbus, IN and served as Associate Pastor of this congregation, and later as Elder on the Session, and he was appointed as the Missions coordinator for the congregation, challenging its members to pray for laborers in other parts of the world. He had a great heart for God, and a deep concern that the glorious Gospel of Christ would be proclaimed world-wide.

Bob was married in 1946 to Ruth Ellen Bohey, to which union three children were born: George Allen, Carl Edward, and Paul William Henning. Later, after Ruth died, Bob married Esther Wilson, and they lived happily together until he died on August 21, 2015. Funeral services were conducted by his Pastor, Andy McCracken, on August 28, 2015, and burial was at the Garland Brook Cemetary in Columbus.

“Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of His saints.” Ps. 116:15

The memorial for Pastor Robert A. Henning was presented by Mr. Andy McCracken. It was announced that Mr. Evans would be presenting a memorial for Pastor David Long later in the meeting. The moderator led the court in prayer.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report is as follows.

GREAT LAKES-GULF PRESBYTERY

BANK ACCOUNT BALANCE

1/1/15 Through 12/31/15

CHECKING ACCOUNT

Deposits	€ 62,102.24
Withdrawals	\$ (65,201.37)
Interest	\$ 1.85

OVERALL TOTAL

\$	(3,097.28)
\$	14,777.48
\$	11,680.20

Balance Jan 1, 2015

Balance December 31, 2015

GREAT LAKES-GULF PRESBYTERY

1/1/15 Through 12/31/15

INCOME		2015 Actual
100 - Assessments		
101	2015 Assessments	\$ 31,961.33
120 - From HMB		
123	H.M.B. Supplements - Reducing Aid	\$ 20,061.00
140 - Bank Interest		
		\$ 1.85
150 - Other Income		
153	Northminster Remaining Funds	\$ 10,079.91
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 62,104.09
EXPENSES		
200 - Presbytery Meetings		
201	Annual Meeting	\$ 5,826.34
220	Knodel Installation	\$ 277.64
221	Morton Installation	\$ 787.72
222	Rhoda Installation	\$ 460.63
224	Marion Organization	\$ 4,636.80
225	S.W. Ohio Organization	\$ 538.65
260 - Officer's Expenses		
261	Clerk Honorarium	\$ 1,500.00
262	Assistant Clerk Honorarium	\$ 500.00
265	Officer's Expense	\$ 232.39
266	Youth Ministry Secretary Honorarium	\$ 1,500.00
270 - Standing Committees & Commissions		
272	Candidates & Credentials	\$ 72.00
273	Southern Ch Ext Committee	\$ 452.41
275	Youth Ministry Secretary Expenses	\$ 272.17
300 - Congregational Visitation		
302	Bloomington Visitation	\$ 309.28
315	Southside Visitation	\$ 80.64
317	Sycamore Visitation	\$ 473.18
400 - New Works		
403	Terre Haute	\$ 2,000.00
405	Marion	\$ 1,200.00
406	Pageland	\$ 2,000.00
500 - Seminary Student Aid		
		\$ 3,600.00
520 - Covfamikoi Family Conference		
		\$ 2,000.00
540 - Youth Work		
		\$ 1,500.00
550 - College Ministry		
		\$ 1,000.00
700 - HMB Aid Distribution		
703	Reducing Aid Supplement	\$ 20,061.00
800 - Special Committees & Commissions		
804	Terre Haute Commission	\$ 287.51
809	Selma Committee	\$ 1,413.29
811	Atlanta Commission	\$ 1,591.09
812	Congregational Officers Committee	\$ 48.72
900 - Miscellaneous		
908	Covfamikoi Special Gift	\$ 500.00
909	Northminster Remaining Funds	\$ 10,079.91
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 65,201.37
ANNUAL NET		\$ (3,097.28)

Balance Jan 1 2015	\$ 11 777 48
Balance December 31 2015	\$ 11 680 20

Mr. Magill presented the treasurer's report.

It was moved, seconded, and passed, to refer the matter concerning presbytery reimbursement for non-visitation pulpit supply (i.e. Recommendation 1 from the AIC Report) to the finance committee.

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

Interchurch Liaison Report

The Interchurch Liaison Report is as follows.

Inter-Church Liaison Officer Report
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GREAT LAKES-GULF PRESBYTERY
03/03/2016

I would like to thank the Rev. Dr. Dick Knodel for being our fraternal representative to the Ohio Presbytery's Spring Meeting of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC), that was held in Vandalia (North Dayton area), Ohio, on March 13-14, 2015 at Covenant OPC formerly pastored by the Rev. Charles Jackson now on the mission field in Africa. Dr. Knodel reports that the meeting went well. I have attached Dr. Knodel report to this document.

I would also like to thank Elder Robert Koch for being our fraternal representative to the OPC Midwest Presbytery meeting held at Hope Orthodox Presbyterian church in Grayslake, Illinois from March 20-21, 2015. Elder Koch writes,

"I was given time in the agenda to bring greetings from the Great Lakes Gulf presbytery. They got a kick out of the geographic extent of the presbytery. The Midwest presbytery consists of around 25 churches spread throughout Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin. I had a good time, and found the group to be quite lively and active. A lot of time, as we do, was spent on their students under care. Also churches made their individual reports, and as we do there were reports on reviewing some of the congregations. There seemed to be very little controversy, difference of opinion of course, but as very collegial group."

We ask that fraternal delegates at this Presbytery meeting be welcomed and granted floor privileges to convey to us fraternal greetings from their Presbyteries.

The R. P. Churches in Indiana continue to be active in the Reformation Society in 2015.

As of this writing I have received no other email communications on fraternal relations for this Presbytery or any other NAPARC matters, or at least as I can best recollect.

Respectfully Submitted,
Donald L. Cassell, Jr., Inter-Church Liaison Officer

**Inter-church Relations Committee Report
GL-G Presbytery Spring Meeting 3/3/16
Dick Knodel, from an OPC Presbytery Meeting of 3/13-14/15**

Great Lakes – Gulf Presbytery kindly assigned me the duty of being your fraternal representative to the Ohio Presbytery’s Spring Meeting of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC), that was meeting in Vandalia (North Dayton area), Ohio, on March 13-14, 2015. Since the OPC had been my ecclesiastical home for almost thirty years, this was a natural and pleasurable assignment.

Ohio was meeting at their Covenant OPC, in Vandalia, pastored by the Rev. Charles Jackson. I found out that the Ohio Presbytery has both a Spring and Fall meeting scheduled, along with any “called meetings” that appear necessary.

I rejoiced in my visit with this denomination, on account of its past work for Christ’s kingdom, and its reputation for both orthodoxy and outreach. With our common past, it almost brought me to tears to see someone like the Rev. Larry Oldacker, both their Presbytery Evangelist and an old friend. I had known him as a “covenant kid” from Dr. Carl Bogue’s PCA church in Akron, who went on to get ordained – and subsequently begin service in the OPC.

Christ’s wider church has so much beauty, and being a fraternal delegate allows us to survey some of this beauty. Almost as soon as I arrived, I discovered that this was Charles Jackson’s swan song, as he had resigned and taken a new call to the OPC’s foreign mission field in Africa. As I didn’t know Charles very well, I watched him through the early hours of presbytery. As I did so, I was really impressed by the personal warmth he expressed to so many, and by his happy helpfulness in hosting the presbytery. I thought to myself, “This man will do well on the mission field!”

The meeting went well. Overall, in terms of budget, growth, Home Missions and Foreign Missions – God appears to be prospering this part of his church. A PCA church on the west side of Cincinnati transferred into this presbytery last year (2014) and appears to be enjoying their new setting.

The one thing that surprised me involved three ongoing ecclesiastical struggles within Ohio’s bounds. Two cases were dealing with unhappy individuals, and one was near an end-stage of a church that wanted to leave the OPC’s jurisdiction. The presbytery dealt with all these cases diplomatically, with pastoral concern; but one could easily sense the grief that such developments caused. It reminded me of the tumultuous nature of our age, and how often our culture’s instability touches the church. Happily, our presbytery has not come close to this in recent experience.

I thank Great Lakes – Gulf for sending me on this mission, and trust that I was able to sew some NAPARC—RPCNA good-will in the offing.

Thank you very much,
Dick Knodel

Due to Mr. Cassell's absence, no oral report was presented on behalf of the Inter-Church Liaison Committee.

Ad Interim Commission Report

The Ad Interim Commission Report is as follows.

**Report of the Ad Interim Commission
to the Great Lakes–Gulf Presbytery
Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America
February 18, 2016**

Fathers and Brothers,

Since the February 2015 meeting of the Great Lakes–Gulf Presbytery (GLGP), the Ad Interim Commission (AIC) of the GLGP met in constituted court ten times to conduct business on behalf of Presbytery. The AIC was composed of the session of the Reformed Presbyterian Church (RPC) of Southside Indianapolis along with Ruling Elder Sean Bird of Christ Church RPC, Brownsburg, IN.

The actions taken by the AIC at these meetings are summarized as follows:

March 10, 2015

Agenda Item: Appoint a moderator.

Action Taken: Stan McKenzie was elected moderator.

Agenda Item: Appoint a clerk.

Action Taken: John Hanson was elected clerk.

Agenda Item: Set the date for the installation of a Teaching Elder at the Hetherton, Mich., RPC.

Action Taken: The date for installation was set for April 3, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. at Hetherton RPC. The clerk was instructed to release the Edict for Installation of a Teaching Elder.

Agenda Item: Appoint a commission (and moderator) to carry out the installation of Ray Morton as Teaching Elder of Hetherton RPC.

Action Taken: The following commission was appointed to carry out the installation of Ray Morton as Teaching Elder of Hetherton RPC:

Phil Pockras (moderator)

Gordon Keddie

Rich Johnston

Doug Nadeau

Bob Koch, Alternate

April 14, 2015

Agenda Item: Note the reception of a letter of transfer of Stephen Rhoda's credentials.
Action Taken: The commission noted that the Candidates and Credentials Committee received a letter of transfer of Rev. Stephen Rhoda's credentials from the Orthodox Presbyterian Church to the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America. The letter came from the stated clerk of the Presbytery of the Midwest, Christian McShaffrey, dated March 23.

Agenda Item: Review and approve a pastoral call to Stephen Rhoda by Westminster RPC of Prairie View, Ill.
Action Taken: Call was reviewed and approved. Stan will forward the original call to Stephen and will forward the edict to Westminster RPC.

Agenda Item: Appoint a commission to carry out the installation of Stephen Rhoda as Teaching Elder of Westminster RPC.

Action Taken: Appointed the following to serve on the commission to carry out the installation of Stephen Rhoda as Teaching Elder of Westminster RPC:

Dave Long, Moderator
Jack Rhoda
Fik Membere
Jared Olivetti
Richard Blankenship
Keith Magill, Alternate

Agenda Item: Review and receive the minutes of the Hetherton Commission to install Ray Morton.
Action Taken: The minutes were reviewed and spread on the minutes of the Ad Interim Commission.

Agenda Item: Reinstatement of Bob Shapiro on the Pageland TGB.
Action Taken: At the request of the Pageland TGB, Bob Shapiro was reinstated on the Pageland TGB.

May 12, 2015

Agenda Item: Request to examine Craig Scott for ordination prior to the fall meeting of the Great Lakes–Gulf Presbytery.
Action Taken: Motion approved: Per a request to set the date and location for examining Mr. Craig Scott for ordination, the AIC, in concurrence with the Candidates and Credentials Committee, have set the date to coincide with the fall meeting of Presbytery, September 11, 2015, at Second Reformed Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis. The AIC declined a request by Mr. Adam Kuehner, interim moderator of First Reformed Presbyterian Church (Grand Rapids), to propose an earlier option, either during or shortly after COVFAMIKOI, or by commission via Skype.

Agenda Item: Northminster's remaining funds.
Action Taken: Motion approved: Following the guidelines of the *Directory of Church Government* (Chapter 2.16, p. D-7), the remaining finances from the Northminster work will be sent to Synod's Board of Trustees.

Agenda Item: Northminster's records, Minutes of the Session, and other statistics and memoranda.
Action Taken: Motion approved: Northminster's records, Minutes of the Session, other statistics and memoranda will be forwarded to the Clerk of Presbytery.

Agenda Item: Consider a petition from the Temporary Governing Body (TGB) of the Southwest Ohio Reformed Presbyterian Mission Church to organize as a particular congregation.

Action Taken: Motion approved: Defer the request to organize as a particularized congregation until the June presbytery meeting at Synod.

May 24, 2015

Agenda Item: Request from Jason Camery to withdraw funds from his pension plan for a down payment for a house.

Action Taken: Approved a motion to allow Jason Camery to withdraw funds from his pension plan.

Agenda Item: Request from Lafayette Session to allow Associate Pastor Keith Evans to moderate the Session when Dave Long is unable to do so.

Action Taken: Approved a motion to allow Associate Pastor Keith Evans to moderate the Session when Dave Long is unable to do so.

June 7, 2015

Agenda Item: Certification of church planters, retirees, or other non-installed teaching elders to synod.

Action Taken: Approved a motion to certify teaching elders for synod as presented on the Certificate of Teaching Elder for Synod.

Agenda Item: Review and receive the minutes of the Commission to install Steve Rhoda at Westminster.

Action Taken: Minutes were received with the notation that some information concerning times were missing.

August 11, 2015

Agenda Item: Presbytery dates and place.

Action Taken: Approved a motion setting Presbytery to begin Friday, September 11, 2015 at 1 p.m. and adjourning at noon, Saturday, September 12, 2015. The meeting will be at Sycamore RP Church in Kokomo, IN.

Agenda Item: Review of the Selma RP Church minutes.

Action Taken: Daniel Hemken and Richard Blankenship were appointed to review the Minutes of the Selma RP Church when they are in Selma during their fall visit as part of the Selma Committee.

Agenda Item: Unfinished discipline case from Northminster RPC.

Action Taken: Motion passed to defer action and allow the full Presbytery to deal with this.

September 8, 2015

Agenda Item: The formation of an advisory committee to seek and appoint a new Covfamikoi director.

Action Taken: An advisory committee of Jeff Kessler (chairman), Jonathan Schaefer, and Ben Larson was formed to seek and appoint a director for Covfamikoi and to provide guidance on speakers and topics.

Agenda Item: Dissolving of the pastoral relationship between Keith Magill and Elkhart RPCNA and the appointment of a provisional moderator.

Action Taken: Dissolved the pastoral relationship between Keith Magill and Elkhart RPCNA effective September 30, 2015 and declared the pulpit vacant. Appointed Richard Johnston as provisional moderator from October 1, 2015 to October 1, 2016. A prayer of dissolution

was offered.

October 13, 2015

Agenda Item: Appointing a 3-man commission to handle a pending judicial matter left over from the Northminster congregation.

Action Taken: The following commission was appointed to handle the judicial matter that was left over from the Northminster congregation:

Shawn Anderson, moderator

John Hanson

Bob Shapiro

Agenda Item: Appointing a commission and setting the date/time/location to organize the Pageland Reformed Presbyterian Mission Church as a congregation.

Action Taken: The following commission was appointed to carry out the organization of the Pageland RP Mission Church on December 18, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. at a location to be determined:

Erich Baum

Kent Butterfield

Michael LeFebvre

Dick Knodel

Jared Olivetti, moderator

Frank Smith

Steven Work (alternate)

Agenda Item: Appointing a commission and setting the date/time/location to organize the Southwest Ohio Reformed Presbyterian Mission Church as a congregation.

Action Taken: The following commission was appointed to carry out the organization of the SWORP Mission Church on November 13, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. at Mars Hill Academy, 4230 Aero Drive, Mason, OH 45040:

Sean Bird

Gordon Keddie

Michael LeFebvre (alternate)

Andy McCracken

Gary McNamee

Ray Morton

Phil Pockras, moderator

November 10, 2015

Agenda Item: (From Jim Bishop, Treasurer) Request for clarification on reimbursing pulpit supply costs for churches whose ministers are called away on Presbytery business.

Action Taken: Given that Presbytery authorizes reimbursement for pulpit supply for visitation committees, we authorize the Treasurer to reimburse two churches for pulpit supply because their pastor was away on Presbytery business over a Lord's Day, and ask Presbytery for clarification on reimbursing pulpit supply for non-visitiation Presbytery business.

Agenda Item: (From John Hanson, Southside RPC) Request to appoint replacements for his Presbytery assignments due to a four month departure to South Sudan per a call from the Global Missions Board.

Action Taken: The following replacements were appointed: 1) Jason Camry as member of the judicial commission appointed for the pending matter remaining from the Northminster

congregation; 2) Shawn Anderson as moderator of the Atlanta Commission; 3) Steve Sturm as clerk of the AIC.

Agenda Item: (From Phil Pockras on behalf of the Board of Corporators of Geneva College) Request to appoint a committee to study matters surrounding transgender issues.

Action Taken: The request was not approved. Recognizing the merits of the request, the AIC recommends the Board of Corporators of Geneva College bring this matter to Synod.

Agenda Item: (From the Pageland Temporary Governing Body) Request to delay the organization of Pageland RPC into a congregation per the TGB's request/rationale.

Action Taken: The request was approved.

Agenda Item: (From the Pageland Temporary Governing Body) Request GLGP funding for the Pageland TGB moderator to visit and encourage the Pageland RPC work.

Action Taken: The request was approved.

January 12, 2016

Agenda Item: A request conveyed by David Hanson that was endorsed by the South Sudan Committee of RP Global Missions: "The Cush4Christ team serving in South Sudan would like to request permission from the Ad Interim Commission of the Great Lakes–Gulf Presbytery for elder John Hanson of Southside RPC to serve them the Lord's Supper during his stay in South Sudan."

Action Taken: The request was approved based on *Directory for Church Government* Chapter 3, paragraph I.C.6, *Ruling Elder Privileges*: "Under extraordinary circumstances, to administer the sacraments when specifically appointed to do so on a given occasion by the presbytery."

Recommendations

1. That Presbytery clarify whether churches are reimbursed for pulpit supply when their pastors are called away on Presbytery business not related to church visitations (see lines 194–201 above).

2. That the minutes of the Ad Interim Commission be spread on the minutes of Presbytery.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley K. McKenzie, Moderator

Erich Baum

Sean Bird

Bob Burchfield

Chris Eddy

John Hanson

Jerry Porter

Don Prichard

Steve Sturm

David Whitla

Mr. McKenzie presented the Ad Interim Commission Report.

Recommendation 1 was previously referred to the finance committee (See Treasurer's Report above).

Recommendation 2 was passed.

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

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

The candidates and credentials committee report is as follows.

CANDIDATES & CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT

Great Lakes/ Gulf Presbytery

February 3-5 Bloomington, IN

Fathers and brothers,

We are glad to bring the following items of business to this meeting of presbytery:

1. **Examinations** - we are recommending the following exams (see Recommendation 1):
below for more information.
2. **Sam Ketcham** - Several presbyters met Sam when he visited last year's meeting of synod. As a student at Greenville Theological Seminary, Sam came to convictions similar to ours regarding worship. After serving in a couple internships in the PCA and receiving much counsel, he and Dorsey joyfully joined the Pageland RPC, being committed to seeking a call in the RPCNA and especially interested in church planting in the south. On January 13, the Pageland TGB passed a recommendation to request that presbytery take Sam under care as a student of theology at this meeting of presbytery. (See recommendation 2 and 3)
3. **Student aid** - Venkatesh is the only student receiving student aid currently (\$300/month), but we anticipate the following changes:
 - A. Venkatesh Golpalakrishnan - currently enrolled, ending May 2016
 - B. Joel Hart - begin as he moves to take up studies at RPTS this fall, ending approximately May 2018
 - C. Zach Smith & Andrew Battiato - begin this fall; although they won't be at RPTS, they will be enrolled online as full-time students and continuing their work under Vince Ward's missions training program in Indianapolis. Their aid would end approximately May 2019.
 - D. Sam Ketcham - if taken under care, begin immediately; ending approximately May 2017
4. **Venkatesh Golpalakrishnan** - The Global Missions Board hopes to have a call prepared for Venkatesh in advance of this meeting of presbytery. Our hope is that, upon his licensure to receive a call he could respond to that call immediately and that presbytery could progress to his ordination exams. This is so that he and his wife could move to Bangalore and we could immediately proceed to take up the work in India this summer. While we know this is out of the ordinary, we believe his exams have been exemplary and that presbytery would see the wisdom in this course. The course of action we propose is to have one ordination exam covering both his theology and personal godliness, consisting solely of questions from the presbytery. We will also ask him to prepare an ordination sermon exam for this meeting.
5. **Joel Hart** - It should be noted by presbytery that we are bringing Joel for his first Expository Sermon exam, waiving his Evidence of Progress Sermon. The reasons for this change to our normal procedure are as follows: our DCG (II.C.1) makes clear that this progress sermon is something the presbytery may - but isn't required to - request from a student. Further, Joel has been very active in preaching and if he is not licensed to preach by this fall, his opportunities for preaching will greatly diminish upon his move to Pittsburgh. In order to maintain his development as a preacher and because we believe his preaching skill will be apparent to presbytery, we wanted to make this exception to normal procedure.

6. **Seminary-level classes** - Since the last spring meeting, Dr. Dennis Prutow has taught classes on the Pentateuch (spring 2015) and the Old Testament Historical Writings (fall 2015). This spring he will teach another biblical studies course on the Old Testament Prophets. David Whitla is just wrapping up his course on Reformed Presbyterian History. The Lord has sent between 15-25 students for each of these classes and both students and teachers are profiting.

As noted last year, our courses are recognized by the fledgling Indianapolis Theological Seminary, but we retain complete control over the classes we offer. Several students from other churches have taken classes as a result.

Classes for the 2016-2017 academic year have not been selected, but Dr. Prutow and the committee have a mutual desire to see him continue to teach.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy Blackwood (emeritus)
James Faris (2017)
Dean Filson (2018)
Jon Hughes (2016)

Rich Holdeman (2018)
Michael Lefebvre (2016)
George Gregory (2018)
Jared Olivetti (2017)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That student examinations be conducted at this meeting of presbytery according to the schedule outlined on page 1.
2. That Sam Ketcham be granted up to 10 minutes to share his testimony and sense of calling to the ministry with presbytery.
3. That presbytery receive Sam Ketcham as a student under care.
4. That student aid continue according to the outline in this report on page 2.
5. That Dr. Prutow's status be set as "retired."
6. That Michael Lefebvre be re-appointed to this committee for another three year term.
7. That Jon Hughes be re-appointed to this committee for another three year term.

APPENDICES

1. Student Charts - Venkatesh Golpalakrishnan & Joel Hart
2. Seminary Recommendation Letter – Venkatesh Golpalakrishnan
3. Extended update from Ray Lanning

CREDENTIAL AND STATUS CHANGES

1. **Students taken under care, or removed from under care, in 2015**
 1. Bryan Schneider - care transferred to the presbytery of the Alleghenies
 2. Joel Hart - taken under care as a student of theology (2/2015)
 3. Zach Smith - taken under care as a student of theology (2/2015)

2. Licensures, ordinations and installations in 2015

1. Venkatesh Golpalakrishnan was licensed to preach (2/2015)
2. Dick Knodel was installed as the pastor of Southwest Ohio RPC (2/2015)
3. Ray Morton was installed as the pastor of Hetherton RPC (4/2015)
4. Steve Rhoda was installed as the pastor of Westminster RPC (5/2015)
5. Jason Camery installed as the pastor of the Marion RPC (9/2015)

3. Resignations and transfers in 2015

1. Keith Magill - resigned from the pastorate at Elkhart RPC (9/2015).

4. Deaths

1. Pastor Dave Long - Our father and friend passed into glory on January 9th of 2016. We would note that Dave served this committee for many years and was instrumental in the development of men for the ministry. May God honor his memory by continuing to bring forth laborers for the harvest.

MEN UNDER CARE

Students Under Care

1. **Andrew Battiato** Andrew married Laura Nelson at Second RP last summer. Andrew and Laura now live in Indianapolis; he has transferred his membership from Lafayette to Second. Andrew is working in management for a local restaurant and preparing for the mission-field through local seminary classes and other discipleship exercises. As part of his internship at Second RP, he and Laura are members of the cross-cultural outreach team at Second RP led by elder Dean Filson with consultative help from Vince Ward in Ottawa, Ontario. The team is composed of six missions-minded participants (in addition to Dean and Pam Filson). They have been working through a discipleship curriculum created by Vince that is specifically designed for replication on the field. The team seeks to implement this plan locally through outreach to Muslims in Indianapolis. As relationships have slowly but steadily built for the community, it has become evident that it would best to see the Battiatos and Smiths (see below) to continue this local work for another year for their own development in this specialized missions training and for follow-through with their developing evangelistic contacts. However, they do not want to delay their academic readiness for the field and so they plan to enroll as full-time first year students at RPTS though the new RPTS online program which allows for one year of online credit to be accumulated. They then anticipate moving to Pittsburgh in 2017 for the new academic year.
2. **Venkatesh Gopalakrishnan** Venkatesh and Sarmishta have returned to Indianapolis from Pittsburgh, and he is completing his last year at RPTS online. He anticipates graduating from RPTS this May. They have been working closely with RPGM and the oversight committee at Second RP as they anticipate relocating to Bangalore later this year after the International Conference. The Rao family will follow after that. In organized efforts to build up the India team that will be spent, Venkatesh has been actively leading the team in evangelism, discipleship, and counseling from their apartment near the IUPUI campus where they have ample opportunities to minister to international students from around the world and especially from the Indian subcontinent. Venkatesh has also preached extensively locally and on behalf of RPGM in a variety of locations.
3. **Joel Hart** Joel and Orlena continue to reside in Indianapolis with their two young children. Joel is working as a financial analyst in Indianapolis, and they plan to move to Pittsburgh this year to take up full-time studies at RPTS. He has taken local seminary classes offered, several online classes from RPTS, and will take nearly a year's worth of credit to RPTS. He has interned for the better part of two years with the session at Second RP,

has attended session meetings, taught classes, led various ministry projects in the church, and has preached occasionally under the oversight of the session.

4. **Zachary Smith** Zach and Beth Smith live in Indianapolis and are expecting the birth of their first child within the next few weeks. Zach works as a construction project manager. He is interning at Second RP, taking seminary classes, and is a part of the cross-cultural team with Beth. Their plans closely mirror those of the Battatos (see above) as Zach looks to become a full-time student in Indianapolis for the next year. He will cut back on his vocational work and give himself fully to the work of being a student and engaging in cross-cultural ministry locally.

Licentiates Without Calls

1. **Donald Cassell** Donald serves actively as a ruling elder at Second RPC in Indianapolis. He also continues his work as a Senior Fellow and Director of the Liberian Initiative with the Sagamore Institute, where he directs the think tank's Africa portfolio and their work in Liberia. While Donald's research includes various frontiers of development in Africa (including Indiana organizations with ties to Africa), much of Donald's current focus is on the role of China in Africa, and Leadership development in Liberia. Donald's research includes Liberia's and Africa's agricultural policies and the role of Indiana in Liberian agriculture. Donald's work includes published writing, organizing lectures, roundtable discussions, symposiums, conferences and seminars, and facilitating programs and relationships (institutional, professional, and academic) that foster understanding and development in Africa. Donald is also actively supporting the development of the Liberian International Christian College (LICC) in Ganta, northern Liberia. Donald recently published the fourth edition of the newsletter- journal, *Marketplace Liberia*. The journal deals with leadership development, governance, international development in Africa and Liberia, and nation building. Last year Donald, as a Senior Fellow of the Sagamore Institute, launched the ISOKO Leadership Workshop in Liberia. Donald would appreciate your prayers for his labors on behalf of the social, economic, and spiritual renewal of Africa, and particularly his native Liberia. He still desires to serve the Lord as a teaching elder in Liberia, one day, even now if possible. Please pray for Donald and pray for Liberia and the many changes taking place in Africa in this generation. (licensed extended on 3/3/11 to 6/21/16)
2. **Scott McCullough** After the McCullough's return to the US in the summer of 2013, Scott looked for work in the Indiana area to keep him near his parents, who live in Columbus and are in failing health. Although his focus and desire was for work either in Lafayette or Indianapolis with the hope of being involved in immigrant communities, nothing was forthcoming and the work that opened up was at Indiana Wesleyan University teaching mathematics and physics. The McCulloughs are part of the newly organized Marion church plant and Scott is making contact with students involved or interested in missions. Scott was also elected to the Global Mission Board and serves on the Pakistan committee of the board. (license extended 6/15 to 6/20)
3. **Craig Scott** Presently the pastor-elect at First RPC of Grand Rapids, Craig passed all his ordination exams last Fall in Kokomo and was recently granted a religious workers visa. He arrived in Grand Rapids on February 9 and is scheduled to marry Rebecca Forney (a member of Trinity RPC in Beltsville, MD) on March 18 in Gettysburg, PA. The First RP session has been working with the ad interim commission to schedule Craig's ordination and installation for sometime this Spring.

Ministers Without Pastorates - Active

1. **Keith Magill** (last pastoral appointment, with the Elkhart RP Church, ended on September 30, 2015) – Keith preached 40 or more times in 2015 including preaching at Immanuel RPC on December 27, 2015. He last administered the Lord's Supper at Elkhart RPC on September 6, 2015. After 36 years of pastoral ministry, Keith and Becky moved to West Lafayette, just three miles from 6 of their 11 grandchildren. They are seeking the Lord's direction about how to best serve Him in this next season of their lives. Keith is not seeking a call in the RPCNA, but desires to continue his ordination. They are still unpacking boxes from their move and currently worshipping at Immanuel RPC. The committee recommends that Keith's status be "Active."

2. **Frank Smith** (last pastoral appointment, with the Northminster RP Church, ended on August 31, 2013)— Frank and his wife Penny have been active in the presbytery’s urban ministry in Atlanta. Their church membership is held by presbytery, but would be transferred to the roll of Atlanta Presbyterian Fellowship upon its becoming a mission church. Frank continues to teach history part-time in the University System of Georgia, serving since 2012 at Georgia Gwinnett College. He and Penny traveled to Japan in May, 2015, and taught at Kobe Theological Hall and preached in area RPCNA congregations. Frank’s status is “Active.”

Ministers Without Pastorates - Inactive

1. **Roger Adams** (last pastoral appointment ended in 1/1/2000) — Roger still lives in Ruth, Michigan, while working for the last 12–13 years as a social worker/ case manager in Sandusky, Michigan. His wife serves at the local hospital doing clerical work. Roger also does contract work with the County Probate Court. Roger worships at various churches relatively near his home. These include Baptist, Presbyterian (PCUSA), and Lutheran churches. Roger, a member of the Hetherton RP Church, has preached for Ray Morton; the Session would like him to preach more at least once a quarter. However, right before Christmas 2015, Roger was diagnosed with cancer and underwent chemo therapy for a mass in or at his pancreas. Since then this aggressive cancer has metastasized to his liver and probably elsewhere. Hospice arrangements in their home are now being made. Pray for him and for his family during this time. Roger’s status is “Inactive.”

Ministers Without Pastorates - Retired

1. **Roy Blackwood** (last pastoral appointment ended 12/31/2007) — Roy continues to attend services faithfully at Second RP Church in Indianapolis, where he gives regular Psalm explanations on a rotational basis with other elders. Roy is also active in pastoral counseling, and he provides support and an evangelistic witness to his neighbors and to the nursing staff at the Stratford Assisted Living Community where he resides. It has been a particular joy for him to watch one of those who prayed to receive Christ, excitedly sharing his faith with others. The staff at the Stratford have come to regard Roy as part of the “care staff” as he ministers to those around him. Roy also continues to serve on the Candidates and Credentials Committee as an emeritus member. He is working on a book on *The Rediscovery of the Gospels as a Syllabus for Disciplemaking*. Please pray for Roy’s energy and health, and for God’s continued blessing on his ministry. Roy’s status is “Retired.”
2. **Godfrey Franklin** — Following his retirement from the University of West Florida in 2009, Godfrey’s church membership continues to belong to our presbytery (was never transferred to another RPC after the Multiracial RPC was disorganized in 2005) but he worships at McIlwain Presbyterian Church (PCA) in Pensacola. Jim Wright recently encouraged Godfrey to consider moving to the RP Home. Though Godfrey has not participated in ministry activities this past year, he is in relatively in good health. He feels very isolated and would appreciate contact and news from our Presbytery. He is not actively seeking a call in the RPCNA but wants to continue his ordination. Godfrey’s status is “Retired.”
3. **Milt Harrington** — Milt continues to serve as the clerk of the Heatherton session, where they are enjoying the ministry of Ray Morton and seeing some growth in the congregation. He also continues to teach Sunday school and to provide backup preaching when can. He is trying to keep active by exercising 3 or 4 times a week.-- Milt’s status is “Retired.”
4. **Gordon Keddie** — (last pastoral appointment, Southside RPC, ended on 6/30/2014) — Gordon retired after 10 years of serving as Senior Pastor at Southside Indianapolis RPC on June 30, 2014. He is not seeking a new call in the RPCNA but hopes to be available to preach as pulpit supply as needed. In fact, last year, he preached 23 times and administered the Lord’s Supper 6 times in various places. He also plans to devote more time to writing and conference speaking. Gordon also desires to retain an active involvement in the work of presbytery and attend as he is able. Gordon’s status is “Retired.”
5. **Ray Lanning** (last pastoral appointment, with First RPC in Grand Rapids, ended 10/2010) — Ray conducted public worship and preached the Word numerous times in 2015. A highlight of 2015 for Ray and Linda was to visit their children

Gregg and Evie Somerville, in Northern Ireland. Ray continues to do editorial work for Dr. Joel Beeke and RHB of Grand Rapids. Linda continues to work as a visiting nurse but will be taking up a new post as director of nursing care at Catherine's Care Center, a ministry to the urban poor of Grand Rapids. The Lannings worship in the Free Reformed Church of GR. Ray feels more active than retired these days and is not seeking a call in the RPCNA, but desires to continue his ordination. The feeding of Christ's sheep with the ministry of the Word continues to be the joy and treasure of his life. Ray's status is "Retired." (see Appendix C for an extended update from Ray)

6. **Robert McCracken** (last pastoral appointment ended in 2002) — Bob continues to be active in ministry, both in the Columbus congregation where he is a member and in presbytery. Bob preaches occasionally when one of the pastors is away. Last year he preached 3 times. Bob's status is "Retired."
7. **Glenn McFarland** (last pastoral appointment, with the Santa Ana RP Church, ended 6/19/1989) — Glenn was the Principal of an OPC Christian School in southern California and taught school for 30 years. Glenn and his wife Jean are members of the Orlando RP Church, where they are both active teaching Bible studies and providing counseling and encouragement within the congregation. Due to advancing age, Glenn has stepped back from preaching but is willing to preach if needed and younger men are not available. Please thank God with Glenn and Jean for their good health, and pray for their energy and ministry to family and church family. Glenn's status is "Retired."
8. **Marion McFarland** (last pastoral appointment, with the Ogemaw RPC in Michigan, ended in 1987) — Marion and Shirley continue to volunteer with SOWER (Servants On Wheels Ever Ready), a ministry that does repair work for Christian ministries throughout the United States. Marion leads in regular devotions for his SOWER team. Marion and Shirley generally work on a SOWER project at a Christian campground in Florida. Their membership is with the Orlando RP Church where they worship during their residency in Florida most of the year. They return to West Branch, Michigan, during the summer months where Shirley serves on the Jury Commission. While in Michigan, the McFarlands attend a community church where they appreciate the pastor's sound preaching. Please pray for health and strength for Marion and Shirley and for God's blessing on their efforts to continue to serve Christ in door-to-door evangelism, and opening the Word in SOWER devotions. Marion's status is "Retired."
9. **R. Paul Mathews** (last pastoral appointment, ended in 1965, with the W. Monroe St. Mission Church in Phoenix AZ). Paul & Janet have been non-resident members of the RP congregations to which they have belonged since 1992. They currently worship with the Gaylord Evangelical Free Church in Gaylord, MI, where they now reside, & occasionally help with the singing at Hetherton RPC. (Their daughter & family are members of the Gaylord E-Free church). Paul and his wife endeavor to minister to the broader RPCNA church ministries through regular prayer via E-mails & prayer letters. They ask for prayer that God would keep them about His business in their interaction with others locally so that King Jesus would be proclaimed. Paul's status is Retired."
10. **Robert Morrow** Bob continues to serve as a ruling elder of the Sparta Session and just retired from being the clerk. He preached once this past year, and has been active in visiting senior citizens and people in need. Bob's status is "Retired."
11. **Jim Pennington** (last pastoral appointment, with the Kasumigaoka RPC in Kobe, Japan, ended in May 2005) — Jim' ministry activities this past year included regular pulpit supply in Orlando RPC, preaching 7 times in the last year. Jim continues to serve as a ruling elder, oversees a shepherding group, presides for morning worship in rotation schedule, and teaches Sabbath School class and small group. Jim's status is "Retired."
12. **Dr. Denny Prutow** (last pastoral appointment ended in 2001 with Sterling, Kansas RPC). Dr. Prutow from serving 12 years as RPTS professor of Homiletics and Pastoral Theology. Denny and his wife Erma moved from Pittsburgh to Indianapolis last year and became members at Second RPC. His credentials were transferred from Sterling RPC last year as well. He preached 16 times last year and continues to teach seminary-level classes for our Presbytery at Second RPC. Westminster Evangelistic Ministries (WEM) was transferred under the oversight of 2RPC and is hoping to continue his writing and publishing ministry through it. Denny also continues to write a column for the RP Witness. This committee recommends that Denny's status be "Retired" (he checked "Retired").

13. **Frank Schutz** (last pastoral appointment ended in 1992) — Frank worships regularly at Grace OP Church in Columbus, Ohio, and is on the membership role at Belle Center RPC. He will try to attend there once a quarter in 2015. He has taught Sunday School classes and preached at Grace OPC where his family are members. He is currently helping to lead a men's Saturday morning book study on the doctrine of the Trinity and plans to teach a class for members of the church on Beginning New Testament Greek starting in the Spring of 2015 (assuming there is enough interest). Frank preached twice at Grace in 2014 and officiated at the Lord's Supper for them. He also attended once at Belle Center where he did the Psalm exposition. His wife Leslie continues to work with McGraw Hill as a textbook editor, and Frank continues to work in the IT department of Nationwide Insurance Company. Frank finds his work to be taxing, and although the flesh is weak his spirit is eager to remain active in ministry as the Lord grants him opportunity. Frank's status is "Retired."
14. **Steven Work** (last pastoral appointment, with the Quinter, Kansas, RP Church, ended on September 1, 2013) — Steven and his wife Jeanie moved from Quinter, Kansas, where he resigned as pastor in order to take care of his aging mother near Dayton, Ohio. Steven's credentials as a teaching elder were received by this presbytery (through the Ad Interim Commission) on Nov. 21, 2013. Steven's and Jeanie's membership are now with the Southwest Ohio RP fellowship, where the Works now worship. He has preached 13 times in the last year. Steven also works as a woodworking craftsman and is not immediately interested in pursuing another pastoral call. However, he and Jeanie have expressed interest in supporting the church planting efforts in West Chester, Ohio, where they have been a welcomed addition to the fellowship. Steven's status is "Retired."
15. **Jim Wright** (last pastoral appointment ended on 7/6/1997) — Jim transferred his church membership from the Orlando congregation to Covenant Fellowship of Wilkinsburg RPC. He is also in the process of getting his ministerial credentials transferred from the GLGP to the Presbytery of the Alleghenies. On December 30, 2014, Jim moved from Florida to Pittsburgh to the "Upper Rooms" connected to the RP Home. He is teaching a Sabbath school and leading a Bible Study there at the RP Home. Jim is very thankful to the Lord for his gracious provision for ministry there and with the RP community. He has been recently asked to write an article for the RP Witness to be published in the next couple of months. The title of his article will be "You're Going Where?" Jim's status is "Retired."

APPENDICES TO FOLLOW

APPENDIX A: STUDENT CHARTS

GLGP Student Chart: **Venkatesh Golpalakrishnan**

	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Examiner/Proctor</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Taken under care	6/28/2013	-----	
Seminary begun			

Evidence of Progress sermon	2/2014	-----	Philippians 2:1-11
Seminary: First year done			

Personal Godliness exam	2/2014	Adam Kuehner	
English Bible exam (<i>written</i>)	6/2014	Dean Filson (online)	Passed with distinction
Theology & Distinctives I exam	2/2015	Rich Holdeman	
Expository Sermon I — <i>assigned text</i>	2/2015	-----	Acts 4:1-22
Church History paper	2/2015	Scott McCullough, Jared Olivetti	Christian Frederick Schwartz (1726-1798), missionary to India
Licensure to preach	2/2015	Rich Johnston	
Seminary: Second year done			

Pastoral & Evangelistic Gifts exam			
Theology & Distinctives II exam			
Church History exam			
Expository Sermon II — <i>assigned topic</i>	9/2015	-----	Romans 8 - Adoption
Exegesis paper	9/2015	Stan McKenzie Bill Roberts	Psalm 110: The King Who Is Also A Priest
Licensure to receive a call			
Seminary: MDiv awarded			

Internships		-----	
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O R D I N A T I O N E X A M S			
Expository Sermon — <i>assigned text</i>		-----	
Personal Godliness exam			
Soundness in the Faith & Testimony			

GLGP Student Chart: **Joel Hart**

	Completed	Examiner/Proctor	Comments
Taken under care	2/2015	-----	
Seminary begun			

Evidence of Progress sermon			
Seminary: First year done			

Personal Godliness exam	9/2015	Andy McCracken	
English Bible exam (<i>written</i>)			
Theology & Distinctives I exam			
Expository Sermon I — <i>assigned text</i>			
Church History paper			
Licensure to preach			
Seminary: Second year done			

Pastoral & Evangelistic Gifts exam			
Theology & Distinctives II exam			
Church History exam			
Expository Sermon II — <i>assigned topic</i>			
Exegesis paper			
Licensure to receive a call			
Seminary: MDiv awarded			

Internships		-----	
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O R D I N A T I O N E X A M S			
Expository Sermon — <i>assigned text</i>		-----	
Personal Godliness exam			
Soundness in the Faith & Testimony			

APPENDIX B: SEMINARY RECOMMENDATION

February 11, 2016

Candidates and Credentials Committee
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America

Dear Brothers,

Venkatesh Gopalakrishnan has completed seven of the nine quarters of study at the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary necessary to complete the M.Div. degree. His cumulative grade average is an excellent 3.954 (on a 4.0 scale).

Venky is spending the last year of his RPTS program in Indianapolis and taking a full load of courses via distance learning in each of the three quarters. He is doing this at the request of his session and the Candidates and Credentials Committee, as he prepares for the proposed mission work in India after his graduation from the Seminary.

We miss Venky and Shammy very much at the Seminary, but look forward to their presence at graduation on May 20, 2016.

If you have any questions about Venky which the Faculty can answer, please feel free to contact me.

For the Faculty,

Thomas G. Reid Jr.
Librarian and Registrar

APPENDIX C: EXTENDED UPDATE FROM RAY LANNING

From: Rev. Ray B. Lanning

To: Great Lakes / Gulf Presbytery, RPCNA

Subject: Ministerial Acts for 2015

Fathers and brethren:

Once again I am happy to report to you that in the kind providence of our God, I had the opportunity to conduct public worship and preach the Word on no less than 26 times in 2015. I did not have occasion to administer the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, but did have the high privilege of administering Holy Baptism to my infant grandson, Joshua Hendrik Somerville, and participating in the ordination and installation of Rev. Ian Macleod as minister of the Free Reformed Church of Grand Rapids; and I was called on to conduct funeral services for a dear sister in Christ, Marjorie Mae Stroven of Lamont, Michigan, on October 14, 2015. I also attended the meeting of Great Lakes / Gulf Presbytery held in Lafayette RP Church from Thursday February 26 to Saturday, February 28.

A highlight of the year was a visit to our children, Gregg and Evie Somerville, in Dromara, Northern Ireland from March 18 to March 31. Memorable events of the trip include attending a meeting of the local RP Presbytery in Newtownards RP Church on Tuesday, March 24; a pilgrimage on Wednesday, March 25 to Cahans Church in Ballibay, Co. Monaghan, from whence in May 1764 Dr. Thomas Clark and much of his Seceder congregation departed to resettle in North America and lay the foundations of Associate Reformed Presbyterianism in New York and South Carolina; the baptismal service for grandson Joshua at which I delivered the sermon and administered the sacrament, in Lisburn RP Church on Sabbath, March 29; and a visit to the RP Seminary and Bookstore in Knockbracken on Monday, March 30.

Sabbath, 03/29-Baptismal Service for Joshua Somerville, Lisburn RP Church.

Sabbath, 04/12-Morning and Evening Worship, Lamont CRC, Lamont, MI.

Sabbath, 05/10-Evening Worship, Second CRC, Kalamazoo, MI.

Sabbath, 05/24-Evening Worship, Walker, URC, Walker, MI.

Sabbath, 06/28-Evening Worship, Second CRC, Kalamazoo, MI.

Sabbath, 07/12-Morning and Evening Worship, Walker URC, Walker, MI.

Sabbath, 08/02-Morning and Evening Worship, Lamont CRC, Lamont, MI.

Sabbath, 08/16-Evening Worship, Second CRC, Kalamazoo, MI.

Sabbath, 08/23-Morning and Evening Worship, Lamont CRC, Lamont, MI.

Sabbath, 09/06-Morning and Evening Worship, Second CRC, Kalamazoo, MI.

Friday, 09/11-Ordination Service for Rev. Ian Macleod, FRC of Grand Rapids, MI.

Sabbath, 09/27-Evening Worship, Lamont CRC, Lamont, MI.

Sabbath, 10/11-Morning Worship, Elkhart RPC.

Wednesday, 10/14-Funeral Services for Marjorie Mae Stroven, Lamont, MI.

Sabbath, 10/18-Morning and Evening Worship, Lamont CRC, Lamont, MI.

Sabbath, 11/08-Morning Worship, Elkhart RPC; Evening Worship, Walker URC, Walker, MI.

Sabbath, 11/22-Morning Worship, Elkhart RPC.

Sabbath, 12/13-Morning Worship, Elkhart RPC.

Sabbath, 12/27-Morning and Evening Worship, Lamont CRC, Lamont, MI.

Mrs. Lanning and I have enjoyed another year of life and work together, and hope to celebrate 37 years as man and wife on June 2, 2016, D.V. If I am spared, I will attain to the age of 65 years on June 16. We are thankful to be in good health, and have been hard at work in our respective callings. Just this week, Mrs. Lanning completed more than two and one half years laboring as a visiting nurse, calling on the sick and suffering throughout our county; on Monday, February 14, she will take up a new post as director of nursing care at Catherine's Care Center, a ministry to the urban poor of Grand Rapids.

I continue to do editorial work for Dr. Joel Beeke and Reformation Heritage Books of Grand Rapids, with too many projects undertaken in 2015 to mention by name in this report. When I am not engaged to preach elsewhere, Mrs. Lanning and I worship in the Free Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, where Mrs. Lanning is a communicant member, and I am an associate member. We are greatly blessed by the ministry of our three pastors, two of whom are Scottish Presbyterians, Dr. David Murray and Rev. Ian Macleod. It is a source of wonder to me in my advancing years that I am hearing the same kind of vital evangelical and Reformed preaching of the Word that was such a blessing to me as a child and youth in the Presbyterian Church of bygone days.

In conclusion, it seems to me that although I have been accorded the status of "Retired," my retirement seems much more "Active" than otherwise. I am not actively seeking a call in the RPCNA, but I certainly desire to continue my ordination. Feeding Christ's sheep with the ministry of the Word continues to be the joy and treasure of my life.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Ray B. Lanning

END OF WRITTEN REPORT

The chairman, Mr. Olivetti, presented the Candidates and Credentials Committee Report.

Recommendation 2 was passed, thereby granting the floor to Mr. Ketcham, who addressed the court concerning his personal background, faith in Christ, and internal call to the ministry. The presbytery asked Mr. Ketcham follow-up questions and received answers.

Recommendation #3 was passed, thereby admitting Mr. Ketcham as a student under care.

Mr. Olivetti recessed the court in prayer for its scheduled break at 3:30 p.m.

SCHEDULED BREAK

Led by the moderator, the court resumed its first business session at 3:54 p.m.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report (continued)

Mr. Olivetti continued presenting the report for the Candidates and Credentials Committee, explaining the rationale for its recommendations.

Mr. LeFebvre requested that Recommendation 1 be divided, so as to separate the ordination exams of Venkatesh Gopalakrishnan from the other exams. This was granted by the moderator and Recommendation 1 was passed.

Mr. Ketcham was then invited forward for his Evidence of Progress Sermon.

Mr. Ketcham read Philippians 3:7-11 and preached from the text about the believer's fellowship with Christ.

He concluded in prayer and the presbytery sang Psalm 73C.

The presbytery offered feedback regarding the sermon.

The assistant clerk called the roll and the sermon was unanimously sustained.

Mr. Olivetti invited Venkatesh Gopalakrishnan forward for his Systematic Theology II exam.

Mr. Evans conducted the exam, followed by questions from the floor, and a time of discussion.

The assistant clerk called the roll and the exam was unanimously sustained.

Congregational Reports

The Belle Center congregational report is as follows.

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2016 Belle Center RP Session Report
To
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery of the RPCNA

Truth and Love

The Belle Center, Ohio, Reformed Presbyterian Church has had a challenging year. We have faced a number of disappointments including the death of a baby, much sickness, several whom we thought had cast in their lot with us leaving us, others providentially moving away, and employment difficulties. Our prospects, strictly from a worldly perspective, seem rather grim.

The congregation, on the other hand, continues to be characterized by truth and love. We are so very thankful that we can almost verbatim repeat this section from last year's report. We are thankful to our Savior for the bonds of love and fondness that He maintains in our church. We have joy in saying that Jesus shows His presence with us by enabling us to love one another. Our fellowship with and love for one another is a great blessing. This is evident by how long we remain together between services, after worship, and whenever we can. It is evident in other practical ways, as well, as we have seen in the midst of some of the challenges already mentioned. At the same time, we are so thankful that this peace is not a false one, purchased at the horrifying price of indifference toward the Truth which is Jesus. To the best of our knowledge, we continue to preach and teach all members the Word of God, understanding it in accord with the *Westminster Standards* and the *Testimony*.

Building

Our building remodeling has progressed, although slowly. Externally, we yet need to put down the final layer of crushed limestone in the new lot, install a new emergency exit, and install ADA compliant doors. The interior has seen a bit more progress since last year. All mechanical work is now done. We need to put up wallboard, put in flooring and much new ceiling, insulate, do trim, and paint.

With the reconstitution of our Deacon Board, Session decided to put the ultimate responsibility for managing the project where we believe it belongs, in the ordained officers called and installed for the purpose of managing our temporal resources to God's glory. The Deacons decided to put the management in the hands of Greg Probst, who has had a successful contracting business in the past and has a good degree of ability and experience in construction management. Greg continues to shine as a deacon, understanding and taking on the responsibilities of his calling more and more, even with many difficulties and trials through which his family has been navigating.

There continue to be many inquiries in our village about how things are going with the building. We are praying that the curiosity will be used by Jesus to draw people. We are further praying that, when we can occupy the building, it will be a place to where people go to worship in spirit and in truth, and from where people go to serve others and witness to the Gospel by lips and lives.

We continue to meet in the Greg and Laura Probst home. It has its blessings and difficulties. In blessing, this is saving the congregation money. At the same time, it takes/keeps us out of our target area. We are eager to get into our own building, again, in the heart of Belle Center. This somewhat depends, of course, upon some financial considerations, which we'll attempt to address in the next section.

Finances

Finances have become *very* concerning. With the loss of a number of people attending due to moving on theologically or, in providence, moving away, our giving is currently down signifi-

51 cantly. Some unusual methods of stanching the outflow have had to be taken, and we may be
52 unable to progress further on our building until these problems are resolved.

53

Membership Developments

54

55 The family we have been mentioning the past couple of years, for whom we had much
56 hope of receiving into membership, decided that we were not a good fit for them in our worship
57 practice, after initially believing that they could see our teaching being based upon Scripture. They
58 kindly continued to support our congregation financially until the end of 2015 and to maintain
59 cordial relations with members of the congregation, but we do miss their encouragement in other
60 ways.

61 A great concern continues to be Ruling Elder Larry Bump's health. He has had a very bad
62 winter, needing hospitalization for several days in January for respiratory/pulmonary problems.
63 Even on good Sabbaths he is only able to attend for one service, and is unable to give Psalm med-
64 itations, due to difficulty in doing study and insufficient breath for public speaking for ten minutes
65 or more. Larry has also been unable to preach in our pastor's absence, as he used to do with much
66 profit to the congregation. Please pray for a return of health for him, as nearly all the pastoral and
67 Sessional work now falls upon the minister, who has not been able to take much of any vacation or
68 other breaks consequently.

69 Matthew and Kerah Bump had the heartbreak of losing their first child, John Lee Bump, to
70 an early death at the age of ten weeks. It was a hard blow for both sets of grandparents. For Larry
71 and Gloria Bump, John was their first grandchild. We are thankful that John received the sign and
72 seal of the Covenant of Grace, and we trust Covenant promises to the parents. Matt and Kerah
73 have a second child on the way.

74 Another family, the Somas, anticipate another child. The child is to be born by caesarian
75 section in late February, D.v., as this report is written.

76 One communicant member of our congregation, a young adult man, was convicted of a
77 felony and was in the Ohio correctional system at the time of last year's report. He received judicial
78 release into parole near the end of last March. We are very thankful to report to Presbytery that his
79 life has been an adornment to the Gospel since his release. He was received again joyfully and
80 lovingly by the congregation. Also, mercifully, God provided work for him almost immediately,
81 and he has been diligent in that work.

82 There are three young men for whom we pray who are in the world, but who grew up in
83 our households. One is a brother of the young man imprisoned. Two others are brothers in another
84 family, sons of one of our members. Please pray with the parents and us on Session for these three.

85 Anna Bump, oldest daughter of Larry and Gloria, was married this past autumn to Mr.
86 Reuben Manring of Columbia, Missouri. The new couple are now living there.

87 Sean Allen completed his enlistment term with the Army this past summer, and began
88 Culinary School in California at the beginning of this year. We miss both of these young adults,
89 even though it is God Who has moved them.

90

Teaching and Preaching

92 We have maintained our normal teaching schedule. In the adult/family Sabbath School
93 class, we finished a video series by R. C. Sproul on the history of philosophy. We then had a video
94 series by Steven Lawson on the attributes of God. Since the beginning of the year, our minister
95 has been teaching on marriage preparation, adapting his normal pre-marital counseling series for
96 all of us, including the children. The discussion time afterward is always especially geared toward
97 helping the children to understand what was taught.

98 In the first worship service each Sabbath we have continued the expository series on Isaiah.
99 That is now in the midst of chapter 66 and will soon be completed. We anticipate next having an
100 expository series on the Gospel of Matthew. The current series has lasted nearly eight years. The
101 second service preaching series continues in the *Shorter Catechism*. There have been other texts
102 used, as well, at special occasions. Our pastor has preached at Immanuel Chapel in Dayton, TN,
103 last spring, a couple times at SWORP in Mason, OH, and at the Las Vegas Mission of Pacific Coast

104 Presbytery in January. We have experimented with using the preaching of other RP ministers via
 105 SermonAudio when our minister is absent, using the Probsts' home intercom system, and it seems
 106 to have worked well.

107

Outreach

108

109 We continue to give thanks for outreach over the Internet. As of 31 January, 2016, there
 110 had been 53,779 sermon and Psalm Meditation recordings downloaded from our congregation's
 111 site on SermonAudio. In January, 2016, alone, we had downloads from every continent but Ant-
 112 arctica. We are apparently not all that popular with penguins. We remind our members that if they
 113 want to hear other Covenanter ministers, there are many from our Synod, from Scotland, Ireland,
 114 and Australia on the Reformed Voice site.

115 We hope to engage Ruling Elder Romesh Prakashpalan's expertise in web development in
 116 redesigning our tired old website. Rom is on the Session of our Dallas, TX, congregation. Our
 117 website is the second oldest in the entire Synod, with only Southfield's having seniority. However,
 118 our site has never been substantially updated since its debut in 1996.

119 We hope and pray that, if we are able to finish a new, attractive, and far more visible pres-
 120 ence in Belle Center, we shall have new opportunity and facility for outreach. Several of our mem-
 121 bers continue taking opportunity to witness for Christ to others in different places and situations.

122

Miscellany

123

124 Most of our families home school, and several of them are involved in an educational coöp.
 125 We are blessed with a lot of kids in the congregation!

126 We have asked you to pray for godly marriages for our young adults. Please continue!
 127 There are several single young men in our congregation who believe God calls them to marriage,
 128 but they have not yet found their someones.

129 As we conclude this report, we give thanks to God for this calling He has given our con-
 130 gregation to serve Jesus in this place. We want to continue. Only Zion's King can bring that about.
 131 Please pray for us, that He, through us, will not only sustain but build His Church (Mat 16:18).

132

133 Respectfully submitted,

134

135 Phil Pockras, Moderator

136 Larry Bump, Clerk

Belle Center RP Church Budget vs. Actual 2015

	Budget	Actual
<u>Income</u>	<u>45,200.00</u>	<u>47,917.75</u>
1 st Quarter	11,300.00	11,943.00
2 nd Quarter	11,300.00	15,149.77
3 rd Quarter	11,300.00	12,070.90
4 th Quarter	11,300.00	8,754.08
Synods Dividend	<u>2,100.00</u>	<u>2,108.08</u>
Interest Income	<u>24.00</u>	<u>12.16</u>
Checking	20.00	7.87

Savings	4.00	4.29
<u>Fixed Expenses</u>	<u>3,626.00</u>	<u>3,449.04</u>
Insurance	<u>1,561.00</u>	<u>1,306.00</u>
Church	905.00	758.00
Manse	656.00	548.00
Taxes	<u>880.00</u>	<u>885.94</u>
Church	204.00	205.58
Manse	676.00	680.36
Utilities	<u>1,185.00</u>	<u>1,257.10</u>
Electric	148.00	334.02
Gas	293.00	304.68
Sewer	504.00	456.60
Water	120.00	101.80
Belle Center Cap. Imp.	120.00	60.00
<u>Flexible Expenses</u>	<u>70,625.00</u>	<u>47,382.46</u>
Church Building Rehab	<u>15,800.00</u>	<u>6,281.38</u>
Plumbing	10,000.00	6,011.90
Interior	3,000.00	269.48
Furnishing & Fixtures	2,800.00	0
Flowers	<u>50.00</u>	<u>0</u>
Guest Speakers	<u>735.00</u>	<u>300.00</u>
Mowing	<u>120.00</u>	<u>135.00</u>

Belle Center RP Church Budget vs. Actual 2015

	Budget	Actual
Pastor's Expense	<u>50,155.00</u>	<u>38,880.72</u>
Book Allowance	200.00	0
Covfamikoi	200.00	0
Health Insurance	8,908.00	8,907.36
Housing Allowance	5,000.00	5,000.00
Med. Exp. Reimbursement	500.00	0
Mileage	488.00	0
Office Expense	150.00	49.00
Pension Expense	4,100.00	4,100.00
Salary	30,364.00	20,579.36
Synod Registration	245.00	245.00
Presbytery Assessment	<u>770.00</u>	<u>608.00</u>
RP M&M	<u>500.00</u>	<u>350.36</u>
Repairs	<u>1,500.00</u>	<u>0</u>
Manse	1,500.00	0
Synod's Assessment	<u>995.00</u>	<u>827.00</u>
Total Income	<u>47,324.00</u>	<u>50,037.99</u>
Total Expenses	<u>74,251.00</u>	<u>50,831.50</u>
Difference	- <u>26,927.00</u>	- <u>793.51</u>
Checking Acct. Balance 12/31/2015	8,881.74	
Savings Acct. Balance 12/31/2015	6,134.57	
Total cash available	<u>15,016.31</u>	

Budget – 2016
Belle Center RP Church

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>49,708.00</u>
Tithes & Offerings	47,600.00
1 st Quarter	11,900.00
2 nd Quarter	11,900.00
3 rd Quarter	11,900.00
4 th Quarter	11,900.00
Synods Dividend	2,100.00
Interest Income	8.00
Checking	4.00
Savings	4.00
<u>FIXED EXPENSES</u>	<u>3,760.00</u>
Insurance	1306.00
Church	758.00
Manse	548.00
Taxes	886.00
Church	205.00
Manse	681.00
Utilities	1,568.00
Electric	335.00
Gas	305.00
Sewer	535.00
Water	120.00
Belle Center Cap. Imp.	120.00
Garbage	153.00
<u>FLEXIBLE EXPENSES</u>	<u>66,096.00</u>
Church Building Rehab	11,800.00
Interior	9,000.00
Furnishing & Fixtures	2,800.00
Flowers	50.00
Guest Sneakers	400.00
Mowing	140.00
Pastor's Expense	50,267.00
Book Allowance	200.00
Covfamiko Registration	200.00
Health Insurance	8,908.00
Housing Allowance	5,000.00
Med. Exp. Reimbursement	500.00
Mileage	500.00
Office Expense	150.00
Pension Expense	4,200.00
Pastor's Expense con't	
Salary	30,364.00
Synod Registration	245.00

Presbytery Assessment		691.00
RP M&M		500.00
Repairs		1,500.00
	1,500.00	
Synods Assessment		748.00

Total Budget Income **49,708.00**

Total Budget Expenses **69,856.00**

Difference **- 20,148.00**

Balance in Checking Acct. as of 12/31/15 6,134.57

Balance in Savings Acct. as of 12/31/15 8,881.74

Total cash on hand **15,016.31**

Mr. Pockras presented the Belle Center congregational report and answered questions from the floor.

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

The Bloomington congregational report is as follows.

**Report of the Bloomington Reformed Presbyterian Church to
Presbytery**

2016

“Witnessing for Christ in Bloomington for 193 Years” Oh

God, let the people praise thee, let all the people praise thee. Ps 67:3

We as the session of this congregation are filled with thanksgiving for the Lord’s work in and through the Bloomington congregation. We are reminded each year of the Lord’s provision as we see the congregation growing in the grace of Jesus, as well as incorporating new members. Bloomington is a locale with a somewhat transient population, and we witness numerous incoming members, as well as sending out members from the congregation.

The session is charged with overseeing the work and life of the congregation. The session, along with the deacons, has historically administered the various aspects of the congregation via a variety of committees. The session works with three committees who coordinate efforts with respect to outreach and evangelism, missions efforts outside our congregation, and education of the congregation itself. The deacons, similarly, work with a finance, facilities, and mercy committee. Each of the six committees has at least one member of the session or deacon board on it to maintain the effectiveness of each

committee. The session proper, then, focuses on matters of oversight, prayer, and seeing to the provision for our worship from week to week. In addition, the session, often in conjunction with the deacons, gives attention to larger logistical issues with respect to the growth of the congregation. We have been very happy to enjoy a spirit of grace and love within the session, and largely within the congregation as a whole, as well.

We are particularly mindful of the great blessing that the pastors are to the ministry of the congregation as well as to each of us individually. Pastors Rich Holdeman and Adam Niess both enjoy working together and complement one another well. Rich continues working as a senior lecturer at Indiana University, an arrangement which continues to bear fruit, both in his ministry with students and others on campus, but also in generally strengthening his connections within the community. Adam has continued to develop his relationships in and around the community and congregation, including attendance at counseling conferences.

Each year, the session has pastoral review meetings at the beginning of the fall, in which we interact with each pastor individually to oversee the direction of their work, consider how things have gone in the previous year, and to think through new opportunities. We also specifically discuss the adequacy of their financial resources and their time for supporting their families and their ministry. We are particularly thankful that the congregation has been able to provide ample resources to support the pastors.

This last year, the session met 12 times, 10 of which were regular monthly meetings of approximately 3 hours, and four of these including a time with the deacon board. Each of these meetings begins with the privilege of praying for the congregational members, each by name over the course of the year. Other meetings were conducted for the purpose of interviewing individuals for membership and communion, as well as individual counsel. In addition, the session again took the better part of the day last spring to go to Nashville and spend time together, talking through the larger issues facing the session and the congregation. The day, besides being a real encouragement to each of us, has proven very valuable for focusing our thinking about the direction of the congregation.

In addition, we are thankful for the helpful interactions we have had this last fall with James Faris, Steve Sturm, and Steve Rhoda, as a presbytery visitation team. The meeting was very fruitful, especially in encouraging us to consider how to make provision for the continued and persistent growth in the congregation. This last year, we offered three installments of classes focused on membership, and have been in the process of exploring communicant membership with interested individuals who took these classes.

Issues with respect to this growth are two-fold. First concerns the oversight and integration of new members. Crucial in this regard are more leaders arising within the congregation. Having consulted with various congregations of various sizes, we have become especially aware of the small size of the session and deacon boards, relative to the congregation. (One each of the elders and deacons are non-resident, leaving five local members on the session and three on the deacon board.) Last year we began a Bible study group meeting on Saturdays to begin probing and training leadership, and have moved to have a deacon election in conjunction with the 2016 congregational meeting in January. Two deacons, Tom Gilliam and Wes Burton, have been elected. In addition in the coming year we intend

to focus on the addition of elders to the congregation, and to develop more structure with respect to coordinating oversight of the elders with the congregation.

The second issue concerns the expansion of the facilities for the congregation, along with the type of capital development necessary to make any tangible steps to alleviating the issue of space. Current activity along this line has been to set aside capital development funds each year, and to monitor possibilities for acquiring property around the facilities. In addition, the session has worked with the deacons to expand the functional capacity of the auditorium by making the balcony more usable. In the coming year, we anticipate continuing to develop plans for expansion as opportunities arise. We do not at this time foresee any reasonable and positive opportunities to move the site of the congregation, given the real estate situation within town, and the cost of development in the periphery of the town.

Concerning the overall congregational membership, the following data are particular to calendar year 2015.

1. The average morning worship service attendance was 145, an increase of 11 over 2014. The peak attendance was 215, on a weekend when the Genevans visited the congregation.
2. The average evening worship service attendance was 84, an increase of 3 over 2014.
3. The average SS class attendance was 95.
4. The total communicant (106) and baptized (43) membership on December 31 was 149, a net increase of 7 over 2014.
5. Eleven new communicant members were added to the roll: 1 by membership transfer from another Reformed Presbyterian congregation (in the Eastern Presbytery); 8 from other denominations, and 2 by profession.
6. Two communicant members were transferred to other Reformed Presbyterian congregations (one to Terre Haute, and one to Cambridge); 6 to other churches, and 1 was removed from the roll.
7. Six new baptized members were born to members of the congregation, and 3 children were baptized with parents coming into the congregation.
8. Four baptized members were transferred to other reformed congregations.

It is one of the greatest privileges of being on the session to interact with those coming into the communicant membership of the church, those coming from other congregations,

from no congregation at all, as well as those who we've seen grow up in this congregation. Seeing the Lord's work in such tangible ways is a joy and a blessing. One of the greatest sadnesses, then, is seeing members leave, the saddest of which are those apparently straying from the gracious face of our savior.

Finally, we note five more minor items from this last year, which are noteworthy.

- 1) The session has worked with the deacons to finalize a set of Marriage and Child Protection Policies. If anyone has an interest in these, we are more than willing to make them available.
- 2) Since it predates many of the corporation laws, the congregation has never been officially incorporated. We are currently in the process of working out corporate by-laws that minimally diverge from the actual practice of government in the congregation. We hope to have these finalized in the first part of the new year.
- 3) We have encountered a remarkable case of a couple who have been tracking the congregation persistently through sermon audio downloads. Though they live far from any our congregations, we have developed a relationship of regular contact with them because of the web resource.
- 4) This last year, we have been contacted by three congregations in town, each of which has some affinity for our congregation, concerning some matter of collaboration. We have been praying for the other churches in the community, and hope that this is a sign of good spiritual growth. While we are not actively pursuing collaborations with other congregations, one of these contacts has proven fruitful, so we take this as a positive sign.
- 5) Finally, the last year has highlighted the exceptionally international ministry our congregations are having. Early last year, the session gave oversight to a member who was doing exploratory work in developing a mission---focus on west Africa. Thomas Leonard went on an exploratory internship to Paris, given the large---scale immigrant communities in the city. While somewhat complicated, this arrangement has allowed him to identify a mission to the west African population in France. Also early last year, the congregation received a transfer from one of the Eastern Presbytery congregations, and has regular adherents and members from Indonesia, Colombia, and China. Finally, on a somewhat sadder note, Nancy Herbster, who attended the congregation as an optometry student more than 25 years ago, went to be with the Lord in December. Nancy developed a series of eye clinics along the eastern fringe of the Congo, which have served many hundreds of people in the region. We are struck by the way the Lord leads people from and to the world through our community, and pray for his continued work among us in this regard.

Respectfully submitted by the Session of the Bloomington Congregation

**Bloomington Reformed Presbyterian Church
Budget Summary -- January 23, 2016**

<u>Income</u>	<u>2015 Budget</u>	<u>2015 Actuals</u>	<u>2016 Budget</u>
External Income			
Book Table Income	-	600.25	
Contributions --- Offerings	279,500.00	296,231.61	303,500.00

Designated Income	-	8,611.75	
Facilities Capital Income	-	500.00	
Interest --- Capital Investments & Savings Offerings --- Special	5,050.00	5,558.37	5,050.00
		<u>1,612.50</u>	
Total External Income	284,550.00	313,114.48	308,550.00
Designated Income from Savings Revolving Funds	33,800.19	33,562.18	17,050.07
Total Income	318,350.19	346,676.66	325,600.07
Finance			
External Expenses			
Book Table Expense	-	819.47	-
Facilities Capital Expense	-	1,625.00	-
Facilities --- Operating	34,640.00	33,075.47	53,330.00
Finance Committee	1,200.00	1,329.75	1,200.00
Ministry: Diaconal	2,500.00	1,688.40	2,500.00
Educational	5,238.01	5,980.22	5,043.76
Fellowship	2,500.00	2,338.51	2,400.00
Library	500.00	-	500.00
Nursery	750.00	64.46	250.00
Outreach	3,500.00	2,326.95	3,630.00
Session	1,400.00	2,743.39	1,550.00
Student	1,400.00	425.56	1,400.00
Youth	980.00	328.55	1,100.00
Missions	20,595.00	24,833.39	23,095.00
Mission --- Thomas Leonard Exploratory	2,762.18	2,962.18	-
Offerings --- Disbursements	-	1,249.50	-
Office Expense	12,700.00	8,863.21	12,500.00
Pastoral Compensation --- Holdeman	84,527.20	84,627.20	86,228.00
Pastoral Compensation --- Niess	60,880.00	62,280.00	62,900.00
Pastoral Expenses	7,300.00	3,928.46	7,300.00
Presbytery	3,037.27	3,037.27	3,813.49
RPCNA Works	7,254.00	7,888.39	8,176.00
Special Funds	<u>45,000.00</u>	<u>45,000.00</u>	<u>30,699.15</u>
Total External Expenses	298,663.66	297,415.33	307,615.40
Designated Disbursements --- to Savings Revolving Funds			
Benevolence			
Camp Fundraiser		---	
Capital Improvements --- 8 yr. plan			---
Facilities Capital	15,000.00	15,500.00	15,000.00
Ministry Hedge	<u>4,000.00</u>	<u>4,000.00</u>	<u>4,000.00</u>
Total Disbursements to Savings Revolving Funds	19,000.00	19,755.75	19,000.00
Total Expense	317,663.66	317,171.08	326,615.40

Note: The congregation decided to fund the window project beyond the \$30,699.15 with money from General Savings.

Mr. Holdeman presented the Bloomington congregational report and answered questions from the floor.

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

Intercessory Prayer

Mr. Butterfield led the court in prayer for the Belle Center congregation.

Mr. Gregory led in prayer for the Bloomington congregation and asked God's blessing upon the ensuing meal, recessing the court for dinner at 5:37 p.m.

SECOND SESSION – Thursday March 3, 2016 (7:00 – 9:00 p.m.)

Call to Order

The moderator reconvened the court for its second business session at 7:00 p.m.
The presbytery sang Psalm 100C and the moderator led in prayer.

Paper 16-02

Keith & Becky Magill
4870 Little Pine Drive
West Lafayette, IN 47906 574-875-4688
Keith@Magill.com

March 3, 2016

Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Dear Fathers and Brothers,

I am requesting that Presbytery approve my application for a moving allowance from Synod's Pension Board. This approval is required by the Pension Board's policy titled "Moving Allowance For Retired Teaching Elders, Their Widows Or Other Full-time Employees Of Synod". The policy is attached to this paper.

After serving 10 years as pastor of Elkhart RPC, I resigned effective September 30, 2015. We made our "Final Move" from Elkhart to West Lafayette this fall. Our hope is that West Lafayette will be our home base for the rest of our lives, D.V.. I am 69 years old and have served as a pastor in the Reformed Presbyterian Church since 1979.

I do not intend to seek or accept a call for a full-time pastorate again. However, at this point I have not asked the Presbytery to reclassify me as "retired" since it is not clear to me what the Lord has for us to do in this next season of our lives.

Thank you for considering my

request. In Him,

Keith

Rev. Keith Magill
4870 Little Pine Dr
West Lafayette, IN
47906-9506 574-
875-4688 (home)
574-206-6394 (cell)
Keith@Magill.com

It was moved, seconded, and passed to refer Mr. Magill's paper (16-02) to the finance committee of the day.

Motion from the Clerk

It was moved, seconded, and passed, to permit the assistant clerk to take attendance visually throughout the remainder of the meeting.

Reading of the Minutes

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

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

Moderator Appointments

The moderator announced the following appointments.

Minute Books

- Belle Center—
Johnston, Magill
- Bloomington —
Lefebvre, Knodel
- Christ Church —
Olivetti, Holdeman
- Columbus — O'Neill,
Butterfield
- Elkhart — Gregory,
Schaefer
- Grand Rapids — J.
Rhoda, Camery
- Durham — Niess,
Anderson
- Immanuel — Eddy,
Faris
- Lafayette —
Blankenship, Whitla
- Marion — Rao, Evans
- Orlando — McKenzie,
Baum
- Second — S. Rhoda,
Roberts
- Southfield — Morrow,
A. McCracken
- Southside —
McNamee, Pockras
- SWORP — DeJong,
Archer
- Sparta — Bonner, Niess
- Sycamore — Damerow,
Butterfield

- Westminster — Larson,
Morrow

Travel Agent

- Eddy

Judicial Committee

- Steve Rhoda, chair
- Shawn Anderson
- David Whitla

Review Pastoral Call (V. Gopalakrishnan)

- Rao
- McKenzie
- Roberts (Ch)

Finance Committee

- Magill (Ch)
- Evans
- Baum

Nominating Committee

- J. Camery
- R. Johnston (Ch)
- J. Faris

Resolution of Thanks

- Knodel (Ch)
- O'Neill

Time and Place

- J. Rhoda
- Niess
- Larson

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report (continued)

Mr. Olivetti invited Mr. Gopalakrishnan forward for his Church History exam.

Mr. Whitla conducted the exam, followed by questions from the floor, and a time of discussion.

The assistant clerk called the roll and the exam was unanimously sustained.

Mr. Olivetti invited Mr. Ketcham forward for his Personal Godliness exam.

Mr. McKenzie conducted the exam, followed by questions from the floor, and a time of discussion.

The assistant clerk called the roll and the exam was unanimously sustained

Bloomington Visitation Committee Report

The Bloomington Visitation Committee Report is as follows.

Bloomington Church Visit Report to Presbytery March 3-5, 2016

Dear Fathers and Brothers,

We write to report on the church visit we completed to our Bloomington congregation on Saturday-Sunday, October 3-4, 2015. Overall, we found a very healthy, united, and joyful congregation at Bloomington, under a well- received and conscientious leadership from both pastors and the full Session.

Overview of Visit

The visit began on Saturday evening, 5:30 pm, as we were warmly received and treated to dinner at a local restaurant called DeAngelos on Bloomington's near east side. The food was excellent and the fellowship even better. The full Session of Bloomington was present, with the exception of Wendell McBurney who was regrettably absent due to ill health. Conversation was limited to catching up as brothers in Christ, although we were given an overview of the schedule for the next 24 hours.

The visit then was moved to the Holdeman household for dessert and coffee, where we first watched the end of the Indiana University vs. Ohio State football game. The Hoosiers lost by a narrow margin, but the Session did not allow the disappointment to mar the balance of the evening. Much of the information gathering and evaluative discussion was conducted that evening, although there were brief meetings and conversations the next day as well.

On Sunday morning, we arrived at the church and sat in on the three Sabbath School class offerings for adults, including a new members class, as well as a few of the children's classes, all beginning at 9:30 am. With three visitors, this required that we move around a bit during the hour of educational ministry. The Session of Bloomington continued to receive us warmly, and the congregation joined them in welcoming us and making us feel at home. By 10:45 am, we were joined in worshipping God with the full congregation for their morning service. The congregation provided a delicious lunch and fellowship with a number of university students over the meal. After ample time for rest and relaxation in the afternoon, we returned to the church for the evening worship service at 6:00 pm.

Congregation

The congregation at Bloomington was very friendly and welcoming. They were several times encouraged from the pulpit to engage us as church visitors, and many of them did. From them we heard expressions of love for their two pastors and thankfulness to God for them, as well as for the Session as a whole. We did not perceive, nor were we informed of, any divisions or tensions within the congregation, but instead we experienced a blessed level of fellowship and harmony among them. We believe we saw a living example of Psalm 133- "Behold

how very good it is, A pleasant thing to see; When brothers join to live as one in peace and unity!"

The greatest challenge facing the Bloomington congregation right now is one of those "good problems to have." They are growing and beginning to push the limits of their building in terms of seating and space for ministry. On the upside, the problem is not currently debilitating to their ministry, and the Session is fully aware of the issues and already considering options, which include, of varying degrees of feasibility and appeal: 1. expand current facility; 2. relocate; 3. divide by planting a daughter church. They are thankful for the fruit God is producing in their ministry and confident that He will provide the right answer if and when needed.

Session

The Session as well was united and positive in their outlook on the church that God has called them to lead. Pastors Holdeman and Niess enjoy a good relationship with each other. There is a balance to their ministry that is agreeable to each and a mutual respect between them. Both pastors took a posture of leadership in greeting us and interacting with us during our visit. We are especially thankful to Pastor Niess for his efforts to prepare for, arranged, and receive our visit.

Conclusion

In pastoral ministry, there is, what is called, the "easy visit." The hospital patient who is yet content and resolved to the will of God, the widow who is famous for her pastries and a great conversationalist, the family that is already engaged in regular devotions, with children who smile, answering and even asking questions cheerfully. Bloomington was the congregational equivalent. If you want to send us back next fall, we are happy to go, especially if another visit to DeAngelos can be arranged. We are happy to report that the Lord is risen, ruling, and reigning within the Bloomington congregation. We commend our brothers there for their devoted and conscientious leadership, and we commit them and the whole congregation to Christ for His continued care.

Respectfully submitted,

James Faris, Chairman
Steve Rhoda
Steve Sturm

Mr. Faris presented the Bloomington Visitation Committee Report and answered questions from the floor. It was moved, seconded, and passed to receive the report.

Congregational Reports (continued)

The Christ Church RP congregational report is as follows.



Christ Church reformed presbyterian

Mailing address: 5881 Skyward Lane, Indianapolis, Indiana 46234-9128
Pastor: Michael LeFebvre • pastor@ChristChurchRP.org • 317-456-2551

February, 2016

Fathers and Brothers of the Great Lakes—Gulf Presbytery,

We are thankful for the Lord's provision as we reflect back on a year of growth and maturation

at Christ Church. We are particularly thankful for the establishment of a diaconate for the first time in the relatively brief history of our congregation. On March 8, 2015, we ordained three individuals to the office of deacon: Todd Brown, Anna Roberts, and Elliot Judd. The congregation has been blessed by the time and energy our deacons have invested into this office to help broaden our ministry. Additionally, in December, we elected a fourth ruling elder, who was later ordained and installed in the beginning of 2016.

Membership

The congregation added to its membership rolls in 2015. Three individuals, Nathan and Valerie Winkley, and Christina Koons were transferred from other RP congregations.

Two adults, Gus Percy and Rutledge Etheridge, became members upon profession of faith. Additionally, four baptized covenant children, Andrew LeFebvre, Joseph Bird, Lydia Enas, and Elisha Enas, came into communicant membership of the church in 2015. There were four baptisms at Christ Church in 2015, including three covenant children (Luke and Violet Percy, and Opal Bulow) and one adult baptised upon profession of faith (Gus Percy). The congregation's membership on 12/31/2015 stood at 60 communicant members and 32 baptized members.

Worship

The congregation has continued to be blessed by Michael LeFebvre's diligent preaching of the Word in both morning and evening services. Michael's preaching was centered on the gospel of Mark in the morning services, with brief interludes to other topical matters. Pastor LeFebvre has continued a series on the book of Numbers in the evening services. Christ Church was privileged to hear the preaching of a number of guest ministers in 2015, including Gordon Keddie, David Whitla, Denny Prutow, Bill Roberts, Stan McKenzie, Scott McCullough and Nathan Shaver. The sacrament of Communion, which is typically observed weekly, was celebrated 49 times in 2015.

Christian Education

We completed two Sunday School series in 2015 - one in the Spring, and another in Autumn - with programming for elementary, junior high, high school and adult age groups. In addition, our youth group program continued for its second year. This program is specifically intended to engage our middle school and high school youth and involves bi-weekly meetings for instruction and discussion, and monthly or bi-monthly times of fellowship with families in the congregation.

Congregational Life and Outreach

The congregation continued to meet regularly for midweek community group studies, using Crossway's *Knowing the Bible* study on Romans. These midweek meetings began in 2014 as a way to encourage fellowship and extend the witness of the church into our communities. Please pray with us that these small group meetings would edify the churchbody and be an effective means of witness and outreach to our neighbors. Our newly established diaconate has established a benevolence policy and is exploring opportunities for our congregation to be involved in outreach efforts into our community. In July, we participated in an effort with the local school district to provide backpacks and school supplies to students in who had need.

We would appreciate prayers as we continue to understand how we are to best minister as a commuter church with a dispersed membership, and as we consider long-term options for a more permanent meeting space.

The Session, CCRP Attachments:

1. *Statement on Pastoral Renewal*
2. *2015 Financial Summary and 2016 Budget*

Statement on Pastoral Renewal

The following policy statement was adopted at the January 20, 2016 meeting of session:

Christ Church RP has established a minister's expense line in the budget which our pastor is able to utilize for various ministry expenses, including the purchase of appropriate books for his continuing development as a teacher and pastor of the Word. The pastor also receives three weeks of vacation time per year, in addition to one week for Covfamikoï and another week for a professional conference of some sort. Additionally, in 2013, the congregation applied for, and received a Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Grant, and would be open to doing so again in future years.

CHRIST CHURCH REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN

2015 YEAR END SUMMARY AND 2016 BUDGET

	2015 Budgeted	2015 Actual	% Difference (2015 actual vs budget)	2016 Budget
Income				
Gifts				
Tithes and Offerings	\$160,000.00	\$172,133.06	107.6%	\$175,000.00
Building Fund	\$2,000.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
Designated Offering	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
Interest on Bank Accounts	\$110.00	\$157.23	142.9%	\$175.00
Total Income	\$162,110.00	\$172,290.29	106.3%	\$175,175.00
Expense				
Congregation				
Christian Education	\$2,500.00	\$484.53	19.4%	\$2,000.00
Youth Ministry				
<i>Education</i>	\$1,000.00	\$301.49	30.1%	\$1,000.00
<i>Fellowship</i>	\$500.00	\$53.70	10.7%	\$500.00
Sub-Total, Youth Ministry	\$1,500.00	\$355.19	23.7%	\$1,500.00
Fellowship	\$1,000.00	\$1,156.52	115.7%	\$1,500.00
Guest Ministry	\$1,000.00	\$1,200.00	120.0%	\$1,400.00
Pastor Mileage	\$2,000.00	\$1,427.98	71.4%	\$1,500.00
Pastoral Ministry	\$1,800.00	\$1,766.66	98.1%	\$1,800.00
Worship & Church Supplies	\$300.00	\$383.38	127.8%	\$400.00
Total, Congregation	\$10,100.00	\$6,774.26	67.1%	\$10,100.00
Denominational				
Boards & Committees	\$100.00	\$24.27	24.3%	\$50.00
Presbytery Assessment	\$1,650.00	\$1,634.00	99.0%	\$1,793.00
Synod Assessments	\$3,150.00	\$3,118.00	99.0%	\$3,443.00
Synod Delegates	\$490.00	\$873.56	178.3%	\$500.00
Total, Denominational	\$5,390.00	\$5,649.83	102.4%	\$5,786.00
Insurance				
Commercial Liability Package	\$1,500.00	\$2,130.26	142.0%	\$1,244.00
Umbrella	\$400.00	\$0.00	0.0%	\$350.00
Workers Comp	\$500.00	\$0.00	0.0%	\$461.06
Total, Insurance	\$2,400.00	\$2,130.26	96.5%	\$2,055.06

CHRIST CHURCH REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN

2015 YEAR END SUMMARY AND 2016 BUDGET

	2015 Budgeted	2015 Actual	% Difference (2015 actual/ vs budget)	2016 Budget
Missions				
Advertising	\$500.00	\$295.89	59.2%	\$500.00
Local Outreach/Evangelism	\$500.00	\$204.15	40.8%	\$250.00
Community Groups (memberships)	\$100.00	\$0.00	0.0%	\$100.00
Denominational Ministries				
<i>Missions</i>	\$1,000.00	\$11,500.00	1150.0%	\$5,000.00
<i>RPM&M</i>	\$12,500.00	\$11,838.00	94.7%	\$13,500.00
<i>Sister Church Aid</i>	\$8,000.00	\$7,500.00	93.8%	\$8,000.00
Sub-Total, Denominational Ministry	\$21,500.00	\$30,838.00	143.4%	\$26,500.00
Non-Denominational Missions/Ministries	\$3,000.00	\$1,000.00	33.3%	\$2,000.00
Mercy Ministry				
<i>Community Outreach and Service</i>	\$100.00	\$0.00	0.0%	\$1,000.00
<i>Benevolence (Local & Distant)</i>	\$1,000.00	\$735.02	73.5%	\$1,000.00
Sub-Total, Mercy Ministry	\$1,100.00	\$735.02	66.8%	\$2,000.00
Total, Missions	\$26,700.00	\$33,073.06	123.9%	\$31,350.00
Pastoral Support				
Healthcare	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
Parsonage Allowance	\$41,000.00	\$40,770.80	99.4%	\$41,000.00
Salary	\$41,500.00	\$41,729.20	100.6%	\$46,500.00
Pension	\$4,100.00	\$4,100.00	100.0%	\$5,100.00
Total, Pastoral Support	\$86,600.00	\$86,600.00	100.0%	\$92,600.00
Property				
Church Equipment	\$500.00	\$0.00	0.0%	\$500.00
Church Office Rent	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	100.0%	\$3,000.00
Building Fund	\$15,800.00	\$15,800.00	100.0%	\$18,293.94
Facility Rent	\$11,040.00	\$11,040.00	100.0%	\$11,040.00
Website	\$400.00	\$406.57	101.6%	\$450.00
Total, Property	\$30,740.00	\$30,246.57	98.4%	\$33,283.94
Total Expenses	\$161,930.00	\$164,473.98	98.5%	\$175,175.00
Net Income (Loss)	\$180.00	\$7,816.31		\$0.00

Mr. O'Neill presented the Christ Church RP congregational report. It was moved, seconded, and passed to receive the report.

The Columbus congregational report is as follows.

“The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps.”

This verse could mean one of two things. Either man is responsible to be an active willful agent in life, but it is the Lord God who will make his plans effectual, OR... A man has ideas as to what his future will be like, but the LORD is the one who will truly determine what that future will hold. I believe both are true, but the latter of these interpretations applies most directly to this past year.

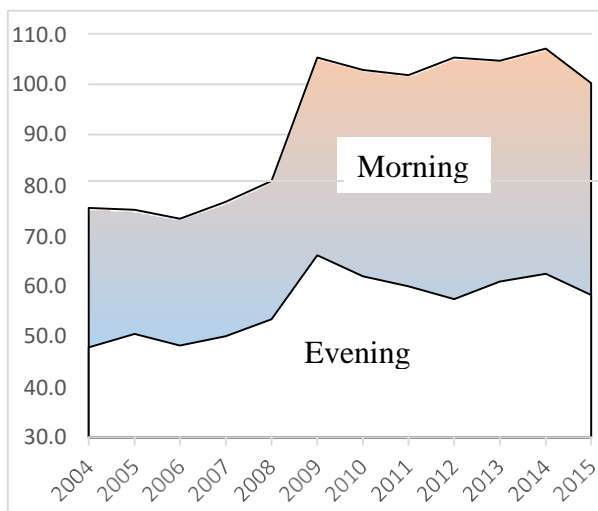
Both the session and the pastors had many plans in mind for this year, but few of them turned out as we expected. Our associate pastor and his wife were ushered into a period of challenge in their lives, the end of which they are still not able to see from their current vantage point. Whereas they rejoiced greatly in the birth of their twins, increasing their young and happy family to six children, the prematurity of Abigail and Jonathan, together with Jonathan's severe medical challenges due to Down Syndrome have thrown their world upside down and put much of George's ministry on hold. The bulk of the year was thus an adjustment to the new challenges facing this dear family and to the absence of one of our key laborers. The ruling elders did a fantastic job of lightening the senior pastor's load by helping lead many of the evening services. It was good for the congregation to experience their godly leadership in this way and to sit under their wise instruction. Thanks too to many in the Presbytery who volunteered to preach for George during his time spent at the hospital with his son Jonathan, and many who visited their family while there.

This year our congregation also experienced the death of two of its long-time members: elder emeritus, Bob Henning as well as Shirley Adams. In their latter days, both of these saints were ready and anxious to see their Savior face to face and because of their trust in Him, were not disappointed!

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Pastor McCracken's preaching has been in two Bible books this year. In the Spring he wrapped up a series in the book of Revelation and shortly thereafter began a series through the book of Exodus. The book of Revelation was particularly a blessing and in God's providence a rich and timely preparation to help him deal with three close friends facing the prospect of death. The picture of our ultimate destiny as those securely held by our Savior lends one to long for the day we see Him face to face and for the day described in Revelation when all wrongs will be made right and His people will be ushered into a glorious eternity. The book of Exodus continues to surprise us with its gospel clarity. The hope God's people have in His provided Redeemer saturates each chapter.

WORSHIP



This is a chart of the average attendance both morning and evening over the period 2004-2015. It is interesting to note that the move from Chestnut Street to the National Road property was a tremendously significant year in terms of the growth of the church. Something like 25 new people began attending with that move. We might speculate that our community saw something they believed indicated spiritual life and growth and wished to be a part of it. We might also ask, shy of moving or building, what might send that message in the future?

GROWTH

New Comm. Members

- Lydia Planalp
- Danae Dewar
- Leigh Dewar
- Wesley Dewar
- Nathaniel Shoop
- Nathaniel Mathews
- McCheyne McNamee
- Ben Goodin
- Sierra Goodin

New Bapt. Members

- Abigail Gregory
- Jonathan Gregory
- Isabelle Goodin
- Nathan Goodin
- Alexis Goodin
- Amelia Schulz

YOUTH MINISTRY

A great group of young people aged 12-18 gather weekly for mutual edification and fellowship. One week this group meets at the church and engages in a study led by the pastor followed by a game and refreshments. The following week the boys and girls 14 and up gather separately in a home for a study led by one of their own, for singing, refreshments and fellowship. Toward the end of this year the youth group began learning to sing in 4-part harmony!

PAIDEIA

January 12th marked our tenth full year and our twentieth semester of providing a 1st through 12th grade excellent educational opportunity for homeschooling parents in Bartholomew and surrounding counties. Unfortunately it also marks the graduation of the last child of two of our founding board member families, the Shoops and the Gobles. Their vision, countless volunteer hours, energy and planning made Paideia what it is today and as they step away from their involvement in the co-op, we will really miss them. Lisa Shoop particularly deserves recognition for carrying most of the weight for nine of those years and keeping the whole growing administrative monster not only under control but running smoothly. We are thankful for 3 new board members that have been added this year to help carry the work that Lisa did herself. Jenelle Schisler has been particularly helpful in redistributing the assignments so that Paideia could continue and the work be done by a broader support structure. Along with core requirement courses, Paideia also introduces families inside and outside our church to Bible, Philosophy and Worldview courses taught from a Reformed perspective. This year our co-op was blessed with two outstanding teachers who traveled from the Southside Indianapolis congregation: Dr. Robert Burchfield, and Beth Mauser.

LOOKING AHEAD

After about 2 years of grant writing and planning, the year of Pastor McCracken taking a 4-month sabbatical is finally here! After almost 25 years of pastoral ministry he looks forward to some time of personal renewal and refreshment with his family as well as the opportunity to try and publish a commentary on the book of Luke. The session has been diligent in planning for these four months in order that they might be a time of significant challenge and renewal for the congregation as well. We have asked four seasoned pastors to come and preach and teach during this time:

September	- 3 weeks still to be filled
October	- Pastor Gordon Keddie
November	- Pastor Denny Prutow
December	- Pastor Tim McCracken, Fresno RPC

These men will be addressing the topic of *“Regaining our First Love”*. The goal is to turn our attentions back to the zeal for the lost our congregation had in the days of its formation as a mission church. In December there will be a conference designed to invite friends and acquaintances to receive an overview of the Bible with the gospel being shown in each portion. Our intent is to open this conference up to the presbytery.

Recommendation:

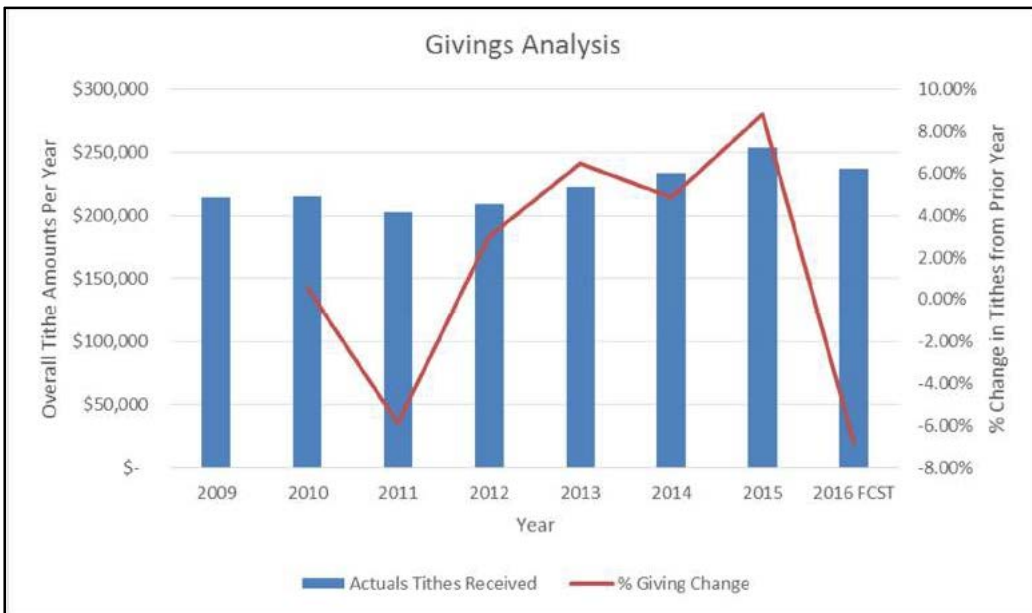
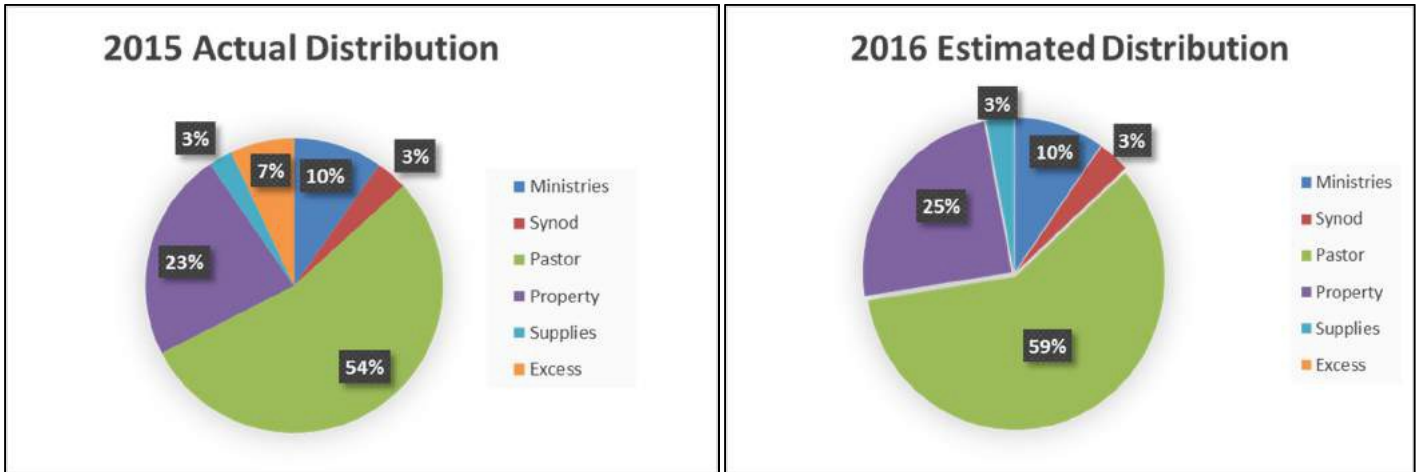
- 1) That in light of Pastor McCracken’s Sabbatical, the Presbytery appoint Pastor George Gregory as moderator of the Columbus Reformed Presbyterian Session for the months of September - December of 2016.

Soli Deo Gloria,

The Columbus Session

Columbus Reformed Presbyterian Church Financial Summary

The below images depict the distribution of our 2015 actual expenses by category and our 2016 estimated expenses by category:



The graph to the left shows the total amount of giving's per year in the bar chart. The line chart shows the percent change from the prior year. 2015 showed almost 9% growth in giving's vs. 2014 at \$254K. In 2016, we have projected \$226K to be



The graph to the left shows the amount of giving's each quarter (Green Line). The red line is the average of the four quarters of each year's actuals to remove the variation. The black line is what we forecasted at the beginning of the year. For 2015, we were slightly above what we planned with \$254K

Columbus Reformed Presbyterian Church								
	1Q15	2Q15	3Q15	4Q15	Total	2015	Spend	2016
						Budget	vs Bud	
Giving Income								
Giving	60,188.67	47,993.51	60,369.42	82,035.72	250,587.32			
Interest Income	2.75	2.75	2.76	2.76	11.02			
Designated Giving	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	417.37	3,417.37			
Total Giving Income	63,191.42	47,996.26	60,372.18	82,455.85	254,015.71	251,548.00		236,772.00
Non-Giving Income & Expenses								
Reimbursed Expenses Income	721.00	848.41	575.00	1,658.64	3,803.05			
Reimbursed Operating Expenses	421.00	1,173.40	1,338.65	570.00	3,503.05			
Building Insurance Reimbursed Income	0.00	0.00	15,768.23	0.00	15,768.23			
Building Insurance Reimbursed Expenses	0.00	0.00	14,891.73	1,126.17	16,017.90			
Net Non-Giving Income vs. Expenses	300.00	-324.99	112.85	-37.53	50.33			
Net Income	1,143.82	-10,058.68	5,531.75	21,053.25	17,670.14			
Operating Fund	38,523.63	33,735.99	32,985.52	36,534.00				
Capital & Maintenance Fund	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,029.84	20,029.84				
Long Term Building Fund	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00	19,000.00				
Associate Pastor Fund (Designated Giving)	2,250.00	1,500.00	750.00	0.00				
Total Available Cash Fund Balances	59,773.63	54,235.99	52,765.36	75,563.84				
Education Fund - <i>Reserved</i>	0.00	9,076.00	648.00	648.00				
Senior Pastor Grant (Australia) - <i>Reserved</i>	0.00	0.00	50,000.00	50,000.00				
Insurance Repair Fund - <i>Reserved</i>	0.00	0.00	0.00	72,871.91				
Total Overall Cash Fund Balances	59,773.63	63,311.99	103,413.36	199,083.75				
Long Term Debt								
Church Building Mortgage	60,305.56	59,086.73	57,885.70	56,612.37				
Expense								
Ministries								
Benevolence	24.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.06	300.00	8.0%	150.00
Christian Education (incl. WBS)	3.20	940.46	379.98	401.69	1,725.33	3,000.00	57.5%	1,150.00
Church Listings	130.00	130.00	130.00	130.00	520.00	600.00	86.7%	520.00
Digital Ministry	49.90	121.75	89.85	119.75	381.25	300.00	127.1%	300.00
Evangelism/Outreach	39.99	59.90	0.00	0.00	99.89	1,200.00	8.3%	700.00
Fall Seminar	500.00	0.00	0.00	1,224.50	1,724.50	2,900.00	59.5%	0.00
Fellowship	705.97	712.03	20.56	0.00	1,438.56	2,500.00	57.5%	2,000.00
Mercy	0.00	607.85	2,155.16	776.33	3,539.34	4,800.00	73.7%	3,000.00
Pregnancy Care Center	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	100.0%	500.00
RP Global Missions	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	100.0%	1,000.00
RP Missions & Ministries	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	100.0%	10,000.00
RP Witness Subscription	0.00	0.00	0.00	751.50	751.50	800.00	93.9%	100.00
Vacation Bible School (VBS)	0.00	0.00	489.17	153.33	642.50	1,200.00	53.5%	600.00
Youth Memory Work Scholarship	0.00	0.00	1,229.00	0.00	1,229.00	2,700.00	45.5%	1,350.00
Youth Ministry	21.47	42.50	35.32	58.82	158.11	1,800.00	8.8%	900.00
Youth Missions Training -TFY/Echo	0.00	450.00	0.00	0.00	450.00	800.00	56.3%	750.00
Total Ministries	1,474.59	3,064.49	4,529.04	15,615.92	24,684.04	34,900.00	70.7%	23,020.00
Synod & Presbytery								
Presbytery Assessment	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,995.12	2,995.12	3,000.00	99.8%	2,900.00

Synod Housing	0.00	1,095.00	0.00	0.00	1,095.00	750.00	146.0%	750.00
Synod's Assessment	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,672.00	4,672.00	4,500.00	103.8%	4,500.00
Total Synod & Presbytery	0.00	1,095.00	0.00	7,667.12	8,762.12	8,250.00	106.2%	8,150.00
Columbus Reformed Presbyterian Church	1Q15	2Q15	3Q15	4Q15	TOTAL	2015	Spend	2016
Senior Pastor						Budget	vs. Bud	
Salary	11,370.00	11,480.43	11,259.57	11,370.00	45,480.00	45,480.00	100.0%	46,392.00
Housing Allowance	7,580.01	7,653.63	7,506.39	7,580.01	30,320.04	30,320.00	100.0%	30,936.00
Total Compensation	18,950.01	19,134.06	18,765.96	18,950.01	75,800.04	75,800.00	100.0%	77,328.00
Senior Pastor Benefits								
Book Fund	0.00	104.54	0.00	0.00	104.54	100.00	104.5%	100.00
Business Expense	196.65	503.78	225.76	686.88	1,613.07	2,000.00	80.7%	1,200.00
Health Deductible	0.00	749.41	1,390.45	0.00	2,139.86	5,000.00	42.8%	5,000.00
Major Medical	0.00	2,364.72	2,461.51	1,230.76	6,056.99	10,000.00	60.6%	6,000.00
Pension Contribution	4,400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,400.00	4,300.00	102.3%	4,500.00
Refreshment/Education	0.00	278.10	0.00	0.00	278.10	775.00	35.9%	250.00
Total Senior Pastor Benefits	4,596.65	4,000.55	4,077.72	1,917.64	14,592.56	22,175.00	65.8%	17,050.00
Total Senior Pastor	23,546.66	23,134.61	22,843.68	20,867.65	90,392.60	97,975.00	92.3%	94,378.00
Associate Pastor								
Salary	4,327.36	4,329.00	4,329.00	4,329.00	17,314.36	17,316.00	100.0%	17,664.00
Housing Allowance	2,885.98	2,886.00	2,886.00	2,886.00	11,543.98	11,544.00	100.0%	11,772.00
Total Compensation	7,213.34	7,215.00	7,215.00	7,215.00	28,858.34	28,860.00	100.0%	29,436.00
Assoc. Pastor Benefits								
Book Fund	57.67	173.17	0.00	0.00	230.84	200.00	115.4%	200.00
Business Expense	252.56	1,324.20	200.00	146.54	1,923.30	2,000.00	96.2%	1,000.00
Health Deductible	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	100.0%	5,000.00
Major Medical	6,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	100.0%	6,000.00
Pension Contribution	0.00	4,400.00	0.00	0.00	4,400.00	4,300.00	102.3%	4,500.00
Refreshment/ Continuing Education	0.00	802.84	0.00	250.00	1,052.84	775.00	135.9%	0.00
Total AP Benefits	11,310.23	6,700.21	200.00	396.54	18,606.98	18,275.00	101.8%	16,700.00
Total Associate Pastor	18,523.57	13,915.21	7,415.00	7,611.54	47,465.32	47,135.00	100.7%	46,136.00
Total Pastorate Expense	42,070.23	37,049.82	30,258.68	28,479.19	137,857.92	145,110.00	95.0%	140,514.00
Property								
Church Mortgage Payment	1,821.89	1,821.89	1,821.89	1,821.89	7,287.56	7,288.00	100.0%	7,288.00
Church Capital Expenditures	4,402.00	834.80	6,495.90	0.00	11,732.70	12,500.00	93.9%	12,500.00
Church Repairs	624.16	943.56	961.88	1,959.04	4,488.64	1,500.00	299.2%	1,500.00
Church Utilities (incl Phone/Internet)	5,018.00	4,204.97	2,561.40	2,032.04	13,816.41	11,500.00	120.1%	13,000.00
Clerical Labor	650.00	650.00	650.00	650.00	2,600.00	2,600.00	100.0%	5,000.00
Custodial Labor	1,025.00	974.99	975.00	975.00	3,949.99	3,900.00	101.3%	3,900.00
Grounds Upkeep	875.00	1,950.00	3,330.00	1,040.00	7,195.00	7,000.00	102.8%	7,000.00
House Repairs	628.28	0.00	183.30	37.48	849.06	500.00	169.8%	500.00
House Utilities	1,273.21	753.91	1,135.77	573.30	3,736.19	6,000.00	62.3%	4,000.00
Insurance	0.00	2,735.00	46.00	0.00	2,781.00	2,400.00	115.9%	3,300.00
Total Property	16,317.54	14,869.12	18,161.14	9,088.75	58,436.55	55,188.00	105.9%	57,988.00
Supplies								
Custodial	180.02	239.01	84.60	123.67	627.30	1,000.00	62.7%	750.00
Kitchen	290.76	234.54	118.20	130.91	774.41	600.00	129.1%	600.00
Library	125.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	125.26	200.00	62.6%	0.00

Nursery	300.00	261.49	0.00	0.00	561.49	750.00	74.9%	500.00
Office	1,017.77	1,241.47	1,088.77	275.55	3,623.56	4,800.00	75.5%	4,800.00
Pulpit	0.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	600.00	600.00	100.0%	300.00
Worship (incl. Psalters/Bibles)	271.43	0.00	0.00	21.49	292.92	150.00	195.3%	150.00
Total Supplies	2,185.24	1,976.51	1,891.57	551.62	6,604.94	8,100.00	81.5%	7,100.00
Total Expense	62,047.60	58,054.94	54,840.43	61,402.60	236,345.57	251,548.00	94.0%	236,772.00

Mr. A. McCracken presented the Columbus congregational report. The recommendation in the report came before the court. It was unclear to the parliamentarians whether such an action was necessary, given Synod's recent ruling on the role of associate pastors. Nevertheless, the recommendation itself was passed. It was moved, seconded, and passed to receive the report.

The Elkhart congregational report is as follows.

Report of the Elkhart Reformed Presbyterian Church to the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

March 3-5, 2016



***17 'Ah, Lord God! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you.'
Jeremiah 32: 17***

Since the last annual meeting of Presbytery, the elders of Elkhart Reformed Presbyterian Church met 20 times in constituted court which is now being led by our Provisional Moderator, Rev. Rich Johnston. We are grateful for Rev. and Mrs. Keith Magill's help during this transition time. They have been training our treasurer, Dr. Yuhui Lu, and his assistants, Mrs. Claudia Landow and Mrs. Ritva Menbere. At the end of 2015, there were 37 communicant and 11 baptized members in the congregation. Of these, 10 are either inactive or non-resident. This was a net gain of 4 communicant member and one baptized child in 2015. We have 9 adults and 2 children who are adherents – regularly attending services and participating in the life of the congregation to varying degrees. Our average attendance at the Lord's Day morning worship continues to be about 45. We celebrated the Lord's Supper five times in 2015.

We were greatly blessed by the Lord Jesus Christ as he enabled Rev. Barry York to minister as the provisional elder on our session through May 2015. A major event in the life of our congregation occurred on June 21, 2015 when Mr. Jon Ummel was ordained and installed as our second ruling elder. Rev. York preached from Ezekiel 34: 11-24. The sermon title was *I Will Shepherd My Sheep*.

By September 26, 2015, The Lord had graciously worked out all the necessary provisions so that Rev. Rich Johnston joined our Session meeting by conference call while Rev. Magill moderated. As our Provisional Moderator, Rev. Johnston has travelled to Elkhart to preach and moderate our Session meetings. He has, also, served communion. We are thankful for the Session and congregation of 2nd Reformed Presbyterian Church for praying and supporting us through this crucial transition period. We now have two deacons, Joe Moore and Mark Loving, and two ruling elders, Jon Ummel and Fikre Menbere who are serving Elkhart Reformed Presbyterian Church in reliance upon the Holy Spirit.

Lord's Day Worship: Rev. Keith Magill resigned in September of 2015. The following guest ministers have blessed us through their preaching this past year: Rev. Rich Johnston, Rev. Brent Evans, Mr. Joel Irvin, Mr. Venkatesh Gopalakrishnan (Venky), Mr. Joel Hart, Rev. Ray Lanning, Rev. Michael LeFebvre, and Rev.

David Landow. We are encouraged to hear that the sending Sessions and their respective congregations regularly uphold us in prayer before the Lord Jesus Christ.

Bible School classes: The 3 children's classes and one adult class continue to meet on the Lord's Day morning before worship service. In the summer we have 2 classes: the small children meet in their own class while the other groups meet in a combined class.

Youth Ministry: Four of our youth from four separate families attended the winter conference.

Outreach: This is our fourteenth year of serving Fresh Lunch on Thursdays. Weekly, we share the gospel with 40-60 people who come to the church building for lunch. During the warmer months, Mark Loving leads a door-to-door outreach effort in the surrounding area. Once a month we serve at Faith Mission.

Prayer Meetings: Our women have continued meeting for prayer and fellowship.

Finances: The Lord blessed us financially in 2015 so that we ended the year over the projected budget.

Marriages: Last year we reported that there were three weddings of church members. These couples continue to be involved in the congregation and two of them are expecting their first children.

Church Membership: After completing the church information class led by Rev. Magill in spring, two of our young baptized members, Kelly McClintock and Johannes Menbere, were received as communicant members. Dr. Yuhui Lu and his wife, Li Dong, with their baptized son, Brady, were received by transfer of membership.

We are sad to report that an adherent couple and their five children left the fellowship under very difficult circumstances after worshipping with us for about six years.

Meanwhile, we are continuing to ask the Lord to raise up another man to serve as the teaching elder of our congregation.

2 Thess. 3: 1, 5 "1 Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, 5 May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ."

Recommendations:

1. That Presbytery extend the ministry of Rev. Rich Johnston as the Provisional Moderator of the Session of Elkhart Reformed Presbyterian Church.

Respectfully,

Elkhart RPC Session
Rich Johnston, Moderator
Jon Ummel
Fikre Menbere, Clerk

Financial Reports on Next Page

Elkhart RPC

**Financial Report - December 31, 2015 Proposed budget -
2016**

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2015	2015	2016
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget vs Actual	Budget
INCOME									
101 Contributions	93,674.08	87,359.53	94,261.20	102,688.32	104,688.47	95,000.00	110,033.57	15,033.57	95,000.00
102 Interest	21.96	21.62	20.04	15.93	9.97	10.00	4.50	(5.50)	10.00
107 Other		300.11	480.00	176.81	161.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL INCOME =	93,696.04	87,681.26	94,761.24	102,881.06	104,860.15	95,010.00	110,038.07	15,028.07	95,010.00
EXPENSES									
CONGREGATION									
201 Christian Education	1,030.03	396.28	425.56	462.14	620.30	650.00	552.87	97.13	650.00
202 Fellowship Activities	368.78	670.14	844.93	1,042.44	1,113.34	1,000.00	498.74	501.26	1,000.00
203 Youth Ministry	278.49	80.00	0.00	40.00	170.00	150.00	0.00	150.00	150.00
204 Guest Ministry	517.50	1,263.48	1,815.20	1,965.32	1,160.67	1,400.00	5,286.01	(3,886.01)	1,400.00
205 Administration	2,273.91	1,661.24	1,797.34	2,766.07	3,249.30	2,000.00	1,739.69	260.31	2,000.00
206 Pastor's Ministry Expenses	3,872.39	4,558.54	3,221.37	4,411.10	3,520.49	4,000.00	4,073.37	(73.37)	4,000.00
207 Workman's Comp Insurance	333.00	327.00	316.00	324.00	321.00	350.00	342.00	8.00	350.00
208 Study Resources	102.31	228.76	100.43	276.39	21.99	250.00	128.25	121.75	250.00
210 Other	564.10	509.80	472.40	587.09	546.47	500.00	782.64	(282.64)	500.00
<i>Congregation Sub-total =</i>	<i>9,340.51</i>	<i>9,695.24</i>	<i>8,993.23</i>	<i>11,874.55</i>	<i>10,723.56</i>	<i>10,300.00</i>	<i>13,403.57</i>	<i>(3,103.57)</i>	<i>10,300.00</i>
PASTORAL SUPPORT									
301 Salary	22,920.00	16,800.00	15,600.00	15,600.00	16,800.00	20,040.00	16,040.00	4,000.00	20,040.00
302 Parsonage Allowance	14,400.00	14,400.00	14,400.00	14,400.00	14,400.00	15,960.00	15,960.00	0.00	15,960.00
303 Salary Supplement			950.00	2,000.00				0.00	
304 Pension	3,800.00	3,900.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,100.00	4,100.00	4,100.00	0.00	4,100.00
305 Medical Insurance	13,729.60	14,635.33	17,145.54	17,047.56	17,011.01	18,000.00	18,000.00	0.00	18,000.00
<i>Pastor Sub-total =</i>	<i>54,849.60</i>	<i>49,735.33</i>	<i>52,095.54</i>	<i>53,047.56</i>	<i>52,311.01</i>	<i>58,100.00</i>	<i>54,100.00</i>	<i>4,000.00</i>	<i>58,100.00</i>
306 Associate Pastor				5,013.17		0.00		0.00	0.00
<i>Pastoral Support Sub-total =</i>	<i>54,849.60</i>	<i>49,735.33</i>	<i>52,095.54</i>	<i>58,060.73</i>	<i>52,311.01</i>	<i>58,100.00</i>	<i>54,100.00</i>	<i>4,000.00</i>	<i>58,100.00</i>
MISSIONS									
401 Local Outreach	1,650.05	1,462.08	1,388.51	1,766.94	2,118.88	1,750.00	2,509.99	(759.99)	1,750.00
403 Short Term Missions	701.00	540.56	660.00	105.68	92.70	250.00	0.00	250.00	250.00
404 Other Missions	0.00	0.00	150.00	211.37	21.00	200.00	0.00	200.00	200.00
405 Mercy Ministry	332.21	125.54	66.05	339.76		250.00		250.00	250.00
<i>Missions Sub-total =</i>	<i>2,683.26</i>	<i>2,128.18</i>	<i>2,264.56</i>	<i>2,423.75</i>	<i>2,232.58</i>	<i>2,450.00</i>	<i>2,509.99</i>	<i>(59.99)</i>	<i>2,450.00</i>
DENOMINATION									
501 Presbytery Assessments	1,259.88	1,385.00	1,372.18	988.99	1,239.21	1,240.00	1,152.01	87.99	1,240.00
502 Synod Assessments	1,600.00	1,640.00	1,749.64	1,899.22	2,058.00	2,000.00	2,097.00	(97.00)	2,000.00
503 Synod & Presby Delegate	0.00	130.00	0.00	0.00		100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
505 RP Home Missions	997.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
506 RP Global Missions	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,031.03	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
510 RP Missions/Ministry	5,360.00	3,560.95	4,365.00	5,368.76	5,060.00	4,160.00	5,753.99	(1,593.99)	4,160.00
<i>Denomination Sub-total =</i>	<i>9,216.88</i>	<i>8,715.95</i>	<i>9,486.82</i>	<i>10,288.00</i>	<i>10,357.21</i>	<i>9,500.00</i>	<i>11,003.00</i>	<i>(1,503.00)</i>	<i>9,500.00</i>
PROPERTY									
601 Mortgage	4,800.00	4,800.00	4,800.00	4,800.00	4,800.00	4,800.00	4,800.00	0.00	4,800.00
602 Utilities	4,248.13	4,286.09	4,505.56	4,388.85	5,084.84	5,500.00	5,639.13	(139.13)	5,500.00
603 Maintenance & Supplies	5,303.33	4,380.94	4,955.32	5,234.56	5,022.02	5,200.00	4,767.51	432.49	5,200.00
604 Property Insurance	3,216.75	3,248.50	3,395.00	3,615.25	3,835.00	4,000.00	3,872.75	127.25	4,000.00
605 Property Improvements	1,192.25	832.64	4,127.81	1,817.78	473.77	1,500.00	111.23	1,388.77	1,500.00
606 Office Equipment	1,561.67	0.00	0.00	65.68		200.00	564.39	(364.39)	200.00
607 Other Equipment	139.47	79.44	131.10	311.91	101.85	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
<i>Property Sub-total =</i>	<i>20,461.60</i>	<i>17,627.61</i>	<i>21,914.79</i>	<i>20,234.03</i>	<i>19,317.48</i>	<i>21,300.00</i>	<i>19,755.01</i>	<i>1,544.99</i>	<i>21,300.00</i>
TOTAL EXPENSES =	96,551.85	87,902.31	94,754.94	102,881.06	94,941.84	101,650.00	100,771.57	878.43	101,650.00
YTD NET =	(2,855.81)	(221.05)	6.30	0.00	9,918.31	(6,640.00)	9,266.50	15,906.50	(6,640.00)
FUNDS									
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2015		2016
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Actual		Budget
900 General Fund									
Beginning Balance Jan 1	28,600.30	25,744.49	25,523.44	25,529.74	25,529.74	35,448.05	35,448.05		44,714.55
Net from This Year	(2,855.81)	(221.05)	6.30	0.00	9,918.31	(6,640.00)	9,266.50		(6,640.00)
Balance =	25,744.49	25,523.44	25,529.74	25,529.74	35,448.05	28,808.05	44,714.55		38,074.55
910 Fresh Lunch Fund									
+Special Contributions	0.00		25.00	178.88			100.00		
+Thursday Receipts	1,263.79	1,388.23	1,644.74	1,539.90	1,154.99		1,342.14		
-Expenses	(2,308.87)	(2,850.31)	(2,971.05)	(3,433.20)	(3,273.87)		(3,952.13)		

+Transfer from budget	1,045.08	1,462.08	1,301.31	1,714.42	2,118.88		2,509.99		
Balance =	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00		
920 Youth Ministry Fund									
+Beginning Balance Jan 1	176.30	7.30	107.30	107.30	107.30		0.00		
+Income	385.00	100.00							
-Expense	(554.00)				(107.30)		0.00		
Balance =	7.30	107.30	107.30	107.30	0.00		0.00		
930 Building Fund									
+Beginning Balance Jan 1	(0.75)	3,294.50	3,494.50	4,683.26	4,424.50		15.40		
+Contributions	13,515.25	2,200.00	180.00	750.00	3,316.00		0.00		
+Transfer from budget			1,008.76						
-Expense	(10,220.00)	(2,000.00)		(1,008.76)	(7,725.10)		31.38		
Balance =	3,294.50	3,494.50	4,683.26	4,424.50	15.40		46.78		
940 Mercy Fund									
+Beginning Balance Jan 1		0.00	2,500.00	2,035.00	1,318.05		1,135.40		
+Income	150.00	2,620.00		650.00	470.00		1,250.00		
-Expense	(150.00)	(120.00)	(465.00)	(1,366.95)	(652.65)		(928.44)		
Balance =	0.00	2,500.00	2,035.00	1,318.05	1,135.40		1,456.96		
950 Resale Fund									
+Beginning Balance Jan 1	(428.64)	(536.64)	(600.85)	(582.58)	(812.18)		(927.65)		
+Income	1,230.43	418.00	301.50	183.50	341.50		440.00		
-Expense	(1,338.43)	(482.21)	(283.23)	(413.10)	(456.97)		0.00		
Balance =	(536.64)	(600.85)	(582.58)	(812.18)	(927.65)		(487.65)		
960 Special Projects Fund									
+Beginning Balance Jan 1	1,467.54	1,303.95	1,303.95	6,734.23	7,007.72		5,926.68		
+Income	729.22	3,048.00	7,955.90	6,392.32	1,759.42		1,250.00		
-Expense	(892.81)	(3,048.00)	(2,525.62)	(6,118.83)	(2,840.46)		(2,262.72)		
Balance =	1,303.95	1,303.95	6,734.23	7,007.72	5,926.68		4,913.96		
970 Associate Pastor Fund									
+Beginning Balance Jan 1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,013.17		5,013.17		
+Contributions				0.00					
+Transfer from Budget				5,013.17					
-Expense				0.00					
Balance =	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,013.17	5,013.17		5,013.17		
Balance of all Funds =	29,813.60	32,328.34	38,506.95	42,588.30	46,611.05		55,657.77		

Synod Report									
Balance last year =		25,744.00	32,129.00	38,507.00	42,588.00		46,611.00		
Contributions - Not restricted		87,360.00	94,461.00	102,688.00	104,688.00		110,034.00		
Other receipts - Not restricted		322.00	500.00	193.00	172.00		5.00		
Other receipts - restricted		8,386.00	8,437.00	7,976.00	5,887.00		2,940.00		
Total receipts =		96,068.00	103,398.00	110,857.00	110,747.00		112,979.00		
Pastor's Salary		16,800.00	15,600.00	15,600.00	16,800.00	20,040.00	16,040.00		20,040.00
Pastor Housing Allowance		14,400.00	14,400.00	14,400.00	14,400.00	15,960.00	15,960.00		15,960.00
Pastor Salary Supplement			950.00	2,000.00	0.00		0.00		
Pastor Pension		3,900.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,100.00	4,100.00	4,100.00		4,100.00
Pastor Health Insurance		14,635.00	17,146.00	17,048.00	17,011.00	18,000.00	18,000.00		18,000.00
Total Pastor Compensation =		49,735.00	52,096.00	53,048.00	52,311.00	58,100.00	54,100.00		58,100.00
RPM&M Contribution		3,561.00	4,365.00	5,369.00	5,060.00		5,754.00		
Synod Assessment		1,640.00	1,750.00	1,899.00	2,058.00		2,097.00		
Presbytery Assessment		1,385.00	1,372.00	989.00	1,239.00		1,152.00		
RP Global Missions		1,000.00	1,000.00	1,031.00	1,000.00		1,000.00		
Other RP Foreign Missions									
Other RP Works		1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00		1,000.00		
Total RPM&M and Other RP =		8,586.00	9,487.00	10,288.00	10,357.00		11,003.00		
Contributions to external ministries		541.00	810.00	317.00	114.00		0.00		
All other internal disbursements		30,621.00	34,627.00	43,123.00	43,942.00		38,828.00		
Total Disbursements =		89,483.00	97,020.00	106,776.00	106,724.00		103,931.00		
Total Other Assets =			0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00		
Ending Balance =		32,329.00	38,507.00	42,588.00	46,611.00		55,659.00		

END OF WRITTEN REPORT

Mr. Johnston presented the Elkhart congregational report.

The recommendation to re-appoint Mr. Johnston as provisional moderator was referred to the nominating committee.

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

The First RPC of Durham congregational report is as follows.

2016 First Reformed Presbyterian Church of Durham Congregational Report

The Lord sustains us and reflecting back on the year we see evidence of that reality and God's abiding grace. The year 2014 ended with all of our new families that had joined in the previous year disillusioned by the discipline cases the church addressed. We went from 41 members (30 Communicant 11 Baptized ending 2015) to 19 total members (14 communicant and 5 Baptized). But already in this year 2016 we have happily received three transfers from a nearby United Methodist Church. Two other families and three college students are exploring membership. A membership class is now in process. Al- so we had to excommunicate a member who still shows up for church but has not taken the necessary steps to repent from his various sins.

A little reflection on what was covered in the preaching: 2 Corinthians taught us how the Lord provides comfort and how we learn to give comfort after our trials as we behold others going through tribulations. It also dealt with the necessity of church discipline and the fruit that can come from it. A timely series for our congregation that was hit hard by two very public sins. We also covered some of the Church distinctives and started the 2 Samuel series learning from the life of David and the many ways he typifies the King and Lord Jesus Christ. At the end of the year we took a break from that series to learn how to grow in the nine virtues of the Fruit of the Spirit and now we have returned to 2 Samuel.

The Lord has sent to us many visitors both locally and from out of state who have praised the Lord for the simplicity of worship, uncompromising teaching and the love they received from the Durham saints. We also enjoyed preaching from various other Reformed Presbyterian Pastors (Adam Neiss, Steve Rockhill and Micah Ramsey) along with some local pastors filling in for me. We enjoyed the Track and Treat night where again we passed out over five hundred gospel tracts including many in Spanish and having the Gonzalez family helping out in engaging the spanish speaking community.

The increased hostility towards the greater Church regarding marriage causes us to consider what is the responsibility for both a congregation and pastor in allowing wed- dings in the church building and performing marriages. This past year the elders put to- gether a policy regarding who the pastor can marry and who can use our church build- ing for a wedding. The policy summed up is that people need to be known by the pastor and be subject to at least six weeks of pre-marital counseling and they must be mem- bers in good standing of a biblical evangelical or reformed congregation.

The pastor has completed course work as part of the process for certification as a bibli- cal counselor through the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC) and now is in the examination process followed by the counseling evaluations. There are many requests for counseling that come his way and for his wife Rosaria over the years. The hope is that this additional training will make Pastor Butterfield more equipped to help those facing great personal, spiritual and emotional issues in their lives.

We have been greatly blessed by the many congregations in our presbytery have held up the FRPCD with daily and weekly prayer. We thank you all for such love and sup- port.

The congregation has experienced many challenges on the health front, employment, trials, personal finances and just surviving in life. These tribulations allow us to pray and support one another and reminding each other of the power of God, the compassion of Christ and the ever present necessity to exercise faith, not allowing circumstances or people to cast us down but live as a people with an everlasting hope in Christ Jesus.

As a congregation we have several strengths - love to the stranger, extended fellowship and studies where hard questions and difficult doctrines are explored. The diaconal fund is from volunteer giving and we have been able to give to those in need within the local body here and help those in other churches as well. Our finances are still a great chal- lenge to us. We had to pull more funds than budgeted to make up for the short fall in the budgeted amount for tithes. Often over the years we have cut back expenses and neglected to address maintenance issues but we cannot sustain that and must address growing maintenance needs. We anticipate the final sale of the church house next door on Aug 15th of this year. The sale price is \$150K minus received rent (and closing costs). This would be added to our investment funds of \$134,364.65 (as of 1/1/2016) and the checking account balance at the beginning of the year was \$5,503.71.

This coming year both Pastor and Dr. Butterfield have opportunities to speak to two groups of reformed baptist pastors on psalmody, hospitality ministry and evangelism/outreach. The ARP also has invited them to speak at their Family Camp at Bonclarken as well. Dr. Butterfield will curtail greatly her speaking come 2017 although demand for her to speak increases still but it cannot be maintained and takes too much of a toll on her and her family.

Our newest members come with a prison ministry and desire for the church to help sponsor and participate in it. We are grateful for the opportunity. Taking time to maintain things with no local leadership and addressing sin issues with counseling does take away from opportunities to develop more evangelistic ministry outlets. Evangelism is restricted to our daily routines, associations and commitments. We hope new interest will develop to put together new bible studies and evangelistic/mercy ministries.

Again and again we find ourselves humbled and reminded to look to the Lord, leaning hard upon his promises, seeking for his favor to keep us on the path of righteousness and for his favor to rain down upon us for his glory and praise.

FINANCES TO FOLLOW

First Reformed Presbyterian Church of Durham 2016 Budget

	2016 Budget	Jan - December	Jan - December	
		Budget	Actual	
Ministry Income Checking Account Balance Jan 16 - \$5,503.71				
Investment Balance Jan 2016 - \$134,364.65				
100 Undesignated tithes and offerings to the general fund (with PayPal)	\$ 59,993.81	\$ 59,993.81		% actual to budgeted
961 House Rent	\$ 5,100.00	\$ 5,100.00		0.00%
120 2016 designated giving - Diaconal fund	\$ -00	\$ -00		
111 Book Table, Literature, and Sermon Audio	\$ -00	\$ -00		
Subtotal 2016 designated giving	\$ -00	\$ -00		% of budget
190 Total funds available (tithes & offerings, designated funds carried forward, new designated giving)	\$ 65,093.81	\$ 65,093.81	\$ -00	0.00%
199 Withdrawal from investments and cash	\$ 21,716.12	\$ 21,716.12		
Interest/Dividends on investments	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00		
100 Total funds available	\$ 93,809.93	\$ 93,809.93	\$ -00	
Ministry Expenses				
200 Payroll Expenses Pastoral Compensation				
201 Salary & housing (60% is for housing)	\$ 46,600.00	\$ 46,600.00		
202 Medical-Prescription-Dental	\$ 9,138.00	\$ 9,138.00		
203 Synod pension (Creese and Smith)-\$1,050 /qtr	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 4,200.00		
204 Professional expenses	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00		
205 Pastoral hospitality	\$ -00	\$ -00	\$ -00	
Total 200 Payroll Expenses Pastoral Compensation	\$ 60,938.00	\$ 60,938.00	\$ -00	
300 Worship, Session, Diaconal, Administration				
310 Pulpit Supply	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00		
320 Session work	\$ -00	\$ -00		
330 Communion expenses	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00		
340 Diaconal fund	\$ -00	\$ -00		
345 Children's teaching materials	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00		
350 Administration				
351 Office Equipment	\$ -00	\$ -00	\$ -00	
352 Treasurer's, Clerk's, CPA expenses	\$ -00	\$ -00	\$ -00	
353 Banking expenses	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		
355 PayPal fees (2.93% per \$1,000)	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00		
356 Bookkeeper, temporary	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00		
300 Total Worship, Session, Diaconal, Administration	\$ 4,450.00	\$ 4,450.00	\$ -00	
400 Synod and Presbytery				
410 Synod room and board fee (pastor and one ruling elder)	\$ 490.00	\$ 490.00		
411 Synod and Presbytery travel expenses (pastor and one ruling elder)	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00	\$ -00	
431 Presbytery assessments	\$ 443.60	\$ 443.60		
432 Synod assessments (2% of 2015's undesignated giving of \$55,846.34)	\$ 1,116.93	\$ 1,116.93		
400 Total Synod and Presbytery	\$ 2,110.53	\$ 2,110.53	\$ -00	
500 Missions				
510 RPM&M	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -00	
511 Global Missions (all from designated giving)	\$ -00	\$ -00	\$ -00	
512 Home Missions (all from designated giving)	\$ -00	\$ -00	\$ -00	
520 Other RP works (all from designated giving)	\$ -00	\$ -00	\$ -00	
530 Outreach	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00		
500 Total Missions	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	\$ -00	
600 Book Table, Literature, and Sermon Audio				
440 Booktable - free literature	\$ -00	\$ -00		
612 Free literature for distribution	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00		
620 Sermon Audio	\$ 349.40	\$ 349.40		
600 Total BTLISA	\$ 849.40	\$ 849.40	\$ -00	
700 Fellowship				
710 Fellowship expenses	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00		
700 Total Fellowship	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ -00	
800 Publicity				
830 Website	\$ 110.00	\$ 110.00	\$ -00	
800 Total Publicity	\$ 110.00	\$ 110.00	\$ -00	
900 Facilities				
910 Utilities (building only)				
911 Gas	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00		
912 Electric	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,200.00		
913 Water	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00		
915 Internet package for office	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 1,350.00		
910 subtotal utilities	\$ 5,350.00	\$ 5,350.00	\$ -00	
920 Cleaning supplies	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00		
921 Cleaning contract	\$ 6,695.00	\$ 6,695.00		
930 Facilities maintenance (includes Orkin)	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00		
935 Lawn care/landscaping	\$ 2,485.00	\$ 2,485.00		
940 Facilities equipment	\$ -00	\$ -00	\$ -00	
941 Sound system	\$ -00	\$ -00	\$ -00	
950 Insurance	\$ 4,472.00	\$ 4,472.00		
955 Tree Removal	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00		
960 House	\$ -00	\$ -00	\$ -00	
900 Total Facilities	\$ 24,252.00	\$ 24,252.00	\$ -00	% of budget
Total Disbursements	\$ 93,809.93	\$ 93,809.93	\$ -00	0.00%
ENDING BALANCE	\$ -00	\$ -00	\$ -00	

First Reformed Presbyterian Church of Durham 2016 Budget

		2016 Budget
Ministry Income		
10	Starting balance January 1, 2016 \$5,503.71	
11	FCB checking account for PayPal (carry over minimum balance) = \$100.00	
12	PayPal fees to balance	
100	Undesignated tithes and offerings to the general fund (with PayPal)	\$ 59,993.81
961	House Rent	\$ 5,100.00
120	2016 designated giving - Diaconal fund	
111	Book Table, Literature, and Sermon Audio	
	Subtotal 2016 designated giving	
190	Total funds available (starting balance, tithes & offerings, designated funds carried forward, new designated giving)	\$ 65,093.81
199	Withdrawal from investments and cash	\$ 21,716.12
	Interest/Dividends on investments	\$ 7,000.00
	100 Total funds available	\$ 93,809.93
Ministry Expenses		
200	Payroll Expenses Pastoral Compensation	
201	Salary & housing (60% is for housing)	\$ 46,600.00
202	Medical-Prescription-Dental	\$ 9,138.00
203	Synod pension (Creese and Smith)-\$1,050 /qtr	\$ 4,200.00
204	Professional expenses	\$ 1,000.00
205	Pastoral hospitality	\$ -00
	Total 200 Payroll Expenses Pastoral Compensation	\$ 60,938.00
300	Worship, Session, Diaconal, Administration	
310	Pulpit Supply	\$ 1,200.00
320	Session work	
330	Communion expenses	\$ 200.00
340	Diaconal fund	
345	Children's teaching materials	\$ 250.00
350	Administration	
351	Office Equipment	
352	Treasurer's, Clerk's, CPA expenses	\$ -00
353	Banking expenses	\$ 50.00
355	PayPal fees (2.93% per \$1,000)	\$ 350.00
356	Bookkeeper, temporary	\$ 2,400.00
	300 Total Worship, Session, Diaconal, Administration	\$ 4,450.00
400	Synod and Presbytery	
410	Synod room and board fee (pastor and one ruling elder)	\$ 490.00
411	Synod and Presbytery travel expenses (pastor and one ruling elder)	\$ 60.00
431	Presbytery assessments	\$ 443.60
432	Synod assessments (2% of 2015's undesignated giving of \$55,846.34)	\$ 1,116.93
	400 Total Synod and Presbytery	\$ 2,110.53
500	Missions	
510	RPM&M	\$ 100.00
511	Global Missions (all from designated giving)	\$ -00
512	Home Missions (all from designated giving)	\$ -00
520	Other RP works (all from designated giving)	\$ -00
530	Outreach	\$ 600.00
	500 Total Missions	\$ 700.00
600	Book Table, Literature, and Sermon Audio	
440	Booktable - free literature	
612	Free literature for distribution	\$ 500.00
620	Sermon Audio	\$ 349.40
	600 Total BTLA	\$ 849.40
700	Fellowship	
710	Fellowship expenses	\$ 400.00
	700 Total Fellowship	\$ 400.00
800	Publicity	
830	Website	\$ 110.00
	800 Total Publicity	\$ 110.00
900	Facilities	
910	Utilities (building only)	
911	Gas	\$ 1,200.00
912	Electric	\$ 2,200.00
913	Water	\$ 600.00
915	Internet package for office	\$ 1,350.00
	910 subtotal utilities	\$ 5,350.00
920	Cleaning supplies	\$ 250.00
921	Cleaning contract	\$ 6,695.00
930	Facilities maintenance (includes Orkin)	\$ 3,000.00
935	Lawncare/Landscaping	\$ 2,485.00
940	Facilities equipment	\$ -00
941	Sound system	\$ -00
950	Insurance	\$ 4,472.00
955	Tree Removal	\$ 2,000.00
960	House	\$ -00
	900 Total Facilities	\$ 24,252.00
	Total Disbursements	\$ 93,809.93
	ENDING BALANCE	\$ -00

First Reformed Presbyterian Church of Durham 2015 Budget

		2015 Budget	Jan - December	Jan - December
Ministry Income			Budget	Actual
Checking Account Balance Jan 15 - \$8,550.08				
Investment Balance Jan 2015 - \$170,228.18				
100	Undesignated tithes and offerings to the general fund (with PayPal)	\$ 63,632.49	\$ 63,632.49	\$ 55,846.34
961	House Rent	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 7,450.00
	2014 designated giving - Diaconal fund (partial pay out)	\$ 160.26	\$ 160.26	\$ 160.26
	Subtotal 2014 designated giving	\$ 160.26	\$ 160.26	\$ 160.26
120	2015 designated giving - Diaconal fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Global Missions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,697.00
	Home Missions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Other RP or Presbytery works	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Facilities	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
111	Book Table, Literature, and Sermon Audio	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Subtotal 2015 designated giving	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,697.00
190	Total funds available (tithes & offerings, designated funds carried forward, new designated giving)	\$ 70,992.75	\$ 70,992.75	\$ 67,153.60
199	Withdrawal from investments and cash	\$ 8,550.08	\$ 8,550.08	\$ 18,000.00
	Interest/Dividends on investments	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ -
	100 Total funds available	\$ 86,542.83	\$ 86,542.83	\$ 85,153.60
Ministry Expenses				
200	Payroll Expenses Pastoral Compensation			
201	Salary & housing (60% is for housing)	\$ 44,400.00	\$ 44,400.00	\$ 44,400.00
202	Medical-Prescription-Dental	\$ 9,168.00	\$ 9,168.00	\$ 9,077.00
203	Synod pension (Creese and Smith)-\$1.025 /qtr	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 4,100.00
204	Professional expenses (designated giving from 2012 of \$363.60 plus \$136.40 = \$500)	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 481.01
205	Pastoral hospitality	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Total 200 Payroll Expenses Pastoral Compensation	\$ 58,168.00	\$ 58,168.00	\$ 58,058.01
300	Worship, Session, Diaconal, Administration			
310	Pulpit Supply	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,080.00
320	Session work	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
330	Communion expenses	\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 23.11
340	Diaconal fund (\$413.69 from 2013 desig giving) (add \$3583 from 2014 desig giving = \$3996.69 budget)	\$ 160.26	\$ 160.26	\$ 3,859.26
345	Children's teaching materials	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00	\$ 117.43
350	Administration			
351	Office Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
352	Treasurer's, Clerk's, CPA expenses	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 26.73
353	Banking expenses	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.54
355	PayPal fees (2.93% per \$1,000)	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 347.80
356	Bookkeeper, temporary	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00
	300 Total Worship, Session, Diaconal, Administration	\$ 4,855.26	\$ 4,855.26	\$ 7,879.87
400	Synod and Presbytery			
410	Synod room and board fee (pastor and one ruling elder)	\$ 490.00	\$ 490.00	\$ 431.00
411	Synod and Presbytery travel expenses (pastor and one ruling elder)	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00	\$ -
431	Presbytery assessments	\$ 618.35	\$ 618.35	\$ 618.35
432	Synod assessments (2% of 2014's undesignated giving of \$71,604.14)	\$ 1,432.08	\$ 1,432.08	\$ 1,434.00
	400 Total Synod and Presbytery	\$ 2,600.43	\$ 2,600.43	\$ 2,483.35
500	Missions			
510	RPM&M	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
511	Global Missions (all from designated giving)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
512	Home Missions (all from designated giving)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
520	Other RP works (all from designated giving)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
530	Outreach	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 42.78
	500 Total Missions	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 42.78
600	Book Table, Literature, and Sermon Audio			
440	Booktable - free literature	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19.99
612	Free literature for distribution	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 502.17
620	Sermon Audio	\$ 349.40	\$ 349.40	\$ 349.40
	600 Total BTLA	\$ 849.40	\$ 849.40	\$ 871.56
700	Fellowship			
710	Fellowship expenses	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 385.66
	700 Total Fellowship	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 385.66
800	Publicity			
830	Website	\$ 110.00	\$ 100.92	\$ -
	800 Total Publicity	\$ 110.00	\$ 100.92	\$ -
900	Facilities			
910	Utilities (building only)			
911	Gas	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,010.30
912	Electric	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,074.52
913	Water	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 802.38
915	Internet package for office	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 1,465.47
	910 subtotal utilities	\$ 5,350.00	\$ 5,350.00	\$ 5,352.67
920	Cleaning supplies	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 191.14
921	Cleaning contract	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,500.04
930	Facilities maintenance (includes Orkin)	\$ 3,965.00	\$ 3,965.00	\$ 2,959.88
940	Facilities equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
941	Sound system	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ -
950	Insurance	\$ 3,900.00	\$ 3,900.00	\$ 3,730.00
960	House	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	900 Total Facilities	\$ 20,215.00	\$ 20,215.00	\$ 18,733.73
Total Disbursements		\$ 88,398.09	\$ 88,389.01	\$ 88,454.96
ENDING BALANCE		\$ (1,855.26)	\$ -	\$ (3,301.36)

First Reformed Presbyterian Church of Durham 2015 Budget

		2015 Budget	Jan - December	Jan - December
			Budget	Actual
Ministry Income Checking Account Balance Jan 15 - \$8,550.08				
Investment Balance Jan 2015 - \$170,228.18				
100	Undesignated tithes and offerings to the general fund (with PayPal)	\$ 63,632.49	\$ 63,632.49	\$ 55,846.34
961	House Rent	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 7,450.00
	2014 designated giving - Diaconal fund (partial pay out)	\$ 160.26	\$ 160.26	\$ 160.26
	Subtotal 2014 designated giving	\$ 160.26	\$ 160.26	\$ 160.26
120	2015 designated giving - Diaconal fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Global Missions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,697.00
	Home Missions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Other RP or Presbytery works	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Facilities	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
111	Book Table, Literature, and Sermon Audio	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Subtotal 2015 designated giving	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,697.00
190	Total funds available (tithes & offerings, designated funds carried forward, new designated giving)	\$ 70,992.75	\$ 70,992.75	\$ 67,153.60
199	Withdrawal from investments and cash	\$ 8,550.08	\$ 8,550.08	\$ 18,000.00
	Interest/Dividends on investments	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ -
	100 Total funds available	\$ 86,542.83	\$ 86,542.83	\$ 85,153.60
Ministry Expenses				
200	Payroll Expenses Pastoral Compensation			
201	Salary & housing (60% is for housing)	\$ 44,400.00	\$ 44,400.00	\$ 44,400.00
202	Medical-Prescription-Dental	\$ 9,168.00	\$ 9,168.00	\$ 9,077.00
203	Synod pension (Creese and Smith)-\$1,025 /qtr	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 4,100.00
204	Professional expenses (designated giving from 2012 of \$363.60 plus \$136.40 = \$500)	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 481.01
205	Pastoral hospitality	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Total 200 Payroll Expenses Pastoral Compensation	\$ 58,168.00	\$ 58,168.00	\$ 58,058.01
300	Worship, Session, Diaconal, Administration			
310	Pulpit Supply	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,080.00
320	Session work	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
330	Communion expenses	\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 23.11
340	Diaconal fund (\$413.69 from 2013 desig giving) (add \$3583 from 2014 desig giving = \$3996.69 budget)	\$ 160.26	\$ 160.26	\$ 3,859.26
345	Children's teaching materials	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00	\$ 117.43
350	Administration			
351	Office Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
352	Treasurer's, Clerk's, CPA expenses	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 26.73
353	Banking expenses	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.54
355	PayPal fees (2.93% per \$1,000)	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 347.80
356	Bookkeeper, temporary	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00
	300 Total Worship, Session, Diaconal, Administration	\$ 4,855.26	\$ 4,855.26	\$ 7,879.87
400	Synod and Presbytery			
410	Synod room and board fee (pastor and one ruling elder)	\$ 490.00	\$ 490.00	\$ 431.00
411	Synod and Presbytery travel expenses (pastor and one ruling elder)	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00	\$ -
431	Presbytery assessments	\$ 618.35	\$ 618.35	\$ 618.35
432	Synod assessments (2% of 2014's undesignated giving of \$71,604.14)	\$ 1,432.08	\$ 1,432.08	\$ 1,434.00
	400 Total Synod and Presbytery	\$ 2,600.43	\$ 2,600.43	\$ 2,483.35
500	Missions			
510	RPM&M	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
511	Global Missions (all from designated giving)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
512	Home Missions (all from designated giving)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
520	Other RP works (all from designated giving)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
530	Outreach	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 42.78
	500 Total Missions	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 42.78
600	Book Table, Literature, and Sermon Audio			
440	Booktable - free literature	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19.99
612	Free literature for distribution	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 502.17
620	Sermon Audio	\$ 349.40	\$ 349.40	\$ 349.40
	600 Total BTLA	\$ 849.40	\$ 849.40	\$ 871.56
700	Fellowship			
710	Fellowship expenses	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 385.66
	700 Total Fellowship	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 385.66

Mr. Butterfield presented the congregational report for First RPC of Durham and answered questions from the floor.

The recommendation to re-appoint provisional elders Bob Bibby and Bob Burchfield was referred to the nominating committee.

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

Intercessory Prayer

Mr. Bonner led the court in prayer for Christ Church RP and for the health of Mr. Joel Hart, who had not been feeling well and was scheduled to preach the following day.

Mr. DeJong led in prayer for the Columbus congregation.
Mr. Blankenship led in prayer for the Elkhart congregation.
Mr. Steve Rhoda led in prayer for First RPC of Durham and recessed the court at 9:00 p.m.

THIRD SESSION – Friday March 4, 2016 (8:30 – 12:30pm)

Call to Order

The moderator called the court to order for its third business session at 8:35 a.m.
The presbytery sang Psalm 65A and the moderator constituted the court in prayer.

Morning Devotions (Candidates and Credentials - continued)

Mr. Olivetti invited Mr. Hart forward for his Expository Sermon I.
Mr. Hart read Psalm 11, prayed for God's blessing, and preached from the text on the need to exercise faith in the midst of troublous times.
The presbytery offered feedback regarding the sermon.
The assistant clerk called the roll and the sermon was unanimously sustained.

Mr. Olivetti invited Mr. Gopalakrishnan forward for his Pastoral and Evangelistic Gifts exam.
The exam was conducted by Mr. Holdeman, followed by questions from the floor, and a time of discussion.
The assistant clerk called the roll and the exam was unanimously sustained.

Mr. Olivetti invited Mr. Rao forward to read the queries to Mr. Gopalakrishnan for his licensure to receive a call.
The queries were read, affirmed, and subsequently signed.
The assistant clerk called the roll and the licensure was unanimously sustained.
Mr. Johnston led the court in prayer, thereby licensing Mr. Gopalakrishnan to receive a call.

Mr. Roberts addressed the court, confirming that the committee to evaluate the Global Mission Board's call to Mr. Gopalakrishnan had found it to be acceptable and worthy of its recommendation.

Mr. Gopalakrishnan briefly addressed the court concerning the bi-vocational nature of the call.
The presbytery then voted to approve the call and the moderator presented the call to Mr. Gopalakrishnan and he announced his acceptance of the call.

Mr. Olivetti invited Mr. Hart forward for his Systematic Theology I exam.
The exam was conducted by Mr. Butterfield, followed by questions from the floor, and a time of discussion.
The assistant clerk called the roll and the exam was unanimous sustained.

The moderator recessed the court in prayer for its scheduled break at 10:40 a.m.

SCHEDULED BREAK

Led by the moderator, the court resumed its third business session at 11:05 a.m.
The presbytery sang Psalm 25A, Stanza 1, and the moderator led the court in prayer.

Special Prayer

Mr. Morrow informed the court of the passing of Mr. Jim Morton, brother of Pastor Ray Morton of Hetherton RPC.

Home Mission Board Report

The Home Mission Board Report is as follows.

Home Mission Board Report to the Great Lakes Gulf Presbytery Spring Meeting 2016

Membership of the Board

Presbytery or other rep.	Representative	Note
Alleghenies	Steve Bradley	
Atlantic	John Edgar	
Great Lakes Gulf	Andy McCracken	
Midwest	Noah Bailey	Sub. for Bruce Parnell in China
Pacific Coast	Nathan Eshelman	Board Chairman
St. Lawrence	Kevin Plummer	
Synodical Rep	Rachel Roberts	
	Jim McFarland	Ex Officio Member Treasurer

The purpose of this report is to keep the Great Lakes Gulf Presbytery apprised as to the state of church planting within the denomination. In 2005 Synod sought to strengthen home missions by making evangelism and church planting a renewed priority for the church. At a later synod, a vision was cast to have one hundred congregations by the year 2020. We are happy to report that if you include the five congregations in Japan that are a part of our Synod we are well on our way to meeting this goal having reached ninety nine with a few more sites that look promising for church planting in the near future.

The following is a report by each presbytery as to their efforts as well as report of the students under care and the pulpits that are vacant.

UPDATES BY PRESBYTERY

Atlantic

Christ Church now has eighty one people attending. Thirty are immigrants from West Africa brought in through a diaconal effort a couple years ago. The Lord provided a translator to enable some to better understand the preaching. The elders are preparing a class for new members.

Wyoming Valley – the Presbytery has encouraged the members to attend in Hazelton after the death of their pastor, Ray Diamond. One family is going there the other is attending an RCUS congregation in the area.

- Students under care – Mike Labutta, Gabriel Wingfield
- Vacant Pulpits – Broomall, Cambridge, Coldenham Newburgh, Wyoming Valley

St. Lawrence

The three families in **Calgary** continue to meet every Lord's Day morning. Bob Hackett preaches once every month. The elders in Edmonton take turns preaching every other month. The other weeks the group watches a video series by Amos Ramsey on the book of Acts. The Shelter session is working with Daniel to help him with direction for future ministry.

The Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Toronto was welcomed into the presbytery on October 14th. Their building is located in the midst of several high rise buildings, which makes it hard to see. However, one of them is an apartment complex, which provides an excellent opportunity for outreach. A committee was formed to investigate how the RP churches in Canada might work with the ARP congregations to establish new churches in Ontario province. Places that would be especially strategic include connecting CNY with the

Finger Lakes area and the Southern Tier as well as the Watertown area including the Thousand Islands.

Students under care –

- OTH – Dan Dupouis, (licensed to preach) Warren Campbell and Reuben Lindeman
- RPTS – Micah Wright, Jeff Wallace (Master of Theology with a concentration in counseling)
- Westminster – Scott Doherty (PHD in apologetics)

Vacant pulpit – Hudson St. Lazzare

Alleghenies

The Presbytery has decided not to work with the group in **Harrisburg**.

Grace and Truth Mission Church – the Lord has gathered forty people together in **Harrisonburg Va**. The TGB consists of the elders of the Trinity session with Paul Martin and Tom Reid assisting. A steering committee has been formed to test the gifts of some of the members. Paul and Tom are leading a class on church office and provide regular preaching. The TGB feels that there are members who show promise for holding office.

Vacant Pulpits: None. Students under care:

- Caleb Allen, Brian Beck, Ryan Bever, Mark Brown, Josiah Bull, Joel Butler (serving as a RE at Covenant Fellowship), Jordan Feagley, Josh Giesler, Edgar Ibarra, Kevin Jia, Chris Myers (military, stationed in GA for next couple of years), and Bryan Schneider
- Licensed to Preach: Chris Myers and Edgar Ibarra
- Eligible to Receive a Call: Chris Villi (currently serving as a RE at Grace RPC in Gibsonia).

Midwest

Dallas – the church is growing and has a lot of gifted men.

Bryan Texas – the mission has thirty in attendance representing five or six families. They have full time use of the building where they meet and are financially stable. They would like to call a pastor sometime next year. Johnathan Leach is not interested in a call to Bryan but would like to investigate an opportunity in San Antonio.

Oklahoma City – an opportunity was created for ministry as a result of some families from Enid and Stillwater moving there. Noah believes that they need more mature families to start on their own.

Other new opportunities – Bible studies have begun in **Lindsburg** and **Garden City, Ks**. Manhattan Ks. is looking into planting a church in **Junction city**.

Teller County, CO - Jason Rice is leading a group in worship Sunday evenings. They worship with the Springs congregation on Sunday mornings.

Laramie, WY – Bob Hemphill will retire soon and take over the work of RHM from Bob McFarland next year. He will continue to live in Laramie and assist the new Associate Pastor, Derek Moore.

Casper, WY – the group in Casper has met a lot of people through Bible studies and a men's breakfast.

Albuquerque, NM – Jason Rice is doing work here. Some want an RP church established in the area.

Students under care –

- Patrick McNeely, Brian Wright, Jay Strunk
- Licensed to preach – Joseph Friedly, Matthew Sexton, Rob Haynes
- Licensed to receive a call – Luke Finley

Pacific Coast

Southern Calif. - Caesar Arevalo and Hsing tang continue to minister a Bible study to Spanish and Mandarin speakers respectively. Namshik Yang ministers to Korean speakers in the LA congregation. Namshik will be attending Puritan Reformed Seminary to add to his degree.

Las Vegas – the presbytery is considering organizing the mission church next year. They want to call a pastor and have a particular man in mind.

Men for the ministry –

- Eligible to receive a call – HauTzeng AuYeong
- Licensed to preach – Caesar Arevalo, Hsing Tang, Jordan Feagley
- Under care – Sean Holms

A NEW CHURCH PLANTING RESOURCE

One resource that the Home Mission Board will have available by the International Conference this summer is a booklet entitled: *“A Handbook for Church Planters: Lessons Learned in Church Planting.”* This is a compilation of lessons learned by church planters over many years following both successful and unsuccessful attempts to see new churches established. The goal of this booklet is to aid current and future planters by pointing out common missteps as well as encouraging the implementation of proven, Spirit-empowered efforts.

MINISTRIES TO MINORITIES

There was much discussion at our Fall meeting regarding the opportunity and challenge of outreach to immigrants in this country. We noted that there are five Chinese men at the Seminary who intend to return to China. This led him to ask, “How will we use these men?” With the changing demographics of the new immigration patterns we have lots of opportunity to establish cross cultural ministry right here in the US. The board will be requesting Synod to add to the board Romesh Prakashplan, as an at large member as he has experience in cross-cultural ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Andy McCracken, GLG Representative to the HMB



Mr. Andy McCracken presented the Home Mission Board Report. It was moved, seconded, passed to receive the report.

Geneva Board of Corporators Report

The Geneva Board of Corporators Report is as follows.

2016 Report of Presbytery's Nominee to the Board of Corporators of Geneva College

Dear brothers:

I am reporting to you as your nominee to Synod to serve on the Board of Corporators of Geneva College. Thank you for your confidence in me, expressed by your nominating me to Synod last year for election for another term to the Board. I currently serve as the Board's Secretary and, consequently, upon the Executive Committee of the Board.

I here repeat a paragraph that I place in every year's report, because some delegates to Presbytery may not be familiar with the governance of Geneva College. To refresh you, the Board of Corporators has twelve members, all elected by Synod. Each of the North American Presbyteries have nominees to Synod, with Synod's Nominating Committee nominating the others. All must be members in good standing in the RPCNA. We each serve four-year terms. The Corporators are the legal owners of the College. They are the members of the Corporation chartered by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Corporators' main tasks, under the Bylaws it originates, are to govern the College through a Board of Trustees it has created and whose members it elects, to elect a President of the College, to steward the Bylaws, and maintain a strong connection to the Synod of the RPCNA. The Board does its governing through the Trustees, who operate the College on the Corporators' behalf. Half of the Corporators serve as Trustees, as well, thus maintaining useful liaison between the Boards and allowing Synod, in effect, to have direct placement of some Trustees.

Since my last report, the Board met on 27 June, 2015, at Geneva College, following Synod. Among other matters, it was the last meeting at which Dr. Kenneth A. Smith was serving as President. Since his departure, the Rev. Dr. William Edgar, previously the Chair of the Board of Corporators and a Trustee, has been serving as Interim President. The Board elected Mr. Steven McMahan, ruling elder in our Hebron, KS, congregation and former Moderator of Synod, to be the new Chair of the Board. At that meeting, one new Trustee was elected and two incumbent Trustees were returned. The Board heard a preliminary report of the very new Presidential Search Committee.

The Board had a fall meeting on 23 October at Geneva College. Two new Trustees were elected, and the Board seriously discussed the need for guidance from Synod on "Transgender Issues" similar to the position paper that Synod adopted on homosexuality, which had come originally out of our Presbytery. The Board asked me to submit a request to our *Ad Interim* Commission to appoint a study committee to address these "Transgender Issues". The Commission believed that they could not do so at this time, and courteously declined the request. We will be petitioning Synod directly for such a committee.

The Board met last on 6 February, 2016, after a momentous meeting of the Trustees. As most of you know, Prof. Dr. Calvin Troup was unanimously elected as the new President of Geneva College by the Trustees with the unanimous assent of the Corporators. He has resigned his seats on both boards of the

College, and our board will need to replace him at our next meeting. By the unanimous votes, Presbytery can see that both boards hold Dr. Troup, a ruling elder in the Grace RPC of Gibsonia, PA, in the highest confidence. Other work accomplished at this latest meeting included the near-finish of the *Board Policy Manual* and the election of two new Trustees including Mr. Joel Silverman of our Southside congregation. Joel has served on the Trustees before and took some time off. We believe his return will be useful to the Trustees. As mentioned, we are nearly done with a *Board Policy Manual*. The manual will allow us to have, in written form all in one place, a common directory for how we do our job. The current draft has chapters on Board Organization and Meetings, the Nomination and Election Process for Board Officers and for Trustees, College Staffing Policies, Communications Policies, Trustee Oversight, and Miscellany. All the chapters have been adopted. All that remains is to adopt the chapter on Miscellany, an Appendix, and the manual as a whole.

As you read the report, you surely notice several new Trustees being elected. Some of these are due to Dr. Edgar and Dr. Troup resigning from both boards. Some are due to the Corporators' determination, supported by a majority of the Trustees, intentionally to tie the College much tighter to the RPCNA in order to protect the College from those outside who wish to divert the College from its mission and vision. As the College continues in its lawsuit against the Federal Government, concerning a mandate to supply abortifacient "contraception", this stronger tie strengthens Geneva's case. There will surely be other times where this closer tie will be needed as our culture declines for a time. Some non-RPs on the Trustees have desired looser or ended ties with the RPC, were disappointed with the decision to strengthen, and have resigned.

Some of you may remember that there was a reorganization of the governance of the College, as well as extensive Bylaw revision in recent years. This was all in order to the stronger ties with the RPCNA. You may also be aware that an effort is underway to identify people in the RPCNA who would be qualified, by education, training, and vocational gifts, to serve the College as administration, staff, and faculty.

The higher the proportion of RPs serving the College in this way further strengthens Geneva against intrusive meddling by the magistracy.

College enrollment numbers are up and the financial situation is somewhat improved. While Geneva is in no immediate financial danger, both boards, especially the Trustees, are trying to be prudent. A new business model is in place that seeks to keep tuition nearly level in price. Geneva continues to be rated well by *US News and World Report* as a good value in the eastern part of our country.

Our next meeting is to be, D.v., on the afternoon of 26 July, 2016, a little more than a month after Synod's adjournment, at Indiana Wesleyan University during the Reformed Presbyterian International Conference.

For your information, the website for the College is at www.geneva.edu. Much information is there on all sorts of matters pertaining to the College.

I thank you for your confidence in me, which you have shown by your nominating me again to Synod. I am happy to continue this service as long as you desire.

Respectfully submitted, Philip H. Pockras

END OF WRITTEN REPORT

Mr. Pockras presented the Geneva Board of Corporators Report. It was moved, seconded, and passed to receive the report.

Southern Church Extension Committee (SOCHEX) Report

The SOCHEX Report is as follows.

Report of the Southern Church Extension Committee (SOCHEX) to the Presbytery

March, 2016



About six months ago, SOCHEX established a sub-committee to work specifically with the Immanuel Chapel (IC) work in Dayton, TN. The sub-committee was tasked with providing closer oversight for and clearer direction to the group, better understanding and stabilizing IC's financial situation, determining the group's viability as a church, and providing SOCHEX with a recommendation as to whether IC should be granted Mission Church Status or should be discontinued as a mission work of the RPCNA. The following information, compiled by our sub-committee, Goerge Gregory and Gary McNamee, presents an overview of this work currently:

IC at a Glance:

Average Attendance: 35-40 (not including 12 semi-regular visitors/future members)

Meeting Time: Sunday at 11:00am; with fellowship meals on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

Meeting Location (new): 184 Mulberry Ave. Dayton, TN 37321 (SDA Church Building very near Bryan

College) **Weekly Study Groups:** Thursday Night Ladies Study; Friday Night Group Study

Websites: www.ic-tenn.com; www.sermonaudio.com/ic-tenn; On Facebook, search: Immanuel Presbyterian Chapel, RPCNA

A Closer Look:

The People: The Immanuel Chapel group consists of a good number of loving, faithful, humble, mature followers of Jesus Christ, both young and old. Below is a listing of the various people, as well as their projected standing if Mission Church status were granted. As of now, the potential exists for 24 Communicant Members, 17 Baptized Members, and 7 Adherents:

Communicant Members

Adam Campbell
Sarah Campbell
Noah Campbell

Kevin Clauson
Marcia Clauson
Stephen Clauson

Andrew Clauson
Katie Clauson

Reggie Ecarma
Lorri Ecarma
Nathan Ecarma
Jonathan Ecarma

Bill Goodpaster
Natalie Goodpaster
Ashlee Goodpaster
Joshua Goodpaster
Jonathan Goodpaster

Hanna Schultz

Bill Ensinger (likely to join)
Becky Ensinger (likely to join)

Christopher Henderson (possible to join)
Audrey Henderson (possible to join)
Thomas Henderson (possible to join)
Robert Henderson (possible to join)

Baptized Members

James Campbell

Lori Clauson
Rachel Clauson

Gabriel Clauson
"Baby" Clauson (coming soon!)

Matthew Goodpaster
R.C. Goodpaster
Jackson Goodpaster

Laura Ensinger
Elizabeth Ensinger
Gabriel Ensinger
Gideon Ensinger

Sarah Henderson
Brianna Henderson
Jeb Henderson
Alex Henderson
Hannah Henderson

Adherents

Thada Benson
Andrea Bostrum
Caleb Curry
Andrew Paterson
Christabel Thompson
Al Wagner
Sandv Wagner

Location: Since November 2015, Immanuel Chapel has been meeting at the Dayton Community Chapel, a Seventh Day Adventist Church building (184 Mulberry Ave. Dayton, TN 37321). Located at Route 30 just below Bryan College Hill, it provides a great opportunity to reach the campus and a convenient place for Bryan College Students to worship. IC also only pays \$200/month in rent.

Web Presence: Immanuel Chapel makes its presence known online through a website, on Facebook, and by uploading weekly sermons to SermonAudio.com. Adam Campbell is the one who is working to keep ic- tenn.com updated, while Dr. Clauson has used the IC Facebook to inform others each week of the upcoming week's bulletin information, including Psalms, Sermon Title and Text, and Preacher, as well as reminders about fellowship meals. Christopher Henderson faithfully uploads each week's message to SermonAudio.com.

Activity and Ministry: Immanuel Chapel has been growing as an active group, both internally and in their community. Below is a list and description of some of their current activities, which include a good mixture of fellowship, outreach, Christian education, benevolence, and hospitality:

- 1) Weekly Friday night Bible study at the Goodpaster home, led by Bill and Natalie, using R.C. Sproul teaching videos (Ligonier); preceded and followed by fellowship; attended by most of the families of IC, and a study to which several outside of IC have been invited and attend;
- 2) Weekly Ladies' Tuesday night study led by Marcia Clauson teaching the history of the Christian church;
- 3) Weekly catechism led by high school aged Nathan Ecarma and Joshua Goodpaster; they have led the children of IC in the memorization of the first 15 catechism questions and Scripture proofs; despite the holiday schedule, Joshua and Nathan have been consistent, demonstrating their commitment;
- 4) Dr. Clauson, Dr. Ecarma, and Nathan Ecarma engage in weekly outreach, working hard reaching out to Bryan faculty and students; Nathan has been successful in bringing 10 students to worship at IC during fall semester;
- 5) Immanuel Chapel, particularly the Goodpasters and Clausons, have benevolently and faithfully reached out and cared for the Henderson family during their time of need which has been intense and regular;
- 6) Lorri Ecarma has led in the cleaning of the local Seventh Day Adventist Church that is used each week as IC's place of worship. She is helped by the other ladies and her husband Reggie Ecarma;
- 7) Andrew Clauson has kept the financial data for the church while tending to his growing family;
- 8) The Ecarma family hosted a Reformation Party and Thanksgiving fellowship;
- 9) The Goodpasters hosted a Christmas party, and the Clauson family hosted a baby reveal party and a New Year's fellowship;
- 10) Immanuel Chapel was part of the Bryan College outreach led by Bill and Joshua Goodpaster;
- 11) Immanuel Chapel was part of the Pumpkin Festival as an outreach to the community (Marcia Clauson led the chili cook-off with the help of Lorri Ecarma; Bill Goodpaster led in setting up a table and tent, others helped in distributing literature);
- 12) The ladies meet weekly during the day at the Ecarma home where they study Financial Peace University with Dave Ramsey;
- 13) The ladies help each other daily with coupon shopping and finding great deals to help their families and IC through frugality and thrift. The ladies also organized a clothing sale to raise money for Immanuel Chapel. A portion of the money raised was sent to aid two families in the RPCNA who are suffering medical hardships.

Pulpit: As Immanuel Chapel is currently without a Pastor on site, the weekly preaching is faithfully administrated by various reformed and credentialed ministers, including primarily Jud Davis, Ph.D. (PCA teacher elder), Dr. Bill Higgins (ordained by the Reformed Presbyterian Church, General Assembly), Nate Garrett (M.Div., ordained), Kevin Clauson, J.D. (ordained ruling elder, OPC). All of these men plan to

continue serving Immanuel Chapel for the foreseeable future. In addition to these men, several RP Ministers have had occasion to visit and administer the Word to these saints.

Potential Leadership: Four men stand out for potential future leadership:

Bill Goodpaster is solidly Reformed Presbyterian. He is currently serving as the chair of their leadership committee, and has strong desire to see the people and work grow.

Adam Campbell is another solid Reformed Presbyterian, and a very humble man. He is not afraid to act for the good of the people and for righteousness, even if it is detrimental to what might seem like progress.

Kevin Clauson has served as IC's *de facto* leader for some time. He has provided a considerable amount of preaching for the group. He is theologically sound, but may have some issues with RPCNA distinctives. Kevin is also an ordained elder in the OPC.

Reggie Ecarma, though a recent addition, has jumped right in and has lead in the further organization of the group. He is a great vision caster and pursuer. He acquired the new building and has completely reformed how IC has communicated with the SOCHEX Sub-Committee. If not an elder, Reggie could possibly serve as a deacon. Some more investigation must be done as far as theological positions and RPCNA distinctives go, but he certainly has leadership potential.

All of these men are not in a position to be ordained or installed tomorrow, but they show great potential. With training and guidance, we are eager to see how God may use them.

Previous Concerns

Lack of Communication and Organization: Throughout SOCHEX's interactions with Immanuel Chapel, SOCHEX found that there was no clearly identified point of contact with the people in the mission work. At best, Kevin Clauson served as somewhat of a *de facto* leader, yet, various members of the group would communicate with SOCHEX independently, causing confusion and mixed information for both SOCHEX and other members of IC.

In response to this situation, the SOCHEX Sub-Committee established the Immanuel Chapel Leadership Committee (ICLC) in the hopes of bringing clear leadership, uniformity, and perspicuity to the group. At the first meeting of this group in September, Bill Goodpaster was selected as chairman, Reggie Ecarma as secretary, and Andrew Clauson as treasurer. Two other men from Immanuel Chapel, Adam Campbell and Kevin Clauson, serve on the ICLC, as well as both Gary McNamee and George Gregory *ex officio*.

The establishment of the Immanuel Chapel Leadership Committee has been a blessed improvement. It has done much to bring focus to the group as a whole. It has allowed them to establish clear direction and goals. It has also allowed the SOCHEX Sub-Committee to communicate its expectations and those of SOCHEX clearly and to the whole, and has allowed IC to ask questions effectively and provide regular updates and feedback. The ICLC holds monthly meetings, (the minutes of which it forwards to the SOCHEX Sub-Committee), oversees and coordinates the preaching schedule, and oversees and promotes various other activities of Immanuel Chapel.

Financial Ability, Stability, and Accountability: A major concern of SOCHEX was IC's financial ability to both sustain itself *and* support the responsibility requisite for Mission Church status, including a Temporary Governing Body. More than one traveling RP minister had reported that his honorarium or travel reimbursement check had bounced. SOCHEX had also received report that a member of Immanuel Chapel acquired a loan to cover Immanuel Chapel's expenses.¹

There are now significant reasons for far greater confidence in Immanuel Chapel's financial ability and stability. One of the first actions of the SOCHEX Sub-Committee was to have Immanuel Chapel provide the Sub-Committee with a monthly cash flow report. This keeps both the committee and Immanuel Chapel aware of and accountable for their finances. This task was made easier when it was delegated to IC's newly appointed treasurer, Andrew Clauson. At the end of each month, Mr. Clauson provides the month's cash flow (credits and debits) to both the ICLC and the SOCHEX Sub-Committee. This has provided good awareness and transparency of all the funds.

During one of Gary McNamee's visits to Immanuel Chapel, he taught on the subject of sacrificial giving. Following this, Immanuel Chapel's giving increased and has become more consistent. With the benefit of four months of cash flow reports, the ICLC was able to prepare a budget. Attached to this report is the estimated budget for 2016, which demonstrates the expectation that IC has ample funds to support a TGB, as well as many other ministries. We are also encouraged by the line item in the budget for "Ministries and Missions." This is a designated line item for RPM&M, and

demonstrates the real desire of IC to not only be affiliated with the RPCNA in name, but to support the work of the broader church as well.

Budget at a Glance:

Income:

Total Yearly Income: \$21,600

Expenses

Total Yearly Ministries: \$13,460

Total Yearly TGB Expense: \$3,000

Total Yearly Property: \$2,400

Total Yearly Supplies: \$300

Total Yearly Savings: \$800

Total Yearly Expense: \$19,960

Summary Assessment

We believe Immanuel Chapel has improved markedly in the areas which formerly brought concern to SOCHEX. Clear lines of communication are established. A unity among the people and the “leaders” of the group is achieved. An amenable attitude is demonstrated by the people in fulfilling what is asked of them. Their financial situation is stabilized and greatly improved, giving a level of confidence concerning a move to Mission Church status. They continue faithfully in their outreach efforts and in their love and commitment to one another, even extending their beneficence to others in the denomination. Their new location is a comfortable, suitable, and attractive place to worship, as well as convenient location for Bryan College students and faculty. Although having no prospects of a pastor in the immediate future, Immanuel Chapel is served well by reformed and faithful preachers who intend to continue in their capacity as long as the Lord wills.

¹ The loan (\$500 total) came from the PHI (non-profit/501-c-3) to IC and was paid back by IC to PHI, without interest and in full, approximately two months after first loaned. There have been no further loans or consideration of such.

We have identified the following three men who are willing to serve on a TGB, should one be formed: Gary McNamee, Andy McCracken, Phil Pockras.

We also want to acknowledge and express our appreciation for the good and diligent ministry of Gary McNamee and George Gregory in shepherding the saints of IC this past 6 months.

No further church extension opportunities emerged this year in the South, but we continue to pray for such, and are glad to dialogue with any interested parties.

Recommendation: That Presbytery grant Immanuel Chapel in Dayton, TN the status of Mission Church and establish a Temporary Governing Body for its oversight.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kent Butterfield
James Faris George
Gregory
H. P. McCracken (chairman)

END OF WRITTEN REPORT

The moderator, Mr. H.P. McCracken, temporarily ceded the chair to Mr. Niess (Mr. Lefebvre being momentarily absent from the room), in order to present the report for SOCHEX, of which he is the chairman.

Mr. McCracken presented the report and brought its sole recommendation before the court. The recommendation was discussed and questions were answered by Mr. McCracken. The recommendation was passed.

Further questions were then answered by Mr. McCracken.

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

Mr. Niess returned to the floor and Mr. McCracken resumed the moderator's chair.

Mr. Pockras led the court in a prayer for Immanuel Chapel in Dayton, Tennessee in connection with its newly-conferred status as a mission church.

Pageland Temporary Governing Body (TGB) Report

The Pageland TGB Report is as follows.

Pageland RPC Mission Church 2016 Report to Spring Presbytery

We give God the glory for his blessing over the past year. Although we met a setback organizationally, we continue to see many evidences of His faithfulness.

Our average attendance was 22 for the year. We've seen some increase over the year, however. We averaged 20 for the first three months, but 26 for the last three months. Communicant membership is 18, non-communicant, 9. Additions to the church in 2015 were the Sam Ketcham and JT Leasor families, both by transfer. We celebrated the Lord's Supper six times, and witnessed one baptism (Noah Leasor).

The congregation gathers for Sunday School each Lord's Day. We studied the first 50 Psalms over the course of the year. We're now working through the Confession. Pastor Wise recently concluded a Sunday morning series in Hebrews, and has begun one in Ephesians. Each Wednesday evening we have a time of singing, study and prayer.

Exodus has been our subject during the last months. Other times of fellowship include Psalm sings, cookouts, and hospitality in one another's home.

The mission church has been encouraged to see some fruit from witness, invitations, and prayer, with visitors being regularly greeted at worship.

Ian continues to teach and coach full time at the Christian school in town, and is getting more opportunities than ever to talk about the scriptures with the students there. Please pray for his wife, Deanna, with her significant health issues.

Many will know that Dick Sears' withdrawal from active participation in the church was a difficult blow to us. The event led us to postpone plans to organize. As much as we miss Dick's presence, we're grateful for how the Lord has drawn us together and continued to give us hope and vision. We took a significant hit financially, but the people are stepping up to the challenge.

It has been a blessing to have Sam Ketcham and his family among us. Sam is a student for the ministry at Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. He recently was brought under care of the TGB, and is being commended to Presbytery's care.

Jared Olivetti and Bob Shapiro have been great helps to us. We're grateful that Jared was able to spend a weekend with us in February. During that time we met with Chris and Joe Mangum. The upshot is that they are now worshipping with us, after good evidence of repentance and

reconciliation. Praise God!

For Christ's
Crown,
The Pageland
TGB

Recommendation - That presbytery continue the same financial aid for another year.

Pageland RPC 2015 Finance Report-1

Income	Tithes & offerings	\$57,477.82	
	Presbytery aid	\$2000.00	
	1st ARP Lancaster aid	\$1200.00	
	Christ Church aid	\$1000.00	
	Duke Energy payback	\$1271.00	
	Special projects	\$2000.00	
	Student aid	\$4500.00	
	Total	\$69448.82	
Expense	Budget	Spending	Difference
Pastor Salary	\$26400.00	\$26399.88	\$0.12
Family health	\$10963.00	\$13903.96	-\$2940.96
Prof. & Conf. Expense	\$3200.00	\$1215.98	\$1984.02
in lieu of S. Sec.	\$2300.00	\$2300.00	\$0.00
Synod pension	\$4100.00	\$4350.00	-\$250.00
Supplemental health	\$2000.00	\$2000.00	\$0.00
Building rent	\$9600.00	\$9600.00	\$0.00
Energy	\$1300.00	\$1252.52	\$47.48
Water / Sewer	\$380.00	\$367.20	\$12.80
Synod Assessment (2%)	\$1202.00	\$820.00	\$382.00
Diaconal	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
(Unbudgeted spending)			
Pulpit supply		\$325.00	-\$325.00
Bathroom project		\$1740.34	-\$1740.34
Bank fees		\$20.00	-\$20.00

Student aid		\$4500.00	-\$4500.00
Total	\$61945.00	\$68794.88	-\$6849.88
Savings Acct.	\$114.16		
Checking Acct. (12/15)	\$28133.72		

Pageland RPC	2016 Budget	
Category	Sub-category	
Income	Tithes & Offerings	\$57370.00
	Presbytery aid	\$2000.00
	Special projects	\$0.00
	Student aid	\$0.00
	Total	\$59370.00
Expense		
Pastor	Salary	\$14000.00
	Housing	\$14000.00
	Health Insurance	\$3000.00
	Medical Savings	\$4000.00
	Pension	\$4200.00
	in lieu of S. Sec.	\$2300.00
	Expense	\$1000.00
	Fam. Conf.	\$2000.00
	Sub-total	\$44500.00
Ministry	Rent	\$9600.00
	Utilities	
	Power	\$1300.00
	Water	\$400.00
	Bank fees	\$20.00
	Synod assess.	\$1150.00
	Presb. assess.	\$0.00
	Sermon audio	\$150.00

	Diaconal	\$500.00
	Furnishings	\$1000.00
	Misc. Ministry	\$500.00
	Pulpit supply	\$350.00
	Savings	\$0.00
	Sub-total	\$14970.00
	Total	\$59470.00

END OF WRITTEN REPORT

Mr. Olivetti presented the report for the Pageland TGB, addressed questions from the floor, and presented the report’s sole recommendation, which was referred to the finance committee. It was moved, seconded, and passed to receive the report.

Southwest Ohio RP Temporary Governing Body (SWORP TGB) Report

The SWORP TGB Report is as follows.

Temporary Governing Body for Southwest Ohio Reformed Presbyterian Mission Church

Report to 2016 Spring Meeting of the Great Lakes – Gulf Presbytery of the RPCNA

The TGB respectfully reports that, as a Commission of Presbytery, our work has been joyfully completed. Since the 2015 spring meeting we have had several meetings, culminating in the November 13, 2015 organization of the Southwest Ohio Reformed Presbyterian Church. The minutes of the TGB from last spring Presbytery until the final minutes of February 26, 2016 are included below our signatures. We have two recommendations:

1. That the minutes of the TGB be spread on the minutes of Presbytery, and
2. That this Commission be dismissed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dick Knodel, Clerk

Andy McCracken

Phil Pockras, Moderator

Steven Work

Mr. Pockras presented the report of the SWORP TGB, indicating that a further report will be made by the SWORP organization commission at a future meeting of presbytery.

Recommendation 1 failed.
Recommendation 2 was passed.
It was moved, seconded, and passed to receive the report.

Northminster Judicial Commission Report

The Northminster Judicial Commission Report is as follows.

**Great Lakes-Gulf Judicial Commission
Bloomington, IN
March 3-5, 2016**

This discipline committee reviewed the case of suspension of the privileges of church membership brought by Northminster RP Church against Ms. Linda Mae Mitchell on May 7, 2014.

Linda Mitchell became a member of Northminster RP Church on August 5, 2012.

Ms. Mitchell was charged with and summoned to answer the offenses of lying, theft, slander, and threatening of physical harm by complainant and prosecutor, Dr. Frank Smith. The trial was scheduled for October 9, 2013. Ms. Mitchell failed to appear to the trial so the trial was postponed.

Ms. Mitchell was charged with the same offenses and summoned on April 24, 2014 to appear to a second trial scheduled for May 7, 2014. Ms. Mitchell failed to appear to the trial. The Court consisted of RE John Hanson (interim Moderator) and RE Bob Shapiro (Clerk). Complainant and prosecutor was again, Dr. Frank Smith.

The court proceeded with the trial and Ms. Mitchell was found guilty of theft in “failure to repay or seek other means of repayment” secured by a promissory note. The remaining charges were tabled for later consideration. As a consequence of her theft, Linda Mitchell was “barred from the Lord’s Table for a period of five months or until sufficient evidence of repentance is shown.”

The case was never picked up again by the court of Northminster RP Church but handed to this Judicial Commission to further adjudicate. According to records available to the Commission from July 2011 to October 2012, the lender made personal loans to Ms. Linda Mitchell 45 times totaling \$4,106.01. There is concern that the charitable intention to help Ms. Mitchell did not meet the desire and intent to increase her personal responsibility and steps towards poverty alleviation. The Commission provided counsel to the lender in order to avoid future attempts of manipulation and to better serve in the area of mercy ministry. The lender has both read and discussed with the Commission principles and practices of mercy ministry in the Bluff.

The moderator of this Commission, Mr. Shawn Anderson, tried to contact Ms. Mitchell first by phone, though both numbers provided were not her phone number; and second, by email on December 10, 2015. It was requested that she call Mr. Anderson, in order to set up a time to meet with him and Mr. Jason Camery, during their upcoming visit to Atlanta (Dec 11-14), to talk about the matter from her perspective. She did not respond to the email.

This Judicial Commission has met informally multiple times to discuss Ms. Mitchell’s case and

her lack of repentance. The Judicial Commission met in constituted court and the minutes are as follows:

**Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery Judicial Commission Minutes
March 2, 2016**

The Judicial Commission of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery met via phone conference call for the purpose of handling Linda Mae Mitchell's discipline case since Northminster Session has been dissolved. Shawn Anderson (Moderator) and Jason Camery (Clerk) were present.

Jason Camery prayed and constituted the court at 9:20pm.

After brief discussion and identifying the steps that this Commission has taken since December 2015, we have come to the following action and pronouncement:

Whereas Linda Mitchell has already been suspended from privileges of church membership;

Whereas Linda Mitchell has not repented of her former sin of stealing in any obvious way but remains obstinately unrepentant;

Whereas this Judicial Commission has attempted to contact Linda Mitchell by both phone and email without response;

The Commission of Presbytery finds Linda Mae Mitchell guilty in her persistent unrepentance concerning the sin of theft in violation of both the eighth commandment, "Thou shalt not steal," and the fifth commandment, "Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land with the Lord thy God hath given thee."

The Commission determined as consequence of Ms. Mitchell's unrepentance and unfaithfulness to Christ and His Church to proceed with excommunication. Excommunication was pronounced by the moderator in the name of Jesus Christ. Mr. Anderson then prayed for God to grant grace to Linda Mitchel that she would repent, be reconciled with the Smiths and the church, and be restored to membership.

The moderator will seek to track down a physical address for Linda Mae Mitchell in order to communicate her excommunication. He will further send the same pronouncement in email form, if he cannot secure her address within 14 days.

The Commission adjourned by prayer at 9:33pm.

Shawn Anderson (Moderator) Jason Camery (Clerk)

Recommendation:

1. That these minutes be spread across the minutes of Presbytery.

Attached is the letter that we will send to Linda Mae Mitchell. This concludes our report.

Shawn Anderson (Moderator)

Jason Camery (Clerk)
Robert Shapiro

ADDRESS
ADDRESS

March 2, 2016

Dear Linda Mitchell,

My name is Shawn Anderson. I am writing to you on behalf of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery which had oversight of Northminster Reformed Presbyterian Church. Your membership was transferred to us due to the dissolving of that church and so your case of suspension from the privileges of church membership from May 7, 2014, was also handed over to us.

We have attempted to contact you on December 10, 2015, by way of phone calls (404) 524-5120; (470) 215-5529 and email: lindamitchell43@yahoo.com . However, the phone numbers were not in service and there was no response to the email.

Since May of 2014, you have not contacted the Northminster Church, nor the Smiths in order to be reconciled. After looking at the case, seeking to contact you, and going in prayer over your case, we have come to the difficult conclusion that you remain unrepentant.

Whereas you have already been suspended from privileges of church membership;

Whereas you have not repented of your former sin of stealing in any obvious way but remains obstinately unrepentant;

Whereas this Judicial Commission has attempted to contact you by both phone and email without response;

You, Linda Mae Mitchell, have been found guilty of the sin of persistent unrepentance concerning the sin of theft, a sin deserving of the extreme penalty of excommunication, yet you continue obstinate and give no evidence of repentance, although efforts have been made to restore you.

Now, therefore, this Court, constituted in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and acting under His authority, hereby excommunicates you, removing you from the membership of the Church, outside of which there is no ordinary possibility of salvation. May God have mercy upon you by awakening you to repentance and bringing you to righteousness, so that you may be among the redeemed in the Day of the Lord Jesus.

We have prayed and continue to pray for your repentance, reconciliation, and restoration. If, indeed, you are repentant, then contact myself, or Frank and Penny Smith in order to remedy this conflict and turn from your former sins.

Please understand that this discipline is a means of grace for those who receive it by faith, knowing that God is a loving Father, chastening those whom He loves in order to confront us of our sins.

God is bringing correction to you this day that you would respond by confessing your sins and seeking to walk with a renewed commitment in His truth for your life. Jesus said, "If you love me, keep my commandments." Linda, we know that you have professed such love for Christ, we plead with you, then, to walk in His commandments, to love Christ, to love those whom you have wronged.

May God grant you mercy and repentance unto the saving of your soul,
Shawn Anderson, on behalf of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Mr. Anderson presented the Northminster Judicial Commission's report.

Its sole recommendation was approved.

It was moved, seconded, and passed that the commission be continued in order to finish its work.

It was moved, second, and passed that the report of the Judicial Commission be recommitted to the Commission to be reported back to this meeting.

Congregational Reports (continued)

The congregational report for First RPC of Grand Rapids is as follows.

Annual Congregational Report for First RPC of Grand Rapids Spring Presbytery 2016

And though the Lord give you the bread of adversity and the
water of affliction,
Yet shall not thy teachers be removed into a corner any more,
But thine eyes shall see thy teachers. (Isaiah 30:20)

We are grateful to the Lord for the many exciting developments that have taken place over the past year. Most notably, our pastor-elect, Mr. Craig Scott, was examined by the presbytery in September and approved for ordination. We are pleased to report that Mr. Scott was granted a religious worker's visa and arrived here in Grand Rapids on February 9. With his wedding date set for March 18 and his ordination also on the horizon, these next couple months should be an exciting time for our pastor-elect!

Since October, we have been blessed to receive regular pulpit supply from various students at Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary. Our session has also continued to meet on a monthly basis via conference call for the purpose of discussing and addressing various ecclesiastical and pastoral matters.

Our Wednesday evening Bible study continues to meet each week at a local retirement home where one of our elderly members resides. Attendance numbers at this meeting remain encouraging and we especially enjoyed it when our pastor-elect was able to lead it during the late summer and early fall.

Other ministries of our congregation include our jail ministry and a new evangelistic ministry that we kicked off at the Art Prize festival in September. With some help from our brethren in Southfield, we were able to distribute roughly 1300 pieces of evangelistic literature,

including Bibles, Scripture leaflets, gospel tracts, and Chapel Library booklets. We also had many meaningful evangelistic conversations with people on the street, as Mr. Scott and two other men preached to the crowds in the open air. We look forward to further efforts like this to reach the countless unsaved men and women in Grand Rapids with the gospel.

Overall, we view 2016 as a critical year of transition for us. Hence, we bring to your attention the following three prayer items.

1. Please pray for our new pastor and his bride-to-be Rebekah as they acclimate themselves to a new home and a new calling, while seeking to establish a new family.
2. Please also pray for our congregation, that we would cultivate a good relationship with Mr. Scott, carefully heeding his ministry, faithfully supporting and encouraging him in the Lord, and co-laboring with him to build Christ’s kingdom.
3. And finally, please pray for our session, that the Lord would give us wisdom and unity as we seek to move forward together in the strength of the Lord.

In light of Mr. Scott’s arrival, we would like to make the following recommendation regarding his ordination and installation. At the advice of the AIC chairman, we had labored diligently to work out most of the details for the commission to approve, but were unable to submit the proposal in time for their last stated meeting before presbytery. Hence, we would plead with the presbytery, if possible, to approve the substance of this recommendation ‘as is’.

Recommendation: *That Presbytery ordain and install Mr. Craig Scott as teaching elder at First RPC of Grand Rapids on Friday May 6 at 7:00 p.m. in Grand Rapids via a five man commission (plus one alternate), consisting of the following men: Adam Kuehner (Mod.), Shawn Anderson (Clerk), Stan McKenzie (Alt. Mod.), Gordon Keddie, Daniel Hemken, and Jon Hughes (Alternate).*

Respectfully Submitted,
 Adam Kuehner (Mod.)
 Dick Bonner (Clerk)
 Doug Nadeau

First Reformed Presbyterian Church (Grand Rapids)
 Financial Report - December 31,
 2015 2015 Budget to Actual

	2015 Budget	2015 Actual	Pro-rated Budget 31-Dec-15	Budget vs Actual
INCOME				
101 Contributions	\$ 64,500.00	\$ 35,993.63	\$ 64,500.00	\$ (28,506.37)
102 Interest/Dividends	240.00	327.48	240.00	87.48
105 Designated Gifts	-	924.00	-	924.00
107 Other	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 64,740.00	\$ 37,245.11	\$ 64,740.00	\$ (27,494.89)
EXPENSES				
CONGREGATION				
201 Christian Education	400.00	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
202 Fellowship Activities	400.00	27.78	400.00	372.22

204	Pulpit Supply	1,250.00	11,533.20	1,250.00	(10,283.20)
205	Administration/Office Expenses	750.00	1,364.21	750.00	(614.21)
206	Ministry Expenses	300.00	2,726.95	300.00	(2,426.95)
207	Workman's Comp Insurance	-	-	-	-
208	Interim preaching (KB)	-	-	-	-
210	Prior Year Reimb. Payment	-	-	-	-
	Congregation Sub-total	\$ 3,100.00	\$ 15,652.14	\$ 3,100.00	\$ (12,552.14)
	PASTORAL SUPPORT				
301	Salary	16,920.00	\$ -	\$ 16,920.00	\$ 16,920.00
307	Reimbursement	16,920.00	-	16,920.00	16,920.00
302	Housing Allowance	8,500.00	-	8,500.00	8,500.00
303	Ministry Expenses	1,750.00	-	1,750.00	1,750.00
304	Pension (RPCNA Plan)	4,200.00	-	4,200.00	4,200.00
305	Medical Insurance	8,000.00	-	8,000.00	8,000.00
306	Retirement Contribution	4,000.00	-	4,000.00	4,000.00
	Pastoral Support Sub-total	\$ 60,290.00	\$ -	\$ 60,290.00	\$ 60,290.00
	MISSIONS				
401	Media	240.00	-	240.00	240.00
403	Overseas Missions	-	-	-	-
404	Other Missions/Conferences	-	-	-	-
405	Mercy Ministry	-	-	-	-
	Missions Sub-total	\$ 240.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	DENOMINATION				
501	Presbytery Assessments	988.00	606.89	988.00	381.11
502	Synod Assessments	1,720.00	899.00	1,720.00	821.00
503	Synod & Presby Expenses	250.00	-	250.00	250.00
505	Home Missions	-	-	-	-
506	Foreign Missions	-	874.00	-	(874.00)
510	RP Missions/Ministry	1,200.00	-	1,200.00	1,200.00
	Denomination Sub-total	\$ 4,158.00	\$ 2,379.89	\$ 4,158.00	\$ 1,778.11
	PROPERTY				
601	Building Rent	9,360.00	9,360.00	9,360.00	-
602	Utilities	-	-	-	-
603	Maintenance & Supplies	280.00	-	280.00	280.00
604	Liability Insurance	440.00	515.00	440.00	(75.00)
605	Property Improvements	-	-	-	-
606	Office Equipment	-	-	-	-
607	Other Equipment	-	-	-	-
	Property Sub-total	\$ 10,080.00	\$ 9,875.00	\$ 10,080.00	\$ 205.00
800	Designated Gifts	-	21.57	-	(21.57)
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 77,868.00	\$ 27,928.60	\$ 77,868.00	\$ 49,939.40
	YTD NET	\$ (13,128.00)	\$ 9,316.51	\$ (13,128.00)	\$ 22,444.51

Mr. Kuehner presented the congregational report for First RPC of Grand Rapids.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to allow the congregation's Pastor-Elect, Mr. Craig Scott, address the court for five minutes to provide an update on his recent transition.

Mr. Scott addressed the court as requested.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to lay the report on the table in order to further discuss how to dispose of the recommendation regarding Mr. Scott's ordination.

Intercessory Prayer

Mr. Faris led the court in prayer for First RPC of Grand Rapids, recessing the court for lunch at 12:40 p.m.

FOURTH SESSION – Friday March 4, 2016 (2:00 – 5:30 p.m.)

Call to Order

The moderator reconvened the court for its fourth business session at 2:00 p.m.
The presbytery sang Psalm 42A and the moderator prayed for God’s blessing.

Congregational Reports (continued)

Mr. Kuehner continued the congregational report for First RPC of Grand Rapids.
It was moved, seconded, and passed that presbytery meet in Grand Rapids for the ordination and installation of Mr. Craig Scott.
Mr. Kuehner then answered questions from the floor.
It was moved, seconded, and passed to receive the report.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report (continued)

Mr. Olivetti invited Mr. Gopalakrishnan forward for his ordination sermon.
Mr. Gopalakrishnan read Psalm 110, prayed for God’s blessing, and preached from the text on the victorious reign of our Lord Jesus Christ.
The presbytery sang Psalm 110A and proceeded to offer feedback regarding the sermon.
The assistant clerk called the roll and the exam was unanimously sustained.

Mr. Olivetti introduced Mr. Gopalakrishnan’s ordination exam in Systematic Theology and his additional ordination exam in Personal Godliness, both of which were to be distinctly conducted by the court directly from the floor.

Mr. Gopalakrishnan answered questions from the floor regarding Systematic Theology for about ten minutes.
The assistant clerk called the roll and the exam was unanimously sustained.

Mr. Gopalakrishnan answered questions from the floor regarding Personal Godliness for about ten minutes.
The assistant clerk called the roll and the exam was unanimously sustained.

Intercessory Prayer

Mr. Olivetti led the court in prayer for Mr. Gopalakrishnan and recessed the court for its scheduled break at 3:31 p.m.

SCHEDULED BREAK

Led by the moderator, the court resumed its fourth business session at 3:50 p.m.
The presbytery sang 130A, stanzas 3-4, and the moderator led the court in prayer.

Northminster Judicial Commission Report (continued)

Mr. Anderson reported back to the court on behalf of the Northminster Judicial Commission, per the previous motion.
Amendments to the report were distributed and read.
It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the report as amended.

Study Committee Report on Paper 2015-01

The Study Committee Report on Paper 2015-01 is as follows.

February 18, 2016

Study Committee Report On Paper 2015-01

This committee is grateful to the author of Paper 2015-01 for his diligent efforts.¹ We share his keen interest in ensuring that our printed version of the Westminster Standards is as historically accurate as possible.

The very notion of correcting errors in *our* edition of the standards presupposes that we have identified *another* edition (or editions) of superior reliability. According to the paper, those superior editions would appear to be (1) Dr. John Bower's critical edition of the Westminster Standards,² and (2) Philip Schaff's nineteenth century work, *The Creeds of Christendom*.³

We are not persuaded that the two sources in question provide sufficient warrant for making all the adjustments recommended in the paper. While we have great respect for Dr. Bower's labors, they represent one scholar's very recent findings rather than a scholarly consensus that has been subjected to thorough peer review. In addition, his critical editions of the Confession and Shorter Catechism have yet to be released by Reformation Heritage Books. This means that Dr. Bower's published work remains, at least for now, incomplete.

We are also appreciative of Philip Schaff's helpful work, *The Creeds of Christendom*. Still, we are not persuaded that it represents the gold standard of confessional accuracy. To illustrate its limitations, consider the following excerpt from Paper 2015-01.

Ch. 21:5 has "...and thanksgivings, upon special occasions..." Schaff has "several" instead of "special" and a footnote in his text notes that "special" is used in the "American Edition." Generally, the WCF used by the RPCNA reproduces the original 1647 version, not the American Edition which has many substantially different readings.

¹ In the future, it may be advisable for papers of this kind to include the following: (1) A comprehensive bibliography; (2) A description of the author's academic background, including any published materials relating to the paper's thesis; (3) A list of other scholars who have reviewed the paper and are willing to endorse its thesis.

² John R. Bower, *The Larger Catechism: A Critical Text and Introduction*. (Grand Rapids: Reformation Heritage, 2010)

³ Philip Schaff, *The Creeds of Christendom, with a History and Critical Notes*. (Grand Rapids: Baker, 2007) 3 vols.

From a text critical perspective, the Latin translation, made in 1656, close in time to the original, has *varietate*, meaning "variety or diversity," which is consistent with the older use of "special" to mean "various" or "different." From the standpoint of semantics, the change in meaning is small, but significant. "Special" connotes something infrequent or unusual. "Several" connotes much more freedom of occasion, including regular events not part in of stated formal worship. In the matter of giving thanks to God, it would seem that a greater liberality of occasion would be more appropriate. The author therefore respectfully suggests making the change to "several."

What the paper fails to mention is that Schaff's "several" reading is inconsistent with virtually every other version of the Confession available today on both sides of the Atlantic. There is no conclusive evidence that the term "special" is an American revision. Reformed denominations which embrace the "special" reading include, among others, the RP Church of Scotland⁴, the RP Church of Ireland⁵, the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing)⁶, and the Free Presbyterian Church of Scotland⁷, whose green hardback edition is probably the most common in Reformed circles today. The term "special" also appears in James T. Dennison's widely respected work, *Reformed Confessions of the 16th and 17th Centuries in English Translation*.⁸

Incidentally, the passage in question is immediately followed by the phrase "in their several times and seasons". Schaff's minority reading, therefore, creates an awkward repetition of the term "several" within the immediate context. Hopefully this example illustrates why we believe that Schaff's work, while useful in its own right, does not provide an adequate basis for the proposed revisions.

Probably the most reliable standard for evaluating our printed version of the Westminster Standards is Dennison's edition (mentioned above), along with those adopted by the RP Churches of Scotland and Ireland. While these are not "critical editions", they do reflect a

⁴ Available online: <http://www.rpcscotland.org/our-confession-of-faith>

⁵ Available online: <http://rpc.org/page/wcf>

⁶ Available online: <http://www.freechurchcontinuing.org/about/doctrine/westminster-confession-of-faith>

⁷ *The Westminster Confession of Faith* (Glasgow: Free Presbyterian Press, reprinted 2003)

⁸ James T. Dennison, *Reformed Confessions of the 16th and 17th Centuries in English Translation: Volume 4* (Grand Rapids: Reformation Heritage, 2010)

general consensus among contemporary Reformed churches, such that we can use them to identify obvious typographical errors.

If indeed our printed edition includes certain obvious typographical errors that can be confirmed by appealing to these mainstream sources, then there is good reason to encourage our E&P Board to consider making the corrections. Based upon the diligent and thorough analysis provided in this paper, we were able to identify thirteen such errors. In each case, the RPCNA's printed edition disagrees not only with Dennison, but also with our RP brethren across the Atlantic.⁹ The errors in question are as follows:

1. SC 20 reads "the tree of knowledge of good and evil", whereas it should read "the tree of the knowledge of good and evil".
2. SC 88 incorrectly includes the words "and ordinary" in the question, probably due to the fact that these words appear in the opening line of the answer.
3. SC 106 has a proof text reference to Matthew 6:12 which should read Matthew 6:13, as is crystal clear from examining the Scripture itself.
4. LC 28 reads "upon the creatures for our sake", whereas the correct reading is "upon the creatures for our sakes."
5. LC 113 refers to Psalm 1:16-17, which does not exist. It should read Psalm 50:16-17. Probably the roman numeral "I" (fifty) was mistakenly replaced with the arabic number "1" (one).
6. LC 115 begins with the words "What is" rather than the correct reading of "Which is".
7. LC 139 reads "plays; all other provocations to" whereas it should read "plays; and all other provocations to".
8. LC 142 refers to Psalm 1:18, which does not exist. As with #4 above, the intended reference is Psalm 50:18.
9. LC 165 includes the following list of references: "Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 11:20, 23; Matthew 5:26; Galatians 3:26-27; 1 Corinthians 15:29; Romans 6:5; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Romans 6:4". Notice also that LC 164 lists the following: "1 Corinthians 11:20, 23; Matthew 26:26-28". It would seem likely that the 2 in LC 165 is listed as a 1 in LC 164. In any event, neither 1 Corinthians 11:20, 23 nor 2 Corinthians 11:20, 23 speak of baptism,

⁹ We might add that the following errors also put us at odds with the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing) and the Free Presbyterian Church of Scotland, both of which employ the original text rather than the American revision.

which is the subject of LC 165. Probably, 1 Corinthians 11:20, 23 was mistakenly copied over from LC 164 to LC 165. In addition, the reference to Matthew 5:26 is completely irrelevant to the sacraments and should probably be replaced with Ephesians 5:26. It would seem appropriate, therefore, to remove 2 Corinthians 11:20, 23 and to replace Matthew 5:26 with Ephesians 5:26, in order to avoid creating confusion for the reader.

10. LC 167 includes the rather awkward phrase "walking contrary to, the grace of the Baptism", whereas the correct reading is "walking contrary to, the grace of Baptism".

11. LC 175 refers to Psalm 1:14, which does not exist. As noted in previous corrections, the intended reference is Psalm 50:14.

12. LC 190 includes the phrase "by his grace enable and include us and others to know", whereas the correct reading is "by his grace enable and incline us and others to know".

13. LC 194 includes the phrase "make the least satisfaction of that debt", whereas the correct reading is "make the least satisfaction for that debt".

While the author of Paper 2015-01 proposed many other corrections aimed at making the proof texts more user-friendly, we do not believe that these corrections are absolutely necessary at this time. Taking on such an extensive revision of the proof texts could, in our view, amount to biting off more seventeenth century Puritan scholarship than our church courts will be able to chew. We do, however, commend the author for identifying the thirteen errors listed above.

In our estimation, these thirteen errors should be corrected immediately. Since they relate chiefly to printing and typography, it is entirely possible that they could be corrected by the E&P Board without needing Synod's approval. At the same time, we recognize that some may view these corrections as requiring the vote of Synod. For this reason, we think the lists of proposed corrections should be forwarded directly to the E&P Board, which could then discuss and decide whether to (a) make the corrections itself, (b) ask for input from Synod, (c) ignore our request, or (d) pursue some other course. Our recommendations are as follows:

Recommendation #1: That Presbytery return Paper 2015-01 to its author along with a note of gratitude for his many diligent labors to promote the accuracy of our doctrinal standards.

Recommendation #2: That Presbytery forward the list of thirteen typographical errors to the E&P Board in time for its next meeting, encouraging it to take whatever steps it deems necessary in order to correct our printed version of the Westminster Standards.

Recommendation #3: That Presbytery dissolve this committee.

Respectfully Submitted,
Adam Kuehner (Ch.)
Donald Cassell
Stan McKenzie

Mr. Kuehner presented the report of the Study Committee on Paper 2015-01.
Recommendations 1-3 were approved.
It was moved, seconded, and passed to receive the report.

Atlanta Commission Report

The Atlanta Commission Report is as follows.

The Atlanta Commission Report Great Lakes-Gulf Spring Presbytery March 3-5, 2016

Fathers and Brothers,

Thank you for the privilege, as your commission, to serve you in overseeing the work of Atlanta Presbyterian Fellowship (APF hereafter) since August, 2014. Our report includes: 1) the motion from the floor that was passed at spring Presbytery 2015; 2) the status of your 2015 goals for this work; 3) a present assessment of the APF; and 4) financials.

1 Presbytery's Motion – spring 2015

At our spring 2015 meeting of Presbytery a motion from the floor was passed asking the commission to investigate the possibility to hand the preaching station over to a local church. The commission met with Frank to determine what congregations showed interest and support in the APF. While there are individuals representing the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), the Free Church of Scotland-Continuing (FCSC), and other regional churches, the only congregation that has corporately supported the work is Covenant Presbyterian Church (Buford, Ga. – roughly 36 miles away). CPC recently transferred from the Reformed Presbyterian Church in the United States (RPCUS) to the Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC). Not only have individuals of this church given financially to APF, but they have given Frank and Penny a venue to present the downtown work¹ and have visited the fellowship downtown. Shawn Anderson and Jason Camery personally visited this congregation for Lord's Day worship and talked with a deacon, John Greer, who was eager to have Dr. Smith come and express the needs of APF at a men's ministry meeting, which took place on February 19.

After investigating 1) what churches were presently serving the APF, 2) what were the intentions and concerns behind the motion made at Presbytery, and 3) those congregations who are actually interested in planting a church in the Bluff neighborhood, your commission decided to form a board of advisors made up of men that are "local" to the work and are involved in some capacity on a regular basis at APF. This board, which has established a monthly meeting schedule, includes the following: Warren Jackson (elder, PCA), Chris Myers (licentiate, RPCNA), John Greer (deacon, OPC) and Paul Struwe (PCA).

2 Goals of APF

As you may recall, Presbytery approved the following goals for the APF:

¹ <http://atlanta-rpc.org/us/presentation/>.

1. Concentrating on the gathering of core adult members who live locally, attend three or more services a month, and are committed to joining the work.
2. Evidence of Church Life, including 1 to 1 discipleship, evangelism and fellowship among the core group and their friends.
3. Some leadership living locally in the area.
4. Measurable growth in local financial contributions as a manifestation of financial accountability and stewardship.

Dr. Smith provides a monthly report on his ministry detailing the weekly attendance, pastoral care, church related activities, and progress in Presbytery's goals. While this does not draw a complete picture, Dr. Smith states the following concerning these goals in his January report

1. Felson Harden, Calvin Willingham, Miyoshi Robinson, Adrienne Steward, and Rose Hillman continue to be involved. As we look toward the future, we are seeing several of the teenagers to manifest maturity and growth.
2. Anyone who attends a Lord's Day gathering of APF is able to witness the palpable sense of community amongst the group. That *koinonia* shows itself in meaningful conversations, both among the adults and with the young people. I am continuing to meet with young people for a communicants' class (though the group is now only young men, since the girls that had been attending were far too immature and were distracting). I have been meeting with several men, both older and younger, in a leadership discipleship class.
3. I don't know what Paul Struwe's long-term plans are at this point. However, no matter where he lives, I see him as having great leadership potential.
4. This month, we received \$29 in the tithe box; given that we did not provide any diaconal assistance, we are ahead financially. Meanwhile, the blue pig is filling up again with RP M&M money.

3 General Assessment

To gain a sense of APF church life please refer to our detailed 2015 report. Those who regularly attend APF are really made up of two distinguishable sub-groups; and though APF prefers to not dwell on such distinctions, this information is necessary in order to draw out both weaknesses and strengths to the APF. GROUP A is made up of those adults and households that live in the Bluff or just outside of that neighborhood. This group attends 3+ services a month and are willing to join if the APF organizes. GROUP B also attends 3+ services a month and willing to join, but the adults and households in this group live at a distance to the work, spending 30+ min to get to the Bluff. Presently,

GROUP A consists of the following: Deon Mayfield*; Felson Harden*; Rose Hillman*; Miyoshi Robinson*, Jenario Robinson*, Miyani Robinson; Adrienne Steward*.

GROUP B consists of the following: Frank* & Penny* Smith (45 min); Paul Struwe* (45 min); Amy Work* (30 min).

An asterisk signifies those who reasonably might become communicant members when APF becomes a mission church.

Others who attend and are very supportive of the work include Michelle Haag, Warren Jackson, Simon Torokwa, and Jerusha Wheeler.

As we reported last year, there are a number of young people, under 18, who come on a frequent basis, but are not currently in a communicants' class.

We could have included Christopher and Misty Myers and their children in GROUP B; however, we have not done so, since they will in May be relocating to Virginia due to a promotion in Chris' military service. We should note that they have been invaluable to the life and ministry of APF, and will be greatly missed.

Including the six Myers, there are 25 people who regularly attend. Our average attendance so far in 2016 is 32—a very favorable ratio.

In assessing the present work, there are important challenges to the APF that need to be highlighted:

1. There is no one in GROUP A that is ready for communicant membership today.
2. GROUP A does not have anyone potentially able to serve in a church office anytime soon.
3. The APF receives limited oversight and accountability. This is a church extension without the local church presence. In some ways the APF is more akin to “foreign” missions than home missions.
4. GROUP A is limited in financial resources to contribute to the APF. GROUPS A and B together do not produce 50% of the annual budgeted income.
5. Dr. and Penny Smith are not tied into a local church community. Therefore, they are lacking local shepherding, along with real opportunities for accountability in ministry and insight from a local session and diaconate.
6. Muslim missionary efforts have begun to move into the Bluff, fixing up houses, renovating the neighborhoods, and preaching a false gospel of peace, with some of the local churches supporting them!

The APF is not responsible for all of these challenges. In fact, many of them are a result of sin and misery that the world experiences due to our own rebellion against God. These challenges represent the very need for the Gospel to be proclaimed in the Bluff and for Christ's Church to be gathered there.

In assessing the reasons to remain open and active in ministry to the Bluff, we underline the following:

1. GROUP B is physically and mentally committed to this ministry. Anyone who has visited the APF knows the time and energy involved in running the evening program.
2. There continues to be regular attendance to the proclamation of the Word of God along with consistent and solid Bible teaching to the community. Our 2015 average attendance was 37.
3. The APF has good reputation in the community. The neighborhood seems to appreciate the time and energy the Smiths and others have spent in the Bluff. Dr. Smith has the ability to go into dangerous areas with a relative ease and communicate the Gospel to people who need to be set free by Christ from sin and misery. Frank also meets with the local ministerial association serving as a bridge to community interest.
4. The APF is financially supported through outside giving. Not only do individuals give, but note the substantial contributions poured into this work from multiple churches: Bloomington RPC \$500; Christ Church RPC \$1000; Southfield RPC \$680; Sterling RPC \$1374; SW Ohio RPC \$630; Eastvale RPC \$57; Second RPC \$1000; Affirmation PCA (Somers, N.Y.) \$1200; Trinity PCA, (Waukesha, Wisc.) \$2000; Coeburn PCA (Coeburn, Va.) \$300; Big Ridge Presbyterian (Haysi, Va.) \$200; Covenant OPC (Buford, Ga.) \$4000.
5. In 2015, we started a communicants' class, which presently has five youth in attendance, ages 13-18. Dr. Smith also began a men's leadership training class in which they study the Westminster Confession. This class includes Paul Struwe, Felson Harden, and two of the young men who are in the communicants' class. An adult Sabbath School class was begun on February 21, with Professor Patrick Coppock teaching it for at least the first three weeks.

4 Financials

Below is a Financial Report of 2015 Income & Expenses and 2016 Budget. In Summary: 2015

Income Totals: **\$50,282.48**

2015 Expense Totals: **\$42,463.76**

2015 Increase: 7,818.72

12/31/15 account balance: **\$15,901.07**

We have appointed Paul Struwe as treasurer for 2016 and Penny Smith as the financial secretary, and with Warren Jackson being given signing privileges.

5 Concluding Evaluation

The question, "*Can this fellowship transition into a local church in the Bluff?*" is continually before this commission. We have talked about the criteria that need to be met prior to establishing a mission church status. While we are recommending the continuation of the ministry of the APF, we believe that much needs to happen before this work could become a mission church. To be clear, if we do not have committed and active people dwelling at "ground zero" then our ministry likely will continue to proceed

more slowly than we might desire. We have been praying for *someone* to meet the Presbytery's goal, "3. Some leadership living locally in the area." This has been explicitly shared with all of those travel into the Bluff weekly to serve through APF.

Further, we appreciate the spirit of Presbytery's motion last year, to look for another local church to hand this work over. As a commission we feel firsthand the obvious challenges and limitations experienced by our distance and time availability. Therefore, we have concluded that all could be served by a regional non-authoritative proxy, or a board of *local* advisors. By bringing together local elders, deacons, and others involved in ministry, we hope to see Frank supported and challenged on a more consistent basis and face-to-face. We expect that these advisors, who are already committed and involved in APF, can strategize and plan from an onsite perspective before seeking the counsel and approval of the commission. They will also be able to see potential local leadership and work to cultivate their gifts alongside Dr. Smith. This board will not carry out any decisions or plans without the commission's approval.

For 2016, the commission has set goals for the APF to work on. They include:

1. Move into the Bluff – We would like attention and pray to be given to someone (ie. a minister, elder, deacon, energetic discipler) willing to move into the Bluff in order to relationally connect with the community.
2. Conduct morning worship services – We want to gain a sense of who really makes up the core group at APF. One of the obvious ways to discern this is by seeing who attends regularly with APF as their primary church.

The details of these goals will be worked out with the commission in the coming months, but the general focus this year will be on at least these two goals, along with the consideration of what the board of advisors put forward.

Overall, our evaluation has not changed from last year's report, in which we say, "... we see some of the same challenges for the church in the book of Acts, when the Spirit was using the Jewish Church to draw Gentiles into the Fellowship: issues surrounding ethnicity and racism, a different social and financial status challenges, offensive cultural practices, broken marriage and family dynamics, and a host of other trials. The church at Philippi was planted with a businesswoman, a young woman recently set free from demonic oppression, and the household of a prison guard. It appears that the Bluff is ripe for a Gospel harvest."

There is much Gospel work to be done here and much to hope in Christ for. The members of this Commission are able and willing to continue serving the Lord Jesus Christ, this Presbytery, and the Atlanta Presbyterian Fellowship for another year.

6 Recommendations:

Recommendation #1 That Presbytery give Dr. Smith up to 7 minutes to address the court and answer any questions.

Recommendation #2 That Presbytery reappoint the Atlanta Commission until 2017 spring meeting of Presbytery.

Recommendation #3 That Presbytery provide \$1,500 for the Commission to accomplish its work.

Thank you for the blessed opportunity to serve Christ and His Bride, Shawn Anderson (Moderator)
 Jason Camery
 John Hanson
 Jon Hughes (Clerk)
 Phil Pockras

ATLANTA PRESBYTERIAN FELLOWSHIP 2015 BUDGET REPORT AND 2016 APPROVED BUDGET

2015 INCOME	2015 BUDGET	2015 ACTUAL
101 Interest	0.00	0.00
102 Local Tithes & Offerings	7,500.00	16,733.00
103 Gifts & Donations	27,000.00	33,428.90
104 RPM&M	0.00	120.58
TOTAL INCOME	34,500.00	50,282.48

2015 EXPENSE	2015 BUDGET	2015 ACTUAL
200 Administration		
201 Administration	100.00	17.10
202 Pulpit Supply	200.00	100.00
203 Miscellaneous	0.00	209.47
Subtotal	300.00	326.57
300 Congregation		
301 Designated Mercy	1,000.00	579.90
302 Outreach & Missions	1,000.00	307.07
303 Rent	2,400.00	5,000.00
304 Insurance	680.00	830.48
305 Website	70.00	0.00
306 Christian Education	0.00	376.64
307 Utilities	0.00	338.05
308 Building Expenses	0.00	1,340.24
Subtotal	5,150.00	8,772.38
400 Denomination		
401 RPM&M	0.00	120.58
Subtotal	0.00	120.58
500 Smith (appointed pulpit supply)		
501 Compensation	24,000.00	22,950.00
502 Travel & Mileage	4,000.00	7,744.23
503 Pension	0.00	1,050.00
Subtotal	28,000.00	31,744.23
600 Ministry Workers		

601 Amy Work – Children’s Coordinator	960.00	1,060.00
602 Worker Reimbursements	90.00	440.00
Subtotal	862.65	1,500.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	34,437.10	42,463.76
2015 BALANCE	7,818.72	

Atlanta Presbyterian Fellowship 2016 Budget

Facility & Operating

Rent	\$6,000.00	
Utilities	1,000.00	
Liability Insurance	800.00	
Van: Insurance	1,300.00	
Van: Fuel	2,500.00	
Van: Maintenance	2,000.00	
Mileage	1,250.00	
Building Supplies	500.00	
Synod/Presbytery/Conference	500.00	
Office Supplies (paper, ink, etc.)	250.00	
Other Supplies	250.00	
Hospitality (coffee, snacks, etc.)	2,000.00	\$18,350.00

Denominational

RP M&M	\$0.00	
Presbytery	0.00	
Synod Assessment	0.00	\$0.00

Ministerial Compensation

Housing Allowance	\$19,800.00	
Salary	0.00	
Education stipend (taxable)	0.00	
Healthcare Insurance	0.00	
Pension	4,200.00	
Disability Insurance	0.00	
Out of Pocket Medical	0.00	\$24,000.00

Staff Expenses

\$1,500.00

Pulpit Supply

\$200.00

Teaching Supplies	\$250.00	
Ministers’ Book Allowance	0.00	
RP Witness Magazine	0.00	
Family Retreat	0.00	\$250.00

Missions & Outreach

VBS/Seminar	\$900.00	
Missionary Support	0.00	
Foreign Missions	0.00	
Short Term Missions	0.00	\$900.00

Mercy

Assist: Congregation	\$1,200.00	
Assist: General	0.00	\$1,200.00

<u>Miscellaneous and Contingency</u>	700.00	\$700.00
	Budget for 2016:	\$47,100.00
	Expected Income for 2016:	\$48,000.00
	Income for 2015:	\$50,282.48
	Expenses for 2015:	\$42,463.76

Minutes of the Great Lakes – Gulf Presbytery Atlanta Commission

September 5, 2014

The Atlanta Commission appointed by the Great Lakes – Gulf Presbytery *Ad Interim* Commission met on Friday, September 5, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. at 2 G/g's BBQ Restaurant in Bellefontaine, OH.

1. Elders present were Moderator John Hanson (RE, Southside), Phil Pockras (TE, Belle Center), Shawn Anderson (TE, Kokomo) and Jon Hughes (RE, Southfield). Jason Camery (TE, Kokomo) was not able to attend.
2. The Moderator led a time of devotion from 2 Timothy 2:14-26 on the danger in taking verses of Scripture out of context and the erroneous doctrines that result.
3. Phil Pockras constituted the court of the Commission in prayer at 12:00 p.m.
4. It was moved, seconded and passed to appoint Jon Hughes as Clerk.
5. Shawn Anderson volunteered to act as Treasurer and that was approved by common consent.
6. Shawn Anderson presented an update on the current circumstances on the south side of Atlanta (the Atlanta Presbyterian Fellowship) where Dr. Frank Smith has been ministering and church planting (including those attending, the meeting place and the community). That was followed by a time of discussion of the task assigned to the Commission.
7. The Commission recessed and after a brief visit to the new building of the Belle Center RP Church reconvened at the home of Pastor Phil Pockras in Belle Center, OH.
8. Plans were formulated to:
 - a. Help Dr. Smith and the Presbytery work together.
 - b. Visit the work in Atlanta.
 - c. Evaluate the development of the group meeting there.
 - d. Encourage Dr. Smith and his wife Penny in the work.
 - e. Help Dr. Smith and the others to more fully develop fellowship, mercy ministry and potential future leadership.
9. Shawn Anderson agreed to put together a questionnaire for Dr. Smith to answer that would help Dr. Smith evaluate his own ministry there, address goals for the work, assets and needs in the present state of the work and how those assets might be used to meet the needs.

10. Phil Pockras led in prayer for the work in Atlanta and adjourned the court at 2:50p.m.

John Hanson, Moderator

Jon Hughes, Clerk

December 12, 2014

The Atlanta Commission met on Friday, December 12, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. at a restaurant in Marion, IN.

1. Elders present were Moderator John Hanson, Phil Pockras, Shawn Anderson, Jason Camery and Jon Hughes.
2. The Moderator led a time of devotion from Philippians 1:1-2, 12 showing that the saints of God need to be in churches with elders and deacons and also that all that we do is to be subservient to the will of the One to whom we are servants.
3. Shawn Anderson led in prayer and constituted the court in at 1:45 p.m.
4. The minutes of the September 5, 2014 meeting had been distributed and read and were approved.
5. Shawn Anderson and Jason Camery gave an update on their recent trip to Atlanta (with stops in Dayton and at Northminster) describing the work Dr. Smith is doing as unique in our presbytery, the dangers involved, the good reputation he is gaining and the challenges ahead as the neighborhood where the ministry is focused is transforming as more affluent people move in.
6. At 2:05 p.m. Frank and Penny Smith joined the meeting by phone. Dr. Smith gave a further update on the most recent Lord's Day activities. He also mentioned that a PCA licentiate and Greenville seminary student, Sam Ketcham, is scheduled to preach for them on the 28th of December. Sam has recently become committed to a position of exclusive Psalmody.
7. The Commission members and the Smiths discussed and compiled a list of the core group of persons in the work in Atlanta to give a clearer picture of the levels of commitment.
8. The Smiths left the meeting.
9. Shawn Anderson reported on the levels of giving of those attending in Atlanta.
10. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve Sam Ketcham as pulpit supply on December 28.
11. There was discussion on various other topics including:
 - a. Frank Smith's answers to the questionnaire that had been sent to him to assess the work and his role in it. He plans to revise his responses further in the near future.
 - b. The need for the ministry to have a regular place to meet and that that is something that the group there should pray for and slowly work toward.
 - c. The need for the Smiths to live closer to the ministry's location.
 - d. Another trip to allow additional Commission members to go to Atlanta.
12. Phil Pockras led in prayer and then left the meeting to return home.
13. The Commission discussed recommendations regarding the work. The assessment at present is:
 - a. In terms of a core group they are not ready yet to be organized as a congregation.

They do not yet have men qualified to be officers nor are they financially strong (more money continues to be distributed than is being contributed).

- b. The Smiths need to prayerfully consider moving much closer.
- c. The group is not nearly ready to purchase a building and any such purchase, at the right time, would require the approval of the Commission or Presbytery.

14. Shawn Anderson presented a proposed budget.

15. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the following budget for the Atlanta Presbyterian Fellowship:

INCOME		EXPENSE	
101 Interest	\$0	200 Administration	
102 Local Offering	\$33,850	201 Administration	\$100
103 Gifts & Contributions	\$0	202 Pulnit Supply	\$200
		300 Congregation	
		301 Designated Mercy	\$1,400
		302 Rent	\$2,400
		303 Insurance	\$680
		304 Website	\$70
		400 Denomination & Missions	
		401 RPM&M	\$0
		402 Short Term Missions	\$1,000

		500 Smith (appointed pulnit supply)	
		501 Salary	\$24,000
		502 Mileage	\$3,000
		503 Travel	\$1,000
Total Income:	\$33,850	Total Expense:	\$33,850

16. In August 2013, the Session of Northminster Reformed Presbyterian Church adopted the following:

“It was moved, seconded, and carried that effective September 1, 2013, Pastor Frank J. Smith be appointed to minister on a regular basis at Atlanta Presbyterian Fellowship, with compensation of up to \$2,000 per month, designated as housing allowance. It is understood that this compensation is dependent upon the raising of sufficient giving to The Atlanta Fund.”

Since the Presbytery has assumed responsibility for the assets and obligations of Northminster Reformed Presbyterian Church, Dr. Frank J. Smith has continued to labor according to that agreement. It was moved, seconded, and passed that effective January 1, 2015, the Atlanta Commission appoint Pastor Smith to minister on a regular basis at Atlanta Presbyterian Fellowship (APF), with compensation of up to \$2,000 per month, designated as housing allowance. It is understood that this compensation is dependent upon the raising of sufficient giving to APF. Also, he will be allowed to take one month of vacation per year of employment in this capacity. Furthermore, this is a six-month agreement, subject to renewal.

17. It was moved, second and passed to adjourn. Jason Camery adjourned the court at 4:05 p.m.

January 23, 2015

The Atlanta Commission met on Friday, January 23, 2015 at 12:50 p.m.

1. Elders present were Moderator John Hanson, Phil Pockras, Shawn Anderson, Jason Camery and Jon Hughes.
2. Shawn Anderson constituted the court in prayer at 12:52 p.m.
3. John Hanson gave an update on the trip he and Phil Pockras took to Atlanta in early January. IN addition it was noted that a van was donated to the work. John Hanson will be drive it there. The ministry will need to decide how it will be titled and licensed.
4. There was considerable discussion of what “viability” for mission church status means:
 - a. Regular attendance (3-4 services per month) of adults from core families in the local community committed to joining the church.
 - b. Definitive evidence of increasing church life including discipleship, fellowship and evangelism.
 - c. Some leadership of the group needs to live in the local community (i.e., in the Bluff).
 - d. A substantial and measurable growth in financial contributions that exceeds present mercy needs. Presently most people who come regularly (and even contribute some) have needed more assistance than they contributed.

The reality of things is that the majority of people in the area are at the level of subsistence living. As a church it may always need external assistance or substantial contributions from members at a larger distance.

5. It was moved, second and passed to make the following recommendations to Presbytery:

Recommendation #1 That Presbytery reappoint the Atlanta Commission until 2016 spring meeting of Presbytery.

Recommendation #2 That Presbytery provide \$3,000 for the Commission to accomplish its work.

Recommendation #3 That Presbytery approve the following goals for the Atlanta Presbyterian Fellowship for 2015:

1. Gathering of core adult members who live locally, attend 3 or more services a month, and are committed to joining the work.
2. Evidence of Church Life, including 1 to 1 discipleship, evangelism, and fellowship among the core group and their friends.

3. Some leadership living locally in the Bluff.
4. Measurable growth in local financial contributions exceeding financial diaconal needs.
6. By common consent John Hanson and Shawn Anderson will write the report for the spring meeting of Presbytery.
7. Jason Camery led in prayer and adjourned the court at 2:45 p.m.

John Hanson, Moderator

Jon Hughes, Clerk

February 20, 2015

The Atlanta Commission met on Friday, February 20, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. by conference call.

1. Elders present were Phil Pockras, Shawn Anderson, Jason Camery and Jon Hughes. Also present was Elder Dr. Frank Smith of the Atlanta Presbyterian Fellowship. The Moderator, John Hanson, was absent due to medical concerns for his mother who fell and broke her thigh and is battling pneumonia.
2. The Clerk, Jon Hughes, constituted the court in prayer at 10:05 a.m.
3. It was moved, seconded and passed to appoint Shawn Anderson as Moderator *Pro Tem* in the absence of the Moderator.
4. It was moved, seconded and passed for Dr. Smith to have privileges of the floor.
5. The minutes of the two previous meetings (December 12, 2014 and January 23, 2015) were approved.
6. Shawn Anderson presented the proposed report of the Atlanta Commission for the spring meeting of Presbytery.
7. It was moved, seconded and passed to amend the 2015 budget for the Atlanta Presbyterian Fellowship as recorded in the Atlanta Commission Report.
8. There was further discussion regarding the content of the report which was amended with the revised budget and some modified recommendations.
9. It was moved, second and passed to adopt the amended Atlanta Commission report for the spring meeting of Presbytery.
10. The minutes of this meeting were read and approved.
11. Jason Camery led in prayer and adjourned the court at 10:45 a.m.

Shawn Anderson, Moderator *Pro Tem*

Jon Hughes, Clerk

April 10, 2015

The Atlanta Commission met on Friday, April 10, 2015 at 12:30 p.m. by conference call.

1. Elders present were John Hanson, Phil Pockras, Shawn Anderson, Jason Camery and Jon Hughes. Also present was Elder Dr. Frank Smith and his wife Penny of the Atlanta Presbyterian Fellowship.
2. The Moderator led devotions with a few thoughts on Psalm 23 and constituted the court in prayer at 12:36 p.m.
3. The Moderator appointed Shawn Anderson as Moderator *Pro Tem*.
4. The goals that we had presented to, and were adopted by, Presbytery were reviewed and Dr. Smith gave an update on each. Effort is being focused on cultivating core members (several people attending may fit that category soon). Communicants/Catechism classes are being conducted with the young people. No progress has been made yet regarding local leadership living in the immediate area. There has been a small increase in the local giving, but it is still below the levels that are needed.
5. It was moved, second and passed to give Dr. Smith flexibility in finding pulpit supply when needed and to and communicate those plans to the Commission.
6. There was discussion regarding (as suggested by a motion at Presbytery) the possibility of getting some other local Reformed churches (such as ARP, PCA, RPCUS) to help in the work by lending some elders or deacons to give advice from time to time. Dr. Smith expressed that diaconal help would be very valuable especially as people come seeking financial help. He also said that the local RPCUS congregation (Covenant Presbyterian) about 50 minutes away has already expressed interest in helping.
7. There was a request from Dr. Smith to designate \$4,200 per year from his total compensation to be contributed to the RPCNA pension fund for him (see the motion later).
8. Some other financial matters were discussed. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve compensation of \$20 per trip for the Children's Coordinator, Jerusha Wheeler.
9. Regarding the present facilities, Dr. Smith indicated that there were 62 in worship recently (with 42 of them children) and that the facility was tight. He discussed the plans that Rev. Howard Chou's congregation in California has to purchase a building and provide access for AFP, indicating that AFP would only have access to one quarter of that building. So instead they are considering looking for a different church building (such as the North Avenue Baptist Church) to rent for now.
10. It was moved, second and passed to change Dr. Smith's yearly compensation, at his request, to \$19,800.00 and that we then budget a yearly contribution of \$4,200.00 to the RPCNA pension fund in his name.
11. There was discussion regarding how AFP can exercise "crowd control" with the large number of young people in attendance.
12. It was moved, second and passed to adjourn. Shawn Anderson adjourned the court in prayer at 2:20 p.m.

July 17, 2015

The Atlanta Commission met on Friday, July 17, 2015 at 12:50 p.m. at the Tree of Life meeting hall in Marion, IN.

1. Present were the Moderator John Hanson, Phil Pockras, Shawn Anderson, Jon Hughes and Jason Camery and by phone: Dr. and Penny Smith, Chris Meyers and Amy Work.
2. The Moderator constituted the court in prayer.
3. It was moved, seconded and passed to appoint Shawn Anderson as Moderator.
4. Dr. Smith gave a report on recent activity:
 - a. Latest worship had 39 (of which 34 were children) – 10 (9 children) at recent youth meeting.
 - b. He explained how the new facility is working logistically.
 - c. They are working on more structured “pre-worship” activities with the children.
 - d. Short-term they will explore better use of the space in the new facility.
 - e. There had been the possibility of someone living in the “apartment” part of the building.
 - f. Update that Mark Brown is probably not moving to Atlanta.
5. Shawn Anderson gave an update on his talk with Harriet Morton, 37 (whose husband is Stacy, 44):
 - a. They are a core family in the area.
 - b. However they have been inconsistent in attending worship (desiring a more emotional experience in worship).
 - c. Harriet has problems understanding answers to her questions by Dr. Smith and the RP distinctive doctrines and practices.
 - d. Shawn explored her other concerns and ways to minister to them.
6. Shawn Anderson requested that Frank and Penny start reporting a more complete breakdown of who attends worship. They do keep records based on local/remote (i.e., suburban) and adult/children (older and younger) and gave a more complete report of attendance for the month of June.
7. Dr. Smith’s most recent assessment of how the goals set by Presbytery were being met was reviewed. There is an expectation that at least one individual will begin tithing to the work. There was discussion about how to encourage people at worship to contribute to the work.
8. Shawn presented the Treasurer’s Report:
 - a. Actuals for 2014 compared with 2015 budget and income/expenses so far this year.
 - b. The rent has increased (almost doubled).
 - c. There as discussion regarding quarterly contributions to the pension fund for Dr. Smith.
 - d. Local tithes and offerings are not currently separated from other gifts to the work.

9. A report/assessment from H.P. McCracken based on his recent visit to preach was received.
10. Correspondence from Chris Myers' was discussed. There was a suggestion that there be a local steering committee. This was based on a comparison with the work in Harrisonburg, VA. However the Commission members felt that the two works are at very different stages with Harrisonburg being more mature with more families committed to joining with the church when it is organized. Such a committee is desirable at a later stage as things continue to develop. It was moved, seconded and passed to table the implementation of a steering committee until a future time. The suggestion to Chris was that he could spearhead the organization of a group of men in the Atlanta work to take on some of the things that Dr. Smith currently does on his own and are not necessarily seen by the congregation. It was moved, seconded and pass that Christ Meyers be authorized to informally organize this activity.
11. In line with a suggestion from Presbytery to try to have other local churches support the work, Dr. Smith submitted a draft of a letter that could be sent to other NAPARC churches in the Atlanta area to try to form a "consultative committee" to assist Frank with some of the immediate ministerial concerns that it's difficult for Commission members to deal with at a distance. Dr. Smith stated that he (or other Commission members) would speak with some representatives in those other churches to see if there is any interest in assisting APF and then the letter would be a follow-up to those conversations. More work will need to be done in this area and which churches we might contact.
12. There was discussion regarding strategies for the fellowship to better manage the number of children that attend. Amy Work explained some ways she and others have been teaching and training the children and has seen progress among some of them in terms of paying attention during worship and even taking notes. Dr. Smith indicated that he sees the possibility of the parents of some of the children beginning to come as well.
13. John Hanson gave a positive update on the one young person from Atlanta that went on the recent trip to ECHO in Florida.
14. There was discussion about another trip by the Commission members to Atlanta.
15. It was moved, seconded and passed to adjourn. Jason Camery adjourned the court in prayer at 2:55 p.m.

Shawn Anderson, Moderator

Jon Hughes, Clerk

January 29, 2016

The Atlanta Commission met on Friday, January 29, 2016 at 12:30 p.m. at the Tree of Life meeting hall in Marion, IN.

1. Present were the Moderator Shawn Anderson and Jason Camery and by phone: Phil Pockras, Jon Hughes and Dr. and Penny Smith.
2. The Moderator read from Psalm 106:15 and Phil Pockras constituted the court in prayer.
3. New Business:

- a. Dr. Smith presented for approval a child-care policy (which has already been reviewed for completeness and suitability by Scott Hunt, an attorney in the Marion congregation). The policy follows this set of minutes. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the policy.
- b. Jason Camery and Shawn Anderson gave an encouraging report on their recent trip to Atlanta. They had the opportunity to meet with the various workers in the congregation and see their commitment to the work. It was noted that Dr. Smith continues to engage in training the men in the congregation. Some constructive feedback was given to Dr. Smith. Dr. Smith talked about the possibility of beginning an adult classes. He also continues to reach out to other congregations for assistance. There was further discussion of various issues and concerns within the congregation.
- c. There was discussion regarding the possibility of the Commission asking, at the June meeting of Presbytery, for Presbytery's approval to be able to organize APF as a mission church at an appropriate time. It is still the consensus of the Commission that we are not yet be at that point. One of the more significant concerns currently is that if the congregation was to have the Lord's Supper then many of the current "staff" who attend from outside the community, having consistent lives and professions, would come to the Lord's Table but many who attend from the local area would not currently be welcome since they may not have lives that conform to their profession. In addition there is still not "leadership" and a significant number of consistent adherents living in the community who are committed to giving to the work and to joining the RP Church. The question of having worship services Sunday mornings was also considered and whether people would be committed to being there week-by-week.
- d. Dr. Smith has requested that there be a local treasurer and indicated that he has spoken to Paul Struwe about his willingness to serve (Penny Smith would do the actual bookkeeping work). It was moved, seconded and passed to appoint Paul Struwe as the Treasurer of the Atlanta Presbyterian Fellowship. It was moved, seconded and passed to appoint Penny Smith as the Financial Secretary of the Atlanta Presbyterian Fellowship. It was moved, seconded and passed to appoint Paul Struwe and Warren Jackson as signatories on the Atlanta Presbyterian Fellowship bank account. Shawn Anderson will work with them to iron out the details regarding bank accounts.
- e. In keeping with the spirit of concerns previously expressed by Presbytery, it was moved, seconded and passed to appoint a local "board of advisors" (to assist Dr. Smith with some of the more immediate ministerial concerns that it's difficult for Commission members to deal with at a distance). The board will be made up of Warren Jackson, Chris Myers, John Greer and Paul Struwe.
- f. Phil Pockras and Jon Hughes will try to coordinate plans for a visit to Atlanta in the next four months or so.

- g. The report for the next meeting of Presbytery will be prepared by Shawn Anderson and will be circulated by e-mail to the Commission members for concurrence.
- 4. It was moved, seconded and passed to adjourn. Jason Camery adjourned the court in prayer at 3:10 p.m.

Shawn Anderson, Moderator

Jon Hughes, Clerk

Atlanta Presbyterian Fellowship Childcare Policy

Atlanta Presbyterian Fellowship (APF) seeks to provide a safe and secure environment for the children who participate in our programs and activities. By implementing the below practices, our goal is to protect the children of APF from incidents of misconduct or inappropriate behavior while also protecting our staff and volunteers (workers) from false accusations.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, the terms “child” or “children” include all persons under the age of eighteen (18) years. The term “worker” includes both paid and unpaid persons who work with children. The term “volunteer” means anyone involved in a day care or school, in overnight activities involving minors, in counseling of minors, or in one-on-one mentoring of minors.

Selection of Workers

All persons who desire to work with the children participating in our programs and activities will be screened. This screening includes the following:

- a) Six-Month Rule
As a general rule, no volunteer will be considered for any position involving contact with minors until he or she has been involved with APF for a minimum of six (6) months. This time of interaction between our leadership and the applicant allows for better evaluation and suitability of the applicant for working with children.
- b) Written Application
All persons seeking to work with children must complete and sign a written application in a form to be supplied by us. The application will request basic information from the applicant and will inquire into previous experience with children, previous church affiliation, reference and employment information, as well as disclosure of any previous criminal convictions. The application form will be maintained in confidence on file at APF.
- c) Personal Interview

Upon completion of the application, a face-to-face interview may be scheduled with the applicant to discuss his/her suitability for the position.

d) Reference Checks

Before an applicant is permitted to work with children, at least two of the applicants' references will be checked. These references should be of an institutional nature as opposed to personal or family references, preferably from organizations where the applicant has worked with children in the past. Documentation of the reference checks will be maintained in confidence on file at APF.

e) Criminal Background Check

A national criminal background check is required for all employees (regardless of position) and volunteers as defined above. Before a background check is run, prospective workers will be asked to sign an authorization form allowing APF to run the check. If an individual declines to sign the authorization form, he will be unable to work with children. A disqualifying offense that will keep an individual from working with children will be determined by the Atlanta Commission on a case-by-case basis in light of all the surrounding circumstances.

Generally, convictions for an offense involving children and/or for offenses involving violence, dishonesty, illegal substances, indecency and any conduct contrary to our mission will preclude someone from being permitted to work with children. Failure to disclose a criminal conviction on the application form will also be a disqualifying event. The background check authorization form and results will be maintained in confidence on file at APF.

f) Waivers

The six-month rule and the criminal background check may be waived if a congregation that is known to us attests in writing to the good character and abilities of the individual.

Two-Adult Rule

It is our goal that a minimum of two unrelated adult workers will be in attendance at all times when children are being supervised during our programs and activities. Some youth classes may have only one adult teacher in attendance during the class session; in these instances, there should be no fewer than three students with the adult teacher.

Responding to Allegations of Child Abuse

For purposes of this policy, "child abuse" is any action (or lack of action) that endangers or harms a child's physical, psychological or emotional health and development. Child abuse occurs in different ways and includes the following:

- Physical abuse – any physical injury to a child that is not accidental, such as beating, shaking, burns, and biting.
- Emotional abuse – emotional injury when the child is not nurtured or provided with love and security, such as an environment of constant criticism, belittling, and persistent teasing.

- Sexual abuse – any sexual activity between a child and an adult or between a child and another child at least four years older than the victim, including activities such as

fondling, exhibitionism, intercourse, incest, and pornography.

- Neglect – depriving a child of his or her essential needs, such as adequate food, water, shelter, and medical care.

Childcare workers may have the opportunity to become aware of abuse or neglect of the children under our care. In the event that an individual involved in the care of children at APF becomes aware of suspected abuse or neglect of a child under his or her care, this should be reported immediately to the Atlanta Commission for further action, including reporting to authorities as may be mandated by state law.

In the event that an incident of abuse or neglect is alleged to have occurred at APF or during our sponsored programs or activities, the following procedure shall be followed:

1. The parent or guardian of the child will be notified.
2. Any worker alleged to be the perpetrator of the abuse or misconduct will immediately be placed on leave from working with children, pending an investigation, and instructed to remain away from the premises during the investigation.
3. Civil authorities will be notified, and APF will comply with the state's requirements regarding mandatory reporting of abuse as the law then exists. APF will fully cooperate with the investigation of the incident by civil authorities.
4. Our insurance company will be notified, and we will complete an incident report. Any documents received relating to the incident and/or allegations will immediately be forwarded to the insurance company.
5. The Moderator of the Atlanta Commission will be our spokesperson to the media concerning incidents of abuse or neglect, unless he or she is alleged to be involved. We will seek the advice of legal counsel before responding to media inquiries or releasing information to the congregation. All other representatives of the church should refrain from speaking to the media.
6. A pastoral visit will be arranged for those who desire it.
7. Any person who is not found innocent of the alleged abuse or misconduct will be removed from his or her position working with children or youth.

Medications Policy

It is the policy of APF not to administer either prescription or non-prescription medications to the children under our care. Medications should be administered by a parent at home. Exceptions to the medications policy may be granted to parents of children with potentially life-threatening conditions (such as asthma or severe allergic reactions). Parents of such children should address their situation with the minister to develop a plan of action.

Accidental Injuries to Children

In the event that a child or youth is injured while under our care, the following steps should be followed:

1. For minor injuries, scrapes, and bruises, workers will provide First Aid (Band-Aids, etc.) as appropriate and will notify the child's parent or guardian of the injury at the time the child is picked up from our care.

2. For injuries requiring medical treatment beyond simple First Aid, the parent and/or

guardian will immediately be summoned in addition to the worker's supervisor. If warranted by circumstances, an ambulance will be called.

3. Once the child has received appropriate medical attention, an incident report will be completed in the case of injuries requiring treatment by a medical professional.

Emergencies

The minister shall designate a person who will be responsible, under the minister's direction (unless he is unable to give direction), for calling the police, the fire department, and/or medical personnel in the case of an emergency.

Discipline Policy

It is the policy of APF not to administer corporal punishment, even if parents have suggested or given permission for it. There should be no spanking of children. Workers should consult with the minister if assistance is needed with disciplinary issues.

All workers and volunteers are to sign this document, indicating their agreement to

abide by it. Signature:

Date:

Policy on Emergencies

The person designated as "Emergency Coordinator" by the minister will be responsible, under the minister's direction (unless he is unable to give direction), for calling the police, the fire department, and/or medical personnel in the case of an emergency. In case the Emergency Coordinator is not present or is unable to act, an Assistant Emergency Coordinator will take action.

The Emergency Coordinator will always have a cell telephone ready in order to call 911 if necessary. The Emergency Coordinator should be familiar with the following:

- | |
|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) the streets near the building(2) the compass directions (North, South, East, West)(3) the places where the fire extinguishers are kept(4) how to operate the fire extinguishers |
|--|

February 23, 2016

The Atlanta Commission met on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at 8:15 p.m. by conference call.

1. Present were the Moderator Shawn Anderson, Jason Camery, Phil Pockras and Jon Hughes.
2. Jason Camery led in prayer.
3. There was a period of informal discussion regarding the Atlanta work and the

report being prepared for Presbytery prior to the formal business of the meeting.

4. Phil Pockras led in prayer and constituted the court at 9:00 p.m.
5. The minutes of the April 10, 2015, July 17, 2015 and January 29, 2016 meetings (having been distributed and amended) were approved.
6. Dr. Frank Smith and his wife Penny joined the meeting by phone at 9:03 p.m.
7. Shawn Anderson presented the final budget for 2016 as prepared by the new APF board of advisors. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the budget. The budget will be included in the report to Presbytery.
8. There was further discussion of the report with Dr. Smith and discussion of the goals we desire to see reached in the next year or so. Dr. Smith spoke to these goals and also gave a brief report on some recent developments. It was agreed that the final draft of the report will be distributed to the Commission members and approved by email and then distributed to the Presbytery delegates.
9. The minutes of this meeting were read and approved.
10. It was moved, seconded and passed to adjourn. The Moderator adjourned the court in prayer at 10:25 p.m.

Shawn Anderson, Moderator

Jon Hughes, Clerk

END OF WRITTEN REPORT

Mr. Anderson presented the Atlanta Commission Report.

Recommendation 1 was passed, thereby granting the floor to Dr. Smith for up to seven minutes.

Mr. Smith addressed the court, providing details concerning the ministry in Atlanta.

Recommendation 2 was passed.

Recommendation 3 was referred to the finance committee.

It was moved and seconded that the minutes from the Northminster congregation be sent to RP Archives to be digitized and retained.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to lay this motion on the table in favor of a substitute motion:

That the minutes from the Northminster congregation be sent to RP Archives to be digitized and sent to Bloomington to be retained.

This substitute motion was then passed.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to spread the minutes of the Atlanta Commission upon the minutes of presbytery.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the Atlanta Commission Report.

Terre Haute Commission Report

The Terre Haute Commission Report is as follows.

Terre Haute Commission Report

We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing.

The overall picture of the Terre Haute congregation that we can give at this time is extraordinarily encouraging. At the beginning of 2015, Bill Roberts and the commission had been extremely discouraged about the work, given the number of core families in the work who left the area. At the end of 2014, the commission met together with Pastor Roberts to assess the prospectus for the congregation, and were led to recognize a number of potential additions to the work, and felt that we needed to wait on the Lord into 2015 to have a more stable assessment of the situation. Since that time, each and every one of the potential additions to the work we considered have come to fruition, and it is our estimate that the situation with the congregation is as encouraging as it has ever been.

Numerically, the congregation has grown from 14 members on 12/31/14 to 22 on 12/31/15, a net increase of 8. The increases were 3 by transfer from other RP congregations, 6 from other denominations, and one infant baptism. Ben and Rosalina Elliot moved from Indianapolis and the Second RP congregation, and Luke Rowe moved from Bloomington and the Bloomington RP congregation. These individuals have ties to the Terre Haute area, including family, and also moved to the area with an eye toward developing the work. This level of focus and dedication to the work is striking, and the existing ties to the area have meant that the congregation has a better grasp of the community, and has a ready network available for outreach. Two households have come into the congregation from other backgrounds, and have been attracted to the congregation particularly due to the reformed character of the work. Steven and Angie Bogaerts have had some experience with RP churches from previous places of residence, and come into the congregation with two children, Timothy and Jessica, plus an infant born to them over the past year, Lydia. Derek and Amanda Vester are new members local to Terre Haute, and specifically sought out the congregation as a way pursuing their growing reformed Biblical understanding. Another family, the Sciottos, are going through church membership while Brian and Christine Toevs, members of the North Hills RPC have recently moved to Terre Haute.

There was also a decrease of 2 during the year. Due to his persistent neglect of the church and expressed lack of interest in the things of Christ, the commission was moved to excommunicate Peter Struck this last year. This was particularly discouraging in light of his earlier professed interest in pursuing seminary training and a call into a vocation related to it. Also saddening, but quite different, was the sudden passing of Ron Smith, leaving behind his wife of many years, Donna, and their four children. While we grieve the loss of a dedicated man of God and dear friend, and certainly desire the comfort of Donna and the family, we are reminded that in Christ, his loss gives cause of rejoicing, in opposition to the loss of Peter Struck. We ask that you pray for both of these situations.

There have been two outreach Bible studies, one in Terre Haute and one in Linton. Two outreach events, a talk on the Dead Scrolls and a candlelight service in December, were special opportunities to invite people into the church building. About 60 people attended each of these events. Pastor Roberts continues to have radio messages aired on four different Christian radio stations each Lord's Day morning. Several from the congregation have engaged in neighborhood visitation on Saturday mornings.

In light of this, the average worship attendance has risen from the low of 20 in 2014 to 24 in 2015. The average attendance in the final quarter of the year stands at 30, an increase of 50% over the 2014 figure.

Finances have proven resilient during the past year, despite the difficult and uncertain time. Although TH ended the year in the red, it was not as bad as budgeted. The 2016 budget forecasts a deficit for the year, but at this point it looks more likely to end in the black. See the attached financial report for the specifics.

The commission has met 4 times since the 2014 spring presbytery meeting, including one meeting with the Terre Haute congregation as a whole to engage in general planning for the coming year. In July, the commission appointed a local steering committee to replace the former committee, which was no longer functional due to loss of members. Ron Smith, Derek Vester, Ben Elliot, and Steve Bogaerts were appointed, along with Bill Roberts, as a committee to organize the congregation with respect to local operations. Ron Smith was not replaced on the committee, so it is currently functioning with the four members.

The congregation has celebrated communion quarterly, with assistance by the members of the commission. Gordon Keddie has filled the pulpit on those times when Bill Roberts has been absent from the pulpit. Since September, Bill has been preaching through the Gospel of Luke. In addition he is now visiting two inmates on death row, serves as Chairman of the Trustees of Synod, and is Moderator of the East Asia Commission.

Recommendation 1. The Commission asks Presbytery to allow 10 minutes to hear from Pastor Bill Roberts regarding the work in Terre Haute.

Recommendation 2. The minutes of the Commission be spread on the Minutes of Presbytery.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Porter (Moderator), Eric Cosens, Kenneth de Jong (Clerk), Rich Holdeman, and Gordon Keddie

	2014 Budget	2014 Actual	2015 Budget	2015 Actual	2016 Budget
Income					
Local contributions	\$36,000	\$52,252	\$40,000	\$48,343	\$48,000
H. M. B. support	\$16,000	\$16,956	\$10,500	\$11,304	\$5,652
G. L.-G. support	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Intern support	\$1,200	\$1,100	\$0	\$0	\$0
Mercv	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Books sold	\$0	\$460	\$0	\$808	\$0
Gifts - Presbvt. etc.	\$9,600	\$4,997	\$9,600	\$7,500	\$6,000
One Great Day of Sharing	\$0	\$208	\$0	\$250	\$0
Total Income	\$64,800	\$77,973	\$62,100	\$70,405	\$61,652
Expenditures					
Pastor's compensation					
Salary	\$34,200	\$22,273	\$16,630	\$16,630	\$15,000

Housing allowance	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$18,000
Medical	\$0	\$2,687	\$3,770	\$3,770	\$0
Taxes	\$0	\$9,240	\$7,800	\$8,050	\$7,200
Pension	\$4,100	\$4,100	\$10,100	\$10,100	\$10,200
Total compensation	\$56,300	\$56,300	\$56,300	\$56,550	\$50,400
Advertising/outreach	\$1,000	\$719	\$1,000	\$525	\$750
Book table	\$0	\$341	\$0	\$827	\$0
Church supplies	\$900	\$229	\$900	\$519	\$600
Denominational assessment/giving	\$1,000	\$1,206	\$1,140	\$1,045	\$850
Denominational giving - RP M&M	\$400	\$958	\$400	\$650	\$400
Building Expenses					
Equipment/furniture	\$300	\$0	\$300	\$0	\$300
Mortgage	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$9,000
Utilities	\$2,000	\$1,355	\$2,000	\$1,664	\$1,800
Phone	\$150	\$87	\$150	\$163	\$0
Upkeep	\$750	\$951	\$750	\$2,361	\$1,250
Fellowship Activities/Gifts/Nursery	\$150	\$85	\$150	\$223	\$300
Give Away Literature	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$24	\$100
Guest preaching	\$600	\$400	\$600	\$1,000	\$800
Insurance	\$550	\$534	\$550	\$539	\$550
Interns	\$1,200	\$1,100	\$0	\$0	\$0
Mercy	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300
Office supplies	\$750	\$470	\$750	\$827	\$700
Pastor Expense Account	\$2,400	\$1,252	\$2,400	\$2,370	\$2,400
SS materials	\$400	\$52	\$400	\$244	\$400
Synod delegate expense	\$200	\$245	\$200	\$190	\$200
Miscellaneous	\$100	\$289	\$100	\$183	\$100
Total Expenditures	\$78,550	\$75,873	\$77,490	\$79,204	\$71,200
Take from savings =					
		-\$13,750	\$2,100	(\$15,390)	---\$8,799
					---\$9,54

END OF WRITTEN REPORT

Mr. Porter presented the report for the Terre Haute Commission.

Recommendation 1 was passed, thereby granting the floor to Mr. Roberts for up to ten minutes.

Mr. Roberts addressed the court, providing details concerning the ministry in Terre Haute. Recommendation 2 failed.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to reclassify and rename the Terre Haute Commission as the “Terre Haute Temporary Governing Body” (TGB).

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

Congregational Reports (continued)

The congregational report for Immanuel RPC (West Lafayette, IN) is as follows.

Immanuel Reformed Presbyterian Church

Fathers and brothers,

We are grateful to be joined to you all by covenant and spirit. The blessings of presbyterianism are precious to us to us. Thank you for your love and prayer for our church family.

Here are some highlights of our past year:

- Along with our mother church in Lafayette, we continue to mourn deeply the loss of Pastor Dave Long. Our church owes much to God for His great gift of Dave’s help and servant leadership to us over the years.
- God has seen fit to continue us in a season of growth. We’ve joyfully received members from other RPCNA congregations. Among those are Keith and Becky Magill, who recently moved to West Lafayette. Our membership has increased 4 people to 108, 56 of whom are communicants. Our worship attendance has also increased to average between 90-100 on most Sundays. We have several others studying in the church information class while they consider church membership.
- From a slightly more subjective perspective, we are glad to see the joy and love God is sowing in our congregation. There is a community of sacrificial love and excitement for the kingdom among us.
- Our session generally has one lunch meeting and one evening meeting per month. We had 23 constituted meetings in 2015. We called for an election of elders late in November of 2015 but were unable to elect anyone. Because we have several good candidates, we are hopeful

that God will lead us to electing new elders in 2016. We are adopting new child protection policies and are working to find better ways to oversee and administrate the various ministries and calendars of IRPC.

- Regarding worship: Jared finished a sermon series through Philippians and is currently preaching in Genesis. We continue to celebrate communion the first Sabbath of every month and use a “split-cup.” Our Sabbath evening services include corporate singing and prayer as well as classes for various age levels. Currently, Jared and Josh Bright are teaching a survey of the minor prophets for the adult class. The average attendance on Sunday morning is 92 and 60 on Sunday evenings.
- Regarding ministry: We continued the weekly pattern of last year, having our small group and kids club at the church building on Wednesday evenings. Though we would rather be hosting small groups in homes, using the building is the only option that enables our many families to participate fully. Also on Wednesdays, a combined youth group meets in the Lafayette church building; leadership of the youth group is shared between the churches.
- We are gladly anticipating hosting Tony and Bekah Mastris and their children for Tony’s internship with our session this summer.
- Last summer was our third vacation Bible school. This year we are hoping to partner with Battleground Bible Church, another local congregation who has become close to us.
- Our bi-monthly services at the Indiana Veteran’s Home continues. We sing four Psalms with explanation followed by a short time of fellowship. Our 20-minute program is presented in the lobby of two floors. We’ve developed good friendships with several residents.
- Several of our young people (high school and college) are very active in prophesying on behalf of the unborn pro-life causes.
- Our deacons continue to be active in overseeing the stewardship and leading the mercy of our congregation. The session remains thankful for their partnership in ministry. We are forming a strategic facilities committee to help us conservatively but faithfully plan for more growth.

Thank you for your prayers and faithful oversight of our session!

For Christ’s Crown & Covenant,
David Carr, clerk
Jared Olivetti, moderator

Treasurer's Report: Finances in Review

"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this," says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it." Malachi 3:10

IRPC 2014-2015 Budgeted vs. Actual

Budget Category	2014 - 2015 Budget	JUL - SEP 2014	OCT - DEC 2014	JAN - MAR 2015	APR - JUN 2015	% of Budget	YTD Total
Income							
Tithes	112,650.00	23,486.10	41,733.63	33,517.87	32,575.72	117%	131,313.32
Dividends & Interest	0.00	18.68	14.49	18.55	21.81	N/A	73.53
Total General Fund Income	112,650.00	23,504.78	41,748.12	33,536.42	32,597.53	117%	131,386.85
Special Offerings - Misc	0.00	1,167.83	5,226.03	6,977.12	40,299.82	N/A	53,670.80
Special Offerings - Building	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	0.00
Total Income	112,650.00	24,672.61	46,974.15	40,513.54	72,897.35	N/A	185,057.65
Budgeted Expenses							
Allowances/Salaries							
Salary	35,500.00	8,874.96	8,874.96	11,064.96	10,874.96	112%	39,689.84
Housing	16,000.00	4,000.02	4,000.02	4,000.02	4,000.02	100%	16,000.08
Healthcare Coverage	9,000.00	1,700.01	1,700.01	1,700.01	3,899.97	100%	9,000.00
Pension	6,000.00	0.00	0.00	6,000.00	0.00	100%	6,000.00
Total allowances/salaries	66,500.00	14,574.99	14,574.99	22,764.99	18,774.95	106%	70,689.92
Building/Facilities							
Insurance	1,900.00	1,858.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	98%	1,858.00
Building & Grounds	2,000.00	256.59	24.44	1,050.00	658.24	99%	1,989.27
Utilities	6,500.00	1,432.40	1,442.79	1,981.93	1,506.38	98%	6,363.50
Mortgage	19,300.00	4823.02	4823.02	4823.02	4,823.02	100%	19,292.08
Total Building/Facilities	29,700.00	8,370.01	6,290.25	7,854.95	6,987.64	99	29,502.85
Giving							
RPM&M	1,700.00	0.00	850.00	0.00	850.00	100%	1,700.00
RPTS	400.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	200.00	100%	400.00
Church Planting	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	250.00	750.00	100%	1,000.00
Missionaries	900.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	150.00	28%	250.00
India	500.00	180.00	180.00	180.00	180.00	144%	720.00
Mercy	1,200.00	0.00	155.00	0.00	353.00	42%	508.00
Adoption	400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	100%	400.00
Pro-Life Ministries	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00
Total Giving	6,600.00	180.00	1,485.00	430.00	2,883.00	75%	4,978.00
Ministry Expense							
Pastor's Expense	2,000.00	206.05	293.95	732.80	613.64	92%	1,846.44
Administrative	300.00	92.26	121.39	109.09	48.96	124%	371.70
Christian Education	150.00	80.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	53%	80.09
Guest Speaker	500.00	275.00	100.00	225.00	0.00	120%	600.00
Domestic Supplies	800.00	102.79	209.65	109.34	407.60	104%	829.38
Church Literature	200.00	162.82	0.00	0.00	18.42	91%	181.24
Outreach	300.00	59.85	59.85	89.85	89.85	76%	227.97
VBS	500.00	690.15	0.00	0.00	581.40	254%	1,271.55
Social	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00
Session	500.00	492.24	21.15	0.00	990.71	301%	1,504.10
Couple's Retreat	400.00	0.00	125.00	458.13	0.00	146%	583.13
Youth Group	200.00	0.00	30.35	0.00	200.00	115%	230.35
Presbytery Assessment	1,800.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,549.57	86%	1,549.57
Synod Assessment	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,392.42	120%	2,392.42
Total Ministry Expense	9,850.00	2,161.25	961.34	1,724.21	6,892.57	119%	11,739.37
Total Budgeted Expenses	112,650.00	25,286.25	23,311.58	32,774.15	35,538.16	104%	116,910.14
Special Offering Expenses	N/A	1085.9	900	1400	100	N/A	3485.9
Total YTD Expenses		26,372.15	24,211.58	34,174.15	35,638.16		120,396.04

IRPC Budget Report

Budget Category	2014-15 Budget	2014-15 Actual	2015-16 Budget
Income			
Tithes	112,650	131,313	124,500
Dividends & Interest		74	
Special Offerings		53,671	
Total Income	112,650	185,058	124,500
Expenses			
Allowances/Salaries			
<i>Salary</i>	35,500	39,690	38,500
<i>Housing</i>	16,000	16,000	16,000
<i>Healthcare Coverage</i>	9,000	9,000	9,000
<i>In lieu of S. Sec.</i>			
<i>Required Pension</i>	6,000	6,000	6,500
Total allowances/salaries	66,500	70,690	70,000
Building/Facilities			
<i>Insurance</i>	1,900	1,858	1,900
<i>Building & Grounds</i>	2,000	1,989	2,000
<i>Utilities</i>	6,500	6,364	6,500
<i>Mortgage / Bldg Savings</i>	19,300	19,292	19,300
<i>Debt Reduction</i>			
Total Building/Facilities	29,700	29,503	29,700
Giving			
<i>RPM&M</i>	1,700	1,700	2,000
<i>RPTS</i>	400	400	400
<i>Church Planting</i>	1,000	1,000	1,000
<i>Missionaries</i>	1,400	250	800
<i>Joseph - India</i>	500	720	1,200
<i>Mercy</i>	1,200	508	1,200
<i>Adoption</i>	400	400	800
<i>Pro-Life</i>	500	0	500
Total Giving	7,100	4,978	7,900
Ministry Expense			
<i>Pastor's Expense</i>	2,000	1,846	2,000
<i>Pastor's Continuing Education Fund</i>			
<i>Office Supplies</i>	300	372	400
<i>Administrative Assistant</i>			4,200
<i>Equipment</i>			
<i>Christian Education</i>	150	80	150
<i>Guest Speaker</i>	500	600	700
<i>Domestic Supplies</i>	800	829	1,200
<i>Church Literature</i>	200	181	400
<i>Outreach</i>	300	299	1,000
<i>VBS</i>	500	1,272	700
<i>Social Committee</i>	200		200
<i>Session</i>	500	991	750
<i>Deacons</i>			
<i>Nursery / Couple's Retreat</i>	400	583	0
<i>Youth Group</i>	200	230	800
<i>Grad Fellowship Group</i>			
<i>Presbytery Assessment</i>	1,800	1,550	1,800
<i>Synod Assessment</i>	2,000	2,392	2,600
Total Ministry Expense	9,850	11,226	16,900
Total Expense	113,150	116,397	124,500
NET (Income minus Expense)	-500		0

Mr. Larson presented the congregational report for Immanuel RPC.
It was moved, seconded, and passed to receive the report.

The Lafayette congregational report is as follows.

LAFAYETTE SESSION'S REPORT

***"To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:"
Colossians 1:27, 28***

The Session constituted the court in convened meetings 18 times in 2015.

The Session planning conference was August 7-8, 2015. During the planning conference the Session discussed:

The strengths of the congregation:

- Our pastors faithfully preaching God's Word Our commitment to God's Word
- Diverse ages, social and economic backgrounds, Church backgrounds
- Deacons
- Youth group

Things needing more attention:

- Mid week studies are not as strong as they use to be
- People coming late and leaving early
- Hard pews

This year stands to be a year of tremendous change. The Session will Seek to add a new elder. All of the various ministries of the congregation were discussed.

The main reason this year stood to be one of tremendous change was due to Dave Long, Lafayette's pastor of 31 years, accepting calls to Second Reformed Presbyterian Church Indianapolis, and the Global Mission Board. As he was preparing for his transition, we learned of his diagnosis with stage 4 melanoma. The Session planning conference in August was the first meeting of the Session where Keith Evans moderated in light of Dave Long's health concerns. Although Dave's passing into glory came in 2016, we labored much in prayer over our pastor's health, and are grieved at the loss of our dear friend, brother, and pastor, even as we rejoice in his heavenly home. We are thankful to the Lord for the decades of fruitful ministry in our congregation through Pastor Dave Long.

The congregation received 7 new communicant members in 2015: Christina Doerr, Josh Kessler, Nick Devaney, Sam Hartzler, Matthew Rapp, Sarah Schaefer, and Ben Devaney.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated 6 times in 2015.

Three people requested to participate in Communion in 2015: Maggie Jiang, Jonathan Rapp, and Kristine Samuel.

Three babies were born into the congregation in 2015: Henry Blackwood, Sadie Brenneman, Evelyn Hall.

There was 1 baptism in 2015: Henry Blackwood

There was 1 marriage in 2015: Katie Long and Bennie Walker.

We are thankful for all who serve on committees in the church, and also are thankful for all of the teachers for the preparation and the teaching of our youth each Lord's Day.

Bob Bibby continues to be the chaplain at the Tippecanoe County Jail, spending a lot of time making sure there are people to take God's Word to the jail. We are thankful for the many members of the congregation who participate in the jail ministry, even as we rejoice at 35 years of fruitful jail ministry this March.

The IronMen Retreat was held on April 24-25, 2015. CJ Williams was the main speaker.

Youth

Ken & Christy Nelson, Ben and Avery Brame, and Cos and Rachel Gardner lead the Youth Group jointly for our church and the Immanuel RP Church.

We are thankful to Keith and Melissa Evans for their years of service to the youth group.

Purdue CORPS (Collegiate Organization of Reformed Presbyterian Students), though down in numbers as compared to past years, continues to grow in strength and in productivity. Keith and Melissa Evans assumed responsibility of this ministry after many years of faithful service from Dave and Jenny Long. Allen and Eleni Blackwood help lead the CORPS ministry. We are thankful to each of them for their part in teaching, feeding, and encouraging these young people, and for the support of this ministry from the congregation.

The congregation has provided several options in the small group Bible studies:

- East side study is led by Jeff Kessler and Bob Sabolich
- The study at the church is led by Chris Stockwell, Allen Blackwood, & Jack Rhoda
- Women's Wednesday study is led by Jeri Faris

We thank God for all these items and ask you to continue praying for the Session as we strive to serve the congregation and seek God's wisdom.

Respectfully submitted for the

Session, Dan Webb, Clerk

2016 PROPOSED BUDGET			
Category Description	2015		2016
	Actual	Budget	Proposed
INCOME			
INTEREST	149.37	150	150
RENT	21,150.00	20,400	20,400
TITHES	263,442.50	261,030	230,000
TRANSFERS FROM SAVINGS	10,953.97		
TOTAL BUDGETED INCOME	295,695.84	281,580	250,550
SPECIAL GIFTS IN	9,639.58	0	
GRAND TOTAL INCOME	305,335.42	281,580	250,550
EXPENSES			
ALLOW & SAL			
FICA	1,043.47	1,000	1,100
GUEST SPEAKERS	1,688.75	1,000	2,200
In Lieu of HEALTH INSURANCE (Dave)	22,204.68	23,000	2,300
In Lieu of HEALTH INSURANCE (Keith)	10,369.32	10,400	10,400
HOUSING (Dave)	37,024.80	37,025	3,702
HOUSING (Keith)	21,240.16	21,240	28,500
IN LIEU OF SOC SEC (Dave)	3,850.00	3,850	385
MINISTRY EXP (Dave)	3,098.88	4,500	
MINISTRY EXP (Keith)	3,376.42	3,200	4,000
PENSIONS (Dave)	4,400.00	4,400	440
PENSIONS (Keith)	4,400.00	4,400	4,400
SALARIES: OFFICE MGR	9,999.69	10,000	10,000
SALARIES: CUSTODIAN	3,900.00	4,000	4,000
SALARIES: PASTOR	26,559.84	26,560	26,500
PASTOR'S 2015 BONUS			2,500
DISABILITY DAVE LONG	45,400.20	45,400	4,540
TOTAL ALLOW&SAL	198,556.21	199,975	104,967
CHURCH BUILDING			
CAPITAL IMPROV	9,706.96	7,000	15,000
FURNITURE-EQUIP	1,285.09	1,300	1,300
INSURANCE	4,412.88	3,000	4,500
MAINTENANCE	12,698.57	10,000	10,000

SUPPLIES	2,100.73	2,500	2,500	
UTILITIES	12,228.14	13,500	13,500	
RENTAL PROPERTIES	10,953.97		6,000	From Savings
TOTAL CHURCH BUILDING	53,386.34	37,300	46,800	
CONG GIVING				
MATRIX	200.00	200	200	
MISC MISSIONARY	0.00	700	700	
PRESBYTERY ASSESSMENT	3,204.68	3,205	3,510	
RP SEMINARY	3,000.00	3,000	3,000	
RPM&M	4,125.00	5,500	5,500	
RTF	1,000.00	1,000	1,000	
SUDAN MISSION	3,500.00	3,500	3,500	
SYNOD Assessment	3,800.00	5,700	5,700	
TCRTL	200.00	200	200	
TRINITY MISSION	500.00	500	500	
TOTAL CONG GIVING	19,529.68	23,505	23,810	
MIN EXP				
ADMINISTRATIVE	3,862.65	4,000	4,000	
CHRISTIAN ED	1,706.17	1,500	1,500	
COLLEGE MIN	1,204.60	2,000	2,100	
FUNERAL			600	
HOSPITALITY	2,003.71	1,500	1,500	
JAIL MIN	3,006.90	3,500	3,500	
OUTREACH	279.43	600	600	
MERCY	3,500.62	3,500	3,500	
NURSERY	198.55	200	200	
SESSION	1,948.01	2,500	2,000	
IRONMEN			1,000	
FUNDS FOR PROJECTS			51,473	
YOUTH-GROUP	1,486.77	1,500	3,000	
TOTAL MIN EXP	19,197.41	20,800	74,973	
TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES	290,669.64	281,580	250,550	
TOTAL INCOME - EXPENSE	5,026.20	0	0	
SPECIAL GIFTS OUT	5,839.37			

END OF WRITTEN REPORT

Mr. Jack Rhoda presented the Lafayette congregational report and addressed questions from the floor.

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

It was moved, seconded, and passed to extend the time to hear the Marion congregational report.

The Marion congregational report is as follows.

SESSION REPORT

“I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now. For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.” – Phil. 1:2-6

The Marion Reformed Presbyterian Church was organized as a congregation of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America, as part of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery, this year. The Session is confident in this, the Christ Jesus, who began this work, will be faithful to complete it. As we look back at the journey we have taken this past year, we cannot help but be full of joy for what the Lord has accomplished thus far.

The Session, which was officially formed the same evening as the congregation was organized, constituted as a Court of the Church of Jesus Christ in October and November of 2015. The Session also met informally on numerous other occasions for counsel and prayer. We also celebrated the sacrament of communion on four occasions in 2015 and look forward to the continued practice of monthly communion in 2016. The congregation also had its first baptism as we welcomed little Levi Morgan into our congregation. Marion Reformed Presbyterian Church presently has 31 communicant members, 18 baptized members, and 20 regular adherents. We delight in knowing that the harvest is plentiful and look forward to continued growth in 2016.

The Session would like to thank everyone for the efforts they have made in seeing this church planted and now as we see the church grow. What each of you have sacrificed for Christ’s Kingdom has not gone unnoticed by your Heavenly Father. The Elders have taken notice of it too and we are grateful for your dedication to Christ and to His Church. As we continue to grow, there will be continued opportunity for service and the Session encourages each person to find greater ways to serve the Lord in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott J. Hunt

Clerk of Session, Marion Reformed Presbyterian Church

Pastor's Report

"You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore." Psalm 16:11

This last year has been one filled with great joy as we have seen our prayers answered by the Lord. The highlight this last year was our organizational service on September 11th!

In our evening services we studied the "Attributes of God" and the "Life of Paul" and also have been very blessed to have Scott McCullough teach us how to interpret the Psalms. In morning worship we completed 3 preaching series: 1 Corinthians, Jonah and Jude. We are now most of the way through the book of Joel.

After our organization as a church, we celebrated our first communion together on September 13th. Our first baptism was on November 22nd of Levi Morgan and we praised the Lord for the blessings of church growth through covenant families. We have had steady attendance in our morning worship averaging between 45 and 55 people each Lord's Day. We have done this without applying many of the modern church growth techniques. It is our firm belief that if we demonstrate our love for Jesus Christ by loving each other, the Lord will grow this church. *"...not as though I were writing you a new commandment, but the one we have had from the beginning—that we love one another."* 2 John 5

There are seven goals the session is introducing this year based on this passage in Second John as well as Luke 10:26-28. The summary of the Scripture was to love God with our whole heart and to love our neighbor as ourselves. The goals of the church are to disciple God's people to love Him and to love others! I really believe if we all commit our lives to doing this we will not have to rely on gimmicks and Madison Avenue marketing strategies to see this church plant grow.

Jenny and I want to take this time to thank each of you for your service and prayers. We feel so close to each one of your dear families and can see how the Lord is knitting our hearts together as we walk through this life with Him. *Sola Fide*, by Faith Alone. *Sola Scriptura*, by Scripture Alone. *Solus Christus*, through Christ Alone. *Sola Gratia*, by Grace Alone. *Soli Deo Gloria*, Glory to God Alone!

In His love and mine,
Pastor Jason

2015 Income	2015 Proposal	2015 Actual	2016 Proposal
101 Tithes & Offerings	\$ 44,943.00	\$ 56,248.80	\$ 55,221.50
102 Interest	-	-	\$ -
103 HMB Grant	\$ 8,757.00	\$ 8,757.00	\$ 4,378.50 *
104 GLG Marion	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ -
105 Other Income		\$ 2,000.00	\$ -
106 RPM&M			\$ -
Total:	\$ 54,900.00	\$ 68,205.80	\$ 59,600.00
200 MRPC Administration			
201 Administration	\$ 500.00	\$ 480.60	\$ 1,250.00
202 Christian Ed.	\$ 200.00	\$ 161.76	\$ 350.00
203 Building	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 11,750.00	\$ 12,000.00
204 Pastor Expense	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 867.86	\$ 1,000.00
205 MISC.	\$ 500.00	\$ 146.89	\$ 300.00
206 Insurance	-	-	\$ 1,500.00 *
207 Nursery	-	-	\$ 300.00
<i>Subtotal:</i>	<i>\$ 14,600.00</i>	<i>\$ 13,407.11</i>	<i>\$ 16,700.00</i>
210 MRPC Ministries			
211 Fellowship & Hosp.	\$ 800.00	\$ 527.15	\$ 1,000.00
212 Outreach/Evangelism/Media	\$ 200.00	-	\$ 500.00
213 Mercy	\$ 200.00	-	\$ 200.00
214 India Mission	-	-	\$ 500.00
215 Japan Mission	-	-	\$ 250.00
216 Atlanta Mission	-	-	\$ 250.00
217 Synod Assessment	-	-	\$ -
218 Presbytery Assessment	-	-	\$ 1,000.00 *
<i>Subtotal:</i>	<i>\$ 1,200.00</i>	<i>\$ 527.15</i>	<i>\$ 3,700.00</i>
220 Pastor Camery			
221 Housing	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 21,025.25	\$ 24,500.00
222 Salary	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 13,998.03	\$ 10,500.00
224 Pension	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 4,200.00
<i>Subtotal:</i>	<i>\$ 39,100.00</i>	<i>\$37,073.28</i>	<i>\$ 39,200.00</i>
Total:	\$ 54,900.00	\$ 51,007.54	\$ 59,600.00

END OF WRITTEN REPORT

Mr. Camery presented the Marion congregational report.
It was moved, seconded, and passed to receive the report.

Intercessory Prayer

Mr. Carr led the court in prayer for the mission work in Terre Haute.

Mr. McNamee led in prayer for the Immanuel congregation.

Mr. Smith led in prayer for Lafayette for the Long family.

Mr. Archer led in prayer for the Marion congregation, and for Mr. Eric Cozens' recent eye surgery, recessing the court at 5:45 p.m.

FIFTH SESSION – Friday March 4, 2016 (7:00 – 9:00 p.m.)

Call to Order

The moderator reconvened the court for its fifth business session at 7:00 p.m.

The presbytery sang Psalm 118E, stanzas 16-18, and the moderator led the court in prayer.

Reading of the Minutes

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

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

Covenanter Young People's Union (CYPY)

The CYPY Report is as follows.

Presbytery Youth Report

"One generation shall praise Your works to another, And shall declare Your mighty acts." Psalm 145:4

God calls us to declare His works to the next generation, that the present and future generations would praise the name of the Lord. Since the late 1800s in our denomination, Covenanter Young Peoples' Union (CYPY) has assisted churches, pastors, and parents in making Christ known to young people in order that they might praise Him. In the GL-G Presbytery, many parents continue to send their students to the CYPY Christ-centered events throughout the year. With the help of pastors, leaders, and counselors, the CYPY Leadership Team (elected from among the youth, by the youth) annually carry out:

Fall Ministry Project (September), Winter Conference (December), Theological Foundations Weekend (February), Sunrise Party (March), ECHO summer mission trip (June), and the Covfamikoi youth program (with the exception of International Conference years, when the Bike Trip is instead offered).

Our current CYPY leadership team is composed of students from Bloomington, Columbus, Immanuel, Marion, Second RP, Southside, and Westminster. Our present team members are as follows:

- President: *Jenna Marcisz*
- Vice President: *Sarah Mangan*
- Recording Secretary: *Tim Erney*
- Registration Director: *Jacob Rhoda*
- Corresponding Secretary: *Grace Pfeiffer*
- Treasurer: *Grace Holdeman*
- Advertising Director: *Sam Goble*

- Food and Set up Coordinator: *Ariel Cosens*
- Sports Director: *Calvin Held*

The most recent Winter Conference, “Faith Lives” (an intentionally ambiguous title) examined the lives of people from the Bible, seeing their living faith, while at the same calling us to live out our faith. Pastor Jared Olivetti spoke to the students with humor and insight, as he clearly connected with the youth. As always, it was an excellent event. And while it's true that the speaker may take top billing, the event was once again exceptionally planned and executed by Ben and Anna Larson.

At the time of this report, we just concluded a successful Theological Foundations Weekend (TFW), with Pastor Kit Swartz as our guest speaker, alongside Pastor David Whitla. This year was Pastor Whitla's final year at the helm of TFW, and while we are excited for the things the Lord has for him in graduate studies and at the Seminary, we are sad to see him go, as he has so ably and faithfully piloted the TFW program.

Additionally, SONrise Party is quickly approaching on March 25, 2016 (concluding on the morning of March 26), and aims to be a fun evening for inviting friends, with an evangelistic focus. We are thankful for Zachary and Flo Blackwood's leadership for this event again this year.

It is with great thanks that we publicly recognize our other event leaders not yet mentioned in this report. The event leaders, after all, are the ones who make all of the CYPUs possible: Kevin and Bethany Mauser have faithfully led the Fall Ministry project for years, and John Hansen continues to annually lead the ECHO trip. This year, he will once again reprise the role of leading the Bike Trip to the International Conference. Each event takes hard work with many counselors, staff, cooks, and leaders to carry out this valuable ministry to our youth, but we are also indebted for your prayers and support of the CYPUs program.

Once again we made it a priority to offer significant scholarships to churches outside close proximity of Indiana. As a Presbytery spanning from the Great Lakes all the way to the Gulf, it is important to make certain that the more distant churches have an opportunity to participate in the CYPUs events as well, and we are thankful for the Presbytery's financial support to make this a possibility.

Finally, I am personally glad for the blessed work accomplished this past year. However, in the role of Youth Secretary, it has been an overwhelming year for many reasons. The illness and ultimate death of my fellow pastor, Dave Long, was an incredibly trying time for me and the Lafayette congregation. As a result, I have recently transitioned to the responsibilities of solo-pastor at Lafayette. Along with this change in position came the role of leading the college ministry, Purdue CORPS, which has its own conferences, trips, and regular events.

And finally, at the time of penning this report, my wife has just discovered that she has an at-risk pregnancy and has been assigned to strict bedrest. Needless to say, the Lafayette Session has been counseling me for some time that I simply must reduce my workload; and, one specific area they have encouraged me to reexamine is my role as Presbytery Youth Secretary. The Lafayette Session's recommendation is that I step down from this position.

My proposal in light of their counsel is as follows: that I delegate my responsibilities to the CYPUs Event

Leaders; and if an adequate solution to my present workload cannot be found along that path, then I would need to identify a Youth Secretary replacement for the 2016-17 CYPY school year. I am certainly open to the input of the court, but this proposed solution would at least allow some degree of flexibility moving forward.

At the very least, I would greatly appreciate your prayers during what is a very challenging time personally, even as we thank the Lord together for His faithfulness in the lives of our Presbytery young people!

Respectfully Submitted,
Pastor Keith Evans (Youth Secretary)

END OF WRITTEN REPORT

Mr. Evans presented the report for the CYPY, introducing various members of its leadership team, each of whom updated the court on a particular aspect of the ministry. It was moved, seconded, and passed to receive the report.

Memorial for Pastor David Long

The memorial for Pastor David Long is as follows.

Fathers and brothers,

We have lost a friend, our brother in the faith and in the ministry....And a father of this court.

Pastor Dave Long, faithful disciple of Christ, passed into his eternal rest January 9, 2016 after a 9 month battle with melanoma.

If you knew Dave well, you know that it was much needed rest...not because of the grueling battle with cancer...but because of how tirelessly and continually he labored for the kingdom of Christ. He was a pastor, a mentor, a co-laborer with us all, as he equipped countless for service in the church. He was God's instrument for training many of us in this very room.

There are but few among us who have not had the privilege of being influenced in godliness by Dave Long. And how can his ministry be quantified in general, let alone in our lives, and the lives of the saints in our presbytery, and beyond? Not to mention the eternal impact his ministry has had, the ramifications of which will continue, even if they are not felt, until we are reunited with our friend before our Savior in glory.

Dave graduated in 1978 from Indiana University, then received his Masters of Divinity from RPTS in 1984, and took up his pastoral responsibilities in Lafayette, IN in June of the same year, where he diligently labored for over 31 years until his final days. And I might add, in enemy territory... not because he remained a dedicated IU fan in Purdue country, but in all seriousness, because he worked against the kingdom of darkness...seeing conversions, saints sanctified, and churches planted.

But above all Dave was a disciple maker, seeking disciples of Jesus; being poured out as a drink offering for the sacrifice and service of the faith of others.

While, at the end of his days, Dave was most grieved to be separated from his family; one of the main reasons Dave did not believe it was his time to depart this earth, was because there was more ministry to be done.

There is always MORE ministry to be done. But does this sentiment not characterize the heartbeat of this beloved pastor? That he wanted to delay the glories and riches of heaven, because it would mean, he could be used as God's instrument for: more conversions, more sanctification of God's people, more preaching/teaching/and communicating of God's truth, more laborers sent into the harvest, and more advancement of the kingdom of Christ on earth.

It can certainly be said, that his hands were full with service to Jesus, for over 31 years of faithful pastoral ministry. And like his namesake, after David had served the purpose of God in his own generation, he fell asleep, and was laid with his fathers.

Dave is survived by his beloved wife, Jenny, his 5 children, his 3 children-in-law, and 6 grandchildren.

But what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of...Barry, and James, and David, and Jared, and the myriad other men Dave has seen raised up for pastoral ministry, or of Global missions, and other committees and commissions Dave has faithfully overseen, labored on, and been a blessing to.

But like our forefathers, and like his Savior, Dave was a man well acquainted with hardships and trials...

A man who lived a life of suffering...afflicted - and like the saints of old, of whom the world was not worthy.

After tirelessly laboring for the glory of our Lord, Pastor David Long, servant of Christ, is finally resting, in the presence of his Savior.

Mr. Evans presented the memorial for Pastor David Long, followed by expressions of remembrance and gratitude to the Lord from various presbyters for Pastor Long's gracious influence in their lives. Mr. Whitla led the presbytery in prayer and the presbytery sang Psalm 78A.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report (continued)

Mr. Olivetti invited Mr. Ketcham forward for his Theology and Distinctives I exam.

The exam was conducted by Mr. H.P. McCracken, who temporarily ceded the moderator's chair to Mr. LeFebvre.

Questions were then asked from the floor, followed by a time of discussion.

The assistant clerk called the roll and the exam was unanimously sustained.

Congregational Reports (continued)

The Southside congregational report is as follows.

2016 Report to Great Lakes/Gulf Presbytery Reformed Presbyterian Church of Southside Indianapolis

Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you

*or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind
striving together for the faith of the gospel* Philippians 1:27

Fathers and Brethren,

It is a profound privilege “to stand fast in one spirit” as the body of Christ to manifest the presence of our risen Lord, worshipping Him together, and “striving together for the faith of the gospel” on the south side of Indianapolis.

Session met in constituted court twelve times during the year. We also met informally on three occasions for planning meetings. Each regular meeting began with devotions led by an elder from a portion of a book we studied together: *What is the Mission of the Church?* by Kevin DeYoung and Greg Gilbert.

In four of our meetings, session set aside time to meet jointly with the deacon board to review and discuss our respective ministries. The congregation is blessed to have these men who “serve well” (1Tim 3:13). We would particularly like to recognize Phil Edwards for his 18 years serving the congregation as he has retired from the deacon board at the end of 2015.

Public Services

Session is grateful to the Lord for our pastors who labor in the word week by week to feed us each Sabbath. Pastor Whitla completed a preaching series on Matthew’s Gospel (131 sermons) and the Book of Habakkuk (8 sermons), as well as preaching several individual texts and a new series on Philippians. Pastor McKenzie completed a sermon series from 1 Samuel. That series was followed by a number of single-text sermons before a series of sermons from John 17. In addition to the preaching ministry of our own teaching elders, the congregation also heard from these guests: Mr. Gary Gunn, Pastor Daniel Howe, Pastor Gordon Keddie, Dr. Douglas Kelly, Pastor Adam Niess, and Dr. Dennis Prutow. On the Lord’s Day of June 21, the congregation observed a day of solemn fasting and prayer as appointed by the Synod for all RPCNA churches concerning the imminent Supreme Court decisions in the United States and Canada.

For the fifth consecutive year, members of the congregation extended invitations through multiple outreach events to our neighbors in all four quadrants around the church. We again hosted a “Come and See Sunday” in August where members were encouraged to invite neighbors and friends to a worship service and hospitality particularly welcoming to newcomers.

The sacrament of the Lord’s Supper was observed twelve times on the second Lord’s Day of each month throughout the year. Additionally in September Pastor McKenzie, Elder Erich Baum, and several members observed communion with Marie Elder at her nursing care facility. The sacrament of baptism was administered to nine covenant children: Henry Nelson Baum, Caleb Jesse Burgess, Cora Louise Burgess, Knox Lee Burgess, Alastair Eugene Cerbus, Eden Providence Entingh, Adrian Alejandro Garcia, Vivian Marie Hart, and Elliot Richard Sturm.

In addition to corporate prayer in the worship services, a mid-week prayer meeting was led by Pastor McKenzie most Wednesday evenings throughout the year.

Pastoral Care

In September session commenced our Congregational Visitation initiative and have been encouraged by our times together with several member in their homes. We are particularly thankful for Susanne Hart's coordinating efforts and look forward to continuing our visits through 2016.

Session has completed the development of a new *Children and Youth Protection Policy* and is ready to proceed with an implementation phase in which leaders of affected church-related activities will be informed of policy requirements. Example activities covered by the policy include the nursery, Sabbath school classes, and Youth Group functions. Erich Baum and Jerry Porter will be scheduling meetings with the various leaders in coming months.

At the end of the year, the communicant membership stands at 160, an increase of 1, and the baptized membership stands at 61, an increase of 8 from last year.

The following ten individuals united with Southside RPC as communicant members: Jesse and Jenna Burgess, Tim Eacret, Jonathan and Andrea Elliott (by transfer from Westminster RPC), Michael and Susan Lotz, Pam Mattox, and Jason and Haley Ney (by transfer from Immanuel RPC). The following fifteen covenant children were added to the roll as baptized members: Henry Baum; Caleb, Cora, and Knox Burgess; Alastair Cerbus; Ethan, Joshua, Samuel, Matthew, and Elizabeth Elliott; Eden Entingh; Adrian Garcia; Vivian Hart; Chloe Ney; and Elliot Sturm. The following members were transferred to other congregations: Christina Koons (Christ Church RPC); Andrew and Lauren Saunders (Second Indianapolis RPC); Emily Sturm (Grace OPC – Springfield IL); Nathan, Valerie, Liam, and Danica Winkley (Christ Church RPC). Three communicant members were removed from the roll.

There were five births during the year: Henry Baum (1/13), Adrian Garcia (4/7), Vivian Hart (7/14), Alistair Cerbus (9/15), and Elliot Sturm (9/23). There were two weddings: Joshua Sturm and Julie Neel (4/18), and Colin Koons and Christina Helweg (6/20).

Participation in the Higher Courts and Wider Church Ministry

Presbytery - Our ruling elder delegates to the Spring meeting of Presbytery held at Lafayette RPC were Erich Baum, John Hanson, and Bob Burchfield (alternate). Our session along with Sean Bird of Christ Church RPC were appointed to serve as the Ad Interim Commission for the Presbytery for the year. Stan McKenzie served as AIC moderator. Jim Bishop continues to serve as Presbytery Treasurer. Steve Sturm was appointed to serve as a member of the Bloomington RPC Visitation Committee. Bob Burchfield was appointed to serve as a provisional elder for First Durham RPC. Jerry Porter and Gordon Keddie serve on the Terre Haute Commission. Stan McKenzie was appointed to a study committee assigned to review a paper presented at the meeting. John Hanson was appointed as moderator of the Atlanta Commission. Our ruling elder delegates to the Fall meeting of Presbytery held at Second Indianapolis RPC were Bob Burchfield and John Hanson.

In June, John Hanson once again organized and led a team of Presbytery youth to serve at the ECHO (Educational Concerns for Hunger Organization) farm in Ft. Myers Florida. Pastor Whitla organized and led a TFW (Theological Foundations Weekend) for Presbytery youth.

Synod – Our ruling elder delegates to the RPCNA Synod meeting held concurrently with the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church’s Synod at their Bonclarken Conference Center in North Carolina were Erich Baum and Steve Sturm. Erich Baum serves as secretary of the Presbyterian and Reformed Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel Committee. He also served as a member of the Committee on Church Officers. Jerry Porter serves on the Vital Churches Committee and will serve as Operations Director for the 2016 RP International Conference administration team. David Whitla serves on the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary and as Synod Liaison for The Youth Ministries Committee.

Last summer, Pastor Whitla organized and led the denomination’s TFY (Theological Foundations for Youth) program hosted at RPTS (Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary) in Pittsburgh. Also in June, Pastor Keddie represented our denomination at the annual meetings of the Irish and Scottish Reformed Presbyterian Churches. Last fall, John and Pam Hanson were approached by RP Global Missions to serve with the South Sudan team during the early months of 2016 when Daniel and Natalie Faris are away on furlough.

Pastoral Transition

Following the Lord’s Day morning worship service on December 6th, Pastor Whitla announced to the congregation his desire, intention and request to resign from the pastoral ministry on July 31, 2016, in order to pursue PhD studies at the behest of the Board of Trustees of the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary, with a view to ultimately being called by Synod to its faculty (D.V.)

Session has begun a process to lead the congregation in identifying, evaluating, and calling a senior teaching elder to fill the role soon to be vacated by Pastor Whitla.

As we expressed following Pastor Whitla’s announcement:

“This is not an easy providence, but we know that our Lord Jesus Christ is the Great Shepherd who leads us through even the hardest times. Please pray for SSRPC, the Session, Pastor McKenzie, and Pastor Whitla and his family during this time. It is the Session’s prayer that the Lord would direct the paths of the Whitla family and establish Pastor Whitla’s work to the edification of the Church and the praise and glory of her Savior.”

Accordingly, the Session would request:

1. That Presbytery, upon approving the honorable resignation of Pastor Whitla, dissolve the pastoral relationship between him and the Southside congregation, effective July 31, 2016.
2. That Presbytery grant permission for the Southside congregation to call a new senior pastor to replace Pastor Whitla.

Respectfully submitted,
Southside Indianapolis RPC Session

Proposed Budget for 2016 - General Fund

	Actual 2014	Budget 2015	Actual 2015	Budget 2016	% Chg-16 Bud vs. 15 Act
RECEIPTS					
Total contributions	\$ 482,708	\$ 482,652	\$ 494,632	\$ 494,632	0.0%
Other income	1,867	2,000	2,225	2,000	-10.1%
Total receipts	<u>484,575</u>	<u>484,652</u>	<u>496,857</u>	<u>496,632</u>	
EXPENDITURES					
CONGREGATION					
101.0 Pastor's Salary	82,077	72,035	72,035	129,584	15.5%
102.0 Parsonage Allowance	49,997	46,271	46,271	48,145	4.1%
103.0 Medical Insurance	39,049	42,830	40,120	-	
104.0 Pastor's Pension	9,950	8,200	8,200	8,400	2.4%
105.0 Secretarial Services	14,222	14,650	15,841	16,620	4.9%
106.0 Worker's Compensation	1,099	1,140	1,148	1,190	3.7%
107.0 Ministry Expenses	6,432	7,440	6,479	7,930	22.4%
108.0 Church Office	4,442	4,500	7,218	6,790	-5.9%
109.0 Benevolence	632	1,000	943	1,000	6.1%
111.0 Financial Comnilation Fees	1,500	1,600	1,500	1,500	0.0%
Sub-total	<u>209,400</u>	<u>199,666</u>	<u>199,755</u>	<u>221,159</u>	<u>10.7%</u>
EDUCATION					
201.0 Bible School	2,473	2,000	3,174	3,000	-5.5%
203.0 Youth Group	960	1,000	658	1,000	51.9%
204.0 Conferences & Guest Ministry	4,129	3,250	3,874	11,595	199.3%
205.0 Fellowship Activities	4,863	5,500	3,938	5,600	42.2%
206.0 Library	462	400	390	450	15.4%
Sub-total	<u>12,887</u>	<u>12,150</u>	<u>12,034</u>	<u>21,645</u>	<u>79.9%</u>
MISSIONS					
301.0 Local Evangelism	959	1,500	1,150	2,000	74.0%
302.0 Missionary Support	25,000	26,500	25,000	27,250	9.0%
304.0 Ministry of Mercy	2,525	6,000	3,145	6,000	90.8%
305.0 Special Missions Projects	200	1,600	275	1,600	481.8%
307.0 Local Ministries	3,700	3,700	3,700	3,810	3.0%
Sub-total	<u>32,384</u>	<u>39,300</u>	<u>33,270</u>	<u>40,660</u>	<u>22.2%</u>
DENOMINATION					
401.0 Presbyterial Assessment	5,844	5,135	5,135	5,465	6.4%
403.0 Synod Assessment	9,469	9,690	9,710	9,937	2.3%
405.0 Synod/Presbv. Expenses	2,088	1,250	1,461	1,500	2.7%
406.0 R.P. Institutions & Pensions	2,614	1,600	1,600	1,600	0.0%
407.0 R.P. Missions/Ministry	13,000	10,000	17,500	10,000	-42.9%
Sub-total	<u>33,015</u>	<u>27,675</u>	<u>35,406</u>	<u>28,502</u>	<u>-19.5%</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>\$ 68,568</u>	<u>\$ 74,025</u>	<u>\$ 97,200</u>	<u>\$ 50,491</u>	
PROPERTY					
503.0 Maintenance & Supplies	29,115	29,700	25,352	30,190	19.1%
504.0 Capital Purchases	7,509	9,200	3,571	13,000	264.1%
505.0 Utilities	19,344	20,110	17,905	18,620	4.0%
506.0 Insurance	7,837	8,310	7,847	7,850	0.0%
510.0 Debt Service	64,516	64,516	64,516	64,516	0.0%
Sub-total	<u>128,321</u>	<u>131,836</u>	<u>119,190</u>	<u>134,176</u>	<u>12.6%</u>
Total expenditures	<u>416,007</u>	<u>410,627</u>	<u>399,657</u>	<u>446,142</u>	<u>11.6%</u>

END OF WRITTEN REPORT

Mr. Baum presented the Southside congregational report.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to amend Recommendation 1 as follows: *That Presbytery accept the honorable resignation of Pastor Whitla and dissolve the pastoral relationship between him and the Southside congregation, effective July 31, 2016.*

The amended recommendation was approved.

No prayer of dissolution was offered at this time.

Recommendation 2 was referred to nominating committee.

Intercessory Prayer

Mr. Andy McCracken led the court in prayer for the work in Atlanta and for the Southside congregation.

COVFAMIKOI Conference Report

The COVFAMIKOI Conference Report is as follows.

2015 Great Lakes / Gulf Presbytery Meeting COVFAMIKOI Conference Report

The 2015 COVFAMIKOI Family Conference took place at Campbellsville University in Campbellsville, Kentucky. Rather than select an overall conference theme for the 2015 Conference, conference leadership encouraged the speakers to select their messages based on themes in which they were currently immersed or about which they were particularly concerned.

Matt Kingswood was featured as the Main speaker and Rut Etheridge as the High School speaker. Matt Kingswood is the Pastor of the Russell RPC near Ottawa, Ontario. Rutledge Etheridge is Chaplain at Geneva College. Matt spoke on the topic titled: "Are you in Debt? The Obligations of Grace in Romans." Rut spoke of the topic titled: "God-breathed: A reintroduction to the written Word of God." Their messages were well received.

The attendance for the 2015 conference was 397, which was up approximately 12% from 2014. The number of attendees represented 20 congregations. As usual, there were a significant number of firsttime campers, and several families usually in attendance that were not able to be there. Contributing factors include the dates of the camp and proximity to the beginning of school, and the regular issues of competing vacation plans, camp costs, unexpected illness and work schedules.

The 2017 COVFAMIKOI Conference dates are yet to be determined, but we will likely return to the same location at Campbellsville University in Campbellsville, Kentucky.

Financial Report

The financial report for 2015 is attached for your review. We started the year with a checking account balance of \$10,467 and ended the year with a balance of \$11,255. Our goal has been to maintain a \$10,000 account balance going into the next year. At this point, we do not know what the Campbellsville fee structure will be for the 2017 COVFAMIKOI Family Conference.

Conference Leadership

As stated in last year's report to Presbytery, the conference leadership team and several of the conference staff have stepped down. Shane and Lisa Shoop stepped down after more than 20 years of faithful conference management. Jared Olivetti and Pat Mauser have also stepped down from their teaching roles. Jonathan and Dianne Schaefer also stepped down as

Conference Directors having fulfilled their commitment.

Charley and Beth Moore have agreed to assume the role of Conference Manager beginning in 2017, so they are being included in more of the discussions, negotiations and decision making this year. Charley and Beth already have experience with COVFAMIKOI having led the High School and Junior High Program for several years. We are confident they will do a wonderful job.

With no immediate candidates for the role of Conference Director, the Ad Interim Commission appointed a committee to address this need. The committee comprises Jeff Kessler, Ben Larson and Jonathan Schaefer. To date, we have reviewed several potential candidates and have narrowed that list to three. We are currently awaiting a response from our first candidate. At such a time as none of our three identified candidates agree to fill the role of Conference Director, the ad hoc committee will return this matter to the care of Presbytery for final resolution.

2015 Conference Staff

The 2015 conference was an experienced group, most of which served at the 2014 conference. As a result, the conference ran very smoothly. Pat Mauser taught the Pre-School aged children. Bob Niichel led the 6-8 year olds and Phil and Sharon Joseph lead the 9-11 year olds. Jared Olivetti led the Junior High aged children. Zachary and Flo Blackwood assumed overall leadership of the High School and Junior High Program activities and counselors. Ben Larson took responsibility for Psalm presenting. Anna Larson again managed the nursery and recruiting volunteers. Joel Hart once again managed the recreation program.

Recommendations:

1. That Presbytery approve \$2,000 in additional funding for 2017 conference expenses.
2. That Presbytery assist in the identification of a replacement Conference Director before the 2016 International Conference.

Mr. Schaefer presented the Covfamikoi Conference Report.

Recommendation 1 was referred to the finance committee.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to extend the time to complete the report.

Recommendation 2 was withdrawn.

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

The moderator recessed the court in prayer at 9:16 p.m.

SIXTH SESSION – Saturday March 5, 2016 (8:30 – 12:00 p.m.)

Call to Order

The moderator reconvened the court at 8:37 a.m.

The presbytery sang Psalm 1A and the moderator led the court in prayer.

Morning Devotions (Candidates and Credentials - continued)

Mr. Olivetti invited Mr. Zach Smith forward for his Evidence of Progress sermon.

Mr. Smith prayed for God's blessing, read Nehemiah 1, and preached from the text on those whom Christ uses to build His church.

Reading of the Minutes

Mr. Kuehner read the minutes from the previous evening's business session.

It was moved, seconded, and approved to approve the minutes as read.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report (continued)

Feedback for Mr. Smith's sermon was offered from the floor.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to extend the time for offering feedback from the floor on the sermon.

Further feedback was offered to Mr. Smith from the floor concerning his sermon.

The assistant clerk called the roll and the exam was unanimously sustained.

Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee Report (scanned in four parts) is as follows.

Great Lakes - Gulf Presbytery Financial Report						
Updated 3/5/16						
	2012	2013	2014	2015	Mar-16	Mar-16
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	2016	2017
					Budget	Budget
INCOME						
100 - Assessments						
101 - General Fund	36,061.31	41,007.08	37,360.53	31,961.33	34,000.00	44,000.00
<i>Total Assessments =</i>	<i>36,589.24</i>	<i>41,007.08</i>	<i>37,360.53</i>	<i>31,961.33</i>	<i>34,000.00</i>	<i>44,000.00</i>
120 - From HMB						
121 - Exploratory Grants	10,000.00	10,000.00				
122 - Residents in Training	18,000.00	12,000.00	6,000.00			
123 - Reducing Aid	77,973.00	52,819.00	28,632.00	20,061.00		
<i>Sub-total HMB Aid =</i>	<i>105,973.00</i>	<i>74,819.00</i>	<i>34,632.00</i>	<i>20,061.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>
140 - Interest	1.74	1.43	1.76	1.85		
150 - Other Income	3,603.13	0.02				
151 - Dayton, TN		2,647.53				
152 - Atlanta Fund			10,954.46			
153 - Northminster Remaining Funds				10,079.91		
TOTAL INCOME =	146,167.11	118,475.06	82,948.75	62,104.09	34,000.00	44,000.00
EXPENSES						
General Expenses						
200 - Presbytery Meetings						4,000.00
201 - Annual Meeting	5,355.71	6,130.95	6,644.92	5,826.34	8,000.00	7,000.00
215 - Special-Exams Southside 5/3/13		2,431.63				
216 - Kokomo-Anderson Ord 6/28/13		775.23				
217 - Sparta-Install 3/14/14			2,020.38			
218 - McKenzie -Ord exams 5/30/14			2,311.49			
219 - McKenzie - Ord/Install - 6/27/14			146.74			
220 - Dick Knodel - Install - 2/12/15				277.64		
221 - Ray Morton - Install 4/3/15				787.72		
222 - Steve Rhoda - Install 5/17/15				460.63		
223 - Dave Long - Installed in heaven (1/9/16)						
224 - Marion organization + Fall Mtg 9/11/15				4,636.80		
225 - SW Ohio Organization 11/13/15				538.65		
226 - Pageland Organization						
227 - Grand Rapids (C.Scott) Ord/Inst					2,500.00	
228 - Venky Ord					1,000.00	
<i>Sub-total Presbytery Mtgs =</i>	<i>15,486.93</i>	<i>9,337.81</i>	<i>11,123.53</i>	<i>12,527.78</i>	<i>11,500.00</i>	<i>11,000.00</i>

260 - Officer Expenses							
261 - Clerk Honorarium	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
262 - Ass't Clerk Honorarium	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
265 - Officer's Expenses	45.00	46.00	327.50	232.39	100.00	100.00	100.00
266 - Youth Ministry Secretary Honorarium				1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
<i>Sub-total Officer's Expenses =</i>	<i>2,045.00</i>	<i>2,046.00</i>	<i>2,327.50</i>	<i>3,732.39</i>	<i>3,600.00</i>	<i>3,600.00</i>	<i>3,600.00</i>
270 - Standing Committees & Commissions					200.00	200.00	200.00
271 - Ad Interim Commission		37.35	38.30				
272 - Candidates & Credentials		104.24		72.00			
273 - Southern Ch Ext Committee		144.64	1,377.31	452.41	500.00	500.00	500.00
274 - Indiana-Ohio (Great Lakes) Ch Ext Committee		458.90			500.00	500.00	500.00
275 - Youth Ministry Secretary Expenses				272.17	400.00	400.00	400.00
<i>Sub-total Standing Cmtte's & Comm's =</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>745.13</i>	<i>1,415.61</i>	<i>796.58</i>	<i>1,600.00</i>	<i>1,600.00</i>	<i>1,600.00</i>
290 - Other General Expenses	0.14	0.30			200.00	200.00	200.00
<i>Sub-total General Expenses =</i>	<i>17,532.07</i>	<i>12,129.24</i>	<i>14,866.64</i>	<i>17,056.75</i>	<i>16,900.00</i>	<i>16,400.00</i>	<i>16,400.00</i>
300 - Congregational Visitations							750.00
301 - Belle Center Visitation					500.00		
302 - Bloomington Visitation				309.28			
303 - Christ Church (Brownsburg) Visitation			147.38				
309 - Immanuel - W. Lafayette Visitation			595.07				
315 - Southside Indpls Visitation			174.84	80.64			
316 - Sparta Visitation	849.29						
317 - Sycamore (Kokomo) Visitation				473.18			
318 - Prairie View (Westminster) Visitation					500.00		
<i>Sub-total Congregational Visitation =</i>	<i>849.29</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>917.29</i>	<i>863.10</i>	<i>1,000.00</i>	<i>1,000.00</i>	<i>750.00</i>
400 - New Works							
402 - Atlanta Mission - Northminster	2,000.00	2,000.00					
403 - Terre Haute	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
405 - Marion	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00			
406 - Pageland	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
407 - Dayton, TN			2,647.53				
<i>Sub-total New Works =</i>	<i>7,200.00</i>	<i>9,847.53</i>	<i>5,200.00</i>	<i>5,200.00</i>	<i>4,000.00</i>	<i>4,000.00</i>	<i>4,000.00</i>

	2012 Actual	2013 Actual	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	Mar-16 2016 Budget	Mar-16 2017 Budget
500 - Seminary Student Aid	13,200.00	8,100.00	5,100.00	3,600.00	8,100.00	12,600.00
520 - Covfamikoi Family Conference		2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00		2,000.00
540 - Youth Work (CYPU)	500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
550 - College Ministry	500.00	500.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
560 - Fraternal Delegates					100.00	100.00
700 - HMB Aid Distribution						
701 - Exploratory Grants	10,000.00	10,000.00				
702 - Residents in Training	18,000.00	12,000.00	6,000.00	0.00		
703 - Reducing Aid	77,973.00	52,819.00	28,632.00	20,061.00	0.00	0.00
704 - Grants						
<i>Sub-total HMB Aid Distribution =</i>	<i>105,973.00</i>	<i>74,819.00</i>	<i>34,632.00</i>	<i>20,061.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>
800 - Special Committees & Commissions					750.00	
804 - Terre Haute Commission (3/16 - TGB)	78.14	807.30	170.80	287.51		
807 - Pageland Commission		220.00				
809 - Selma Committee - Appointed 2/27/15	487.67		18.49	1,413.29	2,000.00	500.00
810 - Southfield Judicial Commission		777.66				
811 - Atlanta Commission - Appointed 8/11/14			325.89	1,591.09	1,500.00	1,500.00
812 - Congregational Officers Committee				48.72		
813 - Northminster Judicial Commission (10/13/15)						
<i>Sub-total Special Cmtte's & Comm's =</i>	<i>2,408.31</i>	<i>1,804.96</i>	<i>515.18</i>	<i>3,340.61</i>	<i>4,250.00</i>	<i>2,000.00</i>
900 - Miscellaneous						
901 - Other	3,964.62	42.28	90.64		250.00	250.00
902 - Synod - Retired Pastor's Expense/Other		660.00	277.70		500.00	500.00
906 - Albert Jackson Training		1,961.26				
907 - Atlanta Fund - Transfer to ATL Comm			10,954.46			
908 - Covfamikoi Special Gift				500.00		
909 - Northminster Remaining Funds to Synod				10,079.91		
910 - Pageland TGB Expenses (special request)					400.00	
911 - Special Honorarium					1,500.00	
<i>Sub-total Miscellaneous =</i>	<i>3,964.62</i>	<i>2,663.54</i>	<i>11,322.80</i>	<i>10,579.91</i>	<i>2,650.00</i>	<i>750.00</i>
TOTAL EXPENSES =	152,127.29	113,364.27	77,053.91	65,201.37	39,500.00	41,100.00
ANNUAL NET =	(5,960.18)	5,110.79	5,894.84	(3,097.28)	(5,500.00)	2,900.00
Balance Jan 1 =	9,732.03	3,771.85	8,882.64	14,777.48	11,680.20	6,180.20
Balance Dec 31 =	3,771.85	8,882.64	14,777.48	11,680.20	6,180.20	9,080.20

Presbytery Policy Reminders

1. The policy of the Presbytery is that the mileage reimbursement rate is the standard IRS rate in effect on the date the reimbursable mileage was incurred (2016 = \$.54)
2. The meal allowance is \$6/meal for travel to/from Presbytery meetings.
3. The policy of the Presbytery is that normally the congregation pays the expenses of its provisional moderators and elders.
4. Congregations are to remit not less than one fourth of their assessment each and every quarter. If needed, the Presbytery treasurer is authorized to send reminders quarterly to congregations.
5. Up to \$750 is offered to congregations which host the annual meeting of Presbytery to help with their hospitality expenses.

Recommendations 2016

1. That the Mar 2016 Revised Budget and the 2017 Budget be adopted.
2. That Presbytery offer to congregations to reimburse them for pulpit supply when their pastor is away for non-visitation Presbytery business.
3. For calculating the annual Presbytery assessments, the income amount used for each congregation shall be the same as is used by Synod for calculating Synod's assessment.
4. Each congregation is reminded that they are required to carry Worker's Compensation insurance.
5. Keith Magill's request to the Pension Board for approval of his "Final Move" expenses be approved.

Mr. Magill presented the Finance Committee Report and answered questions from the floor. Recommendations 1-5 were passed. It was moved, seconded, and passed to receive the report.

Nominating Committee Report

Mr. Faris addressed the court on behalf of the Nominating Committee Report, distributing and outlining a draft copy of its report.

Presbytery Report to Synod

Mr. Kuehner addressed the court regarding this year's Presbytery Report to Synod and the responsibility of each congregation to send its annual update to the assistant clerk.

Motion from the Clerk

It was moved, seconded, and passed that all TGB minutes be reviewed along with session minute books at each annual meeting of presbytery.

Congregational Reports (continued)

The Orlando congregational report is as follows.

ORLANDO R. P. CHURCH 2015 Report to GL-G Presbytery

March 2016

"Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." - James 1:2-4

The ORPC Session gives thanks to the Lord for His continued faithfulness to the congregation during 2015. In 2015, the Session met 7 times in regular constituted court and 1 times for a special Session meeting. During our Session meetings in 2015, we gave ourselves to the Lord's work in Orlando through administrative planning, addressing matters affecting the lives entrusted to our care, specific and intentional times of prayer, and providing counsel. We occasionally met with the Deacon Board to discuss facility conditions, budget and mercy ministries. In 2015, Session continued to meet early each Lord's Day morning at 7:45am via conference call to pray for the morning teaching, worship services and specific congregational concerns.

The congregation has been blessed by another year of Pastor McCracken's ministry. Pastor McCracken led us through a study of Genesis and has begun preaching through the book of James. Jonathan Schaefer continued to serve as Clerk of Session. All Elders have shared in teaching and presiding. Jim Pennington spent significant time in Japan in the Fall teaching and preaching for the Saints there.

The men of the church have been meeting bi-weekly under the leadership of Steve Garrow. These meetings have been set under the general heading of accountability and encouragement. We have had steady attendance ranging from 6-10.

Our regular Bible studies continued in 2015 with weekly women's Bible study meetings Tuesday mornings. Bi-weekly Sunday evening Bible study meetings met at the home of David and Kim Tacey and on alternating weeks another Bible study met at the home of H. P. and Carly McCracken. On a bi-weekly basis, the West Orange Bible study met Wednesday evenings at the home of John and Sandy Bailey.

Our congregation's membership grew this year with the addition of Al Watt. We enjoyed getting to know several new families in 2015, some of which have continued to worship with us. Jim Wright has settled in at the R. P. Home in Pittsburgh and has transferred his membership to Covenant Fellowship in Wilkinsburg, PA. Joel Cruz and Shawn Allen were removed from our roll having relocated out-of-state permanently. Sadly, Jim Wilkinson was removed for lack of attendance and Roland Herring was excommunicated. And, our dear Royce Tisken went to be with the Lord.

In 2015, many of our members experienced health and medical challenges. Peggy Terry underwent successful back surgery. Ray Turmenne had some continuing health issues as a result of his heart surgery. Mary

McCracken had surgery and other persistent issues. Lou Woofter had a bad fall breaking both her leg and hip on the stairs leading to the Social Hall. Lisa Schmidt had surgery on her foot. Jeanne McFarland has some continuing health issues. JoAnne Worsham had minor surgery.

Casea Bishop received emergency care and was hospitalized. Chuck Bloom began treatment for cancer. Others including Evelyn Fraser, John Bailey and Ruth Pennington suffer quietly with persistent maladies. Through all these infirmities and medical treatments, we have witnessed the faithful hand of the Lord healing our loved ones and encouraging our hearts.

In 2015, we had 17 members attend the COVFAMIKOI Family Conference in Campbellsville, Kentucky where Matt Kingswood spoke on the theme "Our Debt: The Obligations of Grace in Romans." Back in Orlando, we were privileged to hear from Mark Sampson regarding the R. P. Theological Seminary. John McFarland also visited and presented an update on the EAC ministry.

Join us in prayer that we would serve Him well. Pray for us that the Lord would grant wisdom and discernment to the Session and Deacons as we evaluate our course and lead. Pray that His will would be done here on earth as it is in heaven and that He would come again quickly.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Schaefer
Clerk, for the ORPC Session

Treasurer's Annual Report

Jan - Dec 2015

Account Reconciliation - Suntrust (All Funds)

Balance Jan 1, 2015	\$ 39,173.95
add 2014 deposits	\$ -00
subtract 2014 expenses	\$ 7,360.21
Net 2015 opening balance	\$ 31,813.74
Add 2015 Income	\$ 115,957.19
Subtract 2015 Expenses	\$ 107,760.93
plus uncleared 2015 expenses	\$ 1,147.67
Balance December 31, 2015	\$ 41,157.67

Suntrust Account -- Quarterly and Annual Changes 2015

Quarterly Balance	Balance	Quarter +/-	From Jan 1
Net opening balance Jan 1	\$ 31,813.74	-	-
Balance March 31	\$ 42,171.81	\$ 10,358.07	\$ 10,358.07
Balance June 30	\$ 47,637.46	\$ 5,465.65	\$ 15,823.72
Balance September 30	\$ 49,482.45	\$ 1,844.99	\$ 17,668.71
Balance December 31	\$ 41,157.67	\$ (8,324.78)	\$ 9,343.93

Annual Comparisons

Year	Acct Balance Jan 1	Income	Expenses
2010	\$60,333.60	\$83,287.90	\$81,991.21
2011	\$62,541.00	\$86,274.67	\$85,730.73
2012	\$62,784.94	\$88,913.16	\$115,443.65
2013	\$36,300.02	\$99,250.31	\$97,051.10
2014	\$39,398.66	\$96,649.42	\$103,984.34
2015	\$39,173.95	\$115,957.19	\$107,760.93

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**Orlando Reformed Presbyterian Church
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
January through December 2015**

	<u>Jan - Dec 15</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Income			
35501 · GF14 Carryover \$38,440.02			
35503 · Desig - SS camp fund \$416.87			
35509 · Desig - Camp Fd Bunko \$38.86			
35515 · WMF Carryover \$278.20			
Total 35000 · Carryover- \$39,173.95			
42200 · Sabbath School Offering			
42201 · SS Offering to General Fund	618.68		
42202 · SS Offering - Designated J-J	281.16		
42204 · RP Youth Missions	99.80		
42205 · True Life Choice	102.75		
Total 42200 · Sabbath School Offering	1,102.39		
46100 · Women's Missionary Fellowship			
46110 · WMF Meetings Collections	153.00		
46112 · WMF Missions Night 3/25/2015	213.00		
46113 · WMF Global Missions 10/4/15	163.00		
46114 · WMF Rummage Sale	652.09		
Total 46100 · Women's Missionary Fellowship	1,181.09		
49500 · Tithes/Offerings/Desig Giving			
49510 · General Fund	110,936.71		
49512 · Desig - WMF Missions 3/25/2015	100.00		
49513 · Desig - Cyprus missions	1,000.00		
49514 · Desig - Global Missions	25.00		
49519 · T/O Desig - Christmas gift	125.00		
49528 · T/O - Desig RPM&M	125.00		
49530 · T/O - Desig Evidence	1,173.00		
Total 49500 · Tithes/Offerings/Desig Giving	113,484.71		
49810 · Witness Subscriptions	100.00		
49900 · Uncategorized Income	89.00		
Total Income	115,957.19		
Expense			
60000 · Leadership Expenses			
60010 · Pastor Salary	15,900.00	15,900.00	100.0%
60011 · Pastor Housing	23,800.00	23,800.00	100.0%
60013 · Pastor Medical Insurance	8,610.00	8,610.00	100.0%
60014 · Pastor Pension	4,100.00	4,100.00	100.0%
60015 · Pastor SS/Medicare	2,950.00	2,950.00	100.0%
60020 · Pastor Conference Expense	1,157.91	1,500.00	77.19%
60021 · Pastor Expenses and Supplies	3,294.06	3,000.00	109.8%

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Orlando Reformed Presbyterian Church
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
January through December 2015

	Jan - Dec 15	Budget	% of Budget
60050 · Guest Speakers	750.00	1,050.00	71.43%
60200 · Presbytery's Budget Assessment	1,240.41	1,500.00	82.69%
60250 · Synod Operation Assessment	1,902.00	1,900.00	100.11%
60260 · Synod RPM&M	6,250.00	6,250.00	100.00%
60270 · Synod Delegate Travel Expenses	822.00	500.00	164.4%
60300 · Miscellaneous	339.92	250.00	135.97%
Total 60000 · Leadership Expenses	71,116.30	71,310.00	99.73%
70000 · Plant & Equipment Expenses			
70010 · Custodial Service	4,778.00	4,778.00	100.0%
70020 · Lawn Service	0.00	300.00	0.0%
70030 · Repairs and Maintenance	6,206.02	4,000.00	155.15%
70040 · Office Supplies	970.41	1,000.00	97.04%
70050 · Postage	77.73	100.00	77.73%
70060 · Food for Kitchen	190.62	300.00	63.54%
70061 · Kitchen Supplies	255.77	300.00	85.26%
70062 · Janitorial Supplies	209.00	250.00	83.6%
70070 · Telephone/Internet	1,123.44	1,100.00	102.13%
70080 · Utilities	4,268.40	4,500.00	94.85%
70100 · Insurance - Property	7,570.85	8,000.00	94.64%
70105 · Job Related Injury Fund	0.00	2,500.00	0.0%
70110 · Tax & Corp Fee	1,047.35	600.00	174.56%
70200 · Bank Fees	18.50		
70300 · Miscellaneous	260.00	100.00	260.0%
Total 70000 · Plant & Equipment Expenses	26,976.09	27,828.00	96.94%
80000 · Ministry Activities Expenses			
80010 · Sabbath School	897.54	1,500.00	59.84%
80020 · Bible Studies - Materials	310.00	400.00	77.5%
80030 · Music	0.00	250.00	0.0%
80040 · Social Committee	702.71	1,200.00	58.56%
80050 · Shower Committee	0.00	200.00	0.0%
80060 · Library	0.00	150.00	0.0%
80070 · Flowers/Cards	103.47	250.00	41.39%
80075 · Sanctuary Flowers	127.85	150.00	85.23%
80080 · Media	376.64	300.00	125.55%
80090 · Mercy Fund	670.86	2,400.00	27.95%
80110 · Evidence	546.37	450.00	121.42%
80120 · Stepping Stones/VBS	147.26	500.00	29.45%
80130 · Camp Fund - Gen Fund	1,048.00	1,100.00	95.27%
80131 · Desig - Missions night 3/25/15	100.00		
80134 · Desig - SS True Life Choice	102.75		
80135 · Desig - Global missions 10/4/15	25.00		
80210 · Desig -- Cyprus	1,000.00		

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**Orlando Reformed Presbyterian Church
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
January through December 2015**

	<u>Jan - Dec 15</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
80240 · Desig - RP Witness	100.00		
80260 · Desig - Christmas gift	125.00		
80300 · Miscellaneous	428.00	250.00	171.2%
80350 · Desig - RPM&M	125.00		
80351 · Desig - RPM&M Youth Missions	99.80		
80380 · Desig- Evidence	1,173.00		
Total 80000 · Ministry Activities Expenses	8,209.25	9,100.00	90.21%
85000 · WMF Expenses			
85010 · WMF carryover from 2014	278.20		
85020 · WMF Meeting Collection 2015	153.00		
85025 · Rummage Sale Receipts	652.09		
85565 · Desig - Global missions 3/25/15	213.00		
85610 · Desig - Global missions 10/4/15	163.00		
Total 85000 · WMF Expenses	1,459.29		
Total Expense	107,760.93	108,238.00	99.56%
Net Income	8,196.26		

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Orlando Reformed Presbyterian Church
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
January through December 2015

Income

35501 · GF14 Carryover \$38,440.02
35503 · Desig - SS camp fund \$416.87
35509 · Desig - Camp Fd Bunko \$38.86
35515 · WMF Carryover \$278.20
Total 35000 · Carryover- \$39,173.95

42200 · Sabbath School Offering
42201 · SS Offering to General Fund
42202 · SS Offering - Designated J-J
42204 · RP Youth Missions
42205 · True Life Choice
Total 42200 · Sabbath School Offering

46100 · Women's Missionary Fellowship
46110 · WMF Meetings Collections
46112 · WMF Missions Night 3/25/2015
46113 · WMF Global Missions 10/4/15
46114 · WMF Rummage Sale
Total 46100 · Women's Missionary Fellowship

49500 · Tithes/Offerings/Desig Giving
49510 · General Fund
49512 · Desig - WMF Missions 3/25/2015
49513 · Desig - Cyprus missions
49514 · Desig - Global Missions
49519 · T/O Desig - Christmas gift
49528 · T/O - Desig RPM&M
49530 · T/O - Desig Evidence
Total 49500 · Tithes/Offerings/Desig Giving

49810 · Witness Subscriptions
49900 · Uncategorized Income
Total Income

Expense

60000 · Leadership Expenses
60010 · Pastor Salary
60011 · Pastor Housing
60013 · Pastor Medical Insurance
60014 · Pastor Pension
60015 · Pastor SS/Medicare
60020 · Pastor Conference Expense
60021 · Pastor Expenses and Supplies

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Orlando Reformed Presbyterian Church
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
January through December 2015

60050 · Guest Speakers
60200 · Presbytery's Budget Assessment
60250 · Synod Operation Assessment
60260 · Synod RPM&M
60270 · Synod Delegate Travel Expenses
60300 · Miscellaneous
Total 60000 · Leadership Expenses

70000 · Plant & Equipment Expenses
70010 · Custodial Service
70020 · Lawn Service
70030 · Repairs and Maintenance
70040 · Office Supplies
70050 · Postage
70060 · Food for Kitchen
70061 · Kitchen Supplies
70062 · Janitorial Supplies
70070 · Telephone/Internet
70080 · Utilities
70100 · Insurance - Property
70105 · Job Related Injury Fund
70110 · Tax & Corp Fee
70200 · Bank Fees
70300 · Miscellaneous
Total 70000 · Plant & Equipment Expenses

80000 · Ministry Activities Expenses
80010 · Sabbath School
80020 · Bible Studies - Materials
80030 · Music
80040 · Social Committee
80050 · Shower Committee
80060 · Library
80070 · Flowers/Cards
80075 · Sanctuary Flowers
80080 · Media
80090 · Mercy Fund
80110 · Evidence
80120 · Stepping Stones/VBS
80130 · Camp Fund - Gen Fund
80131 · Desig - Missions night 3/25/15
80134 · Desig - SS True Life Choice
80135 · Desig - Global missions 10/4/15
80210 · Desig -- Cyprus

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Orlando Reformed Presbyterian Church
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
January through December 2015

80240 · Desig - RP Witness
80260 · Desig - Christmas gift
80300 · Miscellaneous
80350 · Desig - RPM&M
80351 · Desig - RPM&M Youth Missions
80380 · Desig - Evidence
Total 80000 · Ministry Activities Expenses

85000 · WMF Expenses
85010 · WMF carryover from 2014
85020 · WMF Meeting Collection 2015
85025 · Rummage Sale Receipts
85565 · Desig - Global missions 3/25/15
85610 · Desig - Global missions 10/4/15
Total 85000 · WMF Expenses
Total Expense

Net Income

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END OF WRITTEN REPORT

Mr. Schaefer presented the Orlando congregational report.
It was moved, seconded, and passed to receive the report.

The Second RPC congregational report is as follows.

Report to Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery 2015
Second Reformed Presbyterian Church

The Lord's special kingdom advancement, or revival, often starts among those in need, in times of revival and reformation. The Great Awakening in England, for example, started with George Whitefield preaching to coal miners before they went to work. Many came to Christ from his preaching along with John Wesley.

We see a similar pattern with some ministries among us. The ESL outreach work with students from other nations has been a fulfillment of the many commands to welcome strangers. "You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you," Leviticus 19:34. We thank the Lord for Sherri Bell and Cynthia Jesudason and their coordination of this special ministry that opens doors of language development and witness to Christ to students from other nations.

The weekly Friendship Bible study has opened an opportunity for some of us to develop stronger relationships with those with special needs. The 14 church volunteers who started four years ago are still leading in this work. They find they are blessed as much by their friends, as they seek to be a blessing. "On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor." (I Cor. 12:22-23)

Beyond the church, Eric Johnson has been faithful in applying Matthew 25:36 and visiting those in prison. He also has linked us to an evangelistic outreach in state prisons, through Pastor William Bumphus and the Jesus House, which is a transitional place for men leaving prison and looking for jobs.

Dean Filson has led a cross-cultural team of people ministering to the many different nations and groups in our city.

Gary and Jennifer Van Keppel continue to offer the gospel in the Broad Ripple area on weekends and offer us an example of perseverance in Philemon 6.

We also are grateful for our support of the state government chaplaincy work of Matt Barnes, who appreciates special assistance from Debbie Magnuson and Jenny Blankenship.

We also have enjoyed having Venkatesh and Sarmishta with us as they continue their seminary studies and prepare to return to India for church planting initiatives in late 2016. They have started a ministry to IUPUI students from India that includes a Bible Study in their home. Oversight of the India Mission is transitioning to RP Global Missions Board, and a visit to India by Ram Rao and Matt Filbert was a step in that direction. The India team asks for prayer for specific direction, in their desire to see Christ's Kingdom grow as they return to their native land.

In Liberia we are thankful for the apparent end of the Ebola crisis. Through the Sagamore Institute, Donald Cassell works with a Christian college there alongside agricultural missionaries Travis and Gina Sheets. Donald was able to visit them in the fall and provide a seminar in great books for several of the students in the college as well as professionals in the area.

Locally, several women have joined the Heart Change ministry to help women in crisis with the gospel and its fruits. Launched by Cindy Palmer, the ministry helps the ladies grow in Christ, develop skills for the workplace and find stable housing.

We have been most saddened by the afflictions suffered by Lafayette Pastor Dave Long and

the setback to our shared vision for him to join us and work on behalf of the Reformed Presbyterian Global Missions board. We are perplexed as to the Lord's purposes in his suffering and are seeking the Lord for His direction. Yet we are thankful for four young men serving as interns with our pastors: Venky; Joel Hart; Zach Smith; and Andrew Battiato. We are thankful for seminary classes offered by Denny Prutow (Israel's history, Joshua-Nehemiah) in the fall and currently by David Whitla (RP Church history) at the Southside RP Church.

1. This past year the session held 14 meetings: 12 regular meetings and 2 special meetings. Total membership as of December 31, 2015, was 222, with 178 communicant members and 44 covenant children.

2. The congregation observed the sacrament of Communion on 12 occasions.

3. We rejoiced in these births:

Jennifer Lois Hart, daughter of Joel and Orlena Hart, June 9, 2015
Evangeline Ruth Olson, daughter of Justin and Leah Olson, November 11, 2015
Evangeline Shea Louisa Doerr, daughter of Andrew and Kaitlyn Doerr, Dec. 1, 2015

4. The sacrament of baptism was administered to:

Wesley James Filson, son of Eric and Alissa Filson, June 21, 2015
Samuel Edward Turner, son of Ben and Laura Turner, June 28, 2015
Jennifer Lois Hart, daughter of Joel and Orlena Hart, July 12, 2015
Stuart Blank, Liam Blank, Duncan Blank, Colin Blank, sons of David and Julia Blank, September 27, 2015

5. We are thankful for one marriage this past year: Andrew Battiato and Laura Nelson, June 13, 2015

6. Elder delegates to Presbytery and Synod were: February 26-28 Presbytery, Lafayette: Rich Johnston and James Faris, teaching elders; Ruling elders: Donald Cassell and Richard Blankenship; alternate, Jeff Platt.

June 8-12 synod, Flat Rock, NC, Bonclarken Conference Center: Rich Johnson and James Faris, teaching elders; ruling elders: Terry Magnuson and Dean Filson.

September 11-12 Presbytery, Kokomo: Rich Johnston and James Faris, teaching elders; ruling elders: Russ Pulliam and Ram Rao.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the session,
Russ Pulliam, Clerk of Session

Second Reformed Presbyterian Church

Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2015

	<u>Dec 31, 15</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Chase Checking	28,149.47
Chase Savings	174,515.02
PNC Bank Savings	81,677.29
PNC Bank CD (matures 1/6/16)	41,949.35
PNC Bank CD (matures 7/6/16)	41,980.25
PNC Bank CD (matures 1/6/17)	41,927.73
PNC Bank CD (matures 7/6/17)	41,917.83
Total Checking/Savings	<u>452,116.94</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>452,116.94</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>452,116.94</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
General Fund	399,154.32
Friendship Bible Study	554.27
India Vision Fund	28,300.72
Mercy Fund	2,730.31
Ministerial Support Fund	1,000.00
Missions Support Fund	5,404.74
RPTS Student Scholarship Fund	1,317.57
RSI Fund	5,129.03
Seminary Fund	8,525.98
Total Equity	<u>452,116.94</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>452,116.94</u>

Second Reformed Presbyterian Church General Fund Budget					
Budget Item	2016	2015	2015	2014	2013
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Actual
Salary - Pastor Faris	77,000	70,000	70,000	68,000	66,000
Salary - Pastor Johnston	56,000	56,000	56,000	54,800	54,800
Support - Dave Long Family	17,051				
Salary - Mr. Filson	31,000	31,000	31,000	35,000	39,875
Pensions	13,121	12,560	12,560	12,624	12,854
Ministry Expense	30,000	23,236	22,000	17,662	23,026
Guest Ministry	3,000	2,553	2,500	2,225	1,250
Office Expense	10,000	14,376	7,500	8,369	7,269
Medical Insurance	43,000	43,000	43,000	42,875	38,500
Administrative Support	20,000	18,099	20,000	17,415	16,922
Payroll Taxes	5,000	4,086	5,000	4,512	4,807
Administration Total	305,172	274,910	269,560	263,481	265,304
Christian Education	4,500	2,921	4,000	3,721	3,696
Library-Books	1,000	-634	500	425	1,155
Fellowship Activities	3,500	3,531	3,500	8,901	3,206
A/V Equip & Supplies	4,500	1,457	6,000	4,370	2,328
Other Missions	18,800	16,291	16,000	16,085	16,280
Activities Total	32,300	23,565	30,000	33,502	26,665
R.P. Missions & Ministry	20,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Synod Assessments	9,759	9,840	9,172	8,649	8,672
Great Lakes/Gulf Pres. Fund	6,639	6,021	5,100	5,877	6,141
Denomination Total	36,398	30,861	29,272	29,526	29,813
Property Taxes	6,000	1,516	8,855	8,582	8,317
Maintenance & Supplies	45,000	54,237	45,000	50,382	44,410
Capital Improvements & Major Repairs	45,000	45,907	41,500	20,018	20,549
Insurance & Legal Fees	11,000	11,881	10,500	12,476	9,420
Gas Utilities	8,000	4,926	8,000	7,304	4,584
Electricity Utilities	14,000	11,446	14,000	12,979	14,205
Telephone Utilities	2,500	2,550	2,500	2,415	2,337
Water Utilities	2,500	1,332	2,500	2,249	2,433
Church Properties Total	134,000	133,796	132,855	116,406	106,256
General Fund Total Expenses	507,870	463,132	461,687	442,915	428,037

Mr. Rao presented the Second RPC congregational report. It was moved, seconded, and passed to receive the report.

The Selma Committee Report is as follows.

**SELMA COMMITTEE
GREAT LAKES-GULF PRESBYTERY OF THE RPCNA**

Report to the Meeting of Presbytery – Spring 2016

Fathers and brothers,

Last year, at the spring meeting of presbytery in Lafayette, IN, the Selma Committee was appointed, consisting of Richard Blankenship, Daniel Hemken, Adam Niess (chairman), and Jerry O'Neill (moderator of the Selma Session). Upon appointment, the committee was charged with the following responsibilities pertaining to the Selma (AL) Reformed Presbyterian Church: 1) Request Session minutes; 2) Give a report at the Synod 2015 meeting of presbytery; 3) Plan and execute a congregational visitation; and 4) Inform the other RPCNA presbyteries of the congregation's need for a pastor. In essence (as we believe was made clear at the time of our appointment), you have charged us to help the Selma RPC find a pastor, as well as seek to improve the relationship between the congregation and the presbytery. With God's help, this has been, and will continue to be, our goal.

As stated above, our first charge was to request minute books from the Selma Session. We were unsure as to how long it had been since the Selma Session had submitted their minutes for presbytery's review, but we knew it had been quite some time. Therefore, since we were planning a visit to Selma (more on this below), we asked the Ad Interim Commission if they would appoint two of our committee members to review the minutes while there. On August 11, 2015, the Ad Interim Commission appointed Richard Blankenship and Daniel Hemken to the task. When we visited Selma the next month, the Session minutes from October 2011-July 2015 were reviewed, upon which nothing was found to be contrary to the law and order of the church. A report was then sent by each of the reviewers to the assistant clerk of presbytery.

In regard to our second charge, the committee had not been able to meet before Synod 2015, which is why no report was given at the time.

Our third charge was to plan and execute a congregational visitation. On September 26- 28, 2015, all four members of the committee traveled to Selma for a visit. Given the delicateness of the situation, we decided it would be wise for us to first establish trust with the Session before following the presbytery's prescribed model for congregational visitation. Our visit, you could say, was a modified version of a normal visitation, in that we visited and worshiped with the people, met with the Session, and sought to ascertain the overall well-being of the congregation, but our focus was much more on developing relationships than overseeing

the work. If the presbytery desires, we can complete a more formal visitation at a later time, once it seems most suitable to do so.

During our September visit in Selma, the committee was well-received by both the elders and the members of the congregation. At the gracious expense of the Session, each member of the committee was put up in his own room and treated to fine dining while staying at the historic St. James Hotel in downtown Selma. The elders on sight seemed genuinely pleased we had come and were quite thankful the presbytery had sent us to care for them. When we worshiped with the congregation on the Lord's Day, the people received us warmly, and we were thankful to experience their hospitality as we enjoyed a fellowship meal with them after the service.

When we first arrived in Selma, the committee met with the session (George Evans and Greg Woodson) over dinner. For the sake of the local elders, Jerry O'Neill functioned as moderator of the session during our meetings, instead of committee member. It was wise of the presbytery to appoint Mr. O'Neill to this committee, as he has greatly helped to connect us with the congregation. At our meeting with the elders, we began with introductions and an explanation of the purpose for our committee and our visit. The Selma elders then gave us a helpful overview and history of the congregation, as well as informed us of her present life and ministry in the community. It was apparent in this discussion how much Rev. Bob Hemphill (former pastor of Selma RPC) is still fondly remembered and loved by all in Selma.

From our meeting with the elders, there are two points that are of especial note. First, while the congregation enjoys the faithful ministry of the two men filling their pulpit (Rev. Winston Williams and Rev. James Martin), neither of these men desire to become their pastor. The congregation is quite satisfied with the preaching they receive from them each week, but they also strongly desire a full-time shepherd. The race of this man does not matter to them (as seen in their great love for Rev. Bob Hemphill), but they do think it is wise for him to have an understanding of southern, black culture. Mark Brown, a man under care of the Presbytery of the Alleghenies, was mentioned by the elders as having been particularly well-received by the congregation when he visited them in the past. He is not yet licensed to receive a call, but the committee is working with him to see how interested he might be in Selma. In fact, on March 2, 2016, the committee will be meeting with Mark in Columbus, OH, regarding this matter.

The second noteworthy point from our discussion with the Selma Session is that of an explanation as to why there is some strain in the relationship between the congregation and the presbytery. Towards the end of our dinner meeting, one of the elders opened up with us about an action taken by the presbytery in the late 1970s that has left a bad taste in the mouths of some in Selma. That event is when the presbytery-appointed Selma Commission suspended, and eventually deposed, many members of the Selma Session for their membership in the local branch of the Black Elks. This action was later rescinded in the early 1980s when, under the influence of Rev. Bob Hemphill (pastor of Selma RPC at the time), the presbytery

allowed the Selma Session to reinstate the previously deposed elders. However, as explained to us by one of the current elders, believing the action was wrongly taken, there are still some hard feelings and perhaps a sense of unresolved conflict in the congregation toward the presbytery at large.

In our minds as a committee, this feeling among some of those in Selma is something that deserves our utmost care and attention. Therefore, we have been investigating the matter. The pertinent presbytery minutes of the past have been located, and we are now in the process of reading, studying, and discussing their contents. We have also reached out to Rev. Bob Hemphill in order to obtain his knowledge of this past action and his wisdom on it. Then, once we are finished looking at the presbytery minutes, we also plan to meet with some of the remaining members of the aforementioned Selma Commission to hear their memories of this matter. At this point, we do not have anything definite to share with the presbytery, but we will continue our work and hope to have more to report in the near future, as we very much want to help resolve this issue for the betterment of Christ's Church.

After meeting with the elders over dinner, the committee then spent some time with Rev. James Martin, one of the preachers filling their pulpit, to get to know him. The other guest preacher, Rev. Winston Williams, was not able to meet with us. Both men are happy to serve the congregation, as they are able.

On the Lord's Day, the committee attended the adult Sabbath School class, morning worship service, and a fellowship lunch that followed. In the service, Chairman Niess administered the Lord's Supper for the congregation, and then all members introduced themselves to the people afterwards. The attendance at both Sabbath School and morning worship was not great, but as said above, the committee was warmly welcomed and there was an obvious sense of love and fellowship among the members. After the fellowship lunch, the committee then met with Averette Woodson, a man who used to serve on the Session and is willing to do so again, if possible.

Our fourth charge as a committee was to make known the need for a pastor in Selma. Admittedly, we have not done as much in this area as in others, but we are in discussion with Mark Brown (mentioned above), as well as in the process of pursuing advertisement in the *RP Witness*. We did not want the folks in Selma to feel as if the presbytery was forcing a man into their pastorate, which is why we are just recently spending more time on this effort.

Another responsibility given to our committee by the voice of presbytery at our last annual meeting, though not formally in writing, is to find a new interim moderator for the Selma Session from within our own presbytery. Jerry O'Neill has served the Selma Session well, but he is a member of another presbytery in the RPCNA, and to help improve the relationship and communication between the Selma congregation and the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery in particular, it seems best for the interim moderator to be someone in this presbytery and not another. Mr. O'Neill is in complete agreement with the

presbytery on this matter and, while happy to serve for the time being, is eager for a replacement to be found. We believe it makes the most sense for a member of our own committee to be the new interim moderator of the Selma Session, but we are not yet ready to place a name before the presbytery for the position.

At the time of our appointment, the committee was not given any deadlines pertaining to our work (except to give a report at the Synod 2015 meeting). We believe it is the will of presbytery that we put forth our best effort in this calling, and so we appreciate your patience and prayers as we seek to fulfill it with faithfulness. We will consider our work finished when the Selma congregation has a pastor and the relationship between them and the presbytery is noticeably improved. It is hard to know how long this will take, but may our Lord be pleased to bless our efforts to that end. In addition to our future plans mentioned above, the committee hopes to return to Selma again this year for another visit in order to maintain and further the work set before us.

We thank you very much for giving us the opportunity to love and work with the bride of Christ in Selma. It has been a joy for us to get to know them and to labor on their behalf. The saints in Selma have a sincere love for Christ and for our particular branch of His Church. Please continue to pray that our gracious Shepherd will use our committee for His glory and for the good of His precious sheep in southcentral Alabama.

Gratefully serving the King and His people,

Richard Blankenship

Daniel Hemken

Adam Niess (chairman)

Jerry O'Neill (moderator of the Selma Session)

RECOMMENDATION No. 1: That the Selma Committee be allowed to continue our work for at least another year.

RECOMMENDATION No. 2: That the Selma Committee be granted \$2000.00 for travel expenses to and from Selma, AL, as well as for any other needs that may arise.

Mr. Niess presented the Selma Committee Report (in lieu of a Selma congregational report). Recommendation 1 was passed.

Recommendation 2 had been referred to the Finance Committee, whose report was earlier received. It was moved, seconded, and passed to adopt the Selma Committee Report.

Time and Place Committee

Mr. Niess presented the Time and Place Committee Report, outlining its recommendations:

1. That presbytery meet on Wednesday, June 29, 2016, at 3:00pm at 2nd RPC Indianapolis for student exams and any other business, and then meet again after dinner (time to be

- determined by 2nd RPC) for the ordination of Venkatesh Golpalakrishnan.
2. That the annual meetings of presbytery be held at the RPC of Columbus on March 2, 2017, at 2:00pm until March 4, 2017, at 12:00pm

Mr. Niess also noted that the ordination of Mr. Craig Scott of First RPC-Grand Rapids will be conducted at a future meeting of presbytery, with the date and time to be determined by Ad Interim Commission (AIC) in cooperation with the Grand Rapids session.

[Note: The AIC subsequently scheduled Mr. Scott's ordination for Friday May 20, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the chapel of the Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary.]

Recommendations 1-2 were passed.
It was moved, seconded, and passed to receive the report.

Intercessory Prayer

Mr. Rao led the court in prayer for the Orlando congregation.

Mr. Hughes led in prayer for Second RPC of Indianapolis.

Mr. Magill led in prayer for the Selma congregation, recessing the court for its scheduled break at 10:54 a.m.

SCHEDULED BREAK

Led by moderator, the sixth business session resumed at 11:07 a.m.

The presbytery sang Psalm 57B, stanzas 8-10 and the moderator led the court in prayer.

Motion from the Clerk

It was moved, seconded, and passed to take up the remaining congregational reports, the Sycamore Visitation Report, and the Judicial Committee Report when the presbytery meets in connection with the Synod in June of this year. [Note: These reports will be included in the minutes corresponding with the meeting(s) at which they are presented. They are not included here.]

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report (continued)

Mr. Olivetti invited Mr. Zach Smith forward for his Personal Godliness I exam.

The exam was conducted by Mr. Andy McCracken, followed by questions from the floor and a time of discussion.

The assistant clerk called the roll and the exam was unanimously sustained.

Mr. Olivetti brought Recommendation 5 before the court and the recommendation was passed.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to receive the report of the Candidates and Credentials Committee.

Nominating Committee Report (continued)

The final draft of the Nominating Committee Report is as follows.

GLG Presbytery
Nominating Committee Report ~ Spring 2016

Ad Interim Commission

*Sycamore R.P. +
Jason Camery*

**Candidates & Credentials
Committee**

*Roy Blackwood
(emeritus)*

Class of '19

*Jon Hughes
Michael LeFebvre*

Class of '18

*George Gregory
Dean Filson
Rich Holdeman*

Class of '17

*Jared Olivetti (Ch.)
James Faris*

GLG Internet Maintenance

Keith Evans

Church Ext. Committees

**Southern Ch. Ext. Cmtee.
(SOCHEx)**

*H.P. McCracken (Ch.)
Kent Butterfield
George Gregory
James Faris*

**Northern Ch. Ext. Cmtee.
(NOCHEx)**

*Andy McCracken (Ch.)
Phil Pockras
Jeff Platt
Jason Camery*

Financial Officers

Treasurer – Jim Bishop

Visitation Committees

Belle Center

*Keith Magill (ch.)
Ken DeJong
Scott Hunt*

Westminster

*Rich Holdeman (ch.)
Stan McKenzie
Scott Damerow*

Home Mission Board Rep.

Andy McCracken (Cl. of '18)

**Board of Corporators of
Geneva College Nom. to
Synod**

Phil Pockras

Selma Committee

*Adam Niess (ch.)
Dr. Jerry O'Neill
Richard Blankenship
Daniel Hemken*

COVFAMIKOI Conference

*Director: [Special
Committee
considering it]*

*Manager: Charley Moore
[International Conf. = 2016]*

Interchurch Liaison

Donald Cassell

Youth Secretary

Keith Evans

Synod Finance Committee

Jason O'Neill

**Representative to the Youth
Ministries Committee of**

Synod
*Ben & Anna Larson
[Keith Evans]*

**Moderators of Vacant
Congregations**

*Elkhart – Rich Johnston
Grand Rapids – Adam
Kuehner
Selma – Jerry O'Neill*

*Approve all Congregations
without pastors be permitted
to administer the sacraments
and call a new pastor.*

*Grant Southside & Second
the privilege of calling a
teaching elder.*

Provisional Elders

*Durham - Bob Bibby
- Bob Burchfield*

Pageland TGB

*Jared Olivetti, moderator
Ron Posvar
Bob Shapiro
Ian Wise*

Terre Haute TGB

*Jerry Porter (Moderator)
Gordon Keddie
Rich Holdeman
Ken DeJong
Eric Cosens*

Immanuel Chapel TGB

*Andy McCracken
Gary McNamee
(mod.)
Phil Pockras*

**Northminster Judicial
Commission**

*Shawn Anderson (mod.)
Jason Camery
Bob Shapiro*

Atlanta Commission

*Shawn Anderson (mod.)
Erich Baum
Jon Hughes
Jason Camery
Phil Pockras*

Sessions serving as Ad Interim Commission

2008 Columbus
2009 Southfield
2010 Immanuel
2011 Lafayette
2012 Second
2013 Bloomington
2014 Orlando
2015 Southside
2016 Sycamore

Presbytery Visitation of Congregations History

2006 – Second
2007 – Columbus
2009 – Selma
2010 – Elkhart
2011 – Hetherton, Southfield
2012 – Sparta
2013 – Terre Haute
2014 – Southside, Christ Church, Immanuel
2015 – Bloomington, Sycamore

2016 – Belle Center, Westminster

Respectfully Submitted,
Rich Johnston (Ch)
Jason Camery
James Faris

END OF WRITTEN REPORT

Mr. Faris presented the final draft of the Nominating Committee Report. It was moved, seconded, and passed to adopt the report.

Assistant Clerk's Report

The Assistant Clerk's Report is as follows.

Assistant Clerk's Report – Spring Presbytery 2016

Dear Fathers and Brothers,

It has been a privilege this past year to serve as your assistant clerk. With God's help and your cooperation, I was able to complete the following tasks since last year's Spring meeting in northern Indianapolis:

- Reviewed and updated our presbytery roster for the 2015 minutes of synod.
- Collected abbreviated year-end reports from each congregation, to be included in the 2015 minutes of synod.
- Delivered our presbytery's oral report at the 2015 RPCNA Synod in Flat Rock, NC.
- Oversaw the submission of congregational membership and financial data to our central office in Pittsburgh.
- Received and recorded congregational delegate certifications for this year's Spring meeting in Bloomington, IN.

- Prepared the roll of presbytery for this year's Spring meeting in Bloomington, IN.
- Helped to develop and pilot a new method of visibly projecting motions on the floor of presbytery during deliberations using a laptop, projector, and projector screen.

If you choose to reappoint me as your assistant clerk for 2016, my duties during the course of our Spring meeting in Bloomington would include the following:

- Taking attendance and administering roll call votes, with the ambitious goal of correctly pronouncing everyone's name, if at all possible.
- Managing the projection of motions onto the floor of presbytery during deliberations.
- Overseeing the review of congregational minute books by designated presbyters and officially signifying and recording the results for the minutes.
- Monitoring designated time limits in a courteous, sensible, and efficient manner.
- Reminding you of each congregation's duty to submit a year-end report (not exceeding 150 words) to the assistant clerk, preferably by March 31, for the 2016 minutes of synod.
- Trying to help you find answers to any relevant questions that you may have.
- Whatever else may fall under my umbrella that I've failed to mention.

Thanks to each of you for your patient cooperation throughout 2015. I look forward to serving you again this year in whatever way I can.

Respectfully Submitted,
Adam Kuehner

Mr. Hemken presented the Assistant Clerk's Report, addressing the review of congregational minute books, none of which were found to violate the law and order of the church. It was moved, seconded, and passed to receive the report.

Resolution of Thanks Committee Report

The Resolution of Thanks Committee Report is as follows.

Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
Resolution of Thanks

WHEREAS, The 2016 Spring meeting of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery has been marked by a spirit of unity and pastoral concern for the Church.

WHEREAS, the Bloomington Reformed Presbyterian Church has welcomed the Presbytery with warm hospitality and intermittent wireless access.

WHEREAS, the congregation, and also its friends at Chick-Fil-A, have been exceptionally generous in providing meals and provisions, ensuring that presbyters have been nourished and properly caffeinated.

WHEREAS, many members of the congregation have graciously opened their homes, welcoming strangers as friends, to provide lodging for the members of Presbytery.

WHEREAS, the women of the Bloomington congregation have been especially kind and diligent in preparing meals and rooms for the presbyters.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

1. That the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America express its utmost thanks and gratitude to the members of the Bloomington RP Church, and especially to the women of the congregation, for their exceptional effort in hosting the 2016 Spring Meeting of Presbytery.
2. That the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery give thanks to the Lord Jesus Christ, the High Priest and Good Shepherd, for his loving care to the Church, and for the Holy Spirit's sustaining and blessing the continuing ministry of this branch of his Church.

So ordered this Fifth day of March, the year Two Thousand Sixteen

Moderator

Clerk

Mr. O'Neill presented the report of the Resolution of Thanks Committee.
It was moved, seconded, and passed to adopt the report.

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.

Adjournment

It was moved, seconded, and passed to adjourn the meeting.
The moderator adjourned the court in prayer at 12:00 p.m.